

Sampark Samaj Sevi Sansthan



Organisational Profile

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Working Towards Empowering the Tribal since 1987

SAMPARK SAMAJ SEVI SANTHA

(Organizational Profile)

Organizational history, Vision, Mission and Objectives

Sampark Samaj Sevi Sanstha is a non-profit organisation, established in 1987 as a branch of SWRC, Tilonia and later it got formally registered in 1990 as a society under the Madhya Pradesh Society Registration Act 1973 under the leadership of Mr. Nilesh Desai. The choice of the area was made based on the nature and intensity of exploitation of the tribal community and relatively no developmental interventions in the area. The work started by studying the survival needs and strategies of the people. Right from the beginning the organization did have the clarity in terms of involving people in the entire development program not as a passive recipient but as an active decision maker. In the initial years, the organization realized that the reason of poverty in the area lay in the exclusionary and isolatory policies of the state and society because of which the people are unaware of their rights and the development programs meant for them giving the system/society enough scope to exploit and take benefit of their vulnerability. The withering cultural fabric of collective living, sharing and frugality compounded this. Whereas other customary occasions involving a lot of unnecessary spending were getting strengthened. The livelihood system was fragile because of poor and limited resources and external opportunities. Over the years Sampark's intervention has been in the area of consolidating livelihood systems of the community and gradually moving on towards the eradication of poverty by largely doing the capacity building of the people to fight the forces of inequity, injustice and exploitation. It has been working with men's as well as women's groups among the deprived and exploited sections of the society so that the benefits of the fight against poverty reach the most marginalised/poorest of poor in the villages. Along with the efforts towards enhancing the responsiveness of the governance systems, a major intervention has been that of organizing the tribal people to look inwards and work towards containment of exploitative practices involving large spending in many of the social customs. Around these issues the tribals have been organized under the banner of Lok Jagruti Manch. SAMPARK has since gradually evolved into a many faceted organization tackling the varied problems of the area and has successfully completed a silver jubilee of formal developmental interventions.

Sampark is working with the **Vision** to establish equitable, just, environmentally friendly atmosphere in the tribal community, so that the most vulnerable & marginalized community gets its due respect and dignified life. The motive was to bring a change in an organised manner through active local involvement and implementation of the program of empowerment & development. SAMPARK's role is confined to facilitate this organic process of change.

Mr. Nilesh Desai, Founder of Samaprkr started with the **Mission** of facilitating a process through which the disadvantaged and powerless would organize them for a just and sustainable social order so that they could be empowered to develop their quality of life, resources, culture and esteem through a participatory and non-violent method.

Our Core Values

- Participation,
- Empowerment,
- Equity,
- Honesty and Transparency,
- Responsive to Change &
- Sustainability

Organisation's Aims and Objectives

With the motive to obtain the Vision & Mission of the Organization, various aims objectives are taken up:

Aims

To enable the marginalized people to become self-reliant and strengthen the Community

- Through promotion of sustainable livelihood practices
- Improving Health and Nutrition
- Better Education and Skill Development
- Development and Management of Natural Resources

Objectives

- To organize people into groups and form sustainable people's institutions which are able to create awareness amongst the people (especially in boosting their self-esteems to resist being swayed by mainstream values and practices), to take care of their interests and to fight exploitation in all forms and to all extents.
- To improve the standards of, and awareness about health and education amongst the people.
- To increase awareness amongst the people not only on how to efficiently and sustainably manage their resources but also about alternative sources of income by demonstration as well as by pilot activities. These activities would include on farm activities as well as off farm activities.
- To build the capacity amongst the people to sustainably manage their resources without outside involvement.

Organisational Beliefs & Strategy

Sampark is a strong believer of Gandhian thought of "**Gram Swaraj**" and its initiative are towards strengthening the **village economy**. For attaining these goals, Sampark follows a strategy, which combines **Satyagraha and Nirman**. The organisational efforts are more confined to village development where it tries to strengthen by emphasising on "**Goan Ka Pani Goan Mein**", "**Goan Ka Beej Goan Mein**", "**Goan Ka Paisa Goan Mein**" & "**Gaon Ka Jhagda Goan Mein**" and making it more participatory. village level groups have been formed, who are part of decision-making processes. For making the villages self-reliant, **barefoot model** has been adopted where various service groups have been formed like Pashu Mitra, Pashu Sakhi, Swashthya Saheli etc., further for reducing the villager's dependency on others Gram Kosh, Seed Bank, promotion of organic farming etc. have been initiated.

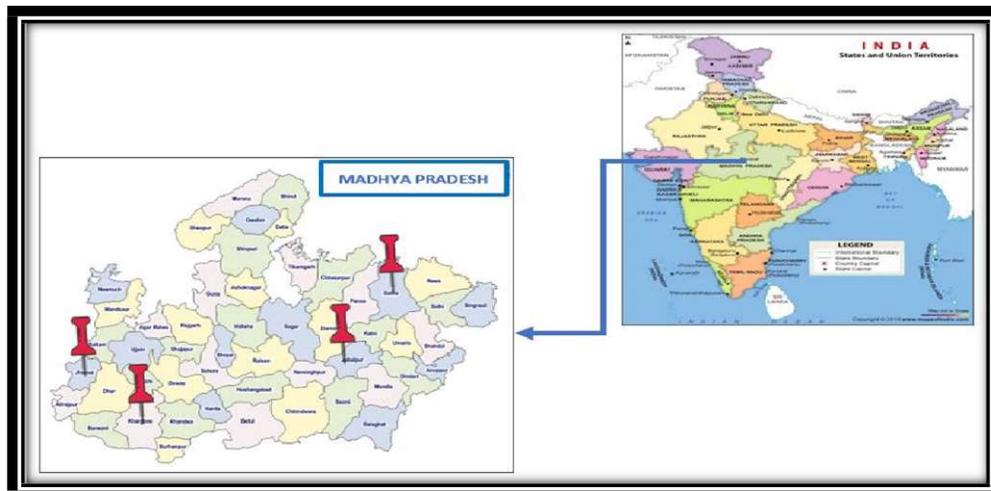
Key Focus Thematic Areas

Sampark is working on uplifting of Bhil Adivasi through various developmental programs in the domain of Natural Resource Management based livelihood - Water, Animal Husbandry & Forest, Agriculture Development, Education with special focus on girl child education and Buniyadi Shiksha, Food & Nutrition, Health & Hygiene with priority of women empowerment.



Operational Area/ Outreach

Sampark operates from Petlawad block of Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh and is recognised as Sampark Gram, which is located between Petlawad and Raipuria. Sampark is focusing more in central India in Jhabua district; this district touches borders of Gujarat & Rajasthan states and has more than 90% of adivasi population. At present, Sampark has its presence in more than 1000 villages of 12 blocks of 5 districts namely Jhabua, Alirajpur, Khargone, Jabalpur & Satna of Madhya Pradesh.



Sampark's Achievements So far...

Sampark is working relentlessly to work for the tribals of Malwa region of MP, majorly in Jhabua district. In the past 3 decades, the organisation is successful to organise & motivate the community to take up developmental work.

Social Change through Community Mobilization, Publications & Documentaries

The organisation's basic focus has been on mobilizing the community, publications & documentaries to bring changes in the evil practices and revival of customs which are eloping from the society. For taking up these issues, Sampark formed the Lok Jagruti Manch, which is sanghthan of Bhil Adivasi. The sanghthan has helped in reuniting the tribal community at large and has led to consciousness to live life with self-respect and dignity. Frequent interactions and strengthening of groups have built new light of confidence in them. Through the sanghthan, following issues were taken up:

- There was a practice among the tribal to spend almost double the amount of their earnings in the social customs, forcing them to borrow money from money lenders and could hardly manage to come above these clutches of debts. In the past 30 years, they have been able to establish the Adji – Padji practice in 125 tribal villages. In these farmers help each other and work jointly in each other's fields during the time of sowing, weeding, inter culture operations and harvesting. During this time, they used to have meals together this helped in establishing harmony and not only saved their crops but also saved labour cost. Through Adji – Padji, Sampark was able to motivate the tribal community to take up soil & water conservation works like construction of field bunds, nala & gully plugs, deepening of tanks etc. this helped in conserving water and recharge of ground water. By these efforts, the tribal community has managed to reduce the expenditure by almost 60%.



- They initiated to revive the Choupal system of tribal community in which the perty issues of villagers were shorted out by the community themselves. Thus, they did not have to police and court of law. In the past years, more than 400 families have settled their disputes and have saved more than 70 lakhs rupees.



- Sampark motivated the community against the practice of Dapa (i.e. bride groom gives dowry to the girl's family due to which status of women in the society was looked down) and stop unnecessary expenses on death ceremony in this 402 families came forward and could save

more than 80 lakhs rupees. Similarly, more than 5000 families were motivated reduce expenses on festivals, saved an amount of more than 60 lakhs.

- A campaign by launched in 125 villages to stop consumption of liquor, this campaign has been greatly successful and 40-50% of the families took place not fall in this. This helped them to financials and improved health.

Policy & Advocacy Work

Sampark has been playing a pivot role in bring forward changes and proper implementation of government acts & policies.

- Awareness & Sensitize the community on Government Water Policy of commercialization and privatization of water. Under this, various rallies, Jal Yatras and sammelans were organised in 7 districts of MP, in which more 20000 people participated.
- Campaign against BT cotton & Brinjal and GM Maize – The multinational companies were posing threat on food security with increasing cost of cultivation and was hampering the practice of traditional cultivation. Standing against this, Sampark has launched the state level campaign, in which farmers made aware by organising kisan sammelans, debates, press conferences, Yatras etc. More than 10000 farmers lodged cases against the MNC.
- Sampark was the active member of Right to Food Campaign & Right to Information campaign at the national level, in which it organised various rallies, dharnas, press conferences etc.
- With the continuous reduction of cattle stock, Sampark had organised various workshops with farmers, social activists and government officials and frame the MP State Pashudhan Niti with the consultation of Ministry of Agriculture & Animal Husbandry, later which was presented to government of MP.



Leveraging the Government Schemes

- With the motive to bring the tribal community to main stream, Sampark tried to develop linkages with government departments and has been successful in availing the schemes like PDS, ICDS, Widow pension, Old age pension, Midday meal, Deen Dayal Upchar Yojna, Antodaya Yojna, etc. for the tribals. They have also been able to add more than 6000 BPL families in the BPL list.
- A campaign was organized to waive the loan of tribals in the Jhabua district, under these more than 17000 tribal farmers got freed from more than 60 Cr. of loan.

Natural Resource Development

- For improving the availability of potable drinking water, deepening of 148 dug wells, deepening of 10 percolation tanks, installation of 10 tube wells has been taken which is benefitting a population of 40,000 in Jhabua District.
- As this area is rainfed & prone to frequent droughts for improving irrigational facilities, Construction of 13 check dams, 292 dugouts, 1449 Gully plugs, 6315 metres of contour trenches, 1782 hectares of field bunds has been taken up. This is helping to recharge 552 dug wells resulting in more than 400 hectares of land coming under irrigation thus benefiting more than 1000 farmers.
- Fertile Silt from percolation tanks has been dugout and spread on 5000 hectares of land making it more productive.
- An underground water tank has been constructed for promoting the roof water harvesting; it has the capacity of 50000 litres. This tank has been supporting a total of 15000 children of residential school in the last 10 years and has harvested over 12500000 litres of rain water.



- More than 500 farmers in 50 villages have been trained in sustainable agricultural practices like organic manure preparation indigenous seed conservation and propagation and herbal pesticide preparation. Now these farmers have formed a group and adopted organic farming and selling their produce.



- Under the flagship initiative “Pashu Sakhi” - More than 35000 families across 333 villages were supported through animal extension services for Goat rearing & poultry, developed the well-trained cadre of 120 paravets (sakhis/ Mitra) to take care of cattle – goat & birds, this

resulted in reduction of mortality rate from 65% to 9% and enhanced the income by 40%.



- A 50 acres of community land had been developed with pasture in Rupapada village which is managed by 42 HHs of the village since last 15 years. At present, there are more than 20000 plants, which are protected by the villagers and in turn their fodder requirement is fulfilled.

Non-conventional Energy Sources & Energy Saving Devices

- More than 1600 households in 65 villages were provided with smokeless wood stoves considerably reducing the problem of women arising from inhaling too much smoke. The consumption of firewood has also been reduced by 50% as these stoves are more fuel efficient which reduces the load on the environment and also the women who have to gather fuel wood.
- More than 200 households in 10 villages have been provided with solar lighting resulting in savings in the use of kerosene to the tune of 20000 litres over the decade and also greater lighting in the homes.



Health & Hygiene

- Organized the awareness campaigns in 17 villages covering 1000 Families along with distribution of mosquito nets to children in schools and regular checkups and follow ups have resulted in prevention and quick cure of malaria and benefited a population of 20,000 people.
- 118 women were trained to be birth attendants or dais and 50 women have been trained as Swastha Sahelis. Both have basic training in reproductive and gynaecological health and

provide immediate relief and care to village women. Gynaecological health and provide immediate relief and care to village women. 1480 women have benefited from these services.



- Community made aware of the need for immunisation and provision of proper nutrition to children and are assisted in accessing the Government health system for this. 3030 infants have been immunised and 1706 women have been provided with the institutional delivery services.

Women Empowerment

- The participation of women in the Gram Sabha meetings has been increased. Elected Women Representatives (EWR) submitted 4750 applications for pensions, 370 applications for the construction of school buildings, 35 applications for Anganwaris, and 98 applications for Kapil Dhara dug wells which have mostly been sanctioned.
- More than 19000 women have got employment in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme resulting in a cumulative Guarantee Scheme resulting in a cumulative income of Rs.4 crores and the construction of assets such as tanks, roads and school buildings. 1200 adolescent girls have been given health training and 9000 women have been given health check-ups. 900 toilets and 3 sub health centres have been constructed.
- 3965 women members of 200 SHGs have saved Rs.65 Lakhs which has provided them with economic self-



reliance and freedom from debt bondage to usurious moneylenders.

Education for All

- Sampark is organizing a campaign to enroll the approx. 14000 children under the age group of 6-14 years in Government Primary & Middle Schools in Bhagwanpura block of Khargone district of Madhya Pradesh. In this campaign, 500 volunteers has identified & trained, they are supporting the campaign to encourage the children to back/ re-enroll to the schools. The campaign is covering 500 villages of Khargone distt.. Sampark has succeed to re-enroll the more than 5000 children.
- Efforts have been made to improve the quality education in the primary schools covering over the 12000 children of 1500 Government Primary & Middle Schools resulting to increase educational levels.



- 240 dropout children in 40 villages were brought back to mainstream school education through the provision of training in the residential schools.
- 2500 children from remote villages of Petlawad Tehsil are provided with quality education in the residential school in the Sampark Campus at Raipuria which is based on Gandhian concept of "Nai Talim".



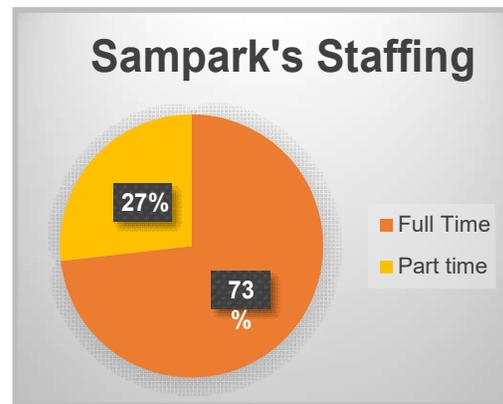
- Under the non-formal school, over 12,000 children have been covered in past decade across 30 Villages for bringing them to the formal school education system.
- A mobile library covers 60 villages and provides 8,000 children with books to read which has led to an increase in reading and analytical skills in the children.
- Over 300 Tribal youth have been given a detailed training in pedagogic techniques which has improved the quality of teaching in schools in the Tehsil.



- Overall 28000 children benefited throughout the period of Education Intervention Program.
- A campaign was organized on education, in which more than 1300 children got enrolled.

Sampark's Human Resource

Sampark believes in having a mix combination of both local staffs and staffs with different academic background, which helps them to take up the programs efficiently. It has a total strength of 650 staffs (150 fulltime & 500 part time) with varied educational background like social work, agriculture, livestock management, finance & accounts, technicians, educationist, communication & media etc. The staffs have diverse experience up to more than 30 years.



Sampark is located in a remote and backward area, where education level is too low. Finding appropriate human resource well versed in all segments of community development has always been a difficult task. The organisation has advisors who give necessary inputs on agriculture development, land & water management, livestock management, health, education, documentation, research and report writings, monitoring & review. It takes need-based services of consultants to augment its skills. Some of the fields in which these services are been taken are Natural Resource Management, Capacity Building, Organisational Development, Research and Documentation, Health and RCH, Micro Credit and Self-Help Group and Program Evaluation. Apart from these, Sampark has also developed very good linkages with government departments like agriculture, veterinary, education etc., KVKs and agricultural universities to support their programs.

Sampark's Publications & Documentaries

Sampark's major strategy has been to increase its outreach through literature and documentaries. Sampark has a very strong publication and communication team spanning print and electronic media and street plays. Numerous posters and booklets have been published in Hindi and Bhili languages on the various development issues on which the organisation is working. Films and songs have also been produced to strengthen the audio-visual messaging. In the last 3 decades, it has been published various informative publications in the field of social change and also prepared documentaries.

Sampark's Publications

Ba Ni Bat, Dhankamad, Lok Paramparon Ke Raste Vikas ki Yatra, PDS in MP – ek report, Guidelines for Informal Education, BT Cotton – Indian Farmers, Kisan Surksha Kawach, Adhi Dunia Bhukhi Kyon, Kitni Ret Kitna Pani, Smapark Buniyadi Shala, Aao Khele Khel, Bio Pesticides, Beja Karz Mukti Ka Sanghash, MP ki Prastavit Pashudhan Niti, Saral Pashu Chikitsa ect., Posters on Dapa Pratha, Chaupal Ka Nyay, Karz Bana Ji ka Janjal, Drought Kal Aaj & Kal, Panchayati Raj Sashaktikaran, Balika Shiksha, Organic Farming, Women Leadership etc.

Sampark's Documentaries

Pani Ki Jugat mein Aam Admi, Lok Paramparon Ke Raste Vikas ki Yatra, Pani Mitti Bachane ke Lok Adarit Prayas, Pani ke liye Gol Bandh Goan, Safed Sona Ka Sach, Animal Health, Sahyogi Nukta, Yoon Chhata Andhera, Sathi Hath Badana, Bal Sanshad, Adhikar ka Vigul, Village Festivals, Pade so Pandit Hoa, Dard Ki Pehli Dava, Bad Pipal Ki chhav Mein, Bhili Lokgeet, Bachche Man Ke Sachche, Katra Katra Roshni Ke Liye, Giving Women a vice - Vaccinating Poultry Empowers Women of Rural India, Community Animal Health Worker in India etc.

Organisation's Funding Partners for Change

Sampark has been able to established good linkages with various agencies for uplifting the deprived, vulnerable adivasis, for this it has received support from various national & international agencies, government and likeminded people who have a similar interest as that of Sampark. In this duration, Sampark has been supported by Sir Dorabjee Tata Trust, CAPART (Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology), SIDBI (Small Industrial Development Bank of India), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Ministry of Water Resource, Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy, Ministry of Health Government of India and Ministry of Agriculture Government of MP, Child Fund India, Galvmed, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Swiss Aid, OXFAM, Sofrani Foundation U.S.A, Department for International Development UK, German Agro Action, IGSSS, NOVIB, ActionAid India, CASA and IWMI for implementing various projects for the welfare of the Adivasis.

Awards and Recognitions

The efforts of Sampark have been widely recognised right from district to the national level. At the state level, the states like Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh have appreciated the work of Sampark and the organisation has received awards. Sampark has played a pivot role in preparing the MP ki Prastavit Pashudhan Niti, for which it has been widely recognised.



State

- Ashok Gondia Award – 2010, Young Men Gandhi Association, Rajkot, Gujarat
- Champaben Gondia Award - 2010, Young Men Gandhi Association, Rajkot, Gujarat
- Tarun Bharat Environmental Protection Award - 2013, National Water Community, Rajasthan
- Letter of Appreciation - 2017, Anavil Society Navsari, Gujarat
- Appreciation Letter for Promotion and Support to Nutrition campaign, 2016-17, DM Jhabua
- Certificate of Appreciation for Exemplary Work in the Area of Social Development 1989-90, District Rural Development Agency, Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh

National

- National Youth Award -1988-89, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India

Others

- Mr. Nitesh Desai got recognition as **Man of the Year by Magazine “The Week”** in the year 2018 covered as “Lighting up the Darkness”.
