

Standing Tall Amid Pandemic

Himmotthan Annual Report
2020-2021





Himmotthan हिमोत्थान

[Himm-otthan] *verb*

Upliftment of the people of the Himalayas

It was formed with the belief that challenges & opportunities of mountain communities are different and have to be addressed sensitively by keeping the community especially women at core.





This Annual Report is dedicated to the 50 Women's Cooperative/Producer Organization, spread across more than 1846 villages in Central & Western Himalayan region, for standing firmly with over 48,000 members & their families by providing the much needed financial, social and psychological support amidst the raging Covid-19 pandemic.

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Message From the Chairperson

Vibha Puri Das

Chairperson
& Ex. Secretary, Govt. of India

The Covid pandemic has led to questions regarding the trajectory, development practice has followed so far. This year has compelled all, including us at Himmotthan to stop, reprioritize and strategise.

The Central & Western Himalayan region of India is not unfamiliar with natural disasters. Himmotthan has, over the years witnessed many climate related disasters across the Central & Western Himalayan region, the impact of which has unfortunately magnified over the past few decades. Each disaster has left behind a trail of suffering for the affected families. Himmotthan and its supporting organizations have responded to such calamities with speed, consistency and prolonged engagement, in an effort to restore livelihoods and lives.

However, a pandemic that has the potential to disturb the socio-cultural-economic & physiological aspects of any community is a challenge that few were ready to tackle. The pandemic has struck the world without any difference. The response and after effects have been differentiated primarily by how well prepared we were to address a disaster which apart from health has dented the society, economically, socially and psychologically.

This year's annual report is also an attempt to understand the effectiveness of the approach that Himmotthan, as an organization, had chosen for itself, in context of the Central and Western Himalayan region where Himmotthan operates.

The core impetus of Himmotthan's development interventions focuses on developing the Social capital of region, using a cluster approach. A cluster represents a homogeneously bound community living under a distinct micro-geo climate. Over the years, Himmotthan has identified more than 40 such clusters that represent over 98,622 households from 1,787 mountain villages of Uttarakhand, 44 villages from Himachal Pradesh and 15 from Ladakh.

The Social Capital nurtured over the years now has transformed itself into 50 Self Reliant Cooperatives consisting of 5,200 Self Help Groups, 2 Farmers Producers Organization consisting of over 48,000 women members, across the two Himalayan States and the Union Territory of Ladakh.

These Cooperatives are identifying and building regional level enterprises. They include micro milk dairies, manufactured cattle feed units, Common Facility Centers, Camp sites and Restaurants, Spinning and Weaving Centers, agro-processing units, fruit nurseries, etc. Despite the ravaging pandemic these local institutions managed to mobilize saving of Rs. 255 Lakhs in the year and helped in providing need based credit of Rs. 467 Lakhs to their members at doorstep for domestic use & income generation activities. Despite the challenges the Women's Cooperative managed a turnover of around Rs. 700 Lakhs, paying almost 75% back to farmers in form of the price of their products and services.

"This year has compelled all including us at Himmotthan to stop reprioritize and strategize."



The Integrated Village Development Model overlaid by a Cluster to Valley approach followed by Himmotthan in all its development initiatives has stood firm & effective, while responding to geographical, climatic, economic and associated societal changes. The development trajectory adopted by Himmotthan by strengthening the first responders in any adversity, and nurturing the Social Capital, has proven to be an effective methodology. We're together in this with the Mountain Communities.

Meet Our Governing Board



MS. VIBHA PURI DAS

Chairperson
Ex. Secretary, Gol



MR. ARUN PANDHI

Member (Ex-Officio, Tata Trusts Nominee)
Director, Program Implementation,
Tata Trusts, Mumbai



DR. MALAVIKA CHAUHAN

Member (Ex-Officio, Tata Trusts Nominee)
Head, Rural Upliftment, Tata Trusts



MR. ASHISH DESHPANDE

Member (Ex-Officio, Tata Trusts Nominee)
Secretary & Chief Financial Officer,
Tata Trusts, Mumbai



MR. DEEPAK SANAN

Member
Ex. Add. Chief Secretary,
Govt. of Himachal Pradesh



MS. AMRITA PATWARDHAN

Treasurer (Ex-Officio, Tata Trusts Nominee)
Head, Education, Tata Trusts, Mumbai



UTTARAKHAND GOVERNMENT

Member (Ex-Officio, GoUK Nominee)
Secretary, Rural Development,
Govt. of Uttarakhand



DR. YASHPAL SINGH BISHT

Member Secretary
(Ex-officio, Tata Trusts Nominee)
Regional Manager, Tata Trusts
ED, Himmotthan Society



ABOUT HIMMOTTHAN

Our vision

Himmotthan envisions building prosperous and self sustained mountain communities which live in harmony and sympathy with their natural surroundings. It was formed with the belief, that challenges & opportunities of mountain communities are different and have to be addressed sensitively by keeping the community (especially women at core). The Socio-economic Development of villages across the Central & Western Himalayan region as perceived and executed by Himmotthan revolves around the basic concept of “Finding windows of Opportunities amongst the challenges”.

Our outreach

2|1

No. of **states|UT**

1,846

No. of **villages**

15

No. of **districts**

98,622

No. of **households covered**



Uttarakhand: 11 mountain districts

Himachal Pradesh: Kangra, Hamirpur & Sirmour districts

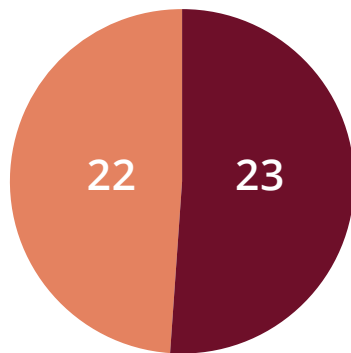
Union Territory of Ladakh: Leh district



ABOUT HIMMOTTHAN

Program Implementation Framework

The Central & Western Himalayan landscape where Himmotthan operates is characterised by high mountains and narrow river valleys with micro-geo climatic variations, this has resulted in agriculture, horticulture & livestock practices incorporating diverse farming and production systems. This diversified farming system has factored into consideration like altitude, slope direction and patterns, temperature, humidity, rainfall, soil conditions, irrigation facilities. Apart from this, the distance from the nearest snow line, markets, etc.



● Clusters in Kumaon

● Clusters in Garhwal

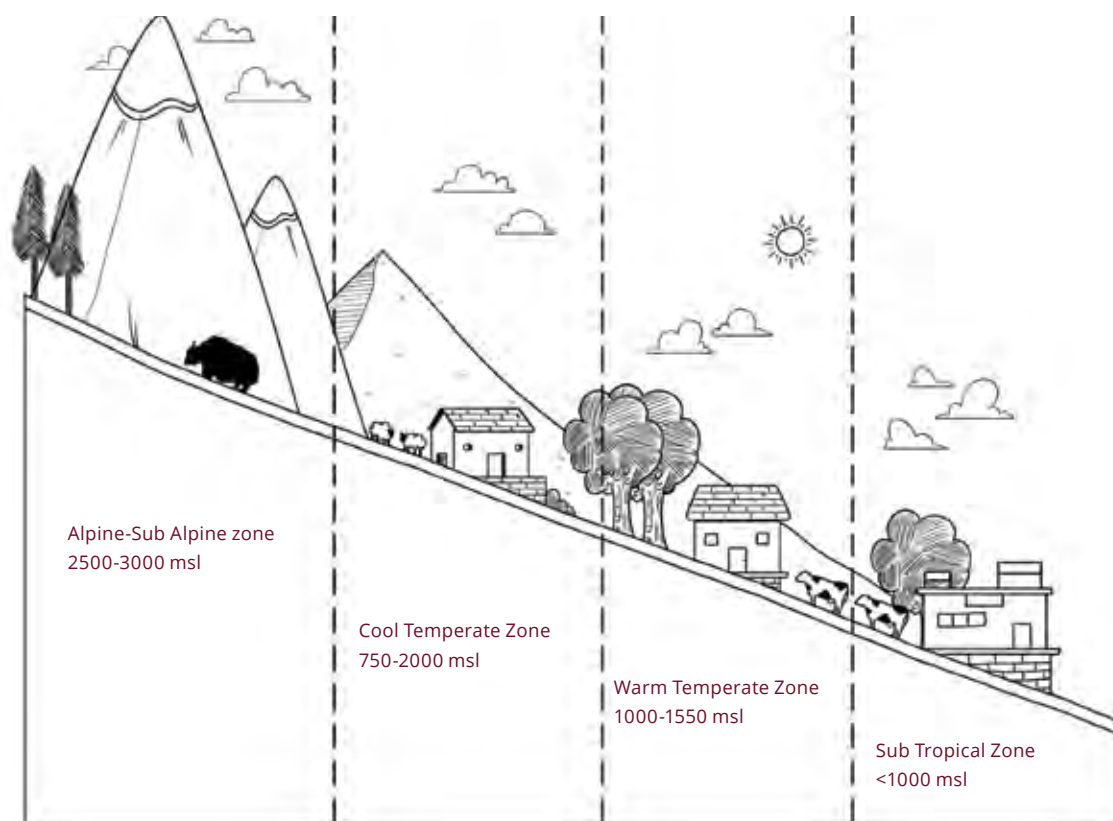
HILL ECONOMY & DEVELOPMENT CLUSTERS OF HIMMOTTHAN

The era of subsistence farming that used to characterize the mountain agriculture system of the Himalayan region has shown a transformation, major factors contributing to this change involves, gradual increase in population. Although outmigration significantly contributed in reducing the agrarian distress, the rapid increase in input cost and shifting towards cash crop resulting in agriculture intensification has introduced new challenges both related to markets and inputs.

WAY OUT TO ARREST AGRICULTURE PRODUCTIVITY DECLINE

The infusion of improved technologies is often hampered by small land holdings, large scale variations in Climate Soil and other environmental conditions. In order to address these issues Himmotthan has adopted a river-valley based cluster approach. Infusion of technology and other Inputs required to boost agriculture in a cluster sharing similar micro climate is often less challenging than taking a generalized approach. The approach has shown promising results both in production and profitable market connect.





The basic principal of valley-cluster and a nearby urban conglomerate is followed in the selection of clusters and the villages. In an effort to utilize the scattered habitation patterns as strength rather than as a challenge of the hills, the cluster approach is applied, factoring into consideration the agro-climatic, micro Climate, social, cultural considerations. Himmotthan operates in the Central & Western Himalayan region of India, Over the past few decades the middle and high altitude zones ranging from 1000-2000 m.a.s.l. The mid altitude regions over the past few decades is characterised by high level of urbanization and population density, making it highly vulnerable to extreme weather events.

As the communities residing in the identified cluster is mobilized into homogeneous women self-help groups. Gradually as group savings start accumulating and a critical

volume in terms of both savings and human capital is visible. The subsequent step of federating these groups under a legal entity i.e. Self-Reliant Cooperative is initiated. The pull factors associate in term of products and services that the nearby urban center can absorb is assessed.

Factoring into consideration geological aspects such as precipitation patterns on settlements spread out on different altitudes, windward or leeward slopes, light and moisture requirement and the resulting ecosystems identification of best agro-horticulture options along with its market feasibility is carried out and associated inputs provided.

The 45 village clusters in Uttarakhand where Himmotthan is currently working, spread across the Garhwal and Kumaon Regions of Uttarakhand, represent 26 river-valley systems.

26 RIVER VALLEY SYSTEMS

The 26 River-Valley Systems in which the development clusters have been constituted factoring into consideration the socio-geographical considerations. These different river-valley systems have their specific agro-climatic conditions based upon their unique micro climate. The associated micro climate helps in producing agro-horticulture produce that have their unique characteristic features along with specific development challenges. Himmotthan through its integrated approach tries to address these challenges and explore windows of opportunity within the challenges.

More than 30 per-urban townships are situated close to these clusters. Over the years as the level of urbanization has shown a fast increase in the hills. The demand and supply system of essential commodities has also reflected marked changes.

Himmotthan constantly makes efforts to find avenues within the changed or changing scenarios to provide solutions to the rural hill communities through different interventions. In doing so the key focus remains on strengthening the women led community institutions aimed towards attaining better bargaining strength, improved level of production and efficiency.



26 Unique River-Valley Systems of Uttarakhand

KUMAON REGION \ ALMORA

DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER	RIVER-VALLEY SYSTEM	PERI-URBAN TOWN	VILLAGES	HH	SHGs	MEMBERS	SRC
Doba	Kosi	Almora	16	824	13	119	1
Saryughati	Saryu	Berinag	12	751	38	344	1
Chaukhutia	Ramganga	Chaukhutia/Dwarahat	15	882	28	304	1
Dhauladevi	Panar	Dania	10	702	25	269	1

KUMAON REGION \ BAGESHWAR

DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER	RIVER-VALLEY SYSTEM	PERI-URBAN TOWN	VILLAGES	HH	SHGs	MEMBERS	SRC
Kathpudiyacheena	Saryu	Bageshwar	44	2305	43	435	1
Shama Kapkot		Kapkot	8	432	42	333	1
Srikot Garur	Gomati	Garur	14	1118	92	800	1
Devnai Garur	Garur Ganga		16	882	62	535	1
Baijnath Garur	Garur		17	685	43	401	1
Pinglo Garur	Gomati		6	868	59	494	1
Majkot Garur			6	587	42	366	1

KUMAON REGION \ CHAMPAWAT

DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER	RIVER-VALLEY SYSTEM	PERI-URBAN TOWN	VILLAGES	HH	SHGs	MEMBERS	SRC
Raigadu, Bapru	Saryu	Lohaghat	19	937	43	459	1

KUMAON REGION \ NAINITAL

DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER	RIVER-VALLEY SYSTEM	PERI-URBAN TOWN	VILLAGES	HH	SHGs	MEMBERS	SRC
Dhokane	Kosi	Almora	15		20	246	1
Reetha	Ramgarh	Natuwakhan	10		22	229	1
Kashiyalakh	Ramgarh	Ramgarh	6		19	181	1
Okhalkanda							1

KUMAON REGION \ BAGESHWAR

DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER	RIVER-VALLEY SYSTEM	PERI-URBAN TOWN	VILLAGES	HH	SHGs	MEMBERS	SRC
Dabakaghati	Dabakaa	Kaladungi/Kotabagh	20	1600	49	391	0
Toli	Gori Ganga	Dharchula	8	1568	62	567	1
Balwakot	Kali		14	1159	45	285	0
Walthi	Gori Ganga		25	1215	46	509	1
Gorangghati	Ramganga	Pithoragarh	15	642	41	437	1
Muwani	Ramganga	Muwani	21	1530			

GARHWAL REGION \ CHAMOLI

DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER	RIVER-VALLEY SYSTEM	PERI-URBAN TOWN	VILLAGES	H.H.	SHGs	MEMBERS	SRC
Solna, Nandprayag	Nandakani	Nandprayag	50	2738	160	1004	1
Nauti	Alaknanda	Karanprayag	15	1374	97	640	1
Mandalghati	Amrit Ganga	Gopeshwar	15	1272	101	689	1
Kurur, Ghat	Nandakini	Ghat	25	2619	76	563	1
Tharali 1	Pindar	Tharali town	27	1606	206	1590	1
Tharali 2							1
Dewal		Dewal		2269	55	355	1

GARHWAL REGION \ DEHRADUN

DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER	RIVER-VALLEY SYSTEM	PERI-URBAN TOWN	VILLAGES	HH	SHGs	MEMBERS	SRC
Bandal Ghati	Bandal	Dehradun	15	669	40	317	1

GARHWAL REGION \ PAURI GARHWAL

DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER	RIVER-VALLEY SYSTEM	PERI-URBAN TOWN	VILLAGES	HH	SHGs	MEMBERS	SRC
Ramdi (Duggada)	Malan	Kotdwar	12	594	26	188	1
Utirchha (Duggada)	Hiwal		27	610	39	230	1
Pauri	Nayar	Pauri	122	3992	387	3043	4

GARHWAL REGION \ RUDRAPRAYAG

DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER	RIVER-VALLEY SYSTEM	PERI-URBAN TOWN	VILLAGES	HH	SHGs	MEMBERS	SRC
Kalimath	Mandakini	Guptkashi	11	816	35	319	1
Guptkashi		Guptkashi	13	1407	55	509	1
Chandrapuri		Augustmuni	52	1595	176	1531	1
Bara, Augustmuni							1
Gahadkhai, Augustmuni							1

GARHWAL REGION \ TEHRI GARHWAL

DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER	RIVER-VALLEY SYSTEM	PERI-URBAN TOWN	VILLAGES	HH	SHGs	MEMBERS	SRC
Jadipani	Haewal Ghati	Chamba	19	1083	72	714	1
Bhawan	Aglar	Mussoorie	12	1313	43	476	1
Devprayag	Ganga	Devprayag	24	1100	48	433	0
Narendranagar	Hewal	Chamba	15	1600	48	610	1
Silyara	Balganga	Chamiyala	20	1981	35	391	1
Pokhal	Bhilanaga	Ghansali	15	2385	63	465	1

GARHWAL REGION \ UTTARKASHI

DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER	RIVER-VALLEY SYSTEM	PERI-URBAN TOWN	VILLAGES	HH	SHGs	MEMBERS	SRC
Didsari	Bhagrathi	Uttarkashi	15	1439	92	1160	1



“...a diverse pool of talent aimed towards strengthening the Women lead community institution structure at the cluster level.”

HIMMOTTHAN'S HUMAN RESOURCE STRUCTURE

Himmotthan is currently working in eleven Hill districts of Central and Western Himalayan States. In Uttarakhand, Programs and Projects are being implemented in nine hill districts through 18 field offices, 2 State level offices and 2 regional offices i.e. Garhwal region [Chamoli] and Kumaon region [Almora]. In Kangra, Himachal Pradesh and Leh district of Ladakh programs are managed through respective State Offices. A strong in-house expertise of more than 125 field level functionaries having expertise in NRM, Mountain Agriculture systems, High Altitude Livestock Management, Forestry, Mountain hydrology and spring system management and other mountain specific livelihood issues have insured that programs & projects designing and implementation remains close to the need and requirements of the mountain communities.

The Human Resource Structure of Himmotthan has evolved over the time. The core focus of the recruitment process has always been to attract a diverse pool of talent aimed towards strengthening the Women Lead Community Institution structure at the Cluster Level.



COMMUNITY CADRE AT THE CLUSTER LEVEL

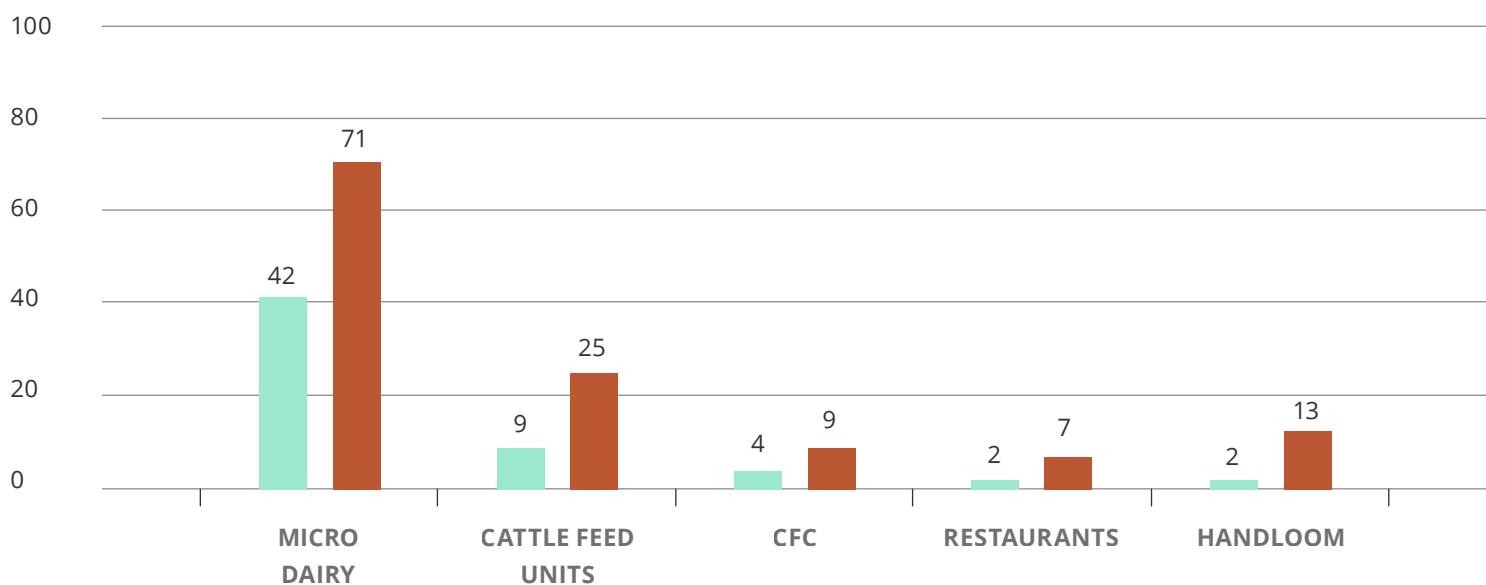
At the Cluster Level the aim is to always attract local talents who have a good understanding of the micro and macro Socio-Cultural-Economic and Geographical features of the Clusters. The local talent is groomed over the time to share greater responsibilities and encouraged to move up through regular trainings. As the Women's Self Reliant Cooperatives grow and mature both in numbers and resources, more local employment opportunities are generated, which enables local youth to become human capital and help serve their community better. Over the years the different women led community enterprises has been able to provide employment to more than **1241** local youths comprising of **937** females and **304** males. As different Self Reliant Cooperatives are maturing over the years, new mountain specific enterprises are being explored to further strengthen the community cadre.

ETHICAL PRACTICES

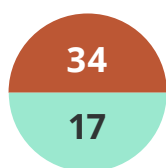
Himmoth being an organization which aims towards improving the lives of women have also ensured that more women talent is attracted at all levels especially at the Cluster and at the Self Reliant Cooperative Level. Healthy policies like Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PoSH) are ensured at all levels through dynamic PoSH Committees. The Code of Conduct & Whistle Blowers Policy has also been put in place and is monitored regularly to ensure transparency and high levels of work culture across different levels of functioning.



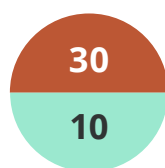
No. of women & men in development clusters



MICRO DAIRY



CATTLE FEED UNITS



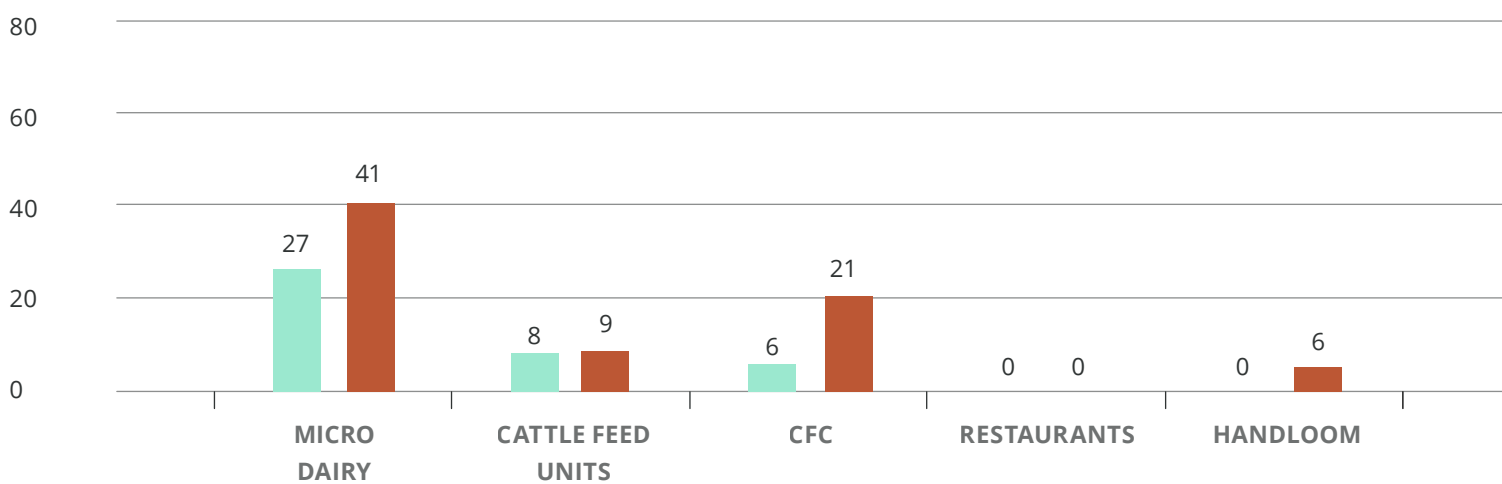
CFC

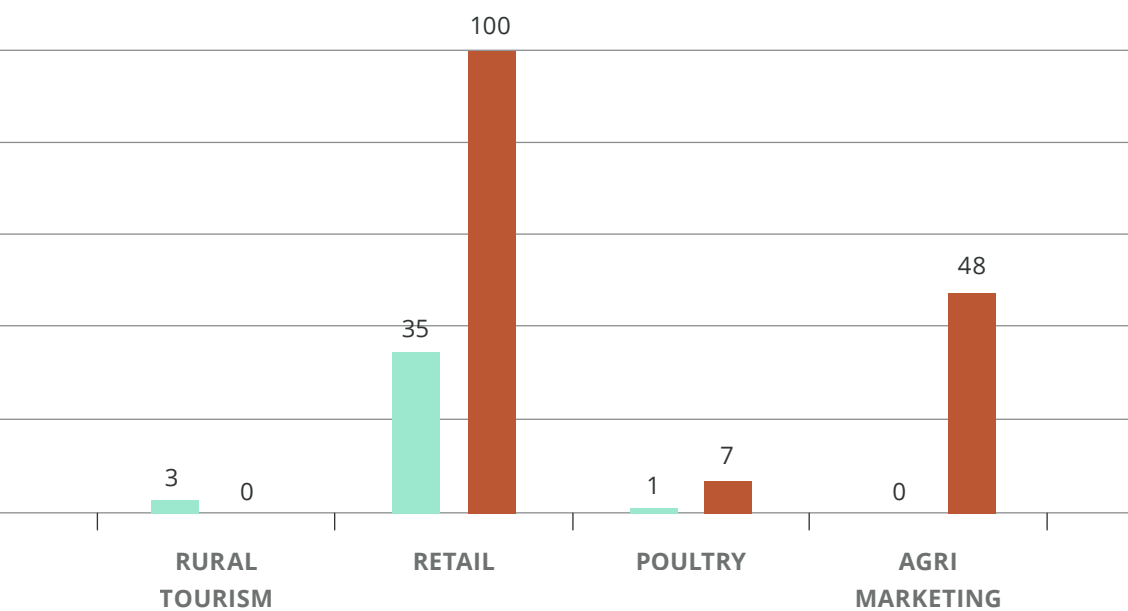


RESTAURANTS

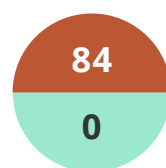
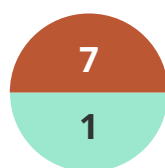
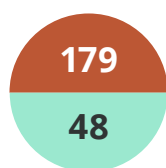
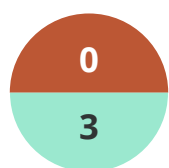


HANDLOOM





GARHWAL REGION



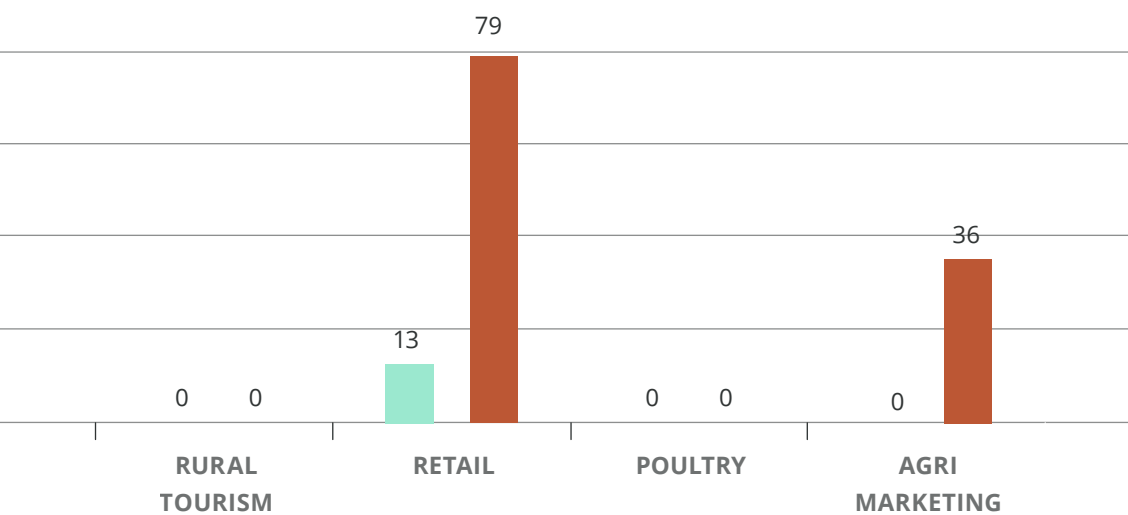
TOTAL

RURAL
TOURISM

RETAIL

POULTRY

AGRI
MARKETING



KUMAON REGION



ABOUT HIMMOTTHAN

Himmotthan's Collective Action for Climate

Himmotthan works across central Himalayan region of Uttarakhand and the western Himalayan region of India, in both these regions are affected by elevation-dependent warming. The work area comprises of region having cold deserts of Ladakh, to spread of habitations in Uttarakhand ranging from 200 to 4,500m. The diversity brought about these variations bring about challenges along with opportunities.

INCREASING VULNERABILITY OF CENTRAL HIMALAYAN REGION

Over the past two decades the hills have undergone rapid transformation. Road network a vital parameter of growth has transformed the settlement pattern across the region, resulting in concentration of population across a highly vulnerable altitudinal zone. The resettlement patterns have uprooted many traditional agriculture, horticulture practices whose foundation were laid primarily on altitude and the resultant orographic rainfall patterns. With livelihoods revolving around natural resources any changes on natural resources directly and visibly impacts the livelihoods.

Some of the most visible changes that have been studied and documented includes -

- Upwardly moving snowline
- Erratic rainfall
- Irregular winter rains
- Advancing cropping seasons
- Fluctuating flowering behaviour
- Shifting cultivation zones
- Depleting and dying perennial streams

HIMMOTTHAN'S WORK ON CLIMATE RELATED CHALLENGES

Himmoththan's work on climate related challenges are being done on two fronts -

- Climate change adaptation
- Mitigating the effects of climate change

“

“Temperatures are rising in the Hindu-Kush Himalayan region and the rise in global temperature will have more impact in the Himalayan region due to elevation-dependent warming.”

Special Report on Oceans and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Uttarakhand is characterised by large variations in relief from 200 m in south and more than 3,500 m in north. For every 1,000 m ascend the temperature falls by 60°C. The north and south facing slopes also affects the vegetation.





Climate Change Adaptation Measures

The steps taken under the climate change adaptation are being carried out under -

- A. Agriculture & horticulture
- B. Livestock management

A. AGRICULTURE & HORTICULTURE

Vulnerability and risk assessment done for the state government's action plan on climate change identified three ways climate change may impact agriculture.

- Increased water stress
- Increased risk of floods
- Changes in crop yields (Increased susceptibility of crops to pests and diseases)
- In Uttarakhand, districts that are likely to experience high water stress includes. Almora, Champawat, Pauri Garhwal and Tehri Garhwal.

Suggested ways to counter these challenges include

- Crop diversification
- Development of irrigation canals & rainwater harvesting structures
- Availability of better quality seeds, improve access and connectivity to markets.

Himmotthan's agriculture and horticulture interventions have incorporated all the above three mentioned counter strategies.



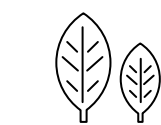
A.1 INTRODUCTION OF C4 CROPS

C4 Crops are better adopted to hot, dry environment, have double the water use efficiency and have improved nitrogen-use efficiency because of efficient utilization of Rubisco due to suppression of photorespiration. The following C4 crops have been introduced in Uttarakhand.

C4 CROP	2019-2020	2020-2021 till date
	<i>Barnyard millets (VL-207)</i> 5.5 ha	<i>Barnyard millets (PRJ-1)</i> 2 ha
	<i>Finger millets (VL-352)</i> 6.3 ha	<i>Finger millets (VL-380)</i> 2 ha
	<i>Amaranthus</i> VL Chua-44 - 2.6 ha	<i>Amaranthus</i> Annpurna - 0.80 ha VL-Chua-44 - 2.4 ha

A.2 DEMONSTRATING & PROMOTING VARIETAL CHANGES IN CROPS, VEGETABLES & FRUITS

Varietal changes introduced in different crops, vegetables and fruits (2013-2020) through various projects are as below -



Varieties introduced

39



Area coverage

826 ha



Farmers

16,839



Villages

1,837

A.3 RAINWATER HARVESTING

Provision of critical irrigation is one of the suggested methods to address and mitigate the challenges of climate change. Till date Himmotthan has constructed 344 low cost rain water harvesting tanks, these tanks are providing critical irrigation support to more than 750 farmers by providing water to approximately 68 Ha of land.

Further to mitigate the effects of climate change specially to reduce production losses due to pest infestation, hail storms, excessive rains poly houses have been promoted extensively across Uttarakhand. During the last 2 years approximately 450 Sq.mt of land area has been brought under poly house-based agriculture.



30 Common Facility Centers
providing 600 qtl of seeds &
450 qtl of planting material

A.4 AVAILABILITY OF BETTER QUALITY SEEDS, IMPROVE ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY TO MARKETS

The common facility centers initiative of Himmotthan has focused on insuring timely availability of better quality seeds to the farmers locally. Till date 30 Common facility centers have been set up across Uttarakhand. These centers provide 600 qtl of seeds to be propagated through nursery raising and more than 450 qtl of planting material for direct sowing annually to its members. These CFCs are being managed and operated by the women's federation.

A.5 MARKET CONNECT

The market connect issues are being addressed by setting up an apex producer company consisting of members from women's federations across Uttarakhand. The Producer Company under the brand name Trishulii Produce Company represents 20 federations. Its major focus is procurement and sale of agro producer from member federations, details summarized as under.

B. LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

Village commons still remain the main source of fodder for livestock rearing across Uttarakhand. The effects of climate change have severely affected the availability of fodder. Himmotthan has tried to address the challenges in the livestock sector by addressing challenges brought about by nature and also man made challenges. By addressing the entire value chain of small and large ruminants comprising of feed-breed-animal management and market connect for livestock based products.

Some of the key inputs include -

a. Improving fodder availability

Since 2013 more than 1569 ha land has been brought under fodder cultivation along with introduction of introducing different varieties of climate resilient crops such as *Napier*, *Super Napier*, *Passplum*, *Panicum Maximum*, *Thysanolana*, *Cooksfoot*, *Italian Rai*, *Tallfescue*, *Seteria Grass*, and *Brachiaria*. These crops are low water intensive and can easily adapt to changing climatic conditions. Some plants are used for formulation for feed for animals and poultry. These plants have ability to absorb atmospheric CO₂, which is roughly 468,992 tonnes. The initiative has been able to provide 3.1 tons of fodder annually to more than 21,500 families. With more focus on fodder tree plantation, more than 1,41,129 broad leaf fodder trees have been planted across Uttarakhand.

b. Introduction of manufacture feed across Uttarakhand

Some of the traditional crops and fodder plants are water intensive. Therefore, chances of their failure is high in a drought like situation. Availability of feed and fodder is one of the major bottlenecks of livestock development programme. In order to solve this problem, multiple feed units are established that produced more than 8,346 quintals of animal feed in last five years. Thus, reducing the dependency on imports on feed and fodder, which saving 15 tons of CO₂ through transportation covering large distances.

Other adaptive methods that are being promoted include.

- Demonstration and promotion of stall feeding practices in large & small ruminants
- Introducing and promoting dual purpose cereal varieties
- Promoting local bird based poultry that is semi-scavenging in nature and requires less maintenance



1,400 quintals
Cereals, pulses, millets & spices



4800 quintals
Fruits & vegetables

80 quintals
Agriculture input supply

CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION MEASURES

Approach

Insuring optimal utilization of rain water (Household level Interventions and Community based Interventions) through promotion of rain water harvesting structures. This is being done both at the household level and at the community level. At the household level rainwater harvesting tanks are being promoted. Till date more than 573 rain water harvesting structures have been developed.

At the community level rain water harvesting efforts are channelized more towards protecting and rejuvenating the natural springs. These natural springs still remain the main source of water both for drinking and irrigation. Himmotthan has till date designed and executed more than 218 spring fed gravity flow community drinking water schemes across Uttarakhand water availability has been improved from 35 liters' per capita day (lpcd) to 80 lpcd, all the schemes developed are operational. The communities associated with these schemes are managing these schemes and 89 % of water sources of these schemes are being protected by the community, these schemes have benefitted more than 40,000 individuals across Uttarakhand.

KEY FOCUS AREAS

Under the Climate Change mitigation efforts, insuring availability of drinking water remains the key focus area. This is being undertaken on two fronts -

HOUSEHOLD BASED RAIN WATER HARVESTING

Roof top rain water harvesting systems

COMMUNITY BASED RAIN WATER HARVESTING

Catchment area treatment aimed towards augmenting the capacity of natural spring

WESTERN HIMALAYAN LANDSCAPE & APPROACHES

Ladakh characterised by cold desert and arid climate leaving limited scope and time for agriculture based activities. Almost 90% of farmers in Ladakh are dependent on snow-melt water for irrigation. There has already been a 3 degree Celsius rise in average temperature of Ladakh in the past four decades. This has caused less snowfall and faster snow-melt in the higher regions. The flip side of rising temperatures also opens up opportunities as newer species of vegetables and fruits can be cultivated. Himmotthan is trying to address both the challenges and also the opportunities it opens up for diversification.

INTERVENTION 1 - ARTIFICIAL GLACIERS

Global climate change is causing natural glaciers to melt much faster than before, which has resulted in depletion of water resources. Retreating glaciers and reduced snowfall pose as one of the main challenges to the very existence of local population. Out of 112 revenue villages in Leh district of the Ladakh Union Territory, more than 35 villages/ hamlets are already facing severe shortages of irrigation water, particularly in sowing season. Therefore, many farmers leave their lands fallow; lack of irrigation water being one of the major reasons.

Tata Trusts in collaboration with partner organizations have constructed 11 artificial glaciers in last 5-6 years. More than 1,280 households in 8 villages are currently benefiting from these interventions; receiving supplementary water to 850 ha of agricultural land at the rate of 40,000 litres per day for roughly 75 days.

INTERVENTION 2 - IMPROVED SOLAR GREENHOUSE FOR PROTECTED FARMING

Tata Trusts in collaboration with Himmotthan Society and partner organizations have constructed 310 improved passive greenhouses and trench greenhouses in Ladakh since 2013. Each greenhouse produces 400 kg on an average in a year; 150 kg in winter and 250 kg in summer. In Ladakh, more than 70% of vegetables, fruits and food grains are imported from the plains of India by truck in summer months (May to November) or by air in winter months (December to April). The main purpose of greenhouse project is to improve the quality of life of farmers by enabling them to produce fresh vegetables year round and also reduce the imports, thereby saving on CO₂ emissions, which is estimated at 59 tons annually.



Solarisation of Satagad village, Bhawan cluster, Tehri for poultry incubator, brooder and backyards



ABOUT HIMMOTTHAN

Himmotthan's Covid-19 Response

Unlike the other parts of India, the highly dispersed and geographically challenged regions of Central & Western Himalayas had its own advantages and disadvantages.

The scattered nature of habitations protected the communities during the early stages of the pandemic, however this shield was soon ruptured and the pandemic swept across the rural hinterlands swiftly.

The Social Capital that Himmotthan has been constantly strengthening became the first responder to counter the information gaps associated with the pandemic.



RAISING AWARENESS AT VILLAGE LEVEL

The lack of adequate and authentic information on the Covid-19 Pandemic in the initial days of the pandemic was a challenge, especially for the communities residing in far flung areas. The Social Capital that Himmotthan has been constantly strengthening became the first responder to counter the information gaps associated with the pandemic.

The extensive network of women's Cooperatives and Self Help Groups was quickly mobilized. The member base spread across the region did not take long to equip them, understand, learn and adopt the available modes of communication available to reach out to their groups and members spread across a wide geography.

Within weeks, these Women's Cooperatives were able to effectively establish a communication system. SHG meetings were organized online for the first time, use of multiple communication tools both audio-video were also used by these groups for the first time. The distance between different groups and its members was effectively bridged using new communications tools.

STRENGTHENING OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN UTTARAKHAND, HIMACHAL PRADESH & LADAKH

Tata Trusts through Himmotthan supported the State Government and Private Hospitals across Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Leh by providing the much required protective gears for the front line workers. More than 18,720 Medical Protective Clothing, 178,680 face masks (KN 95 & Surgical), Medical Goggles 3,000, Hand Gloves 2,500 and protective shoe covers were dispatched to Govt. and Private hospitals across the two States and the Union Territory of Ladakh.



The SHGs continue to support the district administration by supplying stitched cotton masks. More than 212 groups provided around 52,000 masks.



ENGAGING WOMEN COOPERATIVES & RURAL ENTERPRISES

As supply chains got disrupted due to limited mobility, the relevance of local enterprises and institutions gained importance. Self Help Groups were eager to support any member and villagers for any financial needs. Mechanisms were set up by groups to even provide interest free loans to the members in need.

Apart from the financial needs the Institution of Self Help Group became an effective tool of community engagement, this engagement has effectively contributing in minimising the psychological trauma created by the pandemic.

Apart from the social, financial and psychological support the SHGs and Cooperatives managed enterprises kept the essential services like to supply of milk, cattle feed, agro processing needs of the community running, thereby minimising the hardships caused by the pandemic.

The supply chain of essential seeds in order to undertake the Kharif Season plantation was also effectively managed by these Institutions. More than 3010 Kg of Seeds were supplied to the villagers through these Cooperatives.



PROJECT UTHAN

A digital inclusion service & entrepreneurship development initiative

SUPPORTED BY

Titan Company Limited

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

65 Villages in Jaunpur & Chamba Block of Tehri Garhwal

PROJECT AIM

The aim of the project is to provide affordable-easy to access digital services and support to over 2200 HHs across 65 villages in Jaunpur and Chamba blocks of district Tehri Garhwal and to provide entrepreneurial support services to Covid-19 resulted returnees and their families through enterprise support, strengthening of Cooperative and its enterprise base.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

- Digital Inclusion of Rural Community & Rural Enterprise Promotion
- Mitigating financial implications of Covid-19 pandemic on Community through Enterprise Promotion Initiative & Support for Operation of Existing Community led Rural Businesses
- Rural Entrepreneurs Promotion

PROJECT RESULTS

The project has been designed to provide digital services through the network of Self Help Groups and the Women's Cooperative, with the aim that the rural communities should be avail all the eligible services being provided by the State and the Central Government. The project has been able to reach more than 20,179 beneficiaries since its operationalization in October 2020. More digital services continue to be added as per the requirements and demand from the Community members.

LAUNCHING HEALTH AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

The much needed authentic information was channelized using local dialect by training over 15,000 SHG members including of 2,247 CRPs on 5 key preventive measures of Covid-19 to spread the message to larger community. Over a short period of time more than 4.50 lakh people were reached out and effective information on different aspects of Covid-19, like hand washing, respiratory etiquettes, social distancing, believing on correct source of information, early recognition and referral and reverse migration was disseminated.

Apart from this awareness campaign on Government Entitlements Schemes were also disseminated to more than 57,000 people after training of 1400 CRPs and staff members.



Thematic areas of work

विषयगत कार्य क्षेत्र

Himmotthan mainly works on the thematic areas such as Social capital, Agriculture, Education & Sports, Livestock, and Water & Sanitation in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh through its initiatives.



THEMATIC AREAS OF WORK

Rural Communities & Institutions (Social Capital)

The communities residing across the Central and Western Himalayan region of India, where Himmotthan operates have historically reflected a strong social bonding. The geographical, climatic and economic challenges often make cohesive societies a necessity. Himmotthan core focus has remained to build upon this Social Capital by strengthening, institutionalizing, capacity build, with the aim to strengthen this Social Capital both individually and collectively.

Social capital a commonly identified trait of social organization which involves trust between individuals, standards of correspondence and interpersonal connections that could increase the efficiency of society and create platforms that could be beneficial to all.

This remains the core focus of Himmotthan's community engagements. It has been realised that people having strong bonding social capital, bridging social capital and linking social capital, their collective resilience is higher compared to communities which lack social capital.

CUMMULATIVE PROGRESS

Himmotthan has been working towards strengthening of the Social Capital by creating village level institutions, since 2015 more than 1,600 villages across 14 districts of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and the Union Territory of Ladakh have been brought under this initiative. More than 3,104 Self Help Groups have been mobilized. These groups represent more than 27,569 women members, these groups have been further federated into 49 Self Reliant Cooperatives. The cumulative savings mobilized by these groups is more than Rs. 12,26,76,517 /- The aggregated social capital under an institutional mechanism has further helped the community to leverage funds from other government schemes. During the ongoing pandemic this structure has successfully demonstrated its relevance, which has been reflected by the financial, institutional and emotional support provided by these institutions to its members.

Cummulative progress of community institutions (Uttarakhand, Himachal, Ladakh)



Total savings
₹ 12,26,76,517



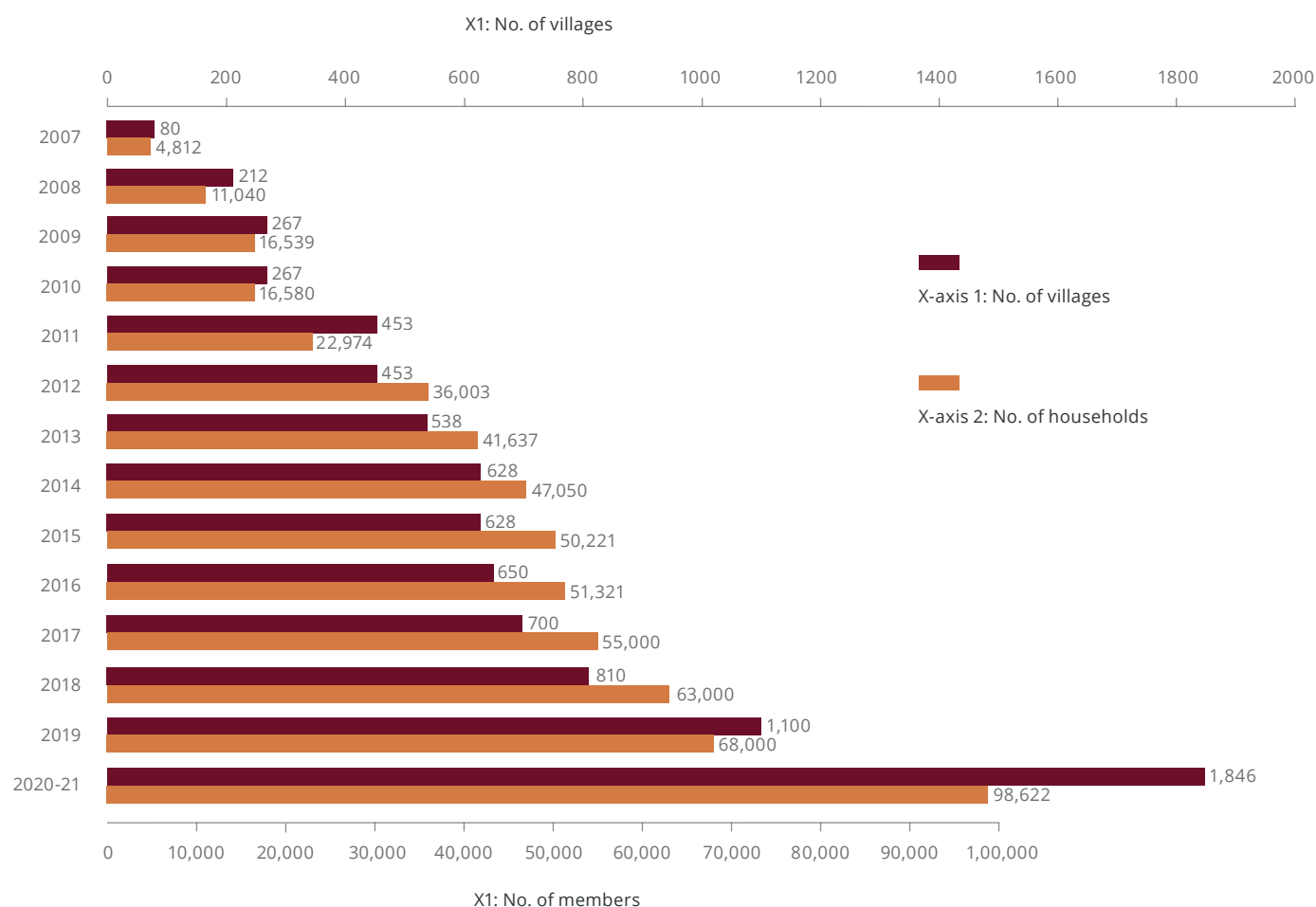
Credit support
₹ 16,45,38,472

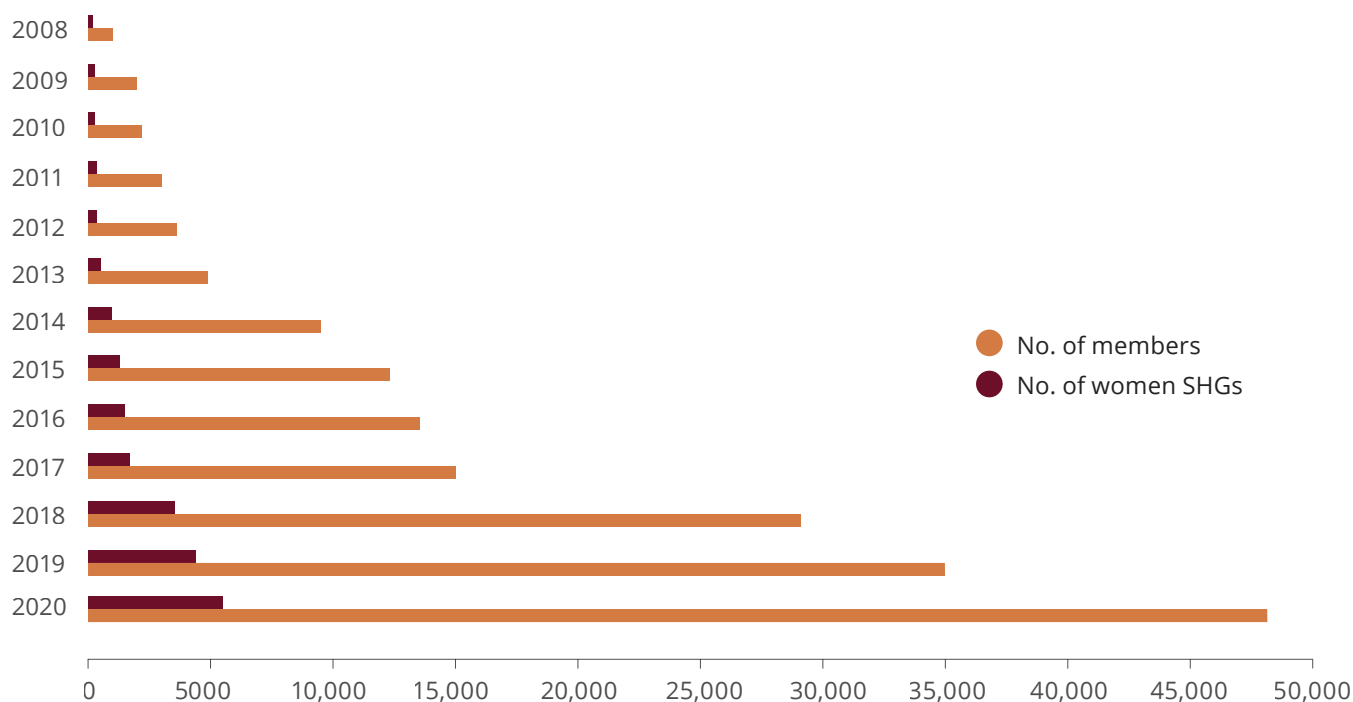


Working capital mobilized
₹ 4,53,82,233



Total turnover
₹ 41,80,69,000





The efforts of the six year project which resulted in the formalization of more than 3,104 SHGs having 27,569 women members.

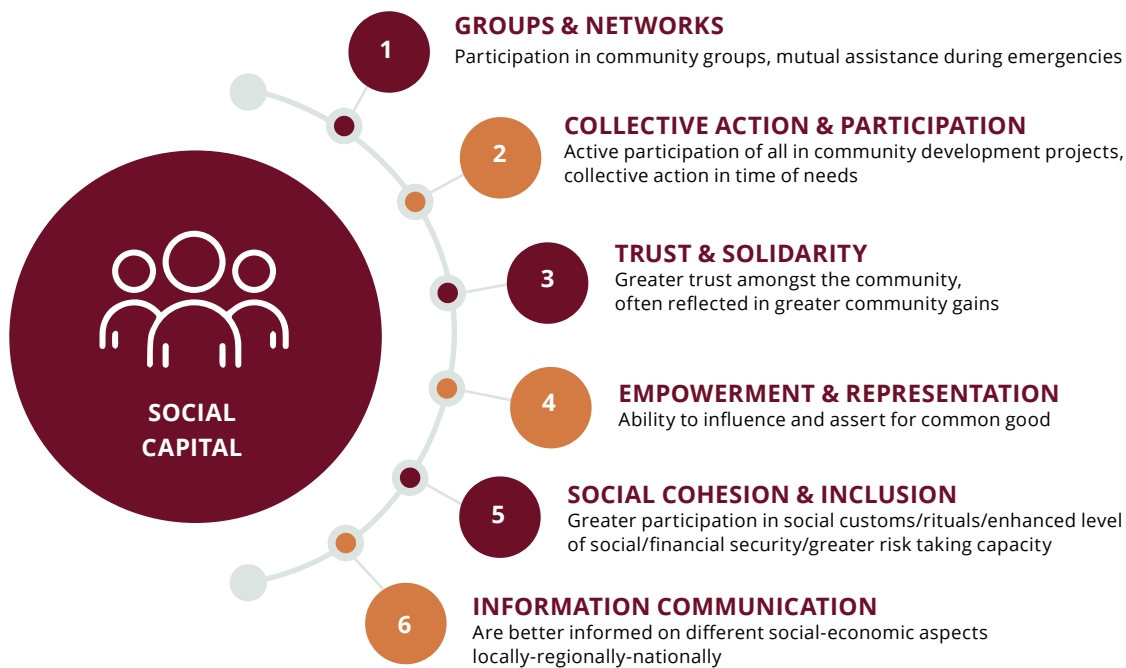
THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF SOCIAL CAPITAL

Over the years the Central and Western Himalayan region of India has experienced considerable changes in social and resultant economic setup. Often the loss of local markets and reduced demand for local produce is attributed to the changes in food preferences and lifestyle. This has not only influenced the economy but has also significantly influenced the meeting and networking possibilities.

The significance of bonding networks in geographically isolated places has been an intrinsic quality of the social fabric of the community's residing in mountainous regions. The linkages that are established not only help in bringing new livelihood opportunities. Over the years it has been observed that the nature of social network is fast changing, as such there has been

a need to enhance the role of social capital by institutional intervention. As self help groups taking newer roles amidst the social fabric along with government rolling out different development interventions through SHGs.

One major change that has occurred with regard to the social capital is that the community has stated to come together to form these SHGs. The traditional system of sharing resources in cash, kind and services still continues at the community level. The SHG system has helped the communities to improved access to government resources that are largely linked to livelihoods.



CHANGES IN MARKET DYNAMICS AND THE SOCIAL CAPITAL COPING MECHANISMS

The fast urbanization and the emergence of urban local bodies across the Central and Western Himalayan region have transformed the market scenario. A visible change in the life style is reflected by competition with commercial crops, this is reflected by loss of local market, reduced demand for local producer and emergence of newer markets. On the other hand, the coping mechanism that has evolved is reflected by the growing tendency for partnering with other communities, enhancing awareness of bi-cultural heritage, increasing number of Self Help Groups resulting in improving access to newer markets.

SOCIAL CAPITAL (INSTITUTIONAL) NEEDS & COPING SYSTEMS

- Organizing to access newer markets
- Organizing to assist in farming
- Use of marketing strategies to sell products
- Increasing use of financial accounting principles
- Micro Finance/banking services
- Offer access to credit

SOCIAL CAPITAL PROJECT

Integrated Micro Finance (IMF) Project



The six year project started from July 2015 to centrally support the community institution initiative of Himmotthan in 45 clusters of Uttarakhand and Himachal. The objective of the program is to develop and strengthen SHGs and Self Reliant Cooperatives (SRCs), capacity building of key women members, Community Resource Persons (CRPs) and project teams to provide required support for production enhancement, setting up and extending on & off farm-based enterprises and market access. The community institution initiative is integrated with all the projects/programs of agriculture and allied themes. The community institution component is in built within Uttarakhand Forest Resource Management Project (JICA), State Rural Livelihood Mission, Integrated Village Development Program (IVDP).



“People with strong social networks experience faster recoveries and have access to needed information, tools, and assistance. Communities and neighbourhoods with little social capital may find themselves able to keep up with their counterparts with these deep networks.”

DANIEL P ALDRICH

Building Resilience: Social Capital in Post-Disaster Recovery

PROJECT AIM

To enhance the quality of life for over 100,000 HHs, through self-sustained institutions and sustainable & resilient livelihood interventions of approximately 1000 villages in 40 clusters in the Central Himalayan regions by 2020.

SUPPORTED BY

Tata Trusts

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

- Uttarakhand, Himachal and Ladakh – 948 villages, 36 blocks of 14 districts, 889 villages across 28 blocks and 11 districts of Uttarakhand
- 44 villages of 3 blocks of Kangra and Sirmour districts of Himachal Pradesh

TARGET COMMUNITY

1,00,000 households from 1,000 villages



SRCs are operating and managing 30 micro dairies, 12 Animal Feed cum Agro Processing units, 35 Common Facility Centers, 2 Food Junctions and 2 spinning and Weaving Units.



Despite pandemic, SRCs managed to achieve a turnover of around Rs. 700 lakhs & paying almost 75% back to farmers.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Integration of HMS programs with community institutions to focus on systematic expansion of institution led businesses with providing credit access and marketing linkages. Skill building of local youth to perform as service providers to strengthen the services to farmers at the door steps, sustainable operations and management of Cooperative led enterprises.
- Training and capacity building of SHGs cluster federations block cooperatives and / or Producer Companies to strengthen operations, management and governance.
- Technical and advisory support to federations / cooperatives and producer companies to diversify businesses, undertake market research, product development and brand development.
- Ensuring access to credit / working capital / capital expansion loans / grants to community institutions for livelihood investment.
- Building linkages of SHGs, federations / cooperatives, producer companies with banks, government programmes for accessing finances for credit and capacity building.
- Reducing risks and vulnerabilities of member households of SHGs through linkages with insurance (life, health and productive assets), social security schemes and other entitlements.
- Model Development on Integrated Micro-finance and Livelihoods in 5 blocks in collaboration with government schemes.

EFFECTIVENESS OF INSTITUTIONAL SOCIAL CAPITAL UNDER PANDEMIC SITUATION

The efforts of the six year project which resulted in the formalization of more than 3,104 SHGs having 27,569 women members. These SHGs are further federated in 49 cluster level SRCs to promote business and cluster level enterprises. 02 Farmer Producers Organizations were formed in Leh in the last financial year to support vegetable and Apricot value chain. The cumulative monthly savings has reached to Rs. 225.31 Lakhs and financial inclusion of Rs. 181 Lakhs from MFIs and banking institutes. An amount of Rs. 467.30 Lakhs of credit were provided to the SHG members for business and other activities. More than 65% of the credit was utilized in the income generation activities.

Self-Reliant Cooperatives are continuously promoting and operating farm and non-farm business activities. SRCs are operating and managing 30 micro dairies, 12 Animal Feed cum Agro Processing units, 35 Common Facility Centers, 02 Food Junctions and 02 spinning and Weaving Units. Although, the pandemic affected the business operations of SRCs but they manage to achieve a turnover of around Rs. 700 Lakhs with paying almost 75% back to farmers in form of the price of their products and services.

The institutional social capital setup over the years has developed a corpus amount through monthly savings of more than Rs. 1,226 Lakhs. This has further helped them to raise Rs. 976 Lakhs from banks and MFI institutions as working capital or credit support. The available financial strength is utilized in providing Rs. 1,645 Lakhs of credit to SHG members for business and domestic activities. An amount of Rs. 454 Lakhs of external financial support were utilized to enhance the SRC businesses in last 06 years.



THEMATIC AREAS OF WORK

Water Sanitation & Hygiene (WaSH)

Exacerbating water scarcity and erratic precipitation are some of the commonly known direct outcomes of climate changing events are notable over last few decades. Mountain communities of Himalayan region are more vulnerable as they largely lean on to natural water springs for their water demand for household and livelihoods. In the Indian Himalayan states, 285 blocks out of total 593 blocks are found to be water scarce.

Water scarcity index mapping

74 of 95



Uttarakhand

54 of 77



Himachal Pradesh

39 of 114



Nagaland

31 of 99



Arunachal Pradesh

19 of 40



Tripura

20 of 25



Sikkim

3 of 39



Meghalaya

18 of 38



Manipur

2 of 29



Mizoram

15 of 26



Assam

6 of 12



West Bengal



Water scarce blocks

Total mapped blocks

SOCIAL CAPITAL & RURAL WATER SCENARIO ACROSS CENTRAL & WESTERN HIMALAYAS

Central and Western Himalayan states are more susceptible to water scarcity, 78 out of 95 blocks are water scarce blocks in Uttarakhand whereas 54 out of 77 are water scarce blocks located in Himachal Pradesh. The availability of potable water during the dry season in rural areas can drop to 25-30 liters per day (Negi, 2017). In 2019, it was estimated

that over 50% of Uttarakhand's springs have dried up or become seasonal. It is widely accepted that climate change, land use change, unplanned development activities are responsible for diminishing discharges of water sources. The variations in discharge and seasonality of water sources arose from the hydro-geological, ecological and climatic diversities of the region.

HIMMOTTHAN'S COMMUNITY CENTRIC WASH INITIATIVES

Access to clean and safe drinking water has a direct bearing on both quality and prosperity of human life. Actual availability and easy access to clean and safe water and sanitation are among the most important determinants of health of human beings. State authorities in Himalayan region are taking strict measures and launching various programmes to tackle the water crises still the magnitude of the problem is growing. One of the reasons as the bearing of water programmes is less participatory and demand driven on the ground ironically it may be well visible on policy and papers. Even from centuries water has been under the clutches of local communities who were managing it well as custodian, however over last few decades due to increase in demand and unplanned development has made the change and now mostly water supply is owned and managed by state government department.

Social capital and rural water management across the Central & Western Himalayan region are intrinsically related. Community based water point governance is both a need and requirement across the geography. A community's ability to form committees and cooperate with them affects rural water system performance, and the community's organizational behaviour is determined by its social capital.

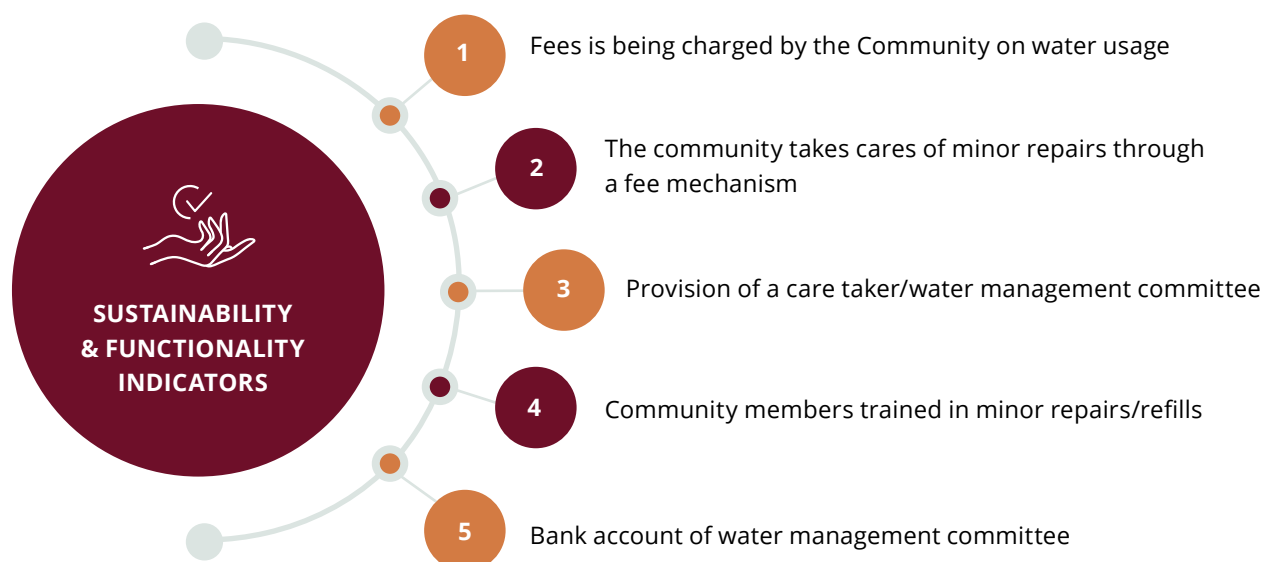
SOCIAL CAPITAL & WATER GOVERNANCE

Most of the drinking water and irrigation sources across the Central and Western Himalayan region are predominantly rainfed. The amount of water availability is directly

correlated to the amount of rain water and the ability of the hills to retain the water and gradually discharge it round the year. As such much depends upon the health of the water recharged springs. Each village habitation has two or more drinking water sources and in order to ensure that everyone gets the required water around the year, each village has its own unwritten norms for its inhabitants.

The Wash initiative of Himmotthan is governed around the principal that the Community governs its water resources, and the sustainable functionality thereof. The role of social capital in communities that govern their own water points is reflected by the number of functionality indicators being fulfilled (as shown in diagram below).

Himmotthan Society working for the water resource management since last two decades and had developed a standardised methodology to cope with water scarcity in Central Himalayan region. Methodology has been able to successfully integrate natural science with social sciences, hydrogeology with engineering & biotic measures while also ensuring the common thread of community involvement and skill development throughout. As a civil society organization Himmotthan Society realise that water resource management work in Himalayan region is gigantic, this can be achieved through coordinated national, state and local level initiatives involving all possible stakeholders and partners like governments, civil society, community and people at large. So, recently Himmotthan Society has developed partnerships with government organizations at state level and national level. Different collaboration also has been set up with research and academic institutes.



'Improving community health through Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation' is one of the flagship initiatives of Himmotthan Society. It aims to improve community health through village-level drinking water and environmental sanitation projects with an added focus on hygiene and is being implemented through village based water and sanitation committees, which plan, design, implement and manage their own schemes. Himmotthan adopted a decentralized water management approach and empowered the communities and Users Water and Sanitation Committee (UWSC) members by enabling them to become the decision makers and operators of the rural water supply schemes. They are opting affordable and appropriate technological options that are better suited to the needs of the villages, led to reduction of drudgery, and increase in the villagers' ownership and motivation to perform operation and maintenance of the schemes. Himmotthan's Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH) works also contributing toward meeting commitments under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) especially SDG 6. Thus, link to SDGs could facilitate multi-stakeholder collaborations required for effective implementation of water works.

WaSH KEY INITIATIVES 2020-21

During last year programme focuses on integration with in on-going Himmotthan's cluster and also extension of WaSH initiative in other geographies. Under WaSH initiative Himmotthan society is actively working on planning and implementation of Water supply schemes, Springshed Management, Water quality management, renewal energy, sanitation and hygiene, school sanitation, Menstrual Health Management and innovation like Internet of Things (IoT) for better water management.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN FY 2020-21

- Water provisioning through construction of water supply schemes in 32 villages.
- Springshed Management in 61 villages.
- 215 hectares treated under springshed recharge works.
- Villages Action Plan (VAP) prepared in 84 villages of 5 districts under Jal Jeevan Mission programme.
- Water quality management through Point of Use in 854 Households.
- Menstrual Hygiene Management in 55 villages.
- IoT piloting in 3 locations of Uttarakhand and One location in Himachal Pradesh.
- Solar based water supply schemes in 4 villages.

Overall by end of 2020, Himmotthan is able to reach out to 500 plus villages and 350 schools were reached to water facilities, 200 plus water schemes, 15,000 individual sanitation unite by benefiting more than 25,000 Households. 312 villages obtained Open Defecation Free (ODF) status, 461 villages were mapped for water security, and 255 villages were covered under water management works covering more than 564 hectares.

KEY RESOURCE CENTER, MINISTRY OF JAL SAKTI, GOI

Himmotthan Society has been empanelled as Key Resource Center for the Jal Jeevan Mission a flagship programme of Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India. Building capacities at scale is necessary considering that the Jal Jeevan Mission programme is being rolled out in hundreds of villages of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Ladakh. Improved capacity and knowledge about water resource management at the grassroots and effective implementation of water works would require development of content and training.

WAY FORWARD: CONCEPT OF ONE WATER

In the Central-Western Himalaya, water, agriculture and livelihood activities are closely interrelated. Mountain communities have been utilizing the water and land resources for cultivating their diverse food base and deriving subsistence livelihood and employment opportunities from the farm produce. However, in the recent decades this intricate balance among these three components has been in peril. Primarily due to shortage of water resources due to various consumptive and non-consumptive demands arising due to growing population. Also, climate change has further aggravated this environmental problem. Thus in the want of food security and better livelihood opportunities people tend to migrate to urban areas thus further abandoning of cropland. Thus, a vicious cycle between water scarcity, reduction in agricultural activities, weakening of livelihood support system and outmigration can be traced in the mountain regions. Integration of Drinking water security with Water based livelihood would be a milestone for the development of Central Western Himalayan region. There are substantive evidences that a significant increase in water availability has been noticed after springshed management activities and peoples are using surplus water for micro-irrigation.

PROJECTS ON WaSH

Water schemes & sanitation units leading to a better & hygienic life for the communities located in the hilly terrains of Uttarakhand, Clean energy based WaSH solutions in Uttarakhand



The project aims to benefit around 1,000 households, through 15 schemes, spread across in Uttarakhand. The selection process of villages is purely on need based and demand driven, the priority is given to water scarce villages, villages lost water schemes due to natural calamities. The project is adopting new techniques such as water supply through Solar grid, helping rural community demonstrate safe water supply through Deep Infiltration Well, safe disposal of solid and liquid waste clubbing this with bio-gas. Spring shed management will bring in water security to springs, whilst Gram Panchayat and water committees will be capacitated to operate and maintain the assets created under the project. The project is currently being executed in 12 villages in which 04 are being covered under Solar Lifting scheme and 08 are through Gravity Fed scheme. Catchment area protection work, awareness programs are ongoing. The project is adopting the norms set out by the Government "Har Ghar Nal Se Jal" for the gravity-based water schemes.

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

Almora, Nainital and Tehri districts of Uttarakhand

PROJECT DURATION

May 2019 to November, 2021

SUPPORTED BY

Titan Company Limited

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Prepared Detail Technical reports of water supply schemes in 12 villages
- Water supply schemes works has been completed in 12 villages.
- IEC/BCC activities have been done in 8 villages.
- Healthy Home Survey has been completed in 12 villages.
- Water quality testing has been done in 12 villages through NABL approved laboratories.
- Operation and Maintenance (O&M) phase has been started in 08 villages

PROJECTS ON WaSH

Block Open Defecation Free Project (BODF)

Himmatthan Society is implementing water and Sanitation programme in 5 hill districts of Uttarakhand namely Pithoragarh, Almora, Nainital, Tehri and Rudrapur. Water Infrastructure (water supply schemes), springshed management, school sanitation, water quality management and Menstrual Health Management are the main components of the program. Project benefited more than 50,000 people of five districts. The project has been completed on 31st March 2021. Scientific based planning; community participation and decentralized governance is the main dimension of BODF project. Water and sanitation works are community-based demand-driven initiative which involves stakeholders at every stage like project planning, implementation, O&M and in the long term, sustainability of newly created physical water supply assets as well as related behavioural and attitudinal changes in the community.

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

Pithoragarh, Almora, Nainital and Tehri districts of Uttarakhand

PROJECT DURATION

April 2016 to 31st March 2021

SUPPORTED BY

Tata Trusts and HT Parekh Foundation Project

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To achieve Open Defecation Free (ODF) status in Gangolihaat block.
- Water security through participatory Springshed Management approach.
- Safe water through the improvement of Point of Use (PoU).

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Provision of safe and sufficient water in 20 villages of Almora, Pithoragarh, Nainital, Tehri and Rudrapur districts.
- Source sustainability through springshed management approach in 61 villages of Almora, Nainital and Tehri districts.
- A total 200 hectares area treated under Springshed recharge works.
- Sustained sanitation status of 4911 households of Gangolihaat block of Pithoragarh district.
- Improved menstrual health and hygiene status of women and adolescent girls in 15 villages of Tehri district.
- Water quality improvement in 863 households through Point of Use approach.

OVERALL ACHIEVEMENT

Water Supply schemes: 40 villages

Springshed Management: 255 villages

Catchment Area Treatment: 564 hectares

Sanitation units (IHHL): 4911 Households

ODF villages: 312

Menstrual Hygiene Management: 55 villages

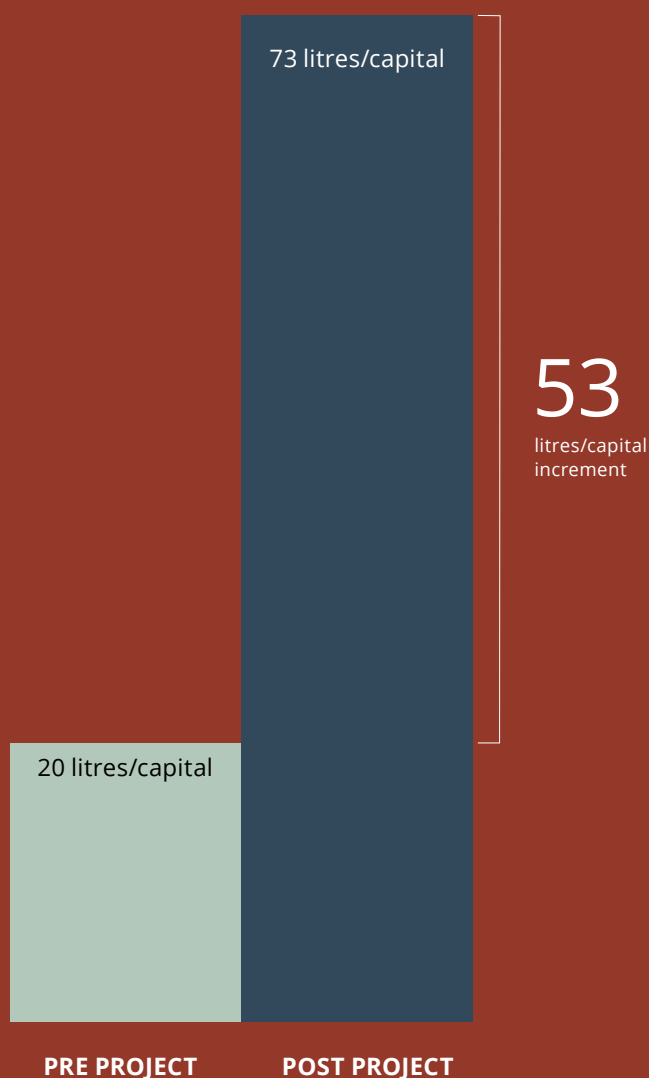
Point of Use: 6389 Households



Rally - Ghat block (E-WaSH)

IMPACTS & OUTCOMES

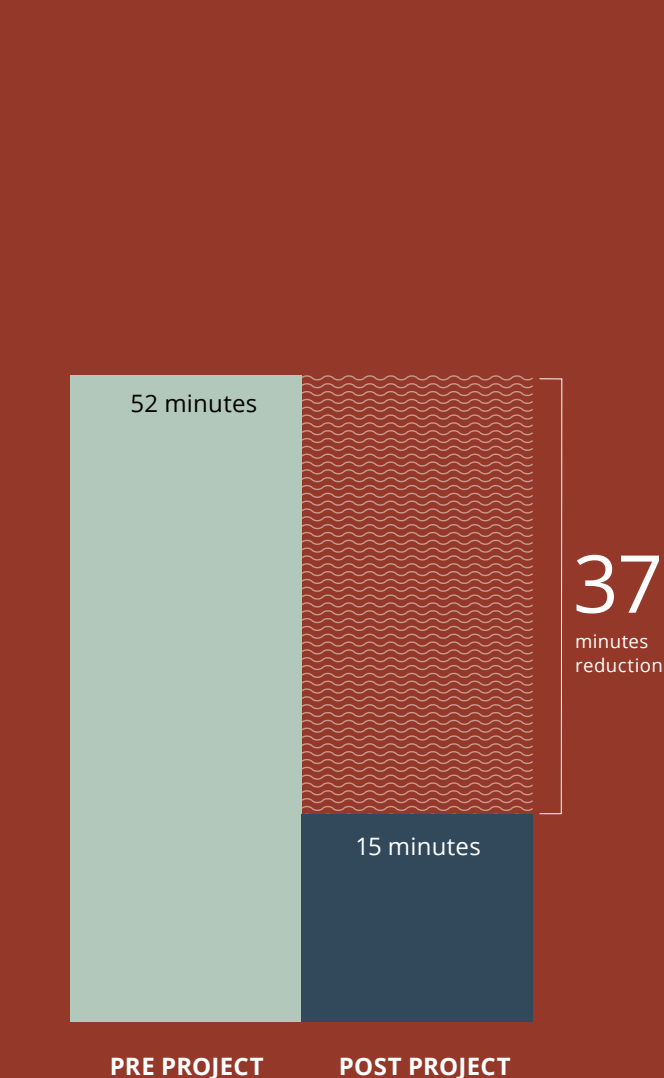
Quantity of water supplied through WSS



1. Provision of Sufficient Water

During pre-project period average quantity of water supplied per capita per day was 20 liters in villages with water supply scheme and it was 7 liters in the villages RWHT respectively. Execution of source strengthening works in combination with the restoration of the water supply schemes has substantially improved the quantity of water supplied in all the project villages. At present average quantity of water supplied per capita per day are 73 liters in villages with water supply scheme and 33 liters in villages

Time spent for fetching water in villages with WSS

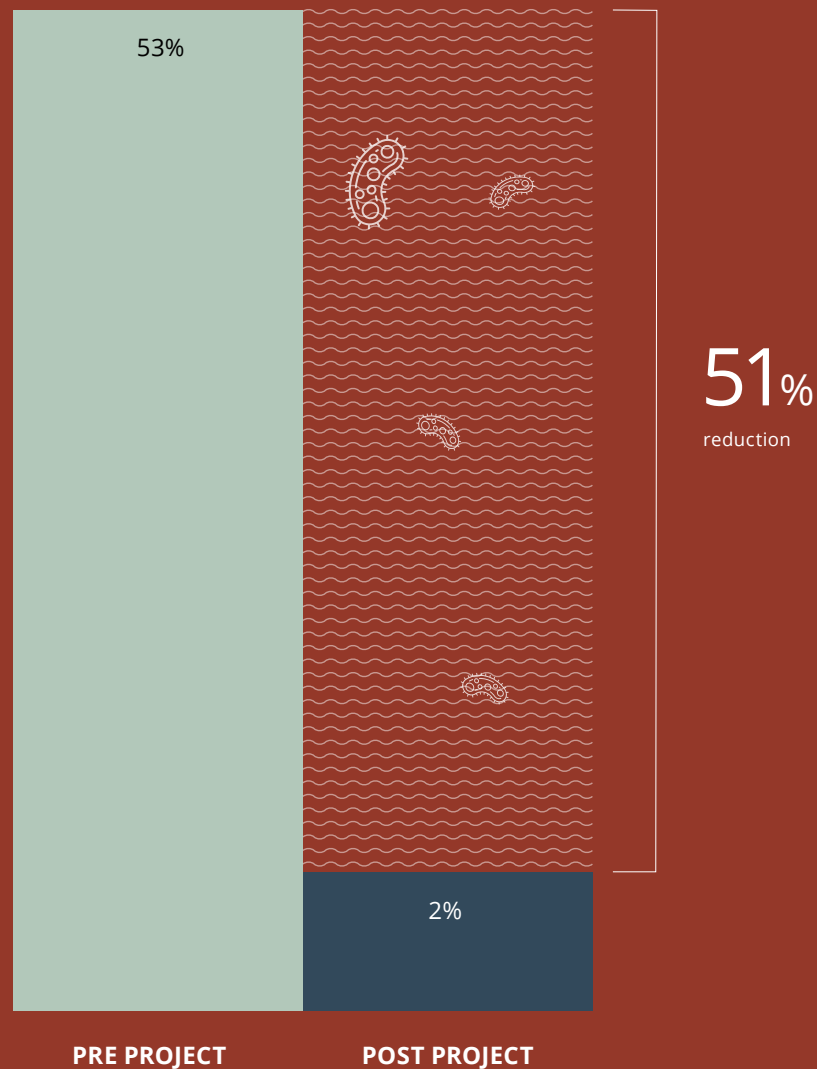


RWHT. Thus the quantity of water available in the villages has been significantly increased with the completion of the interventions.

2. Drudgery Reduction

On an average, time required to collect water has reduced by 35 minutes in villages with water supply scheme. Time spent for water collection in the villages with RWHT was 3.5 hours/day which was significantly and currently it is hardly 5 minutes with the doorstep delivery of water through RWHT.

Status of water born diseases



3. Health Improvement through Safe Water

The status of health of people improved in the project villages. With improvement in water supply services through repair of water supply schemes and RWHT presents significant change in the occurrence of water borne diseases. Data shows that during pre-project period average 53 cases of water borne diseases were reported in these villages and in post-project phase this has significantly reduced to 2 cases. This goes on to imply that there has been a decline in the incidence of water borne diseases during the project period.

70% of the households have mentioned that the construction of toilets has helped in improving overall health condition and has also reduced their medical expenses.

4. Sanitation

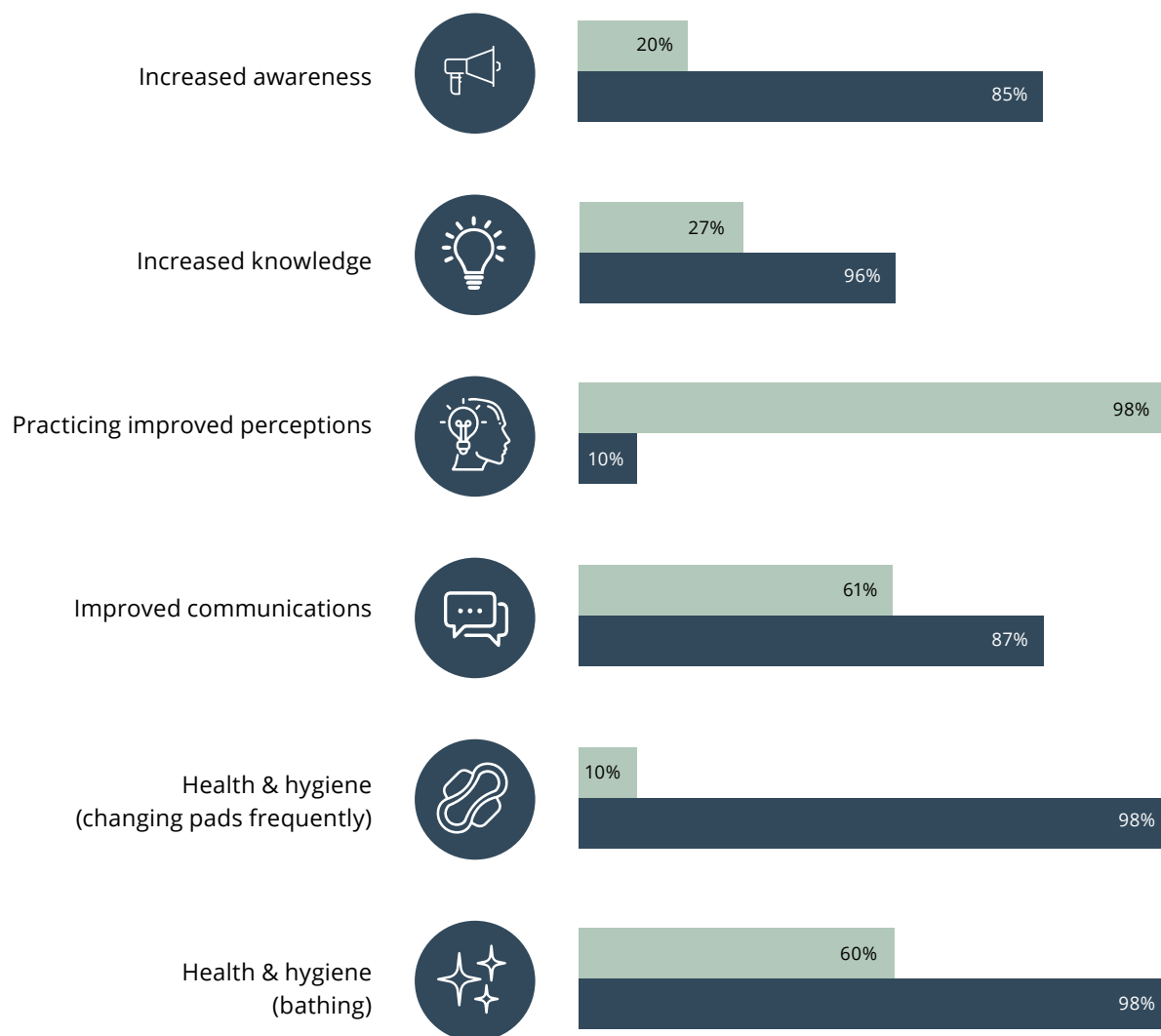
Himmotthan has worked extensively in convergence with other programmes like Swachh Bharat Mission (Rural) and MGNREGA to promote the construction of toilets within the house. These efforts have actually reaped benefits evidenced in the extent to which the availability of in-house toilets has improved in the project period. In the pre-project period, only 64% households had toilet in their houses and post-project this proportion has increased to 100% in the project villages. Thus continuous IEC/BCC activities have contributed significantly in increased use of the IHHL. A total 70% of the households have mentioned that the construction of toilets has helped in improving overall health condition and has also reduced their medical expenses. All the households are well aware of using and cleaning the toilets and are taking up proper cleaning of their toilets.



Stand Post - Kund - Jaunpur (CII)

Percentage of women & girls practicing improved MHM pre & post project period

● PRE PROJECT
● POST PROJECT



5. Menstrual Hygiene Management

Through Menstrual Hygiene Management initiative, Himmotthan society is providing a platform for sharing information, safe products discussion, Behaviour change and other soft issues which need attention. Thus objective of this project is a Joint Monitoring Programme for women and adolescent girls by networking, capacity building, training and hand holding of likeminded women of their areas, imparting improved knowledge about menstrual health, behaviour change toward socio-cultural belief and taboos surrounding menstruation, creating a better understanding and change in attitude of women and girl in family, community and schools in remote areas of Uttarakhand.

PROJECTS ON WaSH

Piloting water security through Integrated Village Development Model

PROJECT AIM

Groundwater water management through participatory approach and strengthen local livelihood system through integrated village development model.

Project is the water management program supported by Tata Consumer Products Limited (TCPL) that has the aim to create sustainable water sources, raise awareness and build capacities on water and sanitation in the communities in which we operate. It is a multi- sectoral intervention that integrates livelihood with water and food security, sustainable agriculture, sustainable forestry and renewable energy into the developmental paradigm of the community. Total fourteen villages have been selected under the project. A total 4,134 households with a population of 19,498 covered under project.

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

Paonta Sahib Block, Sirmour District of Himachal Pradesh

PROJECT DURATION

March 2019 to September, 2021

SUPPORTED BY

Tata Consumer Products Limited (TCPL), Bangalore

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Groundwater recharge works such as staggered contour trenches (SCTs) and recharge ponds has been done in 15 hectares
- 09 Bio-gas units have been constructed
- 06 schools have been covered under school sanitation activities
- Plantation of 3820 horticultural plants
- 15 Sanitation units constructed at household level
- Prepared inventory of 20 water sources
- Water quality monitoring of 20 water sources of 14 villages.

- Exposure visit of beneficiaries
- 14 villages covered under IEC/BCC campaign
- Strengthen and build the capacity of Forest Development Council

PROJECT OUTCOMES

- Total recharge potential of 126 million Liters has been created in the recharge Zone-I of Paonta valley aquifer system.
- All the recharge works are being done by Forest Development Council (FDC).
- Improvement in the soil moisture and also check soil erosion upper catchment areas.
- Water quality of the regional aquifer will improve due to organic practices and dilution effect; there will be significant reduction in the level of Nitrate, Heavy Metals and Bacteriological contamination.
- Vegetative plantation and conservation of forests are also improving the ecological security of the villages.
- Fodder grasses plantation the recharge area in the villages has reduced the pressure upon the forests.

PROJECTS ON WaSH

Springshed Management

Springshed recharge work through community participation in Chureddhar Village, Tehri, Uttarakhand



Springs are the key source of water for rural households in Central and Western Himalaya, yet they have seen an overall neglect over the decades with discharge from many springs declining bit by bit. Springs are increasingly being tapped by public water supply systems to distribute water to rural areas. With nearly 50 million habitants in the IHR, and 60% of them relying on spring water for day to day activities.

Spring water is usually safe from contaminants (i.e. pathogens, chemicals, metals) and considered pure among rural mountainous communities due to the natural filtering that occurs during infiltration and its movement through shallow and deep aquifers. Looking at springs from biogeographically perspective, springs often function as islands of habitat are also important for ecosystem services as they improve the base flow in rivers, support biodiversity and while managing water resources, their ecology should be understood. The inherent technological simplicity and cost effectiveness of Spring based gravitation flow drinking water systems makes them the preferred drinking water option in mountain areas.

Springshed management has shown a very high degree of sustainability from water security perspective in the mountain areas.

Change in climate patterns and anthropogenic activities are posing serious threat to the drinking water security of the region. Besides providing for daily and livelihood water, springs also have a cultural significance and perform the crucial role of providing base flows to rivers to help maintain the ecological balance of a region. The depletion of aquifers, changes in land use and ecological degradation have led to several initiatives to address springshed management in the region.

PROJECT AREA

The springshed management project is being implemented in 300 plus villages in six districts of Uttarakhand and one district each in Himachal Pradesh and Ladakh and there are plans to extend it across the other hill districts of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.

POLICY & ADVOCACY

Himmotthan Society has organized a session in collaboration with Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI) on water security and climate resilient future for the Indian Himalayan Region on December 12th at online platform, major recommendations of the session were:

- Incentivization for the community working for springshed management.
- Use of technology to scale, manage and monitor springshed
- Establishing consortium for springshed management in other mountain states following the example of Uttarakhand
- To develop a taskforce to establish an efficient model for springheads that is regularly
- Updated and linked closely with research (science-policy interface)
- Calling for more research on forest hydrology and geology of mountain states
- Institutionalization of successful models.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Developed water security plans of 62 villages of Almora, Nainital and Tehri districts.
- Prepared Detail Technical reports (Hydro geological) of 14 springshed of 5 Forest Divisions.
- Springshed recharge works completed in 61 villages of Almora, Nainital and Tehri districts.

- 215-hectare recharge area covered under springshed recharge works.
- Area of spring shed treatment ranges from 2.1 to 4.6 ha, with an average augmentation area of 3.15 ha.
- Social behaviour change and communication tools for springshed management have been developed.
- Springshed inventory of 400 plus springs has been developed and uploaded on MIS portal.
- Build capacity of local community/ UWSCs at Water Learning Center, Chureddhar.

IMPACTS/OUTCOMES

- After springshed recharge works there is additional water availability per dependent household post spring shed interventions is computed which ranges from 21.6 l/day to 288 l/day in the villages of Gangolihaat block of Pithoragarh.
- On the basis of results of earlier recharge works/ data reveals that water levels have increased in the project areas and springs have regained their natural flow. Significant increase in discharge (mean increase across all the treated springs $(2.44 \pm 0.33 \text{ LPM})$ has been recorded in treated springs during lean season (April-June).
- Convergence for 34 for the implementation of Springshed recharge works from MGNREGA fund.

SPRINGSHED MANAGEMENT CONSORTIUM (SMC)

Springshed Management Consortium is an apex body and model of GO-NGO partnership for mainstreaming of springshed management in Uttarakhand. A state level Springshed Management programme has been initiated through SMC. Forest Department and other 20 line departments, civil society Organizations, research institutes, universities and individuals are the part of it.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Springshed Management Consortium portal has been developed and linked with Uttarakhand Forest Department Official website.
- Prepared Detail Technical reports (Hydro geological) of 33 springshed of 5 Forest Divisions.
- Himmotthan Society has been empanelled as Resource Agency for capacity building of Van Panchayats in Uttarakhand.
- Training programme for Capacity building has been organized for different stakeholders.



THEMATIC AREAS OF WORK

Livestock Development Initiatives

Livestock across the Central & Western Himalayan region of India is highly dependent on common property resources as such the role that collective action plays in maintaining communal grazing lands through bridging, bonding, and linking social capital remains centric to any development interventions pertaining to the livestock sector. Livestock rearing is generally practiced by families having little or no agricultural land, the rural poor rely heavily on informal social ties to insure themselves against the impact of shocks on their consumption flows, as they usually lack access to formal insurance markets or sufficient own savings. In case of goat & sheep rearing the goat farmers are usually joined in groups. One of the factors that influence the development of a group is the social capital and the level of participation within the group itself.



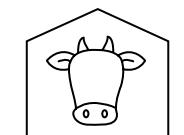
34,000

Households



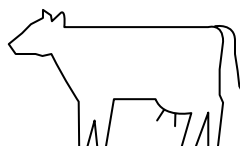
12,777

Farmers trained



862

Animal shed construction



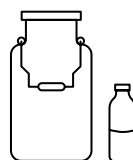
26,965

Successful artificial inseminations conducted



12

Animal feed units



30

Decentralized micro-dairies

HIMMOTTHAN'S APPROACH TOWARDS CHANGING AGRICULTURE SCENARIO & LIVESTOCK REARING

The agriculture practices are fast changing across the Central and Western Himalayan region of India, agriculture intensification is being seen across the length the breadth of this region. With agriculture intensification and more inclination towards cash crops especially vegetables, the agriculture residue based forage has shown a considerable decline. The dependency on commons is constantly increasing for fodder. With agriculture intensification, the associated risks and financial inputs have also increased exponentially.

Himmotthan has adopted a two pronged strategy to address these emerging concerns associated with the livestock sector, on the one hand Social Capital is being harnessed and strengthened towards building resilience towards the gamble of the rains and markets, and on the other hand the issue of fodder availability is being countered through extensive fodder plantation work across the common and private land through active community participation.

In an effort to address the inherent and emerging challenges of the livestock sector in the hills, primarily dominated by Acute fodder shortage, non-descript livestock, traditional feeding practices, poor fundamental infrastructure for animal health, management, tough terrain, low volume of production, unorganized marketing.

The portfolio started in 2008 to address these hill specific challenges with small pilot dairy value chain and initiative was taken to another level in 2015 with intense work on animal feed development paravet model development, better management practice promotion to enhance the production volumes and extending the services of decentralized micro-dairy and piloting with dairy products in peri-urban area, piloting on semi-intensive goat rearing and assisted backyard poultry (incubator-brooder-backyards value chain) was focused.

Currently more than 34,000 HHs of 650 Villages in 11 Districts of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh have been reached out. More than 1,600 hectare common and private land brought under fodder cultivation. 12 functional animal feed units producing 3,088 Qtls. animal feed annually. 22 Paravets established under initiative are providing 1st aid and Artificial insemination services and 30 Decentralized micro-dairies established. 862 animal sheds and 384 health camps organized where 48,385 animals have been treated. More than 11,315 goats/sheep and 39,826 poultry birds have been introduced along with scientific management practices.



LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES & RESPONSE DURING THE PANDEMIC

Livestock rearing diversifies itself through a wide network of value chains with multiple components and micro-enterprises which are interwoven strongly around the 2,260 groups, federated into 28 cluster FPOs. Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic this network played a crucial role to sustain the livelihoods, federation based micro-enterprises, unite the people socially.

During the Covid pandemic, dairy customers moved to their native places and could not pay milk payments due to distorted physical & financial channels. In this tough time federations ensured the timely payment to more than 1200 milk pourers from their funds and helped to secure their livelihood and smooth functioning of the dairies. Decentralized hybrid animal feed units remain functional and managed by federation locally and technical staff virtually ensured agri-processing services, feed production and supply of 340 tons animal feed locally.

During the pandemic when supply of milk, poultry birds, eggs, meat product, animal feed from plains was hampered adversely, the local produce from the livestock value chains assured the availability of essential commodities in local market by supplying 12.4 Lakh Liters of milk, 15,715 eggs and 3,292 poultry birds and 372 goat for meat availability which not only fulfilled the nutritional demands of the community but also helped to secure the livelihoods of the farmers. Locally established Paravets and CRPs ensured the 1st aid services, artificial insemination, selection of breeding bucks and knowledge sharing during the times when mobility of line department was hampered due Covid imposed lockdown. This social network supported more than 100 jobless reversed migrants in knowledge sharing and establishing their own mini enterprises around poultry, goat and dairy farming to earn their livelihood. Severe COVID crises have been seen around the globe but during this tough time the role of social capital and livestock enterprise in the livestock intervention areas have been a social binder and a great support structure for the community.



LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Central Himalayan Livestock Initiative- CHLI

PROJECT AIM

To enhance the quality of life for over 35,000 HHs, through self-sustained institutions and sustainable and resilient livelihood interventions of approximately 700 villages in 30 village clusters in the Central Himalayan regions by 2020

TARGETED COMMUNITY

35000 Poor and Marginal Households of Central & Western Himalayan Region

SUPPORTED BY

Tata Trusts

PROJECT DURATION

2015-2021

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

Uttarakhand & Himachal Pradesh

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To cover over 1100 ha of community and private land under fodder to increase fodder availability and to reduce women drudgery related to fodder collection from forests;
- To promote an improved livestock breed, better livestock health and management practices to enhance the livestock production system in 30 project clusters;
- To develop a cadre of 500 self-employed youth who would provide services to the stakeholders;
- To establish and expand entrepreneur and group-based enterprises in 30 village clusters;
- To build capacity of around 3000 stakeholders for the sustainable operation and management of enterprises;
- To enhance the income (by Rs. 2 Lakhs / year / HH) and quality of life of the 35,000 families in the program.

333 acre

Fodder plantation on
private & common land

2385

Farmers trained

30

Micro-dairies operationalized

12.4 lakh liters milk sold

Annual turnover Rs. 4.94 crores

Amount paid back to farmers -
Rs. 3.84 crores

110

Animal shed construction

6158

Animals treated
in 34 health camps

94

Milch animal placement

5,636

Successful artificial
inseminations conducted

3,088 qtls.

Animal feed manufactured
Annual turnover Rs. 76.44 lakhs

5845

Chicks distributed
27 backyards established

PROGRESS 2020-2021

The Central Himalayan Livestock initiative was planned to be implemented from 2015 to Feb 2021 and most of the project activities have been achieved. This year has been challenging and regression in the performance of feed units and micro-dairies also reported but these units remained functional and sold 3,088 Qtls. Animal feed and 12.4 Lakh litres milk following the COVID related guidelines during marketing. Solarization of the poultry value chains was also completed to tackle the energy laps and mortality. Interestingly, local goat and poultry prices also got hiked up due to more demand and no inflow of meat from plains. This trend has encouraged many young people to practice livestock rearing especially those who lost their livelihoods due to COVID.

OUTCOMES

1. Manufactured Animal Feed Standardisation & Production

- 12 feed units established (technical support from ILRI) supply feed to farmers and line departments.

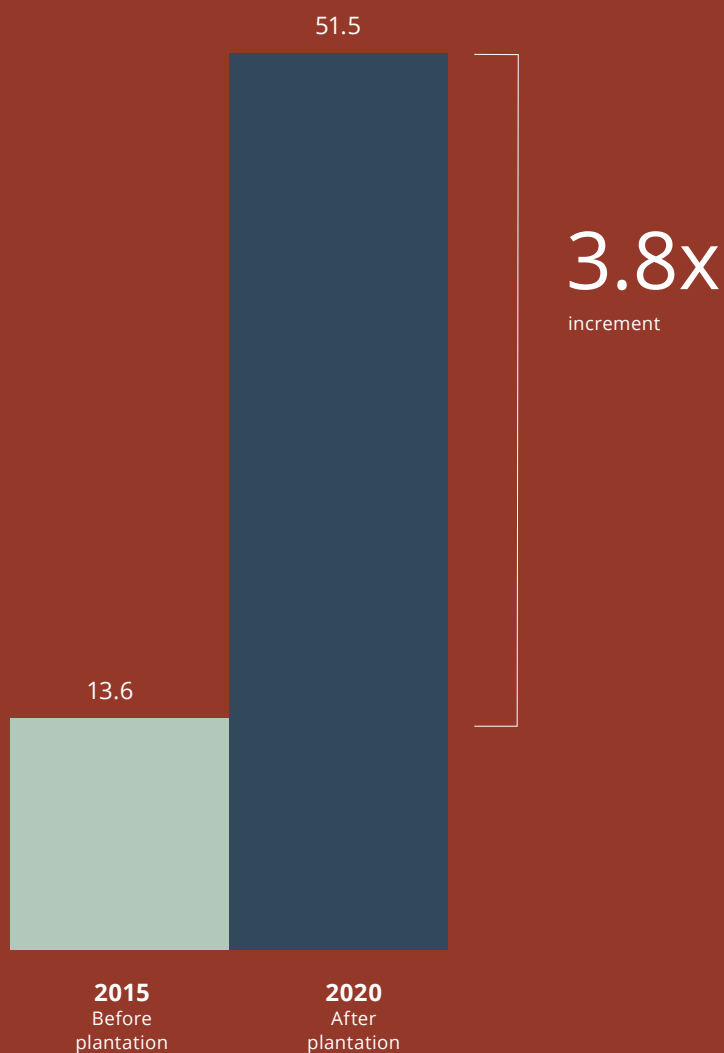
Animal feed have assisted in

- Increasing the milk productivity (0.5 l/day in traditional & 1.5 l/day in improved breeds);
- Assist in early start of egg production cycle in poultry (80 days w.r.t. 110 days);
- Aids in gaining body mass in poultry and goatry (65.7% increase in 30-35 days chicks in poultry and 25% increase in 6 months' kid in goatry with semi-stall-feeding practices);

2. Better Management Practices

- 1776 sheds established and 350 health camps facilitated treatments and vaccination of 42000+ cattle benefited 17068 HHs
- 90.4% of respondents are aware about the benefits of better management practices and 87.7% are practicing them
- 3-4 hours of women are saved daily helped to reduce drudgery

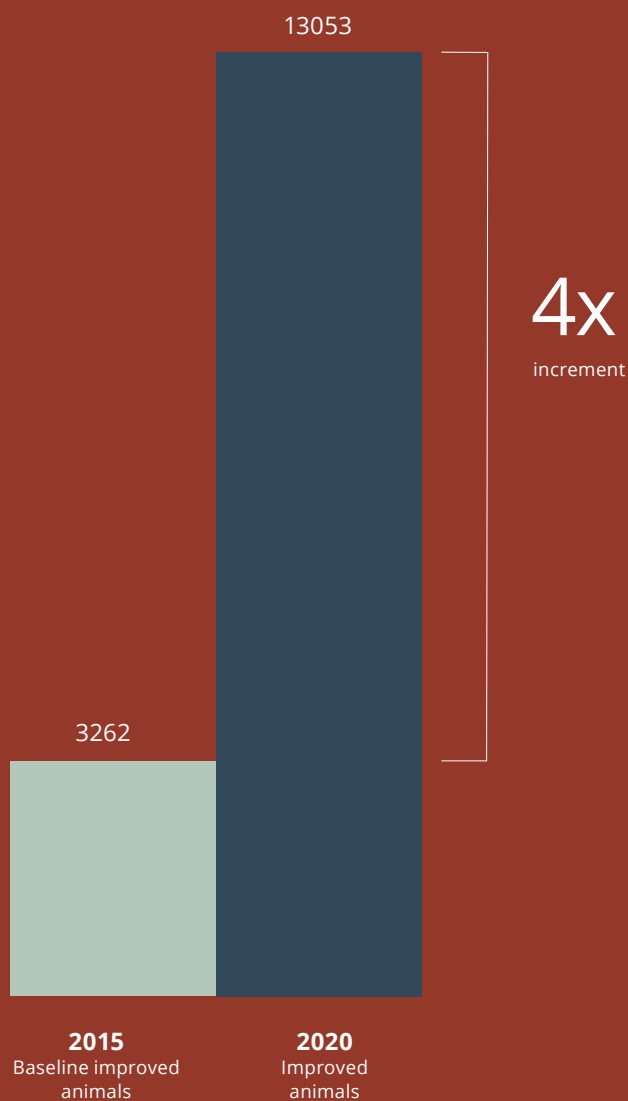
Fodder availability



3. Fodder Resource Development

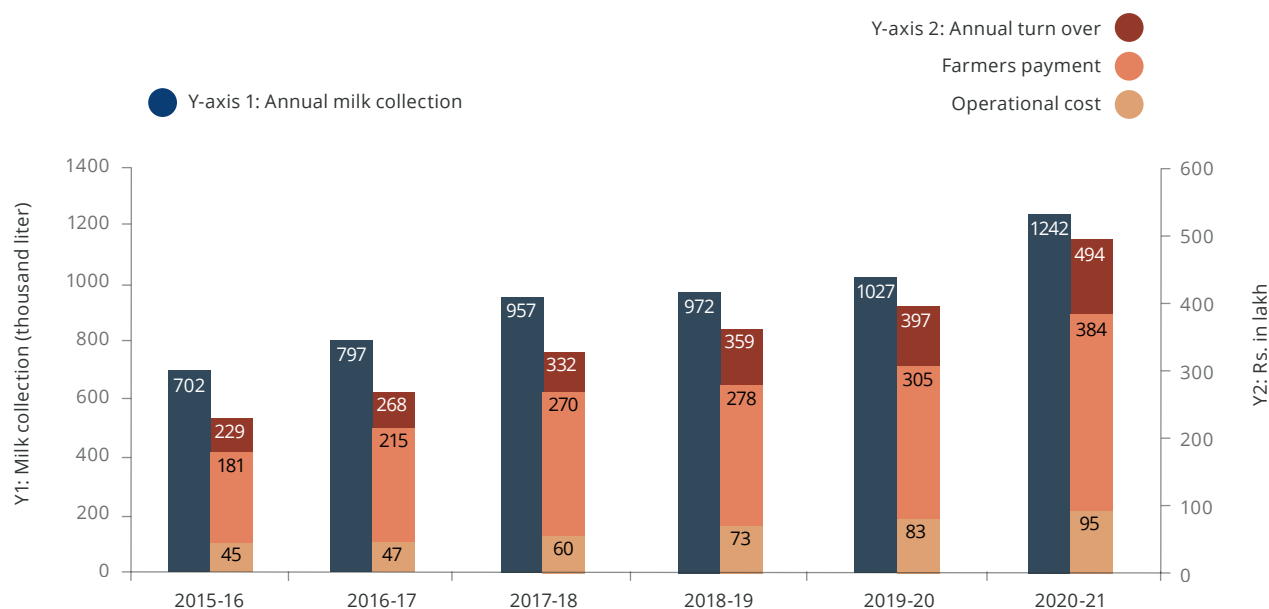
- 1,590 ha. Fodder plots with more than 1.4 lakhs broad leaf fodder trees plantation increased 3.1 tons annually fodder availability to more than 21,500 HHs.
- Reduction in women's drudgery in terms of time & distance and increased social harmony
- Long term environmental benefits with extensive broad leafed tree plantations

Improvement in milch animals



4. Breed Improvement

- Total 21329 successful AIs (14606 cows, 6723 buffalo) have been performed and 11264 improved progenies (7945 cows, 3319 buffalo) born benefited 16003 HHs
- 1789 Improved breed animals placed
- 53% of the farmers have adopted the Artificial insemination technology and milk yield has been increased to 7.5 lit/day.
- Paravets are self-sustained and earning average INR 17800/- per month by providing services at the door step of the farmers



5. Decentralized Micro-Dairy Units

- 30 decentralized micro dairies established collected 56.97 lakh lit milk and 72% of share per rupee of expenses incurred by the consumer owned by the milk producer.
- The enterprise is successfully employing 212 rural youth and women.
- Recommendation: increase per day milk sale from 3000 Lit/day to 5000 Lit/day

6. Piloting of Semi-Intensive Goat Rearing

- 491 Enclosures constructed for semi-stall feeding and 10858 goats placed
- Reduced grazing dependency on forest by 40% and saved 3-4 hrs per day.
- 35% of the farmers are using concentrate feed to pregnant/lactating goats and service bucks
- With semi-intensive farming average body weight of goats increased by 5-6kg ensured more returns to farmer



BMC Dairy

7. Piloting Backyard Poultry Value Chain

- 33981 chicks distributed and 5 mini hatcheries installed for in cluster DOC supply;
- The artificial hatchability achieved up to 60%; mortality rate in the brooders reduced to 10%;
- 40% farmers adopted deworming and vaccination practices.



Green fodder measurement for IAR segment

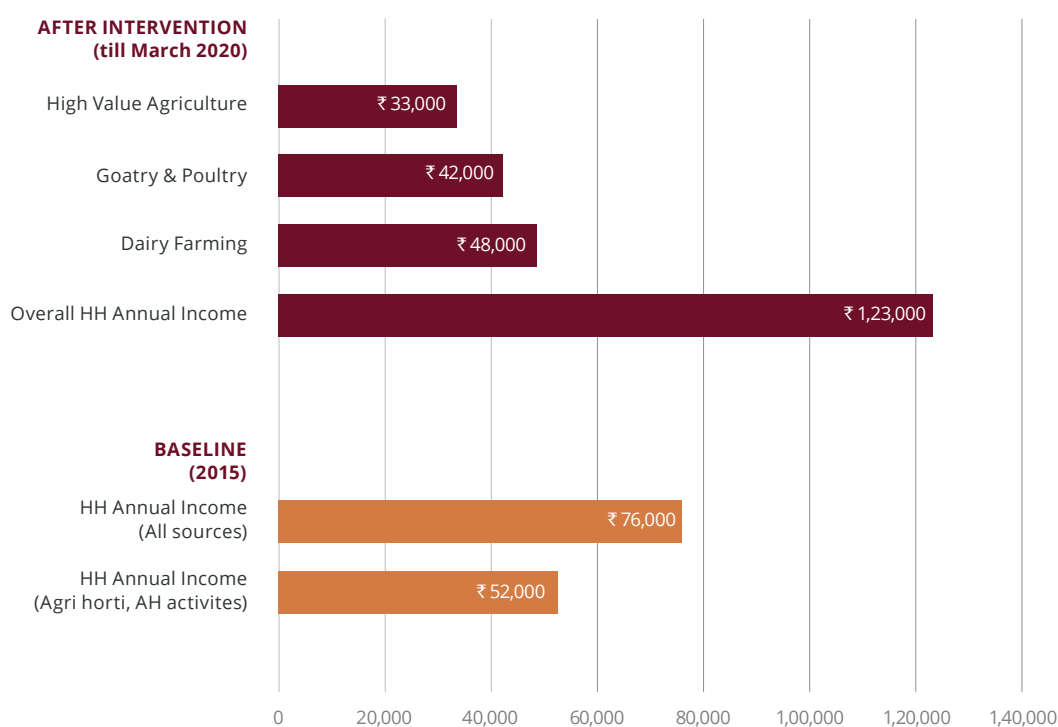
8. Role of Community Institutions in Livestock Enterprises & Livelihood

- 92% internal savings and external funds utilized for credit disbursement while 55% of credits used for scaling up of livestock and farm-based enterprises
- Avg. Rs.25,259/- loan availed by 64.2% members from SHGs
- 28 FPOs are operating Micro-dairies, feed units, services-CFCs enterprises

9. Socio-Economic & Environmental Impacts

- 90% of respondents concurred that interventions made has resulted in production enhancement
- **Environmental Impact** - 80% respondents concurred that fodder plots reduced biotic pressure, Improved biotic diversity (Broad leafed tree species) and Ground water recharge
- **Gender Mainstreaming** - Women's and women headed institutions remain the core of all activities: 90% of respondents concurred that interventions have financially strengthened the women resulting in created an enhanced role & space in social & economic platforms
- **A Societal Binder**
 - (i) Gainful use of Shared Resources (Fodder Plots on Common Property Resources)
 - (ii) Further strengthened through the SHG and Federation Network across Clusters
- **Economic Impact** - CHLI interventions contributed to meet out the unmet demand generated by growing peri-urban centers in hills and has enabled the target stakeholder to increase their livestock and farm-based income from Rs. 52,000 to Rs. 1,23,000 (an increase of 237% over the baseline-2015)

The income through integrated development approach is recorded as below:



A CASE STUDY

Rebuilding livelihoods through micro-dairy interventions in the disaster affected villages of the Pithoragarh district

The flash flood triggered by heavy rainfall and cloudburst in Uttarakhand in the year 2013-14 washed away roads, bridges and other infrastructure claiming many human lives and livelihoods. The impact was more severe in the remote areas of Dharchula block in the Pithoragarh district. In addition to infrastructural loss, several houses were damaged, agricultural land and livestock was swept away in the villages around Dharchula block. This loss has created substantial survival challenges to the villagers of the region.

Hence, with an aim to provide immediate relief to the affected communities and to rebuild villagers' livelihoods, a program was initiated in the Toli cluster of Dharchula block in Pithoragarh district with the financial support of Tata Trust. A baseline survey was conducted in the cluster villages and possible livelihood interventions were identified.

To start with, village level meetings were conducted immediately in the cluster villages purposively to organize village community in the form of SHG and federation. Subsequently, a federation named as Panchachuli SRC was formed in the cluster with a total membership of 575. Based on village level surveys and community discussions, promoting dairy enterprise have been emerged as a potential intervention in the cluster villages. The women involved in SHG were trained by veterinarians. Five improved cows bought from Champawat were given to the SHG members whose livelihoods was severely disrupted by the natural disaster.

The SHG members were then mobilized to open a micro-dairy in the cluster. Subsequently, milk collection centres and milk outlets were established in the cluster. Initially, the results were not as promising as the per day collection of milk at that time was only 40 litres. The federation then decided to explore the markets and increase per day milk collection by mobilizing their fallow members. As a result, the per day milk collection was gradually improved.

In the meantime, efforts have also been made through project interventions to improve fodder availability in the cluster villages by fodder plantation in the village common and private land. Moreover, 40 improved breed cows were provided to BPL families in the cluster, 62 improved cow sheds were constructed with the project support and another 50 cowsheds through convergence with MGNRGA scheme.

Additional 35 improved cows were purchased by SHG members in the cluster through CIF loan. The increased population of milch cattle has resulted into increased milk yield in the cluster villages. Subsequently, two more collection centres were established by the federation to tap the opportunity. Eventually, the dairy business becomes one of the key livelihood activities in the cluster villages. Presently, there exist 8 milk collection centres and 7 milk outlets within the cluster. Most of the milk collected at these centres is being marketed in the Dharchula market. Today, the per day milk collection reached up to 450 litres fetching an annual turnover of Rs. 45 lakh to the Panchachuli federation. Every month milk of Rs. 3.5 to 4 lakh is being purchased by the federation from the farmers and the federation is making profit of Rs. 1 to 2 lakhs every year by selling milk.

Moreover, all the operations at the collection centres and outlets are being performed by the SHG members providing them extra source of livelihoods. Hence, the micro-dairy business in the Toli cluster has helped rural communities immensely to overcome the challenges posed by disaster and to rebuild their livelihoods.



DREAM BECAME A REALITY WITH DAIRY FARMING

A dream doesn't become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work. Rama Devi BPL holder in Nald village of Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand was struggling with economic challenges while rearing low producing cattle traditionally along with very small chunk of agricultural land managed by her unemployed husband as a sole source of income. Unavailability of land, credit services and financial crisis forced them to put health of their growing children at risk by rearing the animals at the same place they live.

In FY 2015-16, Rama knit herself in self-help group and developed resources to start dairy farming with technical and financial support from Himmotthan. Initially, she participated in fodder plantation and later, in FY 2018-19 she clutched a soft loan of Rs. 20,000/- from federation for purchasing an improved breed buffalo along with support for construction of animal shed in convergence with MGNREGA. The scientific practices, technical and economic management implemented by Rama, attributes to training programmes at times. She adopted better management, proper balanced feed and fodder regimes which helped her to get more than 12 litre's milk/day from her single milch animal.

She also adopted Artificial Insemination (A.I.) services being provided by the paravet at federation level. As a result of A.I. services at her doorstep she could manage to inseminate her buffalo at proper time and hence could get a healthy calf this year which is an asset for her.

Currently Rama is earning approximately Rs 1.4 lakh by selling 2,520 lit milk in federation lead dairy (~6 lit/day) and selling rest milk locally after keeping it for self-consumption and product making.

With this financial liquidity she managed the educational expenditure of her children, paid federation's soft loan and purchased a stock of 35 goats for her husband and now she is further planning to upgrade her animal shed and add one more milch animal in her herd. "Himmotthan's interventions and support in dairy setup turned my dream of living respectful life a reality", Rama said. Rama's sparkling eyes were reciting the story of her success and determination to achieve another milestone.

“

"Himmotthan's interventions and support in dairy setup turned my dream of living a respectful life into reality."

RAMA DEVI

BPL holder, Nald village
Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand



THEMATIC AREAS OF WORK

Education Development Initiatives

Due to global health crisis, education initiative has been affected most due to closure of schools. Himmotthan has used this crisis as an opportunity by identifying the Community resource persons through the network of its federations and Self-Reliant Communities (SRC) which are the backbone of its functions. Identified community resource persons were given online training on how to conduct Literacy (pedagogical as well as physical) sessions with children. Himmotthan library trainer and field implementers also went to these villages and activated these volunteer class rooms by demonstration of how to do Read aloud, Book Talk and other similar activities to develop the reading habits among children during lockdown.

REACHING OUT TO CHILDREN & PROMOTING EDUCATION AMIDST PANDEMIC

Few of the volunteers who were not on stipend get their mobile phone recharged from Himmotthan to continue their good work in villages. During FY 2020-2021 Himmotthan has mobilized more than 5000 children with regular supply of daily content and volunteer class rooms so that learning doesn't stop during these unprecedented times.

Himmotthan have developed a profound understanding of the challenges in the education as well as of the needs of various communities and stakeholders across Central and Western Himalayan regions. Ensuring quality education for all children, especially those from marginalized backgrounds, is central to the Himmotthan Education Theme. The focus of Education theme is not just on age-and-grade-appropriate learning in curricular subjects such as language and mathematics; it is also on leveraging 21st century skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, collaborative learning and the use of technology to promote learning – skills that ensure effective participation in a vibrant democracy. The objective of the Himmotthan educational theme is to democratize the functioning of educational institutions, enabling communities to take ownership of these institutions, and hold them accountable. All stakeholders – school management, teachers, children, parents – are encouraged to work together towards a common goal.

Himmotthan believes that every child has the right to learn and play. Although more children than ever before are enrolled in school, the duty-bearers obligated to realize this right for every child are collectively failing to improve learning and this failure is deep and broad, and has significant consequences. Many children lack the knowledge and skills to realize their full potential and maximize their contribution to their communities.

Hence the Goal 2026 is Holistic development of 10,000 children, through amalgamation of Quality Education and Sports in the alignment with UN SDG goals (SDG 4 Quality Education, SDG 5 Gender Equality and SDG 10 Reduced Inequality)

“

“I have been associated with Himmotthan Volunteer program since May 2020 and I have learned a lot on early literacy, numeracy from the content shared over WhatsApp by Himmotthan Team. I learnt the techniques of Read aloud and Book Talk during these training sessions and multiple Zoom Sessions taken by eminent experts.”

GANGA GOSWAMI

Teacher, Volunteer Class Room,
Dohaniya, Nainital



EDUCATION & SPORTS PROJECT

Education and Sports Initiative in Uttarakhand

PROJECT AIM

Achieving inclusive and quality education for all.

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

Nainital, Bageshwar, Rudrapur, Tehri-Garhwal and Dehradun

TARGETED COMMUNITY

5,000 Anganwadi/Primary School Children 170 Govt. School Teachers, 500 Bal Sangthan Children and 1,000 School Management and Mata Samiti members

PROJECT DURATION

February 2020-January 2022

SUPPORTED BY

Tata Trusts

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Early childhood education and school readiness
- Foundational learning
- Greater inclusion of blind children in athletics and an increase in preparation and participation in tournaments at all levels.

PROGRESS UPDATE

When schools closed due to the current global health crisis, it affected the schools, children, teachers as well as the Himmotthan education and sports intervention which barely started in the month of March. The intervention in the region had just got off the ground. Schools were shut down abruptly and lock down was enforced all over the state without any prior information. This sudden lock down trapped number of travelling teachers in villages without much work to do. Children were also felt agitated as well as annoyed because of sudden closure of schools. Moreover, Himmotthan knew that keeping children out of school for months meant setbacks in their learning and development. This was a serious issue, especially for children from disadvantaged backgrounds, who already achieved less on average than their better-off companions.

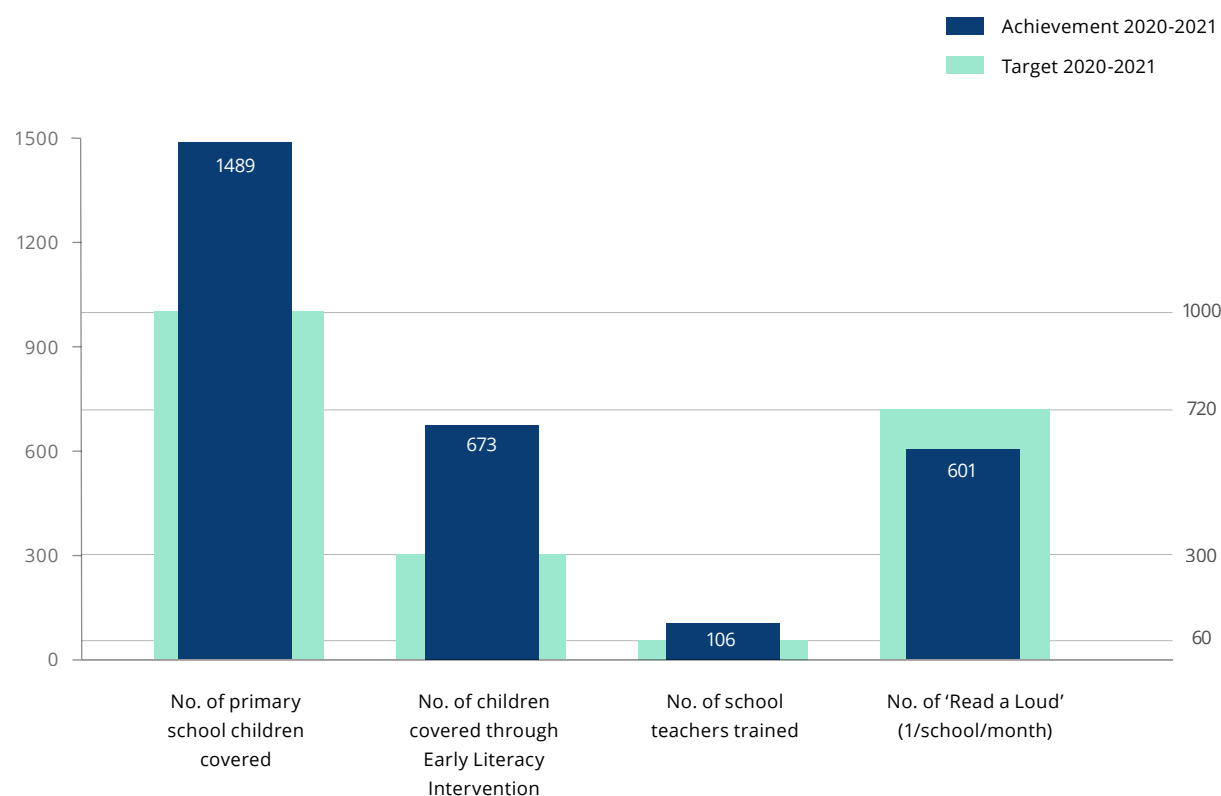
Education Initiative has been largely affected during COVID 19. Seeing this Himmotthan volunteers and para teachers swung into quick action. Beginning the first week of April, several open community classrooms were set up across project villages in five districts so students who didn't have smart phones could be taught for two hours each in the morning and evening. At the same time, 150 government teachers of Kotabag block in Nainital at the foothills of Middle Himalayas, supported by Himmotthan volunteers, came together to create a WhatsApp group to engage rural children in activities such as early literacy, numeracy, and physical literacy with emphasis on learning improvement, through audio-visual stories and poems, asking questions and encouraging interaction, as well as organizing story-telling, poetry recitation, painting and arts and crafts competitions to help students express their feelings.



"The way Himmotthan has brought together all the stakeholders of school education system (children, parents, SMC, Teachers, Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan and DIET) together during school closure is really commendable. Himmotthan's online and community class rooms during the earlier days of lockdown has enabled students to stay connected to education."

BP JADLI

Block Education Officer
Bhilangana, Tehri-Garhwal



PROGRESS UPDATE IN FY 2020-2021

Himmotthan focused on building teacher capacity using platforms like Zoom, YouTube, and Facebook. Himmotthan also hosted a series of workshops: children's literature exponent and winner of the 2019 'Big Little Book Award', Prabhat, and Uday Kirola conducted a session on the need for books in their 'mother tongue' for children in the primary section. Ambarish Ray, National Convenor, RTE forum, held a Zoom session on RTE during COVID. Shiv Prasad Semwal, CEO, SSA, hosted a session on teachers' engagement during COVID. Parag's Nitu Singh held sessions on Library Management, and Reading Abilities for Teachers. The importance of mental health during these stressful times was not overlooked. Himmotthan Education Team in collaboration with the Institute of Human Behaviour & Allied Sciences, organized a 'National Seminar on Mental Health during COVID' for both teachers and students. Alongside these capacity building sessions and trainings Himmotthan education team also encouraged children to cultivate a reading habit by hosting month long 'Reading Mela' in 75+ villages. Himmotthan team and volunteers has taken Libraries to the doorstep of children and parents during this period. Along with these activities Himmotthan has also gone through its targeted activities.

Few of them are appended below-

- Mata Samiti meeting were conducted in every Anganwadi center on a monthly basis. In the 15 Anganwadi centers a total of 45 meetings were conducted and 145 members participated in these meetings.
- One day capacity building training was conducted for the Mata Samiti members from the 15 Anganwadi centers.
- 2 Days Teachers training for Tehri- Garhwal and 2 days teachers training of Nainital has been conducted by PARAG, an initiative of Tata Trusts on Library Development.
- Community Connectedness through Library: Library Facilitators had directly mobilized the community towards collaborative partnership and encourage parents to participate in Library activities. Himmotthan team has briefed them about how to use libraries/ books at home or at public place that will be active and vibrant and incorporate libraries as one of the key tools for building literacy skills amongst students.
- Read a Loud and Book Talk in Open Volunteer Class rooms: The Reading aloud is one of the most important things Himmotthan team and teachers doing with children. Reading aloud builds many important foundational skills, introduces vocabulary, provides a model of fluent, expressive reading, and helps children recognize what reading for pleasure is all about.

A CASE STUDY

Journey of a Women From Not Knowing Her Rights to an Active Participant in Ensuring the Rights for Others

BEFORE INTERVENTION

Ms. Swati Semwal is a member of Mata Samiti. She lives in a joint family in her village Fuleth, Raipur Dehradun. There are eight members in her family. She is a house wife and has a son who is 18 months old. Her husband a daily wage earner. They have a small plot of land that is jointly shared by the family providing little in the way of sustenance.

HIMMOTTHAN'S INTERVENTION

As the lock down lifted partially in Uttarakhand post August, Himmotthan Education Initiative has re initiated its effort in restoring the program at Bandel Ghati cluster of Raipur block in Dehradun. Himmotthan facilitators were given a detailed training on activating Mata Samities in the project villages where Anganwadi programs are operational from February, 2020. Details of Samitis and its functionaries were given to the facilitator like who can be a member of the Mata samiti and what is their roles and responsibility. After the training facilitators visited each village to map the Mata Samities of each Anganwadi against the list provided by the Anganwadi Worker in each village. In the village of Fuleth, of the Bandel Ghati area, Ms. Swati Semwal was contacted as a part of this process.

AFTER INTERVENTION

When contacted Ms. Swati Semwal told Himmotthan facilitator that she did not know that their Anganwadi had a Mata Samiti and that she was a member of the samiti. After our facilitator told her about the role and responsibilities of a Mata samiti member, she told our facilitator that she had not received the Take Home Ration (THR) for her child. The facilitator and Ms. Semwal then visited the Anganwadi Centre in Fuleth and met Anganwadi workers and told her that Ms. Swati Semwal has not received any THR for the past five months. After this conversation Ms. Swati Semwal received THR for the past five months and is receiving THR regularly on a monthly basis.

With Himmotthan continued intervention and hand holding Ms. Swati Semwal is able to access the government stipulated THR through the ICDS department at her doorstep during this period of COVID-19 and also attending the Mata Samiti meetings regularly and made sure that she will make others aware about this program and roles responsibilities of Mata Samiti members.

“

Himmotthan facilitators are frequently visiting our village from July and they are an asset for us during lock down and after that in getting not only Take-home Ration but their home-based community connect are really helpful in taking care of our children through regular Wazan Diwas and immunization updates.”

MS. SWATI SEMWAL

Member, Mata Samiti
Village Fuleth, Raipur, Dehradun



EDUCATION PROJECT

Library and Early Literacy Interventions

**PROJECT AIM**

Accessibility of quality children's literature and better early literacy competencies in students

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

Nainital

TARGETED COMMUNITY

1,000 Children, 60 Govt. School Teachers and 300 School Management Committee Members

PROJECT DURATION

August 2019- March 2021

SUPPORTED BY

Tata Toyo Radiators Ltd.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Enhance the quality of the learning levels in Language at primary level by strengthening Early Literacy and Library (from 1st to 5th standards in 30 Govt. Primary schools)

PROGRESS UPDATE

The Library and Early Literacy Intervention (LELI) has been implemented in over 30 villages of Nainital district of Uttarakhand from October 2019. Major focus of the intervention is on Accessibility of quality children's literature and better early literacy competencies in students, setting up libraries, facilitating government teachers by focused training on Library development through graded learning, appropriate curriculum, engage the school but at the core, will be the quality improvement in education system.

Under this initiative schools are equipped with functional libraries and children are having regular access to age-appropriate quality children's literature. This intervention has encouraged children to continue their schooling during COVID-19 crisis and also develop awareness in the community towards the importance of reading in education.

"It's a small step to a beautiful, fruitful and satisfying destination. Our journey continues."

NEELIMA PANDEY

Teacher, Govt. Primary School
Dhanpur, Kotabag, Nainital

PROGRESS UPDATE

Often basic education is characterised as reading, writing and Maths in first five years in the school is critical for social and economic development. Hence, under the project different activities in form library, and early literacy were integrated in regular school curriculum to enable the students to acquire skills to become more productive.



Govt. Teachers Training, Nainital February 2021

Pre-assessment survey and development of one pager for all the schools

To strengthen HMS presence in schools along with legitimacy of Team and program Himmotthan team has developed a one page document for all the schools to access the pre and post intervention stage of intervention.



Library books and furniture distribution

Curated and selected children's age-appropriate books and accessible furniture provided to the schools for making the library functional and vibrant.

“Virtual classrooms and various online tools created by Himmotthan allow us to make the engagement between teachers and students as close to a real, in-classroom experience as possible.”

AMIT CHAND

Assistant Block Education Officer
Kotabag, Nainital



Community Reading Initiative during lockdown, Kotabag Nainital, September 2020

Read a Loud and book talk in schools

The Reading aloud is one of the most important things Himmotthan team and teachers doing with children. Reading aloud builds many important foundational skills, introduces vocabulary, provides a model of fluent, expressive reading, and helps children recognize what reading for pleasure is all about. Himmotthan is conducting 30 Book Talk and Read a Loud session in each school every month to strengthen the reading practices among children in early grade.



Reading Mela, Kotabag Nainital 2020

Children literature festival

Himmotthan has organized Children Literature Festival on 6th and 7th March at Kotabag for the 30 intervention and other schools of the block under the tutelage of renowned Kumauni and Children Literature exponent Shree Uday Kirola, editor Bal Pahari Magazine. 50+ children, 30 Govt. School teachers, Block Education Officials and respected members of Community, School Management Committees were present for 2 days' residential festival.



1



2

WORKSHOP ON LIBRARY AND EARLY LITERACY INTERVENTION WITH 30 SCHOOL HEAD TEACHERS AND BLOCK EDUCATION OFFICIALS

The Two days' workshop initiated with a warm welcome to the team gathered for this event on second week of February. Orientation was given by Tata Trusts Trainer cum Managers Ms. Nitu Singh and Mr. Navnit Nirav respectively on What and Why is Tata Trusts forming Libraries, how to implement Library and Early Literacy Intervention at all the schools.

1

Physical Literacy Session
Demonstration in February 2021

2

Annual MIS Workshop_Dehradun_
Education and Sports Initiative in
December 2020

“Daily content (Kahani-Kavita), Work Books, Quiz, Imaginative ideas etc.) shared by Himmotthan is of high quality and easy to disseminate. Since 8th April 2020, Himmotthan has shared these contents without fail. Their continued efforts and support in continuing education during these gloomy days are highly appreciable.”

BHASKARANAND PANDEY

Block Education Officer
Kotabag, Nainital

A CASE STUDY

ROTE LEARNING TO VIBRANT LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

If there is one practice that plagues education in rural mountain terrain of Uttarakhand, especially when it comes to primary education, it is the heavy dependence on rote learning. Monologues by teachers, rote learning, repetition without comprehension and copy writing from textbooks and blackboards by students contribute to this greatly. Comprehension, critical thinking and problem solving seem absent. Consequently, a healthy learning curve amongst students is absent in mountains.

Actually, in the traditional model, the underlying assumptions about the nature of reading and the nature of learning are problematic. The problem with this approach is that reading is conceptualized very narrowly as being only decoding (finding oral equivalent of written language). Learning to read is viewed as an exercise in learning to decode. Children are expected to learn how to decode using a “bottom-up” approach where one begins with letters, then words, then sentences and so on.

Recent research has challenged this notion. Beginning with letters is problematic because it is totally abstract and hence, means nothing to a child. For a child it is not the easiest unit to begin with. Besides, we don’t process the text in a “bottom-up” manner. Too much focus on letters distracts from comprehension. Reading is essentially a sense-making activity. However, traditional models of reading view meaning as dispensable at this stage, and not integral to reading.

Seeing this from close quarters Himmotthan Education Team has designed a template of learning by doing mode of education through its early literacy and library program and changes are quite encouraging as appreciation pours from District and Block Education Officials as well as School Management Committees, Teachers and Parents of the schools and not to forget the children who enjoys this mode of education most.

Methodology: The overall pedagogy used by Himmotthan was child-centered, where the classroom instruction was planned based on the needs, interest, context and developmental stage of the children. The pedagogy for the primary classes was activity based which encouraged children to learn by means of planned activities and discussions and do that in groups while interacting with each other. Local materials were being used to develop

games as teaching learning materials. Focus was given on building meta-cognitive skills in children by having dialogues around what they are learning and why they are learning that. Similarly, making the students reflect upon their own learning process.

The curricular objectives for the early grades (Grades 1 and 2) were properly organized based on the skills that are expected to be developed. The focus was on Language development. With respect to Language development, the focus was to build a positive environment for language that involves stories, songs, display that encourages language development, etc. Phonic approach and whole language approach were implemented together to support the development of literacy skills. Children were encouraged to read and make meaning in groups and individually. For ensuring natural development of language, the children were encouraged to play language games and make new words by joining letters before they have learnt all the letters. Independent creative writing, writing new stories etc. were encouraged. For storytelling, various ways like puppetry and other learning materials were used. Similarly, for facilitating reading and writing, different cards and board games were used so that the process becomes more joyful and natural rather than being mechanical.

“You never stop learning,
you should never stop
learning, learning is not just
a gift, it’s a privilege.”

BUDDHA





THEMATIC AREAS OF WORK

Harnessing Agriculture Potential of the Mountains

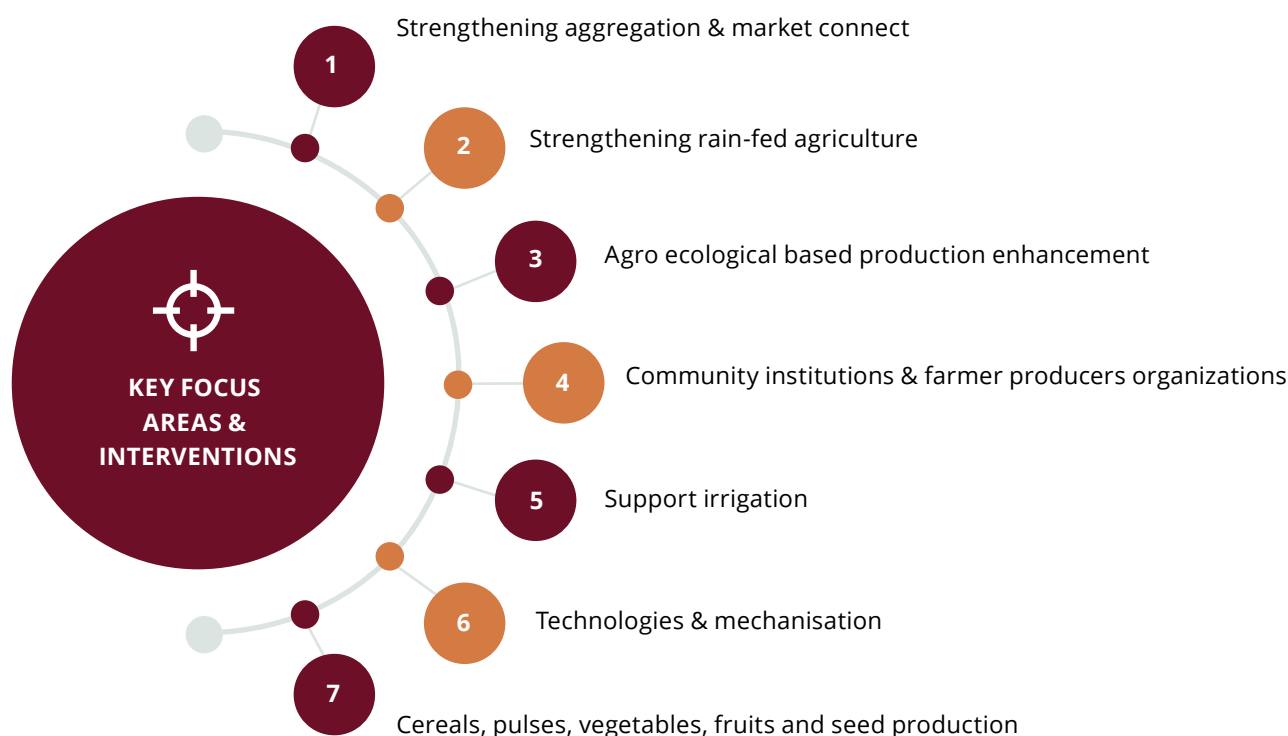
The challenges on Mountain agriculture like inaccessibility, shorter agricultural seasons, ecological fragility, limited infrastructure, and distant markets are to be lived with. However nature has provided windows of opportunities amidst these challenges. Mountains offer more diversity, reflected by multiple altitudinal agro ecological zones. These zones provide multiple agriculture opportunities. Himmotthan has been striving towards transforming subsistence to a more nutrition-sensitive, climate-smart and market sensitive agriculture systems.

PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT

The Hans Foundation (THF) is supporting the Maximizing Mountain Agriculture Project (MMAP) being implemented with 5000 households from 80 villages across 4 districts of Uttarakhand. The key focus is to increase the farm productivity of key selected cereals, vegetables, spices and pulses crops, establishment of community institution led seed enterprise, popularization of farm mechanization and establishment of institution-led sustainable agriculture based enterprises.

Through the support of The Tata Trusts, Himmatthan is striving to strengthen agriculture in rain fed agro ecological zones under Mission Pulses Uttarakhand Project. The key focus is to establish community led institutions for pulse-legume supply chain, post harvesting operations and ensured market linkages and to enhance production of mountain pulses, legumes, millets and traditional crops by providing improved seed material, use of mountain specific agriculture technologies. The project will cover 30,000 households across 12 blocks of 9 mountain districts in 5 years.

The Lakhpati Kisan Pariyojana supported jointly by the Axis Bank Foundation and Tata Trusts, aims to bring 10,000 households from 200 villages irreversibly out of poverty with increased life choices, and earn an income of more than Rupees One Lakh. Intervention areas include creation of critical irrigation support facilities to boost the agriculture production, layering of agri-allied activities with beneficiaries for enhancing household income and aggregation of farmer producing groups into Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO) for market linkages.





KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- The Hans Foundation (THF) has approved an agriculture project with the outlay of Rs.3.52 Crores, which is being implemented in 80 villages of 4 cluster over 3 years' period.
- Honey processing unit has been established in Maldevta and processing and packaging of approx. 1,000 kgs of mountain (kartiki) honey initiated. To develop honey value chain of *Apis cerana indica*, a program was developed with Uttarakhand Forest Resource Management Project (UFRMP)-JICA, which will be implemented with 550 bee keepers with the project outlay of Rs. 82.24 Lakhs in next 2 years' period.
- One rice mill and one millet mill were established for processing of raw produce through FPOs. Both mills are operationalized.
- 3,000 cubic feet (cft) capacity cold storage was established and operationalized for storage of pulses, millets and grains.
- 28 animal repellants were piloted to see the suitability in order to reduce the wild animal menace, the instruments were found partially effective for porcupine, pigs, wild boars.
- 4 solar dryer piloted to reduce the drying period of agro-produce and increase quality of the products in terms of nutrients, colour, and flavour.
- 3 solar based micro irrigation and 2 lift irrigation schemes established to boost the agriculture production in mountain villages, where availability of irrigation water is below the cultivatable lands.

1
Pea harvesting in Baandalghati

2
Vertical net, Munsyari, Pithotragarh

3
Solar based micro irrigation,
Baandalghati

4
Paddy (Basmati) fields, Silyara,
Tehri Garhwal

AGRICULTURE PROJECTS

Maximizing Mountain Agriculture Project (MMAP)

Farmers exposure visit



PROJECT AIM

To develop a market-oriented agriculture production system and establishing community institution led agro enterprises for uplifting lives of 5,000 farming families in 4 village clusters across 4 mountain districts of Uttarakhand.

TARGETED COMMUNITY

5000 HHs to be covered under the project in 80 villages of selected 04 clusters (20 villages from each Cluster)

PROJECT DURATION

April 01, 2020 to March 31, 2023

SUPPORTED BY

The Hans Foundation (THF) and Rural India Support Initiative (RIST)

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

- Kotabag Cluster, Block Kotabag, District Nainital,
- Chaukhutia Cluster, Block Chaukhutia, District Almora
- Baandal Ghati Cluster, Block Raipur, District Dehradun
- Silyara Cluster, Block Bhilangna, District Tehri Garhwal

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Promotion of selected crops production, collective packaging, branding and marketing.
- Seed production of high value and mountain specific crops, and setting up economically viable and sustainable community led seed enterprise to increase seed replacement rate in hills.
- Production, processing and marketing of aromatic basmati.
- Popularizing farm mechanization among small and marginal farmers and setting up as small-scale enterprises.
- Establishment of training and demonstration center to cater the training needs of mountain farmers and extension workers.
- Nurturing community institution, capacity building and effective extension strategies for technology dissemination.

Sprayer pump and electric chaff cutter distribution to farmers in Kotabag.



Some of the key interventions are crop, seed & vegetable production, basmati value chain establishment, farm mechanization, and marketing of agri commodities.

Flower production, Kotabagh



PROJECT PROGRESS UPDATE

Over the last 5 years' period, Himmotthan has developed strong networks with different stakeholders in Uttarakhand and demonstrated successful pilots in agriculture and horticulture. Among them crop production of selected crops, seed production, basmati value chain establishment, orchard development, farm mechanization, aggregation and marketing of agri commodities, vegetable production are some of the key interventions, which are ready for scale-up. Hence, keeping in mind, the successful interventions. The Hans Foundation (THF) funded the extension phase (April 2020 to March 2023) project in order to lead multiple successful pilots to their sustainable conclusion through a strong partnership mode. The extension phase of the MMAP is proposed and designed to take forward the successful interventions under the last project in a scaled-up manner directly across the 4 clusters in Uttarakhand. All the interventions in all 4 clusters are being implemented directly by the Himmotthan Society. Due to pandemic COVID-19 and revision in FCRA rule, the project interventions were hampered, but efforts has been made to achieve the project target in given time frame, which are highlighted below section.

Animal Repellent, Renivala, Bandalghati



PROJECT UPDATE IN FY 2020-2021

During the year, project has promoted successful improved varieties of selected cereals, pulses and vegetable crops through technological interventions for producing the marketable surplus. Therefore, 128.7 Ha area of 2,757 farmers brought under good agriculture practices with improved varieties. 536 farmers have learnt the improved practices for seed production and 34.43 Ha covered under seed production program. The FPO (Baandal Ghati SRC) promoted for seed production, certification and marketing has done business of 403.3 Quintal seed. 22.9 Ha command area was brought under irrigation facilities where farmers are cultivating cash crops to earn more incomes. In collaboration with the department of Agriculture (Government of Uttarakhand) 5 farm machineries were supplied to SHGs and farmers. Due to COVID-19 lockdown the progress was hampered but necessary efforts were made for marketing of agro commodities and vegetables to various mandis and buyers.



AGRICULTURE PROJECTS

Mission Pulses Uttarakhand (MPU)

1
Brown Gahat

2
Kala Gahat - Chaptal

3
Pigeon pea or tor

4
Soyabean

5
Rajma Chitkabra

6
Rajma Harshil

7
Rajma Joshimath

8
Urad

PROJECT AIM

To enhance the incomes of 30,000 mountain pulse and legume farmers through productivity enhancement, improved post-harvest processes and collective marketing initiatives.

TARGETED COMMUNITY

30000 rural households from 500 villages across the 12 blocks

PROJECT DURATION

February 1, 2018 to January 31, 2023

SUPPORTED BY

Tata Trusts

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

Project clusters/blocks are across 9 mountain districts of Uttarakhand in (i) Walthi, Munsyari; (ii) Dugadda; (iii) Devprayag; (iv) Karnprayag; (v) Ramgarh; (vi) Kapkot; (vii) Katpuriyachina, Bageshwar; (viii) Ganeshpur, Bhatwari; (ix) Kotabag; (x) Baandal Ghati, Raipur; (xi) Chaukhutia and (xii) Silyara, Bhilangna

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To increase annual incomes of 30,000 farmer families by Rs. 50,000/- to 70,000, through improved pulse productivity and agriculture produce market development.
- To increase the production of 3 selected Pulses (Kidney bean, Horse gram, Pigeon pea) by 1.5 to 2 times.
- To reduce losses of produce by 20% through improved post-harvest processes and effective marketing.
- To make Trishulii (State level PC in UK) and 12 FPOs sustainable and profitable through the Mission Pulse - Uttarakhand.

Process of sorting and packing pulses and agro commodities

PROJECT PROGRESS UPDATE

Mission Pulses project was initiated with the aim to increase the productivity of mountain crops, reduce post harvest losses and facilitate the farmers through organized marketing system for their surplus agriculture commodities. During the past 3 year's period, 18,420 households from 410 villages has been covered under various interventions. Project has demonstrated various high yielding varieties and agronomic practices in 175 acres, the successful demonstrations has been replicated in 555 acre area by the farmers. 1500 farmers were registered under organic farming in order to make available organic commodity to the consumers and ensure higher returns to the beneficiary farmers. One centralized agro processing unit was established, which is being run by apex level FPO and all relevant licenses obtained to carry out the agri business. As of now the apex institution facilitated to cluster level cooperatives for marketing of 1548 quintals of mountain agro produce (pulses, millets, spices and cereals) under a single brand. The apex FPO is able to make forward linkages with a dozens of reputed wholesale buyers and the produce are being marketed through retail shops at Dehradun, Delhi NCR, Mumbai and many other cities and via various online platform.

PROJECT UPDATE IN FY 2020-2021

During the year 2020-21, project interventions have reached in 410 villages across nine mountain district of Uttarakhand. A total 1059 Acre area covered under various traditional and high value crops by applying improved cultivation and management practices. The successful pilot of staking in Rajma crop (kidney Bean) through vertical net was widely adopted by farmers of many clusters as it helped in production of improved quality beans and also enhanced yield approximately 4 quintals per acre. More than 20 agri commodities of mountains pulses, millets, cereals and spices are being marketed under a single Brand. Initial years were preparatory phase; therefore more focus has been given on production. During the current year, a total of 978 quintals of pulses and agriculture produce was marketed by apex FPO through various market players. Also 206 Tons of vegetables marketed by the women self-reliant cooperatives during the Covid period, this collective initiative of FPOs have helped farmers for better price realization. To promote and boost the agriculture and high value crops production, more than 140 Acre area covered under critical support irrigation and 106 composting structures were constructed for promotion of organic agriculture in selected clusters.

AGRICULTURE PROJECTS

Clean Energy Initiative for Rural Uttarakhand (Sustain+)

**PROJECT AIM**

To promote decentralized renewable energy (DRE) among rural mountain communities in order to enhance the livelihood activities.

TARGETED COMMUNITY

3,100 rural households

PROJECT DURATION

December 2019 to May 2021

SUPPORTED BY

Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiative (CINI)/ Sustain Plus Energy Foundation

Solar rice grader, Chaukhutia cluster, Almora

**PROJECT GEOGRAPHY**

186 villages of 18 clusters in 10 districts of Uttarakhand

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To provide clean and efficient energy source in the form of solar for community-based enterprises i.e. backyard poultry farming, agro-processing-cum-hybrid feed unit.
- Establishment of solar based agricultural enterprises like solar rice mill, solar millet mill.
- The post-harvest management of agricultural crops through solar based interventions i.e. solar dryers and solar cold storage.
- Provision of adequate potable water to the hill-based communities.
- Shift towards cash crop farming through establishment of solar based micro-irrigation schemes.
- Incubation of latest clean energy-based technologies to promote livelihood finance, skilling, social entrepreneurship and value chain-based marketing in the mountain specificities.

The project takes forward the clean energy initiative by incubating cutting edge technologies in the project clusters of Himmotthan. The basic infrastructures have been developed either from the project itself or dovetailed with the ongoing projects of Himmotthan, MGNREGA, Line Departments and Communities. The energy gaps in the Livestock, Agriculture and Water and Sanitation Hygiene (WaSH) themes are being addressed through adoption of clean energy based solutions in the mountain specificities. The power breakdown on accounts of heavy rain, snow-fall and variable weather conditions are leveraged with the solar energy systems. The energy efficient technologies are being tested through pilot implementation in 186 villages of 18 clusters in 10 districts of Uttarakhand to outreach more than 3,000 households.

PROJECT UPDATE IN FY 2020-2021

- Solar power plants have been commissioned in Bhawan and Jharipani clusters of Tehri district to power-back poultry incubators, brooders and backyards. In addition, solarization of poultry incubator, brooder and backyards in Pauri cluster of Pauri district is in pipeline whose installation work will be completed in the next financial year. The basic infrastructure like poultry backyards, hatcheries, birds infusion etc. have been dovetailed through other donor projects, MGNREGA and community based contribution. Collectively, above 60 households are being benefitted for un-interrupted energy supplies in their backyard poultry value chain.
- Setting-up solar based hybrid feed unit in Bhawan cluster of Tehri district to conduct grinding and mixing operations of animal feed manufacturing. The feed ingredients are processed in the hybrid feed unit whose products, by-products etc. are used in the cattle and poultry feed which is being supplied to more than 400 households.
- Establishment of solar based rice mill in Chaukhutia cluster of Almora district to process basmati, red rice, paddy etc. of more than 200 households. The sequential steps of pre-cleaning, hulling, polishing and grading of rice processing are being done under single platform of solar based mill. The newer technology has minimal horse power load with optimal efficiency which could improve the quality, shelf life and market value of the product.
- Establishment of solar based millet mill in Chandrapuri cluster of Rudrapur district to process millets (barnyard, finger millet etc.) of more than 100 households. The installed portable impact huller for the millet is developed by DHAN Foundation in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Agricultural College and International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada. The prototype was later on refined by Small Millet Foundation (SMF) a sister concern of DHAN Foundation. The huller is energy efficient with optimal efficiency and inbuilt separator mechanism for separation of finished product and husk which was otherwise separated manually in the traditional millet huller. In addition, portable multi-deck grader has been commissioned to grade agro-produce (millet, pulses and spices etc.). These machines are retro-fitted with the solar powered pv system to sustain the millet mill operations.
- Incubation of Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) technologies for solar dryers i.e. Forced Circulation Solar Dryer (FCSD) and Evacuated Tube Collector (ETC). The Direct Current (D.C) driven solar dryers of 135 Kg capacities each in Dugadda cluster (Pauri) and Kotabagh cluster (Nainital); D.C driven solar dryers of 40 Kg capacities each in Kalimath cluster (Rudrapur) and Ganeshpur cluster (Uttarkashi) have been commissioned. The solar dryers are being applicable for agricultural and livestock products, by-products to reduce drying time; protection against flies, pest, rain, dust which increases quality in terms of nutrients, hygiene and colour.
- The setting up of an FPO level integrated demo centre- a cold storage room powered by solar panels for efficient storage of millets, cereals, pulses etc. of different cooperatives across Uttarakhand state. The agro-produce collected from more than 2,000 households are being stored under optimum temperature of +4 degree Celsius to +20 degree Celsius and recommended relative humidity values to enhance the shelf life of the products which can be therefore marketed on demand basis to get best remuneration prices. The solar based cold storage of 3000 CFT has been commissioned at Mohebewala, Dehradun.



- The light emitting and bio-acoustic based solar animal repellent devices are being piloted in around 8 ha. agricultural land of more than 80 households in Jharipani cluster (Tehri), Bandalghati cluster (Dehradun), Chaukhutia cluster (Almora) and Dugadda cluster (Pauri) to protect agricultural crops from wild animal attacks.

More than 100 households were benefitted through solar based micro-irrigation schemes in village Dangala of Bhawan cluster (Tehri), village Uttron (Simoldi) of Ganeshpur cluster (Uttarkashi) and village Rampur of Chaukhutia cluster (Almora). The solar pumping systems have been established in these villages to lift rivulet and spring water to the storage tanks. Both surface as well as submersible pumping systems have been adopted as per site requirement. The ready to use Geo-Farm tanks have been established for water storage purposes. The existing RCC tanks in the villages have also been used for storage purposes. The rain fed agricultural land of around 12 ha. is being transformed towards cash crop farming through implementation of these schemes. The project enables to form 'water users committees' in the villages to look-after the schemes. The nominal charges are being collected on seasonal basis from their individual agricultural income for further O & M.

- Solar based water lifting schemes (drinking and irrigation) have been commissioned in Ayal and Bhainsro villages of Pauri cluster in dist. Pauri to provide potable water for 177 households. The project

has established basic infrastructure as well as solar pumping systems. One of the source tank for water collection in Ayal village has been constructed in convergences with MGNERGA. The solar energy is being harnessed to lift potable spring water to the storage tanks which is further distributing through GI pipelines and stand poles across the villages. The overflow water is being discharged through HDPE pipes, LDPE tanks and sprinkler sets for micro-irrigation of around 7 ha agricultural land. The water users' committees have been formed to enable functioning of the schemes. The monthly/ bi-annually/ annually basis nominal charges are being collected from individual HH for O & M.

- Immediate relief in response to cloudburst in the village clusters of Toli (Baram), block Dharchula and Walthi (Bangapani), block Munsiyari in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand in July- August, 2020. Total 70 solar lanterns were distributed to the affected households where power supplies were badly disrupted.
- Around 1,400 farmers trained through 27 decentralized training programs (technical and clean energy) in the project clusters of Uttarakhand in accordance with the Covid guidelines of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India, Govt. of Uttarakhand and Local Administrations.

1
Solar Dryer, Dugadda, Pauri Garhwal

2
Field visit, Kotabagh

AGRICULTURE PROJECT

Lakhpatti Kisan Project

PROJECT AIM

The programme aims to ensure that households are irrevocably brought out of poverty with increased life choices, and earn an income of more than Rupees One Lakh.

TARGETED COMMUNITY

10,000 farmers in rural hilly areas

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

200 villages of Chamba, Raipur, Karanprayag, Dugadda, Devprayag, Bageshwar, Kotabag, Munsyari Blocks in Uttarakhand

PROJECT DURATION

October 2018 – September 2021

SUPPORTED BY

Axis Bank Foundation and Tata Trusts

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Community centered approach, where the Self Help Group (SHG) Federation and village organizations spearheading the development process.
- Market-led interventions, to ensure higher production and to markets. Various options of market linkages have been worked out with aggregation for dealing with traders and in places working with Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO).
- Demand-led activities, to enable increased demand from the community through their empowerment. Through the community institutions, demands from within the community are collated and quality products (seeds, fertilizers, etc.) and services provided to the households. The emphasis is towards creating demand for better livelihoods rather than dependency on doles.
- Innovations to move beyond stereotype. Innovative products / activities such as soil-less nurseries, loan based livelihood prototypes, solar irrigation linked with drip and mulch, farm mechanization, etc are being focused along with the innovative processes of community leading the action.



7 districts & 8 blocks



200 villages with
10,000 HHs



Community institutions
500 SHGs, 9 FPOs,
1 apex body



Critical irrigation support

243 Hac. - 1975 HHs



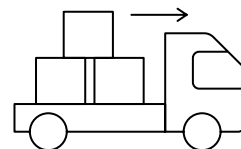
Production Enhancement

247 Hac. - 4611 HHs



Layering

Semi intensive goat rearing
Micro-dairies & Honey value chain



Market linkages

848 Qtls. agri produce marketed
58.85 lakhs worth of milk sold
400 kgs of mountain honey sold



1,2
Women doing traditional bee keeping at her house

3
Bee expert giving training of bee handling

4
Himalayan wildflowers honey for sale

5
Fertilizer application in wheat crop at Bandalghati

6
Goat rearing

PROJECT PROGRESS UPDATE

The duration of Oct 2020 – Sep 2021 is the third and final year of project implementation. First year of the project was majorly focused on baseline survey, need assessment and community mobilization. The major project activities took a pace in second year of the project with implementation of various irrigation schemes, farm-based activities, setting up of micro-dairies, Honey Value Chain and Goatry interventions.

The second year of the project has also witnessed some slowdown in the field activities due to Covid pandemic but, the project strategies are molded accordingly in an attempt to remain focus towards the project aim. The third and the last year of project is focusing mainly on completion and evaluation of activities with further related documentation.



A CASE STUDY

SOWING THE SEEDS OF PROSPERITY

Heera Devi and Sher Singh live in Sainj village in Bageshwar district, Uttarakhand. Their main source of income came from cultivating their 0.55 acre of land on which they grew traditional crops using traditional methods of farming. Their only option during the Rabi season was to grow local varieties of wheat, which had a high risk of low irrigation and pests diseases. With no intercultural operations, a lack of technical input and no economic assessment of the crops grown, their yield was often low. Moreover, they lacked access to proper storage facilities and proper production harvesting practices, and so, despite depending on agriculture for the better part of their income, they were losing heart. Theirs is not a unique experience; across the region, many small farmers suffered the same conditions.

OLD IS NOT ALWAYS GOLD

Traditional practices can be good in many ways; however, what worked many decades ago may not always work as well in today's changing landscapes and in changed weather patterns. For instance, seeds are undoubtedly the basic and most vital single input that plays a key role in boosting agricultural productivity. In the hilly regions of Uttarakhand, where their livelihood depends on agriculture, farmers use locally stored seeds for cultivation, following old traditional methods of farming. It is all they know. However, the seeds are not always stored well, or graded according to productivity. Ignorant of the change in cultivation practices and post-harvest technologies, and with little to no access to the skills, knowledge, inputs and infrastructure for seed production, this hardy folk continued the vicious cycle of putting more into the land than they got out of it.

1
Saplings of Okra for sale, Kotabagh

2
Garlic seed sowing in lines at Kotabagh cluster

Himmotthan Society's seed production initiative is inspiring villagers in the Central Himalayan region to adopt improved seed varieties along with the traditional ones.

THE NECESSARY IMPETUS

Himmotthan society procured approximately 1.45 lakh VL3 seedlings from Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan (VPKAS), transplanting them in 0.27 hectares of land across Kathpuriyacheena (Bageshwar) and Ganeshpur (Uttar Kashi) to observe production and see if the yield of the new variety improved in comparison with the local (N53) variety of onions. 33 farmers across the two clusters took part in this initial demonstration that was closely monitored by VPKAS scientists and experts from the Trusts. The results were excellent – farmers obtained an average yield of 23.8 tonnes per hectare (10.3 t/ha for traditional varieties) of the new crop in the Ganeshpur cluster and 23.2 t/ha (19.2 for local varieties) in the Kathpuriyacheena cluster. The improved yield made farmers more open to the new seeds; more acreage came under commercial onion production in subsequent years.

Later on, under its agriculture initiatives, Himmotthan introduced a few more crops – and farmers could sign on to provide demonstration fields. As they learnt improved cultivation practices, Heera Devi and Sher Singh agreed to try the improved, high-yielding variety of wheat. They also started an onion nursery in a 0.09-acre plot. With quality planting material and a proper package of practices for selling to other farmers, the couple managed to sell 1300 onion saplings and earned a profit of Rs11,775 in just a month and a half.

A NEW FUTURE

Once the success of the VL3 variety was demonstrated in the field, the demand for the seeds increased. So Himmotthan began a seed production programme through Baandalghati Swayam Sehkari, Raipur, Dehradun, registered under the Uttarakhand State Seed and Organic Production Certification Agency (USS&OPCA), Dehradun. The seed production programme was implemented under the technical guidance of VPKAS scientists, experts from the Trusts, and the Uttarakhand Seed Certification Agency. Seeds for the trial were chosen for yield performance, bolting characteristics and shelf life, in comparison with local/traditional varieties. The strategy was simple: select fields with low or no incidence of disease at all, segregate the cultivation of onions and plant wheat and onion in rotation, and implement an appropriate package of practices to ensure a good yield.

Himmotthan also developed a well-thought-out standardised process for planting, storing and marketing the produce.

- Procure 'breeder' seeds from VPKAS
- Identify warmer areas for production
- Manage/control diseases like purple blotch and thrips at nursery stage by growing onions as the sole crop
- Introduce honeybees for cross pollination
- Invest in hail nets to protect the crop from rain and hail
- Establish seed testing, processing, bagging and tagging facilities
- Store the crop in well-designed vertical racks in well-ventilated godowns, and treat bulbs with Bavistin during storage
- Obtain necessary licenses from state authorities for Women Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO) for seed certification, processing and marketing
- Implement a marketing plan through Women FPOs.

SUSTAINABLE IMPACT

Heera Devi and Sher Singh used to earn Rs670 from .05 acre of traditional wheat crop; with the new, improved, high-yielding varieties, they now earn Rs1,150 from the same acreage. With their onion nursery also proving fruitful, the couple reduced the area under wheat cultivation and replaced it with onion; they grew onions in 0.08-acre, onion seed crop in 0.13-acre and expanded their onion nursery to 0.15-acre. Their income increased exponentially, earning them profits of Rs8,760 (onion bulbs), Rs 28,875 (onion seeds) and Rs20,600 (onion nursery).

Partnership programs साझेदारी परियोजनाएं

Partnerships support and build the capacity of the Himmotthan Society in implementing the community based programs in some of the remotest parts of the hilly state of Uttarakhand. Apart from leveraging the funds, Himmotthan also provides and gets the technical knowledge of different domains in the development sector through some of these partnerships.





PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

Integrated Village Development Program

The 2013 flash floods in Uttarakhand had uprooted the lives of many Inhabitants across Uttarakhand. Many acres of agriculture land that once sustained the livelihoods of the rural communities were washed away in hours. The CSR division of the Titan Company Limited in partnership with Himmotthan Society designed and is implementing the project. IVDP was an Initiative that aimed to rebuild rural livelihoods in 20 villages of Jaunpur and Chamba block in Tehri Garhwal district of Uttarakhand.

PROJECT AIM

To enhance the quality of life for over 1300 HHs (population of 6900) through self-sustained institutions and sustainable and resilient livelihood interventions.

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

20 villages in Jaunpur & Chamba block of Tehri Garhwal

PROJECT DURATION

2015-2021

SUPPORTED BY

Titan Company Limited

**CLUSTER TO VALLEY APPROACH**

Himmatthan is executing the IVDP program taking the Cluster to Valley Approach. Two clusters have been taken up under the Project i.e. Bhawan and Jharipani Cluster. Bhawan Cluster falls under the Aglar River Valley System and Jharipani Cluster falls under the Hewal Valley System. The former represents a sub-tropical moist deciduous landscape, favourable for a wide diversity of agriculture-horticulture, the latter is a representation of temperate landscape ideal for livestock, horticulture and off-seasonal vegetables, the climate and geography is an attraction for the tourists.

VALUE CHAIN APPROACH

IVDP project has tried to capitalize upon the positives associated with both the landscapes and put into place catalytic interventions both at the Individual and at aggregate level. At the core of this approach is the Women's led Community Institution in the form of Women's Self Reliant Cooperatives.

THE VALUE CHAINS THAT HAVE BEEN TARGETED INCLUDE

- Livestock (Small ruminants including poultry | Large ruminant based value chains)
- Off seasonal vegetables
- Local coarse grains based cattle feed unit (Fortified balance cattle feed)
- Rural tourism
- Horticulture with focus on peach & apple

In all the above value chains, the project has tried to plug in the critical gap areas in an effort to maximize the associated benefits both at the individual and community level.

CORE ISSUES

- Challenges of scattered habitation
- Cluster of villages with homogeneous resources yet uneven distribution

STRATEGY ADOPTED

- To keep women at the core of all activities
- SHG model with a difference

TOOLS ADOPTED

- Individual oriented and collective income enhancement measures SHG model with a difference measures
- Basket approach (livestock/agri-horti/off farm/micro-enterprise)
- Women headed apex community institution over the SHGs
- Scale up convergence



RESULT SUMMARY

- The agriculture land that was rendered barren after the 2013 flash floods was taken up for restoration. Till date more than 20 hectares have been restored, benefiting more than 68 families.
- 450 farmers are directly or indirectly associated through the hybrid cattle feed unit.
- The traditional fruit belt is being revived under the project, till date more than 4375 fruit trees have been planted benefiting more than 47 farmers.
- Six villages have been brought under rural tourism intervention. Business to the tune of 12.5 Lakh was undertaken in the year 2018-19, 19-20. Regular and repeat clientele has been assured through quality delivery of services.
- Two Women's Self-Reliant Cooperatives representing 83 Self Help Groups, 873 members established and functional
- The combined savings of the members is Rs. 5846730.00
- Both the Self Reliant Cooperatives have ventured into area specific rural enterprise and are doing business amounting to Rs. 104 Lakhs annually.
- Local enterprise has become fulcrum for localized growth. The enterprises that have been set and are being nurtured towards sustenance includes

PROJECT SUSTENANCE PLAN

Women's Cooperative sustaining the Project Interventions

Under the Integrated Village Development Project, two Women's Cooperatives have been established. The Cooperatives consists of 111 Women's Self Help Group representing 1159 members. The Savings of both the groups as on September 2019 is Rs. 6,634,160.

Over the years the two established Women's Self-Reliant Cooperatives have been able to establish need based enterprises in respective clusters. Jointly both the Cooperatives are doing an annual business of more than 104 Lakhs through different enterprises.

111 Women's Self Help Group

1159 members



A CASE STUDY

Reclaiming Washed Out Agriculture Fields



Potato and Rice

These are the two crops which farmers are now taking from the reclaimed agriculture lands.

The flash floods that hit Uttarakhand in the year 2013 also affected the community in the Jaunpur block of Tehri Garhwal. The major effect was felt by families whose agriculture land was close to the river beds. Prior to the 2013 flash floods most of the families used this land for cultivation of Potato and rice. The two crops taken annually were able to sustain the families. Potato being a cash crop and the potato grown in these areas often fetched a premium price.

The project took up land reclamation work through Women's Self Help Groups and has a mandate of reclaim 25 ha of land. The project has been able to rebuild agriculture land of 68 families. 28 hectares of land has been reclaimed so far.

PROJECT INTERVENTIONS & RESULTS

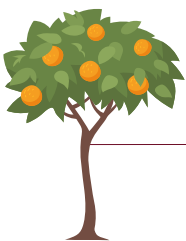
Twenty hectares of agriculture land belonging to more than 87 families have been made fit for agriculture. Farmers are now taking two crops Potato and Rice from the reclaimed agriculture lands.

Crops	Area (ha)	Production per ha (Qtls)		Avg. rate Rs./kg	Sale price realised (Rs.)	
		Irrigated	Non Irrigated		Irrigated	Non Irrigated
Potato	1	205	105	12	246000	126000
Rice	1	30	17	11	33000	18700



A CASE STUDY

Revival of the Orchard Belt of Tehri



*4375 fruit trees planted
47+ farmers benefited
2,14,092+ kg production
from 4-5 years onwards*

The Chamba-Jharipani belt along with parts of Jaunpur block of Tehri Garhwal had been the traditional fruit belt of Uttarakhand and sustained the local community. Over the years a series of factors contributed in decline in the horticulture based livelihood.

Through the project, efforts are being made to revive the fruit belt. Quality planting material, good orchard management practices is being introduced. Old orchards are being revived and new ones are being developed. The first Peach and Apple Orchard was planted in the year 2016, since then continuous efforts are being made to revive the fruit belt.

RESULTS

- More than 4199 fruit trees planted so far
- Introduction of scientific orchard lay out practices
- Introduction of high density orchard practices
- Introduction of improved fruit tree varieties
- Introduction of orchard management practices

BENEFITS

- More than 47 farmers benefited
- 4375 Fruit Trees Planted
- Production of more than 214092 Kg from 4-5 year onwards



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

Livelihood Skills Uttarakhand (LSU)

Himmotthan Society is implementing Livelihood Skill Uttarakhand (LSU) project in partnership mode with 'Uttarakhand State Rural Livelihood Mission (USRLM) in Five hill Districts of Uttarakhand. The five blocks from five Districts include; Pauri (Pauri Garhwal), Chiniyalisaur (Uttarkashi), Ukhimath (Rudraprayag), Betalghat (Nainital) and Berinag (Pithoragarh). The main objective of the programme is to promote rural livelihood with the approach of establishing self-sustainable community institutions.

PROJECT AIM

To enhance the income of over 12,500 poor households to over Rs. 1 Lakh per annum over a period of 5 years.

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

5 blocks from 5 districts of Uttarakhand -

1. Pauri (Pauri)
2. Chiniyalisaur (Uttarkashi)
3. Ukhimath (Rudraprayag)
4. Betalghat (Nainital)
5. Berinag (Pithoragarh)

PROJECT PARTNER

Uttarakhand State Rural Livelihood Mission (USRLM)

Farm LH Training, Ukhimath



OBJECTIVE

- A strong and vibrant community Institutions including over 5000 SHGs, 604 VO and 49 CLF will be formed and strengthened.
- Over 20,000 women will be skilled in various rural enterprise linked skills
- Poor households will be linked to different livelihood activities through financial inclusion worth of Rs.32.3 Crore
- 49 Cluster Level Federations will be involved in operation and management of different rural enterprises.
- Over 2000 independent entrepreneurs/ skilled local youth directly placed in employment

PROJECT UPDATE

The project is in its third year of implementation. A total of 627 villages and 18887 HHs have been covered till Mar 2021. 132 villages and 1864 households have been covered in FY 2020-21, which also includes 292 households from the Socio-Economic Caste Census. The aim is to include the most vulnerable and marginalized at first so as to uplift rural communities by alleviating poverty by including the households coming under the Socio-Economic Caste Census.

A total 10112 beneficiary has been trained on various skill development training out of which 7952 beneficiary has started income generation activity till Mar 2021. 5893 beneficiary has been given skill development training out of which 5253 beneficiary has started income generation activity in the FY 2020-21.



Generating income
5253

Trained
5893

FY 2020-21

7952

Generating income

10,112

Trained

Till Mar 2021

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- A cadre of 860 community resource persons, book keeper, active women, and other Block level trainers has been formed at village level.
- Financial inclusion through releasing Revolving fund and Community Investment Fund to 2407 CBOs, till March, 2021. Also, 768 SHGs have been linked with the bank for CCL in the last financial year.
- Micro credit plan (MCP) of 850 SHGs has been developed to start various livelihood activities and a sum of Rs. 13.00Cr has been released from URLM as financial inclusion to these SHGs and the village organizations in total.
- 3777 HH has been trained on various Skill Enhancement of groups/ Cooperative on institution building, business planning (Nos. of CBOs)
- 5893 HH has been trained on various farm and Non-Farm related activities for livelihood generation activity.
- 5253 HH has started income generation activity after being trained on various farm and non-farm related activities.
- CCL linkage camps were also organized by various banks at the block as well as district level to disburse the amount sanctioned as the Cash Credit Limit.
- Training on developing one's own Nutrition garden has been the limelight of the FY as this initiative not only helped women to develop their skill and create livelihood opportunities but also improve their health.
- FMB in convergence with Agriculture department has been established to reduce the drudgery of the Women farmer in the project area.
- 22 community led enterprise has been set up to enhance the income generation activity of the beneficiary in the project area.
- Setting up 01 Micro dairy unit, 10 Fruits, vegetables and Flower Nursery, 01 Local Poultry Birds Hatchery Unit, 25 Backyards units, 02 Common Facility Centre (Input-Output Centre), Dona-Patel Making Unit, 01 Local Traditional Music Bands Unit formed
- 44 livelihood activities have been incubated in the project area at village and CBOs level as income generation activity.
- Women have been trained on LED making at Macro level to boost the confidence of the women engaged to start their own enterprise.
- Awareness on Covid_19 has been the prime focus on each and every capacity building training programme in the current FY.
- Training on mask preparation has been imparted in the project area which leads to the overall income generation activity of the beneficiary.

The impact of the pandemic reached the rural population and impacted their livelihood. In the initial days of the pandemic, there were no training conducted to build the livelihood of the people but later the third quarter turned out to be a blessing in disguise. The women were provided with various skill developments training resulting in boosting their sources of livelihood generation. The training included Mushroom cultivation, Strawberry cultivation, Bag making, Ringal craft making, Prasad making and many more. The trainings have been conducted by following all the Covid protocols.

Burans juice making in Chinyalisour



Woolen products of SRC (Rudraprayag)



Various domain skill trainings farm & off farm based have been conducted at the block level with the support of LSU, NRLM, RSETI and other line Department, listed as below -

- Fodder plantation techniques including soil water conservation,
- Micro dairy and animal husbandry practices
- Backyard poultry
- Fish Production and Management
- Goatry breed Improvement & Management
- Vegetable cultivation
- Nursery Management
- Pickle making
- Strawberry cultivation
- Mushroom cultivation
- Farm Mechanization/Custom Hiring Centre
- Floriculture
- Handicraft Skill Development,
- Hawan Samagri (Puja Samagri) Preparation,
- Orientation on Dona-patal preparation etc.



1
Traditional music band
led by SRC

2
FMB Training in Village
Bhenta Pauri

3
FMB Training in Village
Bhenta Pauri



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

Uttarakhand Forest Resource Management Project (UFRMP)

Uttarakhand Forest Department & Himmotthan Society is working with more than 12,500 families in 202 Van Panchayats of Uttarakhand covering three forest divisions - Narendranagar, Lansdowne Soil Conservation & Tehri Dam 1. Under this project, Himmotthan Society has formed 5 Cooperatives and 368 Self Help Groups to ensure the socio economic development of the community.

PROJECT AIM

UFRMP project aims at controlling forest degradation, improvement of livelihood options and income generating activities of the people living in the target area thereby reducing their dependence on forests.

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

Himmotthan Society is implementing the livelihood development program with the help of Uttarakhand Forest Department in three Forest Divisions & 7 Forest Ranges of Uttarakhand Forest Divisions: Narendranagar, Lansdowne Soil Conservation & Tehri Dam.

TARGETED COMMUNITY

Uttarakhand Forest department & Himmotthan Society are working with more than 12,500 families in 202 Van Panchayats of Uttarakhand covering all these three divisions. Under this project Himmotthan Society has formed 5 Cooperative and 368 Self Help Groups to ensure the socio economic development of the community.

SUPPORTED BY

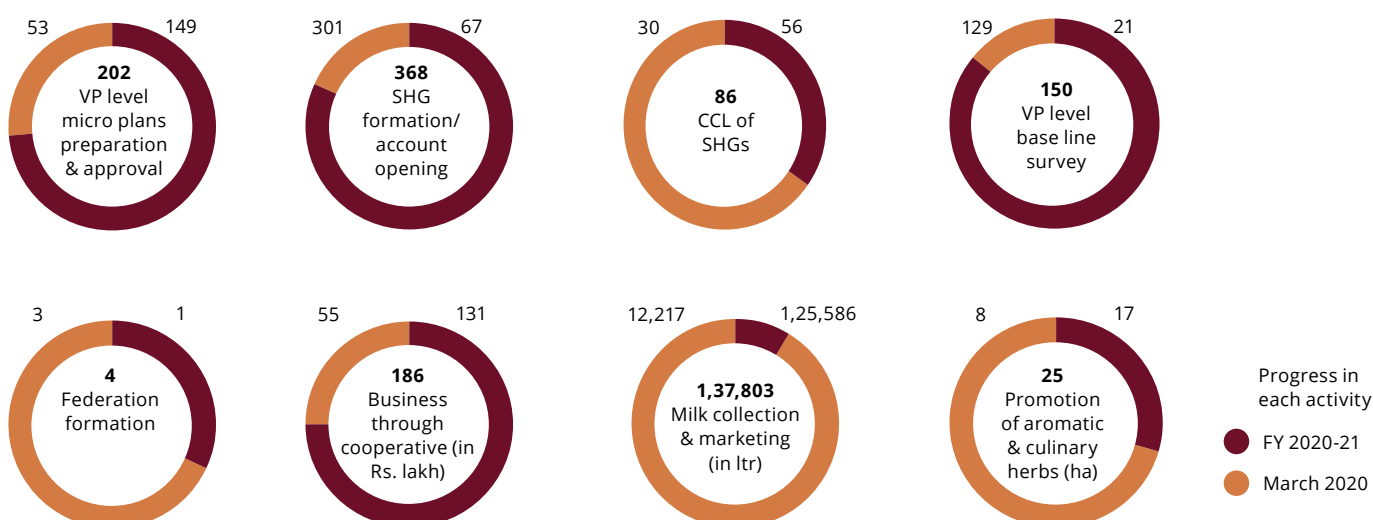
Forest Department Uttarakhand under UFRMP - JICA project

OBJECTIVE

- Implementing the key conditions to promote women's empowerment and gender mainstreaming in social, economic, and financial activities
- Ensuring the key factors to support women in their leading role in the cooperative activities
- Implementing successful strategies applied by the cooperative to promote small farmers inclusion and their livelihood improvement
- Promotion of successful approaches to promote a sustainable and efficient culture of savings and loans investments at familiar and community level
- Identify & implement key factors for the promotion of new small rural business amongst the small farmers through
- Skill development and implementation of good practices in farm and off farm activities.

PROJECT UPDATE

Himmotthan Society is approaching every single farmers living in the project areas through the Self Help Groups and cooperative formed by the project and work together to provide a sustainable livelihood and actively work to reduce their dependence on the local forests through their supports and interventions. Under this approach Himmotthan Society is trying to develop a relationship among the community in such a way that they would be able to contribute in the use of their resources with more efficient way. HMS is developing social capital among the community with the help of community based institution formed in the project areas. Under this approach HMS ensures the bonding among the community to make sure their work as a team to get economy of scale as a tool to make profit for its CBOs. This project is running in the three divisions & 202 Van Panchayats; having many cast, class, religion, groups etc. with greater diversity but we are also bridging them with the help of CBOs and make them understand their reality of similar interest. HMS is also working to enhance their social capital to link them with new market players, technical experts, different government and civil society bodies etc. to certify their betterment.



Adopting all new technologies & standard practices played a major role to provide a good rate to the community in the intervention areas.

AROMATIC & CULINARY HERBS CLUSTER

The Lansdowne division is being developed to provide a range of high value aromatic & culinary herbs products. More than 110 families in 10 villages have adopted this intervention as a source of their livelihood as adverse condition of traditional agriculture due to migration, rain fed areas, wild animal's related issues etc. Himmotthan Society is now started promotion of these high value products through branding, packaging, quality ensuring and other value addition techniques under the umbrella of community based institutions.

MILK DAIRY INITIATIVE

Dairy is one of another major intervention run by the cooperative to provide income generation activity in the Narendranagar Division. This intervention reached a land mark of collection and marketing of more than 550 ltr. Per day in just one year through its cooperative only due to the strong social bonding among the community. This Dairy activity is adopting all new technologies and standard practices and helping the society to come out of exploitative nature of traditional milk collection methods of milk man or Bichauliyas. This intervention played a major role to provide a good rate to the community in the intervention areas. In the current year average rate of milk per ltr. Provided to community was Rs. 32/ltr which is significant higher than the baseline data of Rs. 23 -24 / ltr before the intervention. This Community based activity is not only benefiting the members associated with the dairy but a large group of members indirectly just because of new competitor as cooperative in the area and hike in the milk rate due to this intervention. This self-sustainable model of dairy earned a profit of around Rs. 2 Lakhs in this financial year for its cooperative after deduction of all operational costs excluding around Rs. 40 Lakhs payment to the farmers. Apart from these interventions; cooperative provided Face Mask to their community to protect them in the current pandemic situation from its profit through different activities to ensure the social bonding among communities. Through the project walnut plants (CITH variety) is provided to communities to enhance their income. Total 2841 walnut plants were provided to the community with facilities like tree guards, geo tagging etc.



Rs. 23-24/ltr

BEFORE

Rs. 32/ltr

AFTER

Interventions in Himachal Pradesh

हिमांचल प्रदेश परियोजना कार्य

Himachal Pradesh with 90% of the total population residing in rural areas and 62% of the total workforce employed directly in agriculture and allied sectors, is a predominantly an agriculture economy. Around 67% of the total geographical area of the state is forestland and only 12% is net sown area under agriculture.

Land holding size in the state is very small and 70% of the farmers are marginal farmer with average land holding of 0.4 Ha.



Himmotthan is working in 64 villages and around 7842 HHs of three districts, i.e. Kangra, Sirmour & Hamirpur.

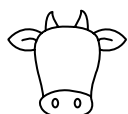
POTENTIAL INTERVENTION AREAS



Promotion of feed & fodder resources



Backyard poultry



Micro-dairy



Semi-intensive goatry



Clean Energy, WaSH



Agriculture & horticulture



Institutional development

Further land fragmentation and externalities like wildlife conflicts. Livestock rearing, which supplement the farm income is also becoming difficult for farmers due to acute fodder scarcity and lack of milk marketing facilities in the state.

Fodder plantation on common and private lands was identified as one of the key intervention area to start with. A strong need of establishing a milk marketing networks through micro dairy enterprises has emerged. Backyard poultry and goatry units are found most suitable for landless and marginalized farmers and has a potential to be extended to more areas in a value chain approach. Under agriculture two major intervention areas have emerged -

- Maintaining the farm biodiversity
- Farm interventions in wildlife infested areas.

TRUST INTERVENTIONS

Tata Trusts under its philanthropic initiative has started development interventions in Himachal Pradesh under the Himmotthan Pariyojana programmes (HMP) in year 2005. So far, over 10,500 households in 90 villages of 5 mountain districts have been benefitted through different interventions, with a financial assistance of Rs.30 million were supported under Himmotthan Pariyojana, for piloting and idea incubation in the state.

Key interventions carried out in mountain areas of Himachal are:

2005-2012: Watershed Development and Sustaining Mountain Livelihoods

The project was implemented in 27 villages, benefiting more than 1300 Households of four districts (i.e. Mandi, Bilaspur, Sirmour and Kangra), and treated around 2,400-hectare land under micro-watershed approach.

2011-2013: Drinking Water and Sanitation Support

This project assisted drinking water and sanitation facilities in 6 villages of Sirmour district, benefiting around 150 household of remote villages.

Research Support to YS Parmar University, Solan (H.P).

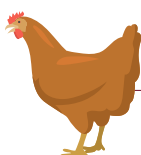
Five projects were carried out in partnership with the University with the aim to enhance productivity and diversification in the Central Himalayan regions, different R&D Projects on need based interventions were carried out with the following departments-Entomology, Environmental Science & Vegetable Science. These projects along with their field extensions covered over 2,000 farmers (880 with direct involvement in the projects, while another 1,450 as indirect beneficiaries.

INTERVENTIONS IN DISTRICT KANGRA

In 2018, Trusts has initiated development initiatives focusing on livestock based interventions in Himachal, with the aim to reach out to the farmers, especially tribal women farmers of the state, organize them under farmer's institutions and promote livestock based livelihoods. Currently, livestock interventions are going on in two village clusters in Baijnath and Rait block of District Kangra, consisting of a total of 40 villages having over 3000 households, mainly belongs to Schedule Tribes Gaddis and Gujjars. Considering, 26% fodder scarcity in the state, focus has been given on promotion of improved fodder varieties on common land, and forage crops in private land to meet out household's fodder requirement and also to reduce women drudgery in livestock management. Gradually, a community led decentralised dairy units will be set-up to provide better price to farmers and to meet out milk and milk products requirements of peri-urban centres.

INTERVENTIONS IN DISTRICT KANGRA

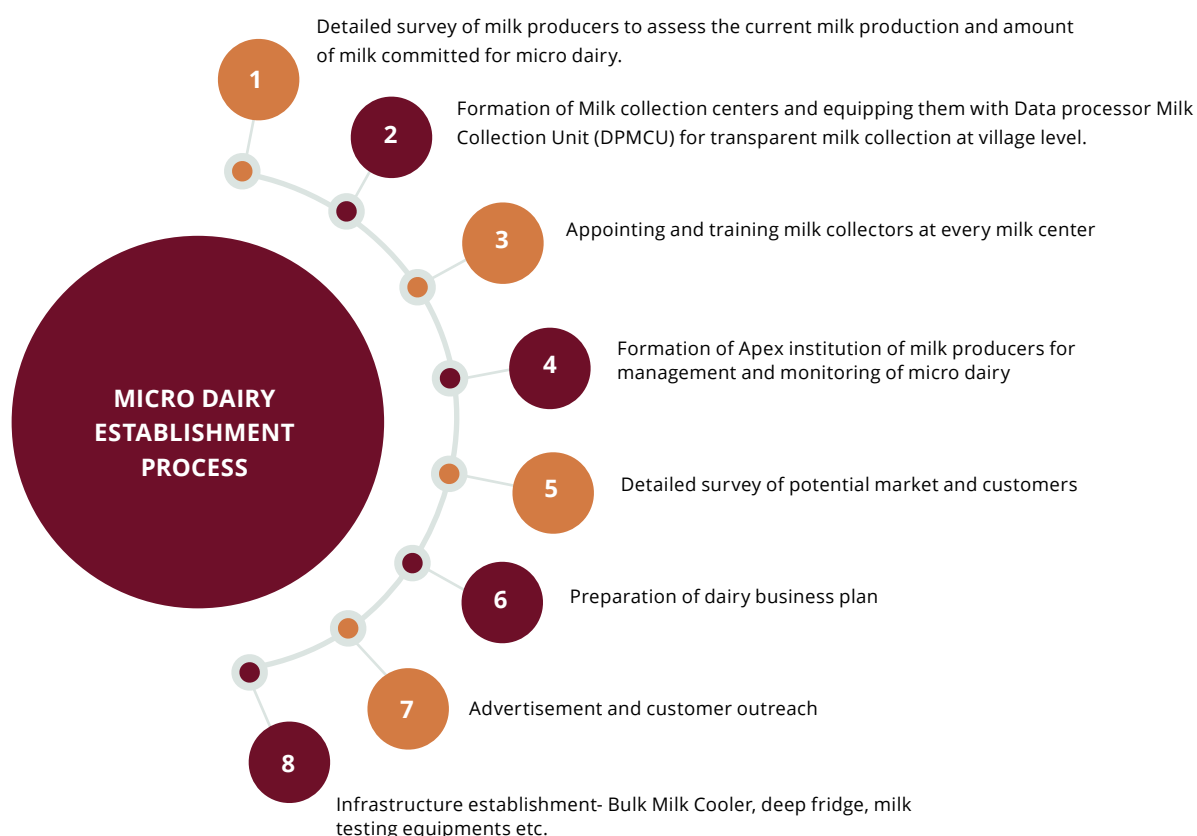
Central Himalayan Livestock Initiative (CHLI); Himachal Chapter



*32 poultry backyards established
45 cattle shed renovation
9 animal health camps
20 livestock trainings carried out*

CHLI programme in Himachal Pradesh started with the focus of strengthening livestock value chains and establishing community led business enterprises around livestock. In the initial two years, major emphasis is given on strengthening the dairy value chain and takes up fodder promotion, forage cultivation animal health and management practices for building the base for stabling micro dairy enterprise. Overall 32 ha fodder plantation on common lands and Ghasnis (Community owned pasture lands), 116 ha forage cultivation on private, 45 cattle shed renovation, 9 animal health camps and around 20 livestock trainings were carried out to strengthening dairy value chain. One micro dairy enterprise is established in Boh Drini cluster in March 2021. Apart from dairy value chain, poultry and Goatry promotion and cultivation of high value crops were promoted to provide additional incomes to the farmers. In the last three years 32 poultry backyards were established and equipped with poultry birds, poultry feed and drinkers and feeders. High value crops like onion, garlic, peas were promoted on 4 ha land.

- One community led micro dairy has been established in Boh Drini cluster of Kangra district for marketing of surplus milk produced in the cluster.
- 98 Ha fodder plantation and forage crop cultivation carried out on common and private land.
- A joint project on, community fodder interventions and capacity building on animal health in collaboration with DGCN College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences CSK HPKV Palampur, initiated in two clusters.
- 45 SHG has been linked with State Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM).
- Micro dairy establishment





The dairy outlet, “Dhauladhar Dairy” is established in local Tehsil level market in Shahpur town where glass bottled milk and milk products are sold and home delivered. The outlet is fed by milk, sourced from 6 milk collection centers established at village level and collected at BMC established at cluster level. In its first month of establishment Dhauladhar Dairy has daily milk collection of 150 liters in the first months and around 85 milk pourers and 6 milk collectors associated at present which will be increased to 500 liters in coming months.

FODDER AND FORAGE CROP PROMOTION

Two nurseries of fodder trees and grasses were established during monsoon and winter season to ensure the local availability of planting material for fodder plantations on common land during next year. Plantations of fodder trees and grasses were carried out on 16 ha common lands and degraded grasslands (Ghasanis) in collaboration with MGNREGA and local community. Two new perennial fodder grass varieties- Paspalum and Brachiaria were sourced from Indian Grass and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI) and introduced in the field. Farmers were provided improved quality seeds of forage crops like Jawar, Bajara, Jai and Barseem on subsidized rates for plantation on 82 ha private lands. Total around 7500 Quintal fodder and green forage was produced in two clusters during year 2020-21.



INTERVENTIONS IN DISTRICT KANGRA

Integrated Micro Finance (IMF)

Integrated Micro Finance (IMF) project started in year 2018 in two clusters of Kangra district with the focus of establishing community institutions on the ground and enabling easy credit to the community members. In the last three years project has organized 125 vibrant SHGs having member base of more than 1200 rural women. Regular trainings and capacity building of the SHGs representatives and members have been organized on institutional development and financial systems. Regular monitoring and hand holding support on institutional and financial aspects is provided by Himmotthan to the SHGs. Over period, SHGs have mobilised saving of Rs. 19 Lakh and provided credit access of around Rs. 6 lakhs through inter-lending. Under integrated approach of Himmotthan, group members are trained and linked with income generation activities of agriculture, micro dairy, Poultry and goatry rearing. To further strengthen their livelihoods and provide access to larger ongoing Govt. programmes groups are linked with SRLM.

In last one year Himmotthan focused on strengthening the community base it has built in the last two years of its intervention by expanding the SHG base in two clusters. Around 37 new SHGs were formed, trained on financial and institutional aspects and linked with the bank. In the year 2020-21 more than Rs. 10 lakhs were mobilised as monthly saving. The inter-lending within groups enabled group members to access easy credit support of Rs. 72000 for income generation and Rs. 432400 for consumptive use. Himmotthan has established its first community led business enterprise in the form of micro dairy in Boh Drini cluster to provide livelihoods opportunities to the group members. Himmotthan is also linking these groups with State Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM) for availing the benefits of the scheme. 45 SHGs are linked with SRLM in the current year. This will make them eligible to get various funds under financial inclusion for their income enhancement at individual, Group and federation level.

37

SHGs formed

283Women members
organized under SHGs**45**SHGs linked
with SRLM**10,01,220**Total savings
mobilized among SHGs**828**SHG members
trained on
institutional
development on
farm & farm off
based activities**5,98,400**Inter loaning mobilized
within SHGs

INTERVENTIONS IN DISTRICT KANGRA

Joint Project on Fodder Promotion and Livestock Management With DGCN College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences CSK HPKV Palampur

Himmotthan has collaborated with DGCN College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences CSK HPKV Palampur to start a joint project on, community fodder interventions and capacity building on animal health in two clusters with the financial support of NABARD. Under this three years collaboration, the college is providing technical training and resource support to Himmotthan to carry out fodder demonstrations and forage promotions in two clusters. Regular trainings and animal health camps are organized under the technical guidance of college on animal health, disease prevention, better cattle management practices, animal feed preparation etc.



INTERVENTIONS IN DISTRICT KANGRA

Promotion of Animal Health and Better Management Practices

A major emphasis is given in improving the health, living conditions of livestock and providing them a healthy and hygienic environment. One animal health camp and 13 livestock trainings were organized to sensitize and awareness generation regarding better cattle management practices and 513 farmers were trained. Total 9 cattle sheds were also renovated in convergence with MGNREGA.



INTERVENTIONS IN DISTRICT KANGRA

Poultry Promotion

Poultry activity is promoted among landless and marginal farmers. During 2020-21, 10 poultry sheds were established and supplied with 1500 poultry birds, 500 kg poultry feed and feeders.

2

Improved fodder
nurseries

16 ha

Fodder plantation of
common land

82 ha

Forage cultivation
on private land

1

Micro dairy
established

9

Renovation of
cattle sheds

10

Poultry sheds
established

4820qtl.

Fodder production
on common land

2638qtl.

Grass production
from private land

4 ha

Promotion of high
value crops

1

Organizing animal
health camp

513

Farmers trained on
livestock management
& enterprise
promotion

1550

Distribution of
poultry birds



AN OVERVIEW

Fodder Plantation Work Demand Driven Intervention

Himmotthan is promoting fodder plantations in common lands, Shamlat lands which are either weed infested or wastelands and private collective grasslands (Ghasani). One such fodder plot was established in Rirkamar village in Boh Drini Cluster. Nine members of Pooja Self Help Group had a combine Ghasani of 2 Ha, which provide them grass once a year. The area was left open for grazing for 7 months and protected for grass during monsoon season which is cut during the early winter season. The area was brought under improved grass and fodder tree plantation during July-August 2019.

Last year the group has decided to take up fodder plantation on this plot and also applied for MGNREGA support and got sanctioned under MGNREGA. Himmotthan supported the group by providing technical training, fencing material for plot and providing good quality planting material. Himmotthan provided 220 Kg barbed wire, 122 cement polls around 10000 roots of improved grasses like Napier, Pasaplum, Sateria, Brachiaria and 1100 tree saplings of Bhimal, Shehtoot and Kachnar. Major labour work was done under MGNREGA, while group contributed around wooden 100 polls and 4 days of free labour during the inter culture operations in winter season.

The initial survival rate in grass species was more than 90 percent while in tree species it was around 80 percent. The results of fodder plantation and closure were visible in the first season only as the grass production in the plot has significantly increased. Before the closure group members use to take only one cut of grass during November- December months. Now they can take one additional cut during June month also. The winter grass production of this plot has increased from 250 quintals to 380 quintals and during summer season, when green fodder is very scarce, group has got additional 270 quintal of grass. In the year 2020 fodder production the plot during summer has gone up to 285 quintal fodder while during winter cutting its has reached up to 410 quintal.



100 wooden polls contributed by the group during the major labour work done under MGNREGA



INTERVENTIONS IN DISTRICT HAMIRPUR

Holistic Rural Development Program (HRDP)

TARGETED COMMUNITY

1000 Households of 20 Villages of District Hamirpur

Holistic Rural Development Program is an integrated program towards the holistic growth of the rural community.

SUPPORTED BY

Parivartan HDFC

Hamirpur is the smallest district of Himachal Pradesh situated between 76°13" and 76°44" on East longitudes and 31°52" and 31°58" North latitudes. The elevation of the district above mean sea level varies between 400 – 1,232 meters. As per 2011 census, total population in district is 4.5 Lakh of which around 93% is rural population. HRDP is being implemented in 20 villages spread across Sujanpur Tihra & Nadaun developmental blocks located at a distance of around 30km from the district head quarter. Among the 20 villages, 8 villages are spread in 3 Gram Panchayats of Nadaun block and 12 villages spread in 3 Gram Panchayats of Sujanpur Tihra block.



RAPID RURAL APPRAISAL(RRA) OF 20 VILLAGES

A RRA of the shortlisted villages was conducted to identify the major concerns and needs of the area summarized as:

- The identified area is endowed with certain climatic advantages which offer opportunities in agriculture and allied sectors for production of a variety of high value crops to augment income and employment. But, subsistence nature of farming, scattered and marginal land holding, uneven rainfall (99% rainfed agriculture), man-wild-life conflict, unavailability of technical information, poor infrastructure, higher initial investments and low returns are responsible for abandoned land, declining trends and shrinking interest of the farmers in the sector. Nearly 90% of the total cropped area is devoted to subsistence food crops mainly grown for domestic consumption.
- The Livestock scenario in the area is dominated by buffalo and overall milk productivity is low. Farmers are not aware of new technologies, artificial insemination for breed improvement and proper animal health care regime for productivity enhancement. Few marginal & landless families are rearing goats & backyard poultry but returns are negligible due to traditional rearing practices.
- Neither agriculture nor industry is developed on a commercial scale resulting in unemployment and hence large number of literates, particularly males, moves to other states in search of jobs.
- Hamirpur is most literate district of the state still child vaccination is 74.3%. 23.6% Children are under weight, 52% children are anaemic, 49.4% pregnant women and 48.2% adolescent girls are anaemic. (National family health survey report)
- Educational institutions are available near the villages but due to poor infrastructure people prefer to educate their children from private schools located at Hamirpur. But middle class and poor segment of the community with limited income resources are bound to send their children to local government schools. Due to income discrepancies these children remain deprived from the good education, latest technologies which affect the confidence & overall growth of these students.
- Community institutions, women groups, Mahila Mandal in the villages are mostly inactive and are working in fragments. Rural infrastructure upgradation in terms of lightening the streets, strengthening the sanitation infrastructure is required. Almost every household has tap connection but people use natural water sources like springs, ground water for drinking purpose and some household encounter challenges for carrying water from the sources. Some of the natural water bodies are neglected while some other need protection, renovation and cleaning.





Chain fencing requirement raising

PROJECT AIM

Enhance the quality of life for over 1000 HHs through sustainable and resilient livelihood interventions and services for holistic growth.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- The project approach would mainly focus on the holistic & integrated development of the villages
- To generate self-reliant livelihood opportunities through promotion of micro-enterprises & entrepreneurship
- Natural resource management through interventions in Agri-horticulture, Animal Husbandry and Irrigation
- Empowering the rural peoples in all sectors of livelihood, Education, skill development, Health & Hygiene.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

The project has 4 major components

- **Skill Training & Livelihood Enhancement:** Agriculture and livestock activities will be conducted to upgrade the traditional knowledge and set of practices with skill trainings, technical interventions and input services (like support in quality seed, saplings, techniques, tools, high value crop promotion, polyhouse, mushroom farming, protection from wild animals etc in agriculture and breed improvement, better management, poultry rearing etc. in livestock sector) to develop a sense of entrepreneurship among the rural people, enhancing their the knowledge and productivity in agriculture & livestock sector and linking them with the market for better returns.

- **Natural Resource Management:** Constructive use of the key natural resources of a village for environmental & ecological sustainability by adopting low-impact practices like drainage pit construction, solar street lightening, water source utilization/renovation/ Jalminar construction, pilot on ecovillage development would be targeted for sustainable growth of the community.
- **Healthcare & Hygiene:** Health camps and awareness workshops to enhance the community awareness for routine health check-ups, vaccination, women & child healthcare to ensure a healthy and disease-free community for social wellbeing.
- **Promotion of Education:** Strengthening the Government school infrastructure, celebration of significant days, clean drinking water facility, smart classes, hygienic toilets and smart classes promotion will enhance the education standards and learning in rural areas.

WAY FORWARD

From 2nd year onwards of the project along with infrastructure development, focus will be on entrepreneur's promotion through various on farm and off farm livelihood & skill development activities, on farm production enhancement, forward backward linkage establishment and strengthening natural resources & infrastructure. From 3rd year, focus would be on up-scaling the pilots, if well identified, enhancing the scale and volume of produce through increasing the outreach & skilled entrepreneurs, market linkages, collaboration with line departments, forward backward linkage establishment etc. by utilizing natural resources and establishing a harmonious relationship with environment to ensure sustainable development in an organized and integrated manner that result in health, education, water, food and livelihood security for the village communities.

INTERVENTIONS IN DISTRICT SIRMOUR

Water Security Through Integrated Village Development

In 2019, a project on Water Security- through Integrated Village Development model has been initiated in the adjoining villages of Dhaula-kuan industrial area in Paonta block of Sirmour district with the support of Tata Global Beverages Ltd. Total 14 villages, covering around 3304 households with a population of 17220 will be benefited under the project.

The overall objective is bringing water security through developing a comprehensive village development plan, which includes:

- Mapping geology of the watershed, and plan possible treatment thus increasing the water table of the area, as more than 90% household are extracting ground water
- Plantation, both fruit and fodder plants, to reduce pressure on the forest
- Introducing a few biogas model
- Model for reducing pesticide usages in the project villages
- WaSH facility in 8 government schools
- Formation and strengthening of community institutions

A CASE STUDY

How Women in Belwali Leave a Smoke-Free Legacy for Their Daughters



Almost every Indian household, in the present or the past, has had domesticated cattle, assisting them in their daily lives, from milk to meat. However, in recent trendy times, this practice has significantly been reduced to rural or semi-rural households, owing to the changing lifestyle and expectations of people. In rural areas, it is still one of the major practices to breed cattle stock at home for milk and cow dung is primarily used as manure in the farm. Whilst, cooking food takes up a lot of firewood from the forest and sometimes dung cakes are also used as an alternative. But these practices generate a lot of smoke which causes respiratory diseases and damage the natural environment too. Collecting firewood in the forests and working in the cooking stalls all day long takes too much time and impacts the health of the lives of women in rural areas.

Cow dung is majorly used as firewood to prepare food, as natural fertilizer, or just left in big heaps but its true potential hasn't been realized yet. It is the most easily available fuel and that too in abundance. It was a long battle to convince people and meeting them numerous times but it was finally accepted by the local community

Realizing the true potential of this biofuel, we stepped forward and initiated the construction of 9 domestic biogas plants with 20 vermicompost pits in 20 villages of Sirmour district.



For Monika, a 15-year old resident of the Village Belwali near Paonta Sahib, her mother's morning call would mean that it's time to get the fire going for the morning tea, breakfast and lunch. They can't afford to make fresh meals every 4-5 hours because that would mean starting the fire almost thrice a day. Thanks to the biogas plant they now have, none of the 6 sisters are going to have a black and clouded life, their mother tolerated.

Monika's mother, Dharmo Devi beams with happiness because she walked through a pile of cow dung and came out on the other side, shining brighter and making a life worth living for her daughters, free from the perils of smoke and soot. She recalls how her neighbor, her sister, Parvati Devi got the first-ever biogas plant installed in their backyard and how the entire village was skeptical about their food and tea smelling of cow-dung. But all she ended up with was biofuel for cooking, free time to herself, kitchen walls free of soot and A-grade fertilizer for her kitchen garden. Cow dung is the cheapest form of biofuel that can be used as an alternative to firewood, where it is available without any difficulty. Using this biofuel in the biogas plants and vermicompost pits not only gives gas but enhances the fertilizer value of the dung.

Things weren't always this easy. Every winter of their lives, for almost 4 months (Nov-Feb), Dharmo Devi and Parvati Devi along with their children would wander off in the nearby forest to collect firewood that would last the rest of the year. Every waking moment of monsoon season, they would worry about dry firewood and how to get the stove fire going. Parvati Devi tells how it was a custom to use LPG stoves only when a guest would come and tea is to be served.



The focal point of every activity is to nourish the team spirit and ownership amongst the villagers because this is the only way to promote sustainable development. For many years, we have seen an infinite number of projects failing because of the lack of participation from the people, ignorance, and lack of information and knowledge. Mostly, people took no notice of them as soon as the people who installed them, left the town.

To overcome this problem, Himmotthan Society implemented a very successful strategy. For every biogas plant installed and handed over to families to work, the Society demands a little personal contribution that would make the biogas plants earned and not gifted. This can be in any form. Most people contribute in labor costs, others in laying the foundation, and some help with the roof of vermicompost pits. All the labor related costs were borne by the families of Dharmo Devi and Parvati Devi. The technician stayed with their family for the entire duration of the construction to explain them about the functioning and any possible scenario that might arise during the life of the plant. Even after 2-3 years of the final installation, most of the families are still in contact with these technicians and experts.

The by-product of the biogas plant is the slurry; a compost of cow dung and water which is directly used as a fertilizer. It collects in a separate compost pit chamber, adjacent to the biogas plant. To make headway with people accepting this slurry as a fertilizer was a challenge that needed to be overcome. Most households would rely on chemical fertilizers majorly urea, garden waste and cow dung but excess use of chemical fertilizers would damage the crops. Ravinder from Bharapur has seen at least 20% improvement in his crops in the past 2 years that he has been using the slurry. Now every household with a biogas plant uses the slurry in their crops as an organic fertilizer.



In villages, it is mostly the women of the family who spent a considerable part of their day in kitchen. Families of Parvati Devi and Dharmo Devi have in total 11 female members and for them installation of this biogas plant has come as a boon. This biogas plant, installed with the intervention of Himmotthan Society presents unlimited opportunities to have a life, away from smoke-filled and soot-tainted walls of kitchen.

WAY FORWARD

In coming years Trusts will scale-up successful pilot interventions in partnership with state government programmes and other likeminded partners. Factoring into consideration the State specific challenges some of the areas of interventions that are being taken up includes.

- (i). Strengthening community resilience towards effects of climate change on livelihood systems focusing on agriculture, horticulture livestock. (ii) Water security and solid-liquid waste management. (iii) Promotion of clean energy based community led livelihoods (iii). Microfinance models aimed towards promotion of individual and community Institutions based enterprises.

Interventions in Ladakh लद्दाख परियोजना कार्य

Leh Livelihood Initiative is implemented by Himmotthan Society in collaboration with Tata Trusts, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development and other funding agencies, such as Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives (Sustain+), National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation and Ministry of Tribal Affairs. In 2020-21, there are eight on-going projects under the Initiative.



ON-GOING PROJECTS

- Crops Diversification for Enhancement of Rural Farmer's Income in Leh District
- Formation of Apricot Farmer Producer Organization in Sham valley of Leh district
- Formation of Vegetable Farmer Producer Organization in Leh district
- Promoting decentralized renewable energy solutions to enable rural livelihood
- Changthang Livestock and Wool Craft Promotion
- Centre of Excellence for Research and Documentation of Agro-processing and Livelihoods in Tribal Areas of Leh district
- Springshed based Watershed Development Fund in Sakti village of Leh district
- Leh Livelihood Initiative Phase 2



1



2



3

1
Vegetable seed distribution
and FPO membership
mobilisation in Martselang
village of Leh district

2
Focal group discussion in
Hanley village of Leh district
participated with opinion
leaders and representatives

3
Member mobilisation for
Apricot FPO in Dha village
of Leh district

INTERVENTIONS IN LEH

Crop Diversification For Enhancement of Rural Farmer's Income in Leh District

PROJECT AIM

To diversify income of 400 farming families through promotion of high value crops and improved methods of vegetable cultivation.

TARGETED COMMUNITY

13 villages/ hamlets in Kharu and Rong blocks of Leh district will be covered for the proposed interventions. The selected villages are Ikk, Tuna, Shara, Tukla, Liktsé, Tarchit, Changa, Martselang, Kharu, Hemis, Sakti, Chemday and Igoo.

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

Leh district in Ladakh Union Territory

PROJECT DURATION

3 years (January 2019 to March 2022)

SUPPORTED BY

NABARD

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To cover 150 acre of land under high value cash crop with improved production technologies
- To enhance the crop productivity through mulching technology
- Encourage farmers for seed production for self-consumption
- Developing farmers and consumers interface through FPO for developing market linkages for fresh and value added vegetables

PROGRESS UPDATE

- 10 kg watermelon seeds (Bejo 2000) distributed to 180 farmers in 16 villages; 33.33 acre of land is covered under watermelon cultivation using mulching technology.
- 870 g tomato seeds (Sultan) distributed to 74 farmers in 10 villages; 4.4 acre of land under tomato cultivation.
- 63 kg onion seeds (Dark Red), 10 kg (Puna Fursungi) and 2 kg (VLP-3) distributed to 172 farmers in 10 villages; 16.3 acre of land under onion cultivation.
- 600 kg green pea seed (Arkel) distributed to 160 farmers; 20 acre of land under pea cultivation
- 65 acre is covered under improved seed varieties
- 23 rolls of black plastic mulch (100 micron, 2x100 metre) distributed to 377 farmers in 16 villages
- 102 farmers from 5 villages are trained in mulching technology and improved farming techniques as per standard package of practices.

INTERVENTIONS IN LEH

Formation of Apricot Farmer Producer Organization in Sham Valley Of Leh District

Dried apricot which is ready for marketing



PROJECT AIM

The overall aim of the project is to enhance quality of life for over 300 farming families, through formation and strengthening of FPO for post-harvesting, processing and marketing of Apricot.

TARGETED COMMUNITY

300 farming families in Sham valley of Leh district will be covered under FPO during the tenure of three years project period. The project will focus in developing self-reliant Farmer Producer Organization through training and capacity building, liaising with different banking and financial institutions for credit mobilization, developing a cadre of self-employed service providers and providing extension services to the SHGs or producer groups and FPO for Apricot value chain and other livelihood options.

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY

Leh district in Ladakh Union Territory

PROJECT DURATION

3 years (January 2019 to March 2022)

SUPPORTED BY

NABARD

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To form and strengthen at Farmers Interest Group (FIG) from each village and aggregate in FPO
- Post-harvest handling, agro-processing and sustained institutional marketing of apricot value added product
- To facilitate expansion, growth and profitability of the FPO business through credit access and marketing linkages



68 kg of dried apricot sold through FPO generating Rs. 43,000.

Improved packaging and brand promotion of dried apricot for marketing



PROGRESS UPDATE

- The Apricot FPO was registered under the J&K Self Reliant Co-operative Act, 1999 and named as “Sham Valley Apricot Producer Cooperative Limited”.
- 95 farmers participated in awareness programme organized in 5 villages
- 60 farmers have joined the FPO as new members
- Rs. 39,800 membership fees collected so far from the members @ Rs.200 per member
- Rs. 5,000 share capital collected so far from 10 Board of Directors @ Rs.500 per member
- One business Plan is prepared and published
- Each of the 18 FIGs are maintaining a register on production and sales. Also, 149 members sold Rs.41 lakh worth of dried apricot earning an average income of Rs. 27,900 since last harvest in September. However, the average price of dried apricot is Rs.149 which we are planning to increase to Rs.400 through better harvesting and drying methods.
- A new current account is opened for bank transactions and business operations of the FPO
- 68 kg of dried apricot sold through FPO generating Rs. 43,000.
- Product branding, promotion and marketing is a work in progress. Nutritional value, FSSAI and shelf-life testing are being carried out for dried apricot.

REVIVING APRICOT VALUE CHAIN

Himmothan Society has appointed a CEO to see the operations of FPO. A business plan is prepared with three years projections. Accordingly, procurement process is initiated from the members through proper sorting and grading at FIG and community level. Product branding, labeling, packaging, and marketing under the brand name ‘**Julley Ladakh**’ is centralized.

FPO also received FSSAI certificate for manufacturing of dried apricot and apricot oil. Dried apricot from Takmachik village is sent to DARL, Delhi for testing as per FSSAI parameters, nutritional value and shelf life. It is found that the apricot contains good amount of iron, calcium, phosphorus, carotene, niacin, vitamin A and vitamin C.

The product shelf life is more than six months when vacuum packed under 42 (+2) degrees Celsius. Apricot is high value crop with price ranging from Rs.500 to Rs.700 in local market and Rs.1000 to Rs.1400 per kg in Indian markets. Majority of the product that is found in Indian markets is imported from Turkey, Afghanistan and other countries.

INTERVENTIONS IN LEH

Formation of Vegetable Farmer Producer Organization in Leh district

Improved solar greenhouse for vegetable cultivation in Chemday village of Leh district



PROJECT DURATION

3 years (January 2019-March 2022)

SUPPORTED BY

NABARD

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

- To form and strengthen at least two Farmers Interest Group (FIG) from each village and aggregate in FPO
- To develop and improve their overall business management skills of working with the suppliers (farmers) and to improving service products, delivery and efficiency to the suppliers
- To demonstrate improvement in managing business operations and management
- To facilitate expansion, growth and profitability of the FPO business through input supply, credit access and marketing linkages

PROJECT UPDATE IN FY 2020-2021

- The Vegetable FPO is registered under J&K Self Reliant Co-operative Act, 1999 on August 5, 2020. The name of the FPO is Ladakh Vegetable Producer Cooperative Limited.
- 106 farmers participated in awareness programme organized in 7 villages
- 40 new members have joined the FPO
- Rs. 11,400 membership fees collected so far from the members @ Rs.200 per member
- Rs. 5,000 share capital collected so far from 10 Board of Directors @ Rs.500 per member
- A draft business plan is prepared but it needs further validation and editing
- GST application for VFPO is under process along with PAN and FSSAI license
- Baseline surveys conducted on vegetables in Kharu cluster. Production of onion, green peas, potato, cauliflower and spinach is higher as compared to other crops.



106 farmers participated in awareness programme

INTERVENTIONS IN LEH

Promoting Decentralised Renewable Energy Solutions to Enable Rural Livelihood

Improved solar greenhouse for vegetable cultivation in Chemday village of Leh district



PROJECT AIM

The project aim is to promote decentralised renewable energy (DRE) enabling livelihood activities and empower the tribal community.

TARGETED COMMUNITY

The project will directly benefit 100 households belonging to schedule tribe category across eight villages in three clusters (or four administrative blocks) of Leh district. Indirectly, it will bring benefit to more than 200 families through these demonstration units, knowledge sharing, technological transfer, sharing of resources and project outputs.

PROJECT DURATION

1.5 years (September 2019-March 2021)

SUPPORTED BY

Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives (CINI)/ Sustain+

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To offset the harsh impact of adverse weather conditions on livestock by utilising solar energy in Changthang region. Improve utilisation of the technology by alternatively using it as a greenhouse for growing crops in off periods
- To undertake sustainable shearing of sheep for Pashmina wool production by reducing the drudgery, accidents and improving the wool quality. Hence, increasing the overall income and quality of life
- To enable production fresh vegetables year long, particularly in winter months when there are acute shortages and generate income for marginal farmers by installing an improved solar based greenhouse
- To provide small scale cost effective stand alone solar based solution for drying apricot in a controlled environment leading to reduction in wastage and increase in income
- To enable plantation of orchard, timber trees, seasonal crop and vegetables on barren land by implementing solar based lift irrigation infrastructure



A CASE STUDY

SOLAR GREEN HOUSE OF MR. NORBOO

Mr. Sonam Norboo, aged 62 from Chemday village is one of the progressive farmers in Ladakh. He is also one of the project beneficiaries of improved solar greenhouse, which is built at a cost of Rs. 2.1 lakh shared between the project and beneficiary at 60:40 ratio. The construction was completed in August 2020. He prepared the bed for sowing and transplantation of seeds on 5th September for the winter crops comprising of spinach, coriander and cauliflower. Total cropped area is 300 square feet.

First harvest of spinach and coriander took place on 5th October with a total yield of 50 kg, second harvest on 26th October for 60 kg, third on 6th November for 10 kg, 4th on 10th January for 3 kg and 5th on 2nd February for 1 kg and 6th harvest on 15th February for 15 kg.

Mr. Norboo managed to grow 139 kg in six months. Although he kept them for self-consumption and a portion to gift to relatives. He saved Rs. 19,460 considering market price of fresh vegetables in peak winter is Rs.140 a kilo. He plans to grow eggplant, capsicum, ladyfinger, chilli etc. as summer crops.

Minimum temperature inside the improved greenhouse was -4.3 degree Celsius when outside temperature was -18.1 on the night of 31st December 2020. In comparison to traditional mud greenhouse, it is 10 degrees higher. Therefore, it is far more efficient than the traditional greenhouse.

1

Sonam Norboo, a progressive farmer sitting in front of his greenhouse in Chemday village of Leh district

2

A villager from Mudh village of Leh district standing inside the solar lambing shed

3

A solar DC fan is installed in dryer is used to aid in drying process of apricots

4

Solarised lambing shed-cum-greenhouse in Hanley village of Leh district



The focus of the project is to increase efficiency of solar based technologies such as shown here.

- Solar lambing shed** - One solar lambing shed is constructed under the project. Size of each shed is 26.6'x23.6' with two compartments for day-use and night-use. It has a three feet underground structure with a total height of 8.6'. Each shed can give shelter up to 150 animals including expecting mothers, goat kids and lambs. The attached greenhouse is used for cultivation of vegetables in summer.
- Improved solar greenhouse** - Six greenhouses are constructed in three villages. DIHAR's model of trench greenhouse is adopted for replication in rural villages mainly due to its cost-effectiveness. A total of 139 kg of vegetables have been harvested from each greenhouse in six winter months.
- Solar apricot dryer** - 10 solar apricot dryers are installed in four villages. It has a drying capacity of about 100 kg in 20 trays. A solar operated DC fan is added to aid in drying process. Drying process takes 10 days on an average. Once dried, the trays are emptied and are filled with fresh supplies of apricot. This process is repeated until the entire apricots are dried.
- Solar lift-based irrigation & wasteland development** - A 7.5HP solar surface pump is installed to lift water from Indus River to a barren land. It is installed to lift water to storage tank, which is located at a vertical height of 35 metre. Length of water pipeline is 330 metre long. The pump is capable of discharging 9 litre per second or 2.6 lakh litre in a day.
- Solar operated sheep shearing machine** - Two solar operated sheep shearing machines are procured for installation in two hamlets in Hanley village. To run these machines, solar panels (165 watt, 12 volt), two sets of batteries (120 Ah, 12 volt) and charge controller of 20amp are also purchased. One electrically driven sheep shearing machine is procured for installation in Gya-Miru village, which will benefit 13 nomadic families.
- Capacity building programme** - A 6-day training programme of mechanical sheep shearing was organized by Central Sheep Breeding Farm (CSBF) in Hisar, Haryana in two batches. The trainings are attended by two members of project team and two villagers from Gya and Hanley villages. These trainees will later become operators of these machines and provide service to roughly 74 nomadic families in three different communities.

INTERVENTIONS IN LEH

Changthang Livestock and Wool Craft Promotion

Ms. Konchok Dolma, Master Trainer along with women artisans from Hanley village displaying their products development during the training programme



PROJECT AIM

The project aims to improve the quality of life and incomes from improved livestock wool craft based interventions for 300 families in three villages of Leh district.

TARGETED COMMUNITY

Changthang comprises of 14 revenue villages spread across three administrative blocks of Durbuk, Nyoma and Rupshaw in Leh district. It covers a vast geographical area of 4,000 square kilometre. As per 2011 census, there are 2,063 households with a total population of 10,800 living in Changthang sub-division. The block headquarter, Nyoma is located at a distance of 180km from Leh town. Himmothan Society has selected three villages namely, Nyoma, Mudh and Hanley for the project interventions. It will bring direct benefit to 300 families, including 50 artisans.

PROJECT DURATION

3 years (September 2019-August 2022)

SUPPORTED BY

NSTFDC

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Promotion of Wool Craft Based Enterprise in three villages of Nyoma block (Nyoma, Mudh and Hanley) taking the value chain approach.
- The project would directly reach out to 300 households through various project interventions
- Community owned wool based enterprises will be set up
- At least 50 crafts person and nomads will be organized in use of better livestock management practices and craft tools respectively.

PROJECT UPDATE IN FY 2020-2021

- One demonstration unit of solar lambing sheds are constructed in Changthang with each shed accommodating 140 lambs, goat kids and pregnant mothers.
- Two Product Development Centres are established in Hanley and Mudh villages by supplying machines, tools and raw materials for spinning, weaving and knitting.
- Two master trainers in knitting and weaving are hired to train the local artisans in different trades, along with one Field Facilitator for Changthang.
- 47 women artisans are trained in knitting, spinning and weaving
- Eight women SHGs are formed in three project villages

Ms. Konchok Dolma, Master Trainer training women artisans from Hanley village in knitting



INTERVENTIONS IN LEH

Centre of Excellence for Research and Documentation of Agro-processing and Livelihoods in Tribal Areas of Leh District

PROJECT AIM

The overall aim of the project is to setup a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for agro-processing and training through action research and documentation that will benefit 1500 tribal families living in 20 rural villages of Leh district.

TARGETED COMMUNITY

Out of 112 revenue villages, 20 villages/ hamlets will be covered for the proposed interventions. The selected villages are Takmachik, Domkhar, Achinathang, Skurbuchan, Lehdo, Dha-Beema, Khaltshi, Hanu, Tarchit, Tukla, Shara, Igoo, Kharu, Chemday, Sakti, Hemis, Changa and Martselang.

PROJECT DURATION

2 years (January 2020 to March 2022)

SUPPORTED BY

Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Establishment and Management of Centre of Excellence for agro-processing and training
- Action research and documentation of livelihoods of tribal families in 20 villages
- Market studies and research on promotion of agro-products

PROJECT UPDATE IN FY 2020-2021

a. Establishment and Management of Centre of Excellence for Agro-processing and Training

- A well-furnished house in Takmachik village is taken on lease for next five years to establish the Centre of Excellence for apricots. The building has three rooms of size (25'x20') to place 3-D model of Sham valley apricot belt, 8'x10' room for office and 12'x14' for apricot sorting, grading and packaging.
- Construction of 3-D clay model of size (8 feet by 16 feet) of Sham valley in Ladakh, ranging from Khaltse to Batalik which includes 16 villages; 10 village from Leh district and 6 villages from Kargil district. The model depicts the topography, landscape, settlements and vegetation etc. of the whole valley.
- Photo documentation all the nine existing apricot varieties namely Halman, Raktsay Karpo, Sukha, Nari, Chuli Raktsay Khantay, Chuli Raktsay Narmo, Tokpopa, Safeda and Shakarpara is carried during the apricot season in July and August. Photo frame of each variety is displayed on the walls of CoE.
- Live sample of all the apricot varieties when the fruit are fully ripened. The fruits are treated with potassium meta-bi-sulphate solution and put in a glass jar and displayed at the CoE.
- Mural painting of apricot production and value chain, right from the flowering stage to the final marketing of processed products is put on display on the walls of CoE.
- A 'Forced Circulation Solar Dryer, electrically driven model' developed by Punjab Agriculture University, Jalandhar with a drying capacity of 300 kg is being procured by project for demonstration and training purposes. However, due to coronavirus pandemic and lockdowns it could not be installed this year. A concrete platform of 25'x25' is already constructed at the site for installation of the PAU solar dryer.



b. Research and Documentation of Agro-processing and Livelihoods in Tribal Areas of Leh District

- A detailed questionnaire is developed for data collection at household level. It was improved through field testing.
- A total of 1900 household data were received from 30 villages so far covering three clusters, which are thoroughly evaluated by Research Officer and Project Associate.
- Honorarium to 15 enumerators is processed after successful completion of data collection and validation. Payment of remaining enumerators will be processed in due course of time against presentation of invoice.
- The data collected by enumerators are further evaluated and refined by Research Officer and MIS Officer. Upon verification, they are uploaded on the web portal of Himmotthan Society (<http://hmsmis.in/lehbaselinedashboard>) by the Field Facilitators. More than 1621 baseline data are uploaded at the time of reporting of this project.
- Two research papers titled "An analysis of agriculture scenario in Kharoo block of Ladakh region with special reference to greenhouse vegetable cultivation" is accepted in the journal "INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH" ISSN: 2230-9926 with SJIF impact factor 7.02, and another research paper titled "An analysis of apricot (*prunus armeniaca* L) solar dryer in Sham region of Ladakh Union Territory with special reference to Khaltse and Skurbuchan block" is accepted in journal "INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CURRENT RESEARCH" ISSN-0975-833X with SJIF Impact Factor 7.766.
- Focal Group Discussions are organized in seven villages including Kharu, Hemis, Shara, Igoo, Changa, Tarchik and Tukla. Major focus of the FGD on identification of key agriculture crops, surplus production of crops for marketing and market challenges in present context.
- The market studies have been completed in different villages of Kharu and Changthang region for better understanding on production of crops in agriculture, horticulture and livestock with major surplus of commodity, current market place, major market players and income generating from various farm and non-farm activities.

1
Villagers from Achinathang village in Leh district holding dried apricots and oil

2
A villager from Takmachik holding a bowl of dried apricot

3
A woman serving dried fruits to guests in the house in Achinathang village of Leh district

INTERVENTIONS IN LEH

Springshed Based Watershed Development in Sakti Village of Leh District

A close-up look at the artificial glacier in Sakti Takkar; stonewalls of 6 feet high completely covered in ice

**PROJECT AIM**

The overall aim of the project is to improve the adaptive capacity of farmers in Ladakh in overcoming the effects of depleting natural glaciers on farm sectors through integrated water resources development that will directly benefit 375 families in Sakti village.

TARGETED COMMUNITY

Sakti village is located at a distance of 55 km from Leh, the district headquarter and 20 km from Kharu, the block headquarter. Sakti watershed comprises of two Halqa Panchayats known as Sakti Tagar and Sakti Taknak. In total, there are 375 households spread across 14 wards or mohallas. The total agricultural landholding is 285 hectare. Average landholding is 0.76 ha or 1.88 acres. Farmers grow mostly barley, green pea, potato, mustard, wheat and vegetables. Sakti comprising two Halqa Panchayats, namely Sakti Tagar and Sakti Taknak. It is situated at a distance of 55 km east of Leh town. It consists of 370 households with 1718 people.

PROJECT DURATION

2 years (April 2020 to March 2022)

SUPPORTED BY

NABARD

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To conserve water in the form of ice by blocking surface run-off in winter months through a technique known as 'artificial glacier' for enhancement of crops yield in Sakti village
- Creation of Village Watershed Committee that will manage project activities and take care of repair and maintenance of structure created in future
- Capacity building of VWCs
- Linking farmers of Sakti village to vegetable FPO of the upper Indus belt
- Capacity building of Board of Directors and members of Vegetable FPO through trainings and exposure visits



Creation of Artificial Glacier in Sakti Village in Leh

1
Villagers in Sakti Taknak participating in civil works of artificial glaciers as part of free labour

2
Villagers in Sakti carrying GI crate wire to the construction site of artificial glacier

3
Stone embankments are built on the slope of mountain in Sakti Tagar for formation of artificial glacier in winter

4
Artificial glacier is formed in upper reaches of the valley in Sakti Tagar; the stone-walls are covered under thick layer of ice

PROGRESS UPDATE IN THE FY 2020-21

- A Village Watershed Committee (VWC) is formed comprising of 14 members (9 male and 5 female) representing all Mohallah (or Chutso) in the village.
- In Sakti Tagar, eight stone embankments are built at Zingral at the cost Rs.8,09,250, out of which Rs.1,55,000 was community contribution. Average length of each wall is 90 feet and average height is 5 feet. The artificial glacier is located at 4300m above mean sea level, at a distance of 1km from the road head.
- It will benefit 160 families in Sakti Tagar Halqa Panchayat, supplying additional water to 147 ha of agricultural lands.
- In Sakti Taknak, four stone embankments are built at Chumcher Lungpa Phoo, Warila at the cost Rs.7,39,700, out of which Rs.1,29,00 was community contribution. Average length of the wall is 150 feet and average height is 5 feet. The artificial glacier is located at 4300m above mean sea level, at a distance of roughly 1km from the road head.
- It will benefit 210 families in Sakti Taknak, supplying additional water to 138 ha of agricultural lands.
- It has a capacity to store 6 million litres of water. The artificial glacier is located at 4500m above mean sea level.
- 283 families are involved in the construction of the artificial glaciers in Sakti Tagar and Sakti Taknak generating a total of 1513 man-days or labours day.
- Two ponds or reservoirs are renovated for better storage of irrigation water
- 350 families worked for free for two days at the sites collecting the stones.

INTERVENTIONS IN LEH

Leh Livelihood Initiative Phase 2

Women in Takmachik village of Leh district sorting the dried apricots as per grades



PROJECT AIM

The overall aim is to improve the living condition of 4000 families living in 40 rural villages of Ladakh by promoting land-based economy and social enterprises that will ultimately lead to sustainable development in the region.

PROJECT DURATION

3 years (August 2020 - July 2023)

SUPPORTED BY

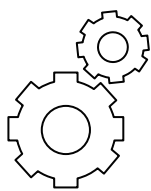
Tata Trusts

TARGETED COMMUNITY

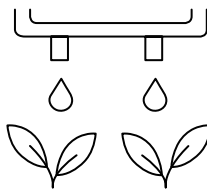
Himmotthan Society has selected 40 villages spread across six administrative blocks of Leh and Kargil districts for implementation of proposed activities. In overall, the project will directly benefit 4,000 tribal families in three clusters (Lower Sham valley in the west, Changthang in east and Kharu in the central) with a total population of over 20,000. Indirectly, it will benefit 1000 more families through sharing of knowledge, resources and facilities created by the project.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Value chain development of three key products i.e., apricots, wools and vegetables.
- Formation and nurturing of 60 farmer groups, two Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and establishing self-sustainable social enterprises and Centre of Excellence (CoE).
- To ensure assured irrigation to small-scale farmers through innovations, appropriate technologies and people's participation.
- To promote decentralised renewable energies and solutions for overall economic upliftment of tribal farmers and nomads.



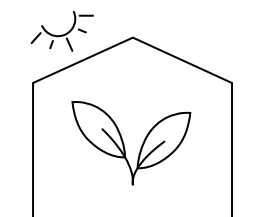
*Regional specific
technologies introduced*



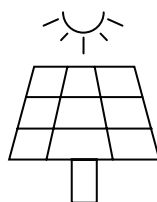
*20 acres land
brought under lift irrigation*



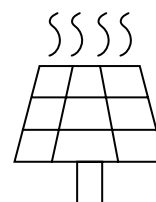
*353 Acres area
irrigated through artificial glaciers*



*6 Solar
greenhouse*



*2 Solar
Lambing Shed*



*10 Solar
apricot dryers*

PROJECT UPDATE IN THE FY 2020-2021

- Field office is established in Takmachik village of Sham valley for nurturing of the Apricot FPO. It will also serve as a processing centre for apricot oil and packaging of products.
- Vegetable seeds and mulch films are procured and distributed to farmers for production enhancement under crop diversification.
- Paper and plastic pouches and stickers are developed for product branding and packaging of dried apricot.
- A 6-day training programme of mechanical sheep shearing was organized by Central Sheep Breeding Farm (CSBF) in Hisar, Haryana in two batches. The trainings are attended by two villagers from Gya and Hanley villages. These trainees will later become operators of these machines and provide service to roughly 74 nomadic families in three different communities.

Voluntary Disclosures

None of our Governing Board members are related to each other, nor are related to any of the senior salaried staff by blood or by marriage. None of the Governing Board members have received any salary, consultancy, or other remunerations from Himmotthan. Two board meetings (26th and 27th) were held on 28.09.2020 and 23.03.2021. Himmotthan Annual General Body Meeting were held on 28.09.2020 and General Body Meeting on 23.03.2021. Travel was incurred only as budgeted in project heads. No travel costs were incurred for any other reason.

OUR STATUTORY AUDITOR

M/s Deloitte Haskins and Sells LLP (DHS),
Indiabulls Finance Centre, Tower-3,
32nd Floor Elphinstone Mills Compound,
Mumbai - 400 013

OUR INTERNAL AUDITOR

PKF Sridhar & Santhanam LLP
201, 2nd Floor, Center Point Building,
Dr. Ambedkar Road,
Parel, Mumbai 400 012

OUR BANKS

- Indian Overseas Bank, Kanwli Branch,
Vasant Vihar, Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- Axis Bank, GMS Road, Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- Uttaranchal Grameen Bank, Indira Nagar,
Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- HDFC Bank Ltd. Ballupur Chowk,
Dehradun, Uttarakhand

SOCIETY REGISTRATION DETAILS

The Himmotthan Society is registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act of 1860. The Registration Number is 78/2007-2008, dated 20/12/2007. It was last renewed on 20/12/2017 and is valid till 19/12/2022.

- The Society PAN Number is AAATH6935K
- The Society TAN Number is MRTH00788E
- The Society FCRA Number is 347900161

Details of Registration under the Income Tax Act, 1961 and Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) are:

- Section 12A granted on 25/09/2008; 40 (117/ Dehradun/2008-9/10768); Renewal granted on 28/05/2021 via Provisional Registration Number AAATH6935KE20214
- Section 80G granted on 08/10/2008; S.No.19(52) Dehradun/2007-08/11261; Renewal granted on 28/05/2021 via Provisional Approval Number AAATH6935KF20214
- The Society has been registered for undertaking CSR activities and the Registration number is CSR00000081 dated 01/04/2021.



Acknowledgement

आभार

Himmotthan Society is deeply grateful for the support of our growing number of donors, partners, state and central departments, research institutions, universities and philanthropies who are committed to building stronger, healthier and safer mountain communities. Together, we are helping to transform the lives of many living in the mountains.

INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

- Sir Ratan Tata Trust
- Sir Dorabji Tata Trust
- Tata Education Development Trust
- JRD Tata Trust
- Tata Relief Committee
- Titan Company Ltd.
- Vasterguard Lifestraw
- Tata Consumer Products Ltd.
- Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiative (CINI)/ Sustain Plus Energy Foundation

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA GRANTS

- National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC)
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA)
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

DEPARTMENTS & INSTITUTIONS

(GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)

- Niti Aayog
- Central Poultry Development Organization (Northern Region)
- Defense Institute of High-Altitude Research (DIHAR), Leh
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India
- Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (MGNREGA)

DEPARTMENTS (STATE GOVERNMENT)

- Department of Rural Development- State Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM)
- Uttarakhand Forest Department - Uttarakhand Forest Resource Management UFRM-JICA
- Uttarakhand Forest Department - Springshed Consortium
- Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC)

TECHNICAL PARTNERS

- International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
- Vivekanand Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Santhan (VPKAS)
- Advance Centre for Water Resources Development & Management (ACWADAM)
- Uttarakhand Livestock Development Board (ULDB)
- Uttarakhand Sheep and Wool Development Board (USWDB).
- Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry (YSPU)
- CSK Himachal Pradesh Agriculture University Palampur
- Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK)

PHILANTHROPIES

- Axis Bank Foundation
- HDFC Bank Ltd.
- HT Parekh Foundation
- Udaya Foundation
- Arghyam Foundation
- The Hans Foundation
- Rural India Supporting Trust (RIST)

INDIVIDUAL GRANTS

- Mr. Darshak Shashivadan Vasavada
- Mr. C. Venkatraman

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

- Association for People Advancement and Action Research (APAAR)
- Central Himalayan Rural Action Group (CHIRAG)
- General Rural Advancement Society (GRAS)
- Himalayan Society for Alternative Development (HIMAD)
- Kapkot Sewa Samiti (KSS)
- Mount Valley Development Association (MVDA)
- Mountain Children's Foundation (MCF)
- Rural Initiative for Social Engineering (RISE)
- Sankalp Samiti (SANKALP)
- Udyogini
- Society for Integrated Management of all Resources (SIMAR)
- Uttarapath Sewa Sanstha (USS)
- Rural Technology Development Center (RTDC)

“

“Youngsters of our village who worked in hotels in the cities have come back to the village and now have resumed agriculture and livestock activities. Barren lands have turned into fertile agricultural lands again. It’s like a silver lining in the corona clouds.”

BHAGTA RAM





Audited Financial Statements

BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31, 2021

Particulars	Note No.	As at March 31, 2021	As at March 31, 2020
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
Funds			
(a) General Fund	3	17,30,164	17,30,164
(b) Earmarked Funds	4	5,74,97,054	7,02,30,488
(c) Other Funds	5	1,80,18,360	1,89,69,292
(d) Income and Expenditure Account	6	28,00,061	3,47,577
TOTAL		8,00,45,639	9,12,77,521
LIABILITIES			
(a) Payables	7	3,29,133	13,20,940
		3,29,133	13,20,940
TOTAL		8,03,74,772	9,25,98,461
ASSETS			
(a) Fixed assets	8	1,80,18,360	1,89,69,292
(b) Loans and advances	9	6,10,496	19,02,864
(c) Cash and bank balances	10	6,17,45,916	7,17,26,305
TOTAL		8,03,74,772	9,25,98,461
See accompanying notes forming part of the financial statements	1-19		
In terms of our report attached.			
For Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP Chartered Accountants	For and on behalf of the Himmotthan Society		
Joe Pretto Partner	Chairman	Secretary /Treasurer	
Place: Mumbai Date: September 02, 2021	Place: Dehradun Date: September 02, 2021		

THANK YOU

धन्यवाद

To the mountain communities of Central & Western Himalayan region, for standing tall amidst the raging Covid 19 pandemic and showing much needed resilience and mutual assistance. Our path to progress is a shared responsibility. Our strength & positive outcomes come from our mountain people, individual employees, departments, and from our partners.



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