

# Towards A Sustainable Future

Annual Report  
2018-19



**VIKSAT**

Vikram Sarabhai Centre for Development Interaction

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# Chairperson's Message



With a world population of 7.8 billion and limited natural resources, we, as individuals and societies need to learn to live together sustainably. We need to take actions responsibly based on the understanding that what we do today can have implications on the lives of people and the planet in future. Education for Sustainable Development empowers people to change the way they think and work towards a sustainable future. Conservation action at grassroots level plays a vital role in the context of sustainable development where people's participation is critical input for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). With the field interventions and research VIKSAT could demonstrate that the capacity building of communities through education and sustainable development inputs benefits in addressing the national and global issues.

VIKSAT is known for helping and strengthening the livelihood security of large number of rural families in tribal and arid areas of Gujarat. Over the last four decades, since its inception in 1977, VIKSAT has gained a strong foothold in achieving sustainable livelihoods and natural resource management through people's institutions. VIKSAT has been engaging suitably with innovative methods to meet the challenges faced by the rural poor relating to livelihoods, energy needs, agriculture, capacity building of people's institutions; management land and water resources, watershed development, drinking water and sanitation. VIKSAT's consistent efforts have helped the tribal and poor families get well equipped to face the new challenges of climate change.

I am glad that VIKSAT is repositioning itself as a resource centre and training institution, to share its expertise, especially in the area of agriculture, sustainable livelihoods, water and sanitation. VIKSAT has initiated some new programmes in this direction. The *Sunehra Kal* programme, supported by ITC, attempts at enhancing production in agriculture in the selected aspirational districts of India. Its cascade model of training has benefited in building farmers' capacity, both, economically and ecologically by offering them appropriate package of practices. The Master Trainers (MTs) trained by VIKSAT train the Village Resource Persons (VRPs) and VRPs further train farmers in respective villages.

VIKSAT initiated the programme 'Improving livelihood resilience through integrated farming system' with the core support from SEED Division of Department of Science and Technology's (DST), Govt of India. The Internet Saathi programme reached out in 13 districts of Gujarat through 18 local NGOs partners, achieving training 9.43 Lakh women towards gender empowerment by focusing eradicating the digital gender gap and also connecting Internet Saathis to take digital livelihood and building trust in rural women through measured digital safety.

VIKSAT scaled up the model of cluster development programme supported by Tata Trusts in Danta block of Banaskantha with Lakhpati Kisan initiative focusing on bringing another 6000 households irreversibly out of poverty through enhanced livelihood opportunities. This year experienced various training and exposure inputs under the improved agriculture and development activities. The Anandshala Se Jeevanshala project supported by WIN Foundation in villages near Ahmedabad aimed at developing a model of sustainable rural water and sanitation with schools as entry point and piloting zero solid waste management.

New partnerships for scaling up the sustainable rural livelihood interventions of VIKSAT were initiated with support from Axis Bank Foundation, HDFC and Hindustan Unilever Foundation. These lay foundation for increasing coverage and benefitting more people. Adaptation and mitigation of climate change impacts in watershed projects supported by NABARD has been pioneering work.

This Annual Report highlights the excellent work done by VIKSAT during the year 2018-19, the activities undertaken under different thrust areas and learnings gained for wider circulation. During all this stellar execution of projects, solely based on mutual trust, we are grateful to have received immense financial, technical and handholding support from our partners and funders.

I acknowledge the role of the Council of Management in guiding this vibrant institution and would like to thank all the members of the Council. I would like to congratulate the Director, Deputy Director and the entire team for the achievements made by the organisation, with their dedication and hard work, which has enabled VIKSAT to achieve greater heights of excellence and social relevance.

I wish all the best to the team for continuing the good work, to scale up the activities and their impact and to reach out to more stakeholders with diverse and long term partnerships.

Kartikeya V. Sarabhai  
Chairperson, VIKSAT Council of Management

## From Director's Desk



Nurturing our ideology and experience to continuously innovate and implement successful programmes for the betterment of the community, VIKSAT has long ensued on the path to promote and strengthen people's institutions. It gives me immense pleasure to once again share the lasting impacts of our active involvement during the year 2018-19.

Beginning with promoting sustainable management of natural resources, we further lead many initiatives during the year. Foremost being, the CORE support sanctioned by the SEED Division of Dept. of Science and Technology (DST), Govt of India, recognising VIKSAT's aspirations in improving livelihood resilience through integrated farming system. Contributing to transformative campaigns run by the Govt of India, 'Internet Saathi' programme was implemented in the tribal districts of Gujarat and Kutch region, where the focus is on internet literacy and digital livelihoods. Lakhpati Kisan project was initiated in villages of Banaskantha and Sabarkantha districts, which has focus on 6000 households to be irrevocably brought out of poverty with increased livelihood choices, and earn an income of more than Rupees One Lakh (Lakhpati). Vestas Kachchh Vikas Karyakram was implemented in villages of the Bhuj and Mandvi talukas in Kutch with focus on integrated development through holistic approach, with support from VESTAS. Anandshala Se Jeevanshala project was initiated in villages of Bavla and Kheda with support of WIN Foundation, which has school centred focus for behaviour change at household level and improvement in water and sanitation.

With Mission Sunehra Kal project supported by ITC, VIKSAT repositioned as a capacity building institution at national level. Under the programme, VIKSAT designed IEC material to be used as training modules for Master Trainers, Village Resource Persons and farmers in 25 aspirational districts of seven identified states of India.

Contributing generously to our efforts were our patrons and funding partners who stood by us with encouragement and guidance. We would like to thank the TATA Trusts, Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives (CInI), ITC Ltd., NABARD, SUZLON Foundation, John Deere Foundation, Axis Bank Foundation, HUF, Vestas Wind Technology, DST and WIN Foundation for their funding and technical support.

Behind all our perseverance has been the constant inspiration and guidance of our chairperson Shri Karitkeya Sarabhai and all the Council members, whom we can never thank enough. Extending the same gratitude, I would like to congratulate the Dy. Director and our dedicated staff members for our achievements over these years. We continue our resolve to persistently serve towards achieving the vision of sustainable development.

**Dilip Surkar, Director**

## From Dy. Director's Desk



Encouraging participatory approach for sustainable livelihoods, VIKSAT inched another year closer to its mission for this decade – economically benefitting the marginalised through community institutions and stimulating environmental consciousness.

The impetus of 2018-19 for VIKSAT has been stepping forward with cascade model of training programmes. VIKSAT conducted 25 district level Master Trainers (MT) Training in 7 states, on package of practice for crops like Rice, Wheat and Gram. Over 700 MTs and government officials participated under the MISSION SUNEHRA KAL programme, who would train Village Resource Person (VRPs) and VRPs will train the farmers.

VIKSAT achieved its target of training Internet Saathis in 4618 villages of 57 blocks of 13 district of Gujarat covering 1499 Internet Saathis who further trained 9.43 Lakh women under Internet Saathi digital literacy program's training and implementation in Phase-II; this followed with building trust in rural women through measured digital safety, implemented through 18 NGO partners to train 106586 women on using internet security.

VIKSAT initiated implementation of demonstration on System of Wheat Intensification (SWI) and Vermicompost in 10 project villages under the DST core support programme. Kutch Sustainable Development (KSD) Project included skill building programme for 30 local women to better their employability or entrepreneurship; self-employment kits for income generation; enhancing about 4,250 students' knowledge; various competitions, awareness programme. Five Shala Vigan Mela were organized covering 1,298 students, teachers, and community members from 12 primary schools and villages under Vestas Kutch Vikas Karyakram (VKVK). Lakhpati Kisan project was initiated in 28 villages covering 6000 HH over period of three years.

SAFE and KALP producer companies promoted by VIKSAT procured over 27 tonnes of black gram, pigeon pea, green gram, maize, wheat and vegetables from farmers of Khedbramha cluster. The 34 small lift irrigation schemes brought additional 963 acres area under irrigation, benefitting 1255 households. I take this opportunity to thank our Council Members, Director, our partners, supporters, well-wishers, mentors, local communities, networks and my dedicated colleagues.

**Mahesh Patel, Dy. Director**

Set up in 1977, as an activity of Nehru Foundation for Development (NFD), VIKSAT's pivotal objective has been to strengthen the implementation of activities that can improve the environment. Since its early stage of involvement with the directions set by the head concern, VIKSAT strives to meet its purpose: 1. Promote interactions between individuals and organisations for environmental protection, 2. Endeavour to build Peoples' Institutions (PI) for sustainable development and management of natural resources.

Over the year, the organisation aimed at reaching these primary stakeholders through varied thematic areas through a novel approach of decisive participation of the communities. Here some of the key undertakings in the selected field areas became innovations in water harvesting, joint forest management, biodiversity conservation, sustainable agriculture, climate-proofing interventions, as well as forward and backward linkages via Farmer Producer Company (FPC).

VIKSAT inclined itself to work towards adaptive research projects of integrated farming system and digital literacy for better subsistence for focused tribal districts in the Kutch region of Gujarat, India. A network of NGOs partner and initiation of capacity building through cascade model of training to execute these programmes, helmed its achievements for this year.

### **Mission**

VIKSAT aims at proactively promoting and strengthening Peoples' Institutions (PIs) through interaction between Government and Non-Government Organisations and the people by the

means of active participation of men and women from all sections of the community for equitable, gender sensitive, sustainable development and management of natural resources.

### **Strategy and Thematic intervention**

Addressing the issues pertaining to an efficient natural resource management system, VIKSAT concentrates on four major thrust areas, namely, Forestry, Environment & Climate Change; Land & Water; Sustainable Livelihoods; and Institution & Capacity Building.

Pursing its core strategy of increasing the capability to function independently, with minimum external support, VIKSAT has touched the lives of more than 25,000 households directly and covered more than 12 lakh households indirectly through facilitation of PIs formed at the village level and building capacity of various stakeholders, respectively.

The organisation changes the face of the forests in more than 100 villages of Bhiloda, Satlasana and Khavda Taluka through its historic Joint Forest Management (JFM) programme which ensures protection of forests and affirmation of economic activities from them, in the state of Gujarat.

Simultaneously working towards its target of nutrition security, VIKSAT has been making efforts to encourage sustainable productivity enhancement and drinking water by, with and for the community via land and water management.

VIKSAT has worked at grassroots level with communities in their local regions towards developing models which ensure sustainability of livelihoods through natural resource



management. It has not only mobilized financial resources to fund community initiated entrepreneurial actions, but also facilitates creation of favourable economic environment by increasing access to customized, easy, and cheaper loans to the community.

The core strategy in the sustainable development and management of natural resources is people's participation, via PIs, that cuts across all the thematic areas of interventions, while nurturing the same with capacity building.

### **VIKSAT as a Resource Centre**

VIKSAT has positioned itself as a Resource Centre by partnering with NGOs, government agencies, communities on technical, social, and institutional aspects of natural resource management. This dissemination of knowledge further finds its engagement in publications, newsletters, and participation in public forums by the organisation. Moreover, it provides as a learning platform for other agencies including educational institutions, thus facilitating sharing of experiences and best practices.

### **VIKSAT at the grassroots**

Over the last four decades, VIKSAT has progressed from being a platform for intellectual discourse, to an agency advocating for people rights vis-à-vis the forests. It gained grounds in research, conducting seminars and workshops on various themes of forestry programme. During early nineties, VIKSAT set the benchmark for institution building and community mobilization. The Tree Growers Cooperative Societies (TGCSs) developed in Kubada village became a model for development practitioners.

In addition to this, the educational material on drought and land degradation that VIKSAT specially designed, received high acclaim and thus become a perennial document. This communication benchmark established the foundation for VIKSAT to take active interest in peoples' institution and capacity building for efficient and sustainable management of groundwater, physical interventions for soil treatment, land management, water conservation and farmer producer organization.

As a recognized nodal agency for the National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC) by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFF&CC) and with the ever increasing challenges faced in sustaining the natural resources and the livelihoods; VIKSAT is constantly in the process of change, adapting the strategies and interventions to help the communities help themselves in the best possible manner.

The pioneering work of institution building continued during the response of the organization to address natural calamities like drought and earthquake. Capacity building of the PIs for efficient and sustainable management of groundwater, physical interventions for soil treatment, land management, water conservation and farmer producer organization were initiated by developing rapport with the local communities. By the turn of the millennium, on one hand, VIKSAT was developing acumen in planning and installing Rain Water Harvesting Systems in urban locales, while on the other, the need to address issues related to sustaining NRM based livelihoods was increasingly gaining grounds.

VIKSAT initiated developing acumen in structuring women into SHGs and developed rapport with local communities to form Village Organizations (VOs), Farmers' Clubs (FCs), Village Watershed Committee (VWCs), Village Development Committee (VDCs) and Farmer producer organizations (FPOs) for the same. In new millennium year, the organisation had started a more structured system of facilitating access to livelihood based finance through people's institutions.

The organisation had started a more structured system of facilitating access to livelihood based finance through peoples' institutions.. Emphasising more on the FPOs and Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs), VIKSAT is targeting input supply, establishing seed division, channelling a strengthened network of output marketing, its process, aiding in training are some areas to be focused under sustainable development.

VIKSAT has initiated Climate Proofing interventions in the Khedbrahma taluka of Sabarkantha district in Gujarat to add value to its current initiative of watershed development programme. Here the major goal is “integration of such activities towards rehabilitation of degraded soils and building climate resilience by improving adaptive capacities of the communities in the proposed watershed project area”. Going beyond the usual soil and water conservation, this programme also focuses on developing drought-proofing, a shield against climate variability and unfavourable situations, as another concrete adaptation measure.



Under the Climate Change Adaptation project; construction of 2122.06 rmt farm bund, 450.61 rmt stone bund, 53 stone outlets, 383.35 rmt stone gully plug, 2357.6 cum farm pond, 77.75 rmt gabions, 47.8 rmt *naala* plug, 6835 cum sunken pond, 8 recharge pits in drainage line and 6 well recharging points; took place at the watershed project villages of Ratanpur and Matarvada.

Climate Proofing interventions project in Ratanpur and Matarwada watershed project area and Sustainable Development Programme in Navamota watershed project with the support of Indo-German Watershed Development Programmes (IGWDP) and NABARD.

A total of four training programmes were organized for Village Watershed Committees (VWC) members and farmers from Matarvada and Ratanpur. Knowledge regarding crop water budgeting and its importance, water management as well as saving technology was imparted to 130 participants. VIKSAT programme staff gave information about water requirement of different crops, and micro irrigation systems.



A total of two exposure visits were organised for the VO leaders and VWC member at Ralegan Siddhi, Parner Taluka and Hivrebajar, both in in the Ahmednagar District of Maharashtra. During these visits to successful climate change project areas, our 50 participants observed *Gobar* Gas plant, post watershed activities and interacted with Shri. Anna Hazare, a recognised social activist, on the importance of climate proofing and rural development programmes.

Under the Enhancing Livelihoods and Education Quality for Rural Transformation (ELEQRT) project, Choliya village in Khedbrahma Taluka of Sabar Kantha District in Gujarat was selected for water conservation and reinstating the soil moisture. The 161 acres of identified area was further distributed into parts wherein the net planning work for 23.50 Ha (58.75 acres) has already been completed. Out of this, the land treatment for 4.35 Ha (10.87 acres), covering 113.98 rmt Stone bund and 82.96 rmt Stone gully plug has been executed. While, the remaining area is still under progress, this journey has received perpetual support of HDFC and Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives (CInI).



Receiving cooperation from the Gujarat Forest Department, we were able to conduct two plantation drives in the ascertained villages of the state.

We mobilized approximately 584 community members and students from 12 project villages to enthusiastically take part in the tree plantation drive supported by Vestas. A cumulative of 1675 plants (1045 floral and ornamental, 334 forest, 201 medicinal and 95 fruit bearing species) were seeded. Teachers from the local government school, along with esteemed guests present at the event, talked about the need and the significance of planting sapling for a cleaner environment. With the support from Suzlon Foundation and Gujarat Forest Department (Bhuj), we conducted



a drive in in eight project villages, during which 400 saplings were planted with an active participation from the community members and primary school students of these villages.



### (I) Cluster Development Programme (Mission 2020)

VIKSAT initiated this programme to improved cropping practices, introduce vegetable cluster farming, as well as water resource development to revoke the poverty stricken lifestyle of 6000 HHs and scale up their chances to earn a better living. Hence, apart from forming and strengthening community-based organizations in the process, it implemented its focus on Improving Agricultural Development Activities with the support of organisation such as Tata Trust, Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation (BRLF) and Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives (CInI). There have been numerous factors within the same which have benchmarked the success of this project.

#### Improved Agriculture Development Activities:

- Promotion of good agricultural practices in the crops for enhanced productivity.
- Motivating farmers to adapt to the diversification to higher value crops to form a crop basket across the project villages for various seasons.
- **Kharif:** Maize (mixed with other crop or mixed cotton) crop, cotton and cotton seed plot, vegetable, trellis etc. with 6014 HHs.
- **Rabi:** Wheat, fennel, maize, fodder, gram, wheat and maize seed production, vegetable, trellis etc. with 3655 HHs.
- **Summer:** Green gram, *bajara*, vegetables (okra, cluster beans, etc.) and fruit crop such as watermelon etc. with 150 HHs.

Three Mahila Khedut Shibirs were organized in Mahudi, Umbora and Kheroj villages of the Sabarkantha District with support of Anand Agriculture University (AAU), Anand, Gujarat. In these *shibirs*, more than 150 women were participated to understand the concept of reduction in cultivation cost and harmful content in crops through the use of organic matter, micronutrients and bio pesticides.

Experience sharing and Village Organisation (VO) meetings were organized to discuss and share



learning, challenges and success stories of the ongoing programmes such as Improved Agriculture, Water Resource Development (WRD), TATA Swaccha product, Small Ruminants Development. In these 14 meetings, 484 beneficiaries, encouraging more participation from women, were present.

Awareness meetings on water budgeting, water saving, crop water budgeting were organised under Climate Proofing Programme. These 7 programmes shared knowledge amongst 340 participants, where the staff emphasised on crop cultivation with lesser irrigation, water budgeting and saving techniques, details on suitable variety of crops that require less irrigation, integrated pest and diseases management, and so on.

A sum of 44 training cum meeting programmes on company activities were organized for People Institutions (PIs) and villagers. Here, the trainers from SAFE and KALP Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) talked about the TATA Swaccha product, input supply, procurement, seed production for awareness purposes.



#### Training Programmes and Exposure Visits conducted during 2018-2019 for Improved Agriculture Activities

Sr. No.	Training Programmes and Exposure Visits	No. of prog.	No. of participants
1	Technical training for CRP and programme staff organized on Package of Practise (PoP) for Kharif, Rabi, and Summer agricultural crop	4	117
2	Refresher on PoP for Kharif, Rabi and Summer agricultural crop for CRP and programme staff	2	55
3	Training on Nursery and vegetable raising for entrepreneurs, CRP and programme staff	3	54
4	Training on seed production of bitter gourd organized for beneficiaries and CRP	4	110
5	Training on PoP for agricultural crops for female farmers	154	3749
6	Training on PoP for vegetable crops for female farmers	92	2163
7	Training on PoP for agricultural and vegetable crops for Self Help Group (SHG) Leaders and farmers	14	402
8	Training on relay cropping pattern and bio-pesticides in the project villages	5	284
9	Exposure visit on successful model of SHGs, agricultural and vegetable crops cultivation for farmers	8	234
10	Farmer Field School (FFS) organized in development stages of the agriculture and vegetable crop growth during three seasons	172	4147

**Promising future of Plantation:** Nurseries and Net houses Raising the bar for organic growth of crops and the resulting income was the initiative of seven Hi-Tech Nurseries.

With the objective to provide healthy/disease free saplings to the programme beneficiary of project villages, these net houses/polyhouses were changing the face of planting material. From here, disease-free saplings of chilli, brinjal and tomato were sold to the vegetable cultivators/farmers in the project area, to be raised for the Rabi season. Marking their price of chilli and brinjal at Rs. 1 per sapling, and tomato at Rs. 2 per sapling, the farmers tray was filled with hope.

It gave the nursery entrepreneurs an opportunity to sell 1,35,162 chilli saplings, 6,750 brinjal and 74,277 tomato saplings, out of which an expected average income raised would be around Rs. 20,747.



Moreover, 10 more farmers installed net house nursery with the capacity of 20,000 vegetable crop saplings and two polyhouse Hi tech nurseries with the capacity of 1,00,000 saplings, aided by IGWDP – NABARD, as a part of Climate Proofing Programme, and TATA Trusts and CInI, respectively.

4 Expert Resource Person (ERP) visits were conducted for agriculture and vegetable crops in the programme area to provide handholding



support and technical guidance on pest management and Package of Practise (PoP) on agriculture and vegetable crops.

An on demand, collective purchase of input materials such as seeds, fertilizers, seed treatment substances, etc. for Kharif season was made for 405 Self Help Groups (SHGs). The input of amount upto Rs. 4,20,000 and Rs. 4,00,000 was provided to 7 VO's for their SHG members by SAFE and KALP, the two Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), respectively. The activity of collective purchasing and doorstep delivery saved transportation cost and ensured quality.

The SAFE and KALP Producer Company sold wheat seed of GW496 variety 241 bags including 109 bags and 132 bags (20 Kg seed in each bag) by KALP and SAFE respectively which was procured by both companies and produced by farmers in last year in the project villages. These bags were sold to members at reasonable rate. The business of seed production and selling of wheat seed helped FPCs to get net profit of nearly Rs. 48 per bag after deduction of all expenses of ware housing and grading and packing.

The SAFE and KALP FPOs also initiated the procurement and aggregation of agriculture produce with the support of CInI, TATA Trusts and John Deere Foundation, India (JDF). It was

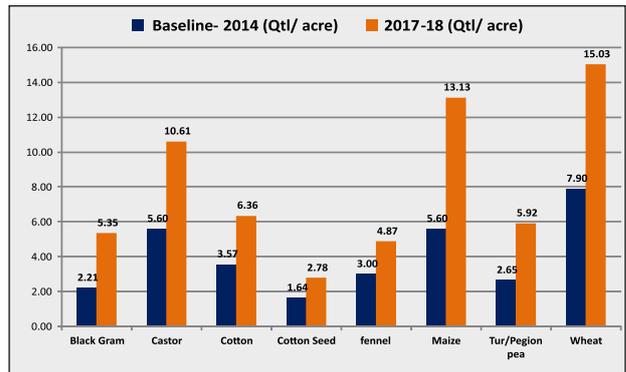


implemented through two centres: AART centre, Delwada and Kheroj. A cumulative procurement of 12.5 tonne of black gram, 4.11 tonne of pigeon pea and 0.77 tonne of maize were done. The procured produce was then stocked at the warehouse. Planning a step further, the procurement of black gram and pigeon pea will be turned into a Dal for value addition and enthrusing more demand in the next year.

## Productivity Enhancement

As a result, these ERP visit as well as guidance and training, the quality of the input and thereby, the land productivity enhanced. Additionally, the impact of all the trainings, involvement of the Water Resource Departments, small ruminant programme, the income of sample households through agriculture in the project villages became as follows:

## Income Realization



## Innovative farming of the Green for the 'greens'!

It was indeed a life changing moment for this tribal couple who hailed from a rather smaller village of Changod in Khedbrahma Taluka, which is further located in the state of Gujarat, India.

Modanben, possessed a piece of an irrigated land that cultivated ripened crops of green gram, to only earn a meagre income of Rs. 5000. This amount made it rather difficult for her and her family to survive a dwindling economy and the resultant price rise.

Gradually, she took the initiative to combat this situation by actively pursuing activities under the CDP, implemented by VIKSAT in the same village. Her husband supported this endeavour and further went on to attend the exposure visit to Badoli (Idar) area.

Here the farmers grew the watermelon (Suman 235, a hybrid variety of Pahuja co.) crop. Upon the encouragement of programme personnel and her insistence, they were to introduce the new method of low tunnel farming with drip style irrigation and mulching technique. Together, with their combined efforts, they were able to achieve a credible production of nearly 6500 kg from 1500 plants, beginning with an initial average of 4.25 kg per plant in 14,157 sq ft. or 13 *guntha* land area. Now valued at Rs. 8 per



Kg, as per the current market rate, this couple is likely to bag Rs. 52000 (appx.) by just selling their produce in the village and nearby areas. Hereby, witnessing almost a ten time increase from same land parcel.

Their adaptive and implemental ability to learn about the difference adopting alternative agricultural practices could bring in years of monetary benefits, thus, securing their future and restoring their faith in the profession.



### **Growth – The Novel way to gain pecuniary Independence**

Sometimes all one needs is a direction to take a subsequent action for success. Maniben Nanabhai Parmar found hers in cultivation of tomatoes and brinjal. Monetising on maize and cotton crops raised at her 10 *guntha* (0.1 Ha) land, Maniben earned enough to survive. As this was her only source of livelihood and legacy to cherish, she began vegetable cultivation on a commercial basis on the same plot by timing the seasons well to grow all of them simultaneously.

Living alone in the Demati village of Poshina taluka in Sabarkantha district, Gujarat, Maniben immersed herself in the learnings of the Cluster Development Programme, where she studied various agriculture development activities. She planted saplings of vegetables during the Kharif season with technical inputs of the trainers in this programme implemented by VIKSAT with support from Tata Trusts and CInI. (as seen in the photo) Maniben Parmar with her produce of tomatoes on a rented hand-cart at Lambadiya village. With a production of 1000Kg of tomatoes and 600Kg of brinjal from the farming, her monetary woes came to an end.



She retailed her vegetables not only in her village but also nearby markets, including a hand cart selling option at Lambadiya village. This earned her an income of Rs. 26000, resulting in permanently losing her fear of crop failure. This indeed was growth! Vegetable crop has given me a daily income, so the result of cotton seed plot does not bother me anymore. In future, I will grow a healthy vegetable crop on the same land.”, said an enthused Maniben.

### **Irrigation Resources Development**

Access to irrigation is an important pre-requisite for enhancing the income from high value crops and for intensification of the agricultural interventions. Hence, the organisation's focus also lay on field level planning of possible interventions, on conserving by ensuring optimum water supply for the crop growth.

34 small lift irrigation schemes work has been completed cumulative 64 small and large lift irrigation schemes would be benefitted 1255 HHs in 962.91 acre in project area. Out of 34, 4 small lift irrigation schemes are completed with the support of KFW, IGWDP- NABARD and 2 small lift irrigation schemes are completed with the support of CInI.



The remaining work of construction of outlet and machineries will be placed in next year.

The assessment survey of 5 sites were done for small lift irrigation scheme from 4 villages with the support of HDFC. The technical survey and detail cost estimation of identified LIS was also done.

53 small lift irrigation schemes have been functioning in the Rabi Season and more than 477.50 acre area is under irrigation.

### **Small Ruminants Development**

To support the livelihood of tribal families who have lesser agricultural land holding in the project villages, VIKSAT initiated this programme with 1500 HH. Extending its reach to 3500 HH of goat rearing families, the activities, and eventual learnings from the programme is being promoted in scientific and professional manner through the capacity building of goat keepers. Moreover, VOs are being involved in providing diagnostic services and preventive health measures in time to control the recurrence of infectious and fatal diseases, through Pashu Mitra and Pashu Sakhi.

The model of PASHU SAKHI is to act as a para veterinary staff for the village and give services such as vaccination, dipping and deworming, castration, feed management, etc.

Organisation of a vaccination camp by the VOs at the village level for goat rearing households. VIKSAT ensured technical support to the VOs during the camp and involved *Pashu Sakhis* and *Pashu Mitras* to do the vaccination. 28 Medical Kit including all medicine and vaccination were handed over to 28 VOs. These kits can be refilled from the money collected from the service charges for the vaccination.

Also, Two awareness sessions on goat rearing, vaccination camps and the importance of programme were shown through miking in the project villages. During the campaign, the planned dates of vaccination camp were also announced to motivate maximum participation and benefit taken.

During the year, 60 vaccination camp were conducted treatment and vaccinations for small ruminants, a total of 6369 goats from 2016 beneficiaries from all the project villages participated. In these camps, Deworming and Dipping for control of external parasite, PPR & FMD vaccination for control of Peste Des Petits Ruminants and foot and mouth disease were done for which a service charge of Rs. 15 per goat was collected from the beneficiaries. This money will be used for refill the medical kit.



Four Azolla Mother units were constructed in each of the project villages with the support of HDFC, for raising Azolla. This setup would be a huge help in supplying quality Azolla seed to individual at the village level and raise diverse yet local income

source for farmers, youth and women. Earlier, the Azolla seed were bought from Anand Agriculture University (AAU), Anand, Gujarat, but it costed much more.



Four training programmes on goat rearing, record keeping, and service charge were participated by 11 *Pashu Sakhis* and 2 *Pashu Mitras*. The programme staff present at the sessions emphasised on the construction of low cost shed suitable for goats. They also informed about nutrition and its management.

Three training programmes on cattle shed and feed management saw a participation of 158 SHG members. Organised with support from IGWDP-NABARD, TATA Trusts and VIKSAT programme staff, Dr. N.S. Patel, Veterinary Officer, Sabar Dairy and Dr. Gupta, Veterinary Consultant explained critical points for credible goat and buffalo rearing e.g. vaccination, deworming, dipping, improvement in milk, care taking for buffalo and goat, etc.

Government helped rearer families to construct 64 cattle sheds and 43 Azolla units, wherein VIKSAT provided Azolla seeds, instructions on taking care of the units as well as necessary guidance for cattle shed construction.

10 Animal Vaccination and Treatment camps were organised in the watershed project villages with the support of IGWDP- NABARD, under Climate Proofing Programme. In these camps, 3905 animals of 1403 HHs were treated.

Centre for Micro Finance (CMF), Pindwada (Pali) welcomed 12 SHG leaders, *Pashu Sakhis* and CRPs to impart knowledge on goat rearing and Azolla cultivation. Interaction on Small Ruminants Programme made the exposure visit worthy. Some of the other key topics discussed were the roles and responsibilities of *Pashu Sakhi*, service charges, vaccination programme, marketing, insurance, Goat House facility, and breed improvement.

Milk Cooperatives were extensively promoted for animal husbandry development in the project villages. Under this scheme, VIKSAT submitted 158 beneficiaries' forms for animal purchasing, wherein, 93 HHs got 22 cows and 71 buffalos with the help from Sabar Dairy in Choliya, Ganer and Denti villages. A subsidy of Rs. 22,400 per animal was granted by the government for the purchase and loan of Rs. 20000 per animal was provided by the Dairy Cooperative. However, this loan amount will be recovered and deducted from the milk sold by the village milk cooperative.

Two training programmes on livestock management were organised at Kheroj village for 66 SHG members. Dr. N.S. Patel, Veterinary Officer, Sabar Dairy with the Programme staff covered points such as cattle shed management, fodder for

cattle, animal treatment and importance of dairy cooperative.

### Organising the Goat Mela

Considering the gaps of unstandardized rate as per weight and individual level goat selling in the programme, VIKSAT organized a goat selling *mela* on August 13, 2018 at Delvada village for the Small Ruminants Programme beneficiaries and invited several vendors to participate in the purchase process.



The old and nondescript goat breed that they possessed were sold at the *mela* and nearby markets. Four vendors from the Kotda and Chhochar villages witnessed 18 beneficiaries selling their 23 bucks based on weight for the first

### Complimentary health with a supplementary Feed

A secondary source of earning becomes rather mandatory if one has a large family to serve. This is what encouraged Divaben Ajitbhai Bumbadiya to take up animal husbandry along with agriculture. Living in Nana Bavall village, Khedbrahma block, Sabarkantha district of Gujarat, Divaben hails from a marginal farming family, indulging in dairy farming, goat rearing to keep the household running. She is in possession of two indigenous cows and eight goats along with a small land to grow crops.

However much the circumstances deterred her and ploughed her into grave financial situation, she emerged motivated to participate as an active member of a local Self-Help Group, Jay Yogeshwar. This introduced her to the CDP project, wherein, over the last two years, she partook in numerous Goatery development activities. As its part, she also attended an exposure meet in Bali, Rajasthan where CMF organisation was implementing interests such as vaccination, deeping, Azolla raising, etc.



Strengthening her understanding through this visit, she also started Azolla, a supplementary cattle feed production, cultivation on a raised bed. Since it makes as a feed option with 15-20 % replacement in the regular, she commenced feeding 500 grams Azolla with regular Maize grain to her cattle on a daily basis.

The result made a sizeable difference in her income. The milk yield saw a rise of 20 -25%, bringing in Rs. 6000 more, every year.



time. Smt. Shantaben Kantibhai Khant from Dantiya village earned a cumulative of Rs. 36,000 by selling around four goats in this *mela*, while received the highest singular price for a 32 kg goat at Rs. 13,000. Other beneficiaries received an average Rs. 308.7 per kg with an either/or system of Rs. 7813 per goat as the decided rate.

### **Breed Improvement Programme**

Realising the new wave in goat rearing for the betterment of those whose livelihoods depend on it; TATA Trusts, HDFC and VIKSAT joined hands to implement this programme. Giving service to these rearers was the introduction of a new breed of buck, Sirohi. An exact number of 20 beneficiaries hailing from Ratanpur, Navamota, Changod Chhochhar, Choliya and Dantiya villages, where each received 20 bucks of the Sirohi breed.



The old bucks in the villages were sold at the *mela* and nearby markets to avoid the nondescript goat breed and Sirohi buck breed gave services to goat rearer in the villages. The breeding started here with two beneficiaries' goat giving birth to the kids of Sirohi buck. One beneficiary goat gives twins kid and the other one received a single kid.

71 more Sirohi buck breed was provided to 71 beneficiaries belonging to Ratanpur, Dantiya, Changod, Navamota, Chhochhar and Choliya villages. Here, the beneficiaries gave Rs. 3000/buck as a contribution. The old bucks in the villages were sold and Sirohi breed gave services to goat rearer in the villages.

### **WATSAN Programme**

The search for single source use for water purification in project villages, led to a base line survey to analyse the sanitisation status in the preferred villages. This could only be possible with an equal participation from the 4 selected villages and its community member.

After about 17 such meetings, the need for a holistic yet dedicated sanitisation and water programme that can further the cause of a clean India was accepted. With the participation from 154 male and 375 females, the schedule for these meetings also contained a movie showing time. This film, *Nirmala*, was based on the sanitation programme.

Taking its key learning and elaborating on the same, the programme staff sensitised them on how the diseases spread, importance of building a toilet, hand washing, cleanliness of houses, etc. The women members were motivated after seeing the motion picture and showed interest in constructing the toilet blocks.

Hence, the WATSAN programme initiated with promoting the TATA Swaccha product, sold to women members for one point of use for purification at household level in the project villages. About 133 units of the same were well received.

Pilot training programmes on single source use for water purification were conducted by Dr. Niloy and Mr. Adhwait from TATA Chemicals and Mr. Amitbhai, Mr. Virendrabhai and Ms. Shakti from CInI. Held on April 11 and 12, 2018 at Kheroj and Panchayat hall, Delvada for VO leaders, CRPs, Board of Directors (BoDs) and the programme staff; Dr. Niloy explained about water borne diseases, importance of safe drinking water, working of the TATA Swaccha product and how does it make water safe, bacterial finding demonstration, etc. In these training, 83 individuals participated. Along the same discussion points, more sessions were conducted from April 22 to May 23, 2018 at the Nirma Bhavan, Ambaji, Gujarat. This was for a gamut of entrepreneurs and CRPs, including the VO leaders, CRPs, BoDs and the programme staff with a total of 49 individuals taking part. The same facilitators from CInI additionally explained technical details to construct toilets.

Importance of Sanitation was extended to aware 22 VO leaders from 4 selected villages at Kheroj on June 13, 2018. Illnesses due to unhygienic conditions and more such topics were covered. At the end of the meeting, Ms. Shaktiben, CInI conducted triggering exercises to make all of

the participants and villagers at Navamota, on how open defecation spread diseases. This was successfully implemented with the help of SHG members of the said village.

Knowledge on construction of toilet was imparted to masons and beneficiaries at VCC, Kheroj on October 21-22, 2018. In the training, 12 masons, 37 beneficiaries and 2 resource persons participated. On its first day, Mr. Dharmesh Patel, CInI gave technical inputs on the benefits and of toilet and its measurement, pit digging, design of a 2 pit toilet, etc. While the next day went into demonstrating the learnings of the previous day with hands-on toilet construction done by masons. He also shared the Dos and Don'ts as well as the precautions that need to be taken.

During the reporting year, a total of 135 beneficiaries were selected from Dantia, Ganer, Navamota and Tebdi villages (see table below), who lent sufficient contribution for toilet construction. The 110 beneficiaries have constructed toilet in project villages.



An effective triggering programme was done for Ganer village on February 20-21, 2019. Here, VIKSAT staff with CInI representative and CRPs participated. In their two-day itinerary, the team conducted PRA on collection of primary information related to toilets. They also visited places with villagers where people go to freshen up and formed a *Nigarani* Committee. Every early morning used to see people split up into four team with *Nigarani* Committee members. They would then explain about the adverse effects of open defecation on health and open up about importance of toilet. Thereafter, follow up meeting were also organised to discuss about toilets and the need to be constantly on the watch for a backlash.

## (II) Lakhpati Kisan

**Goal:** 6000 households are irrevocably brought out of poverty with increased life choices, and earn an income of more than Rupees One Lakh (Lakhpati) through building community institutions, improved agriculture development, water resource development and optimum utilization of the available natural resources in 28 tribal dominated villages of Danta and Khedbrahma Blocks of Banaskantha and Sabarkantha districts.

Presentation of increased life choices was supported of institutions such as Axis Bank Foundation, TATA Trusts and CInI.

In these project villages, a campaign with slogans on development issues and improved cropping practices were painted on walls to create mass awareness towards the same.

In addition to this, a launching workshop of the project for the said clusters was organised at The Grand Radiance (TGR) Hotel, Abu Road, Palanpur (Banaskantha) on International Women Day, on March 8, 2019. The main agenda of the programme was to gain inputs from the government officials on VIKSAT's cluster development plan and their support in leveraging the schemes. In this workshop, Mr. Prakash K. Patel, District Agriculture Officer; Dr. S B Upadhy, Dy. Director, Animal Husbandry; Dr. J B Suthar, Dy. Director, Horticulture Dept.; Mr. Makwana, DLM, National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM); Mr. S M Patel, DEE, Minor Irrigation; along with other government officials, programme staff and community leaders from Danta cluster participated.



Under the project, 72 awareness meetings were organised in the project area to spread awareness on project objectives, programme activities, process of implementation and the know-how of good agriculture practices among the community. In these meeting, 2140 participants along with an active involvement of SHGs added to its credibility.



Four exposures visits to successful model of PIs and improved agriculture in existing Khedbramha cluster villages were made. The farmers were oriented on these programme activities conducted in the existing cluster. Some experience of the previous programme beneficiaries was also shared. A total of 148 community and SHG leaders were present at the visits.

Around 67 dairy cooperative members with SHG members attended two awareness meeting. Its objective was project planning, implementation, and role of each people institutions in its implementation. Here, the programme staff collected information on the existing dairy cooperative, issues and gaps in diary rearing as well as linkages with dairy, fodder development, problems, and solutions for the small ruminants (goat).



## Water Resource Development

Access to irrigation is an important pre-requisite for enhancing the income from high value crops and also for intensification of the agriculture intervention.

Encouraging water resources development under this programme, Shri C.S. Pathak, Consultant NRM, TATA Trusts and Mr. Virendrabhai, CInI visited sites to provide technical guidance regarding the survey conduction in Danta cluster villages on November, 28-29, 2018. Therefore, the technical programme staff then proceeded to assess the six sites in the project area for small lift irrigation scheme from five villages: Rani Umbari-1, Beda-1, Boradiyala-1, Dhagadiya-2, Panch Mahuda-1.



Orientation training on the planning and implementation of the programme activities was organized from December 19 -20, 2018 at Mount Abu for programme staff members including village extension workers. The groups on people institutions (PIs), agriculture, water resource and livestock shared their strategy to work at village. The action plan for programme activities were planned.



## (III) Micro Irrigation System for Sustainable Agriculture Livelihood (MISSAL) Programme

Goal: Develop sustainable livelihood options through provision of micro irrigation technology and agronomy support services in Poshina tribal area of Khedbrahma taluka of Sabarkantha district.

Supporting farmers by creating irrigation solutions that can diversify their scope from single cropping pattern to double cropping pattern, the MISSAL project would enable the farmers to optimally use the irrigation water.

It aims to reach more than 300 farmers and 110 ha land area under drip irrigation system in project villages, where the combination of micro irrigation system along with agronomical services would aid farmers in increasing productivity and sustain farming as livelihood option.

The installation of drip irrigation system has been completed in 19 MIS groups, covering 52 beneficiaries and 19.03 ha land area with the support of Jhon Deere Foundation, Gujarat Green Revolution Company Ltd. (GGRC), Netafim and Vishakha Irrigation System Ltd. The cumulative 105 MIS were installed in 101.17 ha land area and covered 295 farmers in project area under the MISSAL programme. Further, the GGRC has conducted the 22 trial runs of installed MIS, with a cumulative count of 67 trial runs.



18 meetings were held with the programme staff of Vishakha and Donga Watertech Irrigation Systems Ltd. at the VIKSAT field office in Kheroj for review and progress, follow up on the submitted application, document submission, installation of MIS and trial runs of these installed MIS, along with the orientation training programmes on operations and maintenance of drip irrigation.

Three training programmes on drip irrigation system and two exposure visits vegetable cultivation with drip irrigation were organised for the farmers. In these training programmes, 257 farmers were participated. Mr. R. M. Patel, Senior Manager, Gujarat GGRC, present at these programmes, motivated the beneficiaries to adopt the drip irrigation system, while highlighting its importance, need and benefits. He also interacted and discussed about the crops grown under drip irrigation, application of liquid fertigation, quantity, and requirement of fertilizer for crops, etc.



Under agronomy support, liquid fertilizer like 19:19:19, 00:52:34 and 12:61:00 was provided to 80 MIS beneficiaries for its promotion and adoption to crop in drip irrigation system. The demonstration on fertigation was conducted in the farmers field.

The monitoring visit was conducted by UWM Mumbai in the project area on October 12, 2018 for the review the progress of Missal and March Programmes, ongoing project implementation and visited construction work of AART centre.



### Fielding a Growth for the Beyond

The need creates space for awareness. This newfound knowledge helps one explore various avenues and walk along a pathway where potential finds an opportunity to blossom. A marginal farmer in the Ganer village of Poshina taluka in Sabarkantha District of Gujarat, Gamar Lalubhai Ushabhai showed interest in the MISSAL programme and involved himself in adapting all the practices associated with it.

During the year 2016-17, last summer, he followed the regional tradition of rainfed farming and undulating land, he cultivated the green gram in his 0.25 ha area. However, Lalubhai only received Rs. 12,000 by selling a production of 300 kg at the rate of Rs. 40/kg. It was only after the installation of a drip irrigation system in his 1 Ha land under this programme, that it was possible for him to cultivate an assured vegetable crop of chilli and tomatoes in the summer season of the year 2017-18. With this system, he was able to grow chilli in 0.3 Ha and tomatoes in 0.2 Ha area with drip irrigation and mulching.

Lalubhai took pride in earning a handsome amount of Rs. 37800 by selling a production of 900 kgs of chilli at the rate of Rs. 26/kg and 1300 kgs of tomatoes at the rate of Rs. 12/kg, in the nearby markets. Seeing this return, he was rather pleased with the output of garnering three times more income from same land parcel. It was his hands-on experience which led him to believe in the fertility ratio of his land and its optimum usage. Although, it was his enthusiasm which made him promise to continue vegetable cultivation in future.

This was the story of Lalubhai, one such beneficiary who kept an open mind to adapt novel farming practices for the betterment of his monetary health.



#### **(IV) Multipurpose Agriculture Resource Centre for Holistic Development (MARCH) Project**

The MARCH project aims at enhancing productivity, food security and income through sustainable use of natural resources by making commercial and specialized services available to the project area.

VIKSAT has promoted two Farmer Producer Organisation (FPOs) i.e. KALP (Khedut AART Livelihood Promoting Producer Company Ltd) for the Kheroj cluster and SAFE (Sabar AART Farmer Enterprise Producer Company Ltd.) for the Delwada cluster in the project area under Aravali Agriculture Resource and Training Centre (AART), with the support of John Deere Foundation (JDF) and NABARD.

Their mission is to fill the gap between continuous scientific interventions and accessibility of the farmers to agriculture related knowledge, while providing inputs, in over 25 surrounding villages with more than 6000 farmers.

One campaign for awareness on FPOs activities was organized in the project villages to orient farmers about the advantage of their involvement in the SAFE and KALP companies, their activities, adoption of drip irrigation system, TATA Swachha products, procurement of pulses, seed production programme, etc. In this campaign, more than 1000 farmers participated. During its rally, the activity flex banner of the MISSAL programme and the MARCH project, along with the demonstration of TATA Swachha products was also done from the point of view of purification, that read about water borne diseases. Pamphlets related to products were distributed, which also provided a message that VOs could purchase and sell inputs at an affordable rate to their members.



The construction, plaster, plumbing, flooring, electrification and colouring work of the AART centre has been completed. The finalization of its furniture work as well as choice of colours is in progress and assures completion upon fund availability.

KALP and SAFE farmer-producer companies exhibited at the *Krishi Mahotsav* with their stalls on April 2, 2018 at the Paras Vidhyalay, Lambadiya and APMC, Ahmedabad respectively. Many officers and farmer visited these stalls. Many dignitaries talked about company activities to the visitors; including CEO, KALP, Manager of FPOs and Shri Virendrabhai, CInI. At APMC, Ahmedabad, Dy. Chief Minister, Agriculture Minister, DDO, other officers, etc. visited these stalls.



Smt. Shantaben Parmar, Chairman, SAFE Company shared her experiences during her association with the company in joint meeting of Regional Advisory Officers, NABARD Staff, Bankers, Horticulture and Agriculture Officers and many more at the NABARD Regional Office, Ahmedabad on October 9, 2018. She discussed the details of FPOs, programme activities and benefits to farmers from the same.

A workshop on the FPOs was organised by the State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD) in Ahmedabad, Gujarat from May 22-24, 2018. It was attended by VIKSAT's programme staff and FPO staff. Here, the emphasis was laid on the progress and experience of the personnel engaged, after a series of training, which was held by SIRD for FPO staff as well as the BODs. VIKSAT also made a presentation on the experience gained through FPOs' activities.

## (V) Kutch Sustainable Development (KSD) Project

Influencing more than 10,240 households with a total population of 50,347, VIKSAT outreached 34 villages of Abdasa, Nakhatrana, Mandvi and Lakhpat taluka of Kachchh district in Gujarat with the support of SUZLON Foundation.

Here, the programme addresses the area specific needs in the project villages with a holistic approach where the planning and designing of the activities are done accordingly. However, the involvement of the community and Village Development Corporation (VDC) in every stage of the development process forms the crux of the programme.

### Charting the Impact

The survey, baseline study and updating information were taken up in 13 programme villages where village and school information such as residents of the village, number of schools and students, etc.; cataract cases; listing of trees / seed broadcasting; species planted; mapping of households which have no electricity supply as well as narrowing down to people with special abilities was taken up.

Additionally, village meetings in 8 villages, 11 Village Development Committee (VDC) meetings, one campaign/community awareness programmes and one Village Notice Boards were set up to improve the awareness and education about the programme activities.

### Enhancing Capitals

#### Social Empowerment Programmes

Observing it from the social perspective, a VDC was formed in the Nana Angiya village to involve the communities in the development process, which could build their human, material, social and



financial assets. This programmes' implementation strengthened the corporation further by organising 11 meetings; a Women's Day celebration; three training with awareness programmes on *Swachhata Hi Seva Abhiyan* with participation of 107 community members from three project villages; and one exposure visit under the KSD project. A documentation kit was given to all the VDC in the select programme villages.

### Livelihood Programmes

Bringing financial strength and enhanced productivity through improvement in access to animal health care in the project villages, was the organisation of two Animal Health Care and Vaccination camp where 2,132 animals were treated.



Two demonstrations on Compost pit, an integrated and environmentally organic waste management system technology for collection, was done in Arikhana village.

Furthermore, one-month Vocational Skill Building Programme on beauty parlour was conducted in Sagnara village to better the employability or entrepreneurship of local female youth. 30 women participated and were given two self-employment kits in the form of Petty Shop for income generation.

### Nurturing the Future

#### Enhancing about 4,250 students' knowledge:

various competitions, awareness programme were conducted. Distribution of sports, science, and medicine kit (first aid box), as well as establishment of WaSH Education Corner became a primary effort. Bird nest and water troughs exercises further aided their interest. One of the key activities has also been the improvisation of

the school facilities and overall development of the students. In these six primary schools, school furniture support and repairs took place along with the installation of a RO plant and Water Tank. Moreover, on Yoga Day various activities were carried out.

**Health and Education Programmes**

Investing their knowledge base in the human capital, VIKSAT organised three health camps in project villages and an Eye check-up camp in Veyar village. This was done to improve access to preventive and curative health services. While, 162 patients were examined and treated during the health camps, 51 patients were provided spectacles and 17 patients were identified and recommended for cataract surgery at the eye check-up camp.



**Basic Civic Amenities Improvement**

Cleaning of wild shrubs, well deepening work, furniture support in the community hall, repairing of water storage tank and cattle trough, pond renovation, playground levelling, enhanced the physical capital in 8 project villages. Moreover, a

plastic collection drive by children in three villages with 140 Hooks added to the beauty of the village.



**Pond Deepening**

VIKSAT executed pond deepening work in 7 village ponds under this project, Sujlam Suflam Jal Yojana, by the Government of Gujarat with support of SUZLON Foundation in the project villages. This will help the villages to get an additional capacity of 16528 cubic metre work, increasing the water storage capacity to 165.29 lakh litres.



Sukhsan, Primary School and VDC members, gave an appreciation letter and a memento to Dr. Jasmine Gogia, Head- CSR, Sustainability and Occupational Health, SUZLON Foundation and VIKSAT for their contribution in performing development activities in the school and village on January 30, 2019.

## (VI) Vestas Kutch Vikas Karyakram (VKVK)

VIKSAT extended its programme in 13 villages of Bhuj and Mandvi talukas of Kachchh district in Gujarat with the support of Vestas (Vestas Wind Technology (India) Pvt. Ltd). The project area covers more than 2,551 households with a total population of 12,423. Addressing the need of assessment survey and strategizing the activities accordingly by involving the community and School Management Committee in every elemental stage of development.

### Campaigns and Awareness programmes

This programme made the project villages aware about WaSH issues such as cleanliness, personal hygiene and sustainable development, while educating and encouraging the community on the same. Hence, in the 13 identified villages, awareness meeting, wall painting, video shows, rally, and distribution of pamphlet on WaSH awareness were organised. A notice board was also set up to improve the awareness and education about the programme activities.

### Education and Wash issues

The primary schools in the project villages involved about 1435 students through their school awareness programme activities, WaSH Education Corner as well as education kit and Teaching Learning Material on the mathematics subject. Out of this, eight primary schools in which 356 students participated in the school competitions on drawing, essay writing and debating on WaSH issues.



### School Science Festival (Shala Vigyan Mela)

Ensuring a platform for the local students to engage in fun-filled activities, competitions, workshops to invoke an interest in science by nurturing their creativity, VIKSAT and VASCSC, Ahmedabad organised and conducted this festival



in 5 primary schools. Here, 1,298 students, teachers, and community members from 12 primary schools and villages participated. Raising further inquisitiveness around science was the Mobile Science Laboratory (MSL) by VASCSC, Ahmedabad, complete with demonstrations and activities on Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, etc., showcased at eight primary schools of the project villages where 367 students and teachers participated.



### Animal Vaccination cum Treatment Camp

Looking at the enthusiasm in the project villages, three Animal Vaccination cum Treatment camps were organised to immunise 5011 animals.



## **(VII) Anandshala se Jeevanshala Project**

Aiming to develop an ideal model of the usage of Sustainable Rural Water and raise awareness on Sanitation issues, VIKSAT started this project in the five villages from the Bavla block of Ahmedabad district and one village from the Kheda block of Kheda district. Beginning in June, 2018 with the support from WHEELS India Niswarth (WIN) Foundation, the programme has so far benefitted 2,711 households with a total population of 13,897.

### **Community Need Assessment**

Collecting inputs for preparation of the respective village development intervention plans, this programme was carried out by articulating, prioritising, and estimating the development actions required in the six villages of Bavla and Kheda taluka in an integrated manner.



Foremost, the primary quantitative data on demography; details on agriculture and animal husbandry; view of economic development, education, health, drinking water, sewage, garbage management, sanitation was gathered from the 20% households through online survey forms.

Later, primary qualitative data was accumulated through interviews with *sarpanch*, *talati*, *gram sevak*, *anganwadi* workers and the principal of the primary school. However, the village data was collected through a focused group discussion with the village leaders and marginal women.

### **School development Plan**

To prepare school development plan for improving drinking water facility, compost pit, sanitation facility, water recharge pit and roof rainwater harvesting in primary school of project area,

VIKSAT with the help of a third party architecture firm, prepared school development designs after incorporating suggestions sent by respective school principals.

### **Capacity Building for Students and Teachers on WATSAN programme**

One of the prominent tasks taken up under its wing was to inform the participants about the importance of the same, along with organisation of inter and intra school level competitions.

Essay writing, drawing and debate on WaSH issues constituted the 19 school competitions on the subject. Holding stage at the primary schools of the project areas were 651 students with the provision of kits (Paper, Pen, clipboard, compass box, color) and prizes awarded to them. Consolation and appreciation certificate was also extended to those who couldn't claim a win.



Rally on WATSAN was organised in the Kanotar village of Bavla taluka, Ahmedabad district with the primary school students moving about the village with slogan boards in their hands. Intending to spread awareness on WATSAN, the students loudly chanted their beliefs during this public display on Republic day. More so, the street play on the seven steps of sanitation was also performed by these students on the same day, with about 200 villagers in attendance.

### **Solid Waste Management Programme**

Painstaking issues that India bleeds with, prioritise itself with waste. As one of the most persistent environmental problem after pollution, waste has become inevitable and often finds itself damaging acres of fertile land due to its accumulation. Hence, its segregation for right management was necessary.

Bridging this gap of understanding at grassroots level was VIKSAT and the implementing agency Zero Emission Energy (ZEE). Beginning this journey towards zero waste, the organisations piloted awareness and establishment drives with Kanotar village from Bavla taluka of Ahmedabad district. Inaugurated on January 30, 2019 at the former's primary school, it welcomed a stream of dignitaries.

From Mr. Kanu Patel, Co-founder and Chairman, Amneal Pharmaceuticals and Founder of WIN, Niswarth and Irada Foundation, along with Mrs. Vimla Patel; Ms. Manjula, Sarpanch (Kanotar Village) Mr. Balvantsinh Gohil, Taluka Panchayat Officer; Mr. Dilip Surkar, Director, VIKSAT; Dr. Kranti Vora, Director, WINMCH; Mr. Paresh Vohra, Director- India Operations, WIN Foundation; Dr. Snehal Parmar, CEO, Niswarth Children Foundation graced the event.

Teachers from primary school and villagers attended the event and lauded at the inaugural distribution of colour-coded dustbins to a few families. Moreover, a solid waste management open shed was also set up.

Later, VIKSAT with ZEE gave each household of the villages, two 8 litres capacity dustbins for the disposal of wet waste in green and dry waste in the



blue dustbin. With this, awareness pamphlets were distributed to 356 HHs of Kanotar village to help them comprehend about wet and dry waste.

Under this programme, four pair 80 litre capacity dustbins were also installed in a decentralised manner at commonly frequented public spaces at the villages.

It was observed that the average garbage collected by sweepers through door to door methodology estimated large numbers for various objects (see table on the right). Hence, to encourage segregation, specially designed tricycle with separation facility at the shed were enabled to carry on daily cleaning.



### (I) Facilitating Organic Orchard for Tribal Development (FOOD)

This alternative model of agriculture proved to be useful for enhancing agriculture-based economy in tribal areas.

The income from *wadi* is at least three times more than cereal crops in the same areas of land. Thus, Project FOOD used diversified cropping system of growing food crops, grains, and vegetables in between fruit trees. Due to this system, the recurring investment in fruit tree plantation became less, thereby, reducing the risk of or a drastic impact pertaining to crop failure.

Economising on the fruit and vegetable crops, growing under the suitable climatic and soil characteristics of the concerned area, while generating income over time, is the TDF WADI (an orchard translated to Gujarati) project.

With knowledge partner as VIKSAT, supported by NABARD, this model of agriculture began in 2013, involving in its endeavours a total of 25 villages from Bhiloda (7 villages) and Vijaynagar (18 villages) blocks of Arvali and Sabarkantha districts in Gujarat.



Its success heavily depended (almost 65%) on fruiting, especially Mango sapling that were planted in the year 2013-14 and 2014-15. Nonetheless, the second phase of plantation observed a rather vigorous growth.

Soon, the WADI project was able to achieve its target of covering 1002 acres of landmass. Henceforth, more farmers joined this initiative and witnessed a rise in production and fetch better prices for their produce.

Presently running in its 6<sup>th</sup> year, this project introduced two more novel components of farming to their training methods - intercrop and planting creeper vegetables. About 750 wadi beneficiaries cultivated black gram, beans, and turmeric in the Kharif season; while 460 Wadi



farmers cultivated okra, cluster bean and cow pea in the summer season. They thus got a leveraged production of 225-250 kg for chemical and pesticide residue free turmeric, fetching a good price (Rs. 300-350/kg of turmeric powder) and earning approximately Rs. 10,000 from the same. Moreover, cultivation of vegetables, black gram, green gram and beans saw handsome gains of Rs. 16,000-20,000 on an average.

Extending fortification to the farmers, VIKSAT imparted time bound training sessions for better care and management of fruit trees in *wadis*. Resultantly, crop diversification, improving natural resource base and many other subjects

were covered to enhance their erudition and thereby, income. It also supported interventions addressing certain social issues with the hopes of creating conducive environment for overall rural development.

During this year, about 102 meeting were carried out for 2614 *wadi* beneficiaries at the village level, where they were given demonstration for various processes, such as, earthen up, ring basin, staking, pruning and timely fertiliser application as well as weeding and weed management.



### Realising women potential for better business

This is what surmises the success story of VIKSAT motivated JLG-Ashrivad Mahila Swa-Sahay Juth. After undergoing trainings on how to develop effective vermin compost, the women group was lent a considerable amount of Rs. 30,000. This ensured that there were no financial hindrances in carrying out a scalable production of vermi compost. With the implementation of the knowledge gained from trainings, good quality pertained.

The group then used about 7,500 kgs in their own farms, whereas a surplus of 13,000 kgs was sold at the rate of Rs. 7/kg; earning them an additional income of Rs. 91,000. A well-fed land cultivated a healthy crop of turmeric, where its powder (80 kgs) was consumed in the nearby villages at the rate of Rs. 300/kg, thereby garnering another Rs. 12,800.



## (II) DST SEED Division's support to benefit Tribal Communities

Improving livelihood resilience through integrated farming system, Department of Science and Technology's (DST) SEED Division referred DST CORE support to VIKSAT's aspirations. Under this programme, tribal communities from Vijaynagar blocks of Sabarkantha and Bhiloda Block of Aravalli Districts of Gujarat, will be privy to the activities that can increase farm based [Agriculture/ Horticulture/ Livestock] income. Commencing in November, this programme has been locked in for a period of five years from 2018 to 2023.

The programme promotes entrepreneurship efforts by SHGs/Community Based Organisations (CBOs) Custom Hiring Centre so that the tribal farmers can get the service of farm equipment on rent. Along with this, aid to install Agro Processing Unit for turmeric as well Bio-Pesticide Unit was given.

Opportunity for betterment of farmers ensured a number of activities to be conducted for their capacity building.



- Developing the scientific Package of Practices (PoP) for growing crops with the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) principle in wheat and maize to reduce cost of cultivation.
- Developing the area specific Integrated Farming System for regular farm income.
- Scientific care and management of livestock by women farmers and learn various feeding practices.
- Involving SHGs to ensure maximum utilization of farm and animal waste or Farmyard Manure (FYM) to produce good quality vermin compost

and vermin wash and encourage its application in the fields for soil improvement. This could also become a source of additional income.

- Developing production technology to produce a residue free export quality organic turmeric in the tribal area and generate more income.
- Standardizing of bio-pesticide production at household and CBOs level for pest management of major crops viz. cotton, maize, pigeon pea, vegetables, fruit crops, pulses, etc.



The project further initiated following activities under System of Wheat Intensification (SWI) for the beneficiaries.

Four village meetings were conducted in project villages for sharing the information on SWI and its importance, where 64 farmers participated. In these meetings, the focal points of discussion were Selection of beneficiaries for SWI demonstration, selection, and finalization of field for demonstration, Understanding the layout of demonstration, and How to sow wheat and do a thorough seed treatment.

Maize Research Station, Bhiloda and VIKSAT Office-Bhiloda in Gujarat, became an intersection for four training programmes of 116 farmers on Irrigation, Weed and Fertilizer Management and Integrated pest management (IPM) in SWI, Importance of SMI-System of Maize Intensification and Vermin compost.

In these programmes, Dr. R. M. Patel, Research Scientist and Dr. B. G. Chaudhari, Asst. Research Scientist, both from the Maize Research Station, Bhiloda along with programme staff from VIKSAT imparted knowledge on efficient ways of fertiliser management through Top dressing. They also



emphasised on learning towards critical stages in wheat, seed rate, treatment, and sowing, IPM in SMI, and practical demonstration on methods of preparing vermin compost.

Sowing the Gujarat Wheat 496 variety in the total of 3.89 acre area of Ghati, Vejjpur, Wagheshvari and Kanadar villages were 22 farmers, participating in 22 demonstrations in these project villages. Four field day celebrations were also conducted where 59 farmers participated. During these days, Dr. R. M. Patel, Research Scientist, Maize Research Station-Bhiloda, and programme staff from VIKSAT emphasised on savings in seed rate and encouraging a uniform crop growth. They also put light on minimising weed infestation and lodging, more tillering, increase in spikelets, and growth in area covered for and number of grain fillings.

### The Wadi of a better tomorrow!

Hailing from a small village, Vejjpur in the Bhiloda block of Aravalli district in Gujarat, Lilaben Sureshbhai Baranda grew maize and wheat crops with partial irrigation facility. The only respite during these testing times was her 2 acres land, which she rightfully owned.

Selling this ready produce, she was able to fend anywhere between Rs. 18,000 - 20,000 for the family annually. But in 2015 she attended the meeting conducted by VIKSAT in her village on TDF WADI Project supported by NABARD.

This gave her the confidence to pursue it as an opportunity to earn more. She joined the WADI Project in the same year and planted about 45 fruit saplings (Mango (20), Pomegranate (20) and Lemon (05)) in the half of her land.

Under the guidance of VIKSAT's experts her 1-acre land was tilled and sown with these plants. As a regular participant in the meetings and trainings, she gradually learnt about the aftercare and management of fruit plants as well as intercropping of vegetables in wadis and creeper vegetables, such as bottle gourd, bitter gourd, and turmeric, using only a section of the available land (10 guntha - (0.24 acres)).

In the first year, a few saplings of vegetables such as aubergine (brinjal), chilli and tomato were provided to perform intercropping and wadi methods of farming in 20 guntha (0.5 acres) area. It was estimated that with this she could fetch Rs.35, 000-40,000 in a single season.

Once her income stabilised after selling these vegetables in nearby places, she has now been growing the same vegetables in her 10 *guntha* land with her own expenditure, since the last two years. In the current year, she took home an average of Rs. 1,300/day at an interval of every 2 days (almost Rs. 30,750 annually) by retailing the same vegetables on her own at Bhiloda, Gujarat. Moreover, this project facilitated establishment of around 25 Ashirvad Mahila Swa-Sahay Juth or Self Help Groups (SHGs) along with one Joint Liability Group (JLG).



### General Production Details

Sr. No.	Vegetables	Estimated Total Production [Kg]	Rate [Rs./Kg]	Total Amount (Rs.) [2 days interval]
1	Tomato	1000	20	20,000
2	Brinjal	450	15	6,750
3	Chilli	100	40	4,000
	<b>Total</b>			<b>30,750</b>

### Production details after 3 seasons of practising under the guidance of TDF WADI

Sr. No.	Vegetables	Daily Production [2 days interval]	Rate [Rs./Kg]	Total Amount (Rs.) [2 days interval]
1	Tomato	30	20	600
2	Brinjal	10	15	150
3	Chilli	4	40	160
	<b>Total</b>			<b>910</b>

### (I) People Institutions

Women Self Help Groups (SHGs) form the basic institutional backbone of most rural development programme by VIKSAT. These groups, at the village level, form the Village Organisations (VOs), and intensive engagements are taken up with these groups to roll out various programme activities in the villages. However, they all funnel down to SHGs wherein all the House Holds (HHs) who participate in the programme are enrolled as the members. Thereby, the major interest during the period lays in the capacity building and strengthening of these primary and secondary level institutions so that more House Holds (HHs) can find shelter under the ambit of Institutions.

#### Self Help Groups

The formation of SHGs helps at better implementation of activity and reach out to the last section of community and poor households. VIKSAT touched the lives of 12,239 HHs through 899 SHGs across its field offices in Gujarat. These SHGs have actively participated in numerous loans and finance-based activities, under agriculture and rural development project.



Programme staff from VIKSAT organised 60 meeting for existing SHGs to share project objectives and modalities. In these meeting, project planning, implementation and role of each People institutions (PIs) was discussed.

Field Office	Total SHGs	Total Members
Bhiloda	118	1770
Bhuj	42	630
Kheroj	542	6884
Radhanpur	62	930
Satlasna	135	2025
<b>Total</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>12239</b>

117 SHGs completed the self-grading exercise and audit exercises, respectively, to understand the status of the SHGs, increasing transparency, and building trust among the members.

Also, demand generation and credit planning exercises were carried out in 455 SHGs. The purpose of the exercise was to collect input demands from the SHG members and plan for the input purchasing and its timely availability to these members at their doorstep.

#### Village Organisation (VO)

Another endeavour taken up by VIKSAT to strengthen the SHGs at village level and provide a platform to them to share their issues and search for solutions, was to promote the formation of Village Organizations (VOs) and CLFs (Cluster Level Federations).

28 VOs organized monthly meetings to discuss input planning for Kharif, Rabi & Summer season, preparation of Annual Work Plan (AWP) 2018-19, sorting SHG issues, strengthening of SHGs, review of work of CRP and their stipend, scrutinise WRD applications, analyse the progress of WRD activities, recovery of federation loan, discussion on revolving fund, PoP trainings, participation in Farmer Field School (FFS), increase shareholders and share fee, how to enhance business and new SHG formation formed the base.

The meeting with 31 VO representatives from project villages were organised to Planning of programme activities in AWP 2019-20. In this meeting, the points of discussion were-activities implemented during the year 2018-19, its benefits and planning of the next year. Since this is the last year for the project, more attention would be given on exit strategy, starting of service charge collection from all SHGs, strengthening of all the People Institutions (PIs) and much more.



## Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)

VIKSAT established Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) with an aim to provide quality, affordable agricultural inputs at the farmers' doorstep; provide market accessibility; better price range for their produce; and other technical services for enhancing their agriculture productivity. VIKSAT in collaboration with NABARD established Farmer Producer Companies (FPOs), namely Khedut AART Livelihood Promoting Producer Company Ltd. (KALP) and Sabar AART Farmer Enterprise Producer Company Ltd. (SAFE) in Delvada and Kheroj respectively in 2015. Similarly, Gadhwada Farmer Producer Company Ltd (GFPC), Bhanavas; Hatmati Kisan Agro Producer Company (HKAPC), Zinzudi, and Kutch Agriculture Livelihood Producer Company Ltd, (KALP) were also established in 2016. Each of these FPOs in their areas is connected with number of women SHGs and FCs formed and strengthened by VIKSAT through its previous programs. The SAFE and KALP FPOs initiated the procurement and aggregation of agriculture produce namely black gram, pigeon pea and The five FPOs cover total of 4115 members across the five field offices of VIKSAT.

These FPOs have an impressive 2,341 number of women members, 3,099, small scale farmers and 972 marginalized farmers. These FPOs are also a good example of representation of the tribal and socio-economically weaker sections of the society with almost 3407 of its members coming from the SC/ST category. Till date the FPOs has mobilised share amount, KALP has mobilized 1.94 Lakh, SAFE has mobilized 2.81 Lakh, HKAPC has mobilized 1.0 lakh INR, GFPC has mobilized 1.00 lakh INR, and Kutch KALP has mobilized 5.00 lakh INR through their various activities.

17 CLF meetings observed VOs and BoDs of SAFE and KALP discussing the enrolment of



shareholders, collection of share capitals, completed ROC Compliance for both the FPCs, oversee input supply of for all the seasons and its corresponding demand, packaging and selling wheat and various other certified seeds, buying back bitter gourd and cotton seed productions and selling to companies, market linkages and account opening with a NCDEX. The business of aggregation and procurement of agriculture produce such as black gram, pigeon pea, wheat seed, installation of processing unit for Dal, its packet design and quotation.

Two Annual General Body Meetings (AGBM) of SAFE and KALP were organised. In the AGBMs, more than 500 shareholders participated where audit report from previous year and the business plan for the next year were strategized. In the focus were resignation of 1/3 BoD, new BoD selection and an oath taken to increase business of both FPCs.

Training on business planning was organised for BoD members from July, 3-4, 2018 at the Jethiba Sadan, Ambaji. In the programmes, 19 BoDs, CEO, VO leaders and programme staff participated. The training was facilitated by Mr. Venkatesh, a freelance consultant. He gave information on the 4Ws and 1H of business planning and marketing. In the programme, practical exercises on preparing business plans were also conducted.

### Strengthening People's Institutions

Sr. No.	Training programmes and Exposure visits	No. of Prog.	No. of Participants
1	Training on orientation and management of SHGs for SHG members	7	200
2	Refresher orientation training on SHG and its management for SHG members	56	1417
3	Refresher training on record keeping for SHG president, secretary, CRP and local volunteers	9	196
4	Training on Group Dynamics and Leadership Development for SHG leaders	7	188
5	Training on self-grading for SHG leader	6	164
6	Training on the concept of seeding, need and importance of VOs for SHG leaders	2	59
7	Training on Government schemes and programmes for VO members	18	471
8	Training on rules and regulations of VOs and sub-committees for VO leaders	2	53
9	Training on 'Vision Building' for VO leaders	2	82
10	Orientation training on record keeping of VOs for VO leaders	2	63
11	Exposure visit on water conservation , agriculture activities agricultural activities , FPC, Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO)	9	314

## Staff Development Programme

During the year, 14 monthly meetings with programme staff and CRPs, discussion on upcoming and previously done activities took place. A review of progress against the AWP, challenges faced during the implementation, demand, and input supply under Kharif, Rabi & Summer seasons, in addition to the preparation of the next year's AWP with all programme staff and CRPs was done.



technical support on PIs and the progress of water resource development programme, VOs, nursery entrepreneur and staff was extended, along with discussion about development of all institutions.

Under Staff Development Programmes CRPs and programme staff participated in two activities, first was two staff trainings for efficient programme management and an audit exercise with Annual General Body Meeting (AGBM).



## The details of major visits during the year

Sr. No.	Date	Name of Person	Organisation	Purpose of Visits
1	3-May-18	Mr. Philip Chacko	TATA Trusts, Mumbai	Case study documentation on Smart Village theme under the Lakhpati Kisan Project.
2	25-May-18	Mr. Kuldip and Mr. Hardipsinh	Development Support Center (DSC), Ahmedabad	Evaluation for SAFE for Anil Shah Gram Vikas Paritoshik Awards as it has been shortlisted for final stage for best FPOs in Gujarat.
3	31-May-18	Mr. Meet and Mr. Sneh	Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA), Anand	Study on SAFE, the Farmer Producer Company (FPO) at Kheroj village
4	5-June-2018 18- June-2018	Mr. Anish Paul Antony & Ms. Nidhi Sharma	Student, MIT, USA at Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives (CInI)	Study and understand the adoption of the technology in the agriculture as well as low cost technologies for the cold storage of vegetables and grain storage practices in rural areas.
5	5,6 August 2018	Mr. Sunil Agarwal Dr. Rajee Gulyani, Prof. N. G. shah, Dr. N. Sahoo, Dr. Anuradha Pughat	Department of Science and Technology (DST), New Delhi	On the spot assessment by DST Expert Group for Core Support project
6	11-Sep-18	Shri Sunil Chavla	CGM, NABARD, Gujarat	Visit the SAFE outlet and interact with the Board of Directors (BoDs) and Village Organisation (VO) leaders at Kheroj village on the progress done under the FPO programme.
7	11-Oct-18	-	ARCH Organisation, Vadodra	Visit the VIKSAT promoted SAFE, the Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) outlet at Kheroj village and interact with the staff and Board of Directors (BoDs) on programme activities of the company.
8	12-Oct-18	Mr. Gavit Mr. J K Patel	Director and Dy. Director, Horticulture Department, Sabarkantha District	Visit the bitter gourd seed production plot in Ratanpur village and give valuable technical guidance on the subject matter for income enhancement.
9	25-Oct-18	Ms. Munali and Ms. Aishwarya	Journalists from "Points for People Initiative"	Visit VIKSAT field area for documentation of the organisation's programmes and activities for fund mobilization initiatives in tribal area with the support of TATA Trusts and other agencies.

Sr. No.	Date	Name of Person	Organisation	Purpose of Visits
10	Nov 14-15, 2018	Ms. Reshma Anand, Ms. Devika, Mr. Ajay, and Mr. Praveen Prakash	Hindustan Unilever Foundation (HUF), Mumbai	Visit to VIKSAT field area to overview the activities conducted in the project villages and interact with the People Institutions (PIs) and programme beneficiaries on the impact of programme and the need of area.
11	Nov 28-19, 2018	Shri C.S. Pathak	Consultant, NRM, TATA Trusts	Provide technical guidance and exercise verification of the sites at Beda, Rani Umbari, Baravas, Dhagadiya and Pachmahuda villages for small lift irrigation schemes and water harvesting structures.
12	3-Dec-18	Dr. S. R. Singh	Dy. Director of CCS, National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM), Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India, Jaipur (Rajasthan)	Visit SAFE Company outlet and interact with their BoDs to understand their activities.
13	28-Dec-18	Mr. Abhishek	United Phosphorus Limited (UPL), Gujarat	Visit Silo Structure and interact with programme staff on further collaboration. Earlier, he had visited the SAFE Company outlet and interact with their BoDs.
14	2-Jan-19	Mr. Ryuintan Mehta	Director, WIN Foundation	Visit the Solid Waste Management site at Kanotar village and interact with the villagers.
15	10-Jan-19	Mr. Vineet Upadhyay Mr. Akshay	TATA Chemicals and TATA Trusts	Comprehend linkages of pulse existing between the TATA Chemicals and SAFE Producer Company by visiting the VIKSAT field area.
16	29-Jan-19	Mr. Bhuvan and Mr. Anil	DD Kisan, New Delhi	Visit VIKSAT promoted SAFE to make a documentary film on an FPOs activities.
17	1-Feb-19	Ms. Dhruvi Shah	Vice - President, Axis Bank Foundation (ABF)	Visit VIKSAT field area for review and discussion with the stakeholders of Lakhpati Kisan Project and VIKSAT programme activities in the tribal areas, while interacting with the beneficiaries and programme staff as well as observing programmatic activities.
18	10-Mar-19	-	VIKSAT	Share the experiences of the farmers and the impacts of the programme, in addition to the best practices for more than 1200 SHG female members as well as 100 community leaders from project villages. Dal Milat Kheroj village was also inaugurated.
19	March 11-12, 2019	Ms. Rikita Solanki	CSR Manager, Gujarat, HDFC Bank Ltd.	Overview activities done by VIKSAT in the project villages with the support of HDFC Bank Ltd. and celebrate Women's Day by interacting with the staff and beneficiaries of the programme.





## (II) ITC MISSION SUNEHRA KAL

VIKSAT initiated MISSION SUNEHRA KAL programme in 25 aspirational districts from the seven states of India with the supported by ITC limited from June 2018. The project aims at imparting training and monitoring its progress on three major crops namely Rice, Wheat and Gram. The project envisage to develop a IEC material on standard Package of Practices (PoP) on major crops to the farmers, Capacity building of Master Trainers (MTs) and Monitor of the progress of the MTs and VRPs.

### Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Material

VIKSAT compiled the PoP for three crops based on the recommendation by Agricultural Universities and Research Institutes. Furthermore, these crop PoPs were finalized with the feedback received from the 59 experts during the three workshops that took place in Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh, Patna in Bihar and Guwahati in Assam, separately.

Considering similar agro-climatic conditions for Wheat, Gram and Boro Rice (for Assam) in these aspirational districts, a wholesome education



material was developed to support the VRPs in Hindi, Marathi and Assamese languages as per state. For each of these crops, three crop modules in the form of flip charts were developed, namely, sowing of seeds, management practices in standing crop and storage and harvest and post-harvest. The information in the IEC bundle were mostly pictorial for better comprehension.

VIKSAT imparted two days training in 25 aspirational districts. Total 704 participant were present, out of them 402 Master Trainers (MTs) trained on Agriculture Package of Practices. These MTs trained 2259 Village Resource Persons (VRPs) and these VRPs Trained total 295165 Nos of Total farmers using this Agriculture Training Manual in respective state local languages.

The manual for trainer was developed to conduct the training programme for MTs to VRPs and VRPs to farmers in multi languages.

The farmer diaries with understanding towards PoP (in detail) and cost of cultivation were provided to farmers. Farmer could himself /herself maintain a record of demonstrations and traditional farming methods.

State	District	No. of Training for MTs	Participants	Total MT Trained	VRPs Trained by MTs	No. of Trainings for Farmers	Farmers Trained by VRPs
Uttar Pradesh	Chitrakoot, Balrampur, Bahraich, Sonbhadra, and Shraswasti	5	155	114	152	950	78136
Madhya Pradesh	Damoh, Singrauli, Barwani, Vidisha, and Khandwa	5	99	83	308	1072	24413
Bihar	Begusarai, Katihar, Sheikhpura, Araria, and Sitamarhi	5	199	81	1102	2202	113651
Assam	Darrang, Dhubri, Barpeta, Goalpara, and Baksa	5	114	68	241	227	29062
Rajasthan	Jaisalmer, Baran	2	60	24	115	88	5912
Jharkhand	Sahebganj and Pakur	2	46	15	169	816	35271
Maharashtra	Nandurbar	1	31	17	172	329	8720
<b>Total</b>		<b>25</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>2259</b>	<b>5684</b>	<b>295165</b>



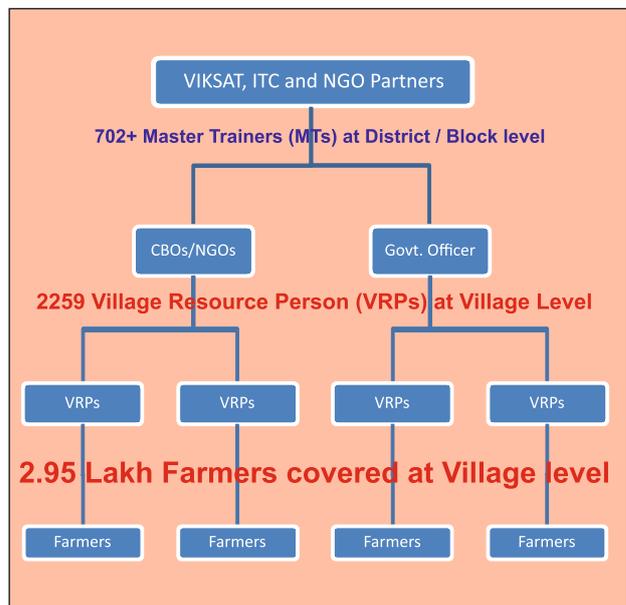
**Sunehrakal App Development:**

Reporting and monitoring is an important part to measure the progress of any programme. VIKSAT has developed a mobile application “Sunehrakal” to get the real-time data of all training programmes in all the aspirational districts under ITC Mission Sunehrakal programme. ITC and Government officials could get online monitoring details of all the training. The dashboard gives us clear cut graphical outcome of the particular training of the particular district for the given duration.



**Capacity Building of MTs and VRPs:**

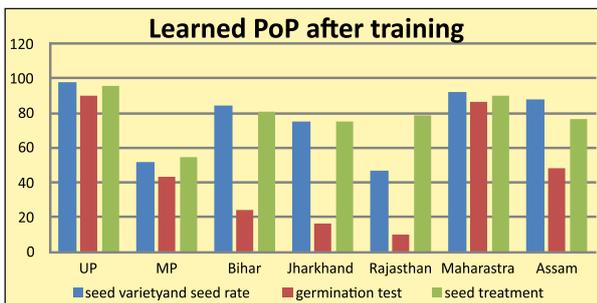
The whole training programme which was carried out following cascade model commenced in September, 2018 and got successfully completed in January 2019.



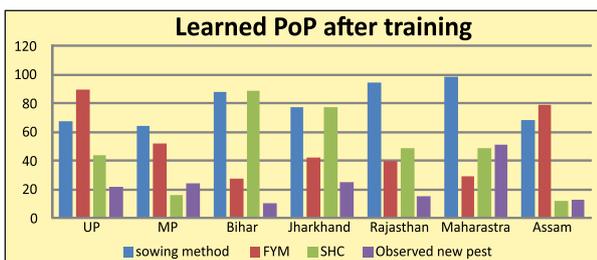
VIKSAT trained the master trainers (MTs) on the PoP for assigned three crops at each of the 25 aspirational districts. Each MT trained about 3-5 Village Resource Person (VRPs) with an IEC material based two-day training programme at their convenient location. Subsequently, each VRP trained 30- 40 farmers in their villages at different crop stages. The MTs and VRPs are the government employees with the state Department of Agriculture, KrishiVigyan Kendra (KVK) and Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA), amongst a few.

### Monitoring and Evaluation on PoP Training:

The monitoring and evaluation on PoP Training was conducted for each district to study whether the intended information, in fact reached the end users/farmers through the cascade models as well as the impact on the crop production and the cost of production conducted during Rabi 2018-19. This process was conducted during the months of December 2018- March 2019 in all the 25 districts of 5 states. Farmers from two-three villages of every two blocks from each district were interviewed personally for their feedback on the crop PoP. Total 1288 number of farmers and 119 VRPs were interviewed on the PoP training feedback during the monitoring evaluation. The monitoring report showed that learning of training programme was well adopted by farmers on recommended variety & seed rate, germination test, seed treatment and sowing method, FYM, Fertilizer as per Soil Health Card, Observed new pest and Weed control measures.



Number of the farmers who followed the PoP after the training



Number of the farmers who followed the PoP after the training

### (III) Internet Saathi: Adopting Digitisation for Betterment

TATA TRUSTS, Foundation for Rural Entrepreneurship Development (FRIEND), Google India and VIKSAT came together to address this huge gender gap and introduced a digital literacy programme, based on 'train the trainer' model to interest the women in the villages of Gujarat, India to adapt to the virtual world.

Under this programme, women from villages are trained on using the internet and Equipping them with data-enabled devices acts as plus to their newfound knowledge. They are thus known as Internet Saathis, who later work as trainers for this programme to help other women in their village to get started on their enriching journey.

#### i) Internet Saathi Programme in Gujarat Phase-III

VIKSAT, with the duly motivation from the aforementioned organisations, continues to implement this programme in 4618 villages of 13 districts from select 57 blocks of the entire Gujarat in partnership with 18 local Institutions / NGOs at district level, who assisted us in achieving these numbers. During the year, 1499 Internet Saathis superseded the number by enlightening a 918322 cumulative total of the 943835 women during the project period.



Districts covered Under Internet Saathi Programme in Gujarat



NGO partner wise coverage of Saathis & Beneficiaries

Sr. No.	Partners Name	Saathis	Villages	TARGET
1	Asara Morva –Kanvat	79	216	47400
2	BAIF-TAPI	154	472	92400
3	BAIF-VALSAD	72	235	43200
3	Banaskanta General-Navsari	98	290	58800
4	Brotherhood -Navsari	89	266	53400
5	Dindayal Education & welfare	67	251	40200
6	DST- Surat and Bharuch	138	403	82800
7	Gram Swaraj - Rapar (Kutch)	31	97	18600
8	HSE Foundation - Surat &	73	229	43800
9	Janshakti Parishad - Bharuch	60	179	36000
10	N.M.Sadguru Foundation,	109	299	65400
11	Naisargik Trust-BK	35	103	21000
12	Parivartan Trust - SK	38	123	22800
13	Pathdarshan-Narmada	157	493	94200
14	Prerna Sanstha - SK	40	134	24000
15	Saiyare jo Sangathan-	31	117	18600
16	Samaj Navnirman Trust-	61	188	36600
17	SARTHI-Vadodara	55	176	33000
18	Shantigram Nirman Mandal -	53	170	31800
19	VIKSAT -SK and Aravali	59	177	35400
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1499</b>	<b>4618</b>	<b>899400</b>

### ii) Digital Literacy to Living: A path ahead!

VIKSAT utilized this opportunity to work with the Internet Saathis on its extension into digital livelihood initiative. A discussion on how women can get livelihood opportunity using any digital device especially a smartphone ensued between the organisation, FRENED and Saathis from the Bhuj, Bhiloda, Khedbrahma and Satlasana block of



Resultant was its first phase where VIKSAT devised methodologies to take this forward and which kind of program/activities Saathis can take up as a digital livelihood at the rural level.

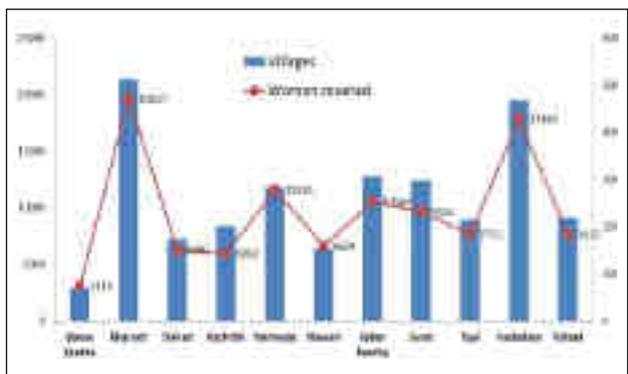
Hereby, the programme began with FRENED supported 'Printer Programme'. As an advantage to learning internet functions, women can get aware about various benefits of colour printer and it's trained to access the facility such as printing, scanning, photocopying and much more. With this, on site paper delivery, service, assured support amount of Rs. 500/month for initial period of about 6 months, 2 year printer warranty, simple training content, etc. were also provided.

VIKSAT began working with five *Internet Saathis* from Bhiloda for Printer programme based livelihood. The *Internet Saathis* would provide the service in the village and near by village and get additional income of Rs. 500/month.

A one-day training programme was organised on printer operations for entrepreneur internet saathis at the VIKSAT Bhiloda field office on February 8, 2019. The programme facilitated by Mr. Ramesh Gadhvi, VIKSAT.

### iii) Building Trust in rural women through Measured digital Safety

*Internet Saathi* Trust and Safety Programme, with the support of FRENED began in January 2019. These training sessions focus on issue of security and the ways to protect your digital identity, presence, your legal and financial proofs and documents while you are using internet technology via a smart-phone or at any other platform.





One day training programme on benefits of security and the safety measures while using internet on December 21, 2018. Ms. Aksha Joshi, FRENED trained 18 Gujarat partners on how to work with smartphone/gadget lock/unlock, password protection, Wifi and Free Wifi zone, incognito mode for search, securing personal information online, etc.

VIKSAT implemented programme in 11 districts from 58 blocks with about 2900 villages, the organisation tied up with 18 local partners for the

*Internet Saathi* Trust and Safety Programme. The *Internet Saathi* of Phase -III Digital Literacy Programme has trained and aware total of 106586 women on using internet security.



### **The beauty of Digital ornamentation!**

Craftsmanship is the voice to an individual's passion to turn simple art into ventures. However, it could become a scalable establishment by outreach, an opportunity presented to many, by digitisation. This is the story of Chetnaben Jayraj Thaker from Olpad block, joined by Taslim Gulam Gati of Pariaj village, both from Bharuch district in Gujarat.

Joining the Internet Saathi in its digital literacy programme, these women took their household supporting nature of businesses to the next level. They became a part of the monthly meetings and training, arranged by support teams that followed up their progress while discussing about income generating activities.

With time, these two women became exemplary beneficiaries of this programme. Chetnaben learned various tools that could aid her in creating beaded accessories and develop innovative designs for the same. Taslim, on the other hand, trained herself into using make-up techniques and gather knowledge regarding latest products used for skin and personal care. Their monetary conditions improved to see better days.



Presently, many women from villages in this district are vigorously creating products from locally available material, promoting their collection through Whatsapp groups. Marketing it amongst related network members and advancing their digital communication channel has received great response and a considerable surge in their incomes. Under this programme, the supporting agency, Department of Science and Technology, GoI, further advised these women to upload photographs of their products along with its rate on regular intervals. This prudence by DST was offered as a solution to increase direct purchases and thereby, a prompt delivery system.

AART	: Aravali Agriculture Resource and Training Centre	MGNREGA:	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.
APMC	: Agriculture Producer Market Committee	MISSAL	: Micro Irrigation System for Sustainable Agriculture Livelihood
AWP	: Annual Work Plan	MoEFCC	: Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
BRLF	: Bharat Rural Livelihood Foundation	NABARD	: National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
CDP	: Cluster Development Programme	NEAC	: National Environment Awareness Campaign
CEE	: Centre for Environment Education	NFD	: Nehru Foundation for Development
CRP(s)	: Community Resource Person(s)	NRM	: Natural Resource Management
DRDA	: District Rural Development Agency	PI	: People's Institutions
ERP(s)	: Expert Resource Persons	PoP	: Package of Practices
FAQ	: Fair Average Quality	SAFE	: Sabar AART Farmer Enterprise Producer Company Ltd.
FFS(s)	: Farmer Field School(s)	SBI	: Suki Baliraja Initiative
FPO	: Farmer Producer Organization	SDAU	: Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University
GFPC	: Gadhwada Farmer Producer Company Ltd.	SHG(s)	: Self Help Group(s)
GGRC	: Gujarat Green Revolution Company	SMC	: School Management Committee
GTDC	: Gujarat Tribal Development Corporation	UPNRM	: Umbrella Programme on Natural Resource Management
HH(s)	: Household(s)	VDC(s)	: Village Development Committee(s)
HKAPC	: Hatmati Kisan Agro Producer Company	VO	: Village Organization
IFFDA	: Indian Farmers & Fertilizer Dealers Association	VWC(s)	: Village Watershed Committee(s)
IGWDP	: Indo German Watershed Development Programme	WDF	: Watershed Development Fund
JFMCs	: Joint Forest Management Committee(s)	WED	: World Environment Day
KALP	: Khedut AART Livelihood Promoting Producer Company Ltd.	WRD	: Water Resource Development
KJBF	: Kamalnayan Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation		
KSDP	: Kutch Sustainable Development Project		
KALP	: Kutch Agriculture Livelihood Producer Company Ltd.		
LIS	: Lift Irrigation Scheme		
MARCH	: Multipurpose Agriculture Resource Centre for Holistic Development		



VIKSAT extends thanks to all the institutions and individuals who have contributed to and worked with us in development action. We are grateful to the government departments, funding agencies, donors, our NGO and CBO partners for having stayed with us and supporting our efforts. We acknowledge their significant support during the year 2018-19 and hope for their continued cooperation in the coming years. Some of the partners, with whom we have been working, are as follows:

### Major funding partners and collaborating agencies

**TATA TRUSTS**



**BRLF**

Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation



**AXIS BANK FOUNDATION**



**Science For Equity Empowerment and Development (SEED)**  
Department of Science & Technology  
Government of India



Government of Gujarat



**Vestas**



#### Activity Partners

- Aravalli Agriculture Resource and Training Center (AART)
- Sabar AART Farmer Enterprise (SAFE) Producer Co. Ltd. Kheroj, Khedbrahma
- Khedut AART Livelihood Promoting (KALP) Producer Co. Ltd. Delvada, Poshina
- Kutch Agriculture and Livelihood Producer Co.Ltd., Bhuj, Kutch
- Paryavaran Edutech, Ahmedabad
- Hathmati Kisan Agro Producers Co. Ltd., Zinzudi, Bhiloda
- Gadhwada Farmers Producers Co. Ltd., Satsana, Mehsana

#### Our Bankers

- State Bank of India
- Dena Bank
- Indian Overseas Bank
- Bank of India
- Bandhan Bank
- Kotak Mahindra Bank
- ICICI Bank
- Development Credit Bank

**Abridged Balance Sheet**

(Rs. in lakhs)

<b>Funds &amp; Liabilities</b>	<b>31 March 2018</b>	<b>31 March 2019</b>
Endowment Fund Account	0	0
Reserves & Other Earmarked Funds (Inclusive of accumulated surplus/deficit)	326.49	423.13
Balance of Project Grants	120.76	346.90
Sundries & Suppliers	72.8	106.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>520.05</b>	<b>876.42</b>

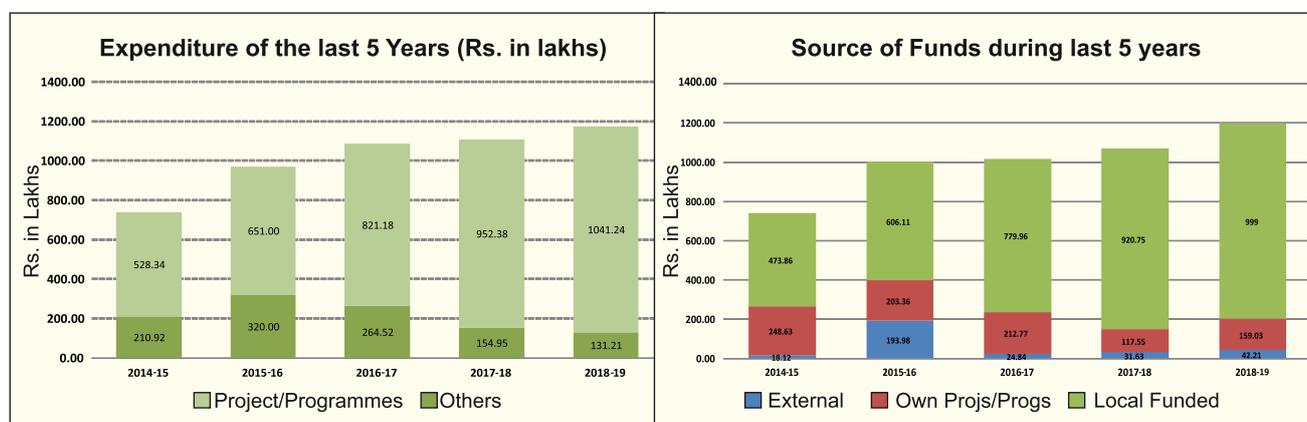
<b>Assets</b>	<b>31 March 2018</b>	<b>31 March 2019</b>
Immovable and Movable Properties	181	235.09
Investments in Approved Securities	5	5
Bank Account and Cash/Fdr etc.	188.25	430.94
Advances and Other	145.8	205.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>520.05</b>	<b>876.42</b>

**Abridged Income and Expenditure Account**

<b>Income</b>	<b>31 March 2018</b>	<b>31 March 2019</b>
Projects and Programmes Income	952.38	1041.24
Income from Other Sources	117.55	159
Repayment of Loan Receipts	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1069.93</b>	<b>1200.24</b>

<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>31 March 2018</b>	<b>31 March 2019</b>
Projects and Programmes Expenditure	952.38	1041.24
Staff Salaries	117.71	104.33
Establishment and Administrative Expenditure	37.24	16.6
Amount transferred to other Earmarked Fund	0	10.28
Loan Repayment to Nabard	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1107.33</b>	<b>1172.45</b>
Surplus / Deficit	-37.4	27.79
<b>Total</b>	<b>1069.93</b>	<b>1200.24</b>



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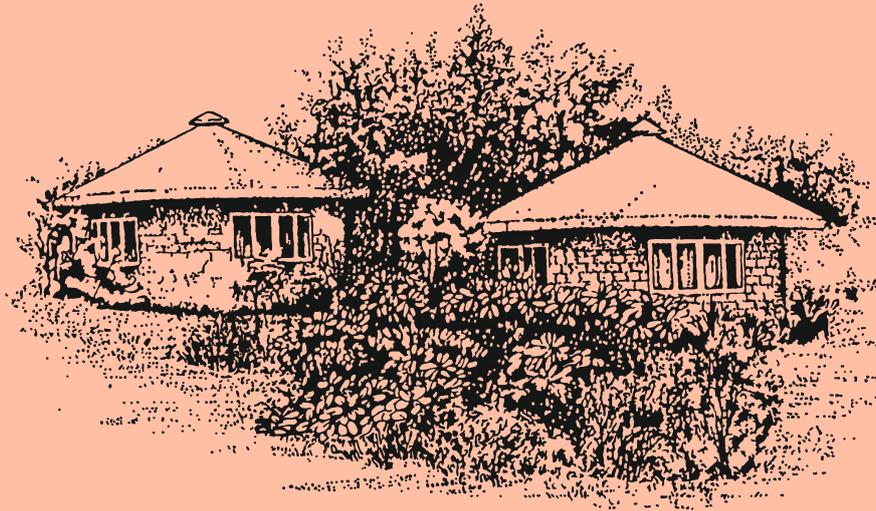
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# VIKSAT

VIKSAT was set up in 1977 as an activity of Nehru Foundation for Development (NFD), to take proactive steps to conserve environment. VIKSAT has been working with communities in their local regions towards developing models of sustainable natural resource management, imparting skills related to institution building, resource generation, management and networking. VIKSAT works in four thrust areas, namely, Forestry & Environment, Land & Water Management, Sustainable Livelihoods and Institution & Capacity Building.

With head office in Ahmedabad, VIKSAT has five field offices in five districts of Gujarat, viz. Bhiloda in Aravalli, Kheroj in Sabarkantha, Satlasana in Mehsana, Kukma in Kachchh and Radhanpur in Patan district.



[www.viksatsat.org](http://www.viksatsat.org)

## VIKSAT

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