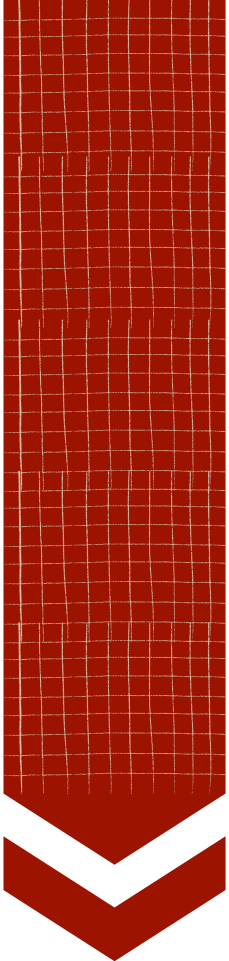




ANNUAL REPORT

2024-25



ABOUT TAARAS

Taaras is a **national coalition of 68 community-based organisations (CBOs) led by and for women in sex work** and other marginalised identities. Each CBO anchors local action while contributing to collective strategy and learning.

Anchored by Swasti, the coalition is active across **6 Indian states**, advancing the rights to health, social protection, dignity, and leadership for over **1.49+ lakh women and trans individuals**.

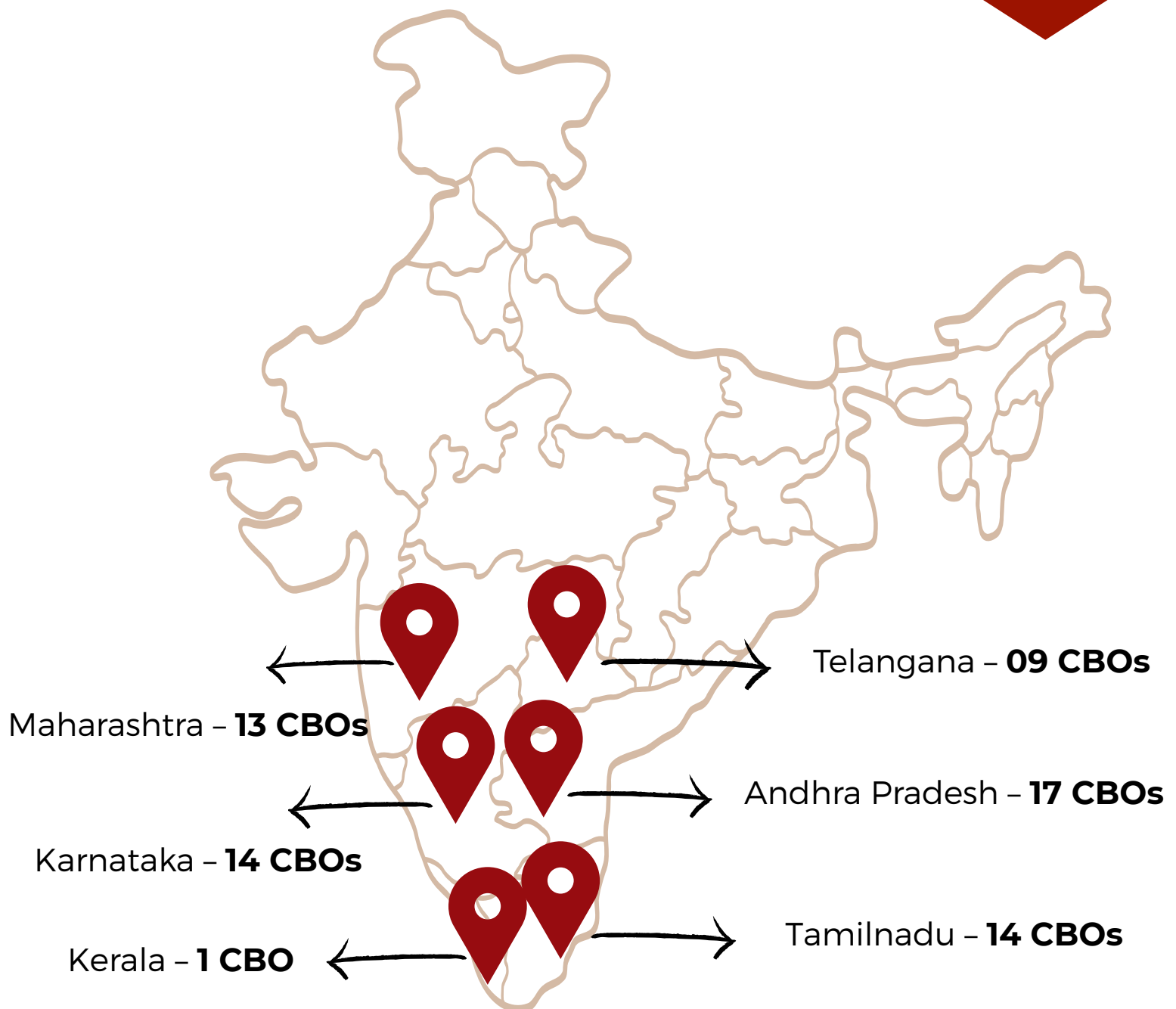
COALITION IMPACT AT A GLANCE

- **1,49,000+** community members reached
- **803** members started supplementary livelihood activities
- **437** free health camps conducted
- **31,432** members screened; **19,314** referred & treated for Expressed illness
- **2,36,343** healthy days added between April-24 to March-25
- **55,442** social protection between April-24 to March-25
- **INR 43,23,220 lakh** mobilised for CBO-led work
- **41,076** reached through financial services
- **1,526** cases of violence and harassment addressed with linkage to support systems

GEOGRAPHIC REACH

States: Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Kerala

Districts: 58+



OUR KEY INTERVENTIONS

Leadership & Policy Advocacy

- Leaders participated in 10+ state and national-level meetings, including with NACO, CCM, Health Ministries, and more
- Taaras representatives appointed to key bodies like the PSM Committee for CSS and CLM and IEC of GFATM C19 RM Project
- Leadership engaged in budget consultations in Tamil Nadu, advocating for trans community inclusion
- Taaras leaders met Health Ministers of Telangana & Andhra Pradesh to demand TI programs for CBOs
- Representation at the National Conclave on Social Sector Federations by Dhwani Foundation



Crisis & Resilience Response

- Leaders participated in 10+ Flood relief operations conducted in Vijayawada and Gadchiroli: distribution of food kits, shelter materials, and medicines
- 6 CBOs added to the coalition this year: 2 re-joined, and 4 new
- Training programs conducted on legal literacy, HIV services, pandemic preparedness, and climate-health integration

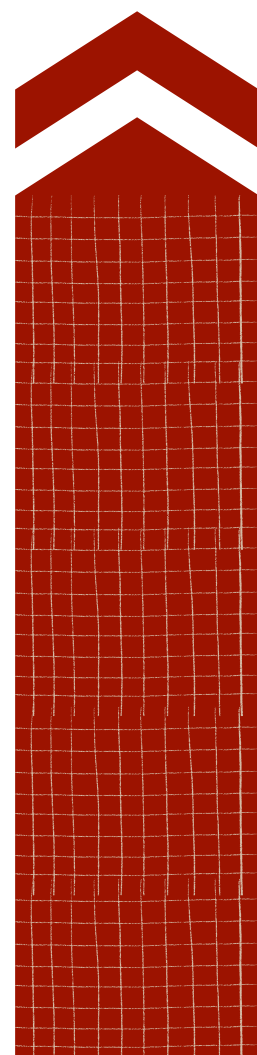


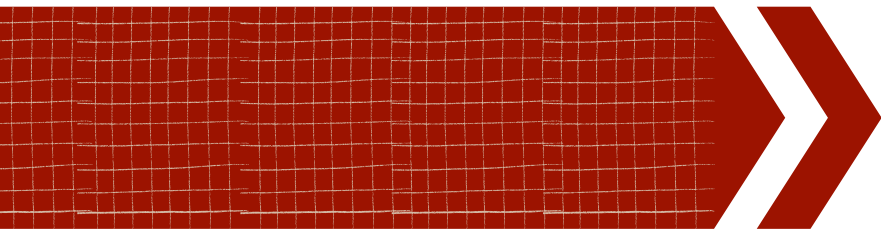
Health & Social Protection

- Extensive outreach through Help Desks and Community Leaders to ensure access to HIV services and legal literacy
- Support provided to access pensions, housing, labour welfare, and other social protection schemes
- Monsoon preparedness guidelines developed and shared with community leaders across states
- Participation in National Tuberculosis Day and International Women's Day across all states

Livelihoods & Financial Inclusion

- 130 women trained in enterprise development under the GF-Taaras-LH-WSW-Ph2 project in Bengaluru
- 563 women entrepreneurs launched businesses under Social Venture Partners (Social Venture Partner - Hyderabad Chapter)
- 25 LGBTQ+ entrepreneurs supported in Chennai through the FORD - LGBTQ livelihood pilot
- 865 individual and 81 group sessions conducted on financial literacy under the KP (Key Populations) project benefitting 1061 community members in Aug-2024





Coalition Growth and Strengthening

- 62 CBOs completed statutory compliance and published Annual Reports
- 5 Karnataka CBOs secured INR 25–35 lakh each/year under CSC 2.0 (GFATM/SAATHII)
- Proposals submitted to GFATM, UNDP, Amplify Change, and others
- Monthly leadership MRMs and State Sammelans conducted across 5 states

VOICES FROM THE FIELD

“Without the support of the C19RM SP project and Taaras, I wouldn’t have had the courage to apply for these documents. This has truly changed my future.”

*~ **Harish** (name changed)*

“I never knew such support existed. Thanks to the Soukhya Sanjeevini Samste, SSR team, I now have my TG Card and financial support to help me move forward.”

*~ **Hemlatha** (name changed)*

“It’s never too late to rewrite your story. I’ve walked through darkness, and if I can rise, so can anyone.”

*~ **Venu** (name changed)*

STORIES OF CHANGE



From Stigma to Stability

A widow from Srikakulam launched a vegetable business with Taaras' help and re-enrolled her son in school, breaking free from cycles of seasonal poverty.

Claiming Her Place

A trans woman in Bengaluru accessed the Mythri Pension Scheme through Samara CBO and now lives with dignity, no longer dependent on begging.

From Hidden Work to Public Leadership

Once engaged in sex work, a woman in Tamil Nadu now earns INR 15,000/month as a trained CF and is supporting two children through college.

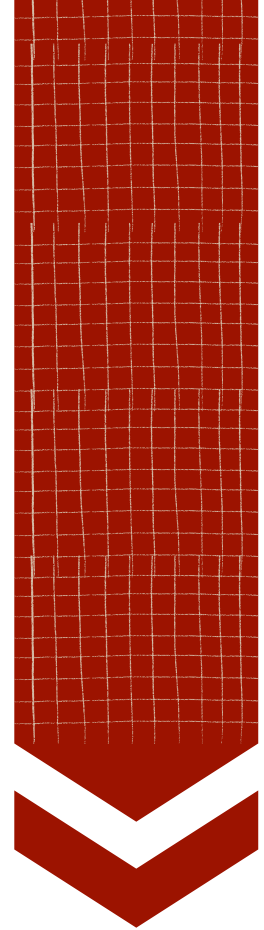


GOVERNMENT COLLABORATIONS

- National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) – Regular participation in PSM Committees and consultations
- Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) – Global Fund-related engagement
- District AIDS Prevention and Control Units (DAPCU) – Local coordination for service delivery
- District Legal Services Authorities (DLSA) – Legal aid for violence redressal
- State Women Development Corporation (WDC) – State-level program implementation
- State Health Ministers (Telangana & Andhra Pradesh) – High-level advocacy
- State Food Commission, Maharashtra – Social protection services linkage
- Labour Welfare Board – Support for surgeries and health schemes
- Government of Tamil Nadu – Budget consultation and trans inclusion advocacy

FUNDERS & GRANT PARTNERS

- The Global Fund (GFATM)
 - C19RM SP & KP Projects
 - CSC 2.0 Project (via SAATHII)
- FORD Foundation – LGBTQ+ livelihood pilot in Chennai
- Amplify Change – Proposal submitted by Swasti on behalf of Taaras
- UNDP – Capacity-building and sustainability support
- SVP (Social Venture Partner - Hyderabad Chapter) – Livelihood and entrepreneurship support
- SMS (Swathi Mahila Sangh) – Lead applicant for GFATM Main Grant 2024–27



STRATEGIC & KNOWLEDGE PARTNERS

- Dhwani Foundation – National Conclave on Social Sector Federations
- Pollinate Group – Exposure visit for livelihoods replication
- Doctors for You (DFY) – Exploratory meeting for collaboration
- CCE Consortium – Webinar on cervical cancer elimination
- Swasti – Monsoon preparedness and climate-health integration

LOOKING AHEAD

Taaras will continue to build a stronger, more resilient coalition by:

- Deepening CBO capacity in governance and leadership
- Driving climate-health integration across programs
- Amplifying survivor-led advocacy on stigma, protection, and dignity

Taaras continues to rise, led by the community, for the community.

