

ANNUAL REPORT: GRAM VIKAS
2009 - 2010

About Gram Vikas

Gram Vikas, literally meaning ‘village development,’ is a non-governmental organization working for sustainable improvements in the quality of life of poor and marginalized communities in Odisha. Founded by a group of student volunteers from Chennai, under the umbrella of the Young Students Movement for Development (YSMD), Gram Vikas has been actively involved in development activities since 1979 and has grown to have significant outreach in Odisha.

Gram Vikas maintains its head office at Mohuda, Berhampur, as well as 23 field offices throughout Odisha. With a staff of 491 employees, Gram Vikas has been able to reach 943 communities in 23 districts in the state of Odisha. It has also initiated programmes in two districts in Madhya Pradesh and one district in Jharkhand.

Vision

An equitable and sustainable society where people live in peace and dignity.

Mission

To promote processes which are sustainable, socially inclusive, gender equitable; to enable critical masses of poor and marginalized rural people to achieve a dignified quality of life.

We define ‘dignified quality of life’ - whether for people or communities - as follows:

- Options for appropriate family and community infrastructure and sources of energy
- Sustainable use and management of natural resources
- Food security and access to secure livelihood opportunities
- Assured access to basic education, protected water supply, sanitation and adequate health services
- Strong self-governing people’s institutions with equal participation of men and women

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Entering a New Era?

Media reports these days are full of stories about the conflicts between local tribal people and major mining companies in Odisha. Several months ago, stories about the violence in Kandhamal district dominated the headlines. It appears that Odisha is in the news for all the wrong reasons.

It is in this context that the story of Gram Vikas needs to be told and retold several times over. This is the story of the aspirations of tribal communities to work together and improve their lives -- a collective endeavour for water, sanitation, and livelihood. In hundreds of villages, in tens of districts of Odisha, Gram Vikas has extended its support to such aspiring tribal youth from thousands of households to help them transform their lives.

After three decades of untiring efforts, Gram Vikas presents this Annual Report of its work for your review. As you read through these pages and look back at this remarkable journey, you must wonder, as indeed all of us on the Governing Board of Gram Vikas do, as to why the story of Gram Vikas hasn't made headlines in the same way as Vedanta, Posco and Kandhamal?

The commitment of a dedicated team and visionary leadership are the prime-movers behind the Gram Vikas story. It is that commitment that now needs to be applied to address the growing disaffection, anger, and dispossession of tribals in Odisha and beyond. The underlying reason for the rapid rise of Maoism in Odisha (and elsewhere in India) is the consistent and appalling failure of the state machinery to provide the programmes of development to which tribal people are entitled.

As we enter the second decade of this century, and as India prides itself on its current growth story, it is imperative we make progress in meeting the needs of the tribal communities of Odisha: land, forests, and clean water, but most importantly, dignity and self-respect.

This next phase of Gram Vikas will require a strategic shift to meet these challenges.

As the leadership and team of Gram Vikas begin to move in new directions and apply new strategies, they will need all the support of the well-wishers and donors of Gram Vikas. The Governing Board stands ready to offer its practical and regular support in this regard.

As we reflect on the many achievements of Gram Vikas during this past year, we congratulate Joe and his dedicated team, and we thank all the supporters worldwide.

We also look forward to sharing with you the progress and accomplishments of Gram Vikas in the coming year.

In solidarity,
Rajesh Tandon
Chairperson, Governing Board
Gram Vikas, Mohuda

August 2010

Presentation of the Annual Report by the Executive Director

It is, indeed, with great joy and a certain amount of satisfaction that I present the 31st Annual Report of Gram Vikas to the Governing Board of Gram Vikas, to the people of the villages with whom Gram Vikas works, to our most generous and understanding donors, to the magnificent people of Odisha, where almost all our activities are concentrated, and to the public at large.

During the last year, Gram Vikas has been struggling to reach more villages with the total inclusion approach of the water and sanitation programme, which we call MANTRA (Movement and Action Network for the Transformation of Rural Areas). During this period, we have reached an additional 3,362 families in 86 villages, bringing the cumulative total to 48107 families with a population of around 261,000 in 787 villages.

The primary challenge for us has been in accessing government funds for water supply programmes. Theoretically, nearly all funds for water supply programmes should be provided by the government of Odisha. And though there is an agreement with the government of Odisha to advance funds to Gram Vikas for water supply programmes, they rarely materialise. As a result, we have had to complete projects with our own funds, which were not sufficient to meet costs. This year, we had the mortification of having to go to a bank to take out a rather large loan in order to honour our commitments to the rural people. A huge amount of our energy has been diverted into accessing funds from the government and completing the backlog. This has had a serious impact on our programmes. We could not reach as many new villages as we had planned. We could not pull out from districts where we wanted to pull out, because we still had to complete the water supply. We had planned last year that we would pull out from districts where we were too thinly spread and concentrate on the hinterland districts, where most of the tribal population of Odisha lives.

The tribal areas, unfortunately, have the terrible scourge of malaria, and indeed the more virulent and deadly ‘cerebral malaria.’ My colleagues have been victims of this strain of malaria many times.

We had set an ambitious target of providing 100,000 families with water and sanitation by the end of 2010. I must admit, with a certain amount of embarrassment, that we are only about to reach the halfway mark.

Our collaboration with the government in the OTELP (Odisha Tribal Empowerment and Livelihood Programme) is progressing satisfactorily with four projects in three blocks – three in Kalahandi District (one in Lanjigarh, two in Thuamal Rampur) and one in Gajapati District (Mohana). Here, we face the problem of a lack of any sort of electronic and physical connectivity. Roads to these villages are non-existent, or are in such disrepair that access even by a motorcycle is a significant challenge. No village has land line telephone connectivity. Wireless connectivity is almost non-existent. Electricity supply is very rare, and even in villages which are supposedly electrified, electricity is not available. As a consequence, the sense of isolation takes its toll on my colleagues. In spite of all these difficulties, committed co-workers have braved the existing realities and made huge strides in improving the living conditions of people living in these areas.

‘Upscaling’ is a word used very often nowadays. I agree that numbers do matter in a country the size of India and with a population as large as India’s. In this world of numbers, however, where the presiding deity becomes quantity alone, quality, value, and the micronutrients that raise quality of life above the mundane are often missed or ignored. I also acknowledge, however, that quality alone without quantity, in the Indian context, is missing the point.

It is the responsibility of civil society organisations to ensure that the rights of the poor are respected by those in power. It is the right of the poor to obtain loans for their livelihood pursuits from nationalised banks, which are mandated to lend to the very poor at concessional rates of interest and to others at normal rates of interest. That this is not being done by the banks does not mean that the only recourse of the poor is to microfinance institutions, which quite often charge usurious rates of interest in the name of meeting the cost of delivering loan funds to rural areas. Primary and secondary education, basic infrastructure facilities like village roads, school buildings, electricity, sanitation, drains, and potable drinking water are essentially the responsibilities of the government. I firmly believe that Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) should play a role in ensuring that these government allocations reach the poor in rural areas. I do not believe that all these facilities should be provided by NGOs without taking into account the budgetary allocations and institutional mechanisms under these heads.

Gram Vikas, I feel, has also suffered, where we chased numbers to meet targets set by ourselves or by our donors. In a few cases, short cuts have been taken to achieve these numbers, and, as a consequence, the full potential of the programmes has not been realised. The magical alchemy of mixing the right numbers with the right quality within a specified time period is the challenge that every development organisation worth its salt faces, and Gram Vikas is no exception.

We are in the withdrawal phase in the Bongamunda Block Watershed project, which is being implemented in collaboration with the Government of Odisha under the Western Odisha Rural Livelihood Programme (WORLP). We have been working in the Block of Bongamunda in Bolangir district in watershed and allied activities for the last five years. This block is one of the most drought-prone and barren areas in Eastern Odisha. In the past five years, in areas where we took up work, the water table has risen dramatically. Horticulture and other vegetative cover have been established. Increased crop production, especially of onions, has enabled people to achieve better returns. These five years have been, for the people, a journey from hopelessness to a new future that offers the possibility of escaping grinding poverty. By March 2011, we intend to withdraw from this project.

Right from childhood, I had a revulsion for the exclusion of certain people on the basis of caste, birth, economic status, religion, gender, etc. My first experience in development was in the field of lift irrigation, where in theory total inclusion was planned, but in practice the landless were excluded. In implementing the Biogas Programme, we addressed the cooking fuel needs of only those people who had sufficient cattle to run biogas plants. In the Tribal Development Programme, we adopted an almost fully inclusive approach. However, these were small homogeneous tribal communities and, as such, possibilities of exclusion were minimal.

The real challenge was to experiment with total inclusion in multi-caste, multi-layered normal Indian (Odisha) villages. I was convinced that the excluded had to pass through a fast-track experiential

learning process of inclusion. They had consigned themselves to a state of total exclusion, practiced over millennia, and had internalised this state of affairs as their fate.

The people who exclude others to express their superiority are not going to relinquish this position, even symbolically, unless they emerge as winners. It has to be a win-win situation for all. This magic wand of an existential win-win situation was what my social consciousness antenna was searching for.

The realisation that the human waste disposal habits of any individual or section of a community could pollute any or all water bodies in a village, as well as the drinking water for everyone, made us think. It could only be through an inclusive process involving 100% of the population of a village in transforming their waste disposal habits that the drinking water in the village would be made safe, subsequently sparing the entire community the 80% of their illnesses caused by poor quality water. The realisation that we might have glimpsed that particular component in the everyday life of people where there could be a win-win situation for all sections, and where the excluded could quickly go through an inclusion process, inspired the Rural Health and Environment Programme (R.H.E.P), which today is known as the Movement and Action Network for Transformation of Rural Areas (MANTRA). Here the key work is TRANSFORMATION.

Gram Vikas can go for heady numbers - by building toilets and bathing rooms only for those who want them - or it can go through the painful process of getting 100% participation from every family in the village and thus transform the lives of everyone in the community. With our process, every person - from the first to the last woman in line - gets the same type of toilet, bathing room, and three taps (kitchen, toilet, and bathing room) with a round-the-clock supply of potable drinking water. All this is accomplished mostly through the people's efforts with some financial assistance from the government and Gram Vikas. For this to happen, however, a lot of facilitation, hand-holding, and patience are required in great measure. Which way should Gram Vikas go? I feel the path less trodden.

I would like to thank the Governing Board for all their guidance, support and time given. They have taken a keen interest in all activities and aspects of Gram Vikas. I present this report with a deep sense of indebtedness to the Chairman, Treasurer, and the other members of the Governing Board. But for the dedicated and committed work of my colleagues, Gram Vikas would not have been able to accomplish what we have done in such difficult circumstances. As their leader, I am deeply grateful to each one of my co-workers. I gratefully acknowledge the contributions of the national and international volunteers who chose to volunteer with Gram Vikas.

The Rural Development Department and the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Department of Odisha have been generous with their grants in the implementation of programmes. I only hope that in the future, they will be even more generous and make it easier to access government resources. Our donors: Bonita Trust, Gibraltar; Blue Planet Run Foundation, USA; Christian Aid, London; Charity Water, New York; CTx Green, Canada; Ekistica Pty Ltd., Australia; ICCO, The Netherlands; Jeevan Dhara Foundation, USA; KKS, Germany; KOPION, South Korea; ODAF, Bhubaneswar; Tata Social Welfare Trust, Mumbai; and Water Aid, London have been generous to Gram Vikas. But for their financial and moral support, it would not have been possible for Gram Vikas to work in areas and in ways that we believe we should work in. We are penitent because in a few cases we have slipped on our deadlines for the submission of reports or have not been as fast with the tasks as outlined in the

proposal. In the romance of doing, writing often takes the back seat. It should not be so, but it has happened.

I am into my second year since retirement and extension of services by the Board. My quest for a more dynamic, much younger, inspirational, dashing, and more intelligent social entrepreneur with better qualities of the heart and head continues. Any offers? Any suggestions? Any help would be most welcome.

Joe Madiath

MANTRA

Movement and Action Network for Transformation of Rural Areas (MANTRA) is a comprehensive habitat development and governance programme that uses the common concerns regarding clean water and sanitation as a tool to unite and empower communities, to launch development initiatives, to improve community health and quality of life. MANTRA is based on the values of inclusion, sustainability, cost sharing, and social and gender equity.

MANTRA APPROACH

100% Inclusion: Participation of all households of a habitation is non-negotiable, which assures that all community members, including the poorest and most marginalized, benefit from the interventions equally.

Social Equity: All villagers, regardless of gender, caste, or economic status, must be represented prior to the implementation of a project and participate equally in its planning, implementation, operation, management, and maintenance.

Gender Equity: Equal representation and participation of men and women in community level governance is essential. Women must play an active role in community governance institutions by assuming positions of power and responsibility equal to that of their male counterparts.

Sustainability: Development processes are based on sound environmental values that have built-in institutional and financial mechanisms to ensure sustainability throughout the life of the project.

Cost Sharing: Communities contribute to the cost of development and maintenance of the infrastructure with cash and labour.

MANTRA creates unity in a village by inspiring leadership among its members, creating an environment that fosters community initiative for development work that is community driven, directed, and managed. MANTRA programmes target health, education, livelihood and food security, self-governing people's institutions and livelihood-enabling infrastructure.

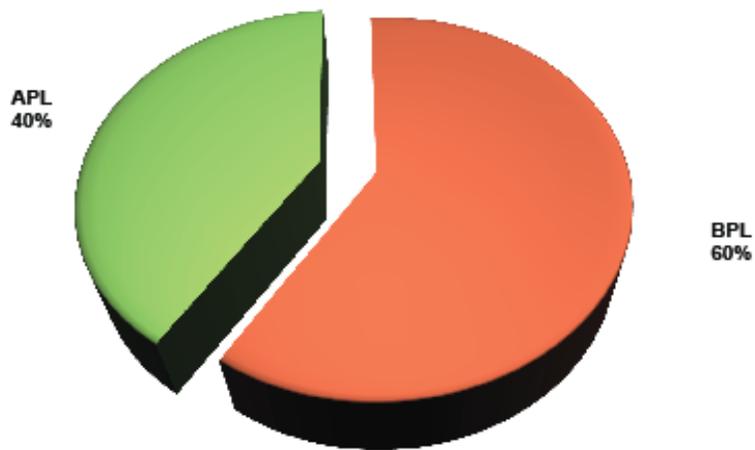
As of March 2010, Gram Vikas has reached out to 943 villages - comprised of 59,143 families (total population of 314,458) - located in Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, and Jharkhand. Out of these 943 villages, 787 villages - comprised of 48,107 families with a population of 260,561 individuals - have implemented the MANTRA programme. This year we initiated work in the Puri district of Odisha. With support from Rourkela steel plant, we are in the process of expanding the MANTRA programme in the peripheral areas of the steel plant around Rourkela.

We are encouraged by the successful completion of the MANTRA programme in two villages in Maharashtra, achieved through collaboration with the Comprehensive Rural Health Project (CRHP), Jamkhed under the leadership of Dr. Raj Arole.

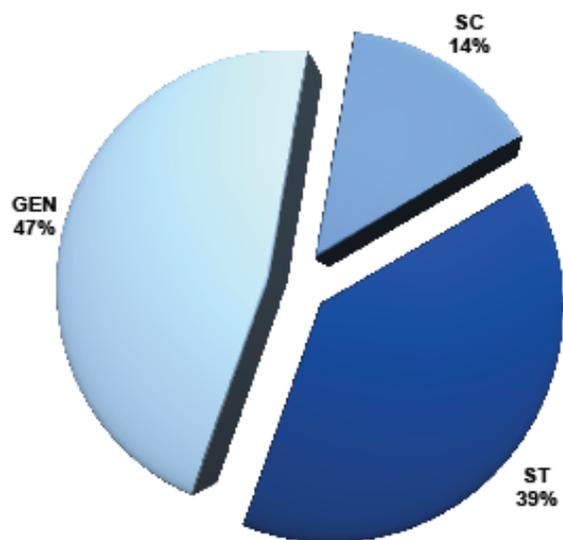
Household Status

APL = Above Poverty Line

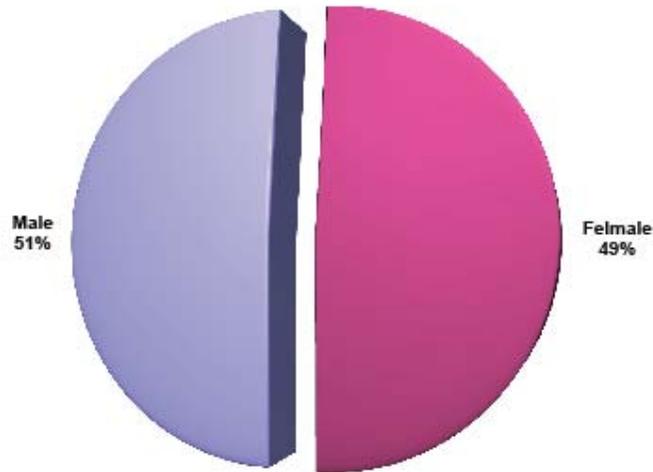
BPL = Below Poverty Line



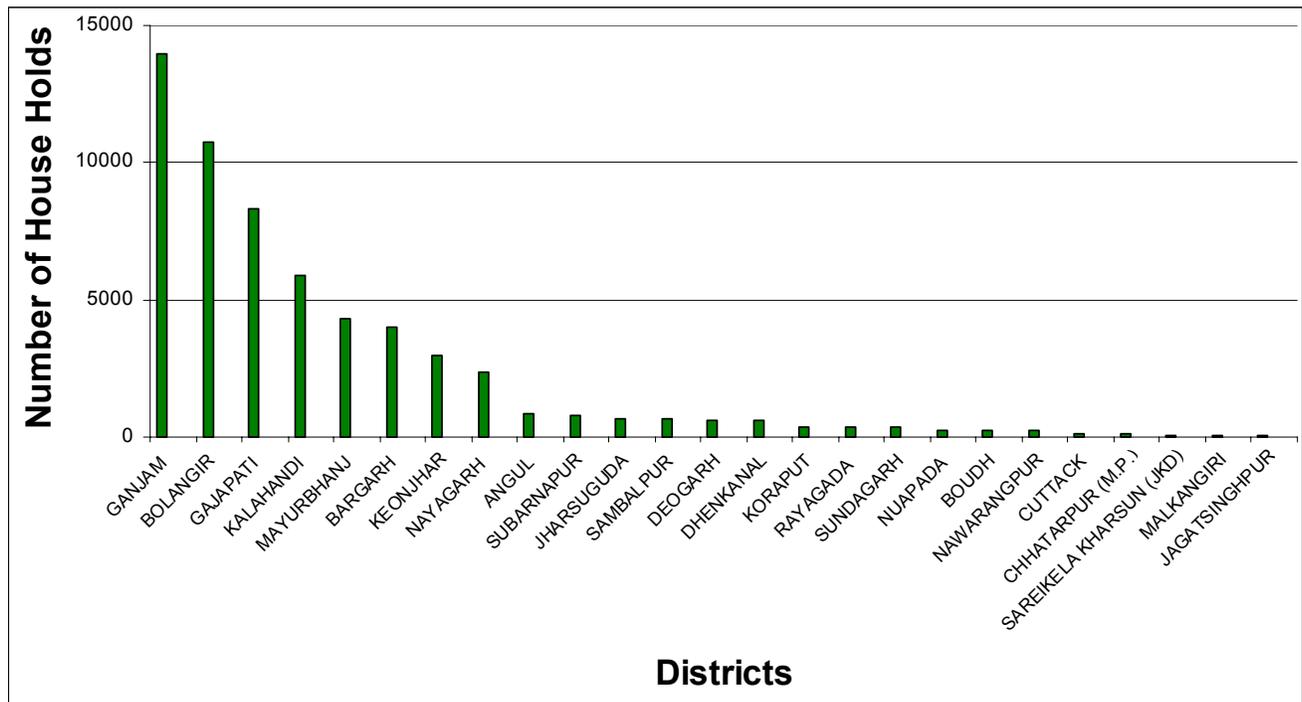
Household Status (Caste System)



Gender Distribution



District wise coverage of households in MANTRA villages



AWARDS

In January 2010, Gram Vikas received the Water Digest Award for the category of Best NGO - Rural Water Supply.

Executive Director of Gram Vikas, Joe Madiath, received the Lok Samman Award, presented by Aramv News Paper, Bhubaneswar.

SELF-GOVERNING PEOPLE'S INSTITUTIONS

Residents of remote rural habitations have limited access to basic resources and opportunities and little influence over the external forces that shape their lives. In an effort to change this reality, Gram Vikas uses common concerns about sanitation and clean water to unite communities in forming their own self-governing people's institutions. Our aim is to increase community access to basic health services and sanitation and build community self-reliance.

Formation of Village Executive Committees (VEC)

The first step in establishing a self-governing institution is to awaken a community to its potential benefits. Accordingly, the first task of Gram Vikas is to motivate each and every family in a village to unite in establishing a Village General Body to hold community discussions about the benefits of implementing the MANTRA programme, as well as any reservations or concerns. Once the village has agreed to implement the programme, it selects community members to form a Village Executive Committee (VEC). The village executive committee, consisting of 12 members, is an important symbol of an equitable development model. It is comprised of 50% women and proportionately represents all castes and economic classes. The Village Executive Committee is registered as a legally recognized body, which enables them to undertake financial transactions, leverage development resources, and enter into formal agreements. The establishment of the Village General Body and Village Executive Committee provides an opportunity for alternate leaders to emerge and shape the development path of the village.

Gender equity and women's empowerment

Traditionally women play a very minimal role in the public affairs of a village. Therefore, a key to building women's capacity is to ensure that they have a voice and participate in making the decisions that will have an impact on their community. Gram Vikas facilitates the establishment of small self-help groups (SHGs) within communities, so that women can increase their savings and gain access to credit. Additionally, self-help groups provide women with the confidence to speak out, encouraging them to voice opinions in village meetings and actively participate in the village development process. Women play a significant role in building support for the MANTRA programme in their communities and are essential drivers in the proper monitoring of government services such as education, immunization, childcare programmes, and village sanitation.

Strengthening information

It has been observed that policies instituted for the betterment of the common people seldom reach those who most need them. Information trickles down and often becomes distorted by the time it reaches the people at the grassroots level. Gram Vikas, therefore, invests time to build awareness within the local community with regards to the people's rights and entitlements. It also facilitates access to those rights and helps submit grievances when the entitlements are not met. In the last year, we have facilitated awareness-building efforts on the following topics:

Consumer awareness on electricity

Electricity is a basic amenity. With rapid electrification processes underway, rural areas are increasingly getting connected to the grid. However, the reliability and quality of the electricity supply greatly impacts the ability of a rural community to improve quality of life and productivity. In association with PRAYAS, a Pune based organisation working on energy, Gram Vikas has been actively promoting consumer awareness of complaint and compensation procedures, while also facilitating communication between communities and the distribution companies. At organized workshops with officials from distribution companies, as well as the Odisha Electricity Regulatory Authority, people were given a chance to express their grievances, which were often promptly handled in these forums. At the consumer level, people were made aware of energy saving devices and practices, motivated to pay the bills regularly, and avoid illegal activities like tampering with the meter or taking unauthorized connections.

At the institutional level, Gram Vikas has been lobbying to change the present situation where community-based water supply systems are charged the tariff applicable to public institutions. It is unjust to penalize rural communities by charging them a high tariff for consuming electricity to run drinking water supply systems, which are managed by the communities themselves. In such cases, Gram Vikas advocates for a different tariff and hopes that the state government will respond positively.

Rights over Forest Land

In 2008, Gram Vikas took an active role in the implementation of the Forest Rights Act (FRA) that recognizes the right of tribes and other forest dwellers to own up to four hectares of forest land (per family) for agricultural use. Having worked with tribal communities for over three decades, we saw this as a unique opportunity for tribal people to legally own a certain amount of forest land. Gram Vikas has, so far, assisted 133 tribal villages in filing nearly 3,000 land claims. During this year, 1,227 of these claims were legally settled.

Building capacities

Gram Vikas works to strengthen village committees by providing them with training, workshops, and practical support. Capacity building includes gender sensitisation, education on health issues, training on Panchayat Raj Institutions, public speaking, and leadership skills development.

Various sub-committees are elected by community members to support the Village Executive Committee and manage particular developmental activities such as sanitation, water, health, education, fish farming, forestry, etc. The activity costs and individual contributions are publicly displayed in the village to maintain transparency.

Gram Vikas recognizes that capacity-building programmes increase the ability of the village committees to effectively handle responsibilities. They are also vital for long-term institutional sustainability. Thus, efforts in capacity building span across diverse age groups including children in schools, youth, women, and men. Often, exposure visits to neighbouring villages are organized in order to reinforce the principles of MANTRA.

Self-help is the best help

Self-help groups have proved to be a highly effective model for development. Women in poor countries and regions have gained economic independence and security through the platform of SHGs. The model has been replicated worldwide and is now widely accepted as a means to alleviate poverty.

Mainstream financial institutions have also recognized the potential of SHGs as credit-worthy customers, and significant lending is done through SHGs. In order to meet the targets on lending, banks, and especially MFIs, push loans to illiterate women and lure them to access easy credit without giving complete information on the terms and conditions of the loans. These women are later caught unaware when they are asked to return the money with interest.

Gram Vikas works with women's Self-Help Groups to strengthen their capacity to save and invest their savings in small productive enterprise. Through the forum of the SHGs, women are informed about cash book maintenance and developing business activities; later on, they are linked to banks in order to access credit.

Gayatri Group of Karnamunda village is one of several groups formed by Gram Vikas in the Lanjigarh block of the Kalahandi District of Odisha. Gram Vikas is implementing the Odisha Tribal Empowerment and Livelihood Programme (OTELP) in these villages with the objective of improving the communities' livelihoods. The group, consisting of 13 female members, had come to the project office to participate in a training session on Record Keeping and Financial Management for SHGs. During the meeting, the members of Gayatri group shared information on a loan of Rs. 50,000 that the local bank had granted the SHG. However, the women were not aware of how much interest would be charged, and hence had distributed the money among the members of the group. Up until then, the group had generated its own savings of Rs. 13,900 and had never carried out internal lending. The resource person at the training session explained to the women what it meant to use the loan from the bank and how much interest they would have to pay back to the bank. She also explained how the group could initiate small lending from their pooled savings to their members at modest interest rates, which would simultaneously increase the group's income. The members were also cautioned about accessing external loans without experiencing internal lending and recovery.

A week after the training, when Gram Vikas's Field Supervisor visited the village, the President and Secretary of Gayatri Group proudly told her that they had returned the loan to the bank, and that they would first continue to build their savings and practice internal lending before accessing new external loans. It was heartening to see poor cash-strapped women taking such a step, realising the essence of 'Self-Help.'

The MANTRA approach emphasises community contribution and empowers communities to leverage financial resources from diverse sources. Village committee members learn the ropes of leveraging funds from their people's representatives and other government schemes.

Successful implementation of the MANTRA programme is contingent upon each and every family within a village contributing an average of Rs. 1,000 towards the 'corpus fund.' Poorer families can choose to pay less and instead contribute in other ways – by collecting raw materials or providing labour – as more well-off families cross-subsidize them. The Village Committee invests the corpus fund in a local bank. The interest generated is used by the Village Executive Committee to subsidise the construction of future toilets and bathrooms as the community expands, ensuring 100 percent sanitation coverage at all times.

Results of self-governing people's institutions for the year:

- 77 Village Societies were registered as Village Water and Sanitation Committees, and another 12 Village Societies were registered as Village Development Committees
- Rs. 33.75 lakhs* were mobilized towards village corpus funds and were used for construction work, which will eventually be recovered from the subsidy
- 1,227 claims over forest land administered by tribal families have been settled by the government
- 21 trainings on leadership development were conducted for 1,077 participants
- 52 trainings on SHG functioning and record-keeping were held for 1,304 participants
- Rs. 26 lakhs were mobilized by Village committees from MLA LAD funds for Water and Sanitation programmes

* one lakh – one hundred thousand

HEALTH

Water and Sanitation

Access to clean and protected water is a fundamental need and also a human right. Gram Vikas works with rural communities to implement holistic interventions for clean water. The focus is not just on providing access to water, but also on ensuring that the defecation habits of the entire village population undergo a permanent change. Thus, in a unique approach, Gram Vikas combines sanitation education and water supply to bring about a transformation in the physical, psychological, and environmental conditions of the village.

As part of the programme, each household is provided with an identical toilet and bathing room along with running water from an overhead water tank. The bathing rooms provide the dignity and privacy women and young girls need in order to bathe and clean themselves. The toilets are pour-flush with twin soak pits. The programme emphasizes the community's ability to independently sustain their own sanitation system through cooperative contribution and management. To further this goal, Gram Vikas provides skill training and education workshops to communities.

Gram Vikas also creates financial and institutional mechanisms to ensure that all families, without exception, have access to sanitation facilities. The corpus fund - generated by collecting an average of Rs. 1000 per family - is invested, and the interest from the fund is used to supply new households with sanitation facilities, ensuring that no family is excluded from these services in future. Costs of operation and maintenance of the system are borne exclusively by the community.

The single most outstanding feature of MANTRA is 100 percent inclusion of all households. This not only ensures universal access to hygienic sanitation and safe water, but also breaks through centuries of caste- and class-based fragmentation for the common good. Implementing these unusual strategies takes time and requires high levels of community organisation and social mobilisation skills. The water and sanitation programme is based on the fundamental need of all human beings to achieve "social inclusion."

Collaborative Action & Cost Sharing

As part of the programme, communities are required to bear over 60 percent of the cost of the bathrooms and toilets. Contributions can take the shape of materials, as well as skilled and unskilled labour. Water supply systems are established mostly through the support of government funds.

Hygiene and Sanitation Education

Water and sanitation infrastructure is bound to fail, unless coupled with a comprehensive hygiene education programme. Traditionally, communities practiced open defecation, and the introduction of toilets will not change this unless social pressure is exercised by community members.

This is the reason Gram Vikas pairs the establishment of sanitation infrastructure with a wide range of hygiene education programmes, especially in schools. Children that adopt hygienic practices

encourage their parents to do the same. Additionally, children who are raised using toilets are only comfortable with this practice and help to improve the sanitary practices in the community.

Gram Vikas trains local community members to periodically monitor water quality through the help of easy-to-use field test kits. Changes in chemical or microbiological composition are monitored, and corrective actions are sought if necessary.

Environmental Sustainability

With its emphasis on sustainability, Gram Vikas advocates for tapping only rechargeable water, rather than mine water from deep aquifers. Wherever possible, a protected sanitary well is built to supply water. Bore wells are dug at locations where it is difficult to site a dug well. In hilly terrain, the undulation is used to source water, through gravity, from a higher elevation and transport it to the village. This is a zero energy method of providing clean water to communities.

Water source sustainability is ensured by recharging the catchment area through treatment of the drainage lines. Waste recycling is achieved by encouraging families to plant soft rooted plants - e.g. banana, drumstick, papaya - around the soak pits of the toilets; the roots of these plants effectively suck up the water and nutrients and recycle these through the plant system.

Community Health Management

Training and capacity building are the core components of the MANTRA health strategy. Local health workers are trained to diagnose illnesses, such as malaria, and dispense medication. Traditional birth attendants are trained in improved delivery practices.

To ensure that communities have access to government health services, Gram Vikas has been actively promoting awareness of the National Rural Health Mission. In all the villages, meetings were organised, and the role of the Gaon Kalyan Samiti was discussed. In malaria-prone areas, some Gaon Kalyan Samitis have provided early treatment to malaria patients, thus reducing emergency care and mortality.

Other efforts have included chlorination of wells, immunisation camps, tuberculosis treatments, and providing permanently medicated mosquito nets. Continuous training of village health workers in remote tribal pockets (where we have been present for many years), has improved service delivery at the local level. However, there is a long way to go. In many tribal areas where we have recently initiated work, we have encountered dismal health situations and nearly non-existent primary health services, despite mammoth investment by the state.

Insuring Lives

In an effort to provide the rural poor with insurance coverage, Gram Vikas has been promoting many micro insurance schemes of both private organisations and the government. In the last year, we partnered with LIC (Life Insurance Corporation) to provide micro insurance to people in rural areas. The low premium micro insurance has gained positive response from the community and proved an

effective cushion in times when the family encounters destitution after the sudden demise of the breadwinner. In total, 473 families and 826 individuals have taken micro insurance coverage to date.

Results in Health

- 86 villages and 3,362 new families covered under the water and sanitation programme
- Piped water supply systems established in 120 villages
- Rs. 79.44 lakhs received towards subsidy under the Total Sanitation Campaign for families Below Poverty Line (BPL)
- Rs. 3.28 crores* received from the government for water supply programmes
- 60 school sanitation and hygiene education sessions held for 4,775 children
- Rs. 23.90 lakhs mobilised towards maintenance funds
- 49 reproductive and child health care training sessions held for 1,439 members
- 207 cataract patients underwent operations at eye camps
- 331 tuberculosis patients identified through health camps and currently undergoing treatment
- 826 policies enrolled for micro insurance with LIC, and one village declared as ***Bima Gram**** in Ganjam district

* One crore – one million

* Bima Gram – recognition for village that is almost entirely covered with life insurance

EDUCATION

Access to education is an essential component in the development potential of an individual and the economic and social development of a country.

Gram Vikas' education programme facilitates access to education for all eligible children. To this end, Gram Vikas strengthens government-run schools and establishes its own education centres in remote villages where such services do not exist. Gram Vikas also works to empower communities to hold government officials accountable for providing educational services.

One of the main challenges faced by government schools is teacher absenteeism in schools located in impoverished, remote areas. Literacy levels in tribal villages are extremely low, and teachers from the plains appointed to government schools find it difficult to adjust to the limitations of a remote village and choose not to go to work.

By establishing pre-schools and day schools at the village level and training semi-literate local youth as facilitators, Gram Vikas has been effective in creating a demand for education within the communities we serve. As evidence, 33 day school centres are currently being run independently by the Village Education Committees. Gram Vikas ensures sustainability of these centres by formalising a process of fee collection, setting up village school funds, and establishing community horticulture to meet the school expenses.

Day Schools (Class 1-3)

These schools provide elementary level education to children in a cluster of isolated villages. Classes are scheduled to dovetail with the routine of the village residents so as to maximise attendance. Locally appointed facilitators run most of the day schools and regularly attend Gram Vikas' capacity building workshops to learn to effectively manage their responsibilities. 33 day schools, serving 59 villages and having a student population of 679, are currently operating in the districts of Ganjam, Gajapati, and Kalahandi. The expenses for running these schools are entirely met by the villagers themselves.

Status of Day Schools

Sl. No.	District	Project	No. of Centers	Village Covered	Enrolled	
					Boys	Girls
1	Kalahandi	Th.Rampur	4	4	52	45
2	Gajapati	Koinpur	6	26	101	92
		Karadasing	3	8	43	31
		Anandapur	9	10	70	70
3	Ganjam	Rudhapadar	6	6	60	50
		Tumba	5	5	36	29
Total			33	59	362	317

Residential Schools (Class 2-10)

Gram Vikas operates four residential schools. In these schools, tribal children live and learn together under the care of teachers residing at the schools. Enrolment is increasing as the tribal population recognises the benefits of education. During this past year, many students have performed well in various district level competitions and other cultural events and have received accolades for their performances.

Status of residential schools

District	Name/Location of the School	Class	Total Student		
			Boys	Girls	Total
Ganjam	Kerandimal U.P. School, Kankia	III to VII	150	51	201
	Gram Vikas High School, Kankia	VIII to X	151	108	259
	Gram Vikas Vidya Vihar, Rudhapadar	III to VII	76	82	158
Gajapati	Mahendra Tanaya Ashram School, Koinpur	III to VII	148	105	253
Kalahandi	Gram Vikas Sikshya Niketan, Kumudabahal	III to VII	103	89	192
Total:			628	435	1063

Academic Performance

A number of students who attend Gram Vikas residential schools have remarkable academic and extra-curricular skills. Some of the extra-curricular activities that students have excelled in are athletics, team sports, traditional dance forms, and theatre. Gram Vikas recognizes that many of these children, if coached properly, can develop their skills into a prospective career.

A total of 150 students appeared for the 7th Board examination, and 100 percent of the students passed the exam.

At the high school level, 61 students appeared for the matriculation examination, and 60 passed the exam.

While we strive to excel in providing quality education to the tribal children, we are continually confronted with the challenge of retaining skilled teachers motivated to work in rural locations.

Village and Resource Libraries

An important aspect of education is access to knowledge. In order to enable people to gain as much as possible from their education, Gram Vikas has established a program that funds village libraries to provide people with the opportunity to explore books, enrich their knowledge, and expand their horizons. Over the years, village and resource libraries have attracted a large number of members.

Story: The full circle

Education is a privilege for many children, which is evident when one encounters cases like that of Sonu Sabar. Sonu is the youngest son of a tribal farmer in Tumbo village of Gajapati district. Sonu's father, Dukhu Sabar, was motivated to send his son to the Gram Vikas residential school at Koinpur after seeing how other children from his village had been educated and then employed soon after. However, he was not able to pay the small admission fee that was required for his son. The Headmaster asked him to pay the fee in instalments, and Sonu's father promised to pay after the cashew harvest from his small cashew plot. However that year, the cashew did not fetch a good price, and he was not able to pay the remaining amount. As Sonu had performed well in school, he was allowed to continue. Thereafter, the child showed good potential and, with proper guidance from the teachers, he completed his matriculation from Gram Vikas' high school at Konkia. He wished to continue his studies, but his father was unable to support his higher education. Gram Vikas offered to support him, and he completed his graduation with first class and also gained a distinction.

After graduation, Sonu wanted to help provide education to other tribal children, and he joined the Gram Vikas School at Rudhapadar as an assistant teacher. He is an ideal teacher for the students, not only imparting knowledge, but also encouraging them to value education.

RESULTS IN EDUCATION

- **99 percent of students passed matriculation examination**
- **10 students admitted to Navodaya Vidyalaya**
- **5 students received scholarship in 3rd grade and 10 students in 5th grade**
- **Gram Vikas high school, Kankia, declared as "Best Athletic School" in the block**
- **Two students ranked top ten in the 7th Board Exam in Kalahandi**
- **One student, a weight lifter from Kankia School, selected for a government job.**
- **Schools received Rs. 17.78 lakhs towards stipends for children, including arrears**

LIVELIHOODS AND FOOD SECURITY

Rural communities are primarily dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods. Underdeveloped infrastructure, a lack of technology, and the disruption of ecological balance all contribute to the reduction of the land's productive capacity, which in turn threatens food security at the household level. Gram Vikas works with communities to manage their natural assets and use simple technologies to improve production systems.

Community forestry

Rejuvenating unproductive lands through community forestry has been effective in weaning tribal families away from shifting cultivation, while also increasing income at the household level. Varieties of fruit and firewood trees are planted on the common land to reduce soil erosion on the hill slopes, while also increasing green cover. Gram Vikas motivates communities to collectively manage their community forestry plantations. These strategies not only raise community income, but also increase the sense of community ownership of resources through the cooperative management of land.

Integrated watershed development

Gram Vikas implemented the Western Odisha Rural Livelihoods Project (WORLP) in Bongamunda block of Bolangir district of Odisha. In Kalahandi and Gajapati districts, Gram Vikas implemented the Odisha Tribal Empowerment and Livelihood Programme (OTELP). Both these programmes have been implemented on a large scale covering nearly 30,000 hectares of land. Treatment of micro watersheds comprises the primary level of intervention with other activities aimed at improving soil condition, forest cover, and recharging ground water. Five years of intensive work in Bongamunda and Thuamul Rampur has resulted in increased water level and improved green cover, as well as increased agricultural productivity.

Horticulture and agriculture

With the integrated watershed approach, agriculture and horticulture promotion is taken up on a large scale. Gram Vikas assists tribal communities in the development of agricultural land, reducing their dependence on *bogoda*, or "slash and burn," agriculture. Linkage is established with the horticulture department in the various districts under the National Rural Horticulture Mission (NRHM). Improved qualities of cashew, mango, pineapple, lemon, etc are procured by the Village Committees for planting. Horticulture has enabled families to have a steady source of income, compared to the unreliable income that comes from "shifting cultivation" on degraded lands.

A system of rice intensification was adopted in villages, and farmers underwent training regarding this technology. The results have been encouraging, and more farmers are keen to adopt SRI technique for paddy cultivation.

Livestock development

Practical training is provided to local youth in the areas of animal husbandry and vaccination procedures. Linkage is established with the local livestock inspector to form animal health camps where animals are treated and vaccinated.

Skill development

One of the most effective livelihood improving interventions has been the training of underemployed or unemployed rural youth in skills such as masonry, plumbing, and bar bending. The ever-increasing demand for these skills helps the formerly unemployed youth to gain employment in the local area, or even in the nearest town once they have completed the 60-day training course. There is an immediate rise in the daily wages once these youth qualify as skilled people, and they are often able to earn three to four times their former income.

Self-help groups and their savings

Gram Vikas supports the formation and strengthening of self-help groups. These groups can collectively accrue savings to fund income-generating activities such as agriculture, livestock rearing, fish farming, and horticulture. A typical self-help group is comprised of 10 to 15 members of the community who agree to deposit monthly savings into a fund, a portion of which can eventually be borrowed to fund community and individual businesses.

To support self-help groups, Gram Vikas provides basic record-keeping and financial training sessions and encourages the groups to undertake income-generating activities. When the group gains the ability and confidence required to successfully manage their funds, they are linked to local banks. Once linked to local banks, the members are able to access external funds and government loans/grants.

Although self-help groups are not restricted to being exclusively for women, the majority of them are women's groups. The groups provide a social space for women to discuss common concerns. This space enables women to develop the confidence that they need to speak out, even when men are present, as in village council meetings. This allows women to play a greater role in the decision making process.

Water is Life

Bongamunda block in Bolangir district of Western Odisha is one of the most backward blocks, with hardly any improvement in the socio-economic condition of the people. Gram Vikas has implemented the Western Odisha Rural Livelihoods Programme (WORLP) in over 40 villages in Bongamunda block. One of the impacts of intensive watershed activities has been the improvement in the water table level in certain watersheds, which has, in turn, increased the cropping area and cropping intensity. Through the livelihood interventions, individual farmers have been able to establish small irrigation facilities.

Bhaskar Nag of Asurula village (under Kapilabhat Gram Panchayat) is a marginal farmer who could take only one crop from his 2.5 acres of land, and that only if the rains were on time. He and his family members – a wife, four children, as well as a physically challenged brother – all worked as wage labourers for some part of the year to make ends meet. Bhaskar even went to Raipur in the adjoining Chattisgarh district and worked as a rickshaw puller to bring back more regular earnings to enable him to look after his family.

The WORLP programme was initiated in Bastrein watershed in 2007. As part of the livelihood intervention for vulnerable families, Bhaskar was given the opportunity to form a plan that could help him to earn a better income. A farm pond was constructed within his land with a total investment of nearly Rs.20,000, of which Rs. 14,500 was a subsidy. After the monsoon period, there was still sufficient water in the pond. Bhaskar was encouraged to cultivate vegetables using this water.

This year he made a profit of Rs. 31,000 from onion cultivation and also had nearly 30 quintals* of paddy from his field. He is hopeful that he won't need to exhaust himself pulling a rickshaw any longer, and that he can slowly save enough to build a pucca house for his family on his little parcel of land.

* One quintal – one hundred kilograms

LIVELIHOODS ENABLING INFRASTRUCTURE

The economy in rural locations is dependent upon the availability of energy and communication systems. In the absence of both, residents in rural locations languish and often must migrate to distant towns and cities in search of work. Gram Vikas promotes various technologies that can benefit communities, as well as individual families, to improve the living conditions in the villages. In doing so, Gram Vikas employs a participatory approach that encourages local people to take ownership of development projects and use technology to improve their quality of life.

Gram Vikas has been actively implementing community-based energy programmes using bio-diesel, biogas, micro-hydro, smokeless chullahs, and solar photovoltaic applications to provide rural households with renewable energy.

Community based micro-hydro systems

As part of a decentralised energy generation and distribution initiative, Gram Vikas has promoted four micro-hydro systems in the Kalahandi district of Odisha. Gram Vikas works to build the capacity of local youths and technicians to design, fabricate, and manage community micro-hydro systems. The energy is used primarily for lighting, and also for certain economic activities in the village. The programme has a positive impact on the socio-economic conditions of the villages.

Solar-powered systems

The solar-powered indoor lighting initiative primarily targets individual households. The system provides sustainable lighting and eliminates the use of kerosene for lighting homes. Families are encouraged to procure the lights on loans to be repaid in small instalments. Local youth are trained to take care of minor repair work as needed.

Additionally, Gram Vikas has also undertaken community-based solar photovoltaic systems for lighting and water supply. Four villages have been provided with electricity and piped water supply through such systems. We are currently installing the fifth system in Kalahandi district.

Maligaon story

Dams and displacement are common news in the country. One wonders why these happen only in the poorest of pockets and affect some of the most destitute citizens of the country. Poor people are forced to sacrifice their livelihoods, culture, etc. so that people in some distant, unknown place can enjoy more comfort in life.

Maligaon village is one of the 25 or so villages that have been displaced as part of the Indravati Dam and reservoir project. These villages are settled close to the reservoir area on a stretch of land that remains cut off from the mainland for nearly seven months in a year. This has restricted the villagers' access to markets and other facilities that would improve their earnings. Basic services, especially health care, are nearly non-existent, and levels of morbidity and infant mortality in the area are very high.

All the villages in this stretch are non-electrified, highlighting the inequity of a mega-hydro project that provides electricity to distant towns and cities, while the surrounding area remains perennially in darkness.

Gram Vikas, in collaboration with Ekistica Pvt. Ltd. Australia, did an extensive survey of the reservoir-affected areas and focused on implementing a solar-powered village electrification project in Maligaon village. A village of 48 families of mixed castes, Maligaon is also the Panchayat headquarters and houses a Panchayat office and an upper primary school. People are primarily agriculturists, with fishing as an additional source of income.

Initial meetings with the people of Maligaon were focused on understanding the village situation and the needs of the community. Thereafter, intensive meetings were held to inform the people about the Solar Electrification Project. An Energy Needs Assessment was conducted, using participatory tools at the household and community levels. One unique aspect of the project was the energy planning and budgeting: people were informed of the cost for using various electrical appliances powered through solar photovoltaic cells (SPV). Thereafter, each household was given the freedom to plan their energy needs and work out the tariff they would have to pay.

Thus, the technical design was based on each household's assessment of its own energy needs, also taking into account the needs of the public institutions (school and panchayat office), and the expansion of the community in the future. The lowest tariff for two light points and two plug points is Rs. 80 per month.

An energy committee was formed to design the implementation plan. The first step was the construction of the power house. People donated land for the power house and also contributed towards the bricks and stones used for construction. The power house was completed in three months and the SPV systems have been installed. The community is now in the process of improving the sanitation and drinking water condition of the village.

Gravity-flow systems

Gravity flow design for water-supply systems is extremely sustainable. Gravity transports the water using zero energy, which makes the project extremely financially viable. The combined benefits make this innovative system the most inexpensive and environmentally sustainable design for water-supply systems.

Promotion of bio-diesel as sustainable energy

In collaboration with CTxGreEn, a Canadian non-profit organization, Gram Vikas has pioneered the pedal-powered production of bio-diesel at the village level. The project is unique in promoting local production of bio-diesel, using locally available underutilized seeds to produce the fuel. The fuel generated can be used in regular diesel pumps and generator sets. The project has also revived the use of oil cake (a by-product from oil seed pressing) as organic manure, and the glycerine (a by-product of bio-diesel production) has been successfully converted into soap. Bio-diesel is currently being used for diverse agricultural activities such as ploughing, irrigation, and threshing by a multi-purpose tiller.

Smokeless chullahs

Gram Vikas encourages the use of smokeless chullahs in communities to reduce the negative health effects associated with inhaling smoke from wood cook stoves. Smokeless chullahs are safer and significantly impact the health and lifestyle of rural women, as the smoke generated is safely carried out of the house through a terracotta chimney, and therefore mitigates the harmful effects of smoke. To increase the sustainability and popularity of smokeless chullahs, local women are trained in their construction and maintenance.

Results in Livelihood Enabling Infrastructure

- The micro-hydro system in Karnivel village in Kalahandi district became the fourth micro-hydro project to be commissioned successfully
- Solar-powered electrification and water supply completed in one village in Gajapati district. Another community-based solar-powered system initiated in Kalahandi district
- 200 solar-powered LED lights procured by tribal families, and 25 lights provided to girl children for education by Cosmos Ignite, New Delhi
- 2,554 smokeless cook stoves and 14 biogas plants installed during the year

HUMAN AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Development of community capacity has always been a core programme area within the organisation, and Gram Vikas continues to empower people through capacity building and awareness campaigns. Capacity development initiatives include women and men, village leaders, youth, and children. In addition to building knowledge and awareness on various issues, Gram Vikas also conducts skill trainings for rural youth in trades such as masonry and plumbing, which can help augment their income-earning potential.

Staff members are encouraged to undergo training and orientation on issues that are of importance to the work in the field. New staff members undergo tailor-made induction to understand the vision and work of the organisation and experience it practically by staying in the field with the communities.

Two members of the Governing Board of Gram Vikas facilitated a workshop for the management team on strategic planning and the way forward for the organisation. This provided an opportunity for the members to define and prioritise the sectors of work that Gram Vikas needs to improve in the future.

During our 31st year, national and international volunteers completed internships at Gram Vikas. Such long- and short-term internships help up and coming professionals to understand the competencies that are required to address issues in challenging field situations.

In collaboration with the Millennium Campaign, Gram Vikas became actively involved in training staff members, as well as communities, on using Right to Information to enhance transparency and accountability in public services and functions. Members of communities who attended these trainings were encouraged to file RTI applications, despite receiving threats from grassroots level officials or local sarpanches. The many positive results of using the RTI tool have motivated us to encourage its use further in the future to increase accountability at the grassroots level.

RTI ALLOWS VILLAGER TO HOLD THE PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (PDS) TO ACCOUNT

Mr. Sachindra Suna (42) lives in Dalguda in Thuamul Rampur Block, an extremely remote village 97 kilometres from Bhawanipatna, the district headquarters of the Kalahandi district. He has been an active member of Bafla Gana Sangathan, a people's body consisting of representatives of 25 tribal villages. He attended a Gram Vikas Right To Information (RTI) training, where he spoke about how the Public Distribution System (PDS) failed to provide his village with sugar, wheat, and oil. Gram Vikas staff suggested that Sachindra file an RTI request and assisted him in completing the paperwork. Once the application was complete, Sachindra submitted it to the Block Development Officer (BDO) at Th. Rampur. After receiving the application, the BDO assured Sachindra that the problem would be rectified within 15 days. Three days after submitting the RTI application, the BDO attended the Gram Sabha meeting at Adri Panchyat, announcing that PDS supplies would be distributed to villagers within 15 days and asking villagers to inform him in the case that PDS supplies were not received within that time. By June 2010, the Adri Panchyat was successfully receiving PDS benefits.

Results in Human and Institution Development

- 45 training sessions on leadership, communication, book keeping, gender, RTI, documentation, health awareness, and water quality monitoring organised for staff
- 2 RTI clinics set up in two Gram Panchayats in Gajapati district
- 217 RTI applications filed by community and staff on various topics, receiving encouraging results
- State-level RTI workshop hosted at Gram Vikas headquarters in Mohuda
- 80 tribal students from Jharkhand, Odisha, and Chattisgarh participated in a 5-day youth leadership programme co-organised with PRIA, New Delhi
- Members of staff and community participated in Lok Awaas yatra to see various habitat development initiatives in Bihar

OUTREACH AND NETWORKING

To expand the MANTRA programme, Gram Vikas often collaborates with other non-governmental agencies to help implement MANTRA in their areas of operation. In Odisha, Gram Vikas collaborates extensively with the Department of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj and Tribal Development to implement various government schemes in the rural areas.

Senior staff members participated in various seminars and workshops, both in India and outside the country, which allowed them to share the work of our organisation and bring back new and interesting ideas for us to apply in our work. Our Executive Director attended the World Water Week in Stockholm, the Global Health Research Forum in Cuba, the Skoll World Forum in Oxford, and the Clinton Global Initiative in New York, among other international and national conferences.

During the year, we were honoured by visits from various dignitaries from government and international agencies.

In addition, Gram Vikas hosted the Eastern Regional Consultation on Climate Change and Sustainable Agriculture in January 2010. The consultation brought together civil society partners, academics, and intellectuals from Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Andhra Pradesh to discuss the effects of climate change in these vulnerable eastern states on agriculture and other climate sensitive sectors. The consultation was an eye-opening experience, highlighting the ecological and geographical diversity within the eastern states and the need for concerted action to tackle the impacts of climate change.

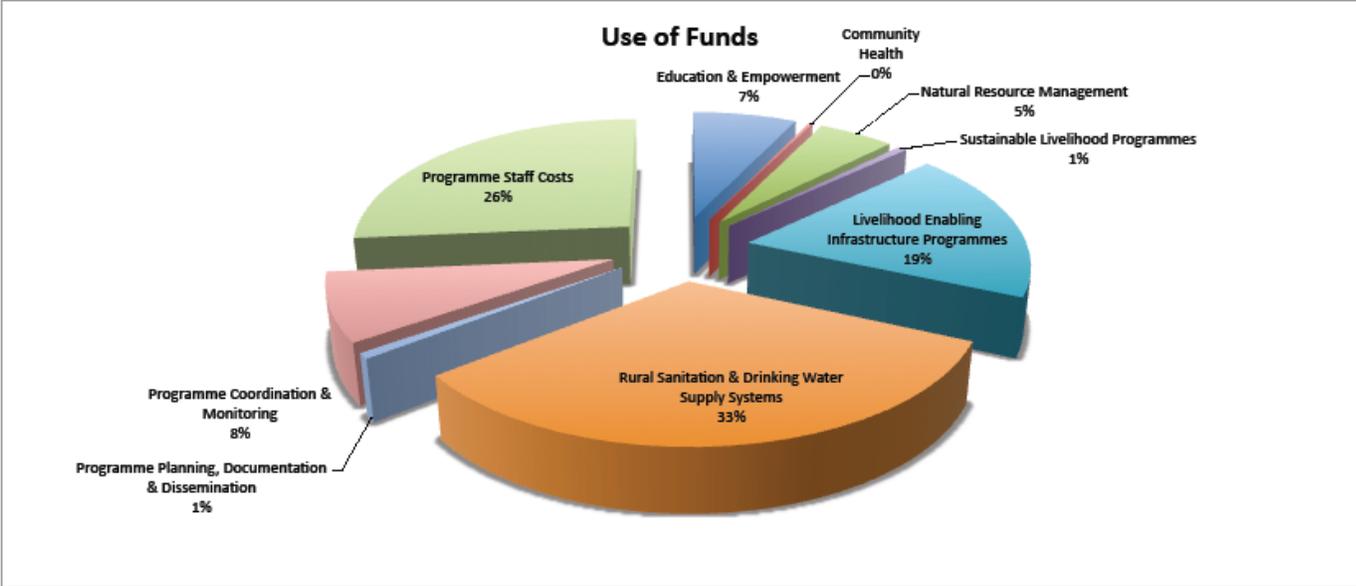
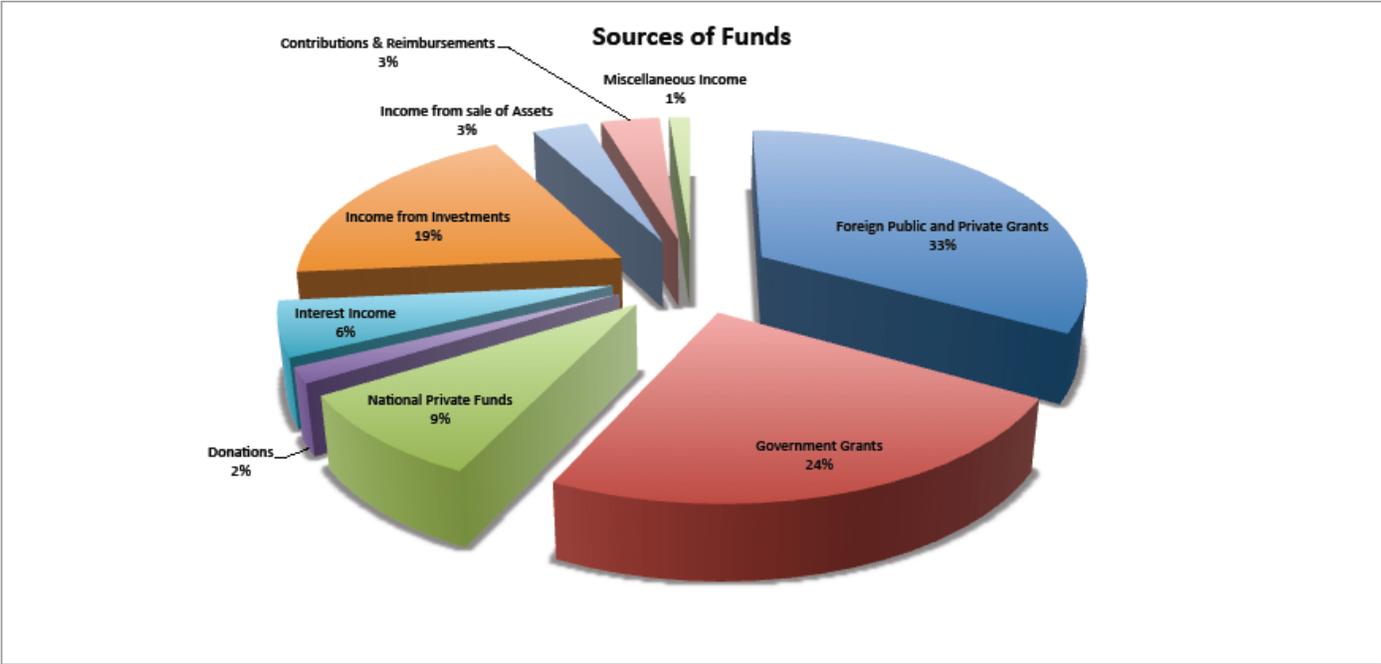
I am happy to present the audited statement of accounts of Gram Vikas for the period of April 2009 to March 2010. I have discussed these accounts with the auditors M/s Padhi & Co.

The financial systems in Gram Vikas maintain a high order of integrity and transparency. I am pleased to report that there is regular internal audit scrutiny, and that the management is continuously reviewing and implementing the needed improvements.

Gram Vikas has satisfactorily complied with all statutory requirements related to FCRA, Income Tax, Provident Fund, and Gratuity.

With these observations I propose that these Annual Audited Accounts of Gram Vikas for the financial year 2009 – 2010 be approved.

Mr. Ram Sankar
(Treasurer)



BALANCE SHEET AS OF 31st MARCH 2010

Particulars	Sch.	As at 31.03.2010 (in Rupees)	As at 31.03.2009 (in Rupees)
<u>LIABILITIES</u>			
General Funds	I	278,594,333	246,287,888
Project Funds	I	57,196,946	80,190,002
Contingency Funds		142,331,303	122,428,204
Dairy Development Fund		27,500	-
Other Funds	II	5,240,899	4,914,095
HDFC Housing Project Loans		-	15,722,986
Loan against FD from ING Vysya Bank Ltd.		6,563,057	-
		<u>489,954,038</u>	<u>469,543,175</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>			
Fixed Assets	III	33,854,161	36,394,977
Livestock		-	26,000
Investments	IV	261,443,459	220,747,029
Current Assets	V	201,334,961	
Less : Current Liabilities and Provisions	VI	<u>6,678,543</u>	
Net Current Assets		194,656,418	212,375,169
		<u>489,954,038</u>	<u>469,543,175</u>

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2010

Particulars	Year ending 31.03.2010 (in Rupees)	Year ending 31.03.2009 (in Rupees)
<u>INCOME</u>		
Grants in Aid	81,483,691	124,811,539
Award	25,000	-
Interest Income	6,881,561	16,897,283
Income from Investments	22,477,648	10,845,513
Income from sale of Assets	3,871,361	111,195
Contributions & Reimbursements	4,103,560	4,704,802
Liabilities written back	648,296	-
Miscellaneous Income	772,743	762,968
 Gross Income	 120,263,860	 158,133,300
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
<u>Relief of the Poor, Education, Medical Relief & Preservation of Environment</u>		
Education & Empowerment	11,580,685	17,925,936
Community Health	768,270	1,823,127
Rural Sanitation & Drinking Water Supply Systems	51,006,421	56,472,070
Natural Resources Management	10,789,535	14,205,443
Sustainable Livelihood Programmes	1,230,517	2,269,769
Livelihood Enabling Rural Infrastructure	20,311,447	9,320,447
Programme Planning, Documentation & Dissemination	2,906,006	2,544,983
Programme Coordination & Monitoring	8,928,415	8,148,686
Depreciation	3,401,675	3,388,008
 Gross Expenditure	 110,922,971	 116,098,469
 Surplus for the year	 9,340,889	 42,034,831

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2010

Particulars	Year ending 31.03.2010 (in Rupees)	Year ending 31.03.2009 (in Rupees)
Opening Cash & Bank Balances	2,298,561	6,041,655
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
Grants in Aid	80,988,391	124,811,539
Award	25,000	-
Interest Income	5,231,606	13,957,130
Income from Investments	13,950,834	7,851,001
Contributions & Reimbursements	3,821,909	4,844,888
Miscellaneous Income	1,952,591	623,193
Sale of Assets	4,682,571	239,901
Toilets & Bathing Room Account Receipts	7,333,196	-
Water Tower & Water Supply System receipts	29,131,821	-
Loan against FD from ING Vysya Bank Ltd.	6,563,057	-
Project Advances Realised	-	9,819,214
Housing Loan Subsidy Received	21,180,000	-
Housing, Livelihood & Other Advances Recovery	837,994	904,437
Mutual Funds - Realised	1,997,000	-
Bonds - Realised	58,200,000	-
Fixed Deposits - Realised	63,218,836	264,733,520
Other Advances & receivables Realised	2,812,345	2,595,196
Total	301,927,151	430,380,019
<u>PAYMENTS</u>		
<u>Relief of the Poor, Education, Medical Relief & Preservation of Environment</u>		
Education & Empowerment	11,536,837	17,819,449
Community Health	766,165	1,821,127
Rural Sanitation & Drinking Water Supply Systems	50,562,833	55,428,076
Natural Resources Management	10,717,772	14,147,394
Sustainable Livelihood Programmes	1,226,912	2,249,830
Livelihood Enabling Rural Infrastructure	20,310,619	9,315,217
Programme Planning, Documentation & Dissemination	2,887,615	2,537,459
Programme Coordination & Monitoring	8,997,777	8,283,521
Capital Expenses	1,646,069	2,097,736
Water Tower & Water Supply System payments	45,217,807	28,999,000
Toilets & Bathing Room Account Payments	2,400,343	-
Investments, Bonds and Mutual Funds	90,993,430	90,812,000
Fixed Deposits	17,221,545	194,917,836
Other Advances & Payables Paid	1,013,484	814,678
Housing Loan Repayment to HDFC Ltd.	15,722,986	4,879,790
Housing loan subsidy payments	732,000	-
Project advances	18,479,646	-
Total	300,433,840	434,123,113
Closing Cash & Bank Balances	3,791,872	2,298,561

Schneider Electric India Foundation donated 25 Solar LED lights for Jhiripada village in Ganjam District.

With support from Vision Spring, presbyopia cases were provided spectacles by trained vision entrepreneurs in villages in Ganjam and Gajapati districts.

The MANTRA programme was implemented in Odisha in partnership with Shristi, in Madhya Pradesh with Haritika, in Maharashtra with CRHP, and in Jharkhand with Shramajivi Unnayan.

Gram Vikas organised a state level workshop on Menstrual Hygiene Management in Bhubaneswar in collaboration with Water Aid, India.

A state level workshop on electricity regulation was organised jointly with PRAYAS, where representatives from Odisha Electricity Regulatory Commission, Distcoms, people's representatives, and local community members participated.

The Secretary and Joint Secretary of the Department of Drinking Water, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India visited Gram Vikas to observe the MANTRA programme.

Delegates from the World Bank visited Gram Vikas to see and document the MANTRA programme.

The Chief Engineer and Executive Engineers from the Water and Sanitation Mission, Jharkhand visited Gram Vikas for an orientation on MANTRA.

Facts about Odisha

- The state of Odisha is home for 36.7 million people, of which 88% are living in rural areas with a large tribal population
- 47% of the population lives below the poverty line (BPL)
- Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) stands at 75 out of every 1000 live births
- Less than 7% of rural households have access to safe sanitation; less than 20% of the rural population has access to protected water and no more than 1% to piped water supply
- 80% of the instances of morbidity and mortality cases in rural areas are caused by water-borne diseases
- Only 63% of the population is literate; among the female population, the literacy rate is just 50%
- Only 31% of women are employed
- More than 70% households have no electricity connection

(Sources: Census of India 2001 & Orissa Human Development Report 2004)

Gram Vikas is working to change this status quo in around 895 villages. Together with individuals and local communities, we are helping people to access basic rights and create their own development paths.