SUVIDHA's Newsletter

अभ्युदय #15

WWW.SUVIDHA-INDIA.ORG



Oct 2024 - March 2025





ACCOLADES

SUVIDHA honoured with the SDG Achievers Award from Govt of Uttarakhand and UNDP

SUVIDHA is honoured to receive the SDG Achievers Award 2023-24 for Climate Action (SDG 13) from CPPGG, Planning Department, Government of Uttarakhand in collaboration with the UNDP. As one of the first NGOs in North India listed on the Global Carbon Registry, this award recognizes our innovative, community-driven carbon emission reduction efforts. It also celebrates our 17,000+ Carbon Entrepreneurs, whose dedication drives measurable and sustainable change. Our multi-faceted projects form the heart of our approach towards carbon sequestration and green rural growth.

Climate change impacts both the environment and socio-economic balance. By integrating technology with community action, we reduce emissions and promote sustainability through voluntary carbon markets. While we celebrate this award, our commitment remains strong towards enhanced climate mitigation and adaptation.





HIGHLIGHTS

- Project H₂OPE, supported by Hyundai covered 180 schools across Gadchiroli & Pune, providing government schools with essential safe water infrastructure.
- Under Project PRAWAH, SUVIDHA and HUF marked World Water Day with impactful water conservation efforts across Budaun, UP.
- Upgradation of 130 ICDS Centers in Uttarakhand (75), Tripura (25) and Meghalaya (30) supported by HDFC Bank Parivartan.
- New Project on Women Empowerment "Sashakti" in Khargone District, Madhya Pradesh supported by SBI Foundation.

Project Vikas

Community-Based Carbon Emission Reduction Programme (Hamirpur, Uttar Pradesh and Sonipat, Haryana) supported by HUL

SUVIDHA, in partnership with Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL), is driving Project VIKAS, an agroforestry initiative to enhance carbon sequestration, improve soil health, and diversify farmers' incomes. The project integrates Afforestation, Reforestation, and Revegetation (ARR) efforts across monoculture fields, promoting sustainable land use and community participation.

Stakeholder Consultations in Sonipat, Haryana, and Hamirpur, Uttar Pradesh brought together 100+ stakeholders, including farmers, Scientists from KVK, Professors from Research & Education Institutes, community representatives and representatives from HUL. The project has initiated winter plantation of fruit and timber trees in its first year.





Project Gram Seva Empowering Rural Communities in Chamba, Himachal Pradesh supported by SBI Foundation

SUVIDHA, under the SBI Gram Seva Program, is driving transformative rural development through infrastructure, health awareness, and skill-building initiatives.

Strengthening Irrigation: To combat erratic rainfall in Kiri Panchayat, SUVIDHA installed seven Irrigation Tanks across five villages of Chamba, H.P., benefiting more than 250 farmers with year-round water access and sustainable farming solutions.

Skill Training & Livelihood Support: A 25-day training in Banjal village, Chamba, H.P equipped 18 women with professional beautician skills. Conducted under the guidance of Ms. Priya Handa, the training empowered the participants, leading to the establishment of a beauty parlour in Kiri's Main Market, fostering financial independence.

Scholarships: Five students received scholarships for academic excellence.

Through these initiatives, SUVIDHA continues to strengthen rural communities—enhancing agriculture, health, and livelihoods while promoting sustainability and empowerment.







Project Unnati Sirmaur & Solan, Himachal Pradesh supported by SBI Foundation: Empowering Women Through Bakery Entrepreneurship



Under the Unnati Project, supported by the SBI Foundation, a comprehensive bakery training program was successfully conducted for 75 rural women, equipping them with essential baking and entrepreneurial skills. Upon completing the training, five bakery units were established, each managed by a dedicated group of women.



These newly trained entrepreneurs now independently run their bakeries, generating regular income, fostering financial independence, and meeting the growing local demand.

Focused Rural Development Program 2.0 Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, supported by HDFC Bank Parivartan

The Focused Rural Development Program (FRDP) 2.0, supported by HDFC Bank Parivartan, is driving sustainable rural development in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand. A key initiative under this program was a Nutrition Garden (Poshan Vatika) training in Mihinpurwa, Bahraich, led by Mr. Prakash Singh Dasila, promoting food security and better nutrition. 300 Nutri-Gardens were established, 100 each in Bahraich (UP), Bhagalpur & Banka (Bihar), and Almora (UK).

Other key interventions include construction of 200 vermicompost units (Bihar - 50, UP - 115, UK - 35), installation of four solar-powered irrigation systems in Bihar, and creation of a Center of Excellence for Bhagalpuri Silk Sarees equipped with creation of five power looms and advanced textile machinery. Additionally, 2,500 farmers received organic farming training, empowering rural communities with sustainable agricultural practices. Through these initiatives, FRDP 2.0 is fostering economic self-reliance and environmental sustainability in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.





Project Prawah (Augmenting Water Efficiency for Climate Resilient Farming) in Budaun, Uttar Pradesh supported by Hindustan Unilever Foundation (HUF)

We have made great progress in promoting sustainable farming and water conservation. 100 Water and Environment Groups (WEG) were formed and their regular meetings were held across 100 villages, helping farmers share knowledge, solve challenges, and improve their farming skills. In each of the 100 villages Model Demonstration Farms were also established for showcasing the Water Efficient Technologies.

The project successfully mobilized the Government schemes for the farmers for Water Conservation and Agriculture. The project reached to about 30,000 farmers during the season through a strong grassroot level network of 100 Jal Mitra and Jal Sakhis.





Project LearnWell Transforming Rural Education in Bageshwar, Uttarakhand supported by CONCOR





The LearnWell project, supported by CONCOR, transformed Shahid Ram Singh Junior High School, Bhagertola, Garud Block and Government Primary School, Devalkhet (Bhilkot), Garud Block in Bageshwar District, benefiting more than 200 students. It upgraded classrooms to SMART class, enhanced sanitation facilities, installed solar power plant, and introduced smart learning with Bala (Building as Learning Aid) paintings.

The project was officially handed over in a ceremony attended by Mr. Ashish Bhatgain, IAS, District Magistrate Bageshwar, Mr. Gajendra Singh Saun, Chief Education Officer Bageshwar, and Ms. Kamleshvari Mehta, Block Education Officer, Garud Block, Bageshwar, alongside school authorities and community leaders. Project LearnWell stands as a replicable model for rural education reform, paving the way for future initiatives to bridge the urban-rural education gap in Uttarakhand.

Project H₂OPE SUVIDHA with Hyundai's Support Brings Safe Drinking Water to 180 Schools in Gadchiroli and Pune

Under Project H₂OPE, supported by Hyundai, significant progress has been made in improving access to safe drinking water in Maharashtra. The project covered 180 schools across Gadchiroli District and Maval Block in Pune, providing government schools with essential safe water infrastructure. Through this initiative, SUVIDHA installed Reverse Osmosis (RO) Water Filter Systems, Water Coolers, and Overhead Water Filters, ensuring a reliable and safe drinking water supply for thousands of students, fostering better health and hygiene in these communities.

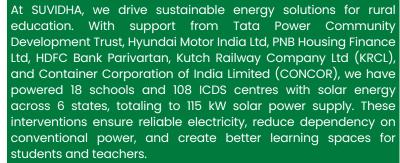




Illuminating Education with Clean Energy





















Empowering Wellness Through Grassroots Health Movements

Two health camps were organised by SUVIDHA in Sivai Village, Pokhri Block, Chamoli District and Maletha Village, Kirtinagar Block, Tehri Dist., supported by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL). These camps aimed to provide primary healthcare to local communities, addressing common health issues such as hypertension and diabetes. In Sivai village, over 60 individuals received medical attention from a dedicated team, while in Maletha village, the camp revealed alarming health trends, with 50 cases of high blood pressure and 100 cases of diabetes. Experts attributed the rising diabetes cases to a lack of awareness, poor diet, stress, and unhealthy lifestyles. The attending doctor noted that most patients were unaware of their conditions and encouraged them to take medications regularly, maintain a healthy diet, and exercise to manage their health effectively.

On World Cancer Day, SUVIDHA hosted an awareness event in Kiri, Chamba with the support of SBI Foundation. On this occasion, Oncologists Dr. Pankaj Sharma and Dr. Komal provided their consultations. Engaging sessions on early detection, Q&A interactions, and report reviews empowered the community. Youth volunteers received appreciation certificates during the event.





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP VISITS





Mr. Vikash Kumar, Assistant Vice President of HDFC Bank Parivartan, visited project villages in Titabor Block, Jorhat, Assam where he engaged with Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and Village Development Committee (VDC) members. During his visit, he reviewed key interventions, including handloom centers, biogas units, orchards, and solar lighting initiatives, reaffirming HDFC Bank's commitment to holistic rural development.

Ms. Nandita, Regional Manager, CSR, North East, HDFC Bank Parivartan visited Titabor to assess SUVIDHA's impact across various community initiatives. She interacted with SHGs, inaugurated a handloom unit center, and explored the biogas unit, orchard farms, and nutrition gardens, highlighting sustainable livelihoods. Visits to schools and ICDS centers emphasized improvements in education and nutrition, reinforcing the need for continued collaboration for holistic rural development.



The PRIF team, led by GM-CSR Ms. Anantika Singh, visited the Krishak Kranti Project, Dera Bassi, Mohali, Punjab to engage with beneficiaries and evaluate key initiatives, including Poshan Vatika and Crop Diversification, reinforcing efforts toward sustainable agricultural practices.



Mr. Alok Kumar Pandey (Senior Manager CSR) from Mankind Pharma conducted a field visit to assess key initiatives and engage with VKC (Village Kind Committee) members. He reviewed the SMART Class establishment in Latifpur village, the water tank facility in Jhadaka village, and the educational progress in Aidalpur Bagichi village at Meerut. At the Nagli Gajroli village Sewing Center, he interacted with women beneficiaries, discussing skill development and its impact. Emphasizing community ownership, Mr. Alok reinforced the project's vision of sustainable development and empowerment.



A team from LIC-HFL, led by Mr. A. Gopakumar (Joint General Manager, CSR & ESG LIC HFL) and Mr. Saurabh Chakraborty (Regional Head, CSR LIC HFL), visited the Lakadong Project in Meghalaya under LIC-HFL CSR initiative. They attended a project presentation, interacted with farmers, visited demo farm plots, and participated in a Q&A session. The visit concluded with a cultural event featuring traditional performances.

ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES

Mithila Art Exhibition in Bangalore: A Journey of Heritage and Empowerment supported by Wurth Electronics



From the vibrant villages of Madhubani to the corporate stage in Bangalore, our Mithila art exhibition at Wurth Electronics captivated dignitaries, showcasing the brilliance of rural artists and their journey of resilience and tradition. Each handcrafted piece told a story of heritage, hope, and empowerment, highlighting the rich cultural tapestry of Mithila art.

SUVIDHA Launches New Handloom Unit to Empower Craftsmanship and Innovation

We inaugurated a handloom unit near Madhopur Panchayat, Titabor, Jorhat, Assam equipped with eight advanced jacquard handlooms and a warping drum. The event was graced by Chief Guests Mr. Bhaskar Jyoti Baruah (MLA), Mrs. Bipanchi Dutta (Co-District Commissioner), and representatives from HDFC Bank, underscoring our commitment to preserving traditional craftsmanship and empowering local artisans.



Mankind Pharma and SUVIDHA Bring Rural Artistry to New Delhi at Diwali Haat 2024



At the Diwali Haat exhibition organized by Mankind Pharma, we showcased a rich collection of rural crafts, including Madhubani-painted bags, Maheshwari sarees, and artisanal pickles and jams. This event celebrated the talent of rural artisans, bringing the spirit of India's diverse craftsmanship to New Delhi and providing them with a platform to reach a broader audience.

Republic Day Celebration: Uniting Communities in Patriotism and Progress







We celebrated Republic Day with over 500 students and community leaders through a flag rally, cultural performances, and a plantation drive as part of the Holistic Rural Development Programme with HDFC Bank Pariyartan.

Fostered a strong sense of community participation, youth engagement, & environmental consciousness.

A celebration of not just the nation, but the spirit of rural transformation and citizen-led progress.

International Women's Day: Strengthening Women's Voices and Opportunities

On International Women's Day, SUVIDHA honored women's leadership, skills, and entrepreneurship across multiple initiatives, reinforcing our commitment to empowerment and community development.

- Water Conservation Champions: PRAWAH Project, Budaun, Uttar Pradesh: Honored 42 Jal-Sakhis and many other female farmers for their significant role in water conservation efforts. The event, attended by 100+ participants, featured speeches, panel discussions, and poster-making activities, culminating in recognition certificates for all female participants.
- **SBI Gram Seva Project, Kiri, Chamba, H.P:** A vibrant celebration attended by over 80 women, featuring Chief Guest Mrs. Bimla Devi. Five sewing machines were awarded to trained beneficiaries, and four ASHA workers were provided with BP monitoring and sugar testing machines to strengthen community healthcare.
- Women Entrepreneurs at HDFC Bank House, Indore: SUVIDHA's
 Maheshwar team participated in an exhibition, promoting
 locally made products such as handloom sarees, pickles,
 incense sticks, and spices. The initiative provided market
 exposure to two women entrepreneurs, fostering financial
 independence.

Across these initiatives, SUVIDHA reaffirmed its commitment to empowering women through leadership, skills, and economic opportunities.







SUVIDHA & Hindustan Unilever Foundation (HUF), Lead Water Conservation Efforts in Budaun Under Project PRAWAH on World Water Day 2025





Under Project PRAWAH, SUVIDHA and the Hindustan Unilever Foundation marked World Water Day with impactful water conservation efforts across Aasafpur, Sahaswan, Ambiapur, Bisauli, and Islamnagar blocks of Budaun, Uttar Pradesh.

Activities included awareness rallies, large-scale pond-cleaning drives, and interactive village discussions, uniting communities to address water challenges and promote sustainable practices.

NEW PROJECTS & PARTNERSHIPS:

Project "Stepping Stones"

Transforming Anganwadi
Centers in Rudrprayag District
in Uttarakhand
by SBI General Insurance.

Upgradation of 130 ICDS Centers

in Uttarakhand (75), Tripura (25) & Meghalaya (30) **by HDFC Bank Parivartan**

Empowering Education

Ensuring Sustainable Power in 30 schools in Rudrapur, Udham Singh Nagar, UK, **by HDFC Bank Parivartan**

Project Eco School

Transformation of 5 government schools in Dehradun, Uttarakhand by Collective Good Foundation

Project Eco Spark

Renewable Energy in Gaulapar, Haldwani, Uttarakhand, **by Blackbox**

Project Deeptam

Illuminating Lives,
Empowering Communities
with Sustainable Energy, under
its Pahal program
by PNB Housing

Project Sun-Shine

Solar Electrification of 64 Schools in Hosur, Tiruvallur and Krishnagiri Dist., TN) by Learning Link Foundation

Project Gram Seva

Holistic Rural Development in Basti District, Uttar Pradesh, **by SBI Foundation**

Project Sashakti

Women Empowerment in Maheshwar block, Khargone District, Madhya Pradesh **by SBI Foundation**