

IGS NEWSLETTER

(October - December 2024)



Kaayam Rozgar – Khush-haal Pariwar (Sustainable Livelihoods – Prosperous Households)

Indian Grameen Services (IGS) is a Section 8 not-for-profit company and established on February 26, 1987 as an action research organization. The vision was to create an equitable world where the poor and marginalized in rural areas, have access to livelihood opportunities on a sustainable basis, and are prosperous and happy.

Human Capital



Outreach



Impacted Households



Live Projects





Key Highlights of the Quarter



OPERATIONS

Arunachal Pradesh

Training-cum-Exposure visits & Demonstration on Improved Agricultural Practices provided to the CEOs and BODs of Khingtai Farmer Producer Company (FPC), Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh.

Bihar

Simribakhtiyarpur FPC in Saharsa District, Bihar promoted by IGS, has received Rs 5 lakh Cash Credit (CC) limit as working capital from SBI Bank.

Madhya Pradesh

- I. Jeevanodak Milk Producer Company Ltd. launched its own balanced cattle feed brand "Revatiri" under the Shwethdara Project in Pipariya, Madhya Pradesh.
- II. IGS organized a "Deep Utsav" in Racha village under the Rural Tourism project, attended by the District Collector, Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh. Rangoli competitions were held for young girls, with 35 participants attending the event.
- III. Under the Harit Bharat Fund, 14 farmers in Talnagari village trained on 'sustainable farming' and convergence of Sprinkler Irrigation System worth Rs 3.08 lakh from Horticulture Department.

Maharashtra

- I. A meeting was held with Vice Chancellor of Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, and scientists to discuss a strategic partnership between NABARD, IGS and the University for developing an integrated project promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development in Akola district, Maharashtra.
- II. The IGS research team visited the Samruddha Kisan Project at Nandurbar, Maharashtra to understand the approach and the initiatives undertaken by the project team on ground in the Locally Led Development spectrum.
- III. The IGS project team for Nayara Energy's Habitat Improvement and Conservation Initiatives interacted with the Deputy Commissioner of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation to initiate collaboration.

Rajasthan

Pushkar Kisan Samriddhi FPC, Rajasthan promoted by IGS participated in the renowned Pushkar Mela, promoting sustainable farming and traditional products to a diverse national audience.

Odisha

- I. In Chaturanjali Village, Sukruli Block, Mayurbhanj, Odisha, farmers collectively marketed 7 metric tons of pumpkins at ₹11/kg. This initiative is part of the Promotion of Agriculture Production Cluster, Odisha.
- II. With 35,000 numbers of VNR Vihi Guava plants now bearing fruits, the project team has successfully done the market integration, securing a reliable trader in Jajpur Road. Our grading and sorting efforts led to the first sales, generating Rs 43,600, directly boosting rural livelihoods and supporting the Horticulture Department.

West Bengal

Training was provided to Farmer Producer Group (FPG) members on Backyard Poultry Farming and Package of Practices under Project SAMARTH.

VISITS



I. Mr. Nitish Arya, Manager-CSR, IDFC FIRST Bank visited the Shwethdara project site during 08-10 October 2024.



II. The IDFC FIRST Bank CSR team, along with the three partner organisations of the Shwethdara Program, visited the IGS Head Office in Hyderabad during 24-25 October 2024 for the Quarterly Progress Review Meeting of the Shwethdara Project.



III. The IGS Operation Review and Planning meeting was held during 28-29 November 2024 at Head Office, Hyderabad. The meeting was attended by the Senior Management Group of IGS followed by an interaction with the Board Members.



IV. Mr. Pankaj Patil, Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, ASK Foundation visited Nandurbar District on 20 December 2024 and interacted with the project team and Jiveeka Sathi, on the project progress.



V. The Director, Department of Mission Shakti, Government of Odisha visited the mushroom cultivation unit, vermi compost unit, vegetable cultivation in the kheti structure, and potato cultivation through organic processes at Jagaddhatri Producer Group (PG) Phulhudi village of Tangarapali block of Sundargarh district.

TRAININGS

- I. The research team of IGS had the opportunity to engage in a round table on the ongoing Locally Led Development project, with our co-founder, Shri Vijay Mahajan.
- II. The IGS team led by Mr. Hariom Goswami, Regional Head, Maharashtra participated in the FPO Marketplace and Conclave 2024 organized by Access Foundation.
- III. Dr. Sanjib Sarangi, Chief Fundraising & Partnerships Officer, represented IGS as one of the speakers at the Food Systems Summit 2024 in New Delhi. Held from 15 – 17 October 2024, the summit's first edition brought together diverse voices to address the most pressing challenges in India's food systems.
- IV. On 21 October 2024, IGS held its inaugural virtual Town Hall, uniting teams from 10 states, along with the Head Office team, to discuss the organization's progress from April to September 2024 and outline the next steps for the upcoming six months.
- V. On 8 November 2024, an online workshop on Program Innovation: Community Engagement & Implementation tools was organized for IGS team, with support from Social Innovation Studio.
- VI. On 5 December 2024, Indian Grameen Services (IGS) organized a workshop on Regenerative Agriculture Practices at Bhairabdanga village in Farakka Block, Murshidabad, West Bengal. The event brought together nearly 200 farmers, local stakeholders, and experts to promote soil health and sustainable farming practices, aligning with this year's theme: "Caring for Soil: Measure, Monitor, and Manage."

NEW PROGRAMS INITIATED

NEW PROGRAM INITIATED 1



NatWest Group

Partner Name: NatWest Digital Services India Private Limited

Project Name: Rawta's Green Revival: Building Climate Resilience through Sustainable Practices.

₹ Project Value: Rs 228.27 Lakhs

🕒 Project Tenure: 3 years

🎯 Objective:

- The proposed project intends to demonstrate community-based climate change adaptation through an integrated model, by introducing community led bird tourism, non-farm entrepreneurship, climate resilient agriculture and livestock management, agroforestry and a plantation-based restoration initiative.

Partner Name: Nayara Energy Limited & Basix Municipal Waste Ventures (Technical Partner)

Project Name: Coastal Care Under Nayara Energy's Habitat Improvement and Conservation Initiatives.



NEW PROGRAM INITIATED 2

₹ Project Value: Rs 330 Lakhs

🕒 Project Tenure: 3 years

🎯 Objective:

- To address the major concern of solid waste management and promote better waste management practices among residents.
- To ensure sustained cleanliness and address immediate cleaning needs.
- To facilitate Behavioral Change Communication (BCC) to improve health and hygiene.
- To build relationships, resilience, and connectedness among various stakeholders with the coastal care initiative.

Partner Name: HDFC Bank

Project Name: Project HIGHLAND



Partner Name: HDFC Bank

Project Name: Project SAAKSHYAM

NEW PROGRAM INITIATED 3

₹ Project Value: Rs 924.74 Lakhs

🕒 Project Tenure: 3 years

🎯 Objective:

- Empowered community & Social Capital
- Improved Livelihoods & Economic Prosperity
- Community & Climate Resilience
- Local Collaboration & Convergence
- Developed Community Champions (Cadres) & Drive Transformation

₹ Project Value: Rs 581.65 Lakhs

🕒 Project Tenure: 3 years

NEW PROGRAM INITIATED 4

Glimpses of the Quarter



Village meeting for Formation of Harit Narmada Sangathan, Madhya Pradesh



Celebration of Jatar Mahotsav, Odisha



Plantation work at the Narmada Riparian Areas, Madhya Pradesh



Institutional Training of CEO and BODs for Khingtai FPC at Chowkham, Arunachal Pradesh



Project Inception meeting with the community, Delhi



Launching of FPC's own cattle feed brand "Revatiri", Madhya Pradesh

Media Corner

पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने की कवायद: सतपुड़ा टाइगर रिजर्व में मढ़ई के पास मढ़ई के पास ग्राम छेड़का में चने 4 होम स्टे

पर्यटकों को मिल रहा देशी साग-भाजी के साथ ग्रामीण जीवन शैली का अनुभव

Newsmile
न्यूज विव स्माइल

सतपुड़ा टाइगर रिजर्व में पर्यटकों को देशी साग-भाजी के साथ ग्रामीण जीवन शैली का अनुभव मिल रहा है। इससे पर्यटकों में देशी खाने की रुचि बढ़ रही है।

ग्राम छेड़का में बना होम स्टे।

7 होम स्टे तैयार, चार में सैलानी उतरने लगे

सतपुड़ा टाइगर रिजर्व में पर्यटकों को देशी साग-भाजी के साथ ग्रामीण जीवन शैली का अनुभव मिल रहा है। इससे पर्यटकों में देशी खाने की रुचि बढ़ रही है।

जीवन दर्शन के साथ खलिहानों की सफारी भी

होम स्टे में रहने वाले सैलानियों को खलिहानों की सफारी का अनुभव मिल रहा है। इससे पर्यटकों में खलिहानों की सफारी की रुचि बढ़ रही है।

ग्रामीण जीवन शैली से परिचित करा रहे

होम स्टे के जरिए पर्यटकों को ग्रामीण जीवन शैली का अनुभव मिल रहा है। इससे पर्यटकों में ग्रामीण जीवन शैली से परिचित होने की रुचि बढ़ रही है।



Stories Of Change

THE “BIKE DIDI” OF GONDIA

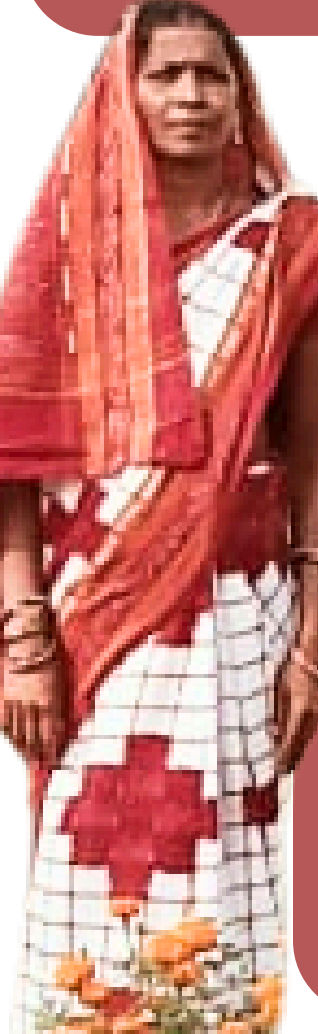
Meet Nandini, a spirited and fearless force in the remote villages of Chichgad, Maharashtra. Known locally as “the bike didi,” her swift rides through the dense forests—often considered Naxalite territory—have become a familiar sound in the region. Nandini’s dedication to her role as a Community Resource Person (CRP) for our High Impact Mega Watershed Project (HIMWP) in Deori, Gondia district is evident in the miles she covers, whether on her bike or on foot.

Every day, she travels 3-4 kilometers through fields to collect data and understand the conditions first hand, building a vital connection with the community. Her open and confident approach fosters trust, as she engages people in detailed discussions about the project and its benefits. Funded by the Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation (BRLF), this project empowers Nandini and her community to improve watershed management for sustainable development.

At IGS, we are inspired to have Nandini on our team. Her commitment and courage drive us forward, and we’re thrilled to support her journey as she grows into an even stronger leader. Nandini is one of the champions helping us reach new heights. Though this story originates from Deori, one of the blocks in Gondia, IGS is rolling out the watershed development project across four blocks—Gondia District, Aamgaon, Deori, and Salekasa—covering 50,000 hectares and impacting numerous villages. This initiative is supported not only by BRLF but also in partnership with the MGNREGS Cell, Government of Maharashtra, and Axis Bank Foundation.



THE TRANSFORMATION OF SABITA PATEL: FROM RICE FARMER TO MARIGOLD ENTREPRENEUR



Sabita Patel, a small land holder farmer from Limdhipada village in Sundargarh, had long struggled with erratic weather, high input costs, and fluctuating market prices while cultivating traditional crops like rice and vegetables. Unpredictable monsoons often led to poor yields and financial stress.

In 2022, after yet another disappointing rice harvest, Sabita decided to explore alternatives. Hearing about the success of marigold farming from a neighboring village, she learned that marigolds, widely used in festivals and ceremonies, were more resilient to climate fluctuations. Determined to improve her family’s livelihood, Sabita attended workshops organized by IGS APC staff in Tangarpali to gain knowledge about marigold cultivation.

With an investment of Rs 10,000, she procured high-quality seeds, compost, tools, and pesticides and cultivated 0.25 acres of her family’s land to marigold farming. Despite initial setbacks, including irrigation mismanagement and pest attacks, Sabita sought guidance from APC staff, adjusted her practices, and persevered.

By Diwali 2023, her marigolds were ready for harvest. Selling 100 kg at Rs 100 per kg, Sabita earned Rs 10,000—significantly more than rice or groundnut farming. Inspired by her initial success, she expanded her farm and began selling to larger markets.

By 2024, Sabita’s income from marigolds had grown to Rs 25,000. She employed local workers, paid off debts, and reinvested in her farm. Sharing her knowledge with fellow farmers, she became a role model for sustainable and organic farming. Sabita’s journey is a testament to resilience, adaptability, and the transformative power of diversification.

Welcoming New Employees



Abhinav Kumar
Field Executive



Adarsh Kumar
Field Executive



Amit Kumar Pandey
Field Executive



Anand Kumar
FPC - CEO



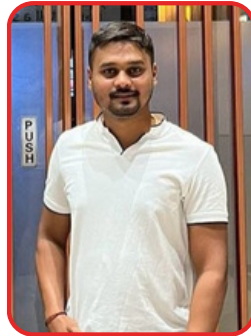
Arnab Jyoti Saikia
Accountant



Balram Uikey
Cluster Coordinator



Basant Kumar
Project Lead



**Bhupesh Bhagwan
Bodke**
Field Coordinator



Debasish Khargharia
Social Mobilization
Officer



Dr. Akansha Sen
Veterinary Doctor



Gopal Patil
MIS & Knowledge
Management Officer



Joram Yazur
District Coordinator



Welcoming New Employees



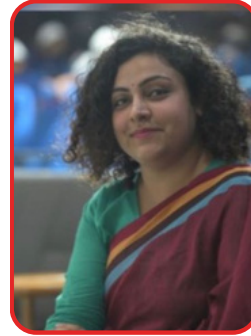
Jugal Prasad Singha
MIS & Knowledge
Management Officer



Kamal Chandra Nath
District Coordinator



Manish Pandey
Accountant



Mokshida Jogi
Team Leader



Omprakash Gujar
Cluster Coordinator



Pingaljeet Das
Tourism
Development Officer



Ranjeet Tawar
Agroforestry Expert



Rojalini Behera
Accountant



Sashibhusan Das
Project Manager



Shital Buddham Shakya
Field Coordinator



Snehal Balakrishna Gore
Field Coordinator

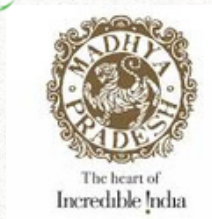


Trilochan Karki Chetri
Crop Husbandry Expert



Partners in Change

Existing Partners



New Partners





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