

# Empowering the roots to embrace the sky



नभांगण फाउंडेशन



NABHANGAN  
— FOUNDATION —



We are a non-profit NGO dedicated to rural regeneration and community development, aimed at empowering villages towards self-reliance.



# Nabhangan

Foundation - who we are



**Nabhangan is Nabha (Sky) + Angan (Courtyard). Meaning it is a sky's courtyard, where happiness has no bound.**

**We are a not-for-profit NGO working in the fields of all-round rural development and community building to empower villages and make them self-reliant. We believe that villages are the roots of our society. Indian villages have glued the country together for centuries by being self-sufficient. Currently, they are being rapidly uprooted as 833 million rural Indians are facing an extremely painful transformation. And as has been famously said, "If villages perish, India perishes too."**



# Why Rural India

Climate change is taking a toll on India's agricultural productivity, farmer's lives and families.



**68.6%**

Population of total population stay in Rural India

**65%**

Degradation of natural resources in Rural India

**70%**

Rural economy dependent on farming/agriculture

**25%**

World's food production from Rural India

## 1 Million farmers

committed suicide in  
LAST 20 YEARS

UNEMPLOYMENT

ECONOMIC CRISIS

AGRICULTURE STRESS

CLIMATE DEATHS

DROUGHTS

URBAN MIGRATION

EDUCATION DROPOUT

HEALTH ISSUES



Issues in rural India

Image source: <https://www.bhaskar.com/article/INDIA-VIDARBHA-STATE-REPORT-2020-21-08142721x02BI.html>



# Mission and Vision for Nabhangan

Build and encourage strong rural communities, empower and anchor them towards self-reliance and sustainability.



## Our Mission is : Rethink Villages

"Create self-sufficient model villages through holistic development."





# Objectives



Identify villages in 18 most drought affected districts of Maharashtra

## 1. Address water Issue



Get community involvement, immersion & empathy workshops

## 2. Address local Issue

Get government support, and build infrastructure, build local teams

## 3. Build & Sustain





# Our Approach

# Human Centered Method



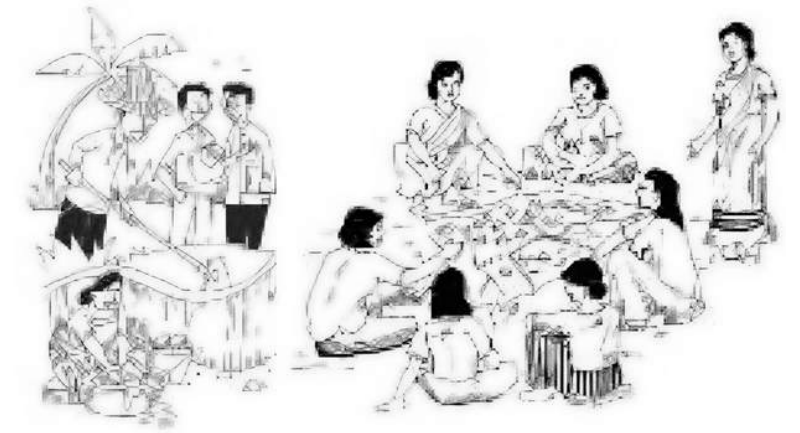
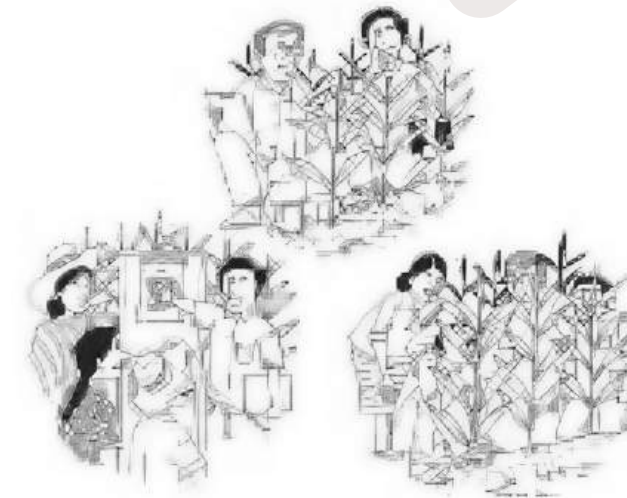
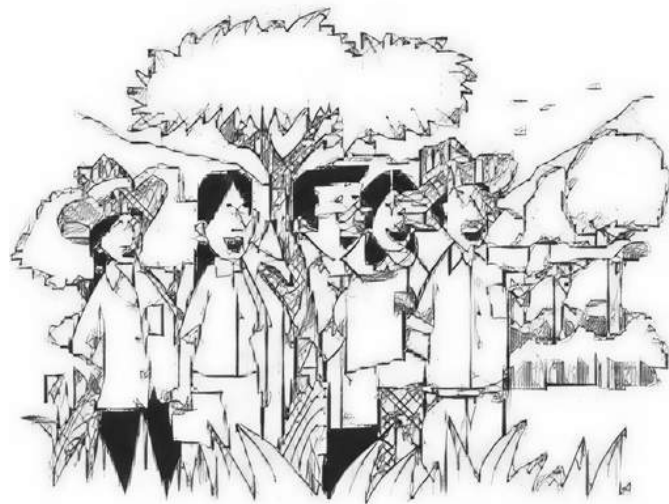
Inspiration



Ideation



Evolution



## Empathise

Identify village, Enter,  
Interact

Immersion Workshops,  
Interviews, Surveys,

Identify & Evaluate Needs

## Define

Capacity Building Workshop

Community Suggestions,  
Mindset Shift & Co- Ideation

Team Development,  
Ownership & Responsibility

## Develop

Expert on Board, Project  
Blueprint & Planing

Fundraising & Gov. Support

Build solutions, Test &  
Improvise

## Sustain

Appoint leads & Train for  
Maintenance

Peripheral Development,  
Trainings & Evolution

Self-sustained Villages



Our Approach  
Multi - stakeholder involvement



Community

Government

Nabhangang



- Participate
- Listen
- Involve
- Feedback
- Leadership
- Team
- Local resources
- Ownership
- Maintain
- Self sustainable
- Replicate



- Policies
- Projects/Schemes
- Stakeholders on
- Board
- Funding
- Approvals
- Awareness
- Ownership
- Maintenance



- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Study & Analysis     | Facilitation      |
| Issue identification | Implementation    |
| Strategy             | Monitoring        |
| Proposal             | Handover          |
| Estimation           | Training          |
| Work with Gov.       | Impact study      |
| Capacity building    | Scale up proposal |
| Experts on board     | CSR funding       |
|                      | Human resources   |

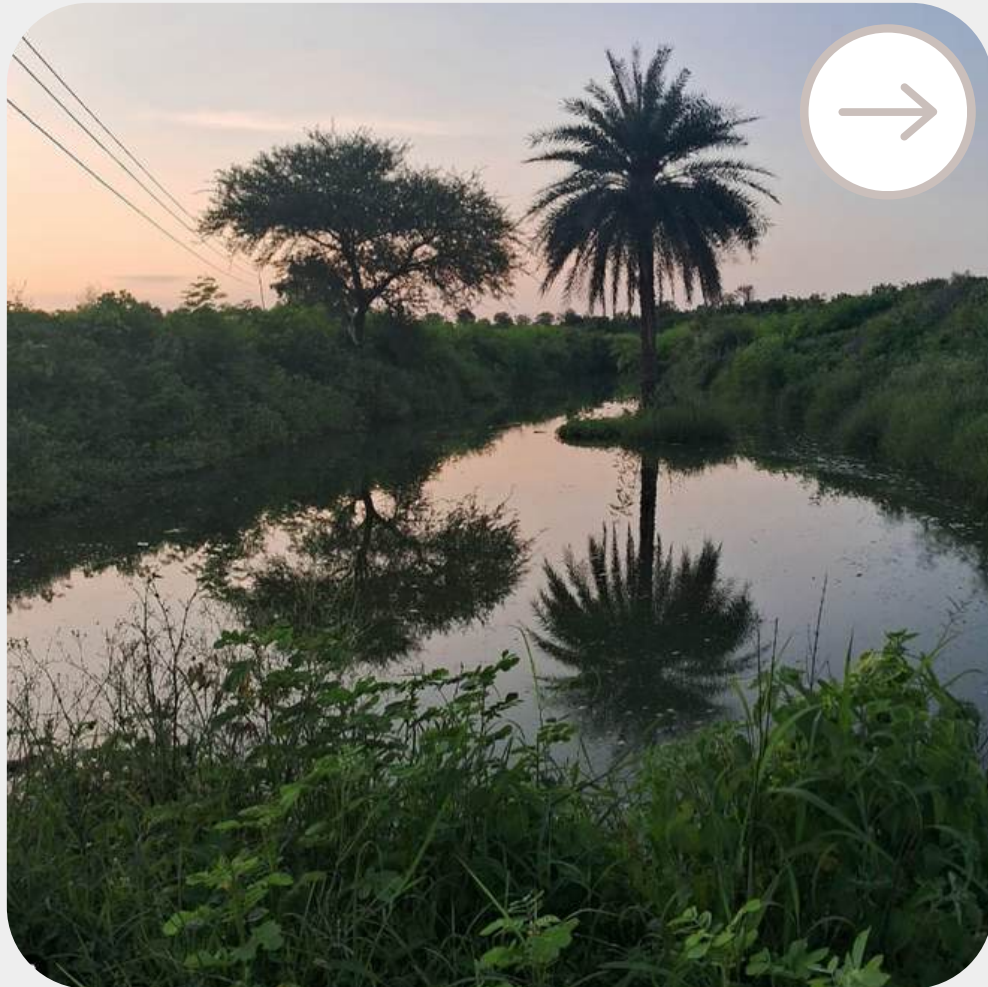


# We have done this before

## "Create self-sufficient model villages through water works and education"



Address Drought



**Built Water Infrastructure**

Address Migration



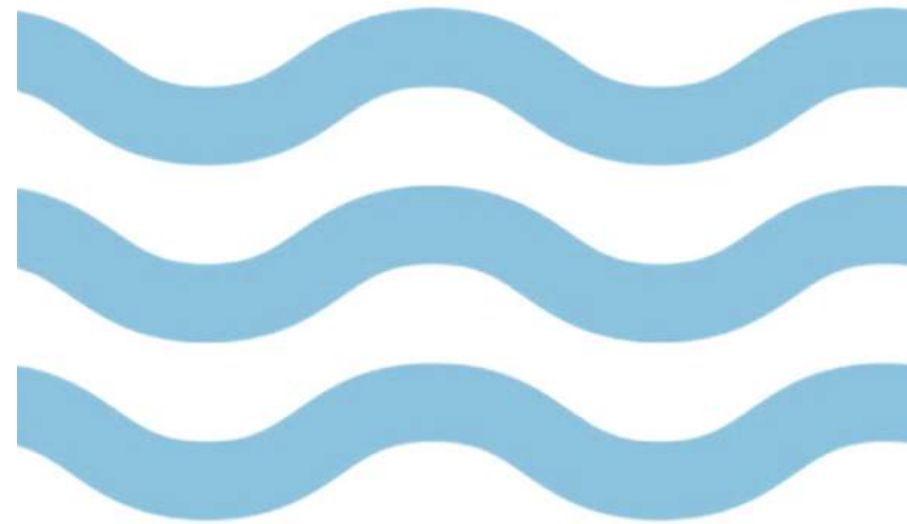
**Empowered Local Farmers**

Address Dropouts



**Ensured Quality Education**





# Nabhangang's Chapter Water



# Mission Water 2025 - 2030



Our  
Mission :  
**Making  
Villages  
Water -  
Sufficient**



Aligned with both the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Localised Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) in India, we at Nabhangan Foundation are committed to creating water-sufficient villages that will flourish across multiple aspects of life.



# Why water

Revitalizing rivers in rural Maharashtra is crucial for ensuring sustainable water supply, improving agricultural productivity, and enhancing overall community resilience.



## River Revival can address



AGRICULTURE STRESS

CLIMATE DEATHS

DROUGHTS

MIGRATION AS LABOURS

DRINKING WATER

SANITATION

HEALTH ISSUES

**~70%**

of irrigation in rural Maharashtra depends on surface water sources including rivers

**45%**

of Maharashtra's water comes from rivers that only flow during the monsoon months

**73%**

Maharashtra is now considered drought-affected

Currently, many villages face severe water scarcity, poor water quality, and heavy reliance on tankers for drinking water. River revival efforts are essential to restore natural water flow, improve water quality, and support sustainable agricultural practices.



# Water - Methodology



The Human centred approach was the foundation of the methods we used to address water issue in selected villages.  
This method covers major steps that are Discover, Define, Design, Develop and Deploy to make a sustainable impact





Different contexts, many challenges, no community support, disappeared from any development plan!

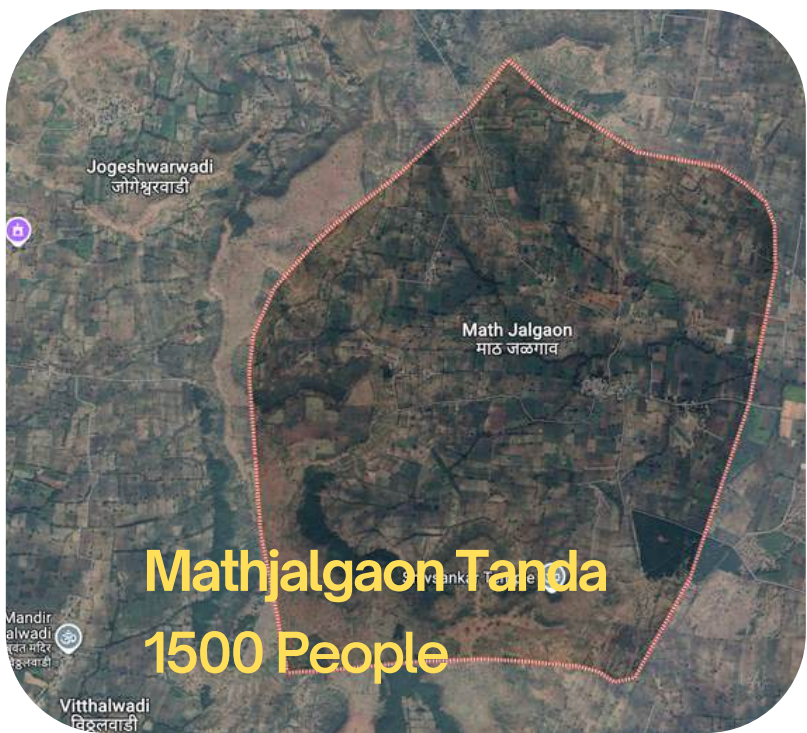
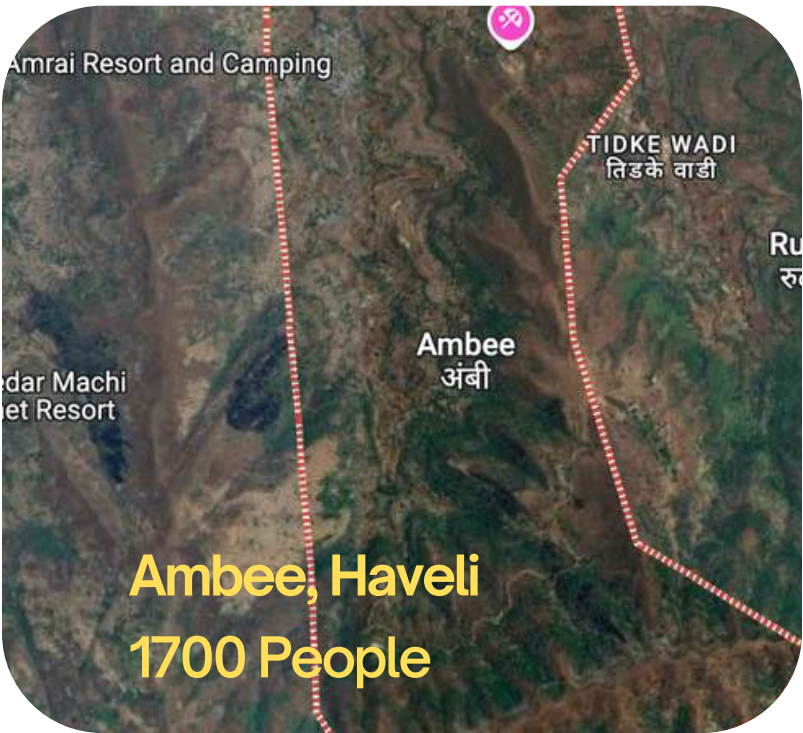


# Our Success Stories



## Multiple Challenges

- Remote underdeveloped
- Difficult accessibility
- Water crisis
- Health & Sanitation
- Unsafe school structure
- Detachment from Agriculture
- Gentrification & Migration
- Child marriage
- Unemployment
- Informal labour sector issues
- Less labour wages
- Domestic violence
- Lesser agriculture output
- Affected by climate change
- Homeless



73% (13.87M) Marathwada lives in rural parts. There are 8,535 villages in Marathwada region of Maharashtra



# Our Success Stories - Pachegaon Identify Village



Pachegaon River was dried up and 100% filled with mud and silt, affecting over 200 acres of farms and forcing villagers to become migrant labourers.



# Our Success Stories - Pachegaon Research



We connected with the villagers of Pachegaon by conducting interviews and surveys to identify their challenges, needs, and feedback.



# Our Success Stories - Pachegaon Empower



We raised awareness among villagers about the impact of water projects, solutions, and fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility.



# Our Success Stories - Pachegaon Investigate



Following multiple visits to the site with subject matter experts, we started to devise a strategy focusing on the essential areas for revitalising the Bimla River. This helped us to formulate a blueprint of the water project addressing core needs of the villagers and farmers.



# Our Success Stories - Pachegaon Get Experts & Build



We involved experts, local authorities, and community members in developing the project plan. This collaboration ensured effective implementation phases, organized resources, garnered local support, and enabled successful execution.



# Our Success Stories - Pachegaon Amplify Impact



We tracked the effects of regeneration, providing support and guidance to farmers on crop production, profitability and sustainability.



# Our Success Stories - Pachegaon

## The Impact of Pachegaon River Work



**The temporary migration of families forced to work as sugarcane labourers has decreased dramatically from 69% to 22% in 2023.**

**150+ Families resumed back to farming due to river revival**

**Benefiting 200+ Acres of land that for farming**





# Overall Impact Created By Nabhangan's Water works & Sanitation



## RIVER REJUVENATION WATER PROJECT

Revived 3 Rivers including a 15years old dried up Bemla river from 2015 - 2020 making villages affected (Pandhari, Matjalgaon, Pachegaon, Ambhi) drought free



## FARMERS EDUCATION & EMPOWERMENT

Collected feedback from farmers and our community forums to guide them on agricultural practices.



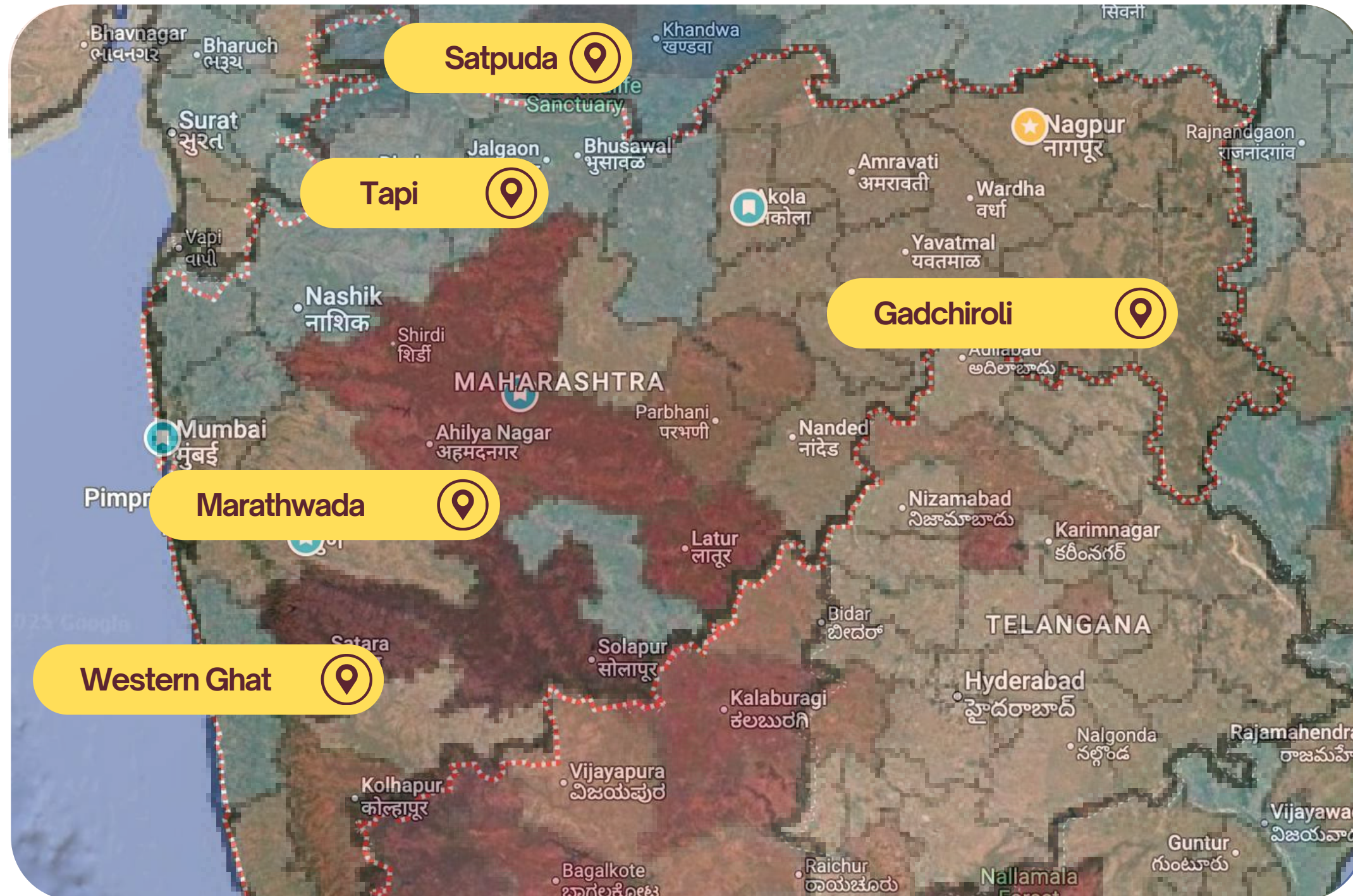
## SANITATION SOLUTION & HEALTH AWARENESS CAMPS

Helped build 200+ Toilets in Pandhari  
Conducted Health Chek-ups and awarnessCamps





# Our Vision 2025 - 2030



Identify Drought affected villages in and make them  
**Water-sufficient and Self-sustained.**

Our vision is to revitalize rivers and restore thriving ecosystems ensuring its sustainable availability year-round to support the surrounding villages, cascading into sustainable economic growth and access to quality education in the villages

Revive Rivers, Enable Economy, Prevent Migration





# Awards





# Nabhangan Foundation Board



**Founder**  
Rajashri Deshpande

Rajshri Deshpande is the founder of Nabhangan Foundation, a non-profit organization based in Maharashtra. Established in 2018, Nabhangan Foundation aims to build and encourage strong rural communities, empowering them towards self-reliance and sustainability.

Rajshri is also an acclaimed actress, known for her roles in “Trial by Fire”, "Angry Indian Goddesses" and the Netflix series "Sacred Games." She has received critical acclaim for her performances and continues to balance her acting career with her dedication to social work.



**Co-Founder & Advisory**  
Navdeep Puranik



**Advisory - Water Expert**  
Dr. Sumant Pande



**Advisory - Education**  
Padma Shree Dr. Arvind Gupta



**Advisory - Health & Medicine**  
Dr. Bakul Chachra



**Advisory - Health, Medicine**  
Dr Hadi Shaikh



**Advisory - Design Thinking**  
Rahul Deshpande



**Advisory - Architect**  
Ar. Yatindra Patil



**Advisory - Architect**  
Ar. Vijay Kharade



**Advisory - Education & Research**  
Bapu (Kadudas Kamble)



**Advisory - Farming & Enterprise**  
Sagar Thube







NABHANGAN  
FOUNDATION



+91 8425890025



[nabhanganfoundation5@gmail.com](mailto:nabhanganfoundation5@gmail.com)



[nabhanganfoundation5@gmail.com](mailto:nabhanganfoundation5@gmail.com)



92, Durvankur, Jai Vishwa Bharti  
Colony, Aurnagabad 431001