



उन्नति

UNNATI

Organisation for Development Education



ANNUAL REPORT 2007-08

VISION

Create an inclusive society where all stakeholders, particularly the vulnerable - dalits and women, participate with full empowerment and gain equal access and control over services, resources and institutions.

MISSION

Promote social inclusion and democratic governance so that the vulnerable sections of our society are empowered to effectively and decisively participate in mainstream development and decision making process.

This is the 19th Annual Activity Report (2007-08) of UNNATI. The programme themes remain same for last four years.

What We Do?

- **Civic Leadership and Governance**
- **Social Inclusion and Empowerment**
- **Social Determinants of Disaster Risk Reduction**

How We Do it?

- **Field Level Interventions**
- **Capacity Building**
- **Systematisation of Knowledge**
- **Building Partnerships**

PROMOTING CIVIC LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

This programme aims to strengthen the 'voice' of civil society for effectively participating and promoting transparency and accountability in rural and urban governance process. The key activities are mentioned below:

Strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies

The participation of the community, particularly poor and socially disadvantaged, can promote effective civic action and ability to access and utilise information/knowledge base. Promotion of civic engagement has been the thrust of our work. A wide range of actions and mechanisms are used by citizens, communities, media and civil society organisations (CSOs) to hold public officials and state accountable. However, citizens still have a limited role to play in the institutional framework, responding to which is a challenge. Initiatives have been taken to strengthen accountability measures by building capacities of citizens and developing tools, techniques and methodology for sharing of information. A number of activities have been undertaken during the year to strengthen civic action and create a knowledge base for up-scaling of interventions and learn from grassroot experience.

Field Level Interventions

Social Audits

Social audits as tools for promoting social accountability were facilitated on National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) and primary education. The audits



on NREGS were conducted in five panchayats in Sabarkantha district of Gujarat. Awareness generation activities were conducted and simple format for displaying information proactively on NREGS was developed, which is currently under use in 15 panchayats of Khedbrahma and Modasa. Social audits on education were held in 7 gram panchayats of Ahmedabad district.

These efforts helped in developing steps with appropriate tools to conduct social audit in collaboration with the community, the implementing agency and the government department. The Government of Gujarat has also invited UNNATI to prepare a draft manual and train officials on conducting social audits on NREGS.

As a result of our efforts in building social accountability, in three panchayats of Khedbrahma taluka in Gujarat, a citizen

leader, after orientation, asked for names of Vigilance and Monitoring Committee members for all 46 gram panchayats of the taluka. Because of this the taluka machinery became active and committees were formed. Following a series of orientations, proactive disclosure of information regarding the attendance of students, regularity of teachers and status of funds is now being displayed outside the school. Proactive disclosure of information as mandated under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) is also displayed and updated in 10 gram panchayats of Modasa taluka and 5 panchayats of Khedbrahma taluka. In Gujarat, for the first time, gram sabhas were convened in 7 panchayats of Ahmedabad district on an issue like status of education, as a result of which education became the development agenda of the village.

Right to Information

In Gujarat, 210 citizen leaders from three talukas of Ahmedabad district and five talukas of Sabarkantha district were oriented on provisions of Right to Information (RTI). The aim of the activities has been to provide sustainable support structures that guide people for seeking information and follow up for receiving information.

Community Consultations

In Gujarat, our involvement in Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) is focused on creating spaces for the community to participate in urban planning and the process of governance reforms. In collaboration with Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology (CEPT), Ahmedabad and Surat Municipal Corporation, 12 community consultations



were organised in 38 wards of Surat city. These consultations provided the citizens with an opportunity to voice their concerns and make demands. These also promoted inclusive planning by proactively providing space to the poor, the vulnerable and marginalised communities.

Assessment of Basic Services

Assessment of basic services with community participation was carried out in Bhil Bhakar Basti of Jodhpur, Rajasthan. A study on 'Urban Poverty Issues and Challenges' was also undertaken in three slums of Jodhpur in Rajasthan. The aim was to understand the view point of urban poor and identify problems/ issues faced by them.

Resource Centres

Resource centres were established as support mechanisms in both rural and urban areas, so that citizens and elected representatives have access to timely and relevant information. The aim was to strengthen local self-governance, provide hand holding support to women and dalit representatives and strengthen gram sabhas.

An urban resource centre (URC) was established in Jodhpur city and a model panchayat resource centre (PRC) is functional at Luni in Rajasthan. Three panchayat resource centres are functional in Dholka, Dascroi and Khedbrahma talukas of Gujarat. A URC is functional in collaboration with Bhachau Nagarpalika in Bhachau and one in Jodhpur city. These centres serve as important points of contact in the areas and enable easy access to information on various government schemes. The centres also work in collaboration with the community to enable them to access basic services and provide support in organising meetings and workshops.

Capacity Building

Capacity building of government officials, elected representatives and other stakeholders is important because it increases their skill, knowledge base, commitment and confidence. Informed citizens and government officials can actively seek answers from governance systems and work effectively and efficiently. Various trainings, exposure visits and



CAPACITY BUILDING AT A GLANCE

Number of trainings conducted: 7

Total participants: 511

Coverage areas:

25 districts

85 gram panchayats

16 organisations in Gujarat and

6 organisations in Rajasthan

27 municipalities in Gujarat

Themes covered under trainings:

*UIDSSMT & IHSDP,
Urban Planning and Management,
Citizenship & Governance,
Solid Waste Management,
Girl Child Education*

Workshops:

*Lessons learnt under UNDP
program, Women and Media,
Women Elected Representatives,
Training Needs Assessment for
Women Elected Representatives*

Exposure Visits:

*Municipal officials from Gujarat
were exposed to urban initiatives in
Kerala and those from Haryana and
Rajasthan to initiatives in Gujarat*

*Visit to panchayat resource centre
were made in Rajasthan by elected
representatives from FIS, Udaipur,
and team from MARG, Delhi.*

exchange programs were used as means of capacity building during the year.

Efforts were made to integrate gender within the programme by focusing attention on promotion of girl child education and promoting women's involvement at the level of panchayats and citizen groups. Orientations were organised for 50 teachers and principals in five panchayats of Dholka taluka on gender and for citizen leaders regarding different government programmes and schemes with a focus on promoting women's involvement. Eight hundred elected representatives of gram panchayats from Gujarat were oriented through satellite communication on gender, land and property rights for women, role of women in natural resource management (NRM) and role of panchayats in girl child education.

Systematisation of Knowledge

- In Rajasthan, documentation of the three years UNDP project was undertaken for which representatives of Mahila Chetna Manch visited field locations and the PRCs.
- Four issues of the quarterly magazine 'Panchayat Jagat' and two editions of 'Swaraj' were published. Other material prepared in Gujarati for building the capacity of elected representatives of panchayats through satellite communication included: role of panchayats in girl child education, child care and protection, social security and disaster preparedness. Short films were also developed on Social Audits and provisions of NREGA.
- In Rajasthan short films were made on lives of women elected representatives for promoting the exemplary work being

done. A short film in Gujarati on solid waste management practices, '*Ghan Kachranu Sanchalan*' was developed.

- A special issue of newsletter 'VICHAR' (Vol. 12. No.4. October-December 2007) was published on urban issues.
- 'Strengthening Urban Governance- A resource book' about urban planning, JNNURM and reforms has been developed.
- A research study on 'Making Space: An Enquiry into Women's Participation in Local Politics in Rajasthan' is under progress and is being supported by International Development Research Centre (IDRC) as part of their global research agenda on 'Decentralization and Women's Rights in South Asia' during 2006-2008. The above enquiry is being conducted in four districts of Rajasthan – Jodhpur, Jhunjhunu, Tonk and Banswara. The study places women at the centre and has sought to examine the relevance of decentralisation for them. It also seeks to examine the influence of caste and tribe on women in the public sphere and the role of family in dislocating them as leaders or in supporting them. Both qualitative and quantitative methodology were used to collate the data from women and men elected representatives, community, state officials, political parties, family members, NGOs and through observation of panchayat meetings and gram sabhas. Workshops for assessment of training needs of women elected representatives, role of media and *mahila sammelans* were conducted during the course of the research.

Building Partnerships

During the year, linkages have been built at

national, state and local levels with government organisations, other civil society organisations and academia. Networking with other organisations has enabled in creating a platform where ideas and experiences were shared between different actors. Partnerships were built and strengthened with:

Government Organisations

- District Rural Development Agency, (DRDA) Gujarat
- Gujarat Urban Development Company Ltd (GUDC)
- Gujarat Urban Development Mission (GUDM)
- Indira Gandhi Panchayati Raj Evam Gramin Vikas Sansthan (IGPRS)
- Rajkot Municipal Corporation (RMC)
- Rural Development Department, Gujarat
- Rural Development Department, Rajasthan
- Sardar Patel Institute of Public Administration, (SPIPA), Gujarat
- State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD)
- State Technical Advisory Group (STAG)
- Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC)
- Tribal Development Department, Gujarat

Academia

- Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Tiruvananthapuram
- Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology (CEPT), Ahmedabad
- Gujarat Vidyapeeth

- Institute of Rural Management (IRMA), Anand
- Patan University, Gujarat

Civil Society Organisations

- Aagaz Academy
- Astha Sansthan, Udaipur
- Centre for Environment Education (CEE)
- Centre for Human Rights Initiative (CHRI)
- Centre for Microfinance, Rajasthan
- Development Support Centre (DSC)
- National Platform for Promotion of Decentralisation (NPPD)
- Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA)
- SETU-Abhiyan
- The Hunger Project
- Vividha, Jaipur
- World Vision

While doing the social audits we have learnt that there is resistance from people who are directly or indirectly involved in corruption. The biggest challenge faced in such a situation is to strengthen marginalised groups so that they can raise their concerns and voices in such forums and demand accountability from power holders, without fearing any retaliatory action. JNNURM provides wide scope for appointing of consultants by government for planning. It has been observed that no spaces are provided to the poor within small and medium towns to share their concerns while this planning is being done. Our challenge is to facilitate and proactively provide spaces to people. Municipalities do not understand the need for providing these spaces which are essential for inclusive development of the city.

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND EMPOWERMENT

1. Fighting Discrimination against Dalits

Social inclusion can be promoted through people's action and ensuring that constitutional and human rights are realised. The process of organising dalit men and women under the 'Dalit Adhikar Abhiyan' is being facilitated in western Rajasthan since the past 9 years. This is a collaborative effort between 9 field based partner organisations, 6385 dalit men and women who hold membership in 496 dalit groups in 248 villages, federated at block level into 11 groups to fight against discrimination. These 11 groups function as dalit resource centres (DRCs) in Jodhpur, Barmer and Jaisalmer. They provide a platform where dalit community leaders organise themselves, build capacities, develop strategies and undertake action.

Field Level Interventions

Addressing Discriminatory Practices

The dalits, since ages, have been socially and economically discriminated and atrocities have been inflicted upon them. The village level committees, DRCs and partner organisations have been instrumental in bringing cases of atrocities to seek justice, wherein support in the form of legal help and mobilising pressure groups has been extended. To strengthen mobilising processes at the community level awareness campaigns on NREGA, celebration of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Jayanti and International Women's Day were carried out. The campaign on NREGA was conducted in 10 villages of Barmer district (1000 participants). As part of this process, selection of BPL households has been initiated by the Government of Rajasthan and 600 households from seven villages have gained access to various government schemes. Five hundred dalits from 9 blocks of 3 districts participated in Ambedkar Jayanti on 14th April. The aim was to raise funds for education of children belonging to poor dalit families. The community made a generous contribution of Rs.1,00,000. Six hundred women from 28 villages of 3 blocks participated in International Women's Day celebration on the theme of Women's Empowerment, Health and Cleanliness.

Strengthening Legal Services

In order to strengthen the legal capacity of the Dalit Adhikar Abhiyan, two activities have been undertaken: (i) Develop a cadre of paralegals and (ii) Networking and



CASES ADDRESSED

- *68 cases of atrocities (28 cases of violence against women) in the current year with a total of 243 cases have been addressed in the past*
- *31 cases of discrimination at public places*
- *178 new cases of land encroachment were taken up and 92 bighas of land was released during the year. Cases for release of 6915 bighas of land are still pending*

collaboration with lawyers. Two meetings with 34 lawyers from Jodhpur, Barmer and Jaisalmer were organised. In collaboration with the Indian Institute of Paralegal Studies (IIPS), Ahmedabad, a four phase workshop was organised for 25 staff members of 12 organisations of western Rajasthan. The aim was to orient these participants to legal proceedings, establish them as a link between the judiciary and the community, apart from building their capacities on legal issues. Through the DRCs, 1138 dalit

households have been provided access to and benefits of various government schemes.

Capacity Building

Workshops/Trainings

- Ongoing management support was provided to 15 NGOs in western Rajasthan in the areas of documentation, staff development, linkages with financial and technical institutions, perspective building and organisation management. Workshop for block level committee workshops for leadership promotion were held in 248 villages in 3 districts. We were able to reach out to a total of 502 men and 374 women participants.
- Two day training on NREGA and human rights was organised in which around 250 men and women community leaders participated. At the end of each workshop, a local level action plan was developed to promote community based monitoring of NREGS in the area.
- Two workshops for DRC facilitators were organised to orient new staff members on basic aspects of working on dalit issues. In order to promote community

STRUGGLE FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

The dalits of my village (Sevaniya) at Sindari Panchayat of Barmer district have been supported by the Dalit Adhikar Abhiyan for the past four years. Earlier discrimination was a part of our lifestyle and we accepted it as our fate, but being the President of the village level committee and part of this abhiyan made me stand up, assert and ask for my rights despite constant threats. We now have equal access to the community hand pump and nobody dares to stop us. Seeing me, all the women from my community too have extended their support despite all odds and resistance, and have joined this fight to end discrimination.

Kamala Devi- President, Women Village level Committee, DAA.

leadership at village level and facilitate greater participation of dalit organisers in the organising process, fellowship was granted and support was provided for travel, organising village and block level meetings and activities to the fellow.

- A workshop to orient participants on the concept, tools and approaches of 'Result Based Management' was organised and was attended by representatives of 15 partner organisations from Gujarat and Rajasthan.
- In order to understand various initiatives on dalit issues in the region, develop linkages and build solidarity amongst institutions and activists working on dalit issues, a workshop was conducted which was attended by 32 participants from 4 districts.

Exposure visits

A team of 15 members comprising of field facilitators, chief functionaries and staff members from UNNATI visited Gujarat, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh to learn about various initiatives related to dalit rights, convergence of livelihood, structure of community based organisations and other related issues.

Systematisation of Knowledge

- A study on women and land ownership was undertaken to understand the land ownership patterns among women. The case studies provided an understanding on the impact of the same on the women and the family.
- An awareness generation campaign on the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PNDT) Act was initiated by various civil society institutions, for which pamphlets were developed.

- A bimonthly newsletter under the banner of Dalit Adhikar Abhiyan has been started from this year to disseminate information regarding the programme, success stories and government schemes and programmes. Five such bulletins have been published and shared with the DRCs, the community, civil society institutions and NGOs working on dalit issues.

Building Partnerships

During the course of our work, partnerships were built with National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights, Institute for Rural Management, Jodhpur and Indian Institute for Paralegal Studies, Ahmedabad.

From our past experiences we have learnt that for promoting an ideology based on justice and equity, it is essential to educate the larger community on participatory decision making process and facilitating their involvement in addressing issues of justice rather than just the affected dalit community. Including broader issues that affect the dalit community not necessarily caste specific e.g. NREGA, Mid Day meal schemes has enabled in broad basing the campaign, develop linkages and build a more positive identity. Another important learning is that cases need to be dealt with psycho-socio and medico-legal perspective, besides the legal aid that is being given. The creation of educational material enables the knowledge building process at the community level too, thus making people question current systems and debate on possible solutions.

2. Mainstreaming Disability

We have been involved in facilitating civic responses to mainstreaming disability,

particularly on creating universal access to the built environment. The Access Resource Group at Ahmedabad has been involved in conducting access audits of buildings and infrastructure at Gujarat Vidyapeeth, Kalupur Railway Station, Centre for Environment Planning and Technology (CEPT), Blind People's Association and Sardar Patel Institute of Public Administration (SPIPA). This will enable in making these public buildings accessible to one and all. A six week long elective course on 'Universal Design' was included by CEPT in their curriculum for students of Architecture and Design to introduce them to concepts related to creating a barrier-free environment and conduct access audits. This was facilitated by members of the Access Resource Group. Support was provided to Handicap International for state level advocacy with government on disability issues. Inputs were provided to World Bank for preparation of a national level status

report on disability. Ongoing support was also provided to mainstream media so that disability issues are widely covered. Perspective building on 'Disability and development' was done for our own team. Support was also extended to development organisations and rehabilitation institutions based on need.

Our experience shows that mainstreaming disability has still not become an important part of development discourse and requires sensitisation of various civil society actors like: development organisations academicians, architects, builders, so that they can incorporate it in their ongoing work. Investing resources in separate and specialised programmes alone will not lead to inclusion. In the case of initiatives for promoting accessibility, follow up support needs to be provided to those desirous of implementing modifications to ensure that the design standards are followed.





3. Mainstreaming Gender

For mainstreaming gender, we have taken initiatives to build capacities of various actors, take up advocacy and develop resource material. Our efforts are aimed towards introducing gender related systemic as well as attitudinal changes and to develop locally relevant procedures and guidelines within the organisation, at the programmatic level and at the level of civil society institutions.

At the organisation level, training on Gender Responsive Budgeting was organised for our team to incorporate the understanding in reviewing our own projects and programmes. For this purpose disaggregated data on gender was collected from the on going programmes at all levels. Gender Sensitivity and Equity Committee, formulated to look into matters pertaining to harassment at the workplace, has been facilitating sensitisation within the organisation regarding gender issues and interfacing with other civil society groups to

build synergies. Gender sensitisation programmes were organised for new team members and field facilitators, community leaders and community fellows at DRCs from western Rajasthan. Unnati has also responded to the need for capacity building of other civil society organisations.

Gender sensitisation should not be practiced as a singular event but should be seen as a continuous process to be followed up and integrated into various processes and programmes of the organisation. Processes aimed at gender equity need to be formalised and institutionalised to help make gender just decisions.

4. Livelihood Generation for Women

The 'Crafts Based Livelihood Programme' was started after the Gujarat Earthquake as part of our efforts to assimilate and build back the lives of people affected by the earthquake. Currently, 13 Common Interest Groups from villages and hamlets around Bhachau (Kutch) are being supported for their socio-economic empowerment. A group of ten women artisans participated in International Women's Day celebration held at Kutch Nav Jyoti Trust, Bhuj.

Our experience reveals that small and affordable life style products sell well in the market; and participation in exhibitions enables promotion of crafts and crafts persons. We have also learnt that design development should be product based and demand driven. The strategies further require that the stakeholders should own the enterprise to secure their livelihoods.

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

After the earthquake in Gujarat 2001 and South India Tsunami in 2004, interventions were made by extending relief and rehabilitation on humanitarian grounds. The experience gained from our engagement in disaster response has led us to examine processes that will build community resilience towards disasters.

In recent years, there has been a paradigm shift in the articulation of disaster related conceptual frameworks and practices. Disaster risk reduction (DRR), has evolved as an integrated approach to disaster response and mitigation. The programme explores the theme of reducing risk, vulnerability and discrimination of communities by strengthening capacities and demonstrating exemplars. The other aim is to develop knowledge base on disaster management: legislative framework, policies, packages and best practices for facilitating the engagement of other stakeholders.

Field Level Interventions

As part of the DRR programme, it was felt that the development of farm tanks for fodder and horticulture development would open up land based livelihood choices for migrant families. In this context the following interventions have been made:

Land Development for Fodder Security

To strengthen the livelihoods of the poor and for the promotion of appropriate use of natural resources, land was developed for fodder. This activity is being implemented

through the DRCs in western Rajasthan. The aim is to build the capacities of CBOs and NGOs on DRR by utilising local knowledge and know-how/technology. Criterion for selecting the sites, the households and the DRCs were articulated. A detailed time bound plan for community mobilisation, implementation and monitoring of fodder plot development was prepared and care was taken to ensure the involvement of the community and the block and village level committees in the process.

Drinking Water Security

Securing a water source is a matter of dignity and self pride for a poor household. Hence a need was felt to develop a mechanism whereby poor and vulnerable households could be supported for constructing water harvesting structures. In two villages of Barmer and one village of Jodhpur district, 24 individual and 21 community water harvesting structures have been constructed benefiting 150 dalit households. An exercise,



DISASTER RESPONSE AT A GLANCE

134 beneficiaries selected, through community processes, 46 disaster safe houses were constructed in six villages around Bhachau, Kutch

Community based rescue centres were constructed in five villages of Bhachau, Kutch.

50 households provided relief material at Gir-Talala region in collaboration with Aga Khan Rural Support programme

A community based learning centre for Disaster preparedness called 'the Sajjata Park' has been set up at Kutch

Under the flood rehabilitation programme at Barmer, 70 villages were identified. 202 households were supported in the construction of jhompas using low cost compressed soil blocks. 100 households were supported for repair work in collaboration with our local partner organisations. 100 households that had lost their belongings were provided family kits.

'Exposure, Dialogue and Learning' (EDL) was conducted to collectively reflect on the models developed, derive learnings and develop future plans on water security.

As part of the Disaster Risk Transfer, collaboration with VIMO SEWA (an initiative by Self Employed Women's Association, Gujarat), has provided easy and accessible insurance and claim service covering health, life and assets, for poor women based on their needs and paying capacity; 327 households (1600 members) have been covered, while 3 claims with respect to health insurance have been facilitated.

Capacity Building

Workshops

- Consultative workshops on 'Disaster Management: Legislative Provisions and Practices' were organised in Gujarat and Rajasthan. The national and the state Acts were reviewed and this resulted in the publication of a popular document on 'Disaster Management: Legislative Provisions and Policies'.
- In order to orient different stakeholders on the theme of 'Civic Engagement in Disaster Management in Gujarat', a workshop was organised at Jamnagar. 60 NGOs and PRI representatives participated in this workshop where the legislative provisions enlisted in the Disaster Management Act and Policy, 2003 and district and village level plans were discussed.
- In order to orient different stakeholders and elected representatives on City Disaster Management Plan, along with five Nagarpalikas, a workshop was organised on 'Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction' in Gujarat which was attended by 30 participants from different professional backgrounds.

Trainings

- Capacities of partners in Rajasthan were built through orientation, structured

meetings, participatory project planning and designing, exposure visits to successful models, and disseminating educational material on disasters and DRR practices.

- To build an overall understanding on linkages between insurance, disaster risk reduction and social security, a workshop was organised in collaboration with SEWA VIMO. This workshop was attended by 29 participants from 14 organisations.
- Linkages with research organisations like CAZRI, AFRI, KVK and National Horticulture Mission, Rajasthan have been developed for providing technical support on pasture and horticulture development.
- A trained pool of 100 artisans has been developed on appropriate, low cost and disaster safe housing technology.

Exposure visits

- Two twelve member teams comprising of PRIs, village level volunteers and staff members from UNNATI visited South India and Orissa to understand the relief, rehabilitation and preparedness activities undertaken by different NGOs and the government.
- An exposure visit of Disaster Preparedness and Response Group (DPRG) partners, Bhachau, was organised to Orissa and Rajasthan and was followed up with a state level workshop.

Systematisation of Knowledge

- A booklet has been published on the theme of 'Disaster Risk Reduction: A Compilation of Literature' for practitioners.

- A series of booklets on best practices during emergency response entitled 'Water and Sanitation', 'Psycho-social Care in Disaster Response,' and 'Intermediate Semi-Permanent Shelter in Post-disaster Reconstruction' were published.
- A research paper on 'Understanding International Human Rights Standards for Post Disaster Advocacy' was developed in order to build an understanding on international human right standards and apply them in the Indian context facilitating effective post disaster advocacy in case of natural disasters.
- A series of 20 poster/display panels is under production to be used as visual aid for the practitioners of DRR.

Building Partnerships

A state level consultation was organised in collaboration with DPRG, on the theme of 'Deepening Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction Practices with GO-NGO Collaboration' with the purpose of sharing learnings and policy advocacy.

Collaborating with government and understanding its initiatives is important so that these can be replicated on a large scale in the operational area. Local knowledge and know-how should be incorporated to formulate best practices of the community. Advocating the DRR approach will go a long way in enabling communities to develop coping mechanisms in the wake of disasters that are likely to occur due to global warming.

KNOWLEDGE RESOURCE CENTRE

Recognising the need for consolidation of experiences from the field and promoting sharing of knowledge among varied stakeholders, efforts are made to support the respective programme teams to document the experiences and learnings and present them in accessible formats for a wide range of audience. Knowledge building is an inherent part of each programme, promoted for wider sharing and learning and it also enables in shaping the future direction of programmes. Open learning systems (OLS) has been set up to encourage exchange and sharing of experience and information within the organisation. Apart from facilitating processes of documenting and publishing, the knowledge resource centre has a rich collection of more than 13,000 resource materials on various themes relevant to social development. This includes books, journals, posters, flashcards, annual reports, CDs and newsletters which are accessed by various institutions and individuals. The publications during the year focused mainly around the theme of disaster risk reduction. A number of short films on themes related to rural and urban governance were also produced. Four editions of VICHAR, a quarterly bulletin, were published in Hindi and Gujarati, covering themes like improvement in basic services in India, strengthening community groups for local development, social audits as a mechanism for facilitating accountability at the grassroots, HIV/AIDS and a special issue on 'urban governance' covering issues of people's participation in urban local governance, schemes for small and medium towns and solid waste management.

LOOKING FORWARD

While continuing to work in all the thematic areas and exploring newer options... Engagement and ownership of the programmes and activities by citizens can only be promoted when they are part of the process. We will continue to work on issues of exclusion arising due to discrimination based on caste, gender and disability to seek justice. Citizens are alienated when they do not have a platform to negotiate with the government. Hence, for facilitating meaningful participation of the citizens, while engaging in dialogue with the authorities and citizens, the challenge is to strengthen marginalised groups so that they can seek answers without fear and make informed decisions. Since disaster risk reduction is a fairly new area, strengthening the capacity of other stakeholders based on our experience, research and documenting of best practices and simplifying legislative provisions for wider usage will remain the focus area. Integrating the DRR approach into the development plans of the panchayats and ULBs remains a challenge. Inculcating a regular process of introspection and self analysis would enable us to formulate strategies to effectively integrate all the areas of our intervention within the domain of governance, social inclusion and disaster risk reduction for making meaningful interventions for change. The OLS will encourage facilitation of thematic reflections so that all levels of staff and partners derive learning from the interventions and analyse the impact at the grassroots, at professional and personal levels. This will enable in building collective responsibility, improve coordination and motivation of team members and retain their enthusiasm.

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FINANCES

BALANCE SHEET AS ON MARCH 31, 2008

(Rs. in lacs)

SOURCES OF FUNDS	31.03.07	%	31.03.08	%	APPRECIATION OF FUNDS	31.03.07	%	31.03.08	%
Capital Fund					Fixed Assets	177.54	34	230.53	49
Corpus	50.00	10	50.00	10	Balance on Hand and in Bank				
Capital Account	221.86	43	250.34	53		Saving Bank A/c	37.34	7	47.23
	271.86	53	300.34	63	Fixed Deposit	293.71	57	188.21	39
Current Liabilities						331.05	64	235.44	49
Unutilised Fund	235.83	45	159.15	34	Advances				
Sundry Creditors					Tax Deducted at Source	3.70		4.05	
Doree Revolving Fund	9.63		11.42		Deposits	0.07		2.15	
Development Fund	0.00		1.84		Others	5.25		1.96	
Others	0.29		1.38			9.02	2	8.16	2
	9.92	2	14.64	3					
	245.75	47	173.79	37					
TOTAL	517.61	100	474.13	100	TOTAL	517.61	100	474.13	100

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2008

(Rs. in lacs)

EXPENDITURE	31.03.07	%	31.03.08	%	INCOME	31.03.07	%	31.03.08	%
Direct Project Expenses					Grant Received (Net)	302.42	90	400.03	87
Rural Development	57.28	17	73.64	16	Contribution				
Research	12.29	4	13.53	3		Sale of Publications	0.55	0	0.56
Training & Workshop	27.63	8	22.00	5	Training Fees	0.15	0	0.30	0
Education Materials	5.29	2	7.00	2	Vehicles exp. recovered	6.74	2	17.77	4
Relief & Rehabilitation	27.14	8	26.88	6	Honorarium	1.91	1	5.31	1
Disaster Preparedness	24.17	7	126.57	28	Others	8.09	2	15.09	3
Support to PRI	39.14	12	12.10	3		17.44	5	39.03	8
Disability	0.00	0	0.15	0	Profit on sale of Vehicles	0	0	0.02	0
	192.94	58	281.87	63	Interest				
Salary and Honorarium	69.38	20	76.78	16	On Saving Bank A/c	1.37	1	0.91	1
Administrative Expenses	43.19	13	46.83	10	On Fixed Deposit A/c	13.83	4	18.61	4
Depreciation	15.58	5	23.90	5	On Income Tax Refund	0.00	0	0.07	0
Excess of Income over Expenditure	13.97	4	29.27	6		15.20	5	19.59	5
TOTAL	335.06	100	458.65	100	TOTAL	335.06	100	458.65	100

Complete audited statement available on request.

Highlights

A) Income

- During the year, two major projects grants were received (1) Cordaid, for Disaster Risk Reduction programme and (2) Malteser for construction / renovation of houses in the earthquake affected areas in Bhachau (Kutch), Gujarat.
- Local contributions have mainly come from professional services provided.
- Interest income has increased on account of increase in the interest rate and more grants received.

B) Expense

- Expenses on disaster risk reduction programme has increased as the grant was more.

C) Balance Sheet

- During the year one office premise in Ahmedabad was purchased and the building at Jodhpur was completed and capitalised.
- Bank balance and fixed deposits are less on account of utilisation of grant received and some of the projects were completed.

OTHER TRANSPARENCY COMPLIANCES

Identity and Values

UNNATI is registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860, Delhi (Registered on 31-05-1990 vide no.S/21030).

UNNATI has also been granted FCRA from Ministry of Home Affairs (Registered on 13-07-1992 vide no.041910161).

Vision

Create an inclusive society where all stakeholders, particularly the vulnerable - dalits and women, participate with full empowerment and gain equal access and control over services, resources and institutions.

Mission

Promote social inclusion and democratic governance so that the vulnerable sections of our society are empowered to effectively and decisively participate in mainstream development and decision making process.

Registered Office

G-1/200, Raksha Apartments, Azad Society, Ambawadi, Ahmedabad - 380 015.

Bankers

- Bank of Baroda, Panchvati Branch, Ahmedabad - 380006
- Bank of India, Paldi Branch, Ahmedabad 380 006.

Auditors

Charnalia Bhatia & Gandhi, B-14, Lajpat Nagar-III, New Delhi - 110024

Governance

Members of the Governing Council (March 31, 2008)

Name	Gender	Position on the Board	Meeting held and attended
Dr. Rajesh Tandon	M	Chairman	1
Mr. Binoy Acharya	M	Member	1
		Secretary	
Prof. Debi Prasad Misra	M	Member	1
Ms. Sharmistha Jagawat	F	Member	1
Ms. Sophia Khan	F	Member	1
Ms. Lata Kachwaha	F	Member	-

Cost of International travel by all staff during the year

No.	Name Designation	Destination and Purpose	Gross Expenses (Rs. in lakh)	Sponsored Yes
1	Mr. Binoy Acharya Member Secretary	Colombo To facilitate training	0.30	ActionAid International

Accountability and Transparency

Distribution of staff according to salary (March 31, 2008)

Salary plus benefits paid to staff	Male	Female	Total
<5,000	18	4	22
5,001-10,000	10	2	12
10,001-25,000	13	4	17
25,001-50,000	2	2	4

Remuneration of three highest paid employees

Rs.35,300/-
Rs.31,500/-
Rs.25,500/-

Remuneration of lowest paid staff members

Rs.3,650/-

Gender dis-aggregate data of staff members

Gender	Paid full time	Paid part time	Paid Consultants	Volunteer
Male	42	-	1	-
Female	11	-	1	-
Total	53	-	2	-



ANNUAL
19th
REPORT



UNNATI

Organisation for Development Education

Co-ordinating Office

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e-mail: psu_unnati@unnati.org
Website: www.unnati.org

Rajasthan Programme Office

650, Radhakrishan Puram, Near Lahriya Resort
Pal - Chopasni by pass Link Road, Jodhpur, Rajasthan
Ph. 0291-3204618
E-mail: unnati@datainfosys.net

Regional Resource Centre - Bhachau

Navagam, Bhachau, Kutch - 370140
Ph. 02837-223294
E-mail: unnati_kutch@sancharnet.in

Promotion of Local Self Governance - Gujarat

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