



Jan Shiksha evam Vikas Sangathan (People's Education and Development Organisation)

Journey of 45 Years | 1980-2025

Experiences | Accomplishments | Stories



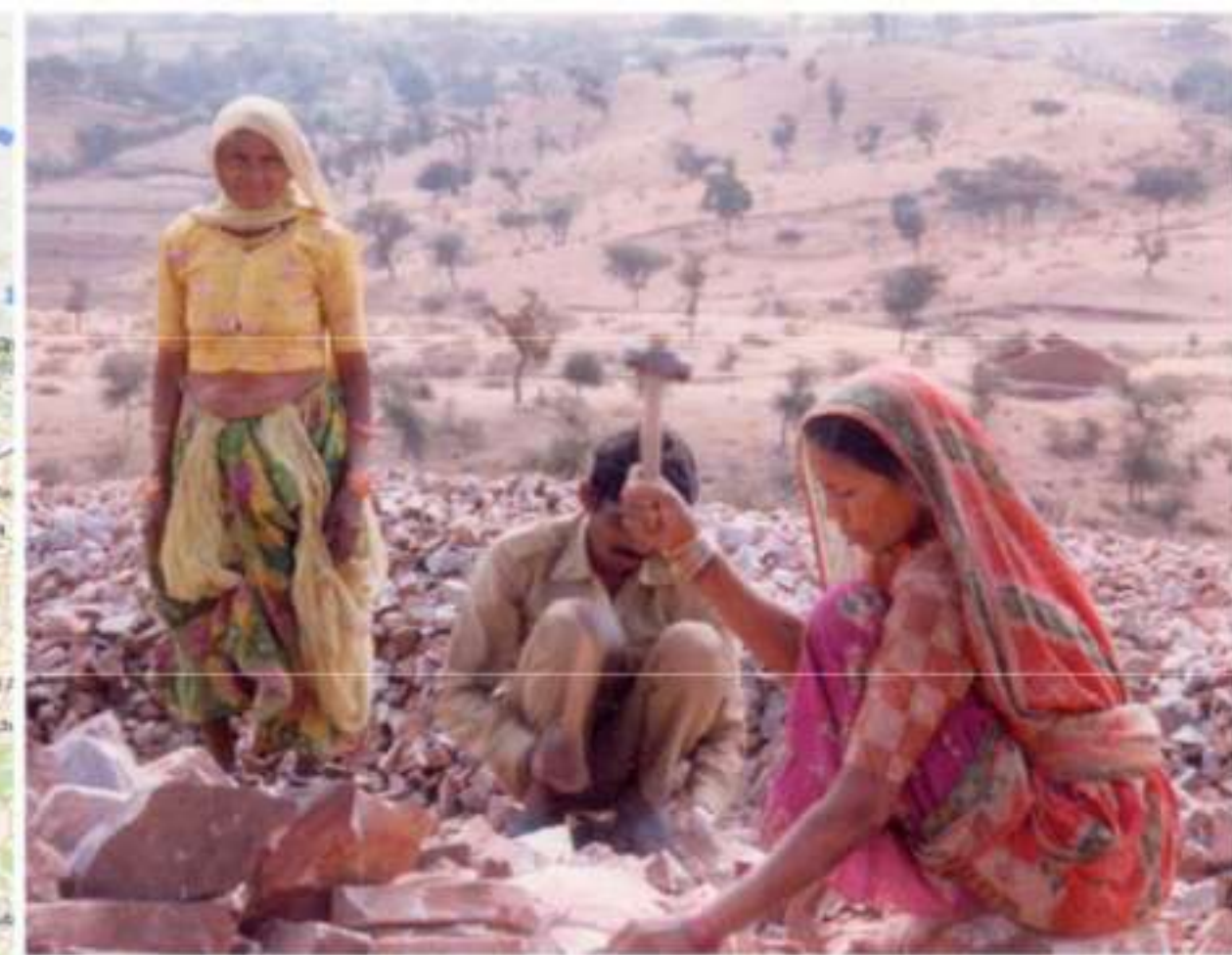
JAN SHIKSHA EVAM VIKAS SANGATHAN | PEOPLE'S EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (PEDO)

Village & PO: MADA | District: Dungarpur | Rajasthan | INDIA | [www.pedomada.org](http://www.pedomada.org)









**D**ungarpur district, situated in Southern hilly part of Rajasthan, is one of the smallest districts of the state in area occupying 3770 sq.km, constituting 1.1 percent of the state area. The district was known for its dense teak forest; about 60.00 percent of its area had forest cover until 1945. The balance between the nature and the man was maintained properly which helped the people to earn their livelihood through forest products and forest-based occupations, agriculture and animal husbandry.

But this comfortable position has undergone a drastic change owing to increased population, felling of forest trees by individuals for their personal interest and letting out the forest areas to contractors for wood by the Government for earning revenue causing serious damage to the forests. Consequently, the forest area of this region completely degraded. Now there are barren hills, hillocks and strips of area in between them without plantation. The area is completely open to all adversities of ecological imbalance.

The predominance of tribal people is a conspicuous tariff of the district. With a population of 13,88,552 (Census 2011), the district has 70.82% under Scheduled Tribe population. The percentage of general caste is low but they are economically dominant, and control more fertile agriculture land & trade and commerce.

Most of the tribal had gone out of employment due to degradation of forests. Their agriculture is backward and uneconomical. It is difficult to rear domestic animals due to non availability of fodder and grass in the area. Incidence of poverty is very high. According to the estimates the district has 77 percent of rural families below poverty line. The entire district is drought prone area.





Around 93.17 % of the population of Dungarpur District lives in villages and 78 % of farm families in the district belong to the category of small and marginal farmers with very small land holdings. Agriculture in the region is predominantly rainfed and is also characterized by various provocations - sloppy lands, dominance of low-value and low-demand crops, inadequate infrastructure, poor irrigation sources, poor livestock productivity, lack of off-farm employment opportunities, poor market support, and high rate of illiteracy. Also the settlement pattern in the region is extremely scattered which makes the distribution of services and infrastructure a challenging task.



## ABOUT PEDO

Jan Shiksha Evam Vikas Sangathan, also known as PEDO ( People's Education and Development Organization), began its existence as the Bicchiwara Block Extension program of the Social Work and Research Center (SWRC), Tilonia, In 1980. By 1986, it had grown enough to become an independent agency and since then it has continued to make constant progress, as well as to leave an enduring mark on the development scenario in Dungarpur District.

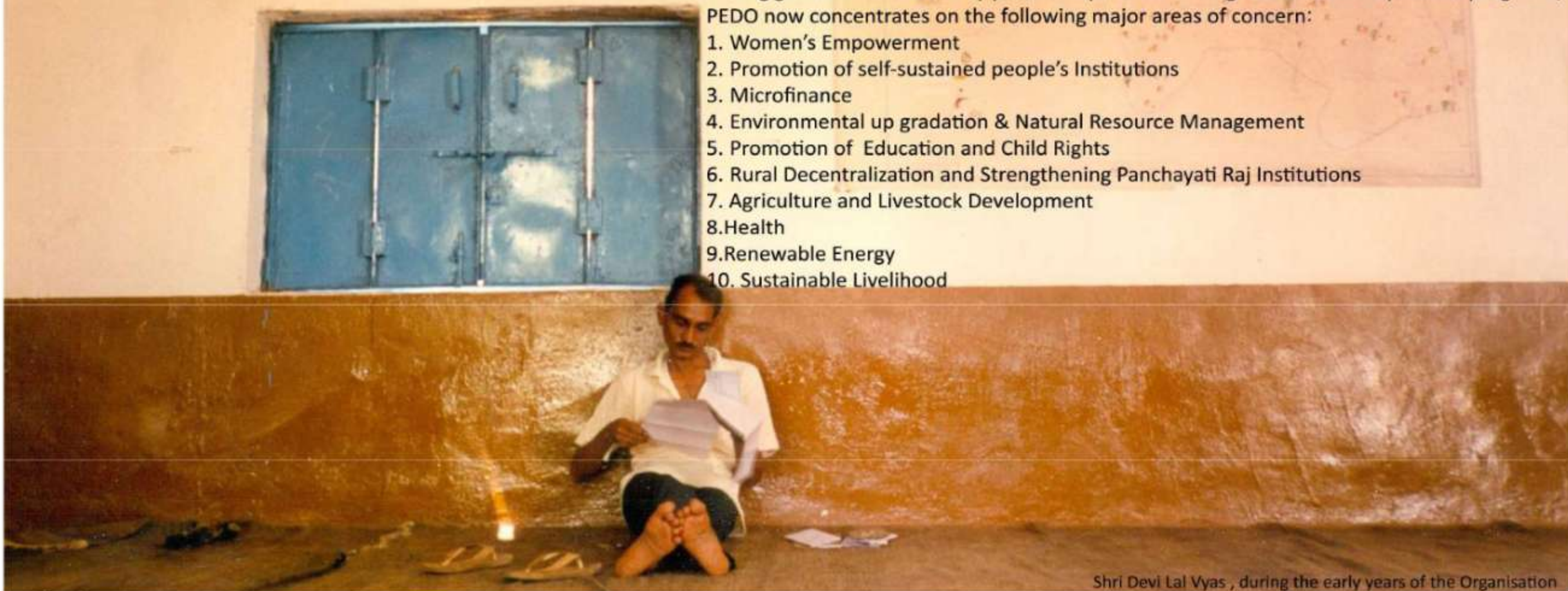
Mr. Devilal Vyas established the Organization in 1980. With a background in economics he always believed in the potential of rural areas and wanted to work for the upliftment of the vulnerable groups of the society. He started his career in social sector in 1975 and worked with some of the well known Non Profit Organisations in the country.

**VISION of PEDO:** Self-reliant rural communities striving for sustainable livelihood with value based development orientation.

**MISSION of PEDO:** Strengthen value based people's institutions to utilize existing resources for poverty alleviation and environmental up-gradation.

Having gained more than forty years of experience through various developmental programs, PEDO now concentrates on the following major areas of concern:

1. Women's Empowerment
2. Promotion of self-sustained people's Institutions
3. Microfinance
4. Environmental up gradation & Natural Resource Management
5. Promotion of Education and Child Rights
6. Rural Decentralization and Strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions
7. Agriculture and Livestock Development
8. Health
9. Renewable Energy
10. Sustainable Livelihood



Shri Devi Lal Vyas , during the early years of the Organisation



## CONTRIBUTION TO SDGs

Our Interventions are aligned to make a meaningful impact to the SDGs. Over the years, PEDO has been able to contribute to the following SDGs through various development initiatives.





# OUR PARTNERS IN JOURNEY

## International Donors

Child Fund India  
Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF)  
CLASP  
CryptoRelief  
Ford Foundation  
Foundation for International Cooperation (FIC)  
International Labour Organisation (ILO)  
Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC)  
Nokia Foundation  
OXFAM  
PLAN International  
Rizwan Adatia Foundation (RAF)  
Save The Children  
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)  
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)  
United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)  
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

## National Donors

AU Small Finance Bank  
Government of India  
Azimji Premji Foundation  
Council of Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART)  
Centre for Microfinance (CMF)  
Climate Detox Pvt. Ltd.  
Dharampal Satyapal Ltd. (DS Group)  
Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)  
ICICI Foundation  
International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)  
IPE Global  
Ministry of Information Technology, India  
National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)  
National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM)  
National Wasteland Development Board (NWDB)  
National Institute for Smart Governance  
Rapid Rural Community Response (RCRC)  
Sesame Workshop India Trust  
Sir Dorabji Tata Trust  
Sustain Plus Energy Foundation  
Sir Ratan Tata Trust  
The Coca-Cola India Foundation - Anandna  
The Hunger Project  
The Mask Lab, Mumbai

## State / District Donors

Animal Husbandry Department, Rajasthan  
CHETNA, Ahmedabad  
Department of Agriculture, Rajasthan  
District Education Office, Dungarpur  
Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Dungarpur  
Forest Department, Rajasthan  
Government of Rajasthan  
Health Department, Rajasthan  
ICDS, Rajasthan  
Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur  
Rajasthan Grameen Ajeevika Vikas Parishad (RGAVP)  
Rajasthan Jal Vibhag  
Rajasthan Police  
Rajasthan Shiksha Karmi Board  
Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department, Rajasthan  
Social Welfare Department, Rajasthan  
State Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM)  
Tribal Area Development, Rajasthan  
Zila Parishad, Dungarpur



## FROM THE DIRECTOR

PEDO has completed more than 40 years of work in the region of Dungarpur. From a very modest beginning it has almost grown into an institution which works on the mission of providing development-based orientation to the marginalized indigenous communities of the region.

It has been a long and difficult journey with mammoth of challenges but change at the grassroot is visible which keeps us going with fervor and enthusiasm. It has all been possible with the support of local community, PEDO's staff and our donors who have trusted us, invested in us and helped us develop innovations and interventions which could impact the lives of many. Through collective action, it has been possible to make a holistic impact in the region by serving in different capacities of development – health, education, livelihood, environment, agriculture, women, children, etc.

The world is at a critical stage where urbanization is taking place at a very fast pace, already resulting in a host of problems like degradation of natural resources: soil; water; health; environment, food insecurity, waste disposal and of course climate change which is at the forefront.

India still has a large rural ecosystem, however, poverty rates are highest in the rural areas. The indigenous communities have always been closest to the nature and they have their thoughts and practices which are mindful of the environment and natural resources. It is time to protect our agrarian culture and to prevent the host of migrations that happen from rural to urban areas. It is time we keep a balance by investing in the rural economies and also provide the rural communities with technological and environmental friendly development orientation so that they can grow and progress in their livelihoods and quality of life with proper health, education & other facilities.

PEDO has worked hard to create an organizational culture which disperses power and responsibility through all levels of the organization, including the grass roots which has shown in the outcomes of the projects. We have followed a people centric approach in the interventions and we have encouraged our staff to work closely with the local communities of the area. Looking to the future, the key challenge would be to create ethical communities and nurture democratically minded development workers. And also, to bring new ideas and energy to the Organisation. We hope to further deepen the traditions of PEDO for the constructive work of social transformation.

Regards  
DeviLal Vyas



# PEDO'S INTERVENTIONS 1980 - 2022

EDUCATION

HEALTH

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

MICROFINANCE

LIVELIHOOD|AGRICULTURE|LIVESTOCK

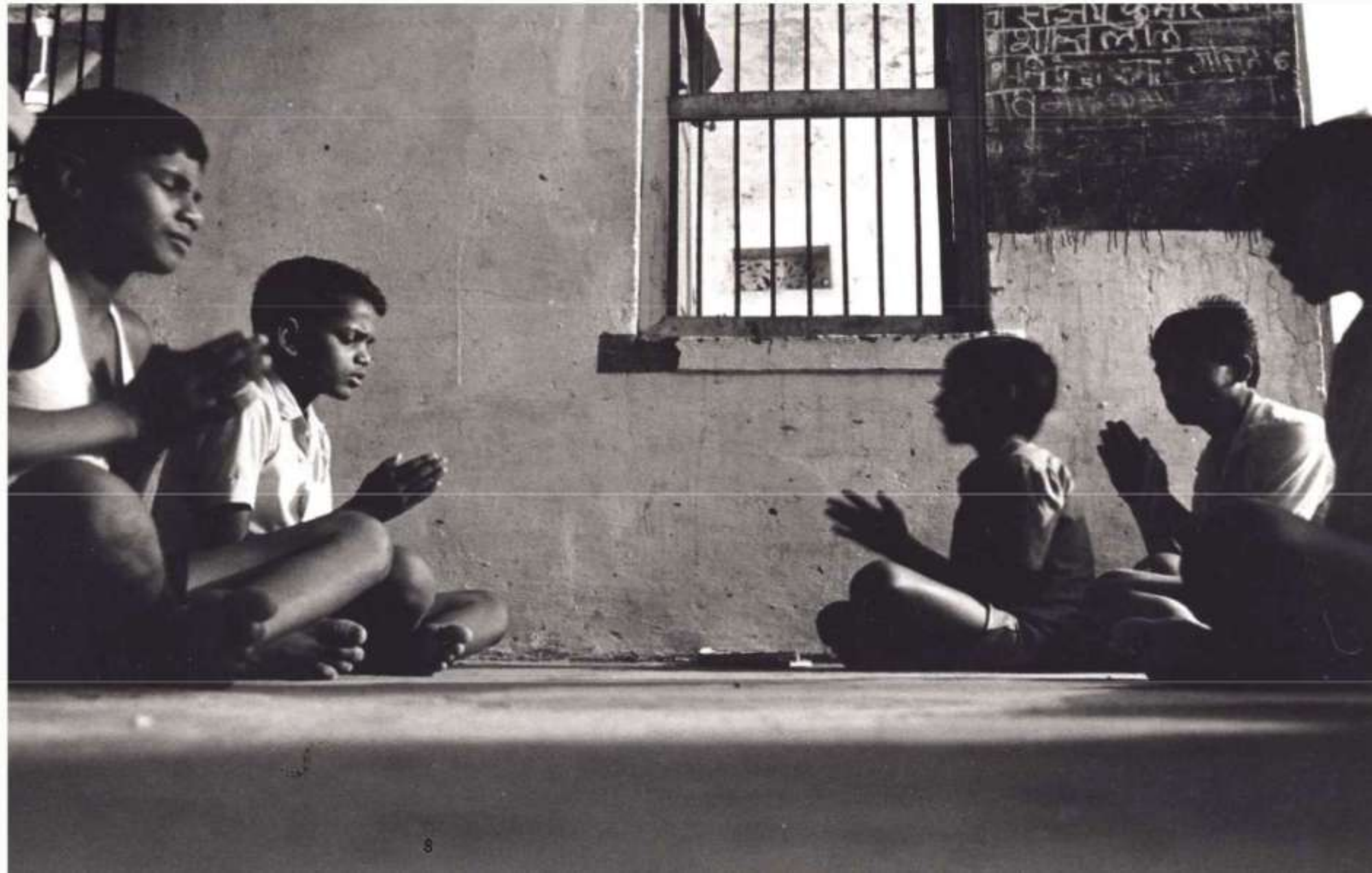
RENEWABLE ENERGY

OTHER PROJECTS

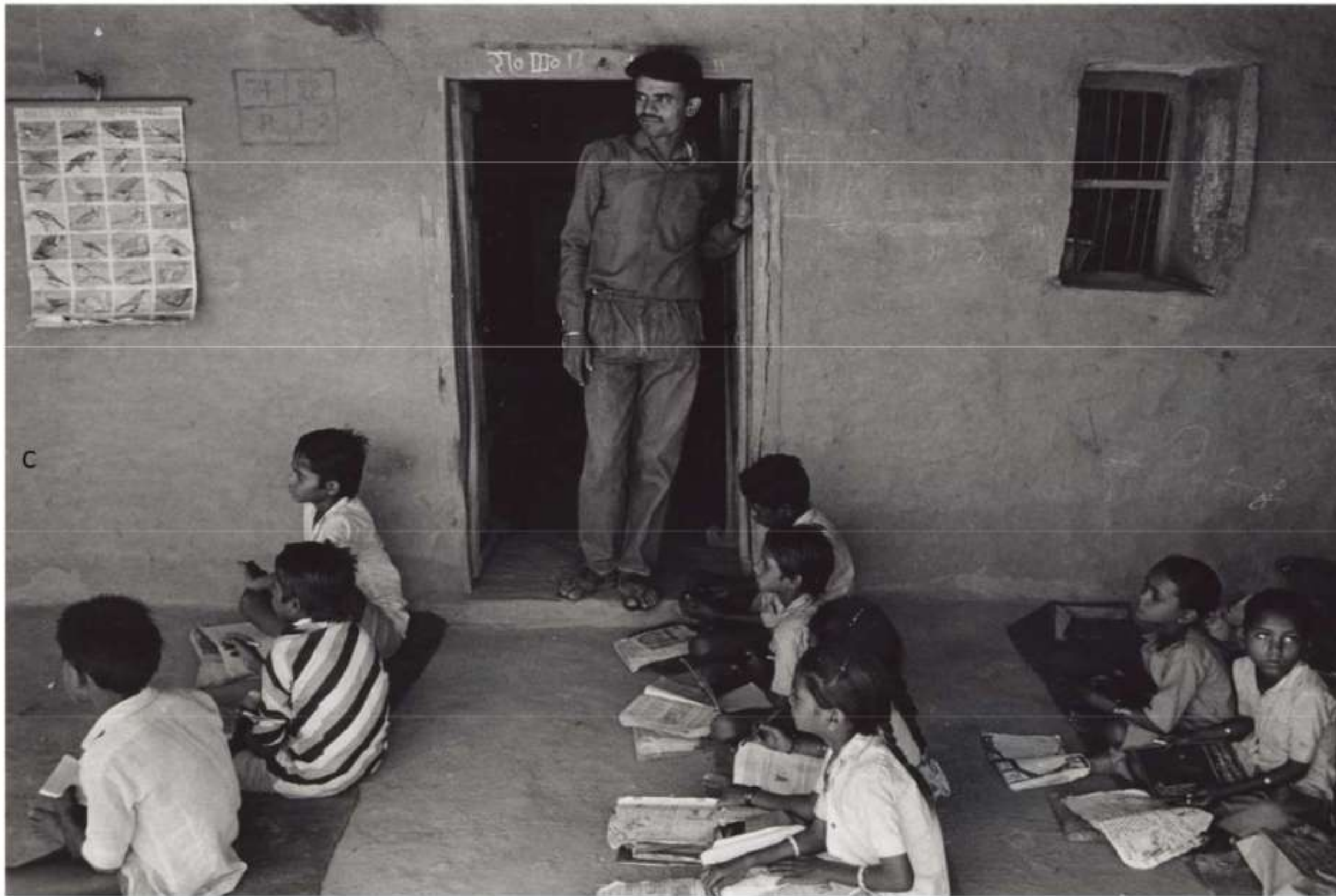




## EDUCATION







## NON FORMAL EDUCATION CENTRES | 1980-90

Considering the poor literacy amongst the tribal community and negligible presence of government support at that time for primary education, this program was started in two villages. A non-formal primary education curriculum was designed which aimed at holistic development of children. Various co-curricular activities, sports were included along with basic reading and writing.

The Project was concluded by handing the NFE Centres to the government to be operated as recognized schools. There were 68 NFE centres with a total strength of 5000 tribal children, out of which 36% were girls, 64% boys and 94% of the total were tribals. The project was supported by Child Fund India.





### MAHILA SHIKSHA KARMI | 1988-2003

The Project was an initiative to identify and train local youth, belonging to the same village where they would sensitize the community on primary education and also teach young children. A training program of five years was prepared and women were identified to be trained as teachers for running government aided schools. About 100 teachers were trained who were working for 33 schools in the district. The project was supported by Shiksha Karmi Board, Jaipur.





### LOK JUMBISH PROJECT | 1993-2004

The Project aimed at providing quality education to the drop out children and those who could not access schools in the Bichhiwara block of Dungarpur District. Community mobilization was done on a large scale and local youth was identified to be trained as teachers. Drop out children were provided with informal classes to catch-up with the other children. School mapping and better teaching methods were explored and dealt within the project. The Project was supported by LOK JUMBISH PARISHAD, Rajasthan.



## CHILD SENSITIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAM | 2001

The project was aimed to reduce deprivation and vulnerability of children through Child Sensitive Social Protection Approach and was implemented in 37 revenue villages of 9 Panchayats of Bichhiwara and Dungarpur Block.

The children and their caregivers were linked to the social protection schemes, like scholarships, benefits for girls, benefits for orphans, physically challenged and children living without their mothers or parents etc, for obtaining maximum provisions of these schemes. Assessment of vulnerable children was carried out through mapping methods and it was ensured that the benefits of the schemes are reaching the child. Various communication tools were explored for reaching out the children and their parents. The Project was supported by SAVE THE CHILDREN, India.

Proper parenting tips were shared during the Self-Help Group meetings along with ensuring the enrollment and regularity of young children in schools. All the SHG members had pledged to make sure that the children get proper education and healthcare. The schools were also brought under the purview of the program. Special camps to encourage the children to attend school, were organised.





## PROMOTING PROTECTION AND EDUCATION RIGHTS OF CHILDREN | 2010

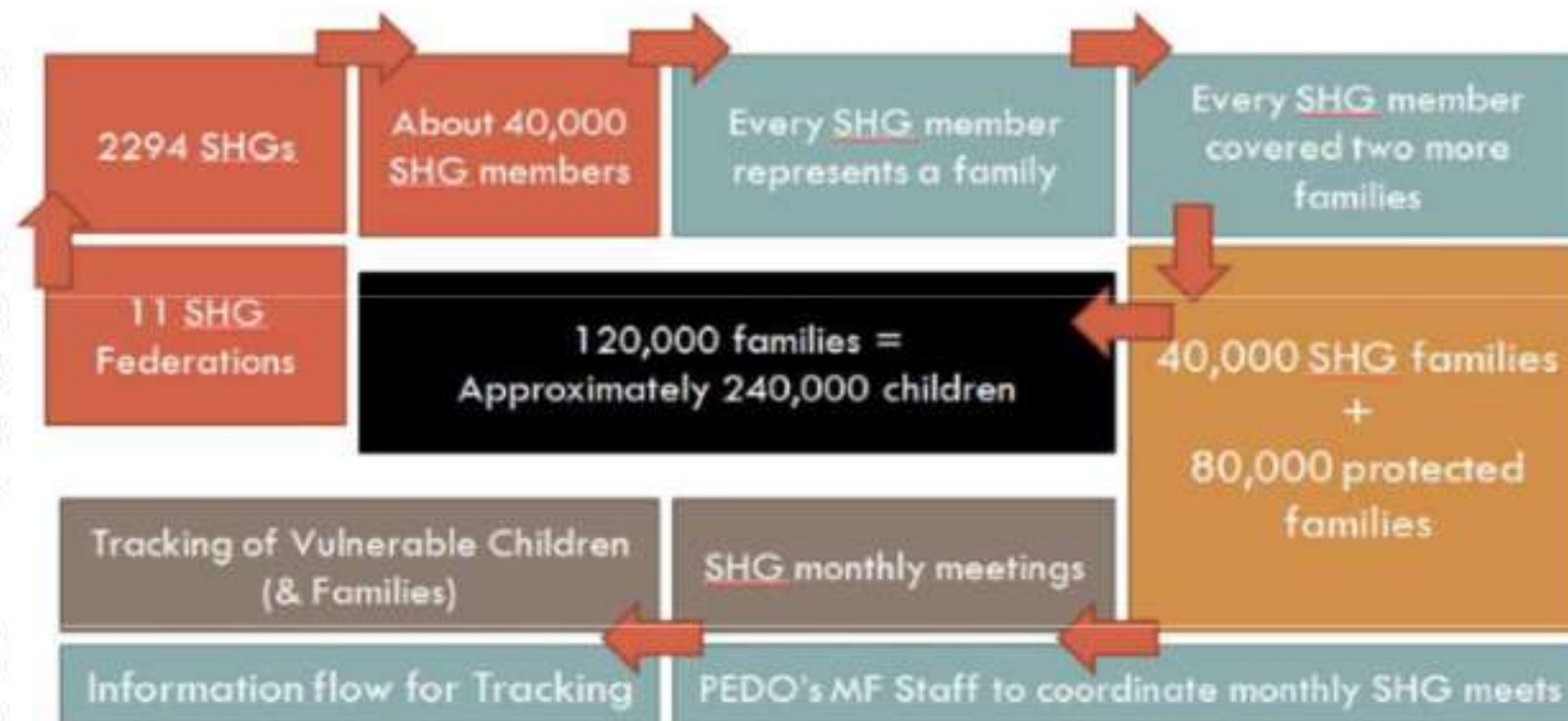
The Project supported by UNICEF, was envisaged with a purpose to reduce child labor and ensure that all children in the age group of 6-14 are in schools through community mobilization and strengthening of child protection structures in the district. 171 Gram Panchayat level Child Protection Committees (GP CPC) were formed and oriented to protect the rights of the children and prevent child labor. These GP CPCs covered about 606 villages in Dungarpur District.

2300 SHGs (about 40,000 SHG members) were oriented on the child rights and importance of educating their children. SHGs organized special meetings for this issue. Every SHG member was asked to identify two families from the community and be responsible to prevent any concern related to child labor in these families. The SHG members were also responsible to make sure that the children of these two families were regularly attending schools, therefore creating a network of about 200,000 families, free from child labor. A total of around 3,500 children were identified as non school going children and 2700 of these were enrolled in various schools.

PEDO's Team had made presentations in 163 Gram Sabhas on the issue of child labor and Right to Education Act. Template for School Development Plan was prepared and discussed for implementation. PEDO has oriented and is in contact with 1536 School Management Committees for the implementation of School Development Plans. SHG leaders played a very important role in identification of vulnerable families and children. The SHG federation leaders were given the responsibility of sustaining the grass root level institutions (GP CPC) for child rights.

All these efforts and mobilization of community has led to the declaration of 100 villages as free from child labor and where all the children are attending schools, regularly.

The delivery system of social protection schemes was also targeted to be bettered. The identification of the right candidates for the benefits and linking them to various schemes has been a major task under the program. About 3500 families were linked to various social protection schemes, which have eventually bettered the lives of the children of these families.







## SAPNA BACHAT EVAM UDAAN PROGRAMME | 2015

Supported by Sesame Workshop of India Trust, the project was aimed at providing financial literacy to the tribal children through the community itself.

The following were the objectives of the project:

- Financial literacy of young children;
- Promotion of savings in children from a young age;
- Holistic development of children through education and other activities;
- Increase in the quality interactions of caregivers and children;

Through the project, the women and children of the area learnt the use of mobile phone. The concept of savings through piggy banks was introduced in children. The project also helped in empowering the women in decision making. Around 50,000 children of the district were reached through the project.





# HEALTH





### GUNIEA WORM ERADICATION PROGRAM | 1985-89

Guniea worm infection was a very prevalent ailment amongst the tribal community in the district. With the support of SIDA, PEDO undertook the task to completely eradicate the disease. About 15,000 cases were treated during various surgery camps in 175 severely affected villages, which led to complete eradication of the ailment. Besides this, PEDO also spearheaded a campaign for safe drinking water. About 550 handpumps were installed for the tribal community to avail drinking water and 166 existing wells were converted into sanitary wells.





## COMMUNITY HEALTH PROTECTION PROGRAM | 2012

Due to non - availability of proper health services in the remote rural areas, there were many instances of deaths in the region. Besides that, the illiterate and ill-informed community is over charged for the health services or provided wrong treatment. The Project aimed at providing economical, easily accessible and good quality health services to the poor tribal communities.

A customized Health Insurance Program, regular health camps and a network of hospitals were the three aspects on which PEDO decided to work. Micro-health Insurance Program was launched in 2012 with a vision to provide low cost and quality health program to the remotely located tribal communities. Currently the program covers around 25,000 individuals in Dungarpur and is envisaged to cover the families of every SHG member. The program is presently community managed and financed, and therefore self sustainable. A cover of Rs.12,000 is provided to the insured person after paying a premium of Rs.120 per year.

The patients can approach the network hospitals as well as any private hospital. The charges of services, at the network hospitals are fixed and are lower than the market prices. There is also a 24 x 7 health-helpline cum guidance centre for the members of insurance program. This Centre receives 200 to 250 calls every month.

General and special health camps were also organized regularly in the rural areas, where consultation was provided at a very nominal cost and free medicines were provided. Special camps were also organized at a central location for ailments related to eyes, gynecology, dental problems, orthopedics etc. These camps benefited around 2,500 patients in the year. The Programme was supported by Save the Children, India.







HEALTH CAMPS



## PEDO'S COVID RESPONSE | 2020 - 2022

During the Covid-19 Pandemic, PEDO worked extensively to support the rural tribal community by providing relief materials (ration and hygiene kits), communication in regards to precautions and vaccinations, data collection for the government relief programs, and converting its training facility into a managed isolation ward. Its health helpline number also provided directions to the community in terms of precautions and treatments. Ration and hygiene kits were provided to about 44,000 vulnerable families. About 300 villages were covered for vaccination drive under the initiative.

Ration packets were also provided to the migrant workers who were passing through the district's major highways.

Under the Covid vaccination, about 3,50,000 population was reached. Around 2,00,000 face masks were distributed to all the students, teachers, Police personnel, and rural health staff.

Health checkup kits (which included oximeters, thermometers, face shields, masks, etc.) were provided to the 3700 rural health workers, GNM, ANM, and Asha workers, in the district. PEDO also provided 10 oxygen Concentrators to two of the community health centres.

Covid Initiatives were supported by The Mask Lab, Mumbai, CRYPTO Relief, TATA TRUSTS, Save the Children, AU Small Finance Bank, Azim Premji Foundation and the State Government.















### CAMPAIGN AGAINST MALNOURISHMENT OF YOUNG CHILDREN |2011

The Program aimed to create awareness about nutritional needs of young children and adolescent girls among the tribal communities of Dungarpur. SHG members and other volunteers identified the severely malnourished children and these children were linked to the malnourishment treatment centers established by the government. Till now, 43 such children have been inked to the Malnourishment Treatment Centre in Dungarpur. Nutritional needs and other requirements of young children was shared with the parents through the microfinance network. Adolescent girls were informed about nutrition and menstrual health management. Government support was utilised through school administration and Anganwadi Workers.

### RAJPUSHT PROGRAMME |2020

One in three newborns in Rajasthan are underweight. A majority of them eventually suffer from wasting, that is, low weight relative to their height. These problems stem from poor maternal nutrition and improper child-feeding practices. To reduce the prevalence of low birth weight and wasting among children, PEDO is working with the Government of Rajasthan and IPE Global to:

- Provide direct benefits to enable pregnant and lactating women to buy nutritious food for themselves by
- Create an enabling environment to prioritise maternal nutrition through holistic, Social & Behaviour Change Communication interventions.

The following objectives are being practised to achieve the above:

- Motivating mothers to include locally available nutritional food in their diet
- Changes in the traditional perceptions of the people regarding the practices of raising young children and managing pregnancies
- Making pregnant mothers aware of importance of nutritional diets and regular health check ups
- Awareness regarding mother's milk for infants and vaccinations
- Ensure the transfer of Direct benefits to intended mothers for nutrition by strengthening Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) and the state-funded Indira Gandhi Matritva Poshan Yojana (IGMPY).







Under the Rajpusht Programme, Community is being sensitized on maternal health and nutrition of young children through various activities. Consistent counselling is being provided to the mothers of young children through Poshan Champions who are trained on regular basis.





**NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**



## SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION | 1983 AND ONGOING

Soil and water conservation projects aimed to prevent loss of water and fertile soil for dry seasons along with charging of depleting ground water. In this region it rains for about 3 months and the remaining period is completely dry leading to single crop farming. The topography of the region is hilly, leading to a massive erosion during the monsoon season.

Against this back drop, the rain fed region reveals a grim picture of poverty, water scarcity, rapid depletion of ground water table and fragile ecosystems. Land degradation due to soil erosion by wind and water, low rainwater use efficiency, high population pressure, acute fodder shortage, poor livestock productivity, underinvestment in water use efficiency, lack of assured and remunerative marketing opportunities and poor infrastructure are important concerns of enabling policies. The challenge in rain fed areas, therefore, is to improve rural livelihoods through participatory watershed development with focus on integrated farming systems for enhancing income, productivity and livelihood security in a sustainable manner.

Rain fed situations would reveal that soil and water conservation, watershed development and efficient water management are the key to sustainable development of rain fed areas. The watershed approach has been accepted as a major theme for development of rain fed areas with a view to conserving natural resources of water, soil and vegetation by mobilizing social capital. Thorough treatment of land was done, from the hill tops till the bottom of the water flow streams, introduction of bund systems, anicuts along with promotion of crop diversity were some of the features of the project.

The Project was supported by CAPART, SIDA and ICRISAT.







## WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS | 2007

PEDO has done two watershed development projects covering 18 villages, where all the following activities were carried out:

Drainage-line Treatment

Gully plugging & Loose stone check-dams (1130 UNITS)

Earthen Dams (11 Dams)

Farm Ponds (17 Ponds)

## WATER HARVESTING & GROUND WATER RECHARGE

The Project was supported by COCA COLA ANAND NA. and following infrastructure was built in the region:

Masonry Check Dams (13 Masonry Check Dams)

Sunken Ponds (3 Ponds)

Well Recharging (45 Wells)

Renovation of Old Structures (3 Masonry Dams and 4 Earthen Dams)

Field Bunding and Terracing (500 Hectares)





WATER HARVESTING THROUGH ANICUT AT AMBADA VILLAGE PANCHAYAT



## COMMON LAND PLANTATION | WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT | 1983



Dungarpur used to be a forest rich region with almost 64% of its area covered under the arid forests with a very rich wildlife. Pressures of industrialization, growth of population and to some extent the government negligence the forests depleted at alarming rates and created a drastic situation for the tribal community. The forest cover reduced to a meager 4% in 1980s.

There was a time, not very long ago where the tribal would buy only three things from the market - Matchbox, clothes & salt, remainder came from forest, also called as Rookda Bawsi, can be translated as tree God. The lost of these forests had definitely created a panic and chronic loss of resources amongst the local community. The community needed direction of how to re-grow what they had. The dedication and understanding towards preservation of the forests was explored with identification of minor projects, where the community identified the lands that could be developed into community forest. After spending months talking to the communities, common wastelands amounting 3500 hectares were identified and developed as Village level forests. 48 sites were replenished with plantations. PEDO also organized many campaigns against the deforestation of exiting forests and apathy of government towards them. This has led to better vigilance and check on felling of trees in the forests.







FOREST PROTECTION CAMPAIGN, 1983



DEFORESTATION IN DUNGARPUR





COMMUNITY PLEDGING FOR FOREST PROTECTION



FOREST PROTECTION RALLY





COMMON LAND PLANTATION AT ANNPURA VILLAGE PANCHAYAT





## PARTICIPATORY APPROACH TO HUMAN AND LAND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PAHAL) PROJECT | 1991-1995

The project, initially termed as Dungarpur Integrated wasteland Development project or DIWDP, was sponsored by Government of Rajasthan and SIDA, aimed to generate green cover out of the common wastelands in the entire district.

PEDO managed the project in 60 Villages in two blocks. Besides forestry and wasteland development the project also had components of agricultural and livestock development. The emphasis was on planned development of common wastelands with community involvement and ownership of the 'developed regions'.







**MICROFINANCE**



**Social Sustainability**  
Managed by people themselves, so that it can continue functioning even after PEDO's withdrawal.

**Financial Viability**  
Generate sufficient revenue as profit to meet the operational cost of program.

### Structure of PEDO's Microfinance operations

Self Help Group of 20 individual members



A Cluster of 20 SHGs



A Federation of 8 clusters

### MICROFINANCE PROGRAM IN FIGURES as on Nov.2022

No. of SHGs:

**3000**

Total SHG members:

**45,000**

Total Savings:

**Rs. 3,35,941,966**

Total Loan distributed:

**Rs. 1,546,153,845**

After a series of drought during 1984 to 1988, the tribal communities in Dungarpur suffered a lot due to their dependency on forest and rain-fed agriculture for livelihood. The voracious moneylenders took advantage of the situation and imparted loans to the tribals on very high rates. Their lands and jewellery were mortgaged to the moneylenders for loans. Women became the worst sufferers as they lost their jewellery, land and other valuable assets and the men migrated to the nearby industrial towns to work as daily wage labourers. Women were left to take care of the rest of the family without any proper source of livelihood. PEDO realized this as an important issue of concern and decided to work on the tribal womens' Self Help Groups (SHGs). PEDO started with 10 groups at the beginning in 1987 and today has a network of more than 3000 women SHGs, with more than 45,000 women SHG members.

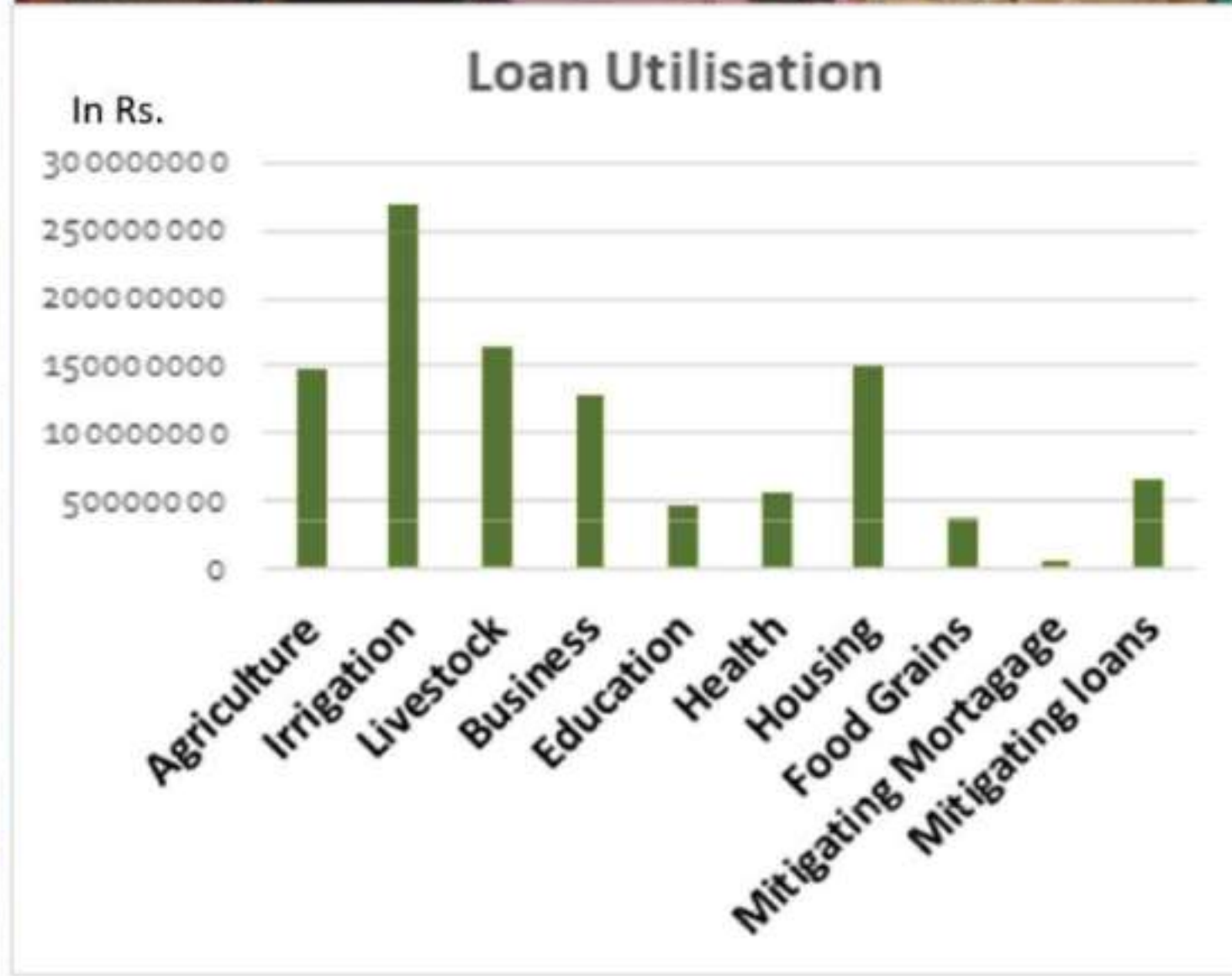
A woman's status in society has risen after her involvement in an SHG, and even her husband has started to listen to her more since she is the one who has got some savings in the banks and can take the loans. However, in many cases, the constant struggle for daily survival is still there, but perhaps things have gotten a bit easier now that the woman can turn to her SHG group rather than greedy moneylenders. Alternatively, her husband can afford to live at home for the first time after years of migrating to neighboring, industrial state - Gujarat, for work. A woman can plan about what she can do now to support her family; it may be a small business or purchase a water pumping set for her farms or anything that can help her to gain her stature, which she deserves, in the family and society.

Help people to help themselves - has been PEDO's mission statement since the inception of the organization. Community led and owned microfinance was considered a major step towards achieving the objective of Promotion of sustainable people's institutions. This step was also required to reduce people's institutional dependency, on the Organisation. Besides this PEDO wanted a formal financial institution to be recognized and treat the rural poor as potential clients and bring them in the mainstream economy.

PEDO worked with two very important aspects while framing an exit policy - Social viability and financial self-sustainability. There is a set withdrawal Policy, to gradually transfer the roles and responsibilities to the members and their leadership. For establishing the network linkages between the federation, cluster and SHG, PEDO acts as a monitoring and promoter agency. After a certain level of experience of the member and leadership in the network, the Organisation gradually turns itself into a facilitator. The structure that already exists is allowed to function with PEDO as mere spectator and facilitator, if required. Over a phase of outside monitoring PEDO has finally moved out of the operation and have let the system function independently. This process has required a lot of capacity building measures which are still applied at SHG, cluster and federation levels. The Microfinance Programme was majorly supported by Centre for Microfinance and Sir Ratan Tata Trust.

**Today, all the twelve federations are community owned and managed.** As the salaries of employees come from the federations, PEDO's microfinance staff is now employed by the Microfinance federations. PEDO has registered the Microfinance federations as independent agencies under the society act, 1958. The community contributes almost 1.75 crore every year as operational cost for the microfinance program.





LOAN UTILISATION FOR VARIOUS LIVELIHOOD ACTIVITIES FROM THE SELF HELP GROUPS









## MOBILE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR RURAL ADVANCEMENT-MITRA | 2006-2008

Information technology has been used for multiple projects by PEDO and the major one has been in the elaborate Microfinance operations. Ministry of Information Technology - Government of India and UNDP supported PEDO in introducing IT based accounting system which was termed as MITRA or Mobile Information Technology for Rural Advancement. The project's concept was to develop a Mobile phone based Management Information System for Women's Empowerment through Microfinance. This project established a transparent and easily accessible Management Information System (MIS) to develop an ownership of Women's Institution. This concept was later adopted by the Government of Rajasthan and has been applied statewide for microfinance projects.





WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM, 1996





INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS







LIVELIHOOD | AGRICULTURE | LIVESTOCK





## AGRICULTURE FOR FOOD AND LIVELIHOOD SECURITY| 1987 & ONGOING

Agriculture has been the major source of livelihood and also secures food for the tribal communities of the region. The major issues with the agriculture have been dependency on rain for irrigation, traditional sowing methods, low yield seeds, poor knowledge base in technologies, poor market linkages etc. All these issues have led to seasonal unemployment and migration of men folk to the neighboring industrial towns to work as daily wage labourers.

Major interventions carried out by PEDO to counter these issues were Seed Replacement for the existing crops, diversification of Crops, Introduction of new crops and promotion of Horticulture based Agriculture like Vegetable and Spice Cultivation. Besides this PEDO also introduced vermi composting, for organic farming and has emphasized on better processing methods & marketing support to the farmers to get the best possible livelihood.

PEDO is currently working with 20,000 farmers in the district under various programs and has also established a Rural Technology Centre for Agriculture, which specializes in providing training in improved agriculture practices. The centre also provides various tools and equipments needed by the farmers to practice improved and drudgery-less agriculture. Various government initiatives are also routed through this Centre.





AGRICULTURE FOR A SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD





AGRICULTURE FOR A SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD





## MAHILA KRISHAK SHASHAKTIKARN PROJECT | 2012 AND ONGOING

With a vision of Empowering Women farmers through agriculture based livelihood, the Project organized the women famers into producers' collectives; build their knowledge and skill along with creation of accessible support systems to enable a greater and more strategic role of women in agriculture and allied activities, impacting and strengthening the livelihood base of the poor.



The project has created multiple village-level farm schools through trained agriculture and livestock resource persons, called as Krishi Sakhi and Pashu Sakhi. The project was implemented in 95 villages in four blocks of Dungarpur District (Aspur, Simalwara, Dungarpur & Bicchiwara) benefitting 14,700 women farmers. The program is spearheaded by 240 Krishi Sakhis and 8 Pashu Sakhis as community resource persons.

The Project was supported by Ministry of Rural Development and Centre for Microfinance, Jaipur.







## TURMERIC CULTIVATION PROGRAM | A FARMERS' COLLECTIVE | 2011 & ONGOING

In this region, Turmeric was cultivated traditionally, but only for household consumption. Around 2200 farmers in the district have opted for turmeric cultivation in Dungarpur considering the cash crop cultivation as a livelihood option now.

Due to the conducive soil and weather conditions it was decided to consider Turmeric for promulgation as a cash crop, instead of other crops as this was a low risk crop, and did not employ young children. Turmeric processing and marketing unit was established at PEDO campus in Mada, which offered the market link to the farmers. The raw turmeric was purchased at the best rates from the farmers and afterwards the processed turmeric was sold by the retail shops owned by the SHG members. Turmeric production had reached to 500 tons, in March 2022 after making an initial investment of 8 tons of good quality seeds in 2011. The Project was supported by Sir Dorabji Tata Trust.







## LIVESTOCK BASED LIVELIHOOD PROGRAM

The project was initiated after realizing the potential in the livestock sector aimed to increase the productivity of cattle through Improved Cattle management Practices and also by providing veterinary services for increased productivity and improved health of the livestock. Better market linkages were also aimed for a sustainable livelihood and breed improvement for better milk production. PEDO had implemented the project in 55 villages to provide all the necessary support to the farmers to earn livelihood through investments in livestock. There was also a focus on fodder development and green fodder cultivation. PEDO had also established links with the cattle feed suppliers to provide cheaper feed to the cattle. The project was supported by Dharampal Satyapal Group.







## MANTHAN PROJECT| 2014 ONWARDS

Supported by DS Group, the Objectives of the Project have been

- To enhance the service delivery mechanism in livestock sub-sector by putting local trained Para workers at the doorstep of community.
- To enhance productivity in the livestock by improving animal health and livestock management by introducing technology.
- To improve "livelihood through livestock" in the project area enhancing productivity especially in milk and milk products.

The Major activities of the project were Selection, training & orientation of Pashu-Sakhi for 30 villages, Selection of progressive women farmers (900) with whom the Pashu Sakhis would work throughout the project, Baseline Survey of Progressive Women Farmers and Awareness Building Sessions on livestock management & cattle health insurance.







**RENEWABLE ENERGY**





## SOLAR HOME LIGHTING PROGRAM | 2014

Remote and scattered settlement patterns have made it impossible to provide basic amenities like water supply, sewage, drainage and electricity in the region. PEDO had, in the past experimented with solar powered lights and decided to take up to provide lighting to these homes as a pilot project in one of the Panchayats. The Solar Lights were purchased, and a group of local youth was trained to install and maintain the lights. Half of the money for the lights was paid by the community and the rest was managed by PEDO through corporate funds.





## MANURE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME | 2021 & ON GOING

This program was funded by National Dairy Development Board and Sustain Plus Energy Foundation . 120 Flexi Bio Gas units were installed in the Simalwara Block as a model project to support the Dairy Farmers with green , sustainable and low cost source of cooking gas. Along with this the liquid slurry generated by bio-gas units is used to produce a bio fertilizer called PROM (Phosphate Rich Organic Manure). The slurry is enriched with minerals and dried to produce PROM whose manufacturing unit is installed at the PEDO Campus. The Programme is further being scaled up targetting an installation of 5000 Bio Gas Units in 2023.

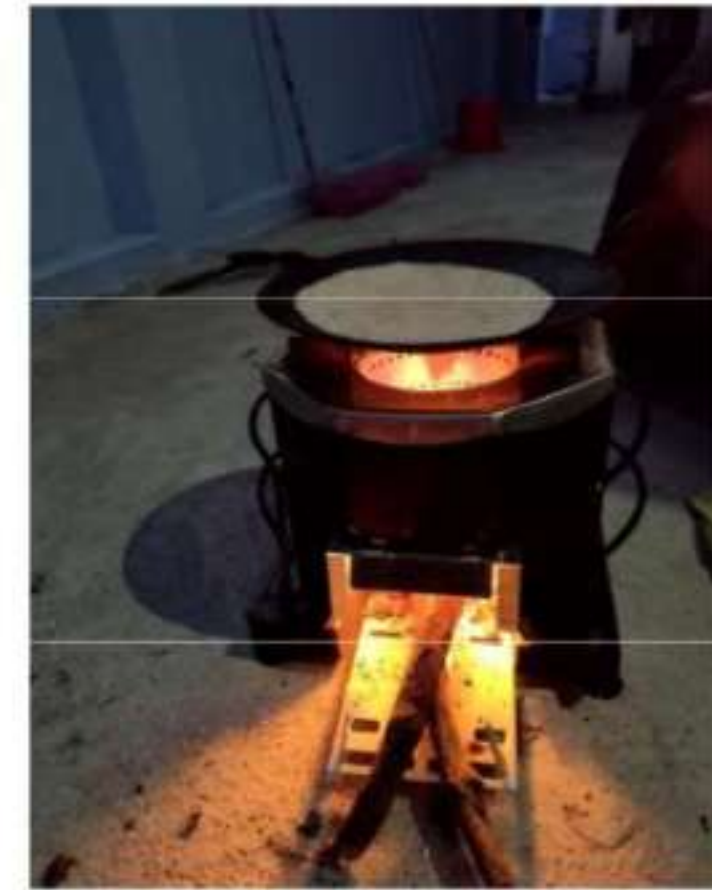


### SMOKELESS CHULHA PROGRAMME | 1983

The Project aimed to provide a smoke free kitchen to the tribal women.

Around 500 smokeless chullas were prepared in 175 villages. 50 women from the community were trained as masons for making the chulhas .

The Project was supported by OXFAM



### ECOCOOKSTOVES | 2021

Around 35,000 eco cookstoves were distributed with the support of Climate DETOX Pvt.Ltd.

to create smoke free kitchens and enabling around 1,50,000 people come out of the risk of indoor air pollution

The stoves produce negligible smoke and consume much lesser fuel wood as compared to its traditional counterpart.







## SOLAR POWERED IRRIGATION FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT|2022

The Project anticipates demonstrating a sustainable model through community contribution and ensuring water, food and income security using clean energy. The Project aims to pilot 50 farmers in the region with the objectives of - Water security for irrigation and household, Increase in Income from Agriculture & Livestock through irrigation and Use of Clean energy to mitigate climate change considering solar energy which is available in the region for most of the year. Through the Support of CLASP, under this project subsidies are being reached to the remotest farmers for Solar Powered Irrigation Systems. Scalability is an important consideration of the project to benefit more farmers in the region.



## OTHER PROGRAMS | EXPERIMENTS

**Low Cost Housing Program** - The Project aimed at promoting cost effective environment friendly building materials and technologies. PEDO promoted the use of ferro-cement shells for roofing through this project instead of traditional timber roofing which does not provide much protection. The Project was supported by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

**Sanitation Program** - Under this initiative, PEDO worked as a resource agency to support the government initiative of providing low cost toilets to the rural communities across the district.

**Community resource persons for promotion of microfinance in other regions** - PEDO had developed a strong team of 600 Community Resource Persons(CRP) which were working with different agencies, including government, in different parts of country for formation of women's SHGs and also for training of SHG members and leaders in management, leadership and finance.

PEDO's trained CRPs have contributed towards propagation of two of the major government projects in Rajasthan, M-Power Project in western districts of Rajasthan aimed at reducing poverty and Rajasthan Rural Livelihood project in southern region of the State. CRPs have also worked in the states of Gujarat, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.







## STRENGTHENING FEDERATION OF ELECTED WOMEN LEADERS TOWARDS ADVOCACY AND ACTION | 2012

The project aimed at increasing participation of women in decision making through orientation of Elected Women Panchayat Leaders and Members. The project was implemented in 10 Panchayats in Bichhiwara block of Dungarpur District.

The project focussed on enhancement and betterment of leadership abilities of the women for increase in political participation and decision making. Information dissemination about the social protection schemes was also an integral part of the project, so as the needy persons are identified properly and benefits are transferred to the fullest.

PEDO trained the women leaders in understanding the administrative setup at the levels of - State, District, Block, Panchayat and importance of their role in this setup. Apart, Financial literacy, revenue generation, existing resource mobilisation, networking with stakeholders, Financial management, Role of the three tier system of Panchayati Raj, Ethics and traits of a leader were some of the aspects on which women leaders were extensively trained.







CAPACITY BUILDING OF WOMEN ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES





### HANDLOOM PROGRAM | 1982-85

The program aimed at developing livelihood through entrepreneurship amongst the women in the region. 12 Handloom Centers employed about 200 tribal women, where they were trained to produce good quality handloom products. All the necessary raw material, machinery and marketing support was provided to these women. The centers were handed over to the women's collective to operate independently. These women were linked with clientel like Fab India and other major brands. The Project was supported by OXFAM.



<p><b>1989</b>  <b>National Youth Award</b>  For contributions in rural and tribal development  Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India</p>	<p><b>1990</b>  <b>Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini Vriksha Mitra Award</b>  For interventions in forestry, wasteland Development and its efforts towards people's movement for joint forest management practices  Ministry of Environment and Forest, Govt. of India</p>
<p><b>1999 - Vriksha Vardhak Puraskar</b>  For interventions in forestry, wasteland Development  Department of Forest, Govt. of Rajasthan</p>	<p><b>2000 -2001 - SHG Promotion Award</b>  For women's empowerment through microfinance program  NABARD, Jaipur</p>
<p><b>2001-02, 2002-03.,2003-04,2004-05</b>  <b>Award for Banking with poor women</b>  For women's empowerment through microfinance program  NABARD, Jaipur</p>	<p><b>2002-03</b>  <b>Recognition by the Department of Education, Govt. of Rajasthan</b>  For works in the education sector  Department of Education, Govt. of Rajasthan</p>
<p><b>2004-05</b>  <b>Award for Contribution in Rural Development</b>  LUPIN Human Welfare and Research Foundation</p>	<p><b>2004-05</b>  <b>Letter of appreciation by ICAR</b>  For outstanding contribution to food security and livelihood  ICAR, New Delhi</p>
<p><b>2012</b>  <b>Letter of Appreciation for reduction of Poverty</b>  For women's empowerment through a microfinance program  Microcredit Summit Campaign, USA</p>	<p><b>2015</b>  <b>Sakhi Award</b>  For federation of women's SHGs in Rajasthan  Hindustan Zinc &amp; Dainik Bhaskar</p>
<p><b>2021</b>  <b>Emerging Rajasthan Award</b>  For contributions in rural and tribal development  Zee News</p>	<p><b>2022</b>  Selfless Service in the Field of Rural Development  Chamber of Commerce, Dungarpur</p>

## AWARDS | RECOGNITIONS





NATIONAL YOUTH AWARD 1989-90



INDIRA GANDHI PRIYADARSHINI VRIKSHA MITRA AWARD, 1990









CHANGEMAKERS OF PEDO





# PEDO's Journey of 40 years | 1980-2022

Experiences | Accomplishments | Stories



JAN SHIKSHA EVAM VIKAS SANGATHAN | PEOPLE'S EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (PEDO)

Village & PO: MADA | District: Dungarpur | Rajasthan | INDIA | [www.pedomada.org](http://www.pedomada.org)



