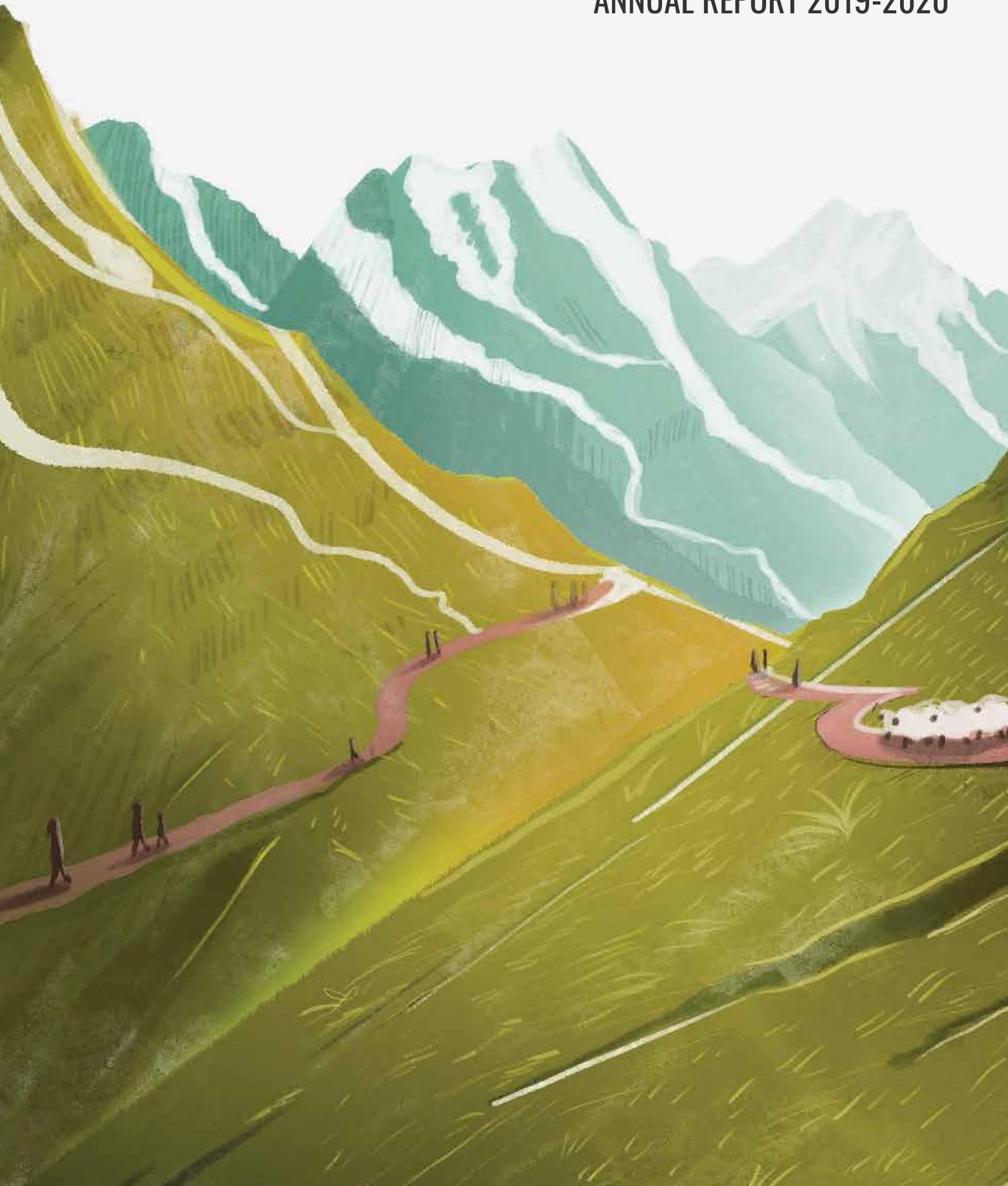




HIMMOTTHAN

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020



Himmotthan Annual Report 2019-2020

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HIMMOTTHAN

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

Himmotthan Focus Areas

Central & Western Himalayan Region

Uttarakhand: 11 mountain districts

Himachal Pradesh: Kangra & Sirmour districts

Union Territory of Ladakh: Leh district

Himmotthan is presently operating in the Central Himalayan region of Uttarakhand and parts of the Western Himalayan region including two districts of Himachal Pradesh, i.e. Kangra and Sirmour along with Leh district in the Union Territory of Ladakh. The mountainous landscape across the region although share a lot of commonalities, however the micro level diversity along with different pace of regional development across the States and the Union Territory demands localized approaches and solutions.

Himmotthan, the associate organisation which manages the Himmotthan Pariyojana since 2007 has focused on localized alternatives led by organized community and community institutions, with the best possible option of technology immersion.

As Covid-19 pandemic has severely disrupted regional-national and international supply chains across the world. The presence of strong community institutions along with micro enterprises with well-established regional value chains has to a certain extent enabled these communities to withstand the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic. Himmotthan is presently reaching out to more than 87,000 HHs, 1627 villages, 45 blocks, and 14 districts spread across two states and one union territory region.

The organisation realigned its strategies and committed itself through a mission statement in 2015 which aimed to enhance to the quality of life of over 100,000 households through 50 self-sustained institutions, and sustainable and resilient livelihood interventions.

The 2015 “Himmotthan Pariyojana” with its following verticals (i) Institutional building & Micro finance (ii) Livestock (iii) Agriculture & horticulture (iv) Education, overlaid by (v) Water security and sanitation is a reflection of the same. As of today, Himmotthan has reached out to more than 1627 villages. Villages sharing the same geographical features have been grouped into clusters. The cluster approach with a strong women-led community institutional structure at the core further helped in grounding, tested technologies, best practices, mountain-specific micro-finance models.

The reach out strategy revolved around, “Integrated Village Clusters, with two or more overlaying projects”, aimed towards harnessing the latent potential through catalytic interventions and mitigating the mountain specific challenges, such as mountain farming system linkages, low farm productivity and high transportation costs.

Community institution & livelihood

Villages: 1627

Clusters: 64

Districts: 14

States: 2

Union Territory: 1

Self-Help Groups: 5128

Members: 41873

Self-Reliant Cooperatives: 50

Savings: 990 lakh

Women led enterprises annual turnover 2019-20:
Rs. 926 lakhs

Water, sanitation & hygiene

- 133 villages, reaching out to 7000 households
- 227 drinking water schemes
- 573 rainwater harvesting structures
- 6961 sanitation units

Outreach

64

Development clusters across
2 Himalayan states &
one union territory

87,000

Households

1,627

Villages

45

Blocks

14

Districts

171

Number of employees

200 Million INR

Budget



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Himmotthan's Governing Board



Ms. Vibha Puri Das
Chairperson
& Ex. Secretary, GOI



Dr. Rajesh Thadani
Treasurer
& Livelihood and Forestry Advisor
to Tata Trusts



Mr. Arun Pandhi
Member (Ex-Officio
Tata Trusts Nominee)
& Director- Program Implementation,
Tata Trusts



Mr. Ashish Deshpande
Member (Ex-Officio
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& Secretary & Chief Financial Officer,
Tata Trusts



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University, Uttarakhand



Member (Ex-Officio,
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Secretary Rural Development,
Govt. of Uttarakhand



Dr. Malavika Chauhan
Member (Ex-Officio,
Tata Trusts Nominee)
& Deputy Director- Strategy,
Tata Trusts



Dr. Yashpal Singh Bisht
Member Secretary
(Ex-officio, Tata Trusts Nominee)
& Regional Manager, Tata Trusts
& ED, Himmotthan Society

Message from the Chairperson



Himmotthan is presently reaching out to more than 87,000 households across 14 hill districts of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and the Union Territory of Ladakh. The community institution network nurtured by Himmotthan consists of more than 5,128 Women's Self-Help Groups from 1,627 villages who have federated themselves under 50 self-reliant cooperatives spread across in 64 clusters having a representation of more than 41,873 households, which continues to strengthen itself through adopting new technologies and innovations.

The unique micro climate of these clusters is being appropriately cultivated and harnessed through cluster specific inputs in terms of technology, market solutions and regional resource specific enterprises. Place based planning model that Himmotthan has adopted across its geographies rests on five pillars i.e. (i) Defined geographies; (ii) Increasing competitiveness and preparedness of communities; (iii) Creating local development strategies; (iv) Capitalize on local uniqueness through valley and cluster approach; and (v) Healthy co-relation with nearest peri-urban markets. The results are visible and community institutions are moving towards self-sustenance.

As part of integration approach Himmotthan is working closely on Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and assisting local authorities on developing village action plan and building capacity of water committees. Water management efforts have been taken forward with the support of Forest Department and more than 100 springshed plans were prepared and now under implementation phase by the Forest Department. Similarly, agri marketing is providing an additional support to household income. Education layering to same cluster is benefited more than 10,000 children through various support extended by education programmes, by next year sports addition within education programme will bring in more inclusiveness.

As Covid-19 pandemic continues to strain the global and regional supply chains. The relevance of local models of growth becomes more pertinent. The ability of the community institution network to adequately adapt itself to the new realities brought about by the pandemic is reflected by SHG groups conducting group meetings using IT enabled tools. These tools have been effectively used to spread awareness messages to more than 4.50 lakh people during the early days of the pandemic. Community institutions, enterprises continue to re-align themselves in an effort to re-position themselves effectively against the new challenges.

As Himmotthan continues to fulfill its vision of "Building prosperous and self-sustained mountain communities which live in harmony and sympathy with their natural surroundings", through constant learning and adaptations. I wish every success and good wishes to all communities to emerge even stronger.

Ms. Vibha Puri Das
Chairperson
& Ex. Secretary, Govt. of India



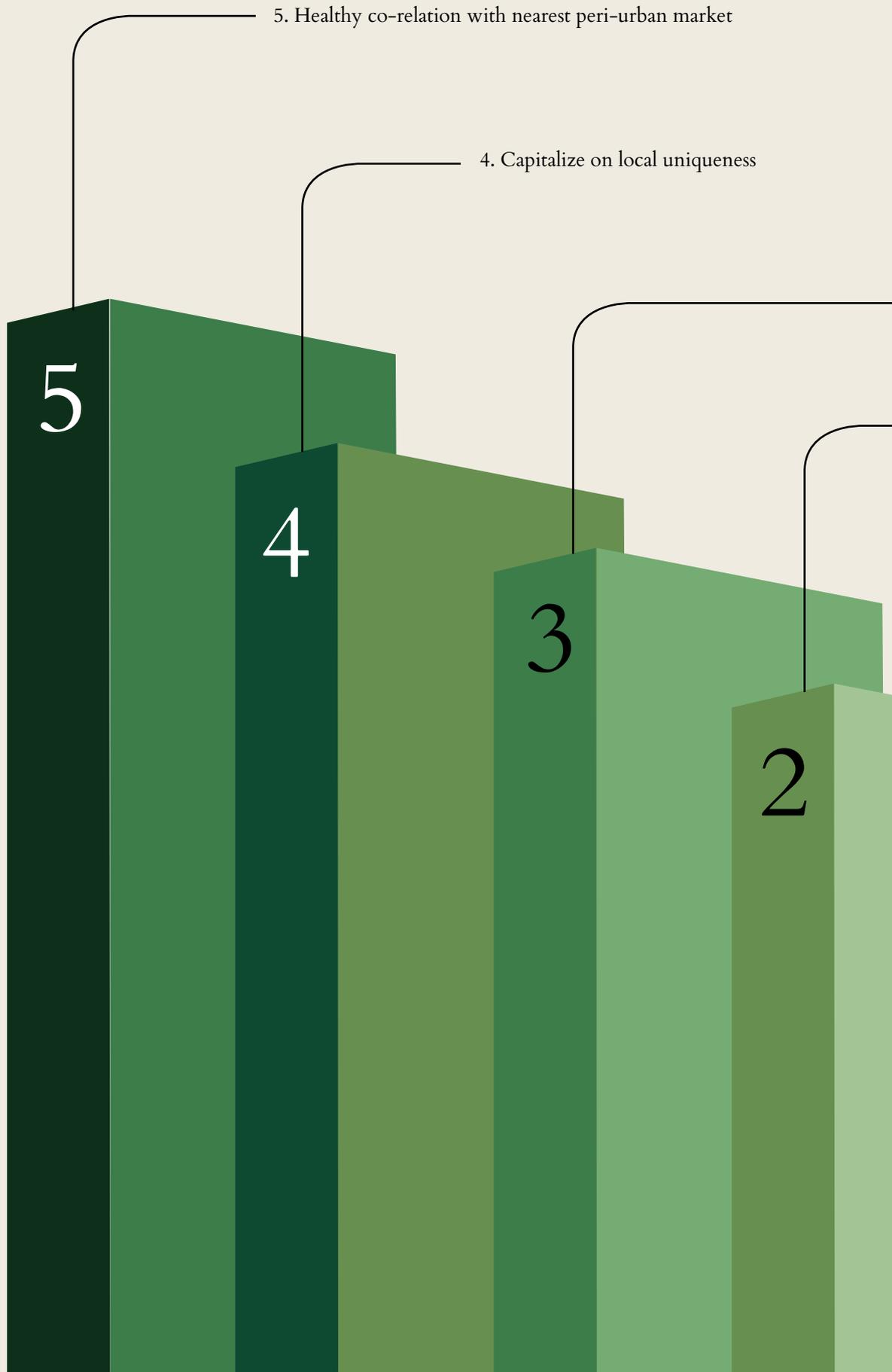


Place Based Development Approach

Program Implementation Framework

Like any other mountainous area, the Central and Western Himalayan region where Himmotthan operates is a constantly emerging landscape. The emerging landscape over the last few decades is characterised by improved road connectivity, development of horticulture, economic growth especially in urban conglomerates around and within the Himalayan landscape. A gradual shift from primary resource development practices to secondary and tertiary sectors is a visible pattern. This is being reflected by an increase in size, area, number and complexities of urban settlements in the Himalayas.

The resultant shift is being observed in environmental, social and cultural transformation. Rapid urbanization in the Himalayas has also provided a variety of socio-economic services and has contributed towards the development of infrastructure. The emergence of newer markets is also reflected by changing consumption habits. Food grains that can be availed either at subsidized prices or at a relatively lower rates when compared to the input costs and labour involved in producing the same, is now showing a visible change in agriculture practices. The predominance of cash crops especially vegetables is a reflection of the same.

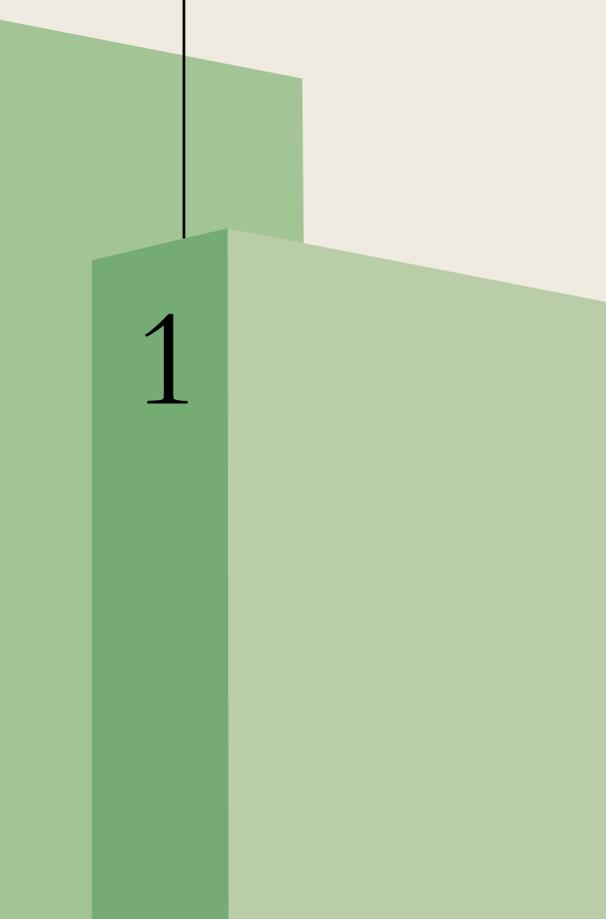


Pillars of Himmotthan's Place Based Approach

3. Creating local development strategies

2. Increasing competitiveness & preparedness of communities in the defined geographies

1. Defined geographies



1

1. Defined Geographies

Mountain geographies have very specific requirements/opportunities/challenges. The unique micro climate of one valley might be quite distinct from the adjoining valley, as such the approach for addressing the two will be quite different. Historically, the specificities of localities have been ignored often intended to minimise differences between places. This has been further catalyzed by the growing trends towards urban based agglomeration reinforced by the argument based on “Economies of Scale”.

The concentration process often helps in triggering off resource and service concentration in and around an urban agglomeration, leaving the scattered community across a vast hinterland to figure out adaptive strategies on their own. This trend often leads to further socio-economic changes reflected by intra-regional migration and associated changes in land use pattern, which is reflected by changes in agriculture/horticulture and livestock rearing practices across the hinterlands.

Himmothan over the years have adopted strategies, that help communities across the hinterlands to counter these challenges, and constantly re-align themselves with the changing socio-economic and climatic changes that are bringing in new challenges, both within their micro climate and also the changes developing across the landscape.

In order to capitalize on the micro climate based targeted intervention the following key strategies are adopted -

- **Valley based geographical cluster development approach**

The Himalayan topography across the various altitudinal zones are dotted with valleys large and small. These valleys have to a great extent influenced the human habitation settlement pattern along with the livelihoods systems.

- **Cluster approach**

Himmothan adopts a cluster approach and currently operates in 64 clusters spread across 14 districts & 45 blocks across Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

2. Increasing Competitiveness & Preparedness of Communities in the Defined Geographies

Strengthening local capacity for action is one of the focus areas of Himmotthan. The role of localities and regions is slowly getting greater importance in overall economic growth. Himmotthan over the decades has extensively focused on women led community institutions, the foundation being the Women's Self-Help Groups. The spread of Self-Help Groups across the development clusters is aimed to ensure participation of different villages as a cohesive unit. As the number of Self-Help Groups gradually increases and the cluster gets its due representation, these groups are encouraged to institutionalize themselves into cooperatives. An institutionalized community under a legal umbrella is often more equipped and prepared to counter any challenges and also has a good bargaining power during sales and purchase of commodities and services.

Strengthening community resilience

The ability to counter the constantly evolving challenges across the Himalayan region, that are increasingly getting acute and complex as a result of socio-economical-geographical and climatic changes rapidly transforming the Himalayan landscape, remains an active area of intervention of Himmotthan. A resilient community is considered to be a prime factor to execute any place-based rural development initiatives.

The interventions are aimed toward strengthening the community to utilize existing resources and also to overcome adversities such as

- Demographic challenges
- Climatic changes
- Associated financial challenges
- Dominant market forces and associated hurdles

The Foundation Unit

Village and its landscape

Village being the foundation unit of any program implementation. Himmotthan has tried to ensure that the required inputs-information sharing and dissemination remains open-clear and transparent. Although village remains the foundation unit, the landscape extending from the village also holds key importance. The immediate landscape of the village helps in identifying the geographical/climatic/natural resources and the associated agriculture-horticulture-livestock and off farm options available to the community.



Changing landscapes and Self-Help Groups, relevance and forms

At the village level the Self-Help Groups remain the foundation stone for any development intervention. By the early 90's the rural habitation pattern had significantly changed, relevance of cash over commodity has become obvious and predominant. The habitation pattern of earlier villages was more compact, ensuring more vibrant-reliant and active working relationship, the changing village landscape is now reflected by more scattered households. The resultant change to a certain extent can be associated with loosening social and economic bonding and inter-dependency. Other factors like increasing dependency of commoditized products from urban centers, reduction in agriculture production, change in life style and a resultant increase in the cost of living also contributed in different degrees. Under these changes and also the new emerging challenges, the social vacuum which developed and is felt to be growing is to a certain extent being fulfilled by Self-Help Groups.

Himmotthan since its operations has made extensive efforts towards strengthening the social bonding of the villages through Self-Help Groups. The bonding and pride associated within the members for their own fellow members and to the collective strength achieved by individual members in the form of a federation can be safely concluded as the core strength and success of any development intervention amidst the fast changing socio-economic landscape across the Himalayan region. Till date Himmotthan has been able to mobilize 41873 households into 5128 Self-Help Groups that have federated themselves into 50 Self-Reliant Cooperatives across 1627 villages across Uttarakhand, Himachal and Ladakh.

3. Creating Local Development Strategies

Valley based approach and clusters (64 clusters)

Almost all the village habitations across the Central and Western Himalayan Region falls within one or two valley systems. The valley system across the Himalayan region are characterised by unique micro climate that defines the livelihood options available for the residing community. Each river valley system offers different challenges and opportunities. The unique micro climate of different valleys is suitable for raising different agriculture and horticulture produces. Himmotthan has been trying to harness the unique agro climatic conditions of the valleys, to capitalize upon the positives associated with specific landscapes and put into place catalytic interventions both at the individual and at aggregate level.



4. Capitalize on Local Uniqueness through Valley and Cluster Approach

An important factor affecting the population number of villages in mountainous areas is the height of the territory. When the height increases, the share of agricultural lands decreases, the climate becomes colder, the sphere of agricultural activities becomes smaller. In order to make these units viable to compete with the nearby and emerging markets, the options available are limited and the most viable alternative becomes to aggregate.

Himmotthan is presently working in 1627 villages across the two Himalayan state and the Union Territory of Ladakh. The social-ecological-climate factors along with cultural and economic factors that help in homogeneous grouping of these villages into 64 development clusters. Each cluster owing to its uniqueness offers different opportunities and challenges.

The development strategy adopted by Himmotthan aimed towards harnessing the opportunities available and to counter the challenges has helped in bringing out local resource specific products and services from each of these 64 clusters.

5. Healthy Co-relation with Nearest Peri-Urban/Local Markets

Census towns or peri-urban areas are growing at a rapid pace across India, the Himalayan geography where Himmotthan operates is not immune from this development. These peri-urban areas are intrinsically linked with the city economy, experience constant transformation and are often characterised by a mix of rural and urban activities. These areas are inhabited by native population generally engaged in agro based, livestock rearing, etc. as well as by migrant population who perform non-farm activities. Since census towns are not governed unlike statutory towns, the governance is largely managed by rural local government bodies like panchayats. Himmotthan over the years has been trying to establish and strengthen working relationships of villages scattered around these clusters with these townships. In order to maintain a harmonious and mutually benefiting relationship, the market forces and the community institutions at the village level have to constantly review and re-align themselves. Goods and services exchange between these units is one of the critical areas of Himmotthan's approach towards enterprise promotion.

1

Communities & Community Institutions



Relevance of community institutions amidst socio-economic changes

The concentration of resources in and around growing urban conglomerates further boosts the marginalization of inner-rural areas. The issue of migration is not new in the Central and Western Himalayan regions, therefore Himmotthan since its inception has focused intensively on cluster approach, strengthening community resilience towards geographical-climatic and economic factors through building village level groups, and further institutionalizing them into a legal entity such as a federation or cooperative.

The role of women in this entire process has been kept at the core.

Himmotthan along with its partners have been able to mobilize over 87,000 households across 1627 villages of 13 mountain districts in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh & the Union Territory of Ladakh. The 2,821 Self-Help Groups with 24,850 members have been further federated under 47 Women's Self-Reliant Cooperatives.



The focus of interventions included –

- Strengthening of leadership
- Strengthening financial literacy and operationalization mechanism of enterprises
- Increasing the membership and shareholders of institutions
- Business planning, execution and proper monitoring of enterprises
- Build market linkages for marketing of village produces through cooperatives

- Strengthening linkages with banking and other micro finance institutions, Government programs

During the last five years' different local resource based enterprises being managed by the women's cooperatives managed a business turnover of Rs. 3,585 along with a credit surplus of Rs. 1,354 lakh to promote individual and group-based enterprises. Dairy, CFCs and agri produce based enterprises at SRC level and poultry, goatry and off farm-based enterprises at SHG level having major adoption ratio.

1.1: INTEGRATION OF MICRO FINANCE INITIATIVE (2015 TO 2021)

Project geography

Uttarakhand, Himachal and Ladakh – 1,269 villages, 41 blocks and 14 districts
1,185 villages across 33 blocks of 11 districts of Uttarakhand
44 villages of 03 blocks from Kangra and Sirmaur districts of Himachal
40 villages of 05 blocks from Leh district of Ladakh

Targeted community

100,000 HH from 1,000 villages

Project aim

To enhance the quality of life for over 100,000 HHs, through self-sustained institutions and sustainable & resilient livelihood interventions of approximately 1000 villages in 40 clusters in the Central Himalayan regions by 2020

Project objectives

Integration of HMS programs with community institutions to focus on systematic expansion of institution led businesses with providing credit access and marketing linkages. Skill building of local youth to perform as service providers to strengthen the services to farmers at the door steps, sustainable operations and management of cooperative led enterprises.

- Training and capacity building of SHGs, cluster federations, block cooperatives and or producer companies to strengthen operations, management and governance
- Technical and advisory support to federations / cooperatives and producer companies to diversify businesses, undertake market research, product development and brand development
- Ensuring access to credit / working capital / capital expansion loans / grants to community institutions for livelihood investment
- Building linkages of SHGs, federations / cooperatives, producer companies with banks, government programmes for accessing finances for credit and capacity building
- Reducing risks and vulnerabilities of member households of SHGs through linkages with insurance (life, health and productive assets), social security schemes and other entitlements

• Model development on integrated microfinance and livelihoods in 5 blocks in collaboration with government schemes i.e. State Rural Livelihoods Mission (SRLM), Integrated Livelihood Support Project (ILSP).

Project progress update

Himmatnagar started integrating community institutions with its programs in 2009-10, to incorporate community-based microfinance into different programs. On the basis of the previous experiences HMS started Integrated Micro Finance Initiative in 2015 with focusing on systematic business expansion of community institutions. Beginning with 1,285 SHGs program made an outreach to 2,821 SHGs with 24,850 members. These institutions build a corpus of Rs. 1,354 lakhs from their monthly saving and mobilizing resources from banking, MFIs and government programs to provide easy accessible credit to the members for their business, educational, health and domestic requirements.

Utilization of credit in a productive way is one of the major important aspect of micro finance programs. Inter-loan percentage increased in last four years from 52% to 70% on total amount of monthly saving, credit mobilized from banks and MFIs and amount repay by the members. Members repayment ratio is also moving upwards with 76% in 2019-20 in comparison of 60% in 2016-17. Ratio of productive loans is also on the increasing side with raising from 49% to 68%, as members found the ways to increase the income with involving in income generation activities.

Promoting farm and non-farm based livelihoods to both members and non-members of institutions is the prime aim of the initiative. Self-Reliant Cooperatives are operating and managing 28 micro dairies, 12 animal feed cum agro processing units, 35 common facility centers, 02 food junctions and 02 spinning and weaving Units.

As agriculture and horticulture is one of the major components of food security and income generation, 26 SRCs are engaged in cultivating and marketing of agriculture produce e.g. pulses, millets, traditional crops, vegetables, and spices. Few of the SRCs are also put a step forward in the field of eco-tourism, cultivation of mushroom, aromatic plants and medicinal herbs. The businesses of SRCs are in expansion and extension mode with reaching around ten lakh of annual turnover with paying almost 75% back to farmers in form of the price of their products and services.



SN Outputs	Progress FY (2019-2020)	Cumulative Progress (2015-2019)
1. Self-Help Groups (No.)	175	2,821
2. Women SHG members (No.)	1,884	24,850
3. Self-Reliant Cooperatives or Farmers Producers Organizations in function (No.)	06	47
4. Member's monthly saving	204 Lakhs in INR	990 Lakhs in INR
5. Credit mobilized from banking and MFIs	119 Lakhs in INR	422 Lakhs in INR
6. Grant support mobilized SRLM	39 Lakhs in INR	164 Lakhs in INR
7. Credit (Inter-loan) provide to SHG members	492 Lakhs in INR	1307 Lakhs in INR
8. Working capital mobilized by SRCs/FPOs	79 Lakhs in INR	420 Lakhs in INR
9. Cumulative turnover of SRC businesses	926 Lakhs in INR	3,585 Lakhs in INR
10. Cumulative profit of SRC businesses	49 Lakhs in INR	124 Lakhs in INR

CASE STUDY

Community Institutions: Leading the Way from Disaster to Livelihoods Sustainability

A case study of 10 villages (Uttarkashi)



A brief about the region

Uttarkashi had a history of surviving with disasters as it lies in the main Alpine Himalayan belt, one of the most earthquake prone regions of the world. The district facing both natural as well as anthropogenic causes resulting from unplanned development of land, forest cover, flood plain, tourism and uninterrupted population growth at urban centers near the bank of river Bhagirathi. The earthquake in 1991 followed by Varunawat landslide in 2003 and flash flood of 2013 were the major disasters of the district which brought the significant changes in the geographical and societal scenario of the region.

Uttarkashi lies high in the Himalayan range, and was part of district Tehri Garhwal before constituted a separate district on 24 February 1960. The district is bounded on the north by Himachal Pradesh state, northeast by Tibet, east by Chamoli District, southeast by Rudraprayag District, south by Tehri Garhwal District, and on the west by Dehradun District. According to the census 2011, Uttarkashi district has a population of 3,30,086 with a population density of 41 inhabitants per square kilometer (110/sq. mi), sex ratio of 959 females for every 1,000 males, and a literacy rate of 75.98%.

The major challenge after any disaster is restoring livelihood sources. Main source of livelihood in the area is agriculture, allied activities and tourism, and flash flood of 2013 affected both in majority.



AFTER PARTICIPATING IN THE RESCUE AND RELIEF OPERATIONS IN THE REGION, THE HIMMOTTHAN SOCIETY STARTED THE 05-YEAR LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION PROGRAM WITH SUPPORT OF TATA SUSTAINABILITY GROUP (TSG) IN 10 AFFECTED VILLAGES OF BHATWARI BLOCK IN PARTNERSHIP OF WELL-KNOWN NGO SHRI BHUVNESHWRI MAHILA ASHRAM (SBMA). THE MICROFINANCE INITIATIVE WAS THE CORE OF LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION PROGRAM WITH DEVELOPING A 'WOMEN LED COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE' TO LEAD THE INITIATIVE.

Livelihoods promotion – Community institutions and challenges

Financial inclusion is increasingly being recognized world over as a key driver of economic growth and poverty alleviation. Apart from these benefits, financial inclusion (FI) imparts formal identity, provides access to the payments system and to savings safety net like deposit insurance, and enables the poor to receive direct benefit transferred in a leak-proof manner. At a macro level, greater FI is considered crucial for sustainable and inclusive socio-economic growth for all. The potential for development in the various sectors of the economy such as primary sector (agriculture and allied sectors) and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector is enormous.

Uttarakhand faces a huge challenge in promoting livelihoods in rural environments due to lack of infrastructure and public facilities and problems in retaining quality human resources in rural areas. The limited access to affordable financial services such as savings, loan, remittance and insurance services by the vast majority of the population in the rural areas is believed to be acting as a major constraint to the growth impetus in these sectors. Uttarakhand is having total of 2,366 bank branches including of 1,141 in rural areas up to FY 2019-20. The Credit-Deposit (CD) Ratio of the state is very low and fluctuating between 40 to 52% in the duration of last 05 years with a considerable variability across districts and as expected, the hilly districts usually registering CDRs with less than 36% in last 05 years. The loans distributed to SHGs in proportion to their savings in banks is very low with only a total of 38% in last 04 years. However, outstanding loan amount of INR 40,871 lakhs on SHGs and 30% Non-Performing Assets (NPA) ratio is on higher side and might be one of the major factors of poor SHG-Bank relations to provide credit facility to SHGs.

One of another reasons for this is that financial institutions are usually apprehensive in providing funding to groups for their consumptive needs and promotion of different livelihood activities, as they perceive women and the poor as 'high risk clients'. The demand for financial services to promote enterprises in mountains requires a system, which allows rural communities to engage in low risk and multi-production strategies, the provision for small loans, and which further allows loan repayment in frequent, small instalments. However, that being said, it must be emphasized that easy access to credit services alone is not an effective tool to strengthen rural communities. It is equally, if not more important, to organize Community Based Organizations (CBO) for bringing in common strength, promoting both social and economic growth and development, along with collective production and marketing linkages.

SHGs - Bank linkages in Uttarakhand - last 05 years

Box-1

Financial years	SHG savings with banks		Bank loan distributed		Bank loans outstanding against SHGs		NPA of banks against SHGs	
	No. of SHGs	Savings (INR Lakh)	No. of SHGs	Loan distributed (INR Lakh)	No. of SHGs	O/S Amount (INR Lakh)	Amount (INR Lakh)	NPA% against outstanding loan
2015-16	42,595	5,025	4,104	20,905*	17,384	9,891	1,996	20.18%
2016-17	46,930	4,350	2,567	2,438	14,489	7,104	1,812	25.53%
2017-18	48,141	7,988	4,415	2,587	17,193	9,012	3,972	44.07%
2018-19	54,053	8,778	5,353	2,980	13,249	5,983	1,942	32.47%
2019-20	73,973	10,690	6,346	4,184	16,354	8,882	2,398	27%
Total		36,831		33,093		40,871	12,121	29.66%

Status of microfinance in India - NABARD (2014-15 to 2019-20)

*88% of total loan to SHGs in FY 2015-16 was distributed by Cooperative banks. This is 506% higher than FY 2014-15.

Over the past many years, various microfinance and livelihood programs have attempted, or are engaged in strengthening SHG/federation bank linkages to promote livelihoods. Despite this, there is little current evidence to indicate that livelihoods have been strengthened due to improved SHG-Bank linkages, the primary reason being that SHG based programmes normally do not pay sufficient attention to forward and backward linkages of an enterprise.

A brief profile of community institutions, its growth - Trends

Self-Help Groups-Federation model, the major form of delivery of micro-finance in India have brought about dramatic changes in the lives of lakhs of women. SHGs recognized as community-based organizations of poor and basically seen fundamentally as entitles for saving and borrowing. SHG and Federations got a distinctive identity from beginning of 1990-91 onwards with leadership role provided by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

The SHGs were introduced in Uttarkashi region in 1991 with a purpose of having last mile connectivity for implementing the development programs. These institutions rapidly grown in last two decades with involvement of Non-Governmental Organizations and government supported schemes e.g. SGSY 1999, Swayamshidha (2001-02), Swa-shakti (1998) and later National Rural Livelihood Mission in 2011. SHGs. However, the SHG-Bank linkages and credit availability was dependent on the promoting agency. Usually the SHGs formed and supported by banks and government program/scheme were in the reach of credit support from banks but the target-based approach and poor support mechanism resulted in low repayment ratio and increased outstanding loan amount. So, the groups formed by the other agencies were found to be more engaged in savings, using their own savings to support other group members, other rural development initiatives. This resulted in the enterprise component of the SHGs got sidelined.

Growth of community institutions in 10 villages of Bhatwari block

Himmotthan with partner organization Shri Bhuvneshwari Mahila Ashram formed new SHGs with the families not engaged earlier with institutional framework, and adopted the older ones with restructure according to the microfinance norms. Didsari, Heena, Ganeshpur, Jamak, Uttaron, Naitala, Maneri, Nald, Bayan-Lunthru and Siror are the villages with 1,617 households and a population of 8,231 to form the cluster for the intervention.

The base of the institutions was developed in the first 02 years of the program with adopting and forming 44 SHGs with 452 members with the saving of INR 6.35 lakh and credit mobilized from other sources e.g. membership fee, loan and bank interests. Since the beginning the SHGs stick to the ground rule of regular meeting, saving, inter loan, repayment and recordkeeping. In result up to March 2020 villages reached to 52 SHGs with 683 members, a saving of INR 39 lakh and amount of INR 20.48 Lakhs mobilized from interest earned on interloan to members, and from banks on their monthly savings. Inter-loan, which was INR 13 Lakh in the year 2015 has reached up to Rs. 46.51 in 2019.

With the kitty of INR 58.87 Lakhs in last 05 years, these SHGs provided credit of INR 1.36 crores to their members for agriculture and allied related business promotion, Education and health, asset creation and domestic needs. The mixture of ownership on their own deposits and peer pressure maintained a positive average repayment annual ratio of 84%. Productive loan ratio is 40% of the total loan used for small individual on farm and off farm businesses with providing 312 members a cumulative income of INR 328.39 Lakh in last 05 years. The per member loan amount is also on increasing curve from INR 12,000 in 2015-16 to INR 20,050 in 2019-20. The exponential increase in inter-loan and repayment is an indicator of healthy practices being followed and also substantiate the basic principal of SHG that is “The Collateral of Loan is trust and peer pressure”.

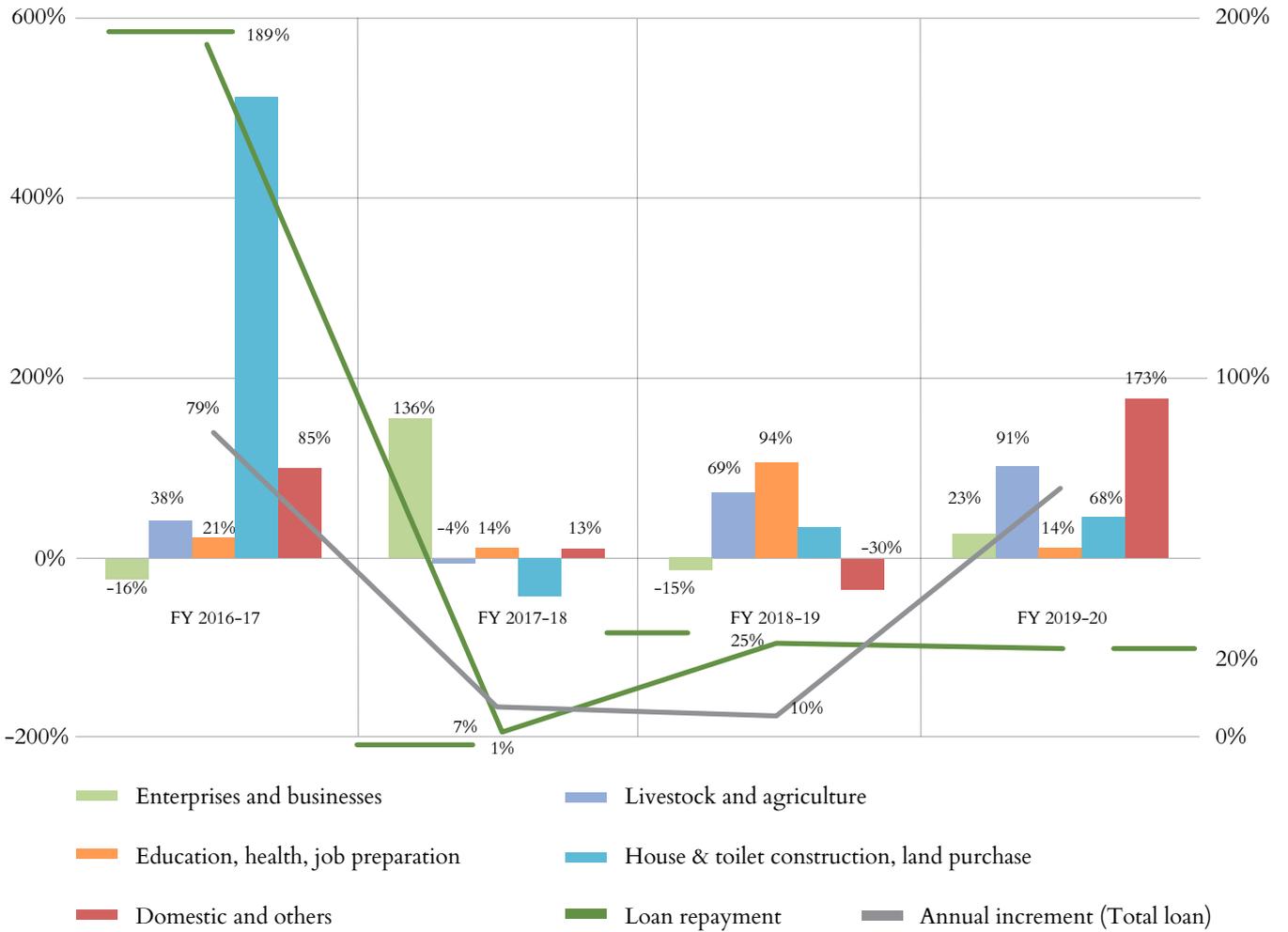
Saving, credit mobilization and utility - Uttarkashi

Box-2

	2015-16	2015-16	2015-16	2015-16	2015-16	Total
Members monthly saving (INR in Lakh)	3.92	6.37	6.94	7.04	7.78	32.05
Members taken loan (No.)	109	175	169	188	232	873
Loan utilization (INR in Lakh)						
Enterprises and businesses	3.59	3.03	7.16	6.12	7.50	27.40
Livestock and agriculture	2.60	3.60	3.44	5.80	11.09	26.53
Education, health, job preparation	1.83	2.22	2.52	4.90	5.61	17.08
House, toilet construction, land purchase	1.40	7.78	4.31	5.44	7.63	26.56
Domestic and others	3.66	6.76	7.65	5.39	14.69	38.15
Repayment of loan	7.68	22.17	22.32	27.8	33.49	113.46

HMS-SBMA MIS data bank

Credit utilization - Annual comparison (District Uttarkashi)



SHGs-Gangotri self-reliant cooperative and enterprises relationship

Gangotri Self-Reliant Cooperative was formed in February 2015 by the SHGs with aim of providing them a common platform to think together on finding out, operate and manage business opportunities and develop link between production enhancement-market-credit linkages. Himmotthan and SBMA were in the role of facilitating forces with providing technical guidance and critical infrastructure support to Gangotri SRC. The SRC and SHG

bonding is operating and managing micro dairy, common facility centre, animal feed cum agro processing unit and agriculture surplus marketing with a cumulative turnover of INR 1.5 Cr. in last five years. The increasing members interloan in proportion of SRC enterprises related to agriculture and allied sector is a sign of business relationships of SHGs and Gangotri SRC.



The major business achievements of Gangotri SRC in last 05 years are -

- Developed as onion seed production cluster and became a supply agency to government horticulture department and seed agencies
- Cattle, goatry and poultry feed manufacturer and supplier
- Catering the substance amount of milk requirement of the Uttarkashi town with micro dairy
- Providing critical agri-horti and livestock related input supply services to farmer's door steps

Outcomes and future directions

The story of these 10 villages of Uttarkashi is the perfect example of the quote "The opportunity that lies in every crisis". Both 1991 and 2013 disasters set the new trends of willingness and finding ways to stand on their feet again. The communities have been able to utilize the opportunities, not only to bring back their own individual businesses but developing an institutional framework to start community led enterprises. The availability of district headquarters and road network was taken as opportunity to enhance marketing of their surplus produces. As they had very little external credit, the best use of savings and strategies to enhance their credit corpus emerged.

The community institutions (SHG-SRC) of Uttarkashi are ready for the next stage of growth - whether it is towards empowerment or entrepreneurship or a combination, and would be needing capacity building inputs and management support accordingly. The joining hands with multi aimed National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) may provide an opportunity for the SHGs to setup SHG based enterprises with strengthening the SHG-Bank credit aspect. Rural tourism and seed production are the two major areas for the community institutions of Uttarkashi to focus on in the future.

The individual and institutional bonding of members and business relationships between SHGs and Gangotri Self-Reliant Cooperative are core of the success of community institutional framework; continues communication, coordination and income generation linkages between members-SHG-SRC is going to strengthen the bonding and establishing Community Institutions as leading livelihoods supporting agency in the district.

2

Agriculture



Himmotthan initiated the agriculture portfolio in the year 2013-14 with small scale pilot's in few clusters under maximizing mountain agriculture program which is at present in its second phase. The agriculture theme of Himmotthan is covering 330 villages with 15,646 households presently. The major intervention areas so far have been, promotion of field crops through improved seeds and production technologies, seed production of mountain specific crops and varieties including production of seeds of local cultivars with selection and multiplication methods, promotion of farm machines which are suitable for small terraced fields and liable to decrease the drudgery of small holders, creation of irrigation infrastructure to boost production of high value crops, harvest and post-harvest mechanization, and linking women self-reliant cooperatives and apex institutions with market for surplus agri commodities. Over the last five years, the yields of mountain crops have increased which has directly enhanced the food security and farmer's income from pre-intervention period in the mountain villages across Uttarakhand. The formation of apex institution above farmer self-reliant cooperatives has started giving the purity and surety of quality to the urban consumer and is returning the dividends reaped by value addition to the rural women farmers in various clusters and valleys across Uttarakhand.

2.1 KEY GAP AREAS AND STRATEGIES BEING IMPLEMENTED

SI	Key area	Key problem/Gap area	Strategy/interventions implemented
1	Production	Traditional practices regarding cultivation keep production low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of appropriate production technologies • Seed production and purification of local cultivar through selection and multiplication • Introduction of improved varieties with appropriate package of practices • Promotion of nurseries for high value crops • Improved practices for soil health management, pest and disease control
2	Climate change & irrigation	Erratic rainfall in recent years has caused a drop in production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shifting of sowing time of crops • Introduction of short duration, high yielding varieties • Implementation of various irrigation technologies and innovations • Adoption of climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies
3	Mechanization	Faulty land development and cultivation practices and high drudgery in agriculture operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction and promotion of farm machines and solar based processing and irrigation technologies • Establishment of farm machinery banks in collaboration with Govt. line departments
4	Post-harvest	Post-harvest losses, the unavailability of uniform quality raw material, and a large percentage of impurity in the products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grading, sorting and de-stoning machines has been put in place, which is being run by community institution • Capacity building of farmers on harvesting, drying, cleaning and storage technologies
5	Wild animal	Wild animal menace has become a big problem to the farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of aromatic and culinary herbs • Exploration of technologies and its pilots
6	Processing and market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market supply chain of pulses is very long and unorganized, shrinking profit margins for producers in the absence of a safety net • Diverse production geography as per crops leads to a challenge for one production entity to collect other products for suitable product portfolio • Prevalence of local middlemen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An organized and collective marketing network established • Over the years, efforts have been made on organising women into groups at the village level and federations at the cluster level, with focus on skill enhancement for running a range of micro-enterprises. Further, an apex level institution/ FPO of cooperatives was formed to facilitate bulk processing, branding and marketing of key agri commodities of member cooperatives • Apex level FPO in collaboration with its shareholders started procurement and marketing of products under uniform quality control standards, wherein share holder institutions given the responsibility to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure timely & quality product from farmers • Cleaning, handpicking as per specified parameters • Storage of bulk sale Apex FPO role is to ensure- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality control as per SoPs, • Transportation to processing facility • Grading, packing • Brand promotion and marketing

Therefore, an integrated, community institution-driven model is being promoted and strengthened to establish a systematic, sustainable, agri commodities value / supply chain in mission mode for the solution of identified gap areas.

2.2 CAPTURING THE AGRO-CLIMATIC DIVERSITY AND ESTABLISHING PRODUCTION CLUSTERS

Walthi- Munsyari, Pithoragarh Cluster

Crops & produce: Kidney bean, potato, amaranthus, red rice etc. are the major agriculture crop of the cluster. Some wild medicinal crops are commonly known as kutki, faran, kida jari, kali haldi etc., that are collected by villagers of the project area from the alpine zone after following all legal processes. Apart from field crops medicinal crops can be a project intervention part through enterprise promotion activity.

Project focus: Field crops- kidney bean, red paddy, amaranthus, etc.

Ramgarh, Nainital Cluster

Crops & produce: The selected crops in the cluster are rajma (kidney bean), tur, gahat, millets and vegetable.

Project focus: Pulses, millets and vegetables.

Kotabag (Hilly and Bhabar area) Cluster

Crops & produce: The clusters of villages are famous for cultivation of high value vegetables i.e. french bean, vegetable pea, tomato, etc. and some of pulses i.e. chick pea, black gram in lower and rajma in upper hills are main crops.

Project focus: Pulses, vegetables and seed production of important mountain crops.

Devprayag, Tehri Garhwal Cluster

Crops & produce: This cluster is also known as daal ghati, it is famous for the production of pulses like tur (Pigeon Pea), gahat (Horse gram), chick pea etc., There are some millet crops like finger millet, barnyard millet and amaranthus commonly grown in the cluster.

Project focus: Pulses and millets

Kapkot, Bageshwar Cluster

Crops & produce: The major agriculture crop of the cluster are cereals (red paddy and wheat), pulses (rajma, gahat, soybean, tur) and millets (barnyard millet, finger millet and amaranthus), condiments (bhang seed, bhangjeera, jakhiya) which are commonly grown in the project village of the cluster.

Project focus: Red paddy (lal dhan), rajma, condiments are some of the major produce emerging out from the region for commercial purpose.

Raipur (Hilly area), Dehradun Cluster

Crops & produce: Off-season vegetable (pea, french bean, potato, leafy vegetables, etc.) production and marketing is prime livelihood activity in the cluster.

Project focus: Vegetables & ginger production and onion seed production.

Dugadda, Pauri Garhwal Cluster

Crops & produce: This project cluster falls under mid hills (1000 to 1500 meters) most of the area under this zone is unirrigated pulses, millets, wheat etc. This area is also suited for pears, apricot and other stone fruits. This area is also suitable for aromatic and culinary herbs production.

Project focus: Aromatic and culinary herbs and pulses production

Chaukhutia, Almora Cluster

Crops & produce: The Chaukhutia valley is famous for paddy wheat rotation due to availability of fertile land and year round irrigation facilities.

Project focus: Over the year's project has made trials of various basmati and high yielding wheat varieties. Now area is emerging out as a basmati cluster and project is planning to establish a rice shelling unit in the region.

Silyara, Tehri Garhwal Cluster

Crops & produce: Paddy– what rotation is main crop in valleys, however, pulses and millets are secondary focus crops in mid and high hill areas.

Project focus: Basmati, seed production of wheat, paddy, rai, etc.

Karnprayag, Chamoli Cluster

Crops & produce: Pulses like rajma (kidney bean), gahat (horse gram), tur, soybean and millet like finger millet, barnyard millet, foxtail millet, amaranthus are commonly grown under the project.

Project focus: Pulses and millets

Kathpuriacheena, Bageshwar Cluster

Crops & produce: Pulses like pigeon pea, paddy, wheat, spices are the main crops in the cluster.

Project focus: Over the year's project has successfully established onion seed production (Rabi) and pigeon pea (Kharif) crops as a commercial crop in the cluster.

Ganeshpur, Uttarkashi Cluster

Crops & produce: Spices i.e. chilly, turmeric, coriander, garlic and onion are key crops. Paddy – wheat rotation is popular in valleys and pulses like kidney bean are grown in hilly terrains.

Project focus: Cluster is being developed as species cluster, therefore onion, coriander, chilly, garlic crops promoted for commercial and seed production purpose.

Each production cluster has different climatic condition, slope, altitude, aspects and variations extending to even short distances, where micro climate changes due to interaction of these various factors. The farmers not only understand this but have adopted farming practices accordingly over the generation. Therefore, Himmotthan has adopted the local cluster and valley based approach for enabling production cluster based on the local resources, environment, skill sets and experiences of local community.

2.3 ONGOING PROJECTS

2.3.1: MAXIMIZING MOUNTAIN AGRICULTURE PROJECT - MMAP

Supported by
The Hans Foundation

Project geography
6 clusters of villages in 6 blocks- Kathpuriacheena (Bageshwar), Chaukhutia, Dabka Ghati (Kotabag), Baandal Ghati (Raipur), Ganeshpur (Bhatwadi) and Silyara (Bhilangna)

Targeted community
90 villages across the 6 blocks of 6 hill districts of Uttarakhand.

Project aim
To improve the quality of life and incomes from agriculture for 5,000 farming families in 90 villages in 6 village clusters of 5 mountain districts of Uttarakhand.

MMAP was designed to take forward the successful pilots of the last project (a pilot project supported by the TATA TRUSTS during the years 2014-2017) in a scaled up manner across the 06 project clusters in the state for the period of three years (2017-2020).

Key achievements (Year 2019-20)

- Two cluster level vegetable nurseries established for supplying the quality planting materials to the farmers.
- 174.28 ha land of 3044 and 1959 farmers covered under improved production technologies respectively during Rabi and Kharif seasons.
- 1034 farmers have done seed production of mountain crops in 36 ha area. Seed production of 8 Kharif and 5 Rabi prominent crops were carried out.
- 263 groups (having 2496 members) has nurtured under the project and mobilized 111 lakhs saving. Out of which 57 SHGs received Rs. 8.1 lakhs revolving funds under NRLM project.
- A total 6 community facility centers running at cluster levels by cluster level self-reliant cooperatives has done business of Rs. 72 Lakhs. The objective of community facility centers is to ensure the supply of critical and quality inputs to the farmers in remote villages and also to provide institutional marketing support to the farmers for selling their agriculture-produce to the higher markets.
- To popularize the farm machineries, 2 farm machinery banks established and 28 farm machine supplied to farmers in collaboration with agriculture department.
- Vegetable marketing initiated through cluster cooperatives and supplied to mother dairy and local APMCs.
- Mobile seed processing unit and seed testing laboratory was established, which is being managed by Baandal Ghati Self-Reliant Cooperative. Baandal Ghati SRC has supplied approx. 5 quintals seed of onion (variety VL3) to VPKAS (an ICAR Institute), State Horticulture Department, various NGOs and FPOs working in the state and farmers.
- Bio-Composting technologies and practices and IPM/ IPNM practices were promoted with 802 farmers.
- 21 ha land was brought under irrigation through creation of irrigation infrastructures.
- 2178 farmers were trained on various agronomic and postharvest processing technologies.



2.3.2: MISSION PULSES: UTTARAKHAND

Supported by
Tata Trusts

Project geography

12 blocks- Munsyari, Kapkot, Bageshwar, Chaukhutia, Ramgarh, Kotabagh, Raipur, Karnprayag, Devprayag, Dugadda, Bhatwadi and Bhilangna.

Targeted community

500 villages across the 12 blocks of 9 hill districts of Uttarakhand

Project aim

To enhance the incomes of 30,000 mountain pulse and legume farmers through productivity enhancement, improved post-harvest processes and collective marketing initiatives.

• 1895 Qtls of the Rs.46. 2 lakhs value vegetable has been marketed to Mother Dairy, APMC Keshopur, APMC Dehradun, Jwalapur and Rishikesh through cluster cooperatives.

2. Crop production

Technologies and management

• A total 272 ha small farm cultivated with improved technologies or management practices focusing mainly key pulses, millets, cereals, spices and herb crops.

• 94 compost units have been established so as to improve the soil health and better crop production.

• Staking through vertical nets in rajma (kidney bean) crop is one of key area of innovation of new technology, which was found very suitable for the region and widely being adopted by farmers for cultivation of rajma.

3. Farm machinery

• 64 farm machines have been introduced and supplied to farmers/ farmer groups in convergence with Agriculture Department. Farm machineries are very popular in many clusters.

4. Capacity building & training

• On farm training of 3,202 farmers were conducted on package of practices, production and post-harvest technologies.

5. Other key activities

• Clean energy initiative has been designed, under which various processing machineries to be promoted by using the solar energy.

• 5 years' perspective planning exercise conducted for developing the agriculture and horticulture strategy for the state under Himmothan Pariyojana Program.

• Community Institutional base of 694 Self-Help Groups, 12 cluster level self-reliant cooperative and one apex FPO is the focal point for project intervention and which are being nurtured for production enhancement, post harvesting and marketing.

Key highlights described in following main heads:

1. Post-harvest handling, agri commodities, collection, processing, branding and marketing

• Post-harvest losses are still a grey area in mountain specific agriculture crops. These losses are due to transportation, moisture loss along with low price realization due to ungraded produce are some of the challenges being addressed through the project. The Farmers' Cooperative are being provided adequate training, equipment's and know how to reduce post-harvest losses. Introduction of primary grading at farmer's field along with introduction of grading, sorting and de-stoning at cluster level are some of the inputs being introduced through the project. Processing of seed and grains has initiated using mobile seed processing plant through Farmers' Cooperatives is one of the key achievement.

• Agri commodities collection and processing was main activity during the year. A total of 403 quintals of agri produce procured and 343 quintals marketed by Apex FPO. The total business turnover of pulses, millets and processed spices was Rs. 29 lakhs. Agri commodities was marketed through retailers, wholesale buyers and exhibitions. Currently more than 20 agri commodities of mountains pulses, millets, cereals and spices are being marketed by apex level FPO. Agri commodities are being sold through more than 12 wholesale buyers and similar number of retail outlets including 3 hotels of Taj Hotel Groups.

2.3.3: LAKHPATI KISAN PROJECT

Supported by

Jointly by Axis Bank Foundation (ABF) and Tata Trusts

Project geography

8 blocks- Chamba, Raipur, Karnprayag, Devparayag, Dugadda, Kotabag, Bageshwar and Munsyari

Targeted community

200 villages across the 8 blocks of 7 districts in Uttarakhand.

Project aim

The project aims to ensure that households are irrevocably brought out of poverty with increased life choices, and earn an income of more than rupees one lakh.

Project objectives

- Community centered approach, where the Self-Help Group (SHG) Federation and village organisations spearheading the development processes.
- Market-led interventions, to ensure higher production and to markets. Various options of market linkages have been worked out with aggregation for dealing with traders and in places working with Farmer Producer Organisations (FPO).
- Demand-led activities, to enable increased demand from the community through their empowerment. Through the community institutions, demands from within the community are collated and quality products (seeds, fertilisers, etc.) and services provided to the households. The emphasis is towards creating demand for better livelihoods rather than dependency on doles.
- Innovations to move beyond stereotype. Innovative products / activities such as nurseries for quality planting materials, loan based livelihood prototypes, solar irrigation linked with drip and mulch, farm mechanization, etc. are being focused along with the innovative processes of community leading the action.

Key highlights

The core focus of the programme is meeting the aspirations of rural communities through specific livelihood prototypes, water conservation and irrigation systems through community institutions. The emphasis is always on the community ownership for the sustainability beyond the life of the project. Till March 2020, approximately 146 hectares land of 1800 households have been brought under various irrigation schemes and overall, 5000 households have been covered under different Agri and allied activities.

Two community led micro-dairies were established for milk

marketing through community institutions. These dairies were established in Kotabag and Chamba blocks and with a capacity of 1000 liters each. Also, Rs. 19.7 lakhs were provided to 400 women of 40 Self-Help Groups (SHGs) as a revolving fund for support in various agri related entrepreneurial activities.

Key interventions for climate change impact mitigation

Keeping in mind the unwanted changes in climate (erratic rainfall, heavy rains, cloud burst, rising temperature, drought appearance, hail-storms, thunderstorms, etc.), the climate change impact mitigation practices are being introduced through the project. Key interventions includes: (i) Anti-hail net for protecting onion seed crops from hail storms; (ii) Shade net for the onion crop, vegetable nurseries and sapling production during rising temperature and winters; (iii) Biomass mulching with paddy straw for moisture conservation in the soil; (iv) Introduced micro irrigation technologies; e.g. drip irrigation, laser drip system, and sprinkler for water saving practice as well as more crops per drop of water; (v) Introducing low cost water harvesting ponds and rain water harvesting techniques for providing critical support irrigation; (vi) Introducing climate resilient crops in rain-fed areas; and (vii) Adopting of improved package of practices in cultivation such as raised beds, line sowing, bunding of fields, promotion of composting technologies and IPM/ IPNM, etc.

Key Output of Irrigation Interventions

1053

Household brought under irrigation (Nos.)

146.46

Area covered under irrigation (Ha.)

245

Water harvesting tanks constructed

10

Gravity enabled pipeline constructed

2

Solar power enabled water lifting schemes

7

Water pumping pumps (Diesel) (Nos)

Seed Production

A way from subsistence to sustainable agriculture



Women of Uttarakhand play an important role in agriculture and animal husbandry. It is also evident with a wide participation of women in government and NGO run agricultural program. The reasons for this may be many but the major one is the migration of youth to cities for livelihood. Moreover, agriculture in hills is merely for sustaining the partial food requirements of the family. In this context, MMAP project also aims to target women farmer to increase their income from the agriculture and simultaneously improve the nutritional intake of family.



Shanti Devi is one such beneficiary of this program who took up the opportunity and improves the status of her life through hard work. She is a resident of Chamol village of Bhilangana Block in Tehri Garhwal District. She has studied up to high school. She is married to Sh. Rampal Singh and has two sons. She is also responsible for taking care of her in-laws who also live with her. After marriage she involved herself in agriculture and animal husbandry along with other daily chores. Shanti Devi's both sons work in a hotel. Her husband is a tailor who works from home. He also helps her wife in fields. She also contributes to her family's income by working as daily laborer, whenever required.

In 2017, 'Himmothan Society' initiated a project 'Maximizing Mountainous Agriculture Project' (MMAP) which is being funded by 'The Hans Foundation'. The aim of this project was to increase the income of marginal farmers. Mount Valley Development Association (MVDA) is the implementing agency for Silyara cluster in Tehri district. Like others, Shanti Devi was also following traditional methods of agriculture before selection of her village under this project. To start with, a producer group named 'Narsingh Mount Valley Producer Group' was formed in this village. The project staff oriented group members on modern techniques of agriculture and introduced new varieties of seeds. The 'Package of Practice' (POP) for particular crops was demonstrated. 'Package of Practice' means collection of principles to be applied for farm production processes in order to get better results. They are simply practices used in agriculture to facilitate farming.

The members were trained on Diseases Management and Integrated Pest Management as per the requirement. Line sowing method was promoted and benefits of proper distance between each sapling/seed were enumerated. These techniques enhanced crop quality and increased overall production.

In 2019, Rabi season, Shanti Devi sowed an improved variety of wheat (variety WH-1105) on five nali (a local land measurement unit, 200 sqm = 1 nali) and Rai (variety Haatikan) on three nali land. Field staff of MVDA and Himmothan Society frequent the fields to monitor the crop health and counsel on diseases and crop management practices. Hence, there was no incidence of disease and pests in this period. The total production of wheat was 380 kgs and Rai seed was 17 kgs which was comparatively more than what she used to get through traditional methods. The total income from both these crops was Rs 10,400 after keeping 200 kgs of wheat for family's consumption. The Rai seed was more profitable as one kg of it was sold at the rate of Rs 400. Shanti Devi sold the surplus produce to Ujjawal Swayat Sahakarita.

Erratic rainfall and destruction by wild animals are some of the major challenges faced by farmers like Shanti Devi. It hampers the overall production and affects the income. Despite these odds, Shanti Devi is highly motivated and wishes to continue with production of seeds at a larger scale as the seed demands high prices in the market.

Poor Farmers are Harnessing Benefits through Adopting Low Cost Water Harvesting Structures in Uttarakhand

(A case of the joint initiative of Axis Bank Foundation and Tata Trusts)

Background

In Uttarakhand, agriculture and animal husbandry have been age old land use practices. A considerable area here is under settled agriculture (terrace farming). Agriculture is of critical importance in the state for human sustenance, as it supports ~80% of the population and forms the nucleus of most human activities in the state. Uttarakhand has a land area of 55,845 km² of which 80% is hilly and the remaining 20% is plain land. Total cropped area accounts for around 23.5%. The net area sown is around 14.5% and is under pressure to sustain a population of more than 50 million, almost 80% of which is rural. Only 11% of the total area is irrigated (in the hill areas), with the rest of the sown area being rain fed. Overall, the hill regions are characterized by low productivity, shortage of inputs, and lack of marketing, that have confined the villages to producing only for self-consumption. Remoteness and inaccessibility of hilly areas are also impeding factors to be able to achieve desired development. Though the average annual rainfall in Uttarakhand is about 1000 mm, the agricultural productivity is adversely affected by non-availability of sufficient water at critical stages of crop growth. Considering all these points, there remains no option but to appropriately harvest the available water resources at suitable locations.

In hilly areas, water is available in three forms namely, direct surface runoff, runoff through roof-tops of houses, and the discharge from natural water-springs. In order to minimize the adverse effects of water stress particularly at the productive stages of crop growth, the conservation of rainfall in soil profiles and providing irrigation through runoff /spring flow harvesting in ponds or tanks at suitable locations, are the only ways out to solve irrigation issues as well as enhance productivity of rainfed agriculture on high and medium hills in Uttarakhand. Hence, this study attempts to analyze the impact of the efforts of Himmotthan Society for the conservation and management of water for irrigation and other purposes in 6 rural clusters under Lakhpati Kisan Project, a joint initiative of Axis Bank Foundation and Tata Trusts in Uttarakhand.

Approach

Himmotthan has implemented conservation initiatives by constructing Low Density Poly Ethylene (LDPE) lined water tanks of different storage capacities (7.5 KL, 10 KL, 15 KL, 20 KL and 25 KL), which has proved to be technically feasible and economically viable among all the existing options for the hill farmers (study of VPKAS – an ICAR

Table 1: No. of LDPE tanks of various capacity constructed in 6 project clusters

Cluster	Number of constructed LDPE lined tanks with storage capacity (in KL)					
	7.5 KL	10 KL	15 KL	20 KL	25 KL	Total
Bandalghati	14	10	4			28
Dugadda	35	6	3	1		45
Devprayag	10	2				12
Jadipani	2	15	5	1		23
Kotabagh	29	22	12	11	4	78
Munsyari	12			3		15
Total nos of tanks	102	55	24	16	4	201



institute for hill farming research). This technique is the most appropriate for poor farmers as it can be implemented and maintained by the farmers themselves using their own labour and locally available resources. Though water requirements of the farmers are more, the size of storage structures has to be restricted according to water availability and topography of the location.

The construction of dug-out pond includes digging of a truncated reverse-pyramid shaped pit with 1:1 side slopes. The depth of the pond was restricted to 1 to 1.5 m only to easy and low maintenance also to avoid upward movement of the bottom soil due to buoyant force of water. The construction cost of this tank comes out to be much lesser than the brick masonry, stone masonry and other cement concrete tanks of the same capacity. Another advantage of LDPE lined tank is that this system can be constructed, repaired and maintained by the farmers themselves at a reasonably low cost.

During last one year duration, 201 LDPE tanks (Table-1) were constructed with the total storage capacity of 20.95 lakh litre water at one time. Initially, 434 households from 62 villages of 6 clusters in both the administrative divisions of Uttarakhand were benefitted. After this initiative, an area of ~24.2 ha (Figure-1 in next page) in the targeted villages was brought under irrigation.

The harvested water has judiciously and efficiently used for cultivation and irrigating the high value cash crops in the region. It has been found that the off-season vegetable production is one such option where farmers can fetch high returns for their investments. Important vegetables like tomato, pea, brinjal, capsicum etc. along with onion, garlic, etc. have shown significant increase in their productivity with the application of life saving irrigation at the right and the earliest opportunity.

The results indicate that supplemental irrigation helped in increasing the overall production by ~66% (Figure-2 in next page); whereas, the income generated by these cash crops has increased by ~89% (Figure-3 in next page) as compared to the past. This increment was observed due to changes in cropping pattern, introduction of cash crops and the varieties having huge demand in the market. Therefore, it is very clear that proper planning and management of available water resources can solve the problem of water shortage for irrigation and greatly enhance the crop productivity of large rainfed areas and thereby increase farmer's income of Uttarakhand State.

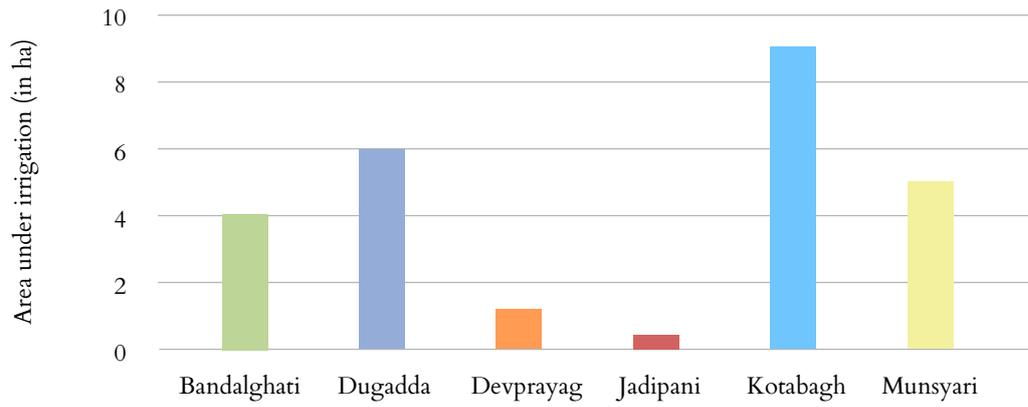


Figure 1

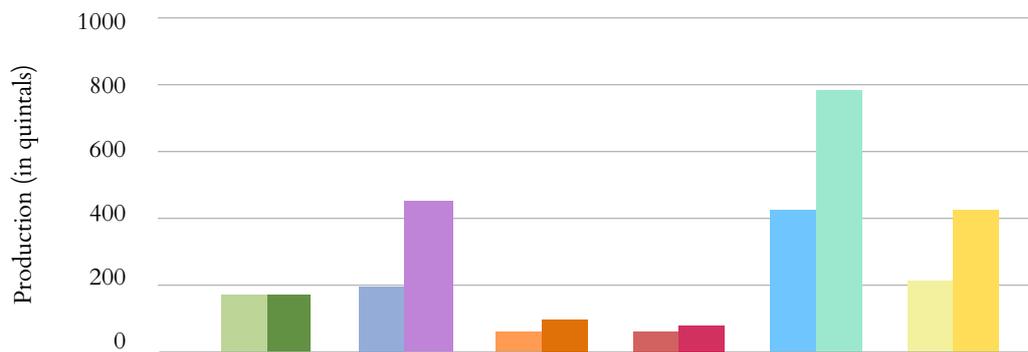


Figure 2

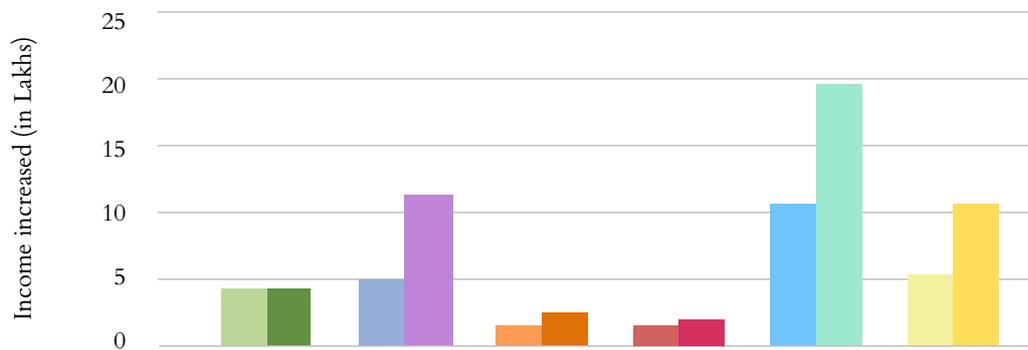
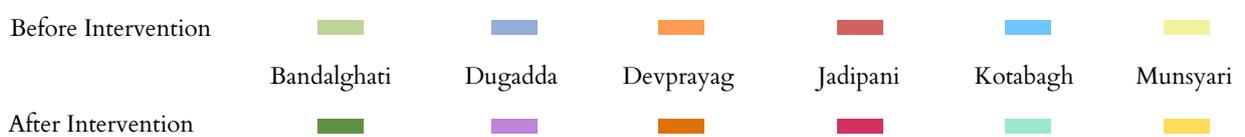


Figure 3



Agri-preneurship through Farm Mechanization

Himmotthan Society is implementing an agriculture program in 20 villages of Baandal Ghati cluster of Raipur block in Dehradun district with an objective of income enhancement of farmers. The activities are consisting of promotion of high yielding varieties coupled with production technologies, critical irrigation support, introduction of technology through farm machineries and other allied activities. The initiative began in the cluster in year 2017. During the time of need assessment, timely land preparation and ploughing was identified a major challenge as number of bullock pairs are very few in the villages for farming operations and farmers are forced to prepare field manually, which leads to faulty land preparation practices and also late sown of crops because farmers are not able to prepare field in sowing time. With this backdrop, Himmotthan has initiated piloting of farm machinery among few farmers in the cluster. Among them one farmer, Mr. Narendra Singh Panwar, a marginal farmer and resident of Village Sherkhi in Baandal Ghati cluster was wanted to do pilot of power weeder as his source of earning is labour work and land ploughing of fellow villagers with the help of Bullock.

Out of which Rs. 500/- is feeding cost and other expenditure, however net income is Rs. 1,000/- per day. One of the major issues related to the land ploughing was that there were only 3 pairs of oxen in the entire village and that was not enough to meet the demand of land ploughing of all villagers. Farmers were bound to hire bullocks for ploughing from another village and that was big loss of Narendra as land ploughing was his major source of income. Himmotthan team had been worked on a need basis strategy and established Farm Machinery Bank (FMB) with government support, which is owned by cluster federation. The cluster federation has leased out a power weeder to Narendra. He was trained on operation and maintenance of power weeder by the experts of Shri Enterprises (Supplier). Currently, Narendra is doing field ploughing with the help of power weeder and earning an average of Rs. 2,800/- per day (covering 30 Nali land in 8 hrs) by the ploughing business which includes Rs. 1,300/- operational charges (i.e. operator payment, machine fuel and service charges etc.), out of that the net profit Rs. 1,500/- per day. He gets average 50 days ploughing and field preparation work in all three season i.e. Kharif, Zaid and Rabi. Thereby, he is earning an average of Rs. 75,000/- (Rs. 1,500/- per day x 50 days) by providing the on –cost services of power weeder to his villagers. Villagers are also happy as the farmers are also getting more benefits out of it, these are: less time taking, ploughing cost is less as compared to bullocks, field prepared by machines are better, etc.



**NARENDRA SINGH OWNS A PAIR OF BULLOCK,
AND EARNING A TOTAL OF RS. 1,500/- PER
DAY BY PLOUGHING A TOTAL 2 BIGHA (8 NALI)
LAND IN A DAY.**

The success story became talk-of-the town in the project area and now many villagers adopted the power weeder for ploughing and land preparation. The ploughing of the fields with the help of power weeder has greatly reduced the agricultural workload of farmers especially women of the villages and allowed them to dedicate their time for other income generating activities.

3

Livestock



Livestock play very important economic and socio-cultural roles for the wellbeing of rural households. Livestock is an integral part of the age-old Integrated mountain economy system. Acute fodder shortage, non-descript livestock, traditional feeding practices, lack of fundamental infrastructure for animal health, management, and unorganized marketing often leaves the livestock sector at mere sustenance levels. To address the socio-economic gaps in the growth of livestock sector Himmotthan initiated livestock portfolio in 2008 with small scale pilots on feed and fodder development, breed improvement, better management and organized milk marketing. Targeted interventions towards feed, breed and health for large and small ruminants along with strengthening milk and milk value added value chains resulted in bringing more than 1560-hectare common land under fodder cultivation, establishing 29 decentralized micro milk dairies, 6 hybrid manufactured cattle feed units, 22 paravets and 828 animal sheds. The semi-intensive goat rearing model along with promotion of local bird-based poultry have been well adopted across the region.



Framework

The framework of Himmotthan Livestock Initiative across the Central and Western Himalayan regions can be broadly classified into four major components 1. Large Ruminants 2. Small Ruminants 3. Poultry 4. Sector Support Services and Value Addition-Market Support

Livestock value chain approach

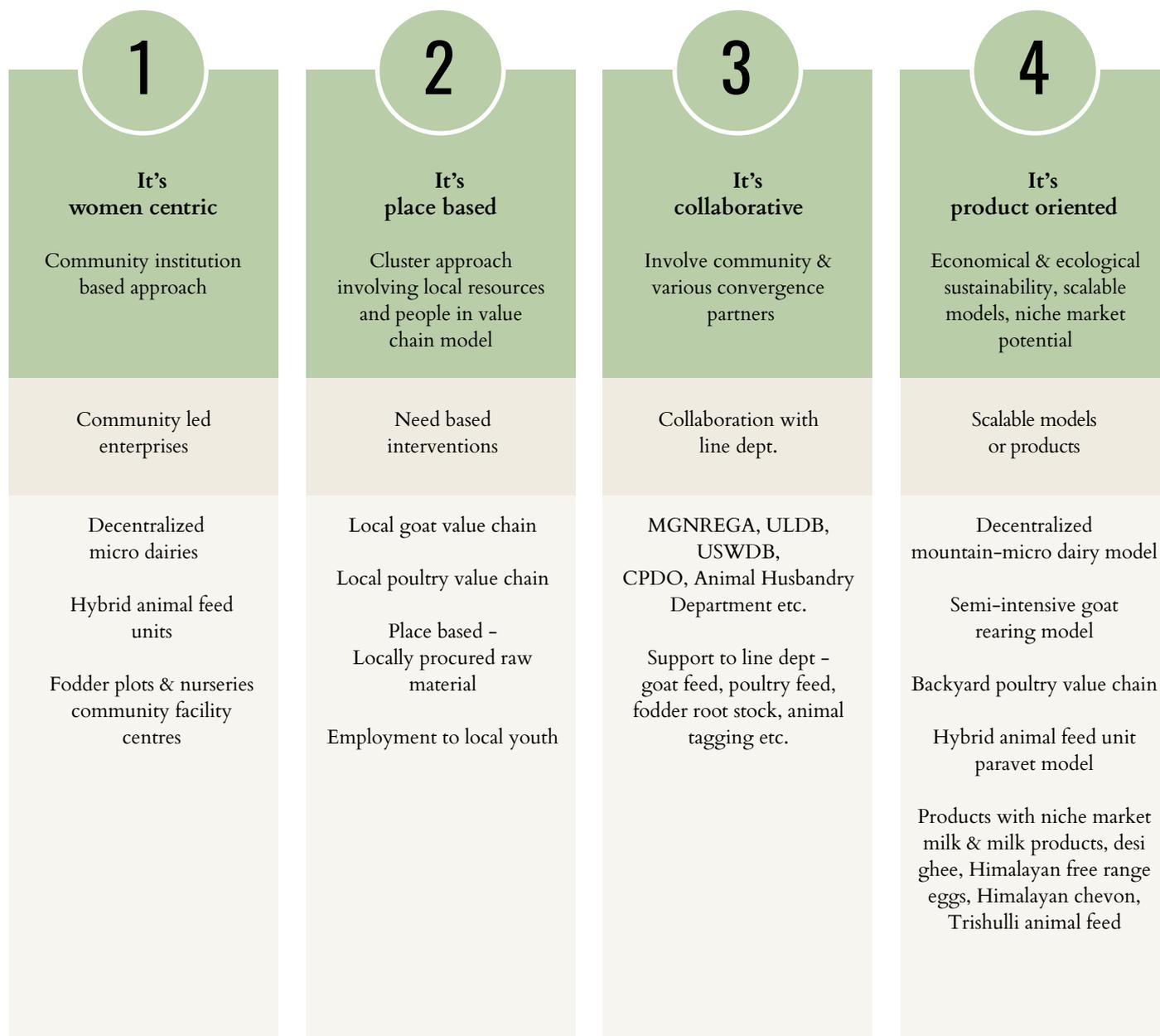
Himmotthan's Livestock Initiative has established local Decentralized Dairy, Backyard Poultry and Semi-Intensive Goat value chains in the Central Himalayas placing the women centric institutions in the core since its inception. Addressing the problem of breed, feed, housing, credit services etc. through institutional set-up with the goal of sustainability, Himmotthan has come up with several products and models, successfully handled by women lead federations as an enterprise with ecological and economical sustainability, which can be upgraded and replicated in coming years. Livestock interventions have

been made in collaboration with various line departments/vendors involving the community federation and farmers to strengthen the institution by building relationships to support its members even after the project ends.

Place based economy model approach

Established infrastructure and value chains run in cyclic manner to best utilize the local available resources (e.g. hatchery, local raw material for feed unit), which reduces the dependency of beneficiaries on the long-awaited services. At the same time, it provides opportunity of self-employment and job creation for youth with in the cluster at federation level (e.g. paravets, salesman, milk collector etc.) by capacitating them through various technical trainings, to enhance the income of the farmers by marketing its unique products like milk products, Trishulii animal feed, Himalayan free range eggs, Himalayan chevon etc. outside the cluster and creating niche market in urban areas.

Himmotthan's Place Based Economy Model in Central Himalayas - Livestock Initiative



3.1: CENTRAL HIMALAYAN LIVESTOCK INITIATIVE (CHLI)

Supported by
Tata Trusts

Project geography
30,000 HHs of 610 villages in 11 districts of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh

Targeted community
700 villages across the 12 blocks of 9 hill districts of Uttarakhand

Project aim
To enhance the quality of life for over 35,000 HHs, through self-sustained institutions and sustainable and resilient livelihood interventions of approximately 700 villages in 30 village clusters in the Central Himalayan regions by 2020

Key highlights

The achievements of the project during the financial year 2019-20 are as follows

1. Fodder plantation	99 ha	Convergence with MGNREGA
2. Animal shed construction	148 cattle, 41 goat, 16 poultry sheds	Convergence with MGNREGA
3. Milch animal placement	80	Soft loan model
4. Successful A.I. conducted	5730	Convergence with ULDB
5. Decentralized micro-dairies	3 upgraded dairies established; total 29 dairies operationalized	Annual collection & sale-10.27 lac lit, turnover of INR 3.97 Cr., paid back to milk producers INR 3.05 Cr.
6. Small ruminants	432 goats Soft loan of 1.9 lakhs distributed	Convergence with AH & USWDB
7. Backyard poultry	8508 eggs, 1771 birds sold & 2929 birds distributed	Convergence with CPDO
8. Health camps	6311 animals treated in 31 health camps	Convergence with AH Dept.
9. Animal feed	12 Units, 1760 Q animal feed sold	Turnover INR. 39.2 Lakhs
10. Technical trainings	1344 farmers trained	Convergence with AH, SRLM

Mountain Livestock Model

All the livestock models are mountain specific and are planned to strengthen, upgrade and scale up across the Central and Western Himalayan region in the next phase.



Mountain Dairy Model

Components of Dairy Value Chain

- Feed & fodder development
- Breed improvement & health services
- Enhancing livestock production system
- Improved animal rearing practices
- Micro-dairy establishment
- Credit services to farmers



Para-Vet Model

Objective

To upgrade the non-descript hill cattle & provide health services at farmer's doorstep. 22 locally selected youth trained from ULDB as para-vets providing services to farmers.

Results

- 3 times increase in improved progeny in intervention areas
- Milk yield increased to 6-7 lit/animal/day in upgraded animals
- Self-sustained para-vets earning INR. 15-20 thousand per month



Hybrid Animal Feed Unit Model

Objective

To provide balanced diet to the animals and promoting micro-enterprise in hills

- 6 hybrid units and 6 simple units operationalized.
- Technical guidance from ILRI

Results

- Self-sustained feed units providing employment to local youth
- Concentrate feed helped to improve milk yield by 1-1.5 lit/day in milch animals
- Agri-processing services are provided to farmers reduced women drudgery



Micro-Dairy Model

Objective

To establish organized milk marketing in rural mountain villages of Uttarakhand and income enhancement of farmers. feed, fodder, artificial insemination and health services, shed renovation and construction, milch animal placement, trainings, marketing systems established

Results

- 29 decentralized micro-dairies established in peri-urban areas
- Milk quality control
- Timely payment to farmers as per milk quality
- Self-sustained dairies providing employment to local youth



Semi-Intensive Goat Rearing Model

Objective

To support and enhance the income of poor marginal and landless farmers. Breed upgradation, balanced feeding and management in 4+1 and 8+1 semi-intensive goat rearing models promoted in collaboration with ILRI & AH dept.

Results

- Reduced excess pressure of forests and drudgery on women
- 5-6 kg increase in body weight under semi-intensive goat care units
- Goat farmers earning INR. 15-20 thousand in 4+1 and INR. 40-50 thousand/year in 8-10+1 goat rearing



Assisted Backyard Poultry Model

Objective

To support poor landless farmers and establishing value chain within cluster. Incubator, brooder unit, mother unit, backyard units and marketing of chicks and eggs to establish value chain within the cluster on pilot basis

Results

- Value chain established in 5 clusters
- DOC availability ensured within cluster
- Additional income of INR. 15 to 20 thousand per year throughout the value chain

4

Water, Sanitation-Hygiene (WaSH) and Water Security through Integrated Approach



Himmotthan and its Implementation Support Agency (ISA) in Uttarakhand started working in drinking water, sanitation with an added focus on hygiene and water security since 2002 and successfully implemented projects so far on to is 500 plus villages by constructing 227 plus gravity flow water schemes, 600 Rain Water Harvesting Tanks (RWHT) above 10,000 rural sanitation household units and providing water and sanitation facilities in 350 schools thus benefiting more than 25,000 rural households by end of 2019.



500
Villages

~25,000
Household

227
Water schemes

600
Rain water
harvesting systems

10,000
Individual rural
sanitation units

350
Schools-
Water & sanitation

127
Villages under
water security

During last year programme focuses on integration with in on-going Himmotthan's cluster and scale up WaSH initiative. Himmotthan's State Water Hub is actively working on design and innovation whilst building drinking water schemes focusing on water conservation, Water Sanitation & Hygiene (WaSH) in schools, supporting govt. mission Such Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) as behavior change through planned Information Education Communication (IEC). Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) Components of Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) has been added to 40 villages and 20 schools and Point of Use (PoU) ensuring better potable water has been introduced to 5,000 households.

Overall by end of 2019 - 500 villages and 350 schools were reached to water facilities by benefiting more than 25,000 Households. 130 gram panchayats obtained ODF status, 312 villages were mapped for water security, 127 villages were covered under water management works covering more than 500 hectares.



4.1: BLOCK OPEN DEFECATION FREE PROJECT

Supported by

Tata Trusts and HT Parekh Foundation

Project geography

Pithoragarh, Almora, Nainital and Tehri districts of Uttarakhand

Project objectives

- To achieve ODF status in Gangolihat block.
- Water security through participatory Springshed Management approach.
- Safe water through the improvement of point of use (POU).

Under BODF project Himmotthan Society is working towards improving understanding and practice of Safe sanitation and water management since 2016. Gangolihat block of Pithoragarh had become Open Defecation Free block in March, 2018 and now main focus is on sanitation sustainability. Himmotthan is promoting decentralized water governance model in the villages of Uttarakhand, clubbing spring augmentation to improve water security in mountainous region also helps in providing safe water by meeting commitments under Sustainable Development

Goals (SDGs) SDG-6-Clean Water and Sanitation. During 2019 we have 152 sanitation units, 13 schools were provided with water and sanitation facilities. 10 water schemes were completed, around 190 hectares were covered under water management plan and 40 villages were educated under MHM.

Key results

- Gangolihat block has become ODF block and 100% of households are using constructed toilets
- There is 60-100% increase noticed in the springs discharges after springshed recharge works
- Water security through community/UWSC participation in sustainable manner
- Reduction in water borne diseases through safe water practices
- Improvement in women/ girls health status through Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) approach
- Sanitation sustainability through regular IEC/BCC campaign



Project objective

The main objective is to improve community health through sustainable water supply and sanitation services.

Specific objectives are to-

- Deliver sustainable health and hygiene benefits through improvement in Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Services
- Achievement of “Open Defecation Free” status for all selected villages
- Protection of catchment area of tapped source for sustainability of scheme
- Health and hygiene awareness
- Women involvement and empowerment
- Enhanced access to information and knowledge
- Increase in rural income through time saving, medical expenses, kitchen gardening etc.
- Ultimately improvement in quality of life
- HESA/SARAR & IEC/BCC activities
- Waste collection & community model
- Catchment area protection work

The project is adopting new techniques such as water supply through solar grid, helping rural community demonstrate safe water supply through deep infiltration well, safe disposal of solid and liquid waste clubbing this with bio-gas. Spring shed management will bring in water security to springs, whilst gram panchayat and water committees will be capacitated to operate and maintain the assets created under the project. The project is currently being executed in 8 villages in which 03 are being covered under solar lifting scheme and 05 are through gravity fed scheme. Catchment area protection work, awareness programs are ongoing. The project is adopting the norms set out by the Government “Har Ghar Nal Se Jal” for the gravity-based water schemes.

The project is working towards an Integrated Village Development Model keeping the water component as centric. The project is exclusively focusing on household energy usage and introduction of bio-gas units as most of the households are rearing cattle. The initial phase of awareness generation has been conducted in all the 14 villages. 06 Govt. schools have been covered with WaSH facilities. 06 offline water filter of 50-liter capacity provided in schools. Individual household latrine support to 15 families out of 20, 09 biogas constructed & made functional, 15 compost pits out of 20. The catchment area treatment work is ongoing. Various trainings on vegetable cultivation, milk production, organic farming, fodder development, biogas, horticulture development and WaSH are being organized.

4.2: CLEAN ENERGY BASED WaSH SOLUTIONS IN UTTARAKHAND

Supported by
Titan Company Limited

Project geography
Almora, Nainital, Uttarkashi and Tehri districts of Uttarakhand

Project aim
The project aims to benefit around 1,000 households, through 15 schemes, spread across in Uttarakhand. The selection process of villages is purely on need based and demand driven, the priority is given to water scarce villages, villages that lost water schemes due to natural calamities.





4.3: PILOTING WATER SECURITY THROUGH INTEGRATED VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT MODEL

Supported by
Tata Consumer Products Limited (TCPL), Bangalore

Project geography
14 villages of Paonta Sahib Block, Sirmaur District of Himachal Pradesh

Key highlights

- Integrated activities for water security through livelihood support
- Water quality testing & awareness in all 14 villages done
- 09 biogas units out of 08 are completed & made fully functional

- 06 Govt. primary schools covered on WaSH
- 06 offline water filters with 50 liters of capacity provided in 06 schools
- 15 sanitation units renovation done out of 20 to the needy beneficiaries
- 15 compost pits completed out of 20
- 09 hec. out of 15 completed through horticulture plantation
- 05 rain gauges installed
- Awareness generation and training are on going

Policy & advocacy

Himmothan Society has shared its learnings and experiences of last two decades on various national and international platform like NITI Ayog, ICIMOD, IISc, World Aqua Congress etc. and now upscaling the concept of springshed management in Himalayan states.

5

Springshed Management



Mountain springs are the primary source of water for the rural households in the Himalayan region. There is increasing evidence that springs are drying up or their discharge is reducing throughout the Himalayas. Spring discharge is reported to be declining due to increased water demand, changing land use patterns, and ecological degradation. A combination of scientific, structural and social interventions aimed to increase the spring discharge in lean period can result in enhancing rural water security of the local community in the dry season. Local people were given adequate training and information to manage their own sources effectively.



Key highlights

- Water security plan has been developed in 87 villages of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Ladakh
- Springshed recharge works has been implemented in 67 villages/ Springshed
- A total 199-hectare recharge area treated under catchment treatment
- Spring learning center was established in Churedhar village of Tehri Garhwal district
- Highland lake revival works in Jaltola and Dayarani lakes in Pithoragarh district
- An online spring atlas web portal has been developed which provides information on 324 springs, and can be accessed at <http://himmotthan.org/vgis/wmap.aspx>
- Annual average increase in the spring discharge is 60-100 % after springshed recharge works
- Springshed management and lake revival has strengthen the ecological functions of the project area and also improves the downstream flows and benefitted a larger section of community

Policy & advocacy

Himmotthan Society has shared its learnings and experiences of last two decades on various national and international platform like NITI Ayog, ICIMOD, IISc, World Aqua Congress etc. and now upscaling the concept of Springshed Management in Himalayan states.

Springshed Management Consortium

A state level Springshed Management Programme has been initiated in Uttarakhand where a Springshed Management Consortium has been constituted under Chairmanship of PCCF/HoFF. Forest Department and other 20 line departments, civil society organisations, research institutes, universities and individuals are the part of it. Mr. Vinod Kothari, Coordinator-WaSH is acting as member secretary and Himmotthan is nodal agency for planning, capacity building and evaluation of the programme. Hydrogeological detail technical reports of 58 springshed across 9 hill districts has been covered. Forest Department has been implementing recharge works in the selected 58 Springshed.

Support for Jal Jeevan Mission

Himmotthan supported/facilitated for Springshed Management component under Jal Jeevan Mission and a national level training programme has been also organized in support of Jal Shakti Ministry at ATI Nainital on 27th -28th February, 2020.

6

Education & Sports



Himmotthan initiated the education portfolio in the year 2015-16 with a pilot in 4 mountain districts through implementing support agencies under Central Himalayan Education Initiative which is at present in its second phase. The education theme of Himmotthan is covering 130 anganwadi and schools with 6,000 children presently. The major intervention areas so far have been, Primary School Readiness, Grade Appropriate Learning, Library, English, Sports, Integrated Approaches to Technology (ITE), advocacy through Bal Sangathan, Govt. teachers training, Water and Sanitation facilities in schools and strengthening of School Management Committees.

Over the last five years the learning levels of children in Hindi, Maths, English and Computers have increased which has directly enhanced the grade appropriate learning from pre-intervention period in the mountain schools across Uttarakhand.

Currently, through the education portfolio, Himmotthan strive to provide 'Authentic learning for all' in a comprehensive and holistic manner. The goal is to provide high-quality, authentic, real-world, active learning experiences that mould productive and well-rounded 21st century citizens while also working to ensure equitable access to these learning opportunities.



130

No. of schools covered

2533

No. of children covered

70

No. of school teachers trained

1

No. of trainings conducted for Govt. school teachers

279

No. of books/titles procured

431

No. of children covered through early literacy and numeracy in early grades

The Education and Sports Project is being implemented in over 130 villages of 5 district of Uttarakhand from August 2019. The program aims to enhance the quality of the learning levels in language at primary level by strengthening early literacy and library (from 1st to 8th standards in 130 Anganwadi, Govt. Primary and Secondary schools). Major focus of the intervention is on accessibility of quality children's literature and better early literacy competencies in students/ set up libraries/ facilitate government teachers by focused training on library development through graded learning/ appropriate curriculum/ engage the school but at the core, Himmatan is focusing on the quality improvement in education system.

Under this program, schools have been equipped with functional libraries and children will have regular access to age appropriate quality children's literature. This led to encouragement among children and parents to continue their schooling and also develop awareness in the community towards the importance of reading in education.

6.1: LIBRARY AND EARLY LITERACY INTERVENTION AND EDUCATION AND SPORTS INITIATIVE IN UTTARAKHAND HIMALAYAS

Supported by
Tata Toyo Radiators Limited and Tata Trusts

Project geography
1-state, 5 -districts, 8-cluster

Target community
10000 (6000 children and 4000 Community Members) in 130 Schools

• Broadening access

Himmotthan seeks to broaden access to educational and sports opportunities for children and adolescents in underserved and under-resourced communities through a variety of initiatives like promoting athletics and blind football.

• Developing teachers

Teachers are an integral part of the education ecosystem. Himmotthan will work at multiple levels to ensure that teachers are supported with exposure to best practices. Teacher professional development interventions are a vital element in the Himmotthan vision of delivering 'authentic learning for all'.

Project objectives

• Strengthening systems

Himmotthan are working to bring about systemic change by engaging with state authorities to transform the educational system from within. Interventions in this fields comprise building capacity of anganwadi, developing processes and frameworks to standardize learning, setting up school development indices that serve as feedback mechanisms for educators.

• Deepening learning

Himmotthan focus on ensuring that educators have access to ever-improving materials and pedagogies so as to enable them to foster a culture of active learning. Himmotthan will work towards age-specific learning interventions, the appropriate use of technology in education, and various initiatives to improve the quality of education in the region.

THE PROJECT AIMS TOWARDS HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT OF 10,000 CHILDREN, THROUGH AMALGAMATION OF QUALITY EDUCATION AND SPORTS IN THE ALIGNMENT WITH UN SDG GOALS (SDG 4 QUALITY EDUCATION, SDG 5 GENDER EQUALITY AND SDG 10 REDUCED INEQUALITY).



Strengthening of library (Defunct to vibrant)

Himmotthan believes in the power of stories and strives to make reading for pleasure a part of every childhood. We believe reading can change lives, especially for first generation learners and children with no print or literate environment at home. Himmotthan Library Program is running successfully in primary school, Bajuniyahaldu, Kotabagh now but when we have started implementing our program we have faced several roadblocks like no session designated to library, library treated as extracurricular activities and the libraries doesn't have age appropriate story books. Seeing all these difficulties Himmotthan has gradually initiated the strengthening processes of library. First of all, we have trained all the teachers of school in pedagogy of library by introducing them to different techniques like Read aloud, Book Talk, Treasure Hunt and various art and crafts activities related to libraries so that teachers develop their interest in reading and pass them on the children. After this we have expanded the availability of resources by providing high quality, diverse children's literature to the school and also equipped school by providing infrastructure to keep the books safe and open for all the children. This led to a collective interest among children, parents, SMC members, community and teachers. Once an almost defunct library has come into a vibrant place within a span of 8 months thanks to the teachers, children and their parents.

Mission education

Despite increased funding, expansion of different educational levels and many reforms, most education systems around the Uttarakhand have not yet found effective ways to improve outcomes to prepare students for achieving grade appropriate learning levels. As per ASER 2019, three out of four children in Uttarakhand cannot solve previous grade questions. The learning outcomes among children are low in the state, but the good part is the government and organizations like Himmotthan has been working on improving the quality of education in the state.

Himmotthan has been working with the government of Uttarakhand for the last five years with a single objective- to improve the learning outcomes for children studying in government primary schools across the 5 districts of state. We have already implemented our library program in over 130 schools and this year, we have introduced our early literacy, numeracy and sports program in the state. The state and district-level teams were all set to roll out the teacher training program under which we train teachers in Himmotthan unique and interactive teaching methodologies and provide them with innovative teaching tools comprised of an exclusive library session training (Read aloud and Book Talk), TLMs, videos and more. Hopefully, in coming years Himmotthan will achieve the grade appropriate learning under Mission Education Program.



7

Clean & Affordable Energy



The 'Clean Energy Initiative for Rural Uttarakhand' aims to enhance overall productivity and income of the rural mountain communities. The project entitled to promote decentralized renewable energy (DRE), thus enabling livelihood process and water access through clean and sustainable form of interventions coupled with the improved technologies-based solutions. In line with the project objective, the energy crisis of the existing enterprises and infrastructure across livestock, agriculture and water programmes would be overcome.



The novel renewable energy hinged technologies would be incubated to catalyze the livelihood finance, skilling, social entrepreneurs and value chain-based marketing in the mountain specificities. The growing concern for energy crisis would be supplemented through small scale energy solutions thus increasing the energy diversity and reduce dependency on fossil fuels, thereby mitigating the economic risk. The prospectus for renewable based energy in the rural sector could be anticipated by syncing up ongoing programmes and policies of the Government which might play a significant role in addressing the energy issues.

Project objectives

- Provision for quality of livelihood and access to water and sanitation facilities
- Enhance productivity of the existing enterprises in the rural sector
- Establish sustainable energy based infrastructure
- Incubate clean energy based improved technologies
- Reduce drudgeries, operational expenses and enhance annual income

The project has three main thematic areas of implementation Livestock, Agriculture and Water & Sanitation (WASH) Initiatives, which would be synced with the solar based technologies. It would be implemented in 10 clusters of 7 districts, covering 3100 direct and indirect households of 80 villages in the state of Uttarakhand. The thematic wise solar based interventions are as follows:

Livestock Initiative

- Poultry value chain
- Hybrid feed unit

Agriculture Initiative

- Rice mill • Millet mill • Solar dryer • Cold storage
- Animal repellents • Micro-irrigation schemes

Water and Sanitation Hygiene (WASH) Initiative

- Water scheme (Domestic and irrigation)

7.1: CLEAN ENERGY INITIATIVE FOR RURAL UTTARAKHAND

Supported by

Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives (CInI)/ Sustain Plus Energy Foundation

Project geography

Uttarakhand 7-districts, 10-clusters

Target community

3100 households (direct and indirect) in 80 villages

Project aim

To improve lives and livelihood of 3100 HH by providing clean, reliable and affordable small scale energy solutions to the rural mountain communities of Uttarakhand

8

Integrated Village Development



8.1: INTEGRATED VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (IVDP)

Supported by

Titan Company Limited

Project geography

20 villages in two development blocks (Jaunpur and Chamba) of district Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand

Project aim

To enhance the quality of life for over 1300 HHs (population of 6900) through self-sustained institutions and sustainable and resilient livelihood interventions in over 5 years

The Institution of village had for ages remained a self-sustained unit for ages owing to a variety of socio-economic and cultural factors in India. Over the year's concentration of population has acted as a pull and push factor for concentration of resources and services. This process of concentration of resources and services constantly attracts newer population. This never ending cycle constantly grows the towns transforms into local urban units (Census towns) to further mature into cities.

Under these situations the survival of villages is constantly threatened. The situation of villages in far flung locations with geographical challenges, scattered and low demography (resulting in weaker political representation) requires an altogether different approach.



The Integrated Village Development Model is considered ideal for villages that share the following characteristics-

- Are geographically challenged with self-consumptive agriculture and livestock practices
- Limited or no service sector
- Scattered hamlets across a region sharing similar geography-social fabric & Cultural practices
- The demography is scattered and sparse over a vast geographical region yet are strongly bonded by social and cultural ties

Background

The 2013 flash floods in Uttarakhand had uprooted the lives of many Inhabitants across Uttarakhand. Many acres of agriculture land that once sustained the livelihoods of the rural communities were washed away in hours. The Integrated Village Development Project was an initiative that aimed to rebuild rural livelihoods in 20 villages of Jaunpur and Chamba block in Tehri Garhwal district of Uttarakhand. The CSR division of the Titan Company Limited in partnership with Himmotthan Society designed and are implementing the project.

Approach with year wise interventions

Geographical approach

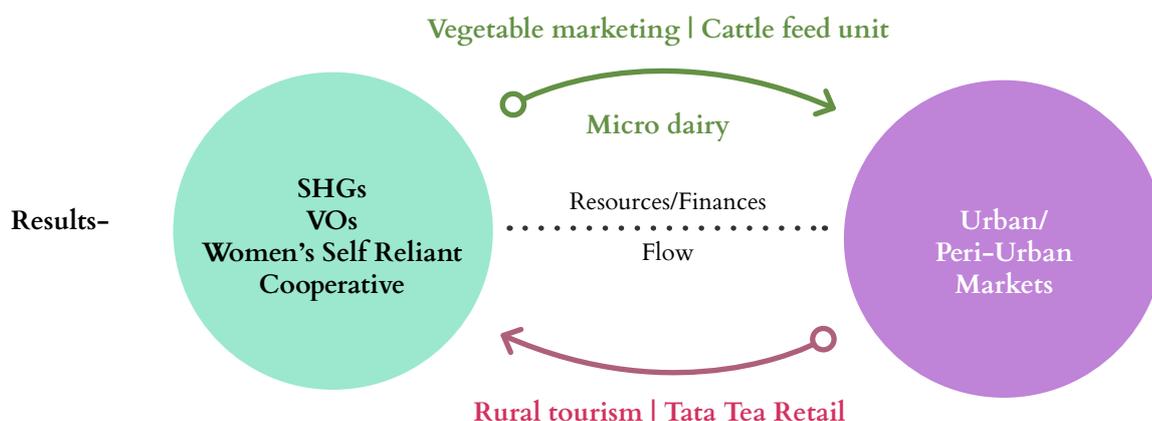
Cluster to Valley Approach: Himmotthan is executing the IVDP program taking the Cluster to Valley Approach. Two clusters have been taken up under the project i.e. Bhawan and Jharipani cluster. Bhawan cluster falls under the Aglar River Valley System and Jharipani cluster falls under the Hewal Valley System. The former represents a sub-tropical moist deciduous landscape, favorable for a wide diversity

Value chain approach

IVDP project has tried to capitalize upon the positives associated with both the landscapes and put into place catalytic interventions both at the Individual and at aggregate level. At the core of this approach is the Women's led Community Institution in the form of Women's Self-Reliant Cooperatives.

The value chains that have been targeted includes -

- Livestock (Small ruminants including poultry), Large ruminant based value chains
- Off seasonal vegetables
- Local coarse grains based cattle feed unit (Fortified balance cattle feed)
- Rural tourism
- Horticulture with focus on peach & apples. In all the above value chains-The project has tried to plug in the critical gap areas in an effort to maximize the associated benefits both at the individual and community level.



SHGs	VOs	Women's Self Reliant Cooperative	Market Connect	
			2019-20	Cumulative Total
78+41 119 SHGs 1233 Members		2	Community facility Center : Rs. 23, 49,385 Vegetable Marketing : Rs. 27,96,946 Cattle Feed Unit : Rs. 12,1254 Rural Tourism : Rs. 15,42,952 Tata Tea Retail : Micro Dairy : Rs. 4,16,4656	: Rs. 34,88,685 : Rs. 47,78,799 : Rs. 14,75,524 : Rs. 21,84,452 : Rs. 17,49,867 : Rs. 24,22,6491
		SHG Savings & Inter-Loans	SHG Savings : Rs. 74,10,390 SHG Inter-Loaning : Rs. 49,06,280	: Rs. 74,10,390 : Rs. 49,06,280

Scale up through convergence

The project has been dovetailing resources from Govt. and other sources in an effort to scale up the efforts and spread the benefits.

	Scale up convergence measures (In Rupees-Approximation)						
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Agriculture			30,000	5,25,000	90,529	9,000	6,54,529
Land reclamation work						1,64,000	1,64,000
Horticulture			4,500	16,728	5,680	11,500	38,408
Livestock		9,500	10,500	18,060	8,500	7,600	54,160
Rural tourism					1,200,000		1,200,000
						Grand Total	2,111,097

Semi-intensive goat rearing model



Impact

Dairy value chain

Increase in milk production increased by 1.5 litre/day on furnishing compound feed as compared to traditional practice of feeding

Goatry value chain

The average goat weight in traditional feeding was 15 kg in 18 months, increased to 20 kg in 11 months after balanced ration provision in semi-intensive goat rearing

Poultry value chain

Previously in backyards, average egg production counted to 70-80 eggs /annum & adult weight 900 gm in 6 months. With semi-intensive and balanced ration intervention, no. of eggs increased to 90-100 eggs/annum and weight of country chicken 1.1-1.3 Kg in 6 months

Co-related impacts

- Incentive for farmers to grow traditional millets and coarse grains
- Improves the dairy value chain

Livestock value chain	Product lines/types	Stakeholders
Dairy	Cattle feed	Milk producers, Collectors, Salesmen/women, Para-vets
Poultry	Poultry feed	Poultry producers, Service providers
Goatry	Goat feed	Goat producers, Service providers, Farms
Miscellaneous	All product lines/types	Animal Husbandry Department, Entrepreneurs, Dealers, Distributors, Farms, Mule /Horse owners etc.

Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Year	Fruit Tree Plantation & Production (Three Year Gestation Period) Followed by Staggered Growth in Production										
2014-15	1063		21260	31890	37205	37205	37205	37205	37205	37205	37205
2015-16		790		15800	23700	27650	27650	27650	27650	27650	27650
2016-17			1062		21240	31860	37170	37170	37170	37170	37170
2017-18				745		14900	22350	26075	26075	26075	26075
2018-19					1618		32360	48540	56630	56630	56630
2019-20						388	5760	8640	10080	10080	10080
Fruit Trees No.	1063	790	1062	745	1618	288					
Fruit Bearing											
Production in Kg			21260	47690	60905	96715	102025	176640	184730	194810	194810
Sale Price(Rs.)			786620	1764530	2253485	3578455	3774925	6535680	6835010	7207970	7207970
Area covered (Acre)	1.05	0.78	1.05	0.74	1.60	0.28					
Cost per acre (Rs.)	197340	50600	50600	298540	197340	50600	15000	15000	15000	15000	15000
Profit	Nil	Nil	736020	1465990	2056145	3527855	3759925	6520680	6820010	7192970	7192970
Total fruit trees planted				5566							
Farmers benefited				91							
Area covered in acres				5.50							
Profit earned III Yr				736020							
	Incremental Profit and Sales Realisation										



Revival of the orchard belt of Tehri-Uttarakhand

The fruit belt of Tehri Garhwal has been the region's pride as it was envisaged way back in the late seventies on the pattern of Himachal orchards. During this period suitable land was leased out to farmers for developing orchards. Over the years a series of factors contributed in defeating the very purpose of promoting the region as a fruit belt. The absence of plant quarantine laws making virus indexing of imported plants mandatory and other reasons such as i) Change in climate conditions, (ii) Gradually declining snow fall patterns (iii) Man-animal conflict (iv) Non availability of quality planting material (v) Technical knowhow on orchard management, progressively contributed in the declining productivity from the fruit belt.

Outputs

- Demonstrations have encouraged farmer's adoption rate
- Growing demand for planting material
- Fruit nursery established for quality planting material
- Ground staff trained in orchard management

Local bird based poultry model

Uttarakhand nurture native birds for rural farming since ages, however the genetic potential has not been fully utilized.

Preference for local birds

The major reasons for the community's preference towards local birds includes, ability to hatch, relatively high price realization of both meat and eggs along with low input requirements. The key bottlenecks in rural hill based birds rearing are well addressed through assisted backyard poultry value chain to fetch remunerative price for the poultry products and cater the market.

The issues

- The low productive and reproductive performances in rural indigenous hill chickens due to conventional rearing practices.
- The families taking up poultry have tried Kroilers and Broilers, however the staggered and erratic supply of day old chicks often disrupts the production cycles.
- Low acclimatization among birds due to elevation gradient shift from 500m to 1500m (m.s.l).
- High mortality rates in brooding period due to transportation stress, lack of awareness & poor management practices.
- Limited economic development in Institutional structure, business values & market linkages.

Intervention

A semi-intensive and assisted backyard poultry value chain

Strategies

The backyard poultry value chain i.e. mother units, hatcheries, brooders & backyards operationalized through community's administration, management & capacity buildings across the cluster. The production system strengthened through improvement in health, management practices, technical trainings & biosecurity measures. The marketing aspects shows no saturation for indigenous products therefore focusing on the sale of eggs, chicks & live adult birds.

Local indigenous birds were selected from villages situated at an altitude of more than 1000m -1500m (msl). In order to maintain genetic diversity, birds were selected from different villages on the basis of morphological characteristics such as plumage colour and pattern, comb type and wattle, legs and toes etc. The aim was to establish a strong genetic pool which would help to maintain the indigenous chicken with unique attributes which are appreciated by producers, avoiding genetic erosion and dilution and also contribute to their conservation. In an effort to scale up backyard poultry, mechanization with inputs like incubation facilities for hatching and brooding units and a mother unit with adequate genetic diversity provision of backyard shed with low cost housing materials encouraged.

Outputs

- Adoption rate high by marginal and other families
- Improved local genetic stock
- Hen-egg-chick-pullet-hen cycle completed in 6 months through 'comprehensive poultry value chain' within the cluster
- Remunerative: backyard eggs @Rs.10-12; day old chick @ Rs.30-35; 1month old chick @ Rs.90-95; pullets @ Rs150-400; laying hens @ Rs. 500-800; rooster @Rs.850-1200

9

Partnership Projects



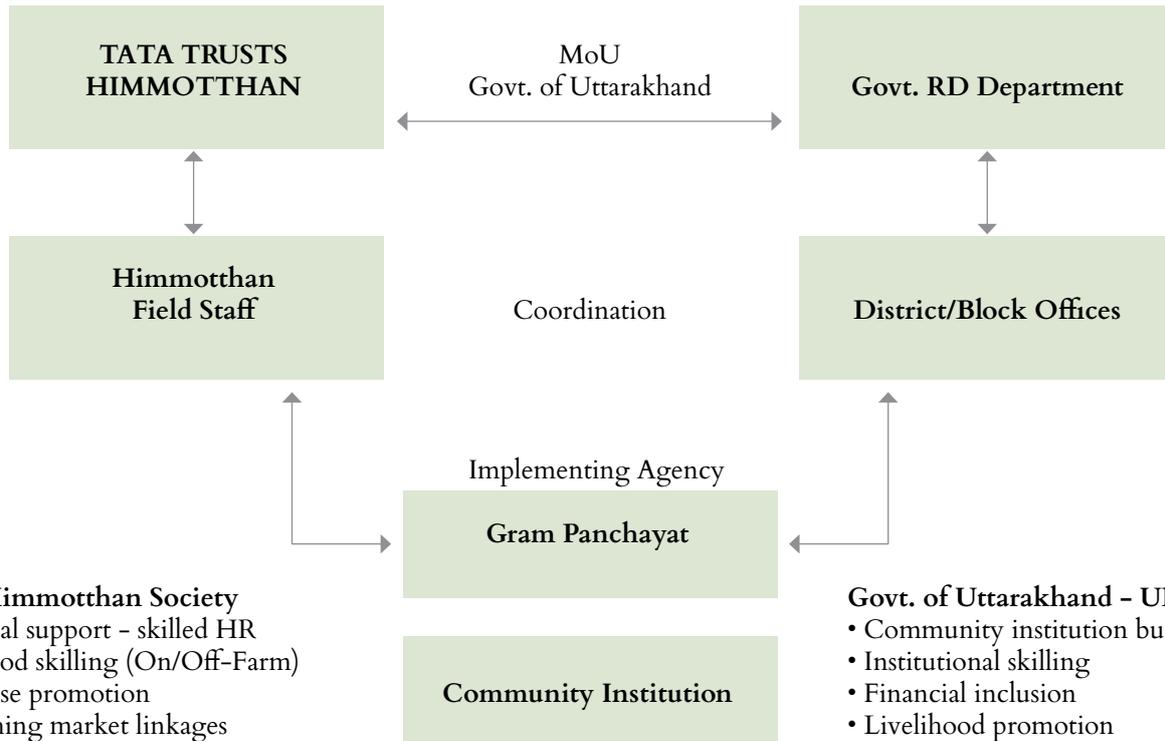
Livelihoods Skills Uttarakhand

With the mission to enhance the income of over 12,500 poor households to over Rs. 1 Lakh per annum, over a period of 5 years. Himmotthan Society is implementing Livelihood Skill Uttarakhand (LSU) project in partnership mode with 'Uttarakhand State Rural Livelihood Mission (USRLM) in five hill districts of Uttarakhand. The five blocks from five districts include: Pauri; Pauri, Chinyalisaur; Uttarkashi, Ukhimath; Rudraprayag, Betalghat; Nainital and Berinag; Pithoragarh. The main objective of the programme is to promote rural livelihood with the approach of establishing self-sustainable community institutions.

Coverage

17,023 households across 500 villages spread around five locks in five districts of Uttarakhand.

Implementation Structure



Trusts: Himmotthan Society

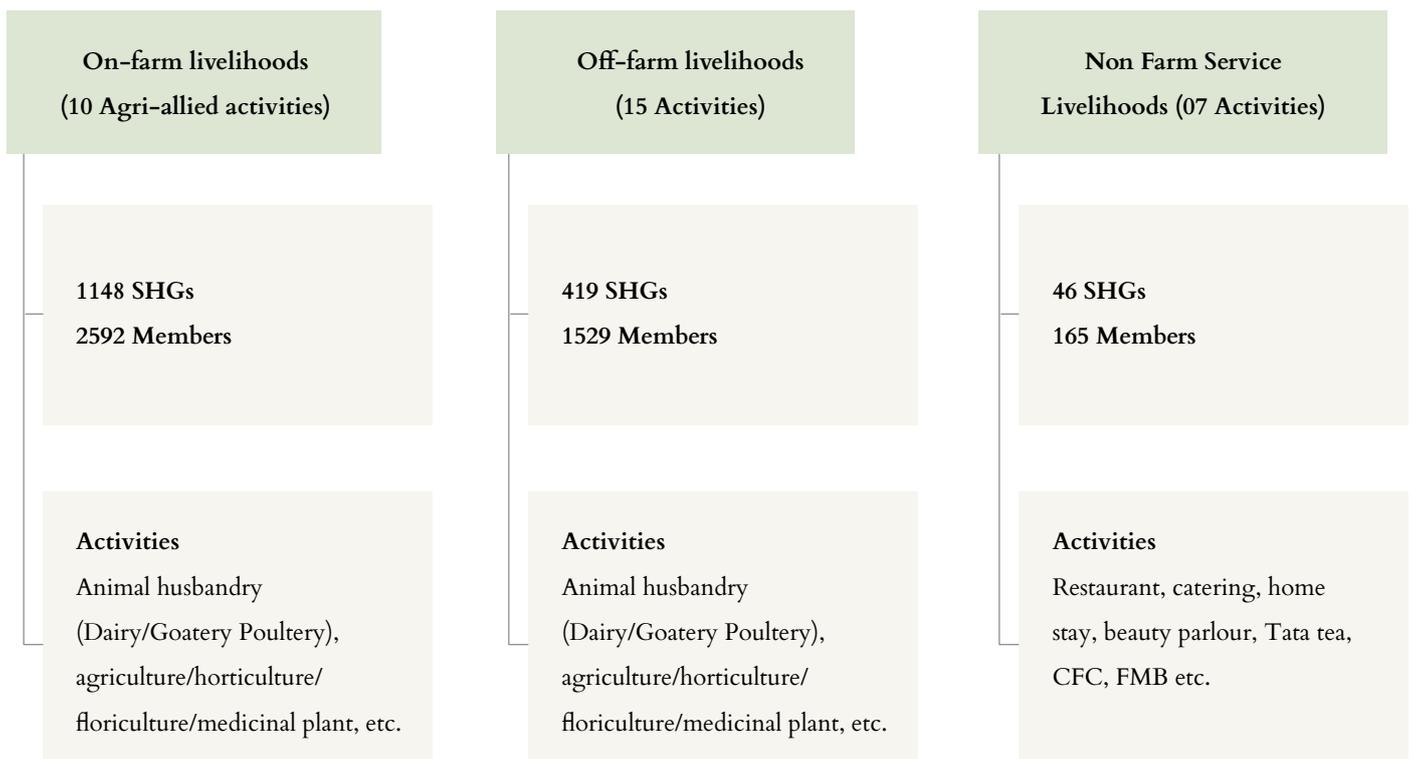
- Technical support - skilled HR
- Livelihood skilling (On/Off-Farm)
- Enterprise promotion
- Establishing market linkages

Govt. of Uttarakhand - URLM

- Community institution building
- Institutional skilling
- Financial inclusion
- Livelihood promotion

Livelihood skilling

The project livelihood skilling focuses on farm and off farm livelihoods and services.



A Journey from Farmer to a Restaurant Manager



Anita Sharma is a woman farmer resident of Paavomalla village of Pauri Garhwal district in Uttarakhand. She is a young mother to 2 kids who believes in empowering herself and also providing her children with the best educational facilities. The primary source of her family's income comes from agriculture and livestock management. Due to the changing climate conditions and the increase in migration in the State, her family has been facing economic losses. In the year 2017 she joined a self-help group formed under the Government's flagship mission called the National Rural Livelihood Mission.

The micro-finance through savings and financial schemes from the NRLM helped her utilize her funds in setting up alternative means of livelihood. The SHG helped her with expenses like school fees, health care and other daily needs expenses. She said, "Now, I don't have to depend on informal means of lending money where the money lenders charge a high rate of interest. I can take out a loan from my SHG at any time at a very low rate of interest. Membership in the SHG not only helped me in taking loans but also provided us with various livelihood generation and income enhancing training". Anita participated in various training programmes such as pickle making, mushroom cultivation and squash making. She then decided to support her husband in income generation for the family.

Anita motivated other SHG members to start mushroom cultivation to earn the profits. With these efforts, her SHG got a contract from Indira Amma Bhojnalaya. Since August 2019, the women of her SHG are running this state funded restaurant and are generating revenues for themselves. Anita works as a manager and also cooks when it is required.

ANITA STARTED HER MUSHROOM CULTIVATION BUSINESS WITH INR 2000. SHE BOUGHT THE MUSHROOM CULTURE AND STARTED THE CULTIVATION IN A SMALL ROOM OF HER HOUSE. SHE SOLD THE MUSHROOMS FOR INR 5000 IN THE LOCAL MARKET. WITH THIS INITIATIVE, SHE NOT ONLY EARNED PROFIT BUT ALSO GOT COURAGE TO DO ENHANCE THE BUSINESS.

She says, "We earn the monthly profit of INR 25,000 from Indira Amma Bhojnalaya which we distribute among ourselves. We are a total of 5 women in the SHG who at the end of the month get 5000 each at the end of every month. I plan to buy scientific equipment for agriculture so that I can get myself engaged in various small enterprises. This will help me enhance my income which I wish to save for the future of my children."

Anita is very happy to be part of the skill development training programme as it helped her boost her self-confidence and also be an example for other women in the village.

Uttarakhand Forest Resource Management Project (UFRMP)

Supported by

Project Management Unit- JICA, Uttarakhand Forest Department

Focus and roles

Forest department

Eco-restoration and enhancement of forest resources

Himmotthan

- Preparation of microplan
- Institution building
- Creation of livelihood opportunities and income generation activities



Project goal

The goal of the Uttarakhand Forest Resource Management Project (UFRMP) is to contribute towards eco-restoration and enhancement of forest resources, expansion of livelihood opportunities and income generation of forest dependent people.

Strategy

The project is being implemented and managed by the Project Management Unit (PMU). PMU has signed agreements with the field NGOs for field implementation of livelihood opportunities and income generation for forest depended community. However, eco-restoration work is directly being implemented by the Forest Department. The Field NGO (FNGO) are responsible for strengthening the capacity of Van Panchayats (VPs) and SHGs for sustainable forest management and improved livelihood. The main involvement of FNGO is in community mobilisation, facilitation of micro planning processes, convergence with other schemes and projects, providing guidance in income generating activities, management of revolving funds to be provided to SHGs and carry out technical trainings for VPs and SHGs to build their capacity in implementing the project activities.

Project spread/coverage

Himmotthan is implementing the project in 7 Forest Ranges of Lansdowne, Narendranagar & Tehri Dam Forest Divisions and reaching out to more than 9,000 households under the project.





Key highlights

- 132 micro plan has been developed by applying PRA tools and all micro plans were approved by van panchayats and forest officials
- Agreement signed with PMU, UFRMP- JICA for implementation of project in 53 van panchayats of Tehri Dam -1 Forest Division
- 313 SHGs and 4 cooperatives has been formed for implementation of project interventions and creation of livelihood opportunities
- Rs. 21.66 lakhs revolving fund has been approved and transferred to 66 SHGs for livelihood promotion and business related activities
- Out of 313 members of SHGs 162 were became shareholder of cooperative
- Plantation of lemongrass, rosemary and chamomile was done respectively in 24 ha, 3 ha and 2.8 ha in selected van panchayats of soil conservation division Lansdowne. A total 353 farmers were covered under the activities towards the development of aroma cluster
- Agro processing like processing and packaging of mushroom, pickle, juice, jam, jelly, etc. has been piloted at SHG level, which was marketed through cluster cooperatives
- Mobile milk chilling plant established in Narendranagar Forest Division and milk collection & marketing has been initiated with capacity of 250 lts per day
- 400 quintals of agri commodities was collected and marketed by the cluster cooperatives
- The 4 cluster cooperative of 2 forest division has done business of Rs. 48.6 Lakhs

Lansdowne (Jan, 2018)	Narendranagar (May, 2018)	Tehri Dam-1 (Jan, 2020)	Total
84 VPs	66 VPS	53 VPS	203 VPs
2587 HHs	3000 HHs	3762 HHs	9349 HHs
3 range/ 3 blocks	2 range 4 blocks	2 range 2 blocks	7 range 9 blocks

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Himmotthan's Intervention in Himachal Pradesh



Himmotthan Society started its work in Western Himalayan State, Himachal Pradesh in the year 2018 through its Central Himalayan Livestock Initiative (CHLI), Integrated Micro Finance (IMF) initiative and springshed management. Two districts, Kangra and Sirmaur were taken up with the initial focus on community institution development, livestock value chain development and spring shed management. In the last two years, Himmotthan has created strong footprints in terms of local institutional strengthening, fodder development, spring shed management. Himmotthan has also developed strategic directions for dairy, Poultry, goatry and agriculture value chains in existing and new areas of the state. Currently, Himmotthan is working in three blocks

Rait, Baijnath of district Kangra and Paonta Sahib of district Sirmaur consisting of total 44 villages and 6842 households. In last two years of its intervention in Himachal Pradesh, Himmotthan's major focus was on community institutions establishment and fodder development. Overall 957 members are organized under 92 SHGs in two clusters. Apart from this 6 fodder nurseries, 16 Ha fodder plantations, 30 Ha forage crop plantation, 36 cattle shed renovation, 18 backyard poultry establishment, 1000 poultry birds distribution, 5 animal health camps, 4 Ha high value crop cultivation, 5 goatry sheds renovation and training and capacity building of around 800 project beneficiaries was carried out in two clusters of district Kangra.

Major Intervention

Fodder nursery

Nurseries of fodder trees and grasses were established during monsoon and winter season to ensure the local availability of planting material for fodder plantations on common land during next year. Interested beneficiary was identified, trained and supported for nursery establishment. This will become a source of income for the beneficiaries as their produce will be purchased during next monsoon season to carry out fodder plantations on common lands.

Plantations of fodder trees and grasses were carried out on common lands and degraded grasslands (Ghasanis) in collaboration with MGNREGA and local community. Himmotthan provided support for fencing and purchase of planting material while Labour component was covered under MGNREGA and contribution from the community.

Farmers were provided improved quality seeds of forage crops like Jawar, Bajara, Jai and Barseem on subsidized rate for plantation on their private lands. This is to inculcate the habit of forage cultivation and providing high quality green fodder for their cattle.

- Under the Livestock Initiative the focus has been on strengthening the large ruminant and poultry value chains by plugging the gaps identified such as cattle health management through improved animal management practices involving effective use of cattle sheds with proper drainage facilities. Shed management practices in poultry is also being addressed to improve the overall profitability of backyard poultry.

- The large ruminant based value chain is being further strengthened by organizing the farmers and cattle rearers towards organized sale of milk and milk value added products.

- Under agriculture intervention, cultivation of onion, garlic and pea was taken up with farmers with the aim of diversifying agriculture in the area and encouraging farmers to start cultivation of high value crops and enhance their farm income. Farmers were also provided improved quality seeds of each crop. Technical training and demonstration on package of practices of each crop were done through experts of agriculture department.





Future directions

Institutions

- A state level producer company will be formed in Himachal which will provide agriculture and Livestock based business services to the SHG members and farmers through its various enterprises
- All SHGs formed under IMF programme will be linked with state SRLM through their MIS
- Financial inclusion in the SHGs will be encouraged through inter-loaning and bank loaning facilities
- Regular training and capacity building of SHGs and members of producer company will be done on institutional and financial aspects

Livestock

- A robust system of milk collection and marketing through community owned micro dairy enterprises will be established under the purview of producer company
- Fodder plantation on common lands under MGNREGA will be taken up on large scale, focusing on weed infested common land and degraded private grass lands
- Local poultry based poultry value chain will be promoted and up scaled
- Semi-intensive goat rearing model of Himmotthan will be promoted and up scaled

Agriculture

- Cultivation of millets and traditional crops will be promoted under value chain based approach
- Cultivation of aromatic plants under value chain based approach will be promoted in monkey infested areas

Clean energy

Clean energy based technological solutions, biogas and improved cook stoves will be promoted at household level

Coverage

New intervention cluster will be identified to expand Himmotthan's work in 10 blocks of 5 districts of the state in next five years

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Himmothan's Intervention in Ladakh



Tata Trusts has been involved in a number of development initiatives in Ladakh since 2010 after the catastrophic flash-floods that destroyed many lives and villages in the region. In January 2016, a Programme Management Unit was setup in Leh to oversee the initiative which was directly implemented by Tata Trusts and partner organisations.

In April 2018, the overall coordination, implementation and monitoring of the programme was transferred to Himmothan Society.

In the last four years (2016 to 2019), Tata Trusts and Himmothan Society has reached 3,500 families in 30 villages spread across five administrative blocks of Leh district in Ladakh through various interventions.

The implementation framework for Ladakh involves the following-

- To enhance the adaptive capacity of farmers in overcoming effects of climate change and shrinking glaciers on farming system
- To develop value chains of three key products i.e., apricots, vegetables and wools that will result in doubling of farmers' income
- To diversify farmer's income through promotion of high value crops, mulching technology and better market linkages
- To adopt decentralised renewable energy solutions to enhance crops productivity, reduce drudgery and generate extra income for the tribal communities

Three clusters in Ladakh are being presently focused owing to their uniqueness and potentials for value chain of key farm and off-farm based products

Development interventions have been broadly classified into three clusters and three unique products, (a) Lower Indus valley (Sham) with focus on niche horticulture produce like Apricots, (b) Upper Indus (Changthang) with focus on livestock and wool based value chains and (c) Mid Indus region (Kharu and Rong Valley) focusing on vegetables, watershed, milk and its by-products. Through different project interventions the reach out has been extended to 525 households in 15 villages of Leh district in the FY 2019-20 through various projects and interventions. The plan for next 3-5 years is to reach 5,000 households in 50 villages.

Coverage

Union Territory of Ladakh including two districts of Leh and Kargil spread across six administrative blocks of Kharu, Khaltsi, Kargil, Nyoma, Rong Chugut and Skurbuchan.

Goal 2020-2025

Building technological solutions to enhance adaptive capacities of 5,000 tribal farmers in 50 villages of Ladakh towards creating a climate smart, high value agricultural ecosystem.

Approach

Himmothan has taken the valley approach to understand and put in interventions that are compatible to the community, environment and the resources.

- Sham valley in lower Ladakh (2700m to 3300m) is popular for its apricots and horticulture crops. It comprises of three blocks (Khaltse and Skurbuchan and Kargil) and more than 30 villages/ hamlets. Apricot FPO and value chain development of apricots are majorly promoted in Sham valley.

- Kharu cluster in mid-Indus valley of Ladakh (3000m to 4000m) is popular for vegetables, fodder and milk production. It comprises of two blocks (Kharu and Rong Chugut) and more than 20 villages/ hamlets. Crop diversification, vegetable FPO, protected farming and springshed management.

- Changthang in eastern Ladakh is a part of Tibetan plateau (4000m to 5000m) and it is popular for its pashmina, one of the finest wools produced by goats reared by nomads, popularly known as 'Changpa'. It comprises of three blocks (Nyoma, Durbuk and Rupshow) covering more than 22 villages/ hamlets. Currently we are active in Nyoma block of Changthang promoting handicraft activities and livestock rearing.

- DRE solutions and appropriate technologies would add value to the interventions to achieve desirable results.





Major intervention areas being focused

Over the years the pilots carried out have been well received by the community and are ready to scale-up in other villages and hamlets of Leh and Kargil districts targeting a wider audience through the FPOs and FIGs. Linking project interventions with FPOs will make them self-reliant and self-sustainable. The project will mainly focus of value chain development of apricots, vegetables and wools by integrating the decentralised renewable energy technologies or appropriate technologies to improve their efficiency and effectiveness, while contributing to overall wellbeing of the targeted beneficiaries.

- 313 farmers have been organised into 30 farmer interest groups and two FPOs (apricot and vegetable)
- 10.27 acre of 128 farmers covered under high value crops (watermelon, tomato and onion)
- 36 women have received training in spinning, knitting and weaving at the Product Development Centre in Nyoma. Similar centres will be setup in Mudh and Hanley villages in next phase of the programme

Ongoing projects

At present, Himmotthan Society has seven ongoing projects in Ladakh which are co-funded by various agencies such as NABARD, NSTFDC, Sustain+ and Ministry of Tribal Affairs. These projects were approved at different time of the year and in some cases, desired results couldn't be achieved because of short working season.

- Crops diversification for enhancement of rural farmer's income in Leh district (2019-22) - NABARD
- Formation of apricot farmer producer organisation in Sham valley of Leh district (2019-22) - NABARD
- Formation of vegetable farmer producer organisation in Leh district (2019-22) - NABARD
- Promoting decentralized renewable energy solutions to enable rural livelihood (2019-20) Sustain+
- Changthang livestock and wool craft promotion (2019-22) - NSTFDC
- Centre of Excellence for Research and Documentation of Agro-processing and Livelihoods in tribal areas of Leh district (2019-22) MoTA (Ministry of Tribal Affairs)
- Springshed based watershed development fund in Sakti village of Leh district (2019-22) - NABARD



Key achievements under various projects

In FY 2019-20, project interventions have reached to 525 households spread across 15 villages in five administrative blocks of Leh district by organizing the farmers into Apricot and Vegetable FPOs, crop diversification, mulching technology, DRE solutions, handicraft and other activities

- 114 farmers have joined the Vegetable FPO, including 8 Board of Directors. Women membership is 72%
- 199 farmers have joined the Apricot FPO, including 8 Board of Directors. Women membership is 40%
- 6 Board of Directors and 2 CEO of two FPOs are trained in running and management of and its businesses
- 30 Farmer Interest Groups have been formed in total for both the FPOs
- 10.27 acre covered under crop diversification: watermelon (BK-61 and BS-2000), tomato (sultan), Onion (Dark Red and Puna Fursungi)
- 128 farmers are trained in mulching technology for cultivation of watermelon crop
- 1 Product Development Centre is established in Changthang for processing of wools and woollen products
- Fly shuttle looms, pedal charkha machines and steel winding charkha, knitting machines and raw materials (wool, yarn) are supplied to the centre
- 36 artisans are trained by two master trainers in spinning, weaving and knitting of woollen products
- 2 solar lambing sheds are constructed that will directly benefit two nomadic families

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Himmotthan's Functional Competence & Ethical Practices



Himmotthan human resource Functional competence & ethical practices

With the changing contours of development cooperation around the world in general and India in particular. The need towards building understanding on new ideas, development orientation, implementation designs and strategies, donor framework and associated changes, is a pertinent and immediate need. The capacity building need assessment is done on an annual basis keeping in frame the roles and responsibilities, changing requirements, and designing need based capacity building measures at different levels to insure optimal output delivery. Since the role and responsibilities of the second tire i.e. Federation Level Human Resource Structure is poised to take up new challenges, the need for capacity building at this level is being strongly felt and considerable emphasis will be made towards this. The role of Himmotthan HR structure is also being relooked with coordination strengthening at block and district level similar capacity building measures will be put in place.

Roles of functionaries at different operational levels

Village-Block-District: The last mile connector of any development intervention is the field level functionaries.

Himmotthan human resource structure & project implementation design

Level	Structure	Roles
Village level coordination	i) Field Assistants ii) Field Associates iii) Block Coordinator iv) District Coordinator	i) Thematic roles & Communities ii) Thematic roles & Communities iii) Overall Coordination (Level 1) iv) Overall Coordination (Level 2)
Himmotthan support & coordination unit	Regional Managers Area Managers Technical Experts Team Leaders Finance Team M&E Team MIS & IT	Coordination at regional level (Geography specific) Area specific coordination Thematic experts Project management, Coordination Accounts, financial management and administration Project and program monitoring and evaluation Data base administration, digitalization, web presence, project monitoring
	Federation/cooperative human resource structure	
	Structure	Role
Village level coordination	Federation Manager Accountant SHG Coordinators Service providers Board Members	Managing the federation and its enterprises Accounts and book keeping of federation and its enterprises Maintain/updating/the SHG records as per the SHG data base structure Are theme based (Livestock, Micro Finance, Enterprise Specific) Overall guidance, monitoring, coordination

The core of any project and development interventions of Himmotthan are the villages. The organization insures that communication and information from the villages remains uninterrupted. In order to ensure this, the Self-Help Group network at the village level is the most vital connect. This is insured through regular SHG meetings by village level SHG facilitators. The village level SHG Facilitator –SHG Stakeholders–Board Members of the Federation are the key persons that help in insuring that communication remains open. The following meetings are regularly conducted at the village level (i) SHG’s (ii) Village level Meetings (iii) Cluster Level Meetings along with (iv) Federation meetings and annual general meetings of the federations.

Himmotthan’s code of conduct and ethical practices

Code of conduct

The Code of Conduct of the Himmotthan Society (HMS) is a set of principles that guide and govern the conduct of HMS and its employees in all matters relating to programmes and other activities. The Code lays down the ethical standards that HMS employees have to observe in their professional lives, and it defines the value system at the heart of the HMS and its regional offices.

Our values

The Himmotthan Society has always been value-driven. The five core values that underpin the way we conduct our operations are:

Unity

We will work cohesively with our colleagues across the organization, and with our communities and partners across India, building strong relationships based on tolerance, understanding and mutual cooperation.

Integrity

We will implement our programmes with honesty and transparency. Everything we do must stand the test of public scrutiny.

Responsibility

We will continue to be responsible and sensitive to the Communities and Environments in which we work, always ensuring that we put our best efforts into what we intend to achieve with the community.

Understanding

We will be caring, show respect, compassion and humanity for our colleagues and communities across the region, and always work for the benefit of the communities we serve.

Excellence

We will constantly strive to achieve the highest possible standards in our day-to-day work. These universal values serve as the foundation for the Himmotthan Society Code of Conduct. They find expression within the value system of the Himmotthan Society.

Whistleblower policy

Himmotthan Society believes in the conduct of the affairs of its constituents in a fair and transparent manner by adopting highest standards of professionalism, honesty, integrity and ethical behaviour. Accordingly, Whistleblower Policy is an extension of Himmotthan Society Code of Conduct. The Whistleblower policy has been formulated with a view to provide a mechanism for the employees of Himmotthan Society to approach the Chairperson/ Ethics counsellor of the Whistleblower Policy Committee for any actual or potential violation of the Code, howsoever insignificant or perceived as such, would be a matter of serious concern for Himmotthan Society.

Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual Harassment at Workplace (POSH)

The Himmotthan Society (HMS) strives to create and maintain a healthy, safe and productive work environment, free from discrimination and harassment. To provide equal opportunity and a harassment free workplace to all employees without regard to race, caste, religion, colour, ancestry, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, age, nationality, ethnic origin or disability.

The Himmotthan Society is therefore committed to creating a safe and conducive work environment that enables employees to work without fear of prejudice, gender bias and sexual harassment.

This policy takes complete cognizance of the latest legislation by the Government of India "The Sexual Harassment at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013 and its rules notification published on 9th December, 2013. This Act is to provide protection against sexual harassment of women at workplace and for the prevention and redressal of complaints of sexual harassment and for the matters connected herewith or incidental thereto.

Acknowledgements

Himmotthan realizing the fact in order to reach out to the remotest of the villages and execute programs efficiently partnership with local Civil Society Organisations is critical. Himmotthan has nurtured and strengthened partnership with 28 civil society organizations across the State.

Our donors

Sir Ratan Tata Trust • Sir Dorabji Tata Trust • Tata Education Development Trust • JRD Tata Trust • Tata Relief Committee • Titan Company Ltd. • Arghyam Foundation • Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) • H.T. Parekh Foundation • Uday Foundation • Axis Bank Foundation • Tata Global Beverages Ltd. • The Hans Foundation • Vaster Guard Life Straw • Tata Toyo Radiator Ltd.

Department & schemes (Government of India)

Department of Rural Development- Uttarakhand State Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM) • Uttarakhand Forest Resource Management Project (UFRMP - JICA) • Uttarakhand Gramaya Vikas Samiti (UGVS-ILSP) • Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, Department of Education, Govt. of Uttarakhand • Department of Agriculture , Govt. of Uttarakhand • Horticulture Department, Govt. of Uttarakhand • Uttarakhand State Seed & Organic Production Certification Agency • Department of Animal Husbandry, Govt. of Uttarakhand

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• International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) • Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Santhan (VPKAS) • Uttarakhand Livestock Development Board (ULDB) • Uttarakhand Sheep and Wool Development Board (USWDB) • Centre for Ecology Development and Research (CEDAR) • Central Poultry Development Organisation (NR), Chandigarh • CSK Himachal Pradesh Agricultural University, Palampur • Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR), Leh

Implementation partners

• Association for People Advancement and Action Research (APAAR) • Central Himalayan Rural Action Group (CHIRAG) • General Rural Advancement Society (GRAS) • Himalayan Society for Alternative Development (HIMAD) • Kapkot Sewa Samiti (KSS) • Mount Valley Development Association (MVDA) • Mountain Children's Foundation (MCF) • Rural Initiative for Social Engineering (RISE) • Sankalp Samiti (SANKALP) • Udyogini • Shri Bhuvaneshwari Mahila Ashram (SBMA) • Society for Integrated Management of all Resources (SIMAR) • The Himalayan Trust (THT) • Uttarapath Sewa Sanstha (USS) • Gene Campaign • Sanjeevani • Rural Technology Development Center (RTDC)- Himachal Pradesh

Department (Government of India)

• Niti Aayog • Central Poultry Development Institute • Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee, MGNREGS • NABARD • Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) • National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation

Audited Financial Statements

Registration No. Uttarakhand/78/2007-2008

BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31, 2020

Particulars	Note No.	As at Mar 31,2020 (₹)	As at Mar 31,2019 (₹)
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
Funds			
(a) General Fund	3	17,30,164	17,30,164
(b) Earmarked Funds	4	7,02,30,488	5,95,25,034
(c) Other Funds	5	1,89,69,292	1,85,45,777
(d) Income and Expenditure Account	6	3,47,577	2,07,720
		9,12,77,521	8,00,08,695
LIABILITIES	7	13,20,940	6,28,911
(a) Payables		13,20,940	6,28,911
TOTAL		9,25,98,461	8,06,37,606
ASSETS			
(a) Fixed assets	8	1,89,69,292	1,85,45,777
(b) Loans and advances	9	19,02,864	9,33,032
(c) Cash and bank balances	10	7,17,26,305	6,11,58,797
		9,25,98,461	8,06,37,606
See accompanying notes forming part of the financial statements	1-19		
In terms of our report attached.			
For Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP Chartered Accountants		For and on behalf of the Himmotthan Society	
Joe Pretto Partner	Chairman	Secretary/Treasurer	
Place: Mumbai Date:	Place: Dehradun Date:		



THE HIMMOTTHAN TEAM

**“The greatness of a community is most accurately
measured by the compassionate actions of its members.”**

— Coretta Scott King

HIMMOTTHAN SOCIETY
(Registered u/s Society Act 1860)

193, Vasant Vihar, Phase-II, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

Phone: 0135-2760728, Fax: 0135-2761796

Website: www.himmothan.org