



## **Sabarmati Samruddhi Seva Sangh**

[Gandhinagar Archdiocesan Social Service Centre)  
Archbishop's House, Sector - 8, Gandhinagar - 382 008  
Telfax: 079-23227856 Email: ssssang@dataone.in

# **Introduction**

**Sabarmati Samruddhi Seva Sangh, Gandhinagar (SSSS)** is a Voluntary Organization working in five districts of North Gujarat namely Sabarkantha, Banaskantha, Mehsana, Patan and Gandhinagar. The Society was registered with the Charity Commissioner on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2003 bearing Society Reg. No Guj/1077/Gandhinagar, 19.7.2003 & Trust Ref. No. F/1033/Gandhinagar, 19.7.2003. The main aim of the Society is upliftment of the poor and the marginalized from the rural areas of North Gujarat. At present the society is actively involved in empowerment of poor and marginalized through various programs like Empowering Communities for Self-Governance, Community Based Drought Management Program, Watersheds, Programs on Health and hygiene, Education etc. The Society is actively involved in promoting Income Generation programs through Community Mobilization. The Office bearers of the Society are committed social workers who have devoted their lives for the service of humanity.



# Annual Report 2006-07

Sabarmati Samruddhi Seva Sangh, Gandhinagar has achieved great milestones on completion of four years. The highlights of its activities are as follows:

## 1. Integrated Watershed Development Program (2006-2010):

We implemented Drought Proofing Program from 2003-2005. After joint evaluation, three Watershed programs were designed for four years in Ramela (Nana Kantharia), Daiya (Vijaynagar) and Dabheli (Palanpur) and clubbed into Integrated Watershed Development Program (IWDP 2006-2010). This program is funded by Caritas India and AFPRO Field Unit-III, Udaipur is appointed for technical guidance. The program began in June 2006. In the first six months, communities were prepared through capacity building programs and formation of SHGs after which the implementation of other components was undertaken as per plans drawn earlier.

- A Village Watershed Committee is formed in each Watershed and account is opened for Village Watershed Fund.
- We have formed 24 SHGs (13 of men & 11 of women) having 350 members (192 men & 158 women). Total savings is Rs. 84,043/-. Rs. 700 is given as internal loan.
- We have done 7196 days of work utilizing Rs. 7,07,510 of grant and people have contributed labour worth Rs. 184620/- up to March end

## 2. Watershed Program (Food for Work):

Vahighatia Watershed program at Vijaynagar completed in September 2006. We have four watersheds namely Piplivalivav, Kherola and Ravtawada and Amaliya. Physical activities are done on the basis of Food for Work and various capacity building training programs are conducted supported by Catholic Relief Services. As per plans, water conservation activities were implemented and several training programs were conducted to build the capacities of watershed committee and people.

## 3. Empowering Communities for Self Governance (ECSG Phase – I):

This project began in June 2004 & was completed in December 2006. We are proud to share the achievements as on 31.12.2006:

- 475 SHGs (47 male & 428 female) are functioning having 6914 members (636 male & 6278 female).
- Total savings are Rs.29,82,641/- (Rupees twenty nine lacs eighty two thousand six hundred forty one only)

- Total savings rotated as internal loan are Rs. 12,94,745/- (Rupees twelve lacs ninety four thousand seven hundred forty five only) of which 66% was utilized for Productive purposes and 34 % was utilized for non-productive purposes. 941 loan were given from 291 SHGs
- 69 SHGs have obtained Rs.17,96,000/-(Rupees seventeen lacs ninety six thousand only) bank loan for buying milch animals, petty shop, computer purchase, tyre shop, repairing of rickshaw, tractor etc. purpose. 245 members benefited from these loans.
- 461 SHG members have applied for Government Schemes and 292 have obtained them. They got benefit in cash Rs. 17,11,560/- and in kind worth Rs. 4,64,540/-
- 2265 members from 208 SHGs have participated in Gram Sabha meetings.
- 44 SHG members have contested Panchayat elections and 23 were elected as members and 3 were elected as Sarpanch.
- Through the interventions of SHG members 844 children of Non-SHG members have been enrolled in school.
- SHGs have taken up 694 issues related to Anganwadies, Midday meal, village cleanliness, wife beating, domestic violence etc.
- 765 SHG members have started income generation Activities on small scale and on an average their monthly income has increased by Rs. 492/- per month.
- Out of 32 villages SHGs undertook Innovative programs related to Common good of the village in 15 villages through a process of group discussion and action.

#### 4. Empowering Communities for Self Governance (ECSG Phase – II):

The first phase of ECSG Program completed in Dec. 2006 but it was felt that the SHGs needed a little more support to stabilize. Therefore it was envisaged to strengthen and capacitate the existing groups to form a Village level Committee for development and involve the whole community in PRI processes to endorse self governance and also develop linkages and networking with local NGOs, Govt. offices and financial institutions. The second phase will be for one year from Jan 2007 to Dec.2007. It is implemented in 24 villages.

- The Phase – I SHGs are functioning well. Through their help 24 Village Development Committees are formed and they were given training on Leadership and PRI.
- 510 members from 97 SHGs have taken part in Gram Sabha Meetings from Jan-March 2007 and raised issues like hand pump, drinking water facility, road, NREGA, Sardar Awaas & Indira Awaas Yojana etc.
- 52 members got Rs. 8,19,500/- from Sardar Awaas & Indira Awaas Yojana, Suvarna Gram Jyoti Swarojgaar and for house repairing etc.

## 5. Community Based Drought Management Program (CBDM-CRS):

After preparation of eight months, CBDM program was launched in June 2006 for two years. It is implemented in 10 villages (Out of original 11 villages one village withdrew) of Sabarkantha, Banaskantha, Patan (Gujarat) and Udaipur & Dungarpur districts of Rajasthan. This program is named as 'Paanire'. Three strategies are interwoven in Paanire namely Preparedness, Mitigation & sustainability strategies. Paanire is implemented with the support of CBOs.

- Posters were prepared and printed on Paanire strategy and preparedness interventions. All the villages were given these posters.
- A brochure is prepared on CBDM program to spread awareness among the masses.
- Each village has formed a Village Drought Management Committee (VDMC) and four Task Forces.
- VDMC and Task Forces were given training specific to their roles. The community was also given orientation on the strategies of CBDM.
- We have formed 106 SHGs ( 64 of men, 32 of women & 10 mix) having 1446 members (984 male & 462 female) with a saving of Rs. 3,85,953. The amount utilized for inter-lending is Rs. 49,070.

## 6. Community Based Drought Preparedness Project (CAPART):

CAPART has approved Rs. 8,12,130/- (Rupees eight lacs twelve thousand one hundred thirty only) for training programs under this project for one year beginning from Jan. 2007 to Dec. 2007. We have conducted the following training programs:

- Two Roof Water Harvesting and Grain Bank Training programs at Central Level for village leaders
- Two Fodder Bank and Gobar Gas Training programs at Central Level for village leaders.
- Three Task Force Training Programs at Central level for three Task Forces.
- Eight Community Based Drought Management training Programs for Village Leaders in eight villages.
- Four Roof Water Harvesting and Grain Bank Training programs at Field Level for village community
- Four Fodder Bank and Gobar Gas Training programs at Field Level for village community

## 7. Capacity Building & Title II Training Support Project:

This project, financially supported by Catholic Relief Services, was planned for one year from Oct. 2005 to Sept. 2006. Under this project we conducted two

training programs in April & May 2006 for the Village Health Workers (VHWs) for two days each namely an orientation on Safe Motherhood and Child Survival for 16 VHWs and training on Government Linkages and Schemes for 16 VHWs. The participants expressed that they were more confident.

## 8. Emergency Flood Relief Project (Caritas India):

Due to heavy downpour in North Gujarat, after almost 20 years the perennial rivers which had run dry began flowing. On the other side, the merciless waters broke many check dams and washed away several villages. After receiving an SOS from Partners and assessing the damage, we undertook Flood Relief measures in Patan, Danta, Bhiloda and Palanpur areas. We supplied them with Food materials, Medicines and tarpaulin sheet worth Rs. 2,50,000/- granted by Caritas India.

## 9. Capacity Building of Staff:

- Ms Kamini Mehta, Coordinator, Empowerment Program along with Hasmukhbhai Chauhan (Palanpur) participated in TOT program on PRI organized by Unnati NGO at Bhachau from 27 to 29 Dec. 2006
- Fr. Harold Pinto, Program Manager, participated in Partners Consultation Workshop at Bhopal organized by AFPRO, Udaipur on 23 - 24 Feb. 2007.

## 10. Regular Programs:

Catholic Relief Services (USCCB) under bilateral agreement between the Government of USA and India, supplied food materials for regular programs like Safe motherhood and Child Survival (SMCS), Other Child Feeding (OCF-Boardings), Early Childhood Development Centre (ECDC-Balwadies) and Individual Health Care through Nutritional Support (IHC). Due to food shortage, ECDC program closed from Oct. 2006. Now we have the following food supported regular Programs:

- SMCS Program is going on in 10 villages covering 1822 Participants having 12 Village Health Workers and one Supervisor.
- OCF Program is taking care of 16 boardings having a total of 3290 students belonging to five districts of North Gujarat.
- IHC Program looks after 200 participants from 24 villages belonging to four centres of North Gujarat.
- We supported 46 Balwadies having 1639 children employing 66 teachers from nine Centres up to Sept. 2006.

Gandhinagar  
15<sup>th</sup> April 2007

Fr. Victor Pais  
Secretary