

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-23



Inclusive Development

Working on sustainable development initiatives for rural and urban communities in India since 1975

GEAG ANNUAL REPORT
2022-23

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to sincerely thank Mr. J.K. Srivastava for compiling the Annual Report.

Foreword



Dr. Shiraz A. Wajih
President

I am delighted to present the Annual Report of our organization for the fiscal year 2022-23.

This year marked a notable shift towards tranquillity compared to the turbulent preceding years overshadowed by the COVID-19 pandemic. It was a period of growth and innovative thinking for our dedicated team. Our primary focus, both in concept and practice, revolved around the interconnection of natural ecosystems with sustainable farming livelihoods and bolstering the climate resilience of marginalized communities. Additionally, fostering synergy between developmental initiatives and resilience-building remained a paramount objective for our organization.

In the midst of a competitive environment, our organization continued its mission of aiding communities grappling with ecological stressors.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our supporting organizations for their unwavering encouragement and periodic recognition. We are appreciative of the Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, as well as the governments of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar for their trust and acknowledgment.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the members of GEAG and the Executive Board for their invaluable guidance and unwavering support, which have played a pivotal role in ensuring the smooth and efficient operation of our organization. Last but certainly not least, our gratitude goes out to the GEAG team for their unwavering commitment and dedication in upholding the organization's flag high!

Abbreviations

| | |
|--------|---|
| AGs-IS | Adolescent Girls- In School |
| AGs-OS | Adolescent Girls- Out School |
| AME | Agriculture Man Ecology |
| ANM | Auxiliary Nurse Midwife |
| ASC | Agro-Service Centre |
| ASHA | Accredited Social Health Activist |
| AWC | Anganwadi Centre |
| AWW | Anganwadi Worker |
| BaLA | Building as Learning Aid |
| BCI | Behaviour Change Intervention |
| BCPM | Block Community Process Manager |
| BHU | Banaras Hindu University |
| BSPM | Bal Swasthay Poshan Mah |
| CAB | COVID Appropriate Behaviour |
| CDP | Capacity Development Package |
| CAFRI | Climate Adaptation and Finance in Rural India |
| CAG | Community Action Group |
| CCA | Climate Change Adaptation |
| CCC | Core Commitments for Children |
| CCR | Climate Change Resilience |
| CEG | Communication Expert Group |
| CMC | Community Mobilization Centre |
| COVID | Corona Virus Disease |
| CRS | Catholic Relief Services |
| DCs | Divisional Coordinators |
| DPR | Detailed Project Report |
| D2D | Door to Door |
| DRR | Disaster Risk Reduction |
| DST | Department of Science and Technology |
| FLHW | Front Line Health Worker |
| FLW | Front Line Worker |
| FPO | Farmer Producer Organization |
| FRSV | Flood Resistant Smart Villages |
| GAP | Good Agriculture Practices |
| GPDP | Gram Panchayat Development Plan |
| GEAG | Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group |
| Govt. | Government |
| Gol | Government of India |
| HDFC | Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited |
| HHs | Households |
| ICAR | Indian Council of Agriculture Research |
| ICDS | Integrated Child Development Services |
| IEC | Information, Education and Communication |
| IFA | Iron Folic Acid |
| IPC | Inter Personal Communication |
| IIT | Indian Institute of Technology |
| IIVR | Indian Institute of Vegetable Research |
| JJH | Jal Jeevan Hariyali |

| | |
|---------|---|
| KA | Knowledge Assessment |
| KCC | Kisan Credit Card |
| KLD | Kilo litres per day |
| KVK | Krishi Vigyan Kendra |
| LEISA | Low External Input Sustainable Agriculture |
| LWR | Lutheran World Relief |
| MAM | Moderate Accute Malnourished |
| MHM | Menstrual Hygiene Management |
| MKSP | Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana |
| MGNREGA | Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act |
| MoEFCC | Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change |
| MP | Madhya Pradesh |
| MT | Master Trainers |
| NABARD | National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development |
| NDUAT | Narendra Dev University of Agriculture and Technology |
| NGO | Non-Government Organisation |
| NHM | National Health Mission |
| NHRDF | National Horticulture and Rural Development Foundation |
| NI | Nutrition International |
| PHT | Post Harvest Technology |
| PRI | Panchayati Raj Institutions |
| PwC | Pricewaterhouse Coopers |
| RVP | Resilient Village Plan |
| RGSA | Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan |
| RI | Regular Immunization |
| SAM | Severely Acute Malnourished |
| SC | Scheduled Castes |
| SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals |
| SHG | Self Help Group |
| SIA | Supplementary Immunization Activity |
| SMC | School Management Committee |
| SMS | Short Message Service |
| ST | Scheduled Tribe |
| TAF | The Asia Foundation |
| TBCF | Trans-Boundary Citizen Forum |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |
| UP | Uttar Pradesh |
| VAB | Vaccines Avoidance Behaviour |
| VAS | Vitamin A Supplementation |
| VDC | Village Development Committee |
| VDMC | Village Disaster Management Committee |
| VHND | Village Health Nutrition Day |
| WCD | Women and Child Development |
| WIFAS | Weekly Iron Folic Acid Supplementation |
| WIFS | Weekly Iron Folic Supplementation |




The Organisation

Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG) works in the field of environment and sustainable development, undertaking initiatives for the weaker sections of the society in rural and urban India, working hand in hand with the community. Established in 1975, GEAG has been addressing issues of sustainable agriculture and livelihoods, the rights and interests of small and marginal and women farmers, community health, training and capacity building.


Supported by a workforce that is both professional and passionate about the work, GEAG work on issues that are extremely relevant to the time we live in. Climate change resilience, disaster risk reduction, health, water and sanitation issues, sustainable livelihoods, and preventive health and ecological health are some of our focus areas.

In the last four decades we have built up a wealth of knowledge base and ground experience through numerous capacity building trainings, workshops and programmes conducted for various stakeholders that include women farmers, civil society groups, government officials and professionals. Establishing ourselves as a leading resource institution in the country, we work with other NGOs, various government departments, banks, financial institutions



VISION

A society free of inequalities and discrimination that ensures equal rights to all, especially the marginalised sections comprising women, children and poverty-stricken farming communities through equitable distribution of services, resources and opportunities.



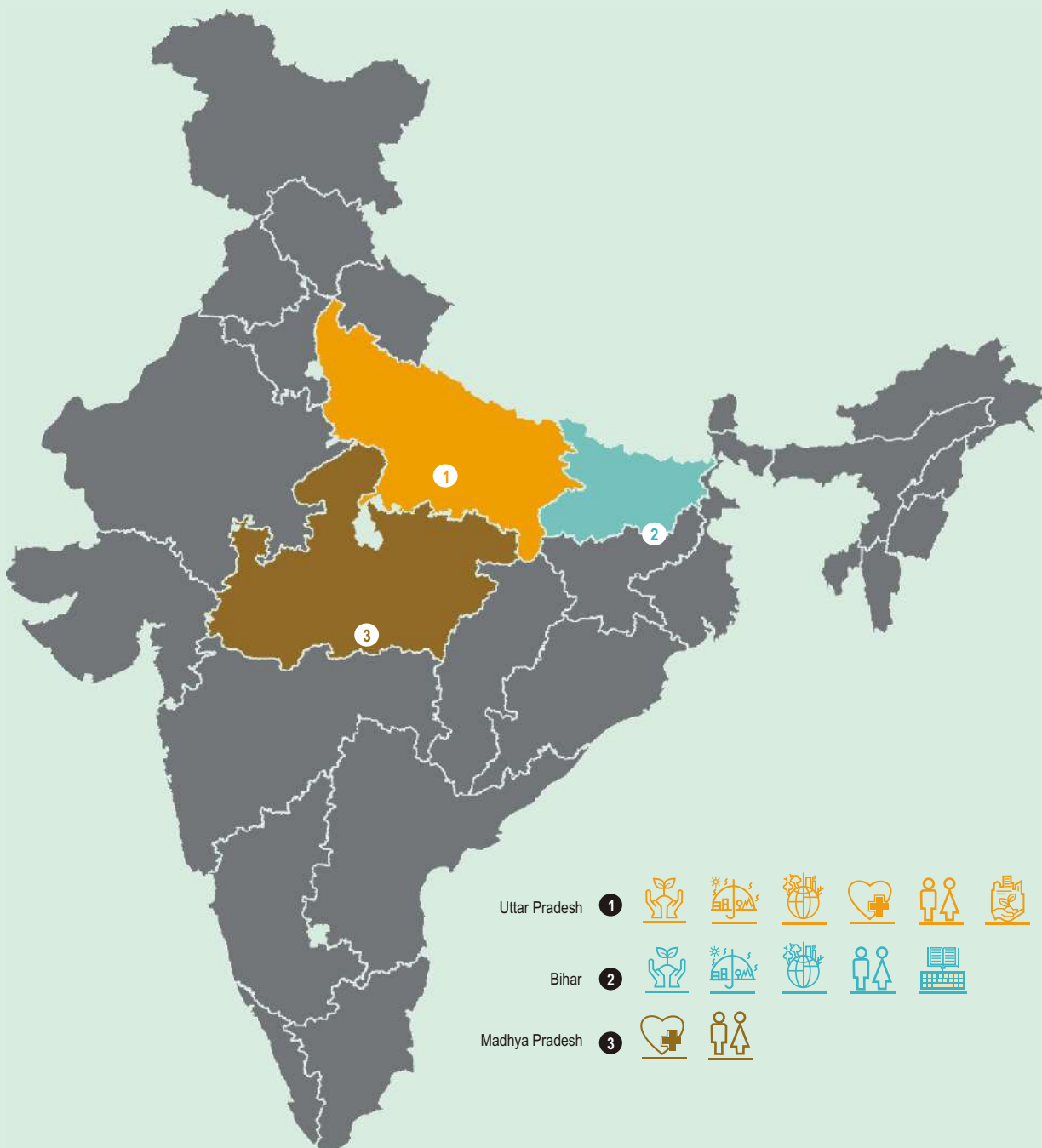
MISSION

To create enabling environment for deprived communities in order to improve the quality of life with special attention to women and children for inclusive and equitable development.

and local people's institutions to conduct appraisals, studies, research and participatory training programmes. We work with the vulnerable and the marginalised communities, bringing their concern and matters centre stage.

Our Outreach

GEAG works on projects spanning nine key areas, including agriculture-based livelihoods, climate change resilience, disaster risk reduction (DRR), health, water and sanitation. Over the years, GEAG has worked to equip target communities, community-based organizations, local governments, and departments with the necessary leadership skills and knowledge to help them face the challenges of the rising disaster risk brought on by climate change.





Empowering Marginalized Communities through Innovations and Technologies in Flood Prone Areas of Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar

The Core Support Programme is being implemented in the unique ecosystems of Gorakhpur district in Uttar Pradesh and West Champaran in Bihar. The region is confronting recurrent flood and widespread waterlogging. A total of 18 villages from these districts are selected to work intensively with the small and marginal farmers, especially those who belong to SC and ST communities (67 per cent) to promote technology innovation in different geographical typologies.

The Core Support Programme addressed agriculture and livelihood-related problems of small-marginal and women farmers by introducing Science & Technology innovations into the farm production system, increasing productivity and reducing losses. GEAG incubated and developed 24 tools & technologies related to resilient farming systems.

Technologies related to climate resilient agriculture in flood prone areas for small land holder farmers (14), improved ecosystem services (3), social entrepreneurship models (5) and cost effective & energy efficient post-harvest technologies (7) in the intervention areas were developed. A total of 4943 farmers (67% among

these are from Schedule Caste category) have benefitted from the services provided in the program.

Outcomes and Impacts

The key outcomes of the thematic activities of the project are:

Climate-resilient farming systems

This farming system helped farmers to enhance net gains and reduced losses with time and space management and integrating bio inputs. The key impacts of resilient farm system technologies are:

- ◆ Reduced input cost, enhancing net gains
- ◆ Enhanced farm robustness with the integration of farm sub-systems
- ◆ Diversified food and income spread over the year
- ◆ Farm based mitigation
- ◆ Protection from stray/ wild animals esp. in vegetable farming
- ◆ 1889 farmers adopted tools and technologies

Improved eco-system services

- ◆ A "cost-free drainage water treatment technique" has been installed in the village for the treatment of domestic waste water, which improves drainage systems. In Panchgawa, about four acres of waterlogged land have been treated with the phytoid method, and the treated water is being used in agriculture:
- ◆ To improve soil health and carbon content, legume crops such as Dhaincha (*Sesbania aculeata*), Pigeon Pea (*Cajanus cajan*), and Mung Bean (*Vigna radiata*) were planted in bunds. It also helped to shield the plants from the wind and prevent soil erosion brought on by the wind.
- ◆ Value-added fungicide-based bio-compost was sprayed on legume crops to cure soil-borne fungal diseases such as wilt, collar rot, damping off, etc.
- ◆ The inclusion of bio-mulching in agricultural fields improved soil fertility and increased seed germination potential in the intervention region.

Strengthening community institutions towards S&T supported entrepreneurship

Nine Agro Service Centers, which are community led institutions are fulfilling the needs of 1518 small and marginal farmers by providing low cost bio-inputs and small equipments. Also Rs. 46.59 lakhs were mobilized from govt. and knowledge institutions and Rs. 92,155.00 from rental services of equipment and tools to the farmers. ASCs established linkages with two FPOs for marketing support and getting technical knowledge support from MG Post Graduate College of Science, Gorakhpur, IIT Kanpur, IIT Delhi, BHU, ND University of Agriculture, IIVR Varanasi, and KVKs.

Developed cost-effective post-harvest technologies (energy efficient) for perishable vegetables

Developed post-harvest tools like ground nut de-husking tools, maize de-husking tools, turmeric steam boilers, root crop washing tools, low cost and energy efficient zero energy cool chamber for perishable vegetables, storage house for onions and potatoes with community participation.

6 model farmers have received awards for outstanding contributions to the technology development. 18 research articles including case studies of DST core support farmers were published in peer reviewed journals and national and international print media reports.



Key Highlights

- ◆ 39 training and orientation programme organized on climate resilient farming
- ◆ 38 per cent input cost reduced (enhanced net income)
- ◆ Average income increased by 34%
- ◆ Farm productivity enhanced
- ◆ 6 model farmers were awarded by ICAR, Earth Day Network, Govt. of UP and Govt. of Bihar
- ◆ 4 acres of land saved from waterlogging
- ◆ Women farmers' drudgery and time are reduced in hours/ days with developed PHTs
- ◆ Quality improvement in farm produce through PHTs
- ◆ 60 per cent fuel cost and 90 minutes of time to boil the turmeric reduced with steam boilers for turmeric processing
- ◆ Total 18 research paper/ articles have been published in national and international Journals and magazines



Community Engagement for Building Climate Resilient Village in Bihar

The project with the financial support of The Asia Foundation was carried out in five villages in the Nirmali block of the Supaul district in Bihar. The main objective is to address climate change induced disasters, livelihood vulnerabilities and to develop and integrate community-led eco-based solutions into the planning process of the Bihar government's Resilient Village Programme. The project focused on the involvement of community members in the creation of resilient village plans.

Key Activities

- ◆ Based on the Bihar Disaster Risk Reduction Roadmap 2015 - 2030, developed resilient village plans in collaboration with the community and panchayat representatives in five villages in Bihar.
- ◆ Ensuring consistent and enhanced remuneration for migrant labourers who returned to farming in the control area by linking them to various welfare schemes of the Bihar government. Five model farmers were chosen as part of programme to get training in resilient farming methods.

- ◆ Engagement of citizens on both sides of the Indo-Nepal border in integrating climate change concerns through the establishment of the Trans-Boundary Citizens Forum (TBCF), which advocates with local governments on pressing issues such as river ecology and the right to livelihood.
- ◆ Involvement of government officials and community leaders in decision making process about governance and migration.
- ◆ Capacity building for community leaders including master trainers and women farmers.

Outcomes and Impacts

- ◆ Five disaster affected villages prepared their Resilient Village Plans, which includes all activities to be carried out in response to disaster risk reduction measures. The RVP was also shared with Dr. Ranjeet Kumar Singh, IAS Director of Panchayati Raj, Government of Bihar.
- ◆ Farmers (335) have been enrolled in various welfare schemes and programmes like, E-Shram card, MGNREGA, KCC etc.

- ◆ Model farmers (25) were selected for training in resilient farming practices such as Matka Khad, Biopest Repellent, mixed cropping, machan farming, etc. 15 Jeevika groups were trained on flood resilient agriculture techniques and practices.
- ◆ 13 farmers were capacitated as master trainers to conduct trainings on climate change, eco-system services and flood resilient agriculture.
- ◆ Livestock vaccination campaigns, plantation drives, training on preparation of matka khad, bio pest repellent conducted across villages.
- ◆ Through community contribution and Shramdan, village infrastructure (Chechari Bridge) was developed, and the drainage system was cleaned.
- ◆ Mechanism was developed through which 107 farmers will receive weather forecast & agriculture advisory message in 5 day interval.
- ◆ Seed banks (5) and agriculture equipment center (05) were established in each village.





Developing Resilience Capacity

With the support of PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), India Foundation, GEAG worked in district West Champaran, Bihar to enhance the resilience capacities of vulnerable communities. The project was implemented in 2 villages- Dhoom Nagar and Koiripatti of Thakraha block in West Champaran district.

| District | Project Area Profile | | | Households |
|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------|-------------|
| | Block | Village | Hamlet | |
| West Champaran | Thakraha | Thakraha Jagiraha | 3 2 | 5963 905 |



Farm based intervention

- ♦ Multi layer farming/ Inter-cropping/ Jute bag farming
- ♦ Portable nursery
- ♦ Adaptation of resilient high value paddy variety seed
- ♦ Vegetable production under LTP
- ♦ Crop calendar
- ♦ Establishment of a grain bank
- ♦ Promotion of flood recovery crops
- ♦ Azolla farming



Capacity Building

- ♦ Orientation on value addition of agro products
- ♦ Establishment of fodder bank
- ♦ Training on skill based Entrepreneurship
- ♦ Farmers exposure visits to agricultural institutes such as KVK (Krishi Vigyan Kendra)
- ♦ Establishment of Agro Service Centre
- ♦ Farmer Field School



Safety Net

- ♦ Awareness on linkages with ongoing government schemes such as Fasal Sahayta Yojna, livestock and asset insurance etc.
- ♦ To support wooden boat and life-saving equipment among flood prone communities
- ♦ Formation and strengthening of SHGs for the Musahar community
- ♦ Orientation of SHGs representative on key management



Early weather forecast and agro advisory

- ♦ Web based SMS on early weather forecast information and agro advisory
- ♦ Feed back



Public Private Support and Advocacy

- ♦ Promotion of bamboo plantation for securing soil erosion (Dhoom Nagar village)
- ♦ Promotion of Backyard/flood resilient nutrition garden (especially for Musahar community)
- ♦ Drainage improvement work

Outcomes and Impacts

The project has successfully reduced flood disaster risks for farmers and communities in two villages of Thakraha block, West Champaran district, Bihar. It has also helped promote agricultural and non-agricultural livelihoods in adverse weather conditions and provided farmers with technical knowledge and climate-adapted farming suggestions. Currently, 40 farmers in each of the four villages have become exemplary in climate resilient farming practices.

The outcomes achieved through the project include:

- ◆ Successful linkage of six self-help groups (SHGs) with Jeevika, enabling them to access financial support.
- ◆ All 6 SHGs and vulnerable communities have access to revolving fund and insurances (Crop, livestock and human) with the support of JEEVIKA. These linkages have reduced the fear of insecurity among the communities.
- ◆ Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Surabhi Beej Producer Company Limited, ensuring the sustainability and market connections for the SHG enterprise.
- ◆ Success in saving and pooling resources by the SHGs, a significant milestone in achieving financial

stability and economic empowerment at the community level.

- ◆ With the support of a local representative, two choked drainage systems were identified and cleaned up to get rid of water logging situations in rainy seasons. The initiative has produced a favourable outcome, with an average of 50 acres of agricultural land and 45 low-lying houses successfully freed from waterlogging situations.
- ◆ 156 households from Musahar community were supported with solar home lights.
- ◆ In order to protect soil erosion along the Gandak river near Dhoomnagar village, a total of 1000 bamboo samples were procured with the help of Forest Ranger Officer, Valmiki Nagar and planted along Gandak river
- ◆ The wooden boat provided a reliable and safe means of transportation, allowing community (especially musahar community)members to access 239 acre of land for riverbed farming, vital services and engage in farming and selling activities, leading to increased incomes for households and reduced dependency on labor work or migration.





Developing Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change packages for Adolescents and Young People and other Stakeholders

The project supported by UNICEF Bihar run across all the districts with special focus on Gaya district of Bihar.

Key Objectives

- ♦ To develop training package on DRR and climate change for adolescents and youths.
- ♦ To develop E-learning modules on DRR and climate change for adolescents and youths.
- ♦ To develop state climate and disaster vulnerability assessment.
- ♦ To develop advocacy paper on sectoral approach for District climate action plan.
- ♦ To develop emergency preparedness and response pocketbooks for frontline functionaries, panchayat representatives and community for various disasters including Covid 19 pandemic.
- ♦ To develop DRR and climate change participatory learning package for Jeevika Didis.
- ♦ To develop disaster resilient and climate smart guidelines for schools.

Key Activities

- ♦ Developing learning and training packages including e-learning modules and contents for the webpage/ application for the young people.
- ♦ Conducting pilot programme of learning and training package with selected Adolescents and youths.
- ♦ Assisting UNICEF-Bihar in the development of relevant knowledge products related to emergency preparedness, response and resilience building. This includes: a) Customized version of Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Actions (CCCs) in the context of Bihar, b) Development of pocket booklets on emergency preparedness and response for ANMs, ASHA, AWWs, Children, Communities and PRIs, c) Develop DRR and Climate Change participatory learning package for Jeevika Didis.
- ♦ Developing a process package on community led emergency preparedness and response.
- ♦ Developing disaster resilient and climate smart guidelines for schools and provide handholding

assistance to Education Department in Gaya district for developing 20 model schools.

- ♦ Selected 20 schools in Gaya district will be developed as climate-smart schools. Assessment and benchmarking of schools have been done on the identified indicators of UNICEF.

Outcomes and Impacts

- ♦ Developed phase wise training manual for youth and adolescent and their roles in CCA-DRR.
- ♦ Spatio temporal climate change risk analysis done and district wise key drivers of vulnerability were identified

- ♦ Developed pocket booklets on emergency preparedness and response for ANMs, ASHA, AWWs, Communities and PRIs.
- ♦ Developed week wise yearly content on DRR and Climate Change for Jeevika Didis.

Key Highlights

- ♦ Developed pocket booklets on emergency preparedness and response for ANMs, ASHA, AWWs, Communities and PRIs.
- ♦ All 20 selected Climate Smart School have developed their Climate Action Plan and started work accordingly





Farmer Producer Organisation, Uttar Pradesh

With an objective to increase farmer's opportunities in emerging market and their competitiveness, the primary operation of FPO (Surabhi Beej Producer Company Limited & Rapti Rohin Sabji Producer Company Ltd.) was incorporated on 29th October 2015 with the support of NABARD under GEAG as resource institutions.

Key Objectives

- ♦ To enhance the income of associated small and marginal farmers by ensuring better access to market.
- ♦ To build the capacities of community-based institutions like farmers group on various livelihoods interventions
- ♦ To improve the quality of their food/ produce by giving their quality seed.
- ♦ To capacitate the farmers to scientifically manage their crops/soil production and storage
- ♦ To promote less use of fertilizer, manure, irrigation and livestock.

Key Activities

- ♦ Sale & marketing of agricultural inputs like fertilizers, seed & agri-commodities.
- ♦ Value Addition in agri-commodities (like sorting, grading, packaging, storage & processing)
- ♦ Liaisoning with government departments for the access of improved practices

Outcomes and Impacts

- ♦ Farmers capacity developed on value addition of farm products, input reduction and value added marketing on suitable price.
- ♦ Linkages are established with collective marketing to get the real price of farm produce.
- ♦ Obtained various licenses and certifications such as:
 - FSSAI license
 - Seed License
 - Seed certification
 - Mandi license
 - GST/TAN Registration



- ◆ Increased shareholders upto 1669 and providing services to 6375 farmers.
- ◆ 60% women farmers have access to weather forecast and agro-advisory information, enhancing their skills in marketing their produce and improving their income by fetching the actual price of their produce.
- ◆ Establishment of a machinery bank through government linkages.
- ◆ Increase in revenue from Rs. 1,01,81,000/- in financial year 2021-22 to Rs. 1,01,98,000/- in financial year 2022-23.





Holistic Rural Development Project

HRDP is a development programme that aims to provide rural communities with tools and means to grow and prosper. It amalgamates education, health, hygiene, water and sanitation, agriculture and allied activities.

The project covers one block comprising of 15 revenue villages with the coverage of 4769 household in Shravasti district of U.P.

Key Objectives

Integrated development for improving lives and livelihoods of marginalised communities in the backward villages of the aspirational district Shravasti.

Key Activities

The proposed project encapsulates all the five thematic focus areas of HDFC Bank-CSR in order to bring both tangible and intangible development in HRDP intervened villages.

- ◆ Livelihood enhancement
- ◆ Healthcare, water & sanitation
- ◆ Education infrastructure development
- ◆ Natural resource management
- ◆ Financial inclusion

Outcomes and Impacts

As part of the natural resource management activity, 5 community ponds were rejuvenated. This initiative has significantly increased the overall holding capacity by 539,818.39 cubic feet. As a result, the nearby irrigated agricultural land has expanded, ensuring food security for 112 families. Additionally, it has effectively mitigated waterlogging issues and facilitated water recharge in the area. Through the Skill Training Livelihood Enhancement activity, 385 farmers were capacitated to reduce their input costs by Rs. 521,762 across 389.3 acres of land. They achieved this by adopting self-prepared vermi compost, matka khad, and matka pesticides. Support in providing basic



amenities to schools, in line with the guidelines for becoming a climate-smart school, has yielded positive outcomes.

A remarkable 22% improvement in attendance was observed and each school has been assisted by the PRI in constructing soak pits. After acquiring knowledge on cultivating millets, 128 farmers successfully cultivated Ragi, Sanva, and Kakunmillets on 128 acres of land. This endeavour generated an additional income of Rs. 18,750 per acre.

To support marginalized farmers, Agri Tool Banks were established in 15 villages. This initiative has allowed farmers access to agricultural equipment at minimal prices compared to the market. This registered savings on equipment costs amounted to Rs. 6,33,438. Furthermore, their income per household increased by Rs. 3,850, resulting in accrual of a total revenue of Rs. 1,55,992. These funds will be utilized for the long-

term maintenance and sustainability of the supported equipment. In the current year, a total of 188 farmers have adopted intensive vegetable farming practices (multilayer farming, time and space management), effectively utilizing 37.6 acres of land. This shift has enabled them to earn an impressive income of Rs. 1,52,350 per acre.

Through the Business Promotion activity, trainings to 32 farmers were provided on cultivating various types of mushrooms. This intervention has enabled these farmers to earn a regular incremental income of Rs. 4,050 per month. Additionally, we supported 15 vulnerable farmers with vending carts, which they currently utilize for various business practices. On an average, these farmers have recorded monthly profits of Rs. 7,666, ensuring food security and providing them with a means to conduct their own business according to their interests.





Core Group Polio Project (CGPP)

GEAG is working with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in 133 villages of 10 blocks in Mau (16 villages) and Sitapur (117 villages) districts of Uttar Pradesh. The main objective of the project is to strengthen national and regional immunization systems in intervention areas.

Key Objectives

- ◆ Knowledge and skill transfer to the government FLHWs.
- ◆ Strengthening community engagement through Community Action Groups (CAG).
- ◆ Engagement of school children to promote immunization.
- ◆ Formation of Communication Expert Group (CEG) comprising a CMCs.

Key Activities

- ◆ Training of NHM staff
- ◆ Training of ASHA with ASHA Sangini as Master Trainer.
- ◆ Promotion of use of indigenous tools by ASHA in non program area.

Outcomes and Impacts

- ◆ The quality of 63% of ASHA Sangini supportive supervision improved.
- ◆ BCPM took part in the ASHA Sangini meeting
- ◆ ASHA Sangini does RI slip analysis
- ◆ ASHA uses an area map during VHND
- ◆ ASHA follows communication plan
- ◆ ASHA has updated RI booklet and due list
- ◆ ASHA has a list of VAB families
- ◆ The use of indigenous tools transformed resistant families into non-resistant ones towards vaccination.
- ◆ Few CAG members share their feedback with the health department.
- ◆ CAG members support ASHA in making area maps
- ◆ CAG members also support in announcement of messages from mosque and Temple.

Key Highlights

- ◆ School teachers started taking interest in immunization activities
- ◆ Message regarding WASH and immunization are being disseminated during assembly in schools
- ◆ CEG support the community in awareness program regarding immunization and vaccination.
- ◆ CEG will be treated as part of the CAG.



Implementing Agency to Support Adolescent Nutrition Programme, Uttar Pradesh

Nutrition International (NI) is providing technical support to the government of Uttar Pradesh in implementation of Vitamin A and IFA supplementation program with the objective to strengthen and sustain Vitamin A supplementation and Weekly Iron Folic Acid supplementation program in 20 project districts of Uttar Pradesh. GEAG, supports NI at division and district level as a partner to provide operational support to the health and ICDS functionaries in 253 blocks of 20 districts spread across 8 divisions of Uttar Pradesh. Under this intervention, support is being provided to various departments (Health, ICDS & Education- Basic and Secondary both) in planning, implementation and review of the program. Strategy of intervention is to work in close association with district administration, Health, ICDS and Education departments at the divisional /district/block levels to ensure effective and timely implementation of the program.

Key Objectives

To improve coverage and consumption of weekly iron folic acid supplementation and promote nutrition, health, education and counselling among both in

school girls and boys and out of school adolescent girls aged 10 to 19 years.

Intervention Area

Program is being implemented in 253 blocks of 20 districts spread across 8 divisions (Agra, Aligarh, Moradabad, Saharanpur, Prayagraj, Ayodhya, Lucknow and Varanasi) of Uttar Pradesh. Nutrition International is assigned to work by government of UP in these districts to provide technical and operational support to the concerned departments and other stakeholders.

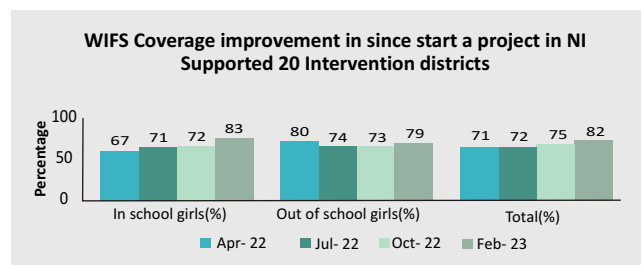
Key Outcomes

Key Results in Adolescent nutrition intervention (WIFS program)

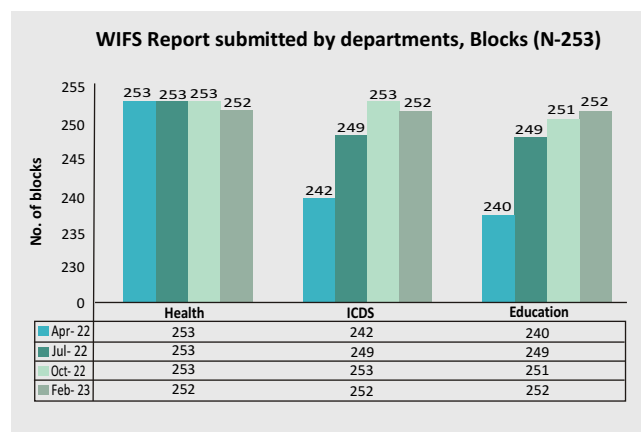
- I. Increase in school coverage from 67% in April 2022 to 83% in March 2023. Coverage in out schools registered a decline of 80% to 79% in the corresponding period.
- II. Improved distribution mechanism from district to block and block to service delivery points.

Improved data recording and reporting have been observed in the districts and blocks. Out of a total 253 intervention blocks in 20 project districts, report of health, ICDS and Education department were coming from 252 blocks of all three sectors respectively as of Feb 2023. However, it was coming from 253, 242 and 240 blocks respectively in April 22.

WIFS Coverage of 20 districts



Block level WIFS report submitted by department of 20 districts



Training/Orientation: Monitored Status

During field visit DCs interacted with FLWs (ANMs and AWWs) and beneficiaries (Adolescent girls) and evaluated their knowledge of the WIFS program and provided handholding on these issues. During the period of Apr 22- June 23 details of knowledge assessment are given below:

| Training/Orientation: Monitored Status | | | | | |
|--|----------|------|-----|--------|--------|
| KA | Teachers | ANMs | AWW | AGs-IS | AGs-OS |
| Apr 22- March 23 | 482 | 196 | 537 | 969 | 525 |

Data till Feb 2023

Training of teachers on MHM

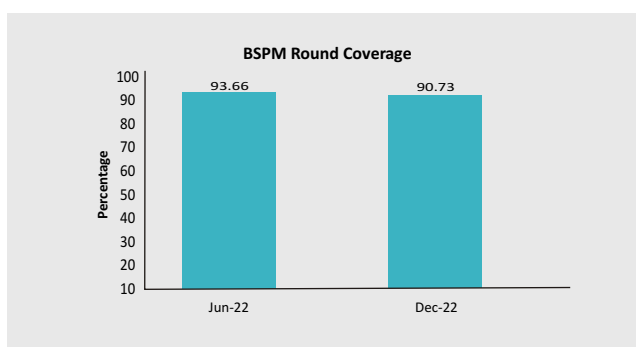
Menstrual hygiene management program in Chandauli district

Chandauli is one of the aspirational districts of Uttar Pradesh identified by Neeti Ayog in this district NI started a pilot project on the issue of MHM this year. In this activity awareness creation on MHM issues among adolescent girls through teachers will be done.

Safe and hygienic practices on MHM will be promoted through this activity. With the support of NI, GEAG organized a state level TOT in January 2021 in which 10 trainers identified from local areas (Chandauli) who had prior experience on this issue were given training and further they provided the orientation on the issue to teachers of upper primary schools and higher secondary schools/inter colleges of all the blocks of Chandauli districts. Later, 10 counsellors were also identified and trained. These counsellors were engaged to counsel adolescent girls in schools and VHSND sessions. In the year 2021-22 a total of 444 sessions were organized and 44314 adolescent girls were oriented on menstrual hygiene management issues in Chandauli district. In continuation to this year Impact assessment studies were conducted in which 10 surveyors were identified, oriented for one day in class room and one day in field and then they collected 40 data from schools and AWCs (4 schools and AWCs in each block of Chandauli). The total of 40 teachers, 413 AWWs and 286 in school and out school adolescent girls were interacted and accordingly data were collected. An animation video on menstrual hygiene was also prepared to create awareness among adolescent girls, teachers guardians etc on this aspect. In five districts (Ghazipur, Unnao, Fatehpur, Firozabad and Amroha) district level ToT on menstrual hygiene management were organized in which 311 trainers from block level officials of health, ICDS and teachers of basic and secondary education were trained.

Vitamin A supplementation (VAS)

BSPM round was renamed as Vitamin A supplementation after COVID-19 as other services of BSPM were reduced during this campaign and now VAS program is organized in the state in both round (June and December 2022). The round was successfully facilitated in our intervention districts. As of now, all 20 districts are submitting their district level



Graph showing BSPM Coverage

BSPM coverage report to the state. BSPM coverage has registered at negative growth of 3% (90.6%) as compared to previous 93.6% due to supply of Vitamin A. Online monitoring tool was also developed for monitoring of these sessions by government officials.



Adolescent Nutrition Programme, Madhya Pradesh

The project covers 149 blocks, in 26 districts of Madhya Pradesh, is supported by Nutrition International, with an objective to improve coverage and consumption of weekly Iron Folic Acid supply (WIFAS), menstruation and promote nutrition, health, education and counselling among both in school girls and boys and out of school adolescent girls aged 10-13 years.

Key Objectives

- ◆ To support state and districts- officials in re-establishing WIFAS program through schools.
- ◆ To improve coverage of adolescent nutrition program by promoting nutrition education and counselling among in-school girls and boys and out-of-school adolescent girls aged 10 to 19 years.

Key Activities

- ◆ District officials accepted the recommendations to include adequate budget allocation for adolescent health and nutrition interventions in the annual program implementation plan.

- ◆ Support to district level departments for strengthening alternate delivery platforms for WIFAS as well as re-establish WIFAS program through schools, if required.
- ◆ Supportive supervision is provided to Health, Education and WCD departments using existing supervisory staff to ensure quality and delivery of adolescent health, nutrition and education.
- ◆ District and block level officials are strengthened in the capacity for planning, implementing, monitoring, and reporting systems for WIFAS program in the targeted districts.

Outcomes and Impacts

- ◆ Improved coverage and increased distribution of at least 52 IFA tablets among adolescents from the baseline by 20% in 2022-23.
- ◆ 95% of schools and 85% of AWCs regularly submit WIFA monthly coverage report in focused districts.
- ◆ Reporting of stock-outs of WIFA each month in at least 80% of the schools and AWCs in focused districts.

- ◆ Timely issuance of the purchase of IFA blue for adolescents have no stock out of IFA in 26 Districts throughout the year
- ◆ No Stock out situation (IFA Blue) was reported in 26 districts of the project throughout the year
- ◆ All districts and 80% of blocks maintained for 1 month buffer stock throughout the year, of IFA blue after team intervention
- ◆ All 26 districts and 149 blocks timely reported WIFA coverage throughout the year (100% reports received)
- ◆ Increase in coverage of IFA blue during the year grown upto 82% (upto March-2023) as compared to 72% in the corresponding year of 2022.
- ◆ The Govt advised field staff (DCs) in social auditing of Anganwadi Centres (80 Nos)
- ◆ Video documentation of the project activity conducted by NI regional office.





Protecting Environment and Ecosystem Services through Rejuvenation of Waterbodies, Ecosystem Conservation and Engaging with Children and Youth in Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh

Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG) and HCL Foundation have collaborated to protect the environment and its ecosystem services through the rejuvenation of waterbodies and ecosystem conservation. This annual report highlights the efforts made by GEAG and HCL Foundation to engage with the local community, schools, and youth in Gautam Budh Nagar and outlines the objectives, key activities, and outputs achieved during the financial year 2022-2023.

Key Objectives

- Rejuvenate waterbodies:** The primary objective of the program was to rejuvenate neglected waterbodies in Gautam Budh Nagar, specifically focusing on the villages of Saini and Makauda. By implementing scientific, innovative, and sustainable approaches, the aim was to restore these waterbodies and improve their ecosystem health.
- Protect ecosystem services:** The program aimed to safeguard the ecosystem services provided by the waterbodies, including groundwater recharge, water storage, and habitat preservation. By conserving and restoring these natural resources, the project aimed to promote sustainable development in the region.
- Engage with children and youth:** Another key objective was to engage with children and youth in Gautam Budh Nagar, involving them in environmental conservation activities and creating awareness about the importance of protecting the environment. Through environmental education programs conducted in government schools, the project aimed to empower young minds and inspire them to become environmental stewards.



1.309 hectares. The water holding capacity of these ponds increased by 23,066 cubic meters, resulting in a total recharge volume of 106,029 cubic meters of water. This significant improvement positively impacted the local ecosystem.

- ◆ **Community empowerment:** Through their active involvement in the project, the local community members gained leadership skills. The project empowered them to make a difference in their community and inspired other villages in the

area to undertake similar initiatives.

Key Activities

- ◆ **Community participation:** The project actively involved local community members, NGOs, government officials, and volunteers from the targeted villages. Community engagement played a vital role in the success of the program, ensuring a sense of ownership and sustainability.
- ◆ **Rejuvenation of waterbodies:** The program focused on the rejuvenation of two ponds in Saini and Makauda villages. The activities included garbage removal, de-siltation, construction of embankments, and the implementation of a greywater treatment system. Additionally, afforestation activities and the construction of inlets to divert greywater/rainwater were undertaken to prevent soil erosion and enhance the overall ecosystem health.
- ◆ **Environmental education programs:** GEAG and HCL Foundation conducted environmental awareness events in five government schools, including Composite School Kulesera, Composite School Yakubpur, Junior High School Jalpura, Junior High School Nagla Charan Das, and Composite School Salarpur. These events aimed to educate and sensitize over 1400 children about environmental issues and the importance of ecosystem conservation.

- ◆ **Environmental education impact:** Over 80 environmental awareness events were organized, engaging more than 1400 children from government schools. These programs helped in creating awareness about environmental issues and instilling a sense of responsibility and stewardship among the young generation.

The collaborative efforts between GEAG and HCL Foundation in rejuvenating waterbodies and engaging with the community, schools, and youth in Gautam Budh Nagar have resulted in significant positive outcomes. The successful rejuvenation of the ponds has improved the environment, protected ecosystem services, and provided a gathering place for the villagers. The project's impact extends beyond the physical transformation, empowering the community and inspiring others to contribute to sustainable development.

The environmental education programs have also played a crucial role in creating awareness and nurturing a generation of environmentally conscious individuals. Together, these efforts have set an example of community-led initiatives and their potential for driving positive change in both the environment and society.

Outcomes and Impacts

- ◆ **Pond rejuvenation:** The program successfully rejuvenated two ponds, covering a total area of



Conducting Training Programmes in Uttar Pradesh

GEAG worked with the support of GIZ, India under the project titled Climate Adaption & Finance in Rural India (CAFRI) in Uttar Pradesh. One of the important thematic focus areas of the project was capacity development with the aim of supporting partners in reducing climate change risks for vulnerable groups and sectors as well as capacity building of actors (different levels) in the planning, implementation, and financing of climate adaptation initiatives at the State level. In this context, the project engaged with the State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD), Govt of UP on capacity development for Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) members and Women SHGs under the Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) of the Govt of UP as well as on knowledge management for climate change adaptation.

Under the project a supplementary handbook was developed for building the capacities of women farmers under the MKSP programme. The handbook was developed in a simple, Hindi language in pictorial format for easy comprehension.

Further, the capacity development packages developed for PRI members and MKSP were rolled out through a series of trainings organised in collaboration with SIRD. A total of five State level Training of Trainers (ToTs) were held for training on CCA-DRR integrated GPDP and MKSP, during the reporting year. This was followed by district level ToTs in which GEAG provided the handholding support.



LEISA India

LEISA India, a magazine on ecological agriculture, is one stop treasure of practical field experience, deep growing concern for improved livelihood in fragile ecosystem through low external input sustainable agriculture. The yearly magazine duration is from April 2022- March 2023, ran across 19 states in the country, supported by a resource organisation AME Foundation. The main objective of this project is to facilitate knowledge sharing on sustainable agriculture to readers, especially in the Hindi speaking belt areas; to compile and contextualise farmers experiences and learnings in booklets, and to disseminate knowledge by sharing these sustainable practices documents and publications with voluntary organisations, research scholars and social activists.

Key Objectives

- ♦ To extend the outreach of simple innovations to the maximum number of reader in Hindi speaking areas.
- ♦ To offer an opportunity to farmers to adopt innovations that seek to optimize the use of locally available resources and synergize different components of farming system like climate, weather and local environmental conditions.
- ♦ To provide guiding documentation of alternative sustainable agricultural practices, supporting voluntary organization researchers and social motivators to use it as reference material.



LEISA India is published in the 19 states

| | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Uttar Pradesh | Bihar | Uttarakhand | Jharkhand | Chhattisgarh |
| Madhya Pradesh | West Bengal | Gujrat | Rajasthan | New Delhi |
| Punjab | Haryana | Himachal Pradesh | Orrisa | Karnataka |
| Tamil Nadu | Goa | Jammu & Kashmir | Maharashtra | |

Key Activities

Facilitating knowledge exchange from the originally published matters of LEISA India in English. Strengthening and sharing the selected success stories of small, medium and women farmers in the area, translate some selected articles in the Hindi language. It is a quarterly magazine that incorporates four to five articles dealing with innovations in local farm activities.

Outcomes and Impacts

With the focus on sustainable agriculture from April 2022 to till March 2023. 4 issues of LEISA India have been published, and 2934 readers have been covered so far.



Publications, Outreach and Networks

GEAG publishes research studies/articles, reports and policy briefs to effectively disseminate its work, increase the impact of its work and advocate for the issues on which GEAG works. GEAG has been using social media to share its experiences.

GEAG on Social Media

In our journey to improve our reach to a wider audience and be visible across a larger spectrum, in the last year, we added to built on this platform in this digital age of the internet to enhance, engage and communicate better and more effectively, our work, to the environment around us.

We have been able to connect with a larger audience, create a buzz about the events and workshops held, share information on our recent publications, as well as promote awareness of the work we do.

Key Objective

To leverage social media to promote our content, share our knowledge and experiences and

consistently engage and converse with practitioners, policy makers and interested forums.

Key Activities

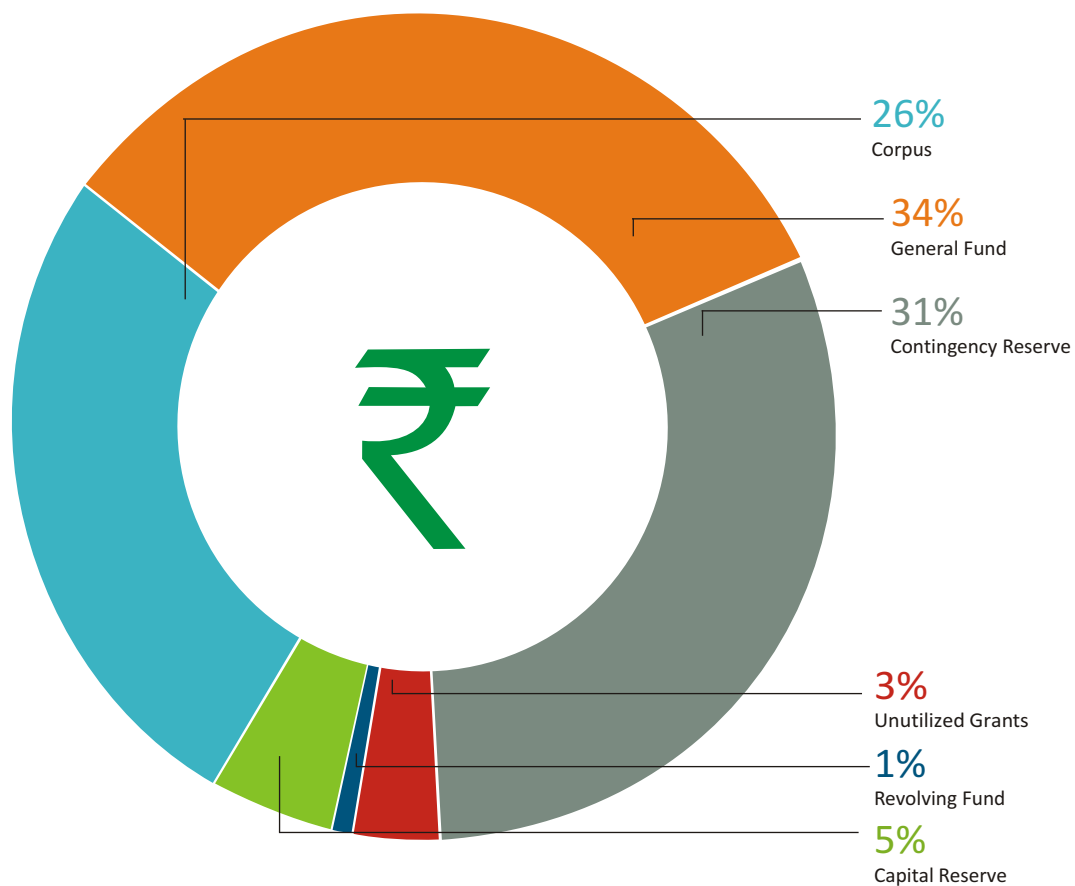
We are active in the following spaces and feature content on small-marginal-women farmers, peri-urban areas, environment, urban climate change resilience, disaster risk reduction and gender issues.

Outcomes and Impacts

- ♦ Real time tweeting of events and workshops
- ♦ Visibility of workshops and events improved
- ♦ More interaction between participants and shareholders through re-tweets and comments
- ♦ Reaching new audience
- ♦ Promoted our happenings on social media
- ♦ New online communication opportunities
- ♦ Blogs on social media shared by partners, stakeholders and others

GEAG's Balance Sheet : 2022-23

The major part of the GEAG's income which flows into the organisation is in the form of funds and grants from multilateral organizations, Government Agencies and Grant making bodies.



GEAG has registered itself for undertaking CSR activities and the registration number is CSR00000748.

Executive Board Members

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Ex. Associate Professor, MG.PG.
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New Delhi, India

Dr. Dharmvrat Tiwari

Joint Secretary

Gorakhpur University,
Gorakhpur
Uttar Pradesh, India

Dr. Suman Sinha

Academic Secretary

Fisheries Department, Govt. of U.P.
Gorakhpur,
Uttar Pradesh, India

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Gorakhpur,
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Shibli National P.G. College,
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Kursi Road, Lucknow
Uttar Pradesh, India

Ms. Seema Bhatt

Nominated Member

FAO India
Masters in Environmental Studies,
Yale University, USA

GEAG Team Members

Head Office: Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh

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|--|--|---|--|---|
| Bijay Kumar Singh Project Coordinator | K.K. Singh Project Coordinator | Ajay Kumar Singh Project Coordinator | Archana Srivastava Project Coordinator | Raj Kanti Gupta Publication Coordinator |
| Raja Ram Yadav Coordinator- Accounts & Admin | Sanjay Kumar Singh Accountant | Nikhath Sultana Accountant | Shreya Chaturvedi Project Officer | Mamta Verma Office Assistant |
| Ram Surat Supervisor | Amarjeet Sahani Supervisor | Rishabh Kumar Srivastava Office Assistant | Ajay Kumar Office Assistant | Ram Rattan Sahani Office Assistant |
| Nazruddin Ali Office Volunteer | Haider Ali Office Volunteer | Nandu Kumar Driver | Angad Kumar Driver | |

Project Office: Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

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|---|--|--|---|---|
| Gyaneshwar Srivastava Project Coordinator | Vidya Verma Divisional Coordinator | Mohd. Rizzwan Divisional Coordinator | Alok Dwivedi Divisional Coordinator | Sunita Singh Divisional Coordinator |
| Lalmani Verma Office Assistant | | | | |

Project Office: Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

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|--|---|--|---|--|
| Ramesh Menon Project Coordinator | Deo Kumar Dubey Divisional Consultant | Ashish Purohit Divisional Consultant | Yogesh Sharma Divisional Consultant | Mirza Rafik Baig Divisional Consultant |
| Harish Pal Office Assistant | | | | |

Project Office: Shravasti, Uttar Pradesh

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|---|---|---|---|--|
| Ravi Prakash Mishra Project Coordinator | Bijay Prakash MIS Coordinator | Awadhesh Sharma Cluster Coordinator | Ram Kumar Dubey Cluster Coordinator | Sanjay Verma Cluster Coordinator |
| Daya Ram Cluster Coordinator | | | | |

Project Office: Mau, Uttar Pradesh

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|--|---|--|--|---|
| Shamsher Ali District Mobilization Coordinator | Amit Kumar Singh Block Mobilization Coordinator | Surya Prakash Block Mobilization Coordinator | Runa Khan Block Mobilization Coordinator | Reshma Khatoon Block Mobilization Coordinator |
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Project Office: Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh

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|--|--|---|---|--|
| Suyog Srivastava District Mobilization Coordinator | Sayed Shahroz Hasan Block Mobilization Coordinator | Shahnawaz Khalid Block Mobilization Coordinator | Sana Khatoon Block Mobilization Coordinator | Kshama Devi Block Mobilization Coordinator |
| Ritesh Kumar Tripathi Block Mobilization Coordinator | Purnima Devi Block Mobilization Coordinator | | | |

Project Office: Supaul, Bihar

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|--|--|---|
| Vijay Kumar Pandey Project Coordinator | Satyendra Tripathi Project Officer | Nirala Thakur Block Coordinator |
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Project Office : G.B. Nagar, Noida

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|--|--|---|---|
| Mukesh Kumar Project Coordinator | Deepak Kumar Project Officer | Shahbaaz Akhtar Hashmi Environmental Educator | Shameem Jahan Harit School- Coordinator |
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National Liaison Office: New Delhi

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| Nivedita Mani Coordinator- Networking and Liaison |
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Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG) is a voluntary organization working in the field of environment and sustainable development since 1975. Ever since its inception, GEAG has been actively engaged in implementing several development projects addressing livelihood issues of small and marginal farmers, particularly women, based on ecological principles and gender sensitive participatory approach. Besides this, GEAG has accomplished several appraisals, studies, researches at the micro and macro levels as well as successfully conducted a number of capacity building programmes for various stakeholders including women farmers, civil societies groups and government officials etc.

GEAG has established its identity in North India as a leading resource institution on sustainable agriculture, participatory approaches, methodologies and gender. Acknowledging its achievements, GEAG was awarded with the Lighthouse Activity Award by UNFCCC in 2013. GEAG also holds the Observer status to Green Climate Fund.



Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group

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