



ANNUAL
REPORT
2021-22

Our Founder & Mission

Mission

VIKSAT aims at proactively promoting and strengthening Peoples' Institutions (PIs) through interaction between Government, Non-Government Organizations and the people by the means of active participation of men and women from all sections of the community, for equitable and gender-sensitive, sustainable development, and management of natural resources.



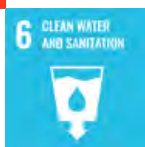
Dr. Vikram Sarabhai was a great scientist, who dedicated his life to nation-building. He established several institutions of eminence, working in a wide range of areas. He fathered India's Space Program, contributed to the development of India's atomic energy program, and seeded the Electronics development in India. He was honored with Padma Bhushan in 1966 and Padma Vibhushan in 1972.

In 1966, Dr. Sarabhai founded Nehru Foundation for Development (NFD), a charitable trust dedicated to rural development and environmental awareness. Its main aim was to promote basic studying and thinking on current problems of development at an individual and social level. Vikram Sarabhai Centre for Development Interaction (VIKSAT), was set up in the year 1977 as an activity of NFD. VIKSAT is taking proactive steps in conserving the environment and promoting sustainable development by endorsing People's Institutions and interactions among them. VIKSAT has provided a forum for interaction among individuals and organizations involved in efforts towards addressing the environment and natural resource development related issues in the state of Gujarat and at national level.

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 founder, VIKSAT strives to meet its purpose - to promote interactions between individuals and organizations for environmental protection, and endeavor to build Peoples' Institutions (PI) for sustainable development and management of natural resources.

VIKSAT Activities supporting SDGs

(Last two decades)



Improved Agriculture

- 3,18,418 Farmers have adopted improved agriculture practices
- 1,074 Fruit Orchard (Wadis) have been developed
- 8,370 HHs are engaged in high value crops cultivation
- 14 High- Tech poly house nurseries have been established
- 10,378 HHs are producing hybrid and certify seeds

Water Resources Management

- 2,301 HHs gained access to irrigation in 2,018 acres through 115 LIS
- 1,675 HHs gained access to irrigation in 1,664 acres through 438 well renovations
- 719 HHs gained access to irrigation on 1,181 acres through 98 check dam and ponds.
- 567.11 acres of land covered through 416 drip irrigation installation, benefiting 662 HHs

Livestock & small Ruminant Development

- 14 Dairy cooperatives are promoted and their facilities improved
- 2,454 Milch were animals provided to individual farmers
- 1,455 HHs adopted vermicompost to enhances soil fertility and moisture
- 10 Sirohi goat farm consisting of (4 Buck + 16 Goat) were established for breed improvement
- 120 Sirohi buck were provided to individual entrepreneur for breed improvement

Drinking Water and Sanitation

- Drinking water scheme have covered 140 villages
- Facilities in 35 primary schools have been improved in WaSH, Education and RWHS activities
- 1,000 PVC drinking water tanks have been provide to salt pan workers
- 1,200 Toilet have been constructed for salt pan workers and tribal HHs

Networking

- Networking of 750 small NGOs, schools, CBOs in Gujarat, Diu and Daman
- 8,939 VRPs and 1201 MTs trained on POP training for majors crops
- 2,660,164 farmers trained on POP of majors crops by VRPs, CRPs and staff
- 15 Technical video and IEC materials prepared for crop and livestock in 5 languages
- 9,84,536 Women trained on digital literacy covering 5240 Villages across 14 districts of Gujarat

Institutions and capacity building

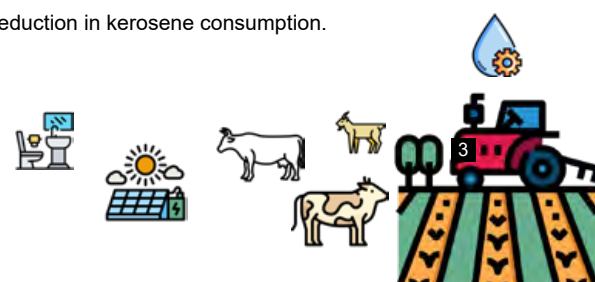
- 17,365 HHs are covered through 1,319 SHGs in project area
- SAKSHAM a state level federation of TGCS/JFMC with 59,078 members covering 9 districts
- 5 Taluka level federation covering 99 TGCS & 393 SHGs, with 19,232 members
- 103 TGCS in 103 villages are covered, with 16,959 members
- 3 Cluster level FPO covering 3,618 SHG members and 946 other members
- 103 CRPs have been trained to provide handholding support to the community

Environment and Climate Change

- 4,484.25 hectares of land have been treated, benefiting 5,854 HHs through SMC work
- Forest land spanning 15,145 hectares is being protected and managed by TGCS
- 23,021 hectares of forest land protection by SAKSHAM
- 2,728 HHs are actively involved in the cultivation of climate smart agriculture practices
- 25 PBRs have been prepared in collaboration with BMC in project villages

Renewable Energy

- 152 Biogas units have been installed, benefiting 152 HHs
- 18 Solar pump have been installed
- 250 HHs received solar light units, leading to a reduction in kerosene consumption.



Messages



Chairperson's Message

The COVID-19 pandemic continued during 2021-22, causing unprecedented challenges for the entire population, especially marginalized groups. The prolonged pandemic plunged millions residing in rural areas into further poverty. To overcome this, VIKSAT undertook several initiatives to support the marginalized tribal communities during these grueling times. Amidst all this, VIKSAT and its partners tried to overcome the crisis with several livelihood interventions leading to irrevocably improving the average income of 12000 households to Rs. 1.22 lakh per year, from their small landholdings, through crop diversification and technological adaptation through forward and backward linkages.

I would like to appreciate all the member of the VIKSAT Council of Management for their constant guidance and congratulate the entire team on their diligent efforts and commitment towards making the organization successful during challenging times. I wish the team all the best in continuing to excel and expanding the activities so as to reach out to more stakeholders through varied and long-term partnerships.

Kartikeya V. Sarabhai
Chairperson
Council of Management



Director's Message

The year 2021-22 brought new challenges and distress for all of us. Overcoming this, VIKSAT succeeded in creating new opportunities, with expansion of ongoing activities, introduction of new projects and establishment of a new field office at Akhod in Vagra Taluka of Bharuch District.

Since its inception, VIKSAT has been committed to promoting and strengthening people's institutions leading to sustainable Natural Resource Management. As a significant achievement, during this year's intervention, 8.934 billion litres of water was saved through adaptation of the recommended package of practices for major crops, water conservation measures and efficient irrigation techniques, resulting in additional agricultural production of 1130 tons.

In all our perseverance, our Chairman, Shri Kartikeya Sarabhai and all the Council Members provided constant inspiration and guidance, whom we can never thank enough. I would also like thank and congratulate our dedicated staff members for their consistent hard work resulting in our achievements over these years. I would like to thank all the stakeholder who joined us in our journey towards to a sustainable future.

Dilip Surkar
Director

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Dy. Director's Message

This annual report highlights VIKSAT's remarkable work during 2021–22. Various activities were undertaken in different thrust areas. Through the cascade model, VIKSAT's training inputs reached 5.95 million farmers from 18994 villages, resulting in improved productivity of up to 20% in 27 Aspirational Districts of India. An expansion of pomegranate and date palm cultivation was initiated in the Kachchh project area. The SAFE FPO promoted by VIKSAT launched packaged residue-free pulses in market. SAFE received the Best FPO Award from Samunnati - The Economic Times for the Western Region. All this has been possible with the guidance and support of our Council of Management, funding partners, well-wishers, local communities, network members, and a dedicated team of colleagues.

Mahesh Patel
Dy. Director

1. Introduction

VIKSAT is working in 8 Districts of Gujarat and 27 Aspirational Districts from 8 states across India to support grassroots-level actions towards people empowerment in the thrust areas of Land and Water Management, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH), Sustainable Livelihoods, Institution and Capacity Building, Environment and Climate Change.

VIKSAT as an Organisation

Over the last five decades, VIKSAT has evolved from a platform for intellectual discourse to an organisation addressing issues related to rural Natural Resource Management based livelihoods. It has successfully demonstrated how Civil society and Non-Governmental Organizations can work together in a strong partnership to make significant impact in the livelihood space at scale. VIKSAT has provided a forum for interaction among individuals and organisations involved in efforts to address environmental and natural resource management issues in Gujarat and at the National Level.

VIKSAT as a Resource Agency

Since 1986, VIKSAT has served as a Regional Resource Agency (RRA) for the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC), GoI, for the National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC). The NEAC network has so far included over 750 NGOs, Schools, Nature Clubs, and CBOs.

As part of Google's 'Helping Women Get Online' initiative Since 2015, VIKSAT has played a crucial role in promoting digital literacy among women in rural tribal communities in collaboration with TATA Trusts. Through its extensive reach and networking, VIKSAT has provided training to 1,604 Internet Saathis and various NGOs.

Training programme have been conducted in 12 districts, spanning 58 blocks, covering 5,240 villages and benefiting 9,84,536 women. The trainings has been conducted using the Cascade Model through Networking.

With the support of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, VIKSAT, as a Resource Agency, has organised four National level training programmes (WaSH Educators Training) lasting ten days each, aimed to create a cadre of water educators.

Since 2018, VIKSAT has collaborated with NITI Aayog and ITC Ltd. as a "Knowledge Partner" in 27 Aspirational Districts across eight states of India.

VIKSAT at the Grassroots

With increasing experience working at the grassroots level, with communities in their local regions, towards developing models that ensure the sustainability of livelihoods through Natural Resource Management. VIKSAT is directly working in 615 villages with over 50,000 families through the facilitation of PIs formed at the village level. Along with direct activities, VIKSAT has indirectly reached over 25 million households through the capacity building of various stakeholders.

VIKSAT Training and Resource Centre

VIKSAT has established itself as a resource organisation by partnering with various Government and Non-Government organisations as well as communities on technical, social, and institutional aspects of natural resource management. This includes activities such as publishing, designing, and developing IEC materials in multiple languages, conducting need assessments, impact assessments, and preparing feasibility reports, etc. Furthermore, VIKSAT provides a platform for conducting training programs at its various offices.



Kheroj, Sabarkantha

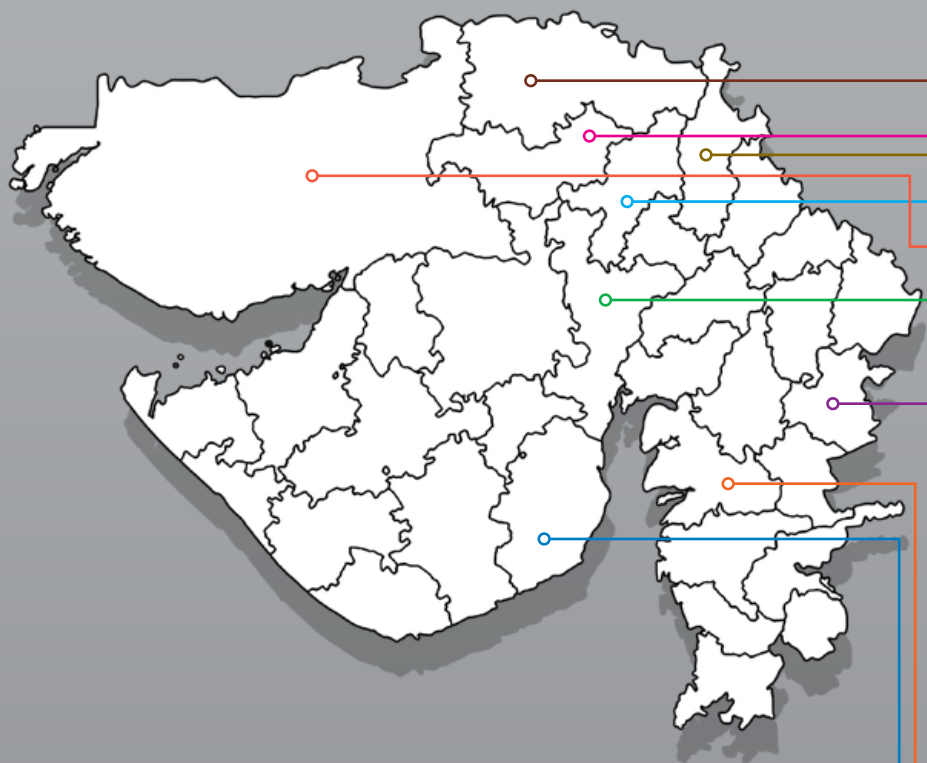


Thaltej Tekra, Ahmedabad



Kukma, Bhuj

VIKSAT's Outreach and Offices, so far



HEAD OFFICE AHMEDABAD

Thaltej Tekra,
Ahmedabad

Kachchh

Kukma (Bhuj) Field Office
185 Villages
Blocks: Bhuj, Nakhatrana,
Anjar, Abadasa, Lakhpata,
Mandvi blocks

Mehsana

Satlasana Field Office
40 Villages
Block: Satlasana

Patan

Radhanpur Field Office
47 Villages
Blocks: Santalpur, Sami

Sabarkantha

Kheroj Field Office
168 Villages
Blocks: Khedbrahma,
Poshina, Vijaynagar, Idar

Aravalli

Bhiloda Field Office
150 Villages
Block: Bhiloda

Banaskantha

Kheroj Field Office
20 Villages
Block: Danta

Bharuch

Akhod Field Office
05 Villages
Block: Vagra

Bhavnagar

Velavadar Field Office
05 Villages
Blocks: Bhavnagar,
Vallabhipur



2. Land & Water Management

In the face of climate change and increasingly erratic weather, sustainable land and water management are crucial for global security. VIKSAT aims to develop sustainable land and water management practices that contribute to natural resource conservation.

Over the past few years, VIKSAT has been dedicated to eradicating the poverty of small marginal farmers by empowering them to make smart choices that will multiply their incomes and enable them to build resilience to environmental risks. This effort is guided by the principles of holistic development, which encompass several key aspects: enhancing community resilience, strengthening and nurturing Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), implementing market and demand-driven interventions, fostering entrepreneurship for improved service delivery, establishing credit-based livelihood models, implementing water-saving interventions, promoting innovative approaches and convergence for enhancing the quality of life, and implementing crop water budgeting for better results. This initiative has been made possible through the valuable support of ABF, HDFC, CInI, HUF, and HBS Foundation.





During the year, pre-seasonal training was provided to farmers using the training of trainers method, and later on, training on improved agriculture practices was provided to SHG members by staff members and CRPs. The training covered topics such as land preparation, seed selection, seed treatment, seed sowing and spacing, and basal dose of fertilizer etc.



After sowing, Farmer Field School and exposure visits were organised for the SHG members to understand the practical demonstration of farming practices at the field level. Methods of fertilizer management, weeding, irrigation management, insect-pest disease control, and post-harvesting were explained to the participants.

Capacity Building Programme on High Value Crop

Name of Programme	ABF Support		HDFC Support		HUF Support	
	No.	Parti.	No.	Parti.	No.	Parti.
Pre-seasonal training on kharif, rabi & summer crops for staff and CRP	1	25	3	84	-	-
Technical training on PoP for lead farmers	15	357	11	322	13	565
Technical training on growing vegetable seeding and seed production for entrepreneur	3	91	-	-	2	30
Training on PoP of kharif, rabi and summer agriculture & vegetables and water saving techniques	102	2062	143	3508	45	1058
Farmer Field School on agriculture, vegetable crops with water saving methods	58	1411	59	1338	55	1563
Local exposure visits on improved agriculture practices	-	-	1	39	-	-
Training on solar trap importance and installation	1	17	1	42	-	-





Improved Agriculture Activities

Agriculture Crop Development entails demonstrating sustainable agriculture practices and crop diversification (i.e. high value crops) using various production technologies and a package of practices. This is done with the support of SHG members and CRPs in small land holdings. It also promotes market linkages, value addition, and technology replication to improve the income and productivity of tribal communities.

Crop Productivity Enhancement

Crop	Achievement (HHs) (Acres)	
Kharif		
Maize, Black Gram, Pigeonpea, Sorghum, Cotton, Castor, Groundnut, Fodder	12527	4295.83
Rabi		
Wheat, Maize, Gram	7617	2549.45
Summer		
Green Gram, Maize, Bajra,	507	83.18

High-value Agriculture crop

Cotton Seed Production	10378	3743.97
Kharif		
Papaya, Turmeric, Chilly, Brinjal, Tomato, Ginger, Cluster bean, Creeper, Okra, etc	860	149.04
Rabi		
Fennel, Chilly, Brinjal, Tomato, Chickpea, Potato, Onion, Garlic, Coriander, Cabbage & Cauliflower	403	60.50
Summer		
Cluster bean, Okra, Chilly, Brinjal, Tomato, Cowpea, and Watermelon	608	48.68



National Farmers' Day Celebration

Farmers are the backbone of the economy and major contributors to rural prosperity. VIKSAT celebrated Kisan Diwas in 23 project villages with 1,994 members on December 23, 2021, on the occasion of National Farmers' Day. The celebration aimed to raise awareness regarding organic farming and soil and water conservation, as well as to express gratitude to farmers for their contributions to society.

IEC Material Development



Biopesticides

45 biopesticides were demonstrated in project villages with HDFC and NABARD support, reducing chemical pesticide reliance and promoting sustainable pest management.

Solar & Pheromone Traps

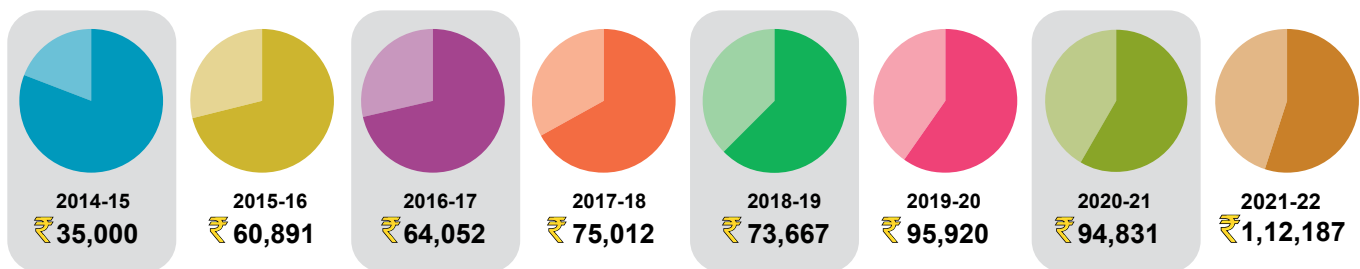
109 solar traps and 31 pheromone traps were installed on farmers' fields in 21 project villages with the support of HDFC and the Sustain Plus project. These traps serve as valuable tools for farmers in predicting insect pest attacks and reducing the expenses associated with insecticides and pesticides.

Seed Production

3 vegetables, 14 black gram, and pigeon peas, along with 90 wheat seeds, have been produced with the participation of 107 farmers in project villages. The SAFE company facilitated post-production processing and packaging, while VIKSAT made guaranteed buyback arrangements with dealers.

Furthermore, demonstration plots showcasing 03 AAA maize and HPQM maize seeds were implemented in the villages of Magwas, Dhagadiya, and Tebda.

Income Realization Graph



Source: www.cinimis.org

Relay Crop Cultivation

Demonstration of 36 relay crop cultivation was carried out by 36 farmers with the support of HDFC and NABARD. This practice effectively reduces nitrate leaching, increases carbon sequestration, and boosts farmers' income.

Vegetable Collection Centre

A vegetable collection center was set up in Dantiya Village, providing valuable assistance to farmers in reducing transaction costs, increasing bargaining power, and mitigating the risk of product deterioration.

Small Farm Tool/Equipment

380 small agricultural equipment were provided to marginal farmers with the support of HDFC, ABF, and HBS. This initiative promotes the mechanization of agricultural operations, resulting in reduced physical strain for women farmers, improved efficiency of farm operations, and increased overall productivity.

Polyhouse Hi-tech Nurseries

4 new polyhouse Hi-tech nurseries were installed in the villages of Tebdi, Demti, Mota Pipodara, and Khandor Umbas.





Livestock and Small Ruminants Development

To support tribal families with small agricultural landholdings, the Small Ruminants Program was initiated. It involved 9,000 households engaged in goat rearing and 6,000 households in livestock development through animal husbandry. The program has been implemented in a scientific and professional manner, focusing on capacity building of goat keepers, providing timely diagnostic services, and implementing preventive health measures to control the occurrence of infectious and fatal diseases. This has been achieved by involving village organizations, along with the assistance of Pashu Mitra and Pashu Sakhi.

Capacity Building Programme on Livestock and Small Ruminants

Name of Programme	ABF Support		HDFC Support	
	No.	Parti.	No.	Parti.
Training on dairy cooperative management for dairy cooperative leaders	1	60	1	43
Training on animal husbandry and livestock management for SHG members and Pashu Mitra and Pashu Sakhi	4	82	4	196
Training on fodder management and silage for SHG members	7	170	8	234
Training on uses of chaff cutter for SHG leaders	2	49	1	40
Training on cattle shade and feed management for SHG members	1	24	-	-
Exposure on animal husbandry and livestock management for SHG leaders at Gadhada Shamraji	-	-	2	91

- 281 Chaff Cutters (Suda) were distributed among the project villages to reduce animal fodder waste by 15-20% with the support of ABF, HDFC & NABARD.
- To enhance milk production and improve animal immunity, 15 CoFS 29 Green Fodder and 07 Bullet Grass varieties were distributed among the beneficiaries in project villages.
- 50 Azolla units were constructed at individual household levels in project villages to provide nutritional feed to livestock, with the support of ABF, HDFC & NABARD.
- To improve the quality of feed for livestock, 285 fodder demo plots were done with the participation of 285 farmers in the project villages with the support of ABF and HDFC.
- 25 Animal Cattle Health Camps were organized in project villages benefitting 1439 beneficiaries and 7587 cattle with the support of ABF and HDFC.
- 45 camps were organised, providing vaccination to 3,684 goats and dipping and deworming to 1,020 goats in project villages.



- 80 Hydroponics fodder demo plots were done with 80 farmers in the project villages, with the support of ABF and HDFC.
- Various instruments were repaired in Matarvada, Ratanpur, Dantiya, and Sembaliya villages to improve the condition of dairy co-operatives, resulting in greater transparency in their activities.
- 1,115 milch animals were provided to livestock rearer in the project villages, with the support of the Government Department (709), Sabar Dairy & HDFC (120), and ABF (286).

- Construction of 08 Goat breeding farms has been completed in Matarvada, Mahudi, Chochhar, Ratanpur, Ganer, Navamota, Choliya and Mota sembaliya villages. Moreover, 9 sihari goats and 2 bucks were provided to each farm for breed improvement of local goats.
- 5 cattle trough constructed in 5 village under NABARD.
- 5 Travis established for cattle camp in 5 village under NABARD.

Water Resources Development

VIKSAT is working on 'Transforming Water Security and Agriculture Potential for Small & Marginal Tribal Farmers of dry-arid regions of Sabarkantha and Banaskantha Districts in Northern Gujarat' project with the support of Hindustan Unilever Foundation (HUF). VIKSAT has set up a replicable model of small marginal tribal farmers in the dry arid regions with the intent to build their capabilities with tools for self-driven measurement and to support them with incentives to make smart choices (water use, farm practices, crop choices) and empower them through collective market-based institutions. These smart choices will have helped them to multiply their current incomes manifold and build their resilience to deal with climate-related risks in 53 tribal dominated villages.

The details of the campaign and training programme are as follows

Water literacy and water campaign programme were conducted in each village to bring awareness among people and to sensitize them on water utilization, water demand of various crops, adoption of irrigation practices, water conservation, etc. Moreover, crop water budgeting exercises were carried out in each village to access the current situation and practices related to water usage, plans were prepared in collaboration with farmers from respective villages.

Capacity Building Programme on Water Resource for Staff and CRPs		
Training Programme	No.	Participants
Online crop water budgeting (CWB importance, process, app etc)	01	20
Crop water budgeting (trend analysis, demonstration of dashboard preparation, games on water governance)	03	126



Capacity Building Programme on Water Resource Development

Training Programme	No.	Participants
Awareness campaign on water literacy for water saving practices for farmers	96	3118
Training on crop water budgeting for SHG members and farmers	74	2380
Training on irrigation resources development and record keeping of LI leader	9	308
Training on water saving innovation technology for SHG members	20	789
Orientation training on role of SHG member in water budgeting	23	631
Training on orientation of water saving technique for VO members	12	480

Assurance of Data 2020-21

The Assurance of Data 2020-21 under the HUF programme was conducted by Ernst & Young Associates LLP.

Date: 20-21 December 2021.



Water Saving
8.934
billion liters



Yield

1129.52 Ton



Employment
48831
person days



Income

9.79 crores



Process of Demand side intervention

Involvement
in CBOs

Training of
Programme
staff & CRP

Data recording
of farmer profile

Farmer Field
School (FFS)

Validation &
proceeding at
VOs

Demand generation
of SHGs & VOs

PoP Training
for farmer

Implementation
of PoP

Data recording for
harvesting

VIKSAT is strategically working on water use reduction and supply augmentation through supply side interventions.

Process of supply side intervention

- Application for activity
- Technical Survey
- Estimation of activity
- Resolution of start work in VOs
- Implementation of activities
- Payment sheet as per volume
- Completion certificate of activity
- Hand over of structure to VOs

During the year, basic data collection was completed in 30 villages, including information on cropping patterns and water resource structures such as wells and borewells. This data collection process was carried out with the support of villagers and community resource persons. Additionally, crop water budgets were prepared for each village using the crop water budget app.



Lift Irrigation Scheme

22 small lift irrigation schemes were implemented, benefiting 376 HHs and covering an area of 293.56 acres under irrigation, with the support of HUF, HDFC, and CInI.

Check dam/Nala Plug

3 check dams were constructed on a nala to harvest water and enhance groundwater resources. This initiative, supported by HDFC and CInI, has resulted in the recharge of 20 wells and the irrigation of 35 acres of land for 65 downstream farmers. Additionally, it has facilitated even water percolation, downward recharge of wells, and increased availability of water for irrigation purposes.

Micro Irrigation System

During the year, one-acre model of drip irrigation system was installed in 83 fields benefiting 86 HHs covering 83.6 acres in project villages, with the support of HUF, HDFC, and CInI. As a result, water is conserved and the labour cost of irrigating fields is reduced.

Mulching for High-value crops

Mulching has been done in high-value crops i.e. Papaya, Potato, etc by 54 beneficiaries. As a result, production increased, moisture is conserved, and weeds are controlled.



Workshop with PRI leaders for Convergence

Workshop on Convergence of Government programme with Gram Panchayat was organized for at AART Centre, Kheroj on 24 September 2021. In this workshop, 28 Male and 1 Female Sarpanch and Gram Panchayat members participated. VIKSAT team provided an explanation to the participants regarding its programme, role of Sarpanch and Gram Panchayat members in village development, as well as convergence and leveraging of Government schemes.



SCALE Project

During the year, a project titled “Sustainable and Comprehensive Agriculture for Livelihood Enhancement” (SCALE), in Bhuj, Anjar, Mundra and Mandvi blocks of Kutch District of Gujarat was sanctioned to VIKSAT from Dharampal Satyapal Foundation (DS Foundation) in January 2021 to March 2022. The objective of the project is to improve the livelihood of the date palm growing farmers through the adoption of sustainable good agriculture practices and strengthening the FPOs, and ensuring improved communication of such practices for replication and scalability.

The scope of work includes Baseline surveys of farmers, Capacity building and knowledge management of date palm grower farmers and Developing IEC Materials etc.

Major Activities under SCALE project

- A baseline survey of 1000 farmers was conducted and report was submitted to DS Group.
- Training on Date Palm was organised at Centre of Excellence of Date Palm at Kukma (Bhuj), Kutch on 17th February, 2022. 36 Farmers from Ratnal, Reldi, Vavdi, and Kukma villages participated.
- Another, training on Date Palm was organised at Centre of Excellence of Date Palm at Kukma (Bhuj), Kutch on 25th February, 2022. 42 farmers from Khedoi, Khambhara, Pantiya, Gada, Vidi, Paddhar, Kalitalavdi, Lakhond, Gadpadar villages of Anjar and Bhuj Blocks participated.



3. Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WaSH)

Millions of people lack access to clean drinking water, proper sanitation facilities, and adequate hygiene, all of which are recognized as fundamental human rights. To align with the SDGs, the primary objective is to ensure universal and sustainable access to clean water and sanitation for all. The WaSH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) initiative aims to promote awareness of personal hygiene, cleanliness, and healthy habits among students and the rural population.

VIKSAT focuses on enhancing community quality of life through an integrated approach. Our primary objective is to ensure safe drinking water access for villages while building their capacity for water management. Efforts include improving water infrastructure, establishing sanitation units, drinking water facilities, and Roof Rain Water Harvesting systems. Additionally, to raise awareness on health and hygiene, especially in response to the pandemic. Support from HDFC, CInI, WIN Foundation, YOKOHOMA (formerly ATC Tires Private Ltd.), and United Way of Mumbai has greatly contributed to these initiatives.



Awareness and Training on WaSH

A training cum exposure visit on the Drinking Water Scheme was organized at CInI, Limkheda on December 28th & 29th, 2021. 30 Leaders from the Drinking Water Scheme participated in the event, engaging in discussion regarding the operation and maintenance of scheme, Water Charges, Management of DWS, etc.



Sanitation Day Celebration

On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, a sanitation and hygiene awareness programme was organized in the project villages. A total of 635 participants attended the event, with 285 males and 350 females. The celebration included discussions focused on sanitation and hygiene.

Hand Pump Repairing

With the support of HDFC, 100 defunct hand pumps were repaired in the project villages. As a result, more than 1700 families now have access to safe drinking water at the hamlet level in 15 villages. Additionally, there is a two-month supply of drinking water available during the summer months. This initiative has greatly benefited women by saving their time and energy.

Drinking Water Scheme (DWS)

Implementation of the DWS commenced in ten project villages. Various components of the scheme, i.e. solar pump installation, pipe fitting, & construction of storage tank platforms, have been completed. These efforts, ensured water availability in summer for more than 250 HHs in the project area.

Drinking Water Stand (DWS) Posts

DWS posts were constructed in primary schools of Matarwada, Sembaliya, and Ambasar villages. These installations have benefited more than 900 students, ensuring access to safe drinking water within the school premises.

Sanitation Units

Sanitation units were constructed in the primary schools of Matarwada, Sembaliya, and Ambasar villages for girls. These facilities have significantly improved the sanitation amenities for the students, consequently leading to an increase in girls' attendance.

Roof Rain Water Harvesting (RRWH) in Schools

- 3 RRWH units have been constructed in primary schools located in Tebda, Tebdi, and Ganer villages, benefiting more than 1119 students.
- A water storage system with a platform for drinking water has been constructed in the school of Ambasar village, benefiting 110 students.

Response to the COVID19 Pandemic

- 3,450 video dissemination on PoPs of agriculture crops using Pico projector benefitting 23632 members.
- With support of Manav Sadhana Sanstha and HDFC, 500 Grocery Kits, & 100 Grocery Kits were respectively distributed to economically backward & widowed women in Danta, Vijaynagar, Khedbrahma, Poshina, & Bhiloda Blocks of Banaskantha, Sabarkantha, & Aravalli Districts.





Provide safe drinking water in villages of Dahej Block

“Improving Quality of Water Resources in the Communities of the Vagra Taluka in the Dahej Special Economic Zone (SEZ)” project has been sanctioned to VIKSAT from January 2022 to December 2022. The project focuses on the villages of Akhod, Galenda, Jolva, Rahiyad, and Samantpore in the Vagra Taluka, within the Dahej Special Economic Zone (SEZ) of Bharuch district, Gujarat, India. The project receives support from YOKOHAMA (formerly ATC Tires Private Ltd.) and the United Way of Mumbai.

The vision of the project is to ensure the provision of safe drinking water to the village communities in Dahej, while also enhancing their capacity to manage their long-term drinking water needs. Additionally, it aims to build the capacity of village stakeholders to effectively manage their improved water resources and ensure safe drinking water in the villages.

The primary objectives of the project include improving the infrastructure for household water resources and ensuring portability at the community and household levels. It also aims to foster multi-level engagement among stakeholders in the villages to enhance safe drinking water access and effective water resource management.



Site Identification and Community Need Assessment

The need assessment study was conducted in five villages, namely Akhod, Galenda, Jolva, Rahiyad, and Samatpor, located in the Vagra taluka within the Dahej Special Economic Zone (SEZ). The objective of this study was to gather information regarding the existing amenities, facilities, scarcities, and other relevant aspects. The aim was to prioritize the development needs of the communities and prepare a comprehensive need assessment report that focuses on both short-term and long-term interventions.

The project includes various program activities such as the rejuvenation of existing ponds, plantation, bunding, and beautification of the existing pond structures, renovation of the current water resource infrastructure, construction of sumps, construction of farm ponds, creation of Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) structures at the household level in all the villages, and capacity building of villagers on Water and Sanitation (WATSAN), among others.

Water and Soil Testing Kits

12 FEEM Kits to test the quality of Water and Soil at the project villages were received, with the support of WIN Foundation. Moreover, the CRPs & VIKSAT Kheroj staff were trained to use the FEEM Kits for quality check.



4. Sustainable Livelihoods

In order to ensure the sustainable management and utilization of natural resources and enhance community well-being, VIKSAT adopts a holistic approach to conservation that empowers rural populations to think critically, make informed choices, and take effective actions.

In recent years, VIKSAT has been actively working towards enhancing rural livelihoods through innovative research, demonstrations, and technological interventions. These initiatives include the implementation of the SRI principle for wheat and maize cultivation, promotion of Integrated Farming Practices, standardization of vermicompost and vermiwash production, organic turmeric cultivation, value addition to harvested products, development of bio-pesticides from local plants, livestock management, and the establishment of a business model for turmeric processing. These endeavors have received support from the Department of Science and Technology and NABARD. VIKSAT's efforts aim to uplift rural communities by introducing sustainable and transformative practices.





In the year 2021-2022, project activities were conducted in 60 villages across the Idar, Khedbrahma, and Vijaynagar blocks of Sabarkantha District, as well as the Bhiloda block of Aravalli District. The beneficiaries for each activity were identified and

provided with training.

The most intriguing aspect was that some farmers approached us on their own after witnessing the benefits experienced by other farmers in the project.

Capacity Building Programme on SWI and SMI

Name of Programme	No.	Participants		
		Total	Male	Female
Trainings	74	2106	795	1311
Farmer Field Day on SWI	08	350	125	225
Farmer Field Day on SMI	08	282	125	157
Total	90	2738	1045	1693

System of Wheat Intensification (SWI)

The practices of the SRI principle, namely the System of Wheat Intensification (SWI) and the System of Maize Intensification (SMI), were modified according to the specific requirements of the area. This included adjustments in seed rate, spacing, irrigation management, fertigation, and the adoption of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach, etc.

Particular	SWI (Rabi season)			
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
No. of villages covered	04	12	27	40
Area (acre) - Increased	5.5	38.5	88.2	106.4
No. of demonstration	22	77	200	200
Yield increased over farmer practices (%)	25.5	23.56	28.86	25.46
Net profit (Rs./0.10 Ha)	2848	2630	3099	3872
C:B ratio	1:1.58	1:1.73	1:2.49	1:2.37



System of Maize Intensification (SMI)

- SMI maize crops were cultivated across 92.8 acres in three seasons during 2021-22.
- Implementation of SMI resulted in a 12-16% increase in yield compared to traditional farming practices.
- The net profit per 0.10-hectare area, when compared to traditional maize cultivation practices, amounted to Rs. 2,280/-.
- The implementation of SRI principles has led to significant increase in wheat and maize production while reducing cultivation costs.
- This technology has proven to be beneficial for small landholding farmers, while reducing cultivation costs. This technology has proven to be beneficial for small landholding farmers.



Organic Turmeric Cultivation

- Organic turmeric cultivation area expanded from 1 acre to 26.62 acres in 2021.
- Farmers used locally available resources to prepare Vermicompost and Biopesticides.
- The lab results confirmed the production of chemical-free, high-quality organic turmeric powder.
- A total of 5,370 kg of organic turmeric was processed and sold, generating a revenue of Rs. 10,40,250/-.

Particular	Organic Turmeric Cultivation (Kharif season)		
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
No. of villages covered	12	30	36
Area (acre) - increased	38.5	22	26.62
No. of demonstration	77	200	213
Av. yield (Kg/0.05 Ha)	675	735	800
Overall net profit (Rs. /0.05 Ha)	7600	8415	10365
C:B ratio	1:1.60	1:1.61	1:1.76

Animal Husbandry

Azolla

The installation of 28 Azolla units in 10 project villages resulted in an increase of 1 liter in milk production and 1% in fat production by feeding fresh Azolla to cattle.

Fodder

In 2021-22, farmers from 19 villages cultivated fodder crops including Bajra, BHN-10, and BHN-21, covering a total area of 22.3 acres. A total of 123 farmers participated in this initiative. As a result of feeding the fodder to their cattle, there has been an observed increase of 1% in the fat content of milk. This information was reported by the secretary of the Milk Cooperative Society. The cultivation of high-quality fodder has proved beneficial in improving the nutritional value of the milk produced.



Health Management of Cattle

- Vaccination and deworming were provided to 3488 goats, 1655 cows, 1362 buffaloes, and 845 bullocks in 10 project villages under veterinary supervision. Moreover, 10 Animal health camps were organized, benefiting 652 farmers and 2202 animals (410 cows, 245 buffaloes, 293 bullocks, and 1254 goats). This led to various improvements in health, including decreased mortality rates, increased immunity levels, improved fertility rates, increased milk supply, decreased hair loss, and overall enhanced health.
- 2 Goat breeding farms were established in Kanodar and Bhanmer villages with support of the Department of Science and Technology (DST).

Vermicomposting

- 231 vermicompost units were installed in 29 villages.
- 35 beneficiaries sold 1/3rd of the harvested vermicompost, earning additional income.
- Farmers used farm waste to prepare the vermicompost, including maize, wheat straw, weeds, and FYM.
- Laboratory tests were conducted to assess the quality of the vermicompost.
- 12 vermiwash units were installed using available raw materials.
- The application of both vermiwash and vermicompost was found to effectively control insect pests, resulting in improved quality and quantity of turmeric crops.

Enhancing Crop Protection and Productivity through Local Biopesticide Innovation

A biopesticide was developed from plant materials with pesticidal properties. It was tested on various field crops and effectively controlled sucking pests, leading to improved crop quality and increased yield. 50 women beneficiaries from 17 villages were involved in the development and testing of the biopesticide.

Integrated Farm Management

The table below represents the area that has expanded over time under Integrated Farm Management:

Particular	Kharif season		
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
No. of villages covered	3	12	22
Area (Acre)	5	27	93
No. of demonstration	5	27	93

Empowering Women through Vermicompost

Shree Ashirvad Viksat Mahila Swa Sahay Juth-Vejpur prepared and sold 500 bags of vermicompost, earning an additional income of Rs. 1,40,000/- during the year 2021-22.

5. Institution & Capacity Building

Institution and Capacity Building aims to strengthen the skills, instincts, abilities, processes, and resources that the CBOs and rural communities need to survive, adapt and thrive in a fast-changing world.

VIKSAT's remarkable success can be attributed to its core objective of promoting and strengthening a 3-tier institutional model at the grassroots level. This model entails the establishment of primary institutions at the village level, intermediary institutions, and apex federations. Through the collaborative efforts of the institutional model, capacity building, and strong partnerships, VIKSAT continues to create a lasting impact, empowering rural communities and fostering sustainable development.

To ensure knowledge empowerment and enhance outreach, VIKSAT has adopted a cascade model for capacity building among its staff members. This approach enables the dissemination of valuable knowledge and expertise throughout the organization, enabling staff members to effectively serve their communities and beneficiaries. The invaluable support of partners such as CInI, ITC, NABARD, HDFC, HUF, and WHH has played a crucial role in VIKSAT's achievements.

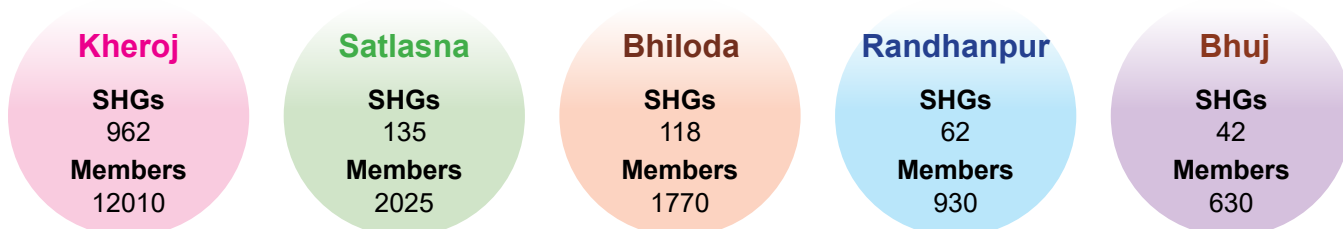




Capacity Building Programme on Self Help Group

Name of Programme	With ABF Support		With HDFC Support	
	No.	Parti.	No.	Parti.
Financial need and social issues for SHG members	2	40	-	-
Self-grading and NRLM linkages for SHG members	15	333	-	-
Financial literacy and bank linkages for SHG members	-	-	12	415
Responsibilities of leaders, conflict resolution, SHG meeting facilitation, strengthening role of SHG Leaders	14	333	-	-
Effective SHG management (setting group norms rules, and regulation) for SHG leaders	4	101	14	403
Entrepreneurship development for SHG members	4	123	-	-

Field Office wise SHGs



Village Organization

Another endeavor undertaken by VIKSAT to strengthen SHGs at the village level and provide a platform for them to share their issues and explore solutions is the formation of Village Organisations (VOs) and CLFs (Cluster Level Federations).

During the year, four new Village Organisations (VOs) were formed in Hatipagla, Jamru, Kuvarsi, and Higatiya Jagri villages. Cumulatively, 48 VOs have been formed, covering 70% of the SHGs in project villages.

Capacity Building Programme on VO and FPO

Name of Programme	With ABF Support		With HDFC Support	
	No.	Parti.	No.	Parti.
Trainings on VO management and grading for VO leader	2	51	13	429
Training on formation and importance of Cluster Level Federation (CLF) for VO leaders	1	52	-	-
Trainings on FPO for BoDs and VO leaders	2	70	1	29
Training on Entrepreneurship Development for BoDs, VO leaders and CRPs	1	33	1	18
Training cum exposure on formation and importance of CLF for staff & CRPs at PEDO dungarpur	-	-	1	21

Product Launch on International Women's Day

On the occasion of International Women's Day, the dignitaries launched SAFE FPO's Turmeric, Tuvar Dal, Mung Dal, and Urad Dal products.



International Women's Day was celebrated on March 8, 2022 at the AART Centre in Kheroj in collaboration with the Horticulture Department, Sabarkantha. The event was attended by more than 600 women from the project villages. Shri Falgun Modh, Joint Director of Horticulture, and Shri D.M. Patel, Deputy Director of Horticulture, Sabarkantha District, graced the occasion.



International Women's Day was celebrated on March 9, 2022 at Sanali Ashram in collaboration with the ATMA Project, Banaskantha. The event was attended by more than 600 women from the project villages. Shri H.J. Jindal, Project Director of the ATMA project in Banaskantha, was present at the event.

Key Initiatives by SAFE FPO

With the support of SBI General Insurance, SAFE Company initiated the provision of insurance services for PASHUPALAK. A total of 117 goats and 101 cattle were insured.

The team from SAFE Producer Company Ltd. visited Sahyadri Farmer Producer Company in Nasik, Maharashtra on 8th and 9th March 2022.



SAFE Engagements and Achievements

- Participated in Sahayog Mela-2, at Ahmedabad during 1st-3rd October 2021 sponsored by NABARD and EXPO hosted by ATMA at Deesa on March 26, 2022.
- Attended State Level Bankers Committee Meeting sponsored by NABARD in Himmatnagar. (Date 29th October, 2021). Shri Gajendrasinh Parmar, Minister of State, Food and Civil Supply and Consumer Protection Affairs, Government of Gujarat, and Shri Hitesh Koya, District Collector, Sabarkantha and DDO Sabarkantha, visited our stall and had discussion regarding the progress of FPO.
- FPO consist of 3618 shareholders with a share capital of Rs. 7,39,750 as on 31st March, 2022.
- The SAFE made turnover of Rs. 1,49,58,206.12/- and profit of Rs. 90478/-



Award of Appreciation

"Samunnati - The Economic Times" presented SAFE Producer Company, Kheroj with the Best FPO Award in the Western Region for the category of Farmers' Stable and Sustainable Growth in 2021.



Inauguration of Turmeric Processing Unit

An Inauguration of the Turmeric Processing Unit, supported by the DST core project, took place on 17th July 2021. The event was attended by 18 senior officers from NABARD Gujarat Regional Office, the Board of Directors, and shareholders. Shri D. K. Mishra, CGM of NABARD RO Gujarat, inaugurated the Turmeric Processing Plant at Kheroj. Currently, the unit is being managed by SAFE Producer Company Ltd. at Kheroj.



The project “Enhancing farmers’ income through market linkages and value addition activities” aims to promote horticulture farming in the Bhuj block of Kutch District, Gujarat, with the support of Welthungerhilfe (WHH), by linking poor and marginal farmers directly with FPO and improving community livelihoods by adding value through various innovations, entrepreneurial initiatives, and technological interventions. In 2021-22, 72 farmers in the project villages produced Bhagva and Sinduri pomegranate varieties on 350 acres, resulting in better livelihoods for farmers. The project was monitored by Mahatma Gandhi Seva Ashram (MGSA).

Staff Development Programme

- Organisation Development programme held at Badi Garh Resort, Udaipur with 27 employees from 29th to 31st of July, 2021. The team also visited Seva Mandir Organisation.
- Programme Strategy on Lakpati Kisan, Water Security was organized for 25 CRP on 24-25 August 2021 at Abu.
- Exposure cum training on SHG, VO & CLF was organised for Staff at PEDO, Dungarpur on 14-15 Sept 2021.
- Workshop on Five-Year perspective plan was organised for 29 staff on 29 – 30 March 2022 at Ambaji.



ITC Mission Sunehrakal

Since 2018, VIKSAT has successfully implemented the project “Capacity Building of Sustainable Agriculture in Aspirational Districts” as a knowledge partner with ITC and NITI Aayog in 27 Aspirational districts across eight states in India.

Capacity Building

The Cascade approach was applied for reaching the Farmers. Digital IEC materials were prepared and shared with the MTs and subsequently, each MT passed it on to the VRPs and through VRPs it was imparted to the farmers in all 27 districts across 08 states of India.

In the light of the prolonged pandemic, Digital IEC Materials i.e. Mobile based Modules were prepared in local languages, namely Hindi, Marathi, Odia, and Assamese, on Standard Package of Practices for

21 crops of the Kharif and Rabi seasons, as well as Animal Husbandry, Goatry, and Fisheries fisheries to enhance their knowledge and skills.

In addition, flipcharts in the Odia language were created for vegetable crops like brinjal, chilly, tomato, and cabbage, and for oilseed crops like sunflower. These flipcharts were printed and distributed to Mobile Trainers (MTs) for physical training sessions in collaboration with the Tribal Department, Odisha.

Technical videos focusing on main crops such as paddy, wheat, cotton, maize, and soybean were developed. These videos emphasize the use of standard package of practices for crop farming and scientific rearing practices for milch animals and goat farming. The videos were shared with farmers to facilitate easy understanding and learning of these practices for improved management of their livestock.



Details of IEC Materials and training modules shared with Farmers in 2021-22

States	Districts (Nos)	Villages (Nos)	Kharif		Rabi	
			WhatsApp Group (Nos)	Farmers (Nos)	WhatsApp Group (Nos)	Farmers (Nos)
Uttar Pradesh	5	3470	1322	135792	1	1249
Madhya Pradesh	5	4342	1833	103977	54	14157
Assam	5	739	869	74002	77	12457
Bihar	5	3013	606	58708	15	1773
Odisha	2	1184	285	42860	-	-
Rajasthan	2	1690	426	67765	-	-
Jharkhand	2	4082	296	20134	20	1066
Maharashtra	1	474	433	48083	8	13448
Total	27	18994	6070	551321	175	44150

Impact Assessment of project ITC Mission Sunehrakal

During the year, impact assessments of (a) documentation of cascading training for knowledge empowerment and (b) village agriculture development framework were carried out under the project ITC Mission Sunehrakal by VIKSAT. The study aimed to evaluate the potential for increasing net returns from farming in aspirational districts by reducing the cost of production and increasing the productivity of major crops.

1. Cascading Training for Knowledge Empowerment

Impact

- Increased Crop Productivity (5-20%) and reduction in the cost of cultivation (10-25%),
- Crop diversification & introduction of Horticulture,
- Rise in Farmers shifting to organic manure and pesticides,
- Rise in farmers availing of benefits from government schemes such as PMFBY, Micro-irrigation, NADEP, Solar pumps and Cattle Vaccination.

Replication

The Cascading Training Program has proven to be a catalyst for expediting development in backward districts through demonstrations of various best practices. This model can be scaled up in agriculture and allied livelihood sectors with multi-stakeholder partnerships. While the current focus is on critical POPs for two principal crops in Kharif and Rabi, POPs for other crops can also be considered in the future, along with other agri-livelihood interventions.

2 Village Agriculture Development Framework:

Impact

- Increased awareness of government schemes related to agriculture, animal husbandry, and natural resource management (NRM).
- Increased crop productivity (5-20%) and reduction in the cost of cultivation (10-25%).
- Crop diversification and introduction of horticulture.
- Use of better quality seeds, increased seed replacement ratio, and seed treatment.
- Scaling up of best practices by farmer field schools (FFS) groups to other farmers within the villages and in other villages.

Replication

The Agriculture Development Framework has proven to be a catalyst for expediting development in backward districts through the convergence of government schemes and the demonstration of various best practices. This approach could be adopted widely at the district level for developing the agriculture sectoral plan.

6. Environment & Climate Change

Every single one of us is significant, has a purpose, and can make a difference. We must all be accountable for our own actions and, most importantly, respect and love all the other living beings around us.

VIKSAT aims to build the capacity of the community through Climate Change initiatives by promoting climate-resilient farming systems and diversification of livelihoods engaging communities for sustainable development and management of natural resources.

Since its inception, VIKSAT has been committed to environmental preservation, conservation, and protection. Through continuous efforts in afforestation, soil rehabilitation, and water conservation, the organization has made significant strides in safeguarding the environment. In recent years, VIKSAT has been actively promoting renewable energy solutions, particularly solar-based energy, to strengthen various sectors such as agriculture, animal husbandry, sustainable livelihoods, and climate resilience initiatives. With a specific focus on drought-proofing and climate-smart agriculture practices, VIKSAT has implemented concrete adaptation measures in Gujarat, serving as a shield against climate variability and unfavorable conditions. These impactful initiatives have been made possible with the support and collaboration of NABARD, CInI, Sustain Plus, and HBS Foundation.





World Environment Day Celebration

On the occasion of World Environment Day on June 5th, 2021, the VIKSAT team organized a tree plantation drive at the AART Centre, Kheroj, and in the villages of Ganer and Navamota. The program was attended by 110 participants, including women members, CRP, and staff.

Tree Plantation Drive

Tree plantation drive in 10 project villages on June 5th, 2021. Over 600 saplings planted with participation of 300 women members.



Patadiya Watershed Development Programme

A meeting was organized at Patadiya Village with NABARD officers regarding the sanctioned letter of FIP for the Patadiya Watershed Development Programme on July 17, 2021. In this program, 18 NABARD officers attended the meeting. During the visit, Mr. D. K. Mishra, CGM of NABARD RO Gujarat, handed over the approved sanctioned letter of FIP.



In addition, NABARD officers also visited the Patadiya Watershed Development Project, which included solar-powered LIS schemes, poly-house nursery in Ratanpur village, vegetable collection center, and LIS of Choliya villages. Furthermore, the officers interacted with Village Watershed Committee (VWC) and community members of Patadiya village.

Capacity Building Programme on Organic Manure

Name of Programme	ABF /HDFC Support		HUF Support	
	No.	Parti.	No.	Parti.
Training on vermi compost and organic manure & de - composting for soil moisture	40	815	44	1192



Installation of Vermicompost Units

A total of 413 Vermicompost Units were installed, including 385 under the Household Units of Farmers (HUF) and 28 under NABARD, with the aim of improving land fertility through the use of organic manure and promoting sustainable agriculture.

Enhancing Soil Fertility and Nutrient Levels with Bioculum

Bioculum, an effective, safe, and environmentally friendly facilitator of aerobic composting of organic waste, was provided to 306 farmers this year for decomposing farmyard manure. This initiative has resulted in improved soil fertility and nutrient levels, leading to better production outcomes.



Implementation of Climate-Resilient Interventions

- The farm bunding work of 24157.14 cm and 350 stone outlets in a 281 ha. area has been completed, benefiting 631 HHs in 21 project villages with the support of HUF.
- The SMC work has generated 9,865 person days in 21 project villages with the support of HUF.
- In the Sembaliya Climate Proofing Intervention Program and Patadiya Watershed Programme, farm bunding work covering 606.40 cmt, stone bunding work covering 74.886 cmt, Stone Gully Plug (SGP) covering 393.83 cmt, and 1 Pakka Stone Nala Plug have been completed in a 35.83 ha land treated.
- The SMC work has generated 1524-Person days in Sembaliya and Patadiya watershed project villages.
- Demonstration of 45 climate-resilient crop varieties has been conducted in 5 villages to overcome the adverse impact of climate change and reduce yield losses under stress conditions, contributing to the adaptation of PoP.
- Demonstration of 77 Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices has been carried out in 5 villages to reduce pest populations to levels that do not cause significant damage.



An automatic weather station (Soil Sens) has been installed at the AART Centre in Kheroj, along with 12 FEEM Kits, to test the quality of water and soil in the project villages. This installation has been made possible with the support of WIN Foundation.



Renewable Energy

To support solar-based irrigation and promote efficient water usage, the project titled “Improved Livelihood Resilience and Sustainable Energy Use for Powering the Livelihoods Transformation” was sanctioned to VIKSAT in 2021-22. This initiative received support from the Harish and Bina Shah Foundation, Sustain Plus program, and CInI. The project aims to enable sustainable livelihoods and provide access to clean energy in over 50 villages in the Khedbrahma, Poshina, Danta blocks of Sabarkantha, and Banaskantha Districts of Gujarat.

VIKSAT's initiatives towards PM-KUSUM Government Scheme under UGVCL

The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Uthan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) is a central government scheme aimed at doubling farmers' income while promoting efficient use of groundwater by replacing fossil fuel-based pumps with solar-powered ones.

A training session on Solar Pumps was organized on February 18, 2022, at the AART Centre in Kheroj, with 98 participants. VIKSAT also supported the registration of 42 PM-KUSUM applications. As a result, 12 solar pumps with capacities of 7.5HP, 5HP, and 10HP were installed in the project villages with the support of Sustain Plus. These pumps have been utilized for crop irrigation during the Rabi and Summer seasons.



The Key Objectives of the project

- To promote low-cost solar-based small lift irrigation systems for engaging in high-value agriculture.
- To promote the KUSUM scheme in Gujarat by providing an implementation model and advocating for larger institutional partnerships.
- To promote well-based irrigation solutions to expand irrigation coverage and enhance water use efficiency in high-value interventions.
- To promote solar-based drinking water schemes to ensure access to drinking water at the hamlet level.

Solar Light

50 Solar Light Units were provided to 60 poor families facing electricity issues in the project villages with the support of HDFC. This has resulted in the availability of light at night which has helped poor families to work extra and children to study.

Solar dryer for pulses and spice processing unit

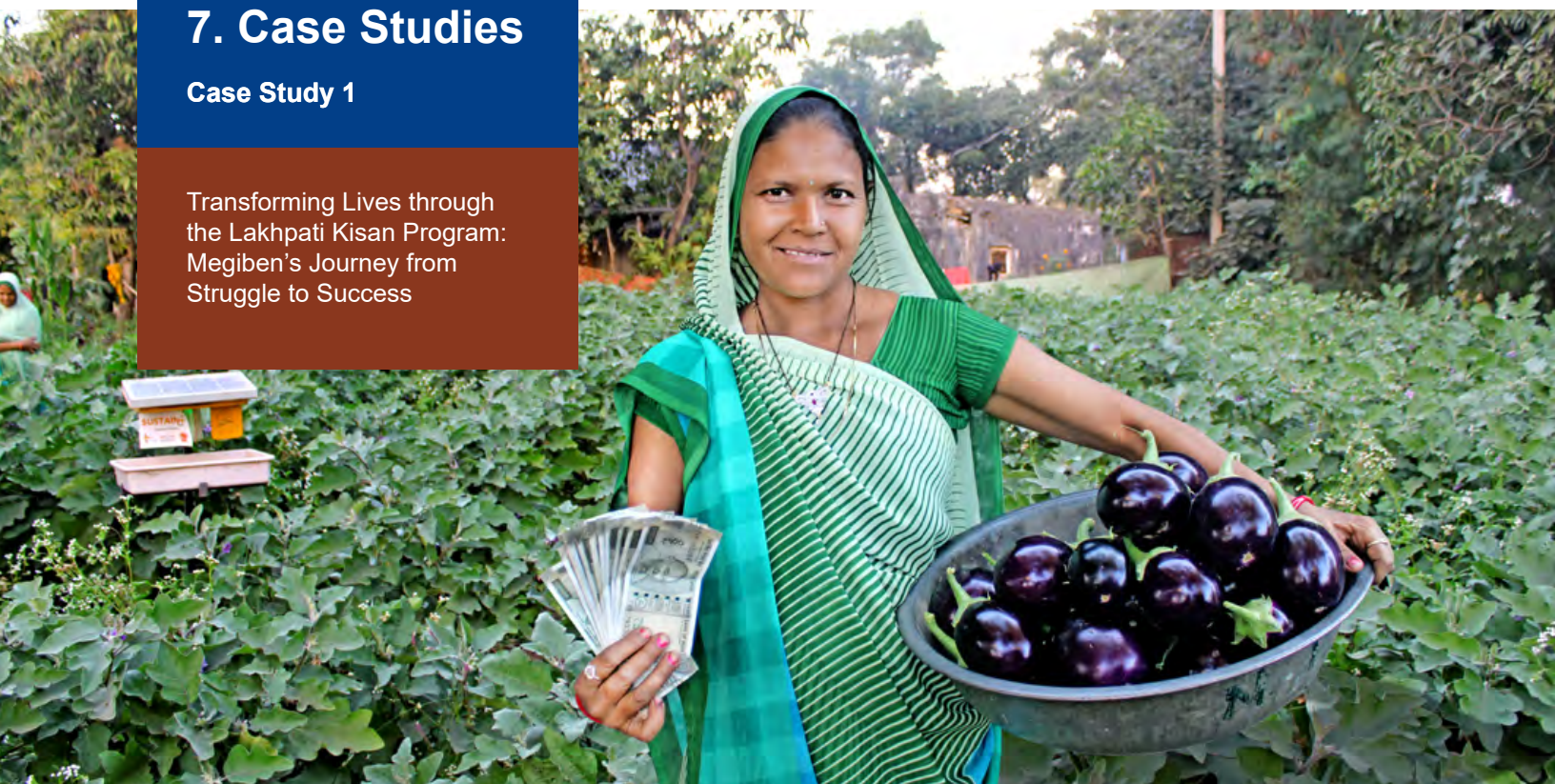
- 7 units of solar dryers were installed at the SAFE Producer Company in Kheroj.
- Each solar dryer unit has a capacity of 50 kg and comes with electric backup.
- The solar dryer reduces the drying time by 2-3 days compared to natural drying methods. It also ensures that the pulses and spices are free from contamination caused by dust, particles, and UV rays from the sun.



7. Case Studies

Case Study 1

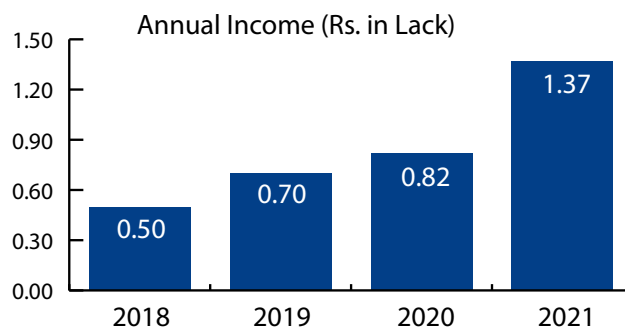
Transforming Lives through the Lakhpati Kisan Program: Megiben's Journey from Struggle to Success



Smt. Megiben Gamar, a member of the Ramapir Self-Help Group (SHG) in Magvas village of Danta block, Banaskantha District, Gujarat, underwent a transformative journey through the Lakhpati Kisan Program by Axis Bank Foundation. Despite lacking formal education, Megiben supported her family by farming cotton, maize, and wheat on her 70 Guntha of land, earning approximately 45,000 to 50,000 INR per year. To improve her income and secure a better future for her children, Megiben started a general store and flour mill. However, limited opportunities in her village and water scarcity posed challenges. Despite failed attempts to address the issue, she received no guidance or assistance.

In an SHG meeting, she shared her concerns about water scarcity and sought help from VIKSAT field staff. Recognizing the issue's impact, the field staff suggested the implementation of the Lift Irrigation Scheme (LIS). They also recommended other programs like High-Value Crops, Vermicompost, Azolla, Drip Irrigation, Mulching, Animal Health Camps, and Livestock Loans. The SHG members unanimously agreed to install the Lift Irrigation Scheme. With the Lift Irrigation Scheme, Megiben and the SHG members gained access to sufficient water for year-round farming. Megiben began cultivating high-value crops like chilly, beans, brinjal, and okra. She sold fresh farm vegetables from a handcart, resulting in increased profits and a stable daily income. Megiben embraced residue-free farming practices using vermicompost and biopesticides.

Over the past few months, Megiben has witnessed a significant increase in her annual income of 1,37,000/- INR from high-value agriculture, cotton seed plot, flour mill, and general store. The additional income generated has propelled Megiben to the status of a Lakhpati Kisan, becoming an exemplary figure for other farmers in Magvas. Megiben extended her heartfelt appreciation to the Lakhpati Kisan Program and the dedicated VIKSAT staff for their pivotal role in realizing her aspirations. With unwavering determination, she remains committed to ensuring a brighter future and an improved quality of life for her children.



Case Study 2

Empowering Tribal Farmer: Jyotsnaben's Journey towards Sustainable Agriculture



Smt. Jyotsnaben Upeshbhai Kataria, a female farmer from Vageshwari village in Bhiloda block, is making strides in sustainable agriculture under the DST project. She belongs to a small tribal community and possesses 2 acres of land with irrigation facilities, she has been involved in agriculture for a decade. However, her income has been dwindling due to escalating farming expenses.

In 2019, she received invaluable knowledge of modern farming techniques through the DST project. Inspired to revamp her agricultural practices, she embarked on a journey towards innovation. Embracing change, she began cultivating crops like wheat and organic turmeric while implementing eco-friendly methods such as vermicomposting, biopesticides, and integrated pest management. This marked a significant shift towards sustainable agriculture.

In the current season, she allocated 5 Guntha of her land to cultivate leafy vegetables including spinach, cluster beans, and okra. Determined to reduce her reliance on chemical fertilizers and pesticides, she adopted organic farming methods. By refraining from their use and implementing organic alternatives, she contributed to the preservation of soil health and environmental sustainability.

Her commitment to sustainable practices translated into tangible results. The bountiful harvest of her organically grown vegetables found a ready market in Bhiloda and neighboring villages. By embracing

modern techniques and enhancing cultivation practices, she achieved a significant increase in her daily vegetable yield. Her annual income increased from INR 38,775 to INR 78,915. This success ensured her economic stability and inspired others in her community to follow the same.

Her inspiring journey exemplifies the transformative power of knowledge and sustainable farming practices. Through the DST project, she not only acquired modern techniques but also contributed to the preservation of the environment. Her shift towards organic vegetable cultivation has not only increased her income but also paved the way for a greener and more prosperous future for her and her community. Jyotsnaben serves as a beacon of empowerment, showcasing sustainable agriculture's immense potential in uplifting small farmers' lives.

Crop	Before		After	
	Production (Kg.)	Income (Rs)	Production (Kg.)	Income (Rs)
Maize	720	14,400	880	17,600
Fodder	-	-	700	7,000
Turmeric	-	-	220	4,840
Wheat	750	16,875	-	-
Wheat (SWI)	-	-	960	24,000
Vegetable	-	-	1158	25,475
Green Gram	250	7,500	-	-
Total	-	38,775	-	78,915

Case Study 3

Blossoming Resilience:
Empowering Rupaliben a
Rural Women from Matarwada
Village towards Sustainable
Prosperity

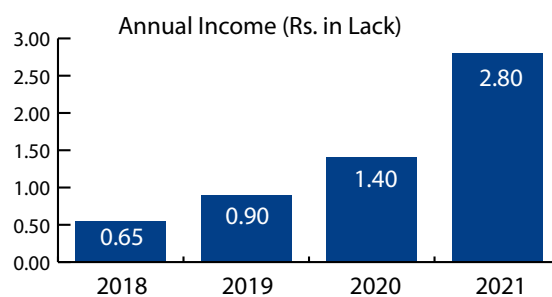


Smt. Dabhi Rupaliben Kamiyabhai, a 41-year-old illiterate woman from the scheduled tribe 'Durgali Bhill,' resides in Matarwada village, Sabarkantha District, Gujarat. She has a family of four, including her husband and two children. To sustain themselves, her family relies on 60 Gunthas (around 1.5 acres) of agricultural land. Agriculture serves as their primary source of income, supplemented by animal husbandry, which includes one cow, one buffalo, and seven goats. Before joining the Lakhpatri Kisan Program, she faced numerous challenges related to agriculture, such as water scarcity, irregular rainfall, drought, insect pest attacks, and the impacts of climate change.

She learned about the activities carried out under the Lakhpatri Kisan Program from her neighbors and decided to join the Pooja SHG. Through the SHG, she gained access to farming tools, improved seeds, and saplings of high-value crops. She also received information on improved agriculture practices like seed treatment, spacing, plantation, and intercropping operations. The program provided exposure visits to cultivating high-value and cash crops, which further enhanced her farming skills. With the support and technical guidance received through the program, she gradually shifted her focus from cultivating traditional crops like maize, black gram, wheat, and cotton to high-value and cash crops. She also started engaging in animal husbandry and milk production with financial support from a local dairy.

Before joining the program, her family's income was less than Rs. 65,000 per annum. However, currently,

her total income exceeds Rs. 2.8 lakh per annum, derived from agriculture and animal husbandry. She earns Rs. 1.2 lakh from milk production and goat rearing, Rs. 1 lakh from her cotton seed plot, and Rs. 80,000 from her turmeric plot. The increased income has allowed her to allocate funds for her children's education, marriage, and further development of her agricultural activities. She has also applied for a drip irrigation system for her one-acre land for high value crops and also contributed Rs. 10,000 towards it. She no longer needs to seek financial support from others as she can obtain instant loans from her own dairy, SHG, and VO (Village Organization). Rupaliben expresses her gratitude to the VIKSAT staff and the Lakhpatri Kisan Program team for providing collaborative information on agriculture and animal husbandry. The exposure visits and support from the program have empowered her to adopt improved agricultural practices and animal husbandry techniques on her own farm, enabling her to become self-reliant.



Case Study 4

From Barren Fields to Bountiful Harvests: Transforming Livelihoods through Lift Irrigation in Umbora Village



Umbora village located in Sabarkantha district is predominantly inhabited by tribal communities, with fragmented small land holdings, undulating topography, limited irrigation through wells and borewells, semi-arid climate with unpredictable rainfall, and relies on agriculture, animal husbandry, and labor for livelihood.

In 2006, VIKSAT initiated development programs in Poshina tribal area, including watershed development, ELRT, and Cluster Development (MISSION 2020). They formed SHGs and VOs to implement the programs. In 2014, SHG Shakti was formed in Umbora village with 16 women members. In 2020, the SHG members expressed their interest in irrigation and applied for lift irrigation schemes. Under the ELRT program, VIKSAT implemented a lift irrigation scheme in collaboration with HDFC Bank and CInI. This scheme enabled the lifting of water from borewells to irrigate the land. As a result, 10.13 acres of land were brought under irrigation, benefiting 23 women members of the SHGs. The community made a 40% contribution to the lift irrigation scheme, with the remaining 60% being supported by HDFC.

Smt. Shantaben Parmar, a member of the Shakti SHG, owned 1.5 acres of rainfed agricultural land. With the introduction of the lift irrigation scheme, she had the opportunity to cultivate cotton with assured irrigation and also grew wheat for the first time in the Rabi season. This led to a cumulative income of Rs. 140,850 during the year. Similarly, Smt. Maniben Rajeshbhai Parmar and Smt. Tejkitab Sayabhai

Parmar, both beneficiaries of the lift irrigation scheme, were able to cultivate multiple crops with irrigation and achieved incomes of Rs. 130,200 and Rs. 143,350 respectively.

Shri Kesarbhai Nupabhai Parmar, a farmer who benefited from the lift irrigation scheme, expressed his gratitude for the access to water. He highlighted how previously they could only grow maize, pigeon pea, and cotton in their fields, which often left the land barren. However, with the lift irrigation scheme, he was able to cultivate wheat and high-value crops for the first time. The availability of water for irrigation not only allowed all the members of the SHGs to grow crops on 10.13 acres of land but also enabled 12 members to cultivate vegetable crops on 4.5 acres, providing additional income to their households. By cultivating high-value crops and vegetables during the Rabi and summer seasons, the farmers were able to earn an average income of Rs. 97,345 per household, surpassing the previous income range of Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 50,000. Furthermore, the women members of the Shakti SHG utilized loan support from the SHG revolving fund to purchase buffaloes and cows, which generated additional income through milk supply to the village dairy.



8. Visitors



Mr. Santosh Pathak, Zonal Manager of the West Zone at Tata Trusts in Mumbai, visited the VIKSAT project area on September 4th, 2021. During the visit, he visited SAFE FPO, Hi-tech Nursery, High-Value Crops, Azolla Unit, and Vermicompost Unit.



Mr. Samit and his team from the Small-Scale Sustainable Infrastructure Development Fund visited from September 22nd to 24th, 2021 for Institutional Capacity Building and Market Development of SAFE FPO.



Mr. Arun Pandhi, Programme Director at Tata Trusts in Mumbai, visited the VIKSAT project area on September 15th, 2021. During the visit, he interacted with members of Sangam VO and SAFE FPO.



Mr. Utkarsh Ghate, Manager of Agriculture Research at Wadhwanai Institute for Artificial Intelligence, Mumbai, visited the project area on September 23rd, 2021.



Mr. Rashmi Ranjan from Deloitte visited the project area on July 9th, 2021, to conduct an impact assessment of the Lakhpati Kisan program.



Mr. Surhid and the Impagro team, along with Mr. Tejas from Mahindra EPC, visited the project area on October 26th, 2021, and December 17th, 2021, to explore the planning and potential of market linkages with the FPO.

ખેડબ્રહ્મામાં કિસાન દિવસની ઉજવણી
ખેડબ્રહ્મા, તા. ૨૫
ખેડબ્રહ્મા તાલુકાના ખેરોજ ગામે આવેલ વિકસત સંસ્થા દ્વારા ખેડબ્રહ્મા યોમીના તાલુકાના ૧૦ ગામોમાં એચડીએફસીના આર્થી સહયોગથી એચઆરટીપી પરિવર્તન કાર્યક્રમ અર્તગત રાષ્ટ્રીય કિસાન દિવસની ઉજવણી કરવામાં આવી જેમાં ૭૦૦થી વધુ ભાઈઓ અને બહેનોએ ભાગ લીધો હતો.



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[illegible]

10. List of Abbreviations

AART	: Aravali Agriculture Resource and Training Centre	MT	: Master Trainer
ABF	: Axis Bank Foundation	MoEFCC	: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
AGM	: Annual General Meeting	NABARD	: National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
APMC	: Agriculture Producer Market Committee	NABCONS	: NABARD Consultancy Services
ATMA	: Agricultural Technology Management Agency	NGO	: Non Governmental Organization
AWP	: Annual Work Plan	NRM	: Natural Resource Management
BODs	: Board of Directors	PI	: People's Institutions
CBOs	: Community Based Organization	PoP	: Package of Practices
CDP	: Cluster Development Programme	RWHS	: Roof-Top Water Harvesting Structure
CInI	: Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives	SAFE	: Sabar AART Farmer Enterprise Producer Company Ltd.
CLF	: Cluster Level Federation	SAKSHAM	: Sangathan Kshamata Manch
CRP(s)	: Community Resource Person(s)	SDAU	: Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University
CSR	: Corporate Social Responsibility	SHG(s)	: Self Help Group(s)
DDM	: District Development Managers	SMC	: Soil and Moisture Conservation
DRDA	: District Rural Development Agency	SMI	: System of Maize Intensification
DSC	: Digital Signature Certificates	SWI	: System of Wheat Intensification
DST	: Department of Science & Technology	ToT	: Training of Trainers
ERP(s)	: Expert Resource Persons	TGCS	: Tree Growers Cooperative Society
ELEQRT	: Enhancing Livelihoods and Education Quality for Rural Transformation	VDC(s)	: Villages Development Committee(s)
FAQ	: Fair Average Quality	VO	: Villages Organization
FES	: Foundation for Ecological Security	VRP	: Villages Resource Person
FFS(s)	: Farmer Field School(s)	VWC(s)	: Villages Watershed Committee(s)
FPO	: Farmer Producer Organization	WDF	: Watershed Development Fund
GGRC	: Gujarat Green Revolution Company	WRD	: Water Resource Development
GTDC	: Gujarat Tribal Development Corporation	UWM	: United Way of Mumbai
HH(s)	: Household(s)	BMC	: Biodiversity Management Committee
HRDP	: Holistic Rural Development Programme	SRI	: System of Rice Intensification
HUF	: Hindustan Unilever Foundation	PBR	: People's Biodiversity Register
IEC	: Information, Education and Communication	IPM	: Integrated Pest Mangement
JFMC	: Joint Forest Management Committee		
KALP	: Kutch Agriculture Livelihood Producer Company Ltd.		
KVK	: Krishi Vigyan Kendra		
LIS	: Lift Irrigation Scheme		
MGNREGA	: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.		

11. Acknowledgment

Major funding partners and collaborating agencies



Our Bankers

- State Bank of India
- Bank of Baroda
- Indian Overseas Bank
- Bank of India
- ICICI Bank Ltd.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank

Our Auditors

- Manubhai & Shah LLP
Chartered Accountants, Ahmedabad
- Yogesh K Dave & Co.
Chartered Accountants, Ahmedabad
- Sorab S. Engineer & Co.
Chartered Accountants, Mumbai

12. Financial Highlights

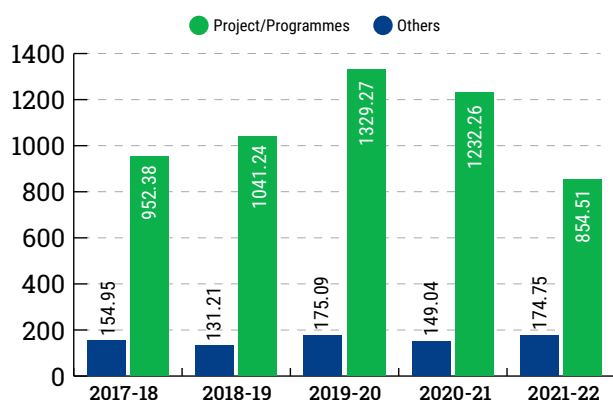
(Rs. In Lakh)

Abridged Balance Sheet		
	31 March 2021	31 March 2022
Reserves & Other Earmarked Funds	565.09	635.18
Balance of Project Grants	159.19	10.22
Sundries & Suppliers	60.21	21.13
Total	784.49	666.53
Assets	31 March 2021	31 March 2022
Immovable and Movable Properties	286.43	290.41
Investments in Approved Securities	0.00	0.00
Bank Account and Cash/FDR etc.	335.56	208.34
Advances and Other	162.50	167.78
Total	784.49	666.53

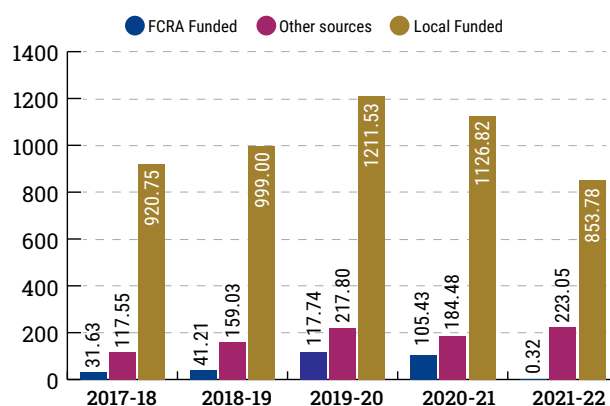
(Rs. In Lakh)

Abridged Income and Expenditure Account		
Income	31 March 2021	31 March 2022
Projects and Programmes Income	1232.26	854.11
Income from Other Sources	184.47	223.05
Total	1416.73	1077.16
Expenditure	31 March 2021	31 March 2022
Projects and Programmes Expenditure	1232.26	854.51
Own Projects and Programmes Expenditure	19.41	13.31
Staff Salaries	126.97	131.07
Establishment and Administrative Expenditure	16.44	23.70
Amount transferred to other Earmarked Fund	5.63	19.98
Total	1400.71	1042.17
Surplus / Deficit	16.02	34.99
Total	1416.73	1077.16

Expenditure of the last 5 Years (Rs. in lakhs)



Source of Funds during last 5 years



13. Council of Management & Offices

As on 31st March 2022

Council of Management

Chairperson

Shri Kartikeya V Sarabhai
Founder Director
Centre for Environment
Education, Thaltej Tekra
Ahmedabad - 380054

Members

Shri Pradeep Khanna
PCCF (Retd.),
Gujarat Forest Department,
Gandhinagar - 382020

Prof. Deepti Bhatnagar
Organizational Behaviour
Indian Institute of Management
Vastrapur, Ahmedabad - 380015

Prof. Indira Hirway
Director
Center for Development
Alternatives
Ahmedabad - 380054

Dr. Omkar Jani
Principal Research Scientist
Gujarat Energy Research &
Management Institute (GERMI),
Gandhinagar - 382007

Shri Ratan C. Jain
Advisor (Groundwater)
Gujarat Water Resource
Development Corporation Ltd.,
Ahmedabad - 380009

Shri D N Surati
Secretary & CAO
NFD, Thaltej Tekra,
Ahmedabad - 380054

Dr. D.V. Rangnekar
BAIF (VP Retd.) / Advisor MP
Rural Livelihood Programme
Vastrapur, Ahmedabad - 380015

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Ahmedabad - 380013

Shri Himanshu Upadhyay
Corporate Communication &
CSR Expert
Dr. Vikram Sarabhai Marg,
Ahmedabad - 380015

Prof. R Parthasarathy
Director
Gujarat Institute of
Development Research, Gota
Ahmedabad - 380060

Shri Atul Pandya
Director
Sabarmati Ashram, Preservation
& Memorial Trust, Ashram Road,
Ahmedabad - 380009

Member Secretary

Shri Dilip Surkar
Director
VIKSAT, NFD
Thaltej Tekra
Ahmedabad - 380054

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E-mail: contact.viksats@gmail.com

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E-mail: viksats.dahej@gmail.com



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 five thrust areas, namely, Land & Water Management, WaSH (Water Sanitation and Hygiene), Sustainable Livelihoods, Institution & Capacity Building, and Environment & Climate Change.

VIKSAT

Nehru Foundation for Development

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www.viksat.org

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