

Annual Report 2009-10





This is the 21stAnnual Report of UNNATI. For the past few years we have been working with an overall focus on creating an institutional identity of an issue-based, strategic and educational support organisation. We are committed to fighting social exclusion and discrimination through building the voices of the marginalised. We promote social accountability and decentralised governance by enhancing informed civic engagement. Poverty and vulnerability reduction guide all our interventions.

We work at the field level in partnership with local civil society and people's organisations. The collective experience, learning and insights enable us to work on knowledge building, training and advocacy. All initiatives are executed in a framework of collaboration and partnership to empower people for demanding their entitlements and enable the service providers, including the government, to deliver in a transparent and accountable manner. This year has been marked by large-scale collaborative initiatives with the government.

All our activities are carried out through three thematic centres:

- 1. Social Inclusion and Empowerment
- 2. Civic Leadership, Social Accountability and Governance
- 3. Social Determinants of Disaster Risk Reduction

These three centres are fairly autonomous and the future strategic planning exercises will be conducted at each of these centres instead of at Unnati as one identity. However, these three centres remain in the overall legal domain of Unnati. We continue to work primarily in Gujarat and the western desert districts of Rajasthan. Some activities, however take us outside these two states.

We sincerely thank all those who have provided us an opportunity and support to carry out the activities during the year. We look forward to receiving their continued support and guidance to enable us to be relevant, effective, cost efficient and, overall, committed to our mission.



Social Inclusion and Empowerment

Social Inclusion and Empowerment aims to invoke the social justice principles among the civil society actors and governmental organisations involved in social development. In partnership, with grass-root organisations, we work on the issue of rights of the dalits, women and persons with disabilities.

Dalit Mobilisation and Organising in Western Rajasthan

In partnership with grass-root organisations and dalit community leaders, we have been working in 248 villages of western Rajasthan (Jodhpur, Badmer, Jaisalmer) for the last 11 years. The field-level interventions have shaped up into a Dalit Rights Campaign (Dalit Adhikar Abhiyan) with village and block-level community-based organisations/ committees. The campaign was built around 11 block-level Dalit Resource Centres (DRCs), which were working on awareness building, mass mobilisation, leadership training, support for access to justice and government programmes and schemes. In September 2009, the programme made a shift by withdrawing support to the DRCs. However, activities around the Dalit Adhikar Abhiyan continue. It is aimed that the local organisations and/or dalit people's organisations will play a more pro-active role in taking up awareness building and local issues.

Till September 2009 (over 10 years), the following number of rights-based issues were taken up:

Cases of discrimination resolved	343
Case of atrocity resolved	349
Case of atrocity against women resolved	50
Acres of land released in favour of dalits	1,187
Acres of land under legal process	7,126
No. of households linked to government schemes	4,418

With the change in approach, the cases of social injustice are being resolved locally by using the Constitutional principle rather than with feudal and patriarchal values. As we have phased out from organising and mobilisation work, more attention is paid to facilitation of access to justice. A cadre of paralegals has been trained with the support

of the Indian Institute for Paralegal Studies (IIPS), Ahmedabad. Last year out of 12 participants, nine appeared for the examination and five passed out successfully. This year, we have initiated the training for the second batch. 30 participants, including 10 women from 15 organisations, have received the training. Out of this, 19 participants, including six women, have passed out. Besides the paralegal training, community leaders and panchayat representatives have also been trained on the basic constitutional framework and social justice laws.

Promoting Women's Empowerment

The overall focus of the women's empowerment component of the programme is to engage with women collectives to develop a critical understanding of the rights and their leadership. In western Rajasthan, the exemplary efforts of 30 women leaders were documented. These women leaders were felicitated at a convention organised in March 2010. On the issue of women's land ownership, an action research was initiated whereby the struggles of women in protecting their land rights were documented by the women themselves. This case documentation was used in the mobilisation of the women on land issues. To mainstream gender at the institutional level, a workshop was organised in October 2009 for seven partner organisations in Rajasthan.



To facilitate grass-root level learning on women's empowerment, a set of four popular books has been conceived on the History of Women's Movements. It includes (i) Women's Movement from the Vedic Age to the Bhakti Movement (ii) Feminist Movement around the World (iii) Women's Movements during the Indian Freedom Struggle (iv) Contemporary Women's Movement and Challenges Ahead. The first three volumes have been published in Hindi and Gujarati. It is written in collaboration with Sahiyar (Stree Sangathana), Vadodara. These books are written in a story/ drama form so that it can also be read out at meetings and training programmes. A training resource pack on Gender Awareness and Sensitivity Applications has been published in English in the form of a manual. This manual has been developed based on our past years of training with partners.

Mainstreaming Disability

The primary objective of mainstreaming the disability component of the programme is to create a sense of awareness on the rights of persons with disabilities with the civil society actors. In Ahmedabad, an 'Access Resource Group' has been formed where architects, engineers, designers and other professionals volunteer for conducting access audit of public buildings/ spaces and recommend modifications. During the year, orientation training was organised on 'Universal Design for All' for 36 new members of the 'Access Resource Group'. Building by-laws of the Ahmedabad Urban Development



Authority (AUDA) is being reviewed in the light of parameters of barrier-free environment. Mainstream developmental organisations are also supported to identify persons with disabilities and include them in the ongoing programmes. Four organisations working for children with intellectual/ mental disabilities are being provided with technical support in the areas of developing individual treatment plans for children, classroom structuring and management, developing quality indicators for monitoring of services, understanding the needs of children with deaf blindness and communicating with children with multiple disabilities.

SPECIAL PROJECT

English Language Enhancement Programme for Std. VIII in the Scheduled (Tribal) Areas of Gujarat (Distance learning through SATCOM)

A pilot programme has been conceived by the Gujarat State Tribal Development Department and Unnati to enhance the English language proficiency of the Std. VIII students of tribal areas. The programme seeks to provide additional inputs to students for reinforcing their English language skills and supporting the teachers to enhance their classroom teaching practices through the use of child-friendly pedagogy. After careful need assessment and dialogue with eminent educationists (Dr. Rajendrasinh Jadeja, H. M. Patel Institute of English, Dr. Ranganayaki Srinivas, Prof. Jacob Tharu, CIEFL, Mr. Pascal Chazot, MGIS, Dr. Indira Nityanandam, S. R. Mehta Arts College), a bridge course of 26 one-hour sessions have been developed. This course will enable the students to effectively follow the Std. VIII English language course. This includes SATCOM-based teaching and workbook practice. The bridge course was telecast over three months from the Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Application and Geo informatics (BISAG), Gandhinagar. More than 8,000 students from 151 schools are covered under the programme.

Teachers of the participating schools were oriented through residential workshops on the approach and pedagogy of the programme. This provided them space to experience the joy of learning through interesting pedagogy, equipped them to support the

students during the programme and also highlighted their potential and strengths to use child-friendly pedagogy. Students were exposed to listening and speaking skills through the programme that they could watch on TV in their respective schools. An accompanying workbook was provided to all students to develop their reading and writing skills.

Observations and interactions with teachers and students indicate that the stories and rhymes in the programme have helped children to listen attentively, speak without hesitation and also enjoy reading and writing. These interactions have provided ideas and directions for development of new sessions linked to their Std. VIII textbooks. Support for teachers and students by way of training, learning aids and libraries have emerged as areas requiring intervention. It is aimed that next year, along with the bridge course, text-specific lessons will be transmitted.

Rohit, a student of EMRS, Khodada, Tapi said, "After every class, we all sat and did the exercise in the workbook. It was a lot of fun. We helped each other and the teacher also helped us when we were not able to do an exercise."

Manisha Chaudhary, teacher, EMRS, Pardi, Valsad said, "We made teaching learning materials after watching the programme which increased students' interest in learning English."





Civic Leadership, Governance and Social Accountability

The main focus of the Civic Leadership, Governance and Social Accountability programme is to create an environment for the emergence of citizen leaders who volunteer to hold the governing institutions as well as implementing agencies accountable. The aim is to create an enabling climate, whereby citizens feel empowered to question the effectiveness of the developmental programmes that are made for them.

Building Civic Leadership

Strengthening civic action for the promotion of social accountability has been one of the strategies. In eight talukas of Gujarat and one block of Rajasthan about 500 citizen leaders were trained on the role of citizens in public participation, accountable local governance and social justice issues. In addition, two training of trainers (ToT) programmes on 'Citizenship and Governance' were organised in which 57 representatives from 19 NGOs participated. The training focused on linkage between citizenship and governance, relevance of decentralisation, community mobilisation for social accountability through social audit, report card and monitoring of basic services. Special thrust was put to understand the key Acts like the NREGA, RTI, and protection against Domestic Violence Act. The ToTs are primarily organised to promote the citizenship-focused accountability practices at the grass-root level.

The citizen leaders of Ahmedabad and Sabarkantha published a monthly bulletin called 'Lok Vacha' (People's Voice) to support their local mobilisation and action. The citizen leaders have taken many local actions. The initiatives by 29 leaders were documented by nine journalists that were published in a book titled, 'Peer Parayee Janere' on the line of Gandhiji's famous prayer by the 15th century Gujarati poet Narshi Mehta. Each story in the book is an inspiration and shows what transformations ordinary people can bring



about by local mobilisation and people's participation. All the citizen leaders were felicitated by the noted Gandhian freedom fighter Shri Chunibhai Vaidya and eminent journalist and social worker Shri Indukumar Jani on the occasion of the release of the book held on December 12, 2009.

To promote people's engagement in urban issues, two training programmes were organised for 21 NGOs. 50 representatives were oriented on the issues of urbanisation, urban poverty, urban planning and how to influence the city plans. A resource book for the practitioners working on urban issues was also published entitled, 'Civic Engagement for Urban Development: Building Linkage, Bridging Divides'.

A joint regional workshop on 'Inclusive Cities and Centre-staging Participation' was organised in collaboration with CEPT University, Ahmedabad, and PRIA, New Delhi. The objective of the workshop was to share the experiences of citizen-centric planning and to evolve a participatory urban planning methodology. We also collaborated in a public hearing on the development projects in Ahmedabad initiated by a number of civil society groups, including IIMA and CEPT. The suffering of the people who faced eviction and displacement was raised in the public forum.

Capacity Building of Panchayati Raj Institutions

Prior to the panchayat elections held in January-February 2010 in Rajasthan, Unnati worked closely with SIRD-IGPRS for preparing the training material for capacity building of newly elected panchayat representatives. In collaboration with IGNOU a set of training materials was also prepared. A bulletin in Hindi was also published in collaboration with SIRD-IGPRS for the continuous education of the PRI representatives. It was disseminated among all the panchayats in Rajasthan. The Chief Minister of Rajasthan took note of this initiative and wrote a letter to continue the publication. Unfortunately, after January 2010 the bulletin was discontinued due to lack of resources.

During the panchayat elections in Rajasthan, pre-election voters' awareness campaign was facilitated with partner organisations in Jodhpur, Badmer and Jaiselmer districts in collaboration with PRIA. In Luni block of Jodhpur district, Unnati had directly undertaken the campaign with the support of The Hunger Project.

On March 6, 2009 during the visit of the Administrator UNDP (Ex Prime Minister of New Zeland) Ms. Helen Clerk to Bhilwada (Rajasthan) along with Honourable Minister, Rural Development, Mr. C. P. Joshi, with the request of UNDP, Unnati nominated four elected representatives for an exclusive interaction. The purpose of this interaction was to appraise the importance of capacity building of women PRI representatives in making decentralised governance effective. It may be noted that in the third five-year electoral term, Unnati was involved in capacity building of women representatives in Jodhpur district with the support of UNDP.

In Gujarat, the capacity building intervention was carried out for 75 panchayats in seven talukas of three districts (Ahmedabad, Sabarkantha and Kutchch). Social justice committees of these panchayats were also activated. Associations of women elected representatives (WERs) have been formed in Ahmedabad and Sabarkantha districts. A State-level consultation of the WERs was organised in collaboration with the Mahila



Swaraj Abhiyan. In this consultation the WERs presented the need for continuous capacity building to enable effective functioning.

Promotion of Social Accountability

Our association with the social audit programme in Bhilwada district organised by 'Soochna ka Adhikar avam Rojgar Abhiyan' in October 2009 provided methodological insights to raise issues of late payments under MGNREGS. Our colleagues raised the issue of compensation under unemployment allowance and ensured payment. In November 2009, the Rajasthan High Court put a stay on a petition of PRIs on the involvement of external members in the gram sabha which is the forum for social audit. This clearly stood as a legal barrier to facilitate independent social audits in Rajasthan. In Gujarat, the Department of Rural Development involved Unnati in setting up a cell for effective implementation of NREGA, including facilitation of social audits and grievance redressal. It was an honourable opportunity to work in an up-scale manner covering the entire State.

In the Luni panchayat samiti of Jodhpur district, 27 camps were organised on the Right to Information (RTI) covering 561 persons. After this programme, villagers asked for the photocopy of the ration distributed through the public distribution system (PDS) shops and the actual distribution was verified by talking to the villagers. It not only exposed the lapses in the system, but also created awareness among the villagers about their food security entitlements.

In Gujarat, in Ahmedabad and Sabarkantha districts, RTI camps are being regularly organised by the citizen leaders. In total during the year 243 camps were organised which were attended by 3,360 men and 441 women.

Fellowships have been provided to eight civil society organisations to practise social accountability tools around access to basic services. It is primarily aimed to build institutional capacity in social accountability.

In nine small and medium towns in Gujarat, in collaboration with seven civil society organisations, citizen's report card (CRC) based monitoring of basic services was initiated. The report card findings were shared with the municipal officials and elected representatives. In all the nine towns, subsequent to the CRC, it was observed that there was improvement in the services of water supply, garbage collection and street clearing. The citizens also felt confident to raise the issues before the authorities. Based on the field experience, a video documentary, 'Citizens Speak: Report Card for Accountability' has been produced to further disseminate the methodology of citizen's engagement.

Under the central assistance for Urban Infrastructure Development for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) in Gujarat, 30 towns are implementing the housing projects called Integrated Housing and Slum Development Project (IHSDP). We studied 10 towns to examine how far the poor are included in the project. This study is part of the process of empowering the urban poor for demanding entitlements.



Social Audit in MGNREGA in Collaboration with Government of Gujarat

Unnati entered into a collaborative agreement with the Department of Rural Development, Government of Gujarat, to make strategic capacity building interventions to make MGNREGA implementation effective. A group of professionals was deputed to the Department to support the State Programme Coordinator in the areas of training, IEC, grievance redressal, social audit and programme monitoring. In the entire process, our experience in setting up a system for social audit was noteworthy. To facilitate social audit in all the panchayats of Gujarat, a cadre of social audit facilitators was identified and trained under the name 'Taluka Resource Group'. In total 1,291 independent facilitators were selected and trained at the district level by 15 master trainers. A manual and a film were developed for the training of the facilitators. These facilitators facilitated two rounds of social audit during November 2009 and February 2010. To provide feedback on the quality of social audit, 56 colleges from nine universities were invited to observe the process. In total 3,909 gram sabhas (37%) were observed. This initiative was led by the Principal Secretary, Rural Development and the Secretary, Higher Education. The universities and the college faculties were oriented on social audit process.





Social Determinants of Disaster Risk Reduction

Social Determinants of the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) programme facilitate communitybased practices and learning on disaster risk reduction to promote a culture of safety at all levels. Our work primarily focuses on the desert districts of Rajasthan and Kutchch district of Gujarat. We play a wider educational and advocacy role at the State and national levels. This year we continued to actively participate in the advocacy initiated by the Owner Driven Reconstruction Collaborate (ODR-C) in formulating a national level guideline. We also continued our active association with Sphere India, National Alliance for DRR, Asian Disaster Risk Reduction Network (ADRRN), Cordaid India DRR Partners Network and National Campaign for Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR) to promote coordinated actions from the point of view of social inclusion, minimum standards, social accountability and innovations in DRR practices.

Community-Managed Disaster Risk Reduction

In Jodhpur and Badmer districts, 23 villages were identified to pilot communitymanaged disaster risk reduction (CMDRR) practices. After the hazard and vulnerability analysis it was observed that the dalit and women headed families face acute form of risks due to recurrent drought. Shortage of drinking water and hardship faced to access drinking water and fodder are the main reasons for distressed migration. Some of the vulnerable families are not able to access water from government water supply through mobile tankers as they do not have storage facility at the household level. When the women go to fetch water from public water sources, it not only adds to their daily drudgery but often they face humiliation and atrocities from 'clean caste' groups.



As part of risk reduction process, 96 small and 14 regular size water harvesting tanks have been constructed for the vulnerable dalit families. To make drinking water available two tanker-mounted tractors have been provided to the community task forces. To build the vulnerable communities' resilience to drought, land development for fodder security and livelihood promotion has been initiated. Thirty eight families were supported to develop horti-pasture lands. These families are often forced to migrate at the time of drought. With the involvement of these migrant families in the horti-pasture development their association with land has increased, migration has reduced and the small ruminants like goats, which is a major source of livelihood and used to be sold under distress, has been reduced. This intervention has created a hope among the poor in the desert area who held a strong belief that no tree will survive in their agricultural field during drought. The farmers were mobilised to identify about one acre of land and fence it so that it is completely protected. After the protection fence is made, a rain water harvesting tank of 30,000 litres is built, which is used for watering the plants. In case of drought, the farmers make use of the water tanker mounted over the tractor to fill the tanks. Based on participatory selection of trees, good quality samplings are provided. The farmers are exposed to government soil testing labs and trained in pest control. Broadly the plants grown by the farmers are grafted Ber (Ziziphus Mauritiana) and Gunda (Cordia Myxa). Besides this, once the area is fenced, many local trees grow in this area. Our experience shows that in three years the farmers earn about Rs.8,000/from the Ber and Gunda. The leaves of these plants and grass are also used as fodder for goats.

In the pilot villages, people are advised to take up insurance for health and livestock. During 2007-08, 382 families were covered, in 2008-09, 278 families and during 2009-10, 74 families were covered by the products offered by Vimo-Sewa. However, in the last two years more than 700 families have taken up micro life insurance from other companies.

To promote safe construction technology, masonry trainings have been regularly

organised. In Jodhpur and Badmer district a construction artisan forum has been prepared with more than 250 members. Among these, about 30 artisans are involved in stabilised soil blocks production and one group is producing ferro cement channels for roof construction. A small laboratory has been set up at our Jodhpur office campus for testing soil and construction material.

In collaboration with Development Alternatives (DA), basin South Asia, Mahila Sewa Housing Trust, a Lok Awas Yatra (habitat study tour) was organised covering the three zones in Rajasthan and Gujarat. The yatra converged on Ahmedabad where a dialogue was organised in collaboration with CEPT University. The artisans shared their experience and dialogue with academics, architects, engineers and policy makers.

Overall, in 23 villages of western Rajasthan and 10 villages of Kutchch, CMDRR was taken up in which the community was trained in hazard and vulnerability assessment. Based on the assessment of risks, the community has developed its risk mitigation and prevention strategies in convergence with the existing development programmes. NREGA work has been used as a means for risk prevention like afforestation, check walls, de-siltation in most of the villages. In every village a task force has also developed for effective response and recovery. Under the task force 36 women para-health workers were trained in first aid and effective use of government health services.

Drought Response

Due to low rainfall in western Rajasthan, the drought conditions cause anxiety among people. As part of CMDRR practice, the 23 villages taken up under pilot intervention are being prepared for effective response. Village wise drought response task forces have been formed which have the prime responsibility of providing appropriate relief services as well as to monitor the overall situation in terms of access to water, fodder and drought relief work. Along with the 23 direct intervention villages, 9 local NGOs were oriented to monitor the drought situation in 85 villages as a step so that vulnerable households are not left out.

In the 23 intervention villages, tanker-mounted tractors are deployed and provided to the task forces for water supply. In all, 290 most vulnerable families have been identified for water supply from March till the arrival of the monsoon. As this report is being prepared, it was reported from the field that these 290 families have not made distress migration. Families who keep a small number of goats are also not able to provide fodder at the time of drought. These goats are a major source of livelihood for these families. It has been planned to provide fodder of 30 kg per goat in four rounds which can be added to the locally available feed. A veterinary camp for the livestock is also being planned along with the task force members.

Training and Advocacy

A CMDRR India partner's capacity building programme is being planned and will be held in April 2010. This training programme will be facilitated by experts from the International Institute for Rural Reconstruction (IIRR), Manila, and ASK, India. Two district-level and one State-level workshops were organised in Rajasthan on 'Disaster Management Plan and Stakeholder Participation'. Experiences are documented on post-disaster health surveillance, school safety, community DRR Plan. A comparative analysis of post-disaster recovery plans of various State governments has been prepared as a policy advocacy tool to promote owner-driven reconstruction. These documents are available in our resource centre. We have also provided strategic support to Sahbhagi Shikshan Kendra (SSK), Lucknow, for DIP-ECHO supported project on disaster preparedness implemented in Bahraich district of UP. Five sets of training modules on early warning, search and rescue, first aid, water and sanitation and social inclusion in DRR were published by SSK in which we provided support in terms of conceptualisation and content systematisation.

Two of our colleagues participated in the Global Conference on DRR and Climate Change Adaptation organised by Cordaid at Malawi in which partners from 27 countries worked together to develop a programme declaration. We also participated in the Cordaid DRR India partners learning programme held at the Andaman Islands. We are very pleased to report that the disaster-safe construction technology demonstrated under 'Technology Park' in Kutchch, Gujarat, for people's awareness building was selected as one of the good practices by Sphere India and EFICOR. This has been published among the 33 all India practices in a booklet entitled, 'Turning the Tide: Good Practice in Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction' by Sphere India and EFFICOR.

It may be recollected that a few years back Owner-Driven Reconstruction Collaborative had been formed as an advocacy group of which Unnati is a member. The group took a lead role in the reconstruction of Koshi floods with an owner-driven approach in collaboration with the Government of Bihar. In collaboration with NDMA, a national guideline is under formulation on owner-driven reconstruction. Unnati reviewed the State-level guidelines prepared for post-disaster recovery as part of the process of identification of facilitating factors to promote owner-driven reconstruction. Several rounds of consultations have been held under the auspices of NDMA.



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Capacity Building and Knowledge Resource Centre

We continue to play a capacity building role, even though the thematic programme focus has changed over the years. Our core strength lies in conducting participatory training, monitoring and evaluation, strategic planning and organisational management. In these areas, we provide training/ capacity building support on request from partners.

Name of the Programme	Partner Agency
Participatory Rural Appraisal for staff members (Training)	CARITAS, Gujarat
Participatory Training Methodology for staff members	Foundation for Ecological Security (FES)
Evaluation of Project on Improving Basic Services in Rural Rajasthan	Terre des Hommes (TDH)
Evaluation of Project on Community Leadership and Governance in Gujarat	Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
Evaluation of Project on Youth Leadership in India	Pravah, New Delhi
Project Management Classes for Diploma Students (Guest Lecture of 18 hrs)	Entrepreneur Development Institute (EDI)

We do not have a thematic centre on capacity building. We offer training programmes on generic skills in participatory training, PRA, monitoring and evaluation, project planning, organisational management, documentation, etc. which have been a continuous demand from our partners. We also feel it as our responsibility to work on strengthening the voluntary sector. In collaboration with the Voluntary Action Network India (VANI), a workshop on Voluntary Action Policy was organised. Besides, we participated in many deliberations on building the credibility of the voluntary sector organised by networks and the government.

The Knowledge Resource Centre (KRC) supports thematic teams to consolidate their experience and produce learning material for wider dissemination. Three issues of a four-monthly bulletin (VICHAR) in Hindi and Gujarati have been published covering issues of conflict mitigation, local justice redressal (gram nyayalaya), and social watch

on Millennium Development Goals in India, right to education and right to food. This bulletin is disseminated to around 1,800 organisations and individuals primarily in Gujarat and Rajasthan.

The KRC also stores our own publications which are in the form of manuals, booklets and audio visuals. The nature of dissemination is as follows:

	Dalit	Women's Empowerment	Rural Governance	Urban Governance	DRR	General Capacity Building
Manual	-	63	77	-	10	105
Booklets	6	1,996	355	275	802	12
Audio Visual	-	13	14	-	149	-

KRC also has an in-house reference unit at Ahmedabad office which has 6,583 books and reports and 112 periodicals which are regularly used by programme units and partners.

Way Ahead

The external environment influences and compels organisations to operate in certain ways. Recent trends on financial support to developmental organisations show that international donor agencies are increasingly withdrawing from India. Three of our long-term donors have already withdrawn their support. There are opportunities available to seek resources by applying to 'call for proposals'. Such projects are strictly targeted and focused on a short-term basis. We generally avoid short-term projects as they are not able to provide a coherent focus and sustainability in our intervention areas. The other option before the civil society initiatives is to seek government funding. This too is available but the format and conditions are similar to that of bidding as in the international call for proposals.

As the choices for accessing long-term process-oriented support is diminishing, we enter into the new frame of operation. We need to rethink, redesign and reposition ourselves strategically to realign with the current scenario while remaining relevant to the mission and purpose of the organisation. We hope that we will be able to address the emerging challenges collectively.

The three themes that we are working on continue to retain its focus. The theme of civic leadership and governance has been expanded to include issues of social accountability and the new programme bears the name of Civic Leadership, Governance and Social Accountability. This has primarily emerged from our practice of strengthening civic leadership. On social accountability, we aim to focus on building a civic demand on the one hand and on the other, enable the state to become more accountable. We hope by working on both the demand and supply sides of accountability, we will be able to scale up our interventions.

Finances

(Rs. In thousand)

Balance Sheet as of 31.03.2010									
Source of Funds	31.03.10	%	31.03.09	%	Application of Funds	31.03.10	%	31.03.09	%
Capital Fund					Fixed Assets	20568	42	21821	55
Corpus	5000	10	5000	13					
Capital Account	28196	58	27230	69					
					Balance in Hand				
	33196	68	32230	82	and in Bank				
Current Liabilities					Saving Bank Account	4042	8	5616	14
Unutilised Fund	13423	27	5266	13	Fixed Deposits	23081	47	11388	29
Sundry Creditors						27123	55	17004	43
Doree Revolving Fund	1760		1738		Advances				
Development Fund	469		338		Tax Deducted at Source	686		453	
Others	77		97		Deposits	275		276	
	2306	5	2173	5	Others	273		115	
	15729	32	7439	18		1234	3	844	2
Total	48925	100	39669	100	Total	48925	100	39669	100

Fixed Assets

There is an addition of Rs. 1,072,000, on account of purchase of vehicle (one) and furniture and fixtures at Ahmedabad and Jodhpur Resource Centres. However, due to depreciation, the total fixed assets are less than those of the previous year.

Bank Balances and Fixed Deposits

The fixed deposits and bank balances are more by Rs. 10,119,000. This is on account of less utilisation of project grant due to grant received in the last quarter of the year.

Current Liabilities

Unutilised Funds

The liabilities as on 31-03-2010 for different projects are Rs. 13,423,000 as against Rs. 5,266,000 last year. This is on account of Rs. 17,907,000 grant received for project in the last quarter of the year.

Grant

During the year the main grants are from Cordaid for disaster preparedness, social inclusion in rural development and inclusion of persons with disabilities, Ford Foundation for governance and social accountability, Oxfam for disaster preparedness and rural development, DVV for development education, Department of Tribal Development (GoG) for SATCOM-based remedial/ tutorial for Std. VIII, English language, Rural Development Department (GoG) for making MGNREGS effective and UNDP for access to justice. The grant amount has been considerably reduced this year as some of our long-term donors have either reduced their grant or withdrawn.

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31.03.2010									
Expenditure	31.03.10	%	31.03.09	%	Income	31.03.10	%	31.03.09	%
Direct Project									
Expenses					Grant Received (Net)	27997	85	41544	89
Rural Development	3865	12	7278	16					
Research	1304	4	965	2	Contribution				
Training and Workshop	2293	7	3374	7	Materials	28	-	68	-
Education Material	1006	3	894	2	Training Fees	9	-	1	-
Satcom School Prog.	2887	9	0	-	Use of Training Centres				
Disaster Preparedness	6077	18	15252	33	and Assets	2750	9	2749	6
Support to PRI	-	-	640	1	Honorarium 725 2		1223	3	
Disability	640	2	-	-	3512 11		4140	9	
Donation	-	-	214	-					
	18072	55	28617	61					
Salary and Honorarium	6645	20	8690	19	Interest				
Admin. Expenses	4822	15	4953	10	On S/B Account	170	-	169	-
	11467	35	13643	29	On FD Account	1136	4	1023	2
					On Income Tax Refund	-	-	6	-
Depreciation	2318	7	2430	5	On Personal Loan	8	-	3	-
Excess of Income					1314 4 1201		1201	2	
over Expenditure	966	3	2195	5					
Total	32823	100	46885	100	Total	32823	100	46885	100

(Rs. In thousand)

Contribution

Contributions consist mainly of honorarium for services offered, use of training resource centre and assets and dissemination of publications. For the current year the total income is Rs. 3,512,000 as against Rs. 4,140,000 for the previous year. The current year income is less mainly on account of honorarium received is less by Rs. 500,000 as compared to the previous year.

Interest

During the year interest income is Rs. 1,314,000 against Rs. 1,201,000 of the previous year.

Expense

Compared to the previous year, the total direct expenses on projects are less by Rs. 105,000. Also the total expense for the year is Rs. 32,823,000 compared to Rs. 46,885,000 of the previous year. This is due to the reduced amount of grant received. The administrative expenses remain same as these are the fixed costs of the organisation.

Other Transparency Compliances

Governance

Members of the Governing Council						
Name	Gender	Position on Board	Meetings held and attended			
Prof. Debi Prasad Mishra	Μ	Chairperson	1			
Mr. Binoy Acharya	М	Member Secretary	1			
Ms. Sharmishta Jagawat	F	Member	1			
Ms. Shophia Khan	F	Member	1			
Ms. Lata Kachwaha	F	Member	-			

Cost of International Travel by Staff During the Year							
Name and Designation	Destination and Purpose	Gross Expense	Sponsored				
Mr. Kirit Parmar and Mr. Bhanu Prasad Mistry Programme Coordinators	Malawi, during June 8-20, 2010, Global Conference on DRR and Climate Change Adaptation for Cordaid DRR Partners	INR 1,75,000/-	Cordaid The Netherlands				
Mr. Bhanu Prasad Mistry Programme Coordinator	Dhaka, Bangladesh, during October 26-30, 2009 annual meeting of Asian Disaster Risk Reduction Network (ADRRN) hosted by Bangladesh Disaster Preparedness Centre of Dhaka	INR 75,000/-	Asian Disaster Risk Reduction Network (ADRRN)				
Ms. Deepa Sonpal and Ms. Swapni Shah, Programme Coordinators	Bali, Indonesia, during October 10-14, 2009 for partners planning and review meeting of DVV International supported project	INR 89,000	DVV International				

Accountability and Transparency

Distribution of staff according to Salary (March 31, 2010)							
Salary plus benefits paid to staff Male Female Total							
< -5000	4	0	4				
05,001-10,000	14	3	17				
10,001-25,000	12	5	17				
25,001-50,000	2	1	3				

Remuneration of the three highest paid staff members			Remuneration of the lowest paid staff members
Rs. 35,300	Rs. 29,520	Rs. 25520	Rs. 3800

Gender disaggregate data of staff members							
GenderPaidPaidPaidVolunteeFull TimePart TimeConsultants							
Male	32		1	6			
Female	9		1	3			
Total	41		2	9			

Identity and Values

Registerd under the Societies Registration Act1860, Delhi (Registered on 31.05.1990 vide no. S/21030). FCRA Registration (13.07.1992, No. 04191061)

Registered Office

G1/200, Azad Socety, Ambawadi, Ahmedabad-380015

Auditors

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

Bankers

Bank of Baroda, Panchvati Branch, Ahmedabad-380006 Bank of India, Paldi Branch, Ahmedabad-380006

Our Donor Partners (2009-10)

Cordaid Dept. of Rural Development, GoG Development Support Agency, Dept. of Tribal Development, GoG DVV International Malteser International Oxfam (India) Trust The Ford Foundation The Hunger Project United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

MISSION

Promote social inclusion and democratic governance so that the vulnerable sections of our society - dalits, women and persons with disabilities - are empowered to effectively and decisively participate in mainstream development and decision-making process.

VISION

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



उन्नति

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