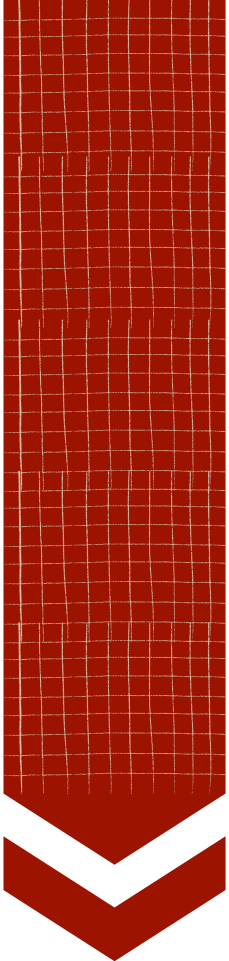




ANNUAL REPORT

2023-24



ABOUT TAARAS

Taaras is a **national coalition of 65 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 **5 Indian states**, advancing the rights to health, social protection, dignity, and leadership for over **1.46+ lakh women and trans individuals**.

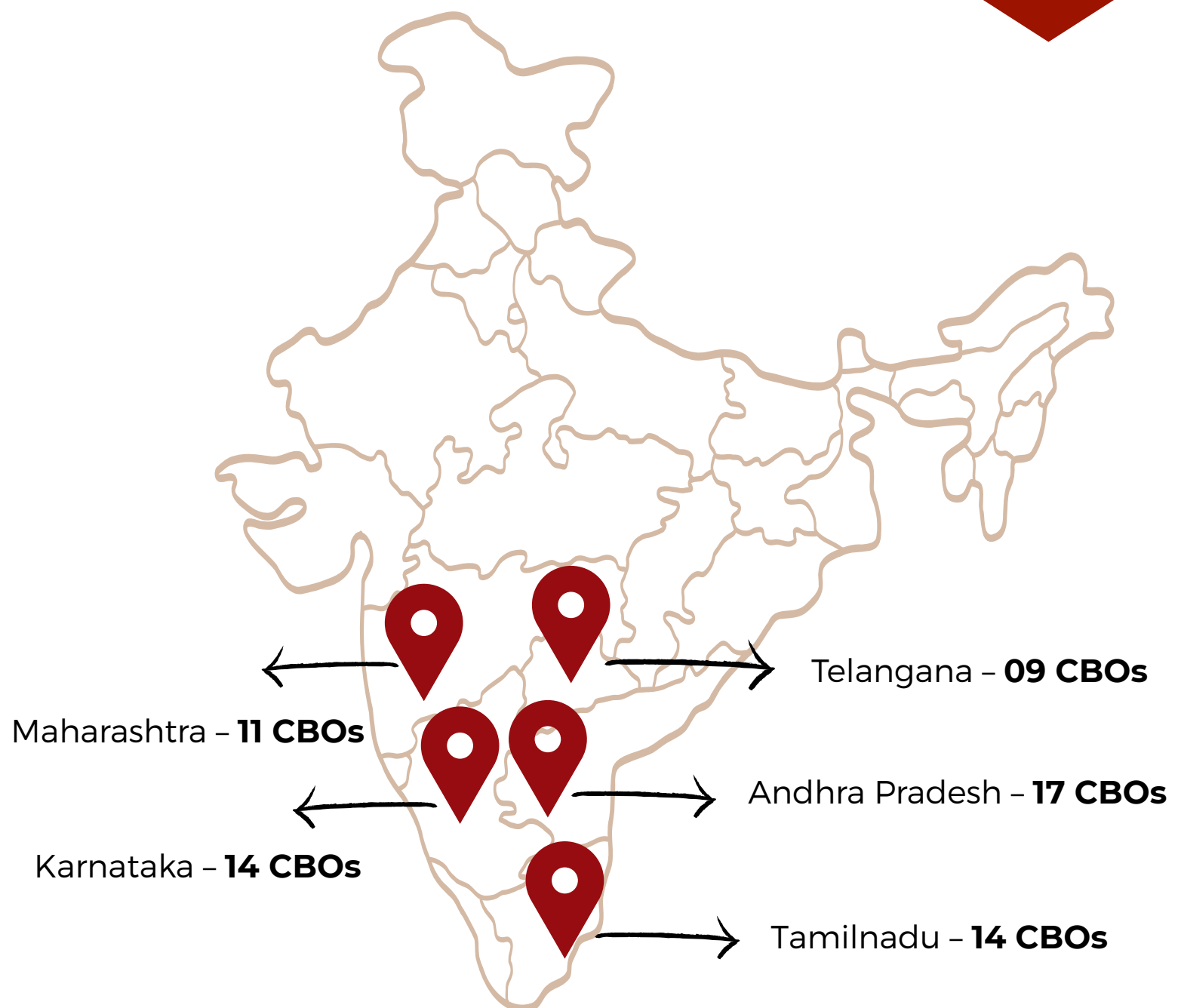
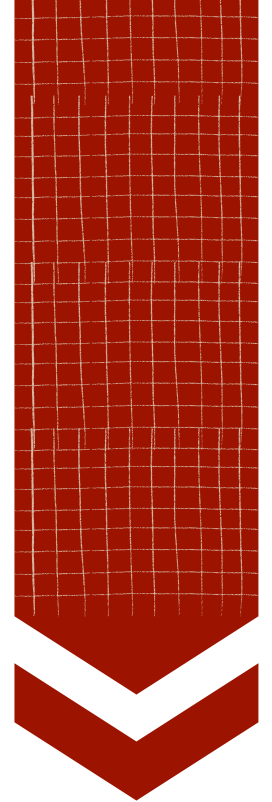
COALITION IMPACT AT A GLANCE

- **1,46,000+** community members reached
- **825** members started supplementary livelihood activities.
- **941** free health camps conducted
- **34,525** members screened; **36,655** referred & treated for Expressed illness
- **2,68,567** healthy days added between April-23 to March-24
- **31,666** social protection between April-23 to March-24
- **INR 66,63,234 lakh** mobilised for CBO-led work
- **26,135** reached through financial services
- **1,488** cases of violence and harassment addressed with linkage to support systems

GEOGRAPHIC REACH

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

Districts: 55+



OUR KEY INTERVENTIONS

Leadership & Policy Advocacy

- 989 leaders were identified for building their capacities to lead the Taaras across 5 states.
- Leaders participated in 12+ 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
- Taaras Advisory meeting (TAG) conducted in August 2023



Crisis & Resilience Response

- Flood relief operations conducted in Bhadrachalam, with support of DonateKart: distribution of food kits, shelter materials, and medicines
- 3 CBOs added to the coalition this year
- Training programs conducted on legal literacy, HIV services, pandemic preparedness, and climate-health integration

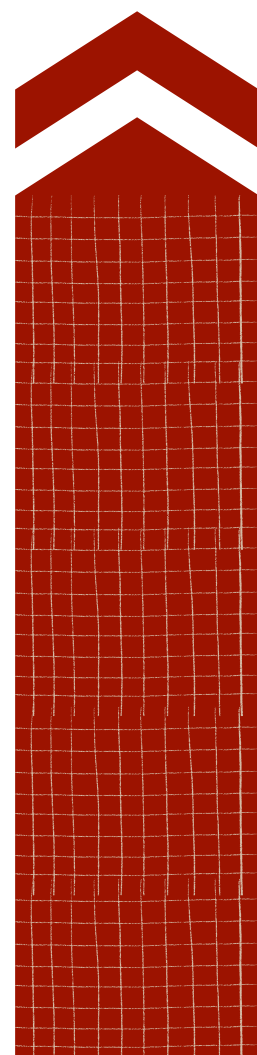


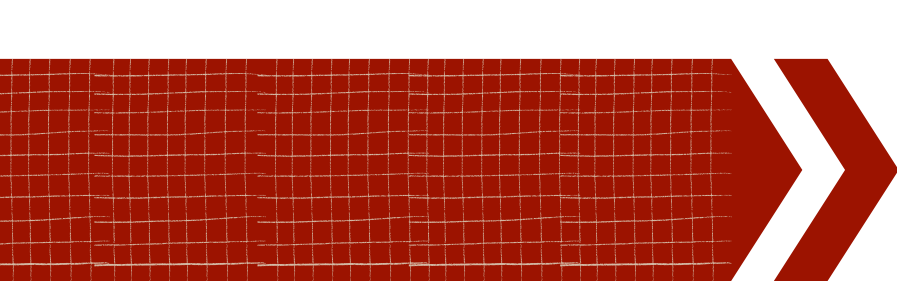
Livelihoods & Financial Inclusion

- 138 women trained in enterprise development under the GF-Taaras-LH-WSW-Ph1 project in Bengaluru
- 453 women entrepreneurs launched businesses under Social Venture Project (Social Venture Partner - Hyderabad Chapter)
- 25 LGBTQ+ entrepreneurs supported in Chennai through the FORD - LGBTQ livelihood pilot
- 26,135 individuals attended financial literacy

Health & Social Protection

- In collaboration with local health facilitators and health departments, CBO teams organised free health camps
- Eye camps were organised with support of Shankar Hospital in Karnataka and Shankara Foundation in Andhra Pradesh
- 31,666 applications were facilitated for community members, resulting in 29,272 services successfully availed
- Support provided to access pensions, housing, labour welfare, and other social protection schemes
- Participation in International Women's Day & World AIDS Day across all states





Coalition Growth and Strengthening

- 62 CBOs completed statutory compliance and published Annual Reports
- Proposals submitted to GFATM, UNDP, Red Umbrella, and others
- Monthly leadership MRMs and state Sammelans conducted across 5 states

VOICES FROM THE FIELD

"I am very thankful for the support I received from the Community Facilitator under the GFATM C19 Responsive Social Protection Program. With their guidance, I was able to successfully enroll in the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PMSYM) scheme. This has given me a sense of security for my future. I never imagined I could access such benefits, and I truly appreciate the efforts taken to reach and support people like me."

*~ **Jyothi** (name changed)*

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

*~ **Hemant** (name changed)*

"I never knew such support existed. Thanks to the community facilitator of the SSR team, I now have my TG Card and financial support to help me move forward."

*~ **Sumalatha** (name changed)*

STORIES OF CHANGE



From Stigma to Self-Reliance

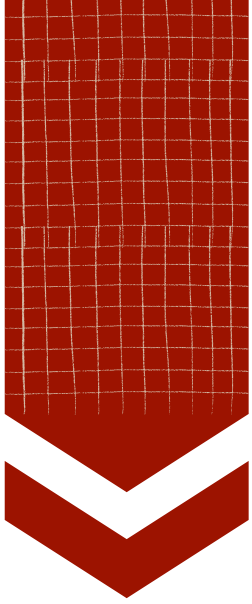
Chilli Ratnamma, a self-employed woman from Guntur, struggled for two years to get an income certificate. With support from CF Suvarna Kumari, she finally received it. She can now apply for government schemes and start a small business.

Reclaiming Worker Rights

Chandra, a construction worker in Thanjavur, had never accessed any labour welfare benefits. CF Kamatchi helped her apply for a labour card. She now has access to crucial welfare schemes.

No More Invisible

Mura Kumari from Tuni tried for years to get a PAN card. CF Chinnari helped her apply and receive it. With this, she can now access the Asara scheme and other services.



FUNDERS & GRANT PARTNERS

- The Global Fund (GFATM)
- C19RM SP & KP Projects
- FORD Foundation – LGBTQ+ livelihood pilot in Chennai
- Give Foundation – For livelihood support
- SVP (Social Venture Partner - Hyderabad Chapter) – Livelihood and entrepreneurship support

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

STRATEGIC & KNOWLEDGE PARTNERS

- Dhwani Foundation – National Conclave on Social Sector Federations
- Pollinate Group – Exposure visit for livelihoods replication
- St. John Hospital – Webinar on cervical cancer elimination
- Swasti – Taaras Technical partner.

LOOKING AHEAD

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

- Focusing more community members under SP project for needy services
- Legal literacy campaigns organised for community members
- Good linkages with judiciary and police departments.
- Mobilizing the local resources for nutrition support.
- Amplifying survivor-led advocacy on stigma, protection, and dignity

Rooted in collective strength, Taaras moves forward—turning shared vision into lasting change.

