

SHRI JAGDAMBA SAMITI
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Mission

“To bring prosperity to all, through sustainable development process, by involving the community in planning, implementation and management of the locally available resources as per needs and opportunities’.

Introduction

Shri Jagdamba Samiti is an effort to restore the village based dependency with an idea of local economic sustainability. This voluntary group of economists, management expertise, social scientists, villagers and participatory development specialists working for the locally available resource management and utilization. This organization has started offering its services in 1991 from the Bhilangana valley of Tehri Garhwal district of Uttarakhand state in India and currently working in Tehri Garhwal, Dehradun, Uttarkashi, and Rudraprayag districts of Uttarakhand. The organization strongly believes in the “development process”. Its philosophy is based on the optimum utilization of local resources through locally available, verified, widely accepted and eco friendly technologies to fulfill the needs of the local community. Our organization has started various processes for the development as per need and opportunities in the working areas, which are the mountains and valley of Himalayas. Our experiences show that if the community members have to pay for the service of its development then it could create a positive and a strong example of independency. We have adopted a participatory and sale of the services approach for mutual benefits by integrating the local available resource management.

Objectives of the organization

The foremost objective of the organization is to bring prosperity to all through a sustainable development process. This can be done only with the active participation of the community and involvement of people in planning, implementing and managing of the available resources as per needs and according to the situation.

To achieve this, following priority areas of action as been decided by Shri Jagdamba Samiti: -

1-To motivate and mobilize the community members to identify their problems and needs on their own.

2-To select the options for increasing the efficiency of an individual and the community.

3-To form a group of management experts, economists, scientists, social workers and community groups to identify and analyze their problems and to support their skills and to its development. To come-up with solutions to these problems through possible alternatives and also be able to provide solutions for the organization.

4- To sensitize the people towards optimum utilization of natural resources so that the community brings a sustainable and balanced development.

5-To intervene through the eco-friendly, verified and accepted technologies for optimum usage of labor, skill and resources of the people of rural areas.

6-To develop and improve the organization's management technologies and work-culture for existing and proposed activities of the rural areas.

7-To develop network for exchange of ideas, know-how and resources for mutual benefit on "fees for services" basis.

8-To promote the means of resource-knowledge and services to prevent dependency on outsiders.

9-To promote the participatory approaches for research, training, extension of technologies and decision-making.

10-To arranges training of individual and groups for resources management, technology transfer and area specific action planning.

11-To create a common platform for participatory planning, voluntary action, advocacy for resources and services on the cost of betterment of all individuals.

Our partners:

The most important and valuable partner of Shri Jagdamba Samiti are the community-based group of villagers specially the women's groups who are the ultimate beneficiaries. Participation, interaction and continuous support and feed back from these groups provides the strength to the organization.

Himalayan Environment Studies and Conservation Organization (HESCO) a scientific group based in Dehradun and Rudraprayag provide their support in the field of rural technologies. They also facilitate the financial support from CAPART and Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India.

Project management unit of Swajal Project (World bank assisted). Project coordination unit of Uttarakhand Diversified Agriculture Support Project (UTDASP) and another world bank assisted project were our major project partners during last two years.

UNICEF Lucknow, Tata Energy Research Institute New Delhi, Forest Department of Uttarakhand, Center for development studies Nainital, Department of Women and child Development U.P. Chief development office Tehri Garhwal / DRDA Tehri Garhwal are some other project partners of the organization.

Approach of the organization

The main approach of the organization is a participatory approach. This approach has been adopted at all the levels of organizational structure. A core team of three members who have experience and expertise in the field of marketing, resource and technology management will review and finalize the programs and activities for the operational areas. Hence each core member will be representing the unit, which they are working for, and each unit will be having its own team. This team will consist a supervisory level worker and village level worker.

Goals and activities of the organization during the year :- The goal of the organization is to provide help to the villagers in learning of the optimum maximum utilization of local resources through locally available,

widely accepted, and eco-friendly technologies. To achieve this goal following objectives have been set by the organization:

1. To establish and organize water resource management activities for drinking water and sanitation through Swajal Project and Child environment project.
2. To introduce the diversified technologies of agriculture for upgrading the farming level and production through Uttranchal Diversified Agriculture Support Project.
3. To introduce and promote the organic farming concept and vegetable cultivation through the same.
4. To motivate the villagers to form a voluntary group of the village for the maintenance of infrastructure related to the villages community resources through Construction of permanent community shelter houses for earthquake victims.
5. To introduce the appropriate technologies at local level. Extension and renewable energy project has given the emphasis to the installment of renewable energy systems in the villages.
6. To introduce a motivation program for protecting and promoting forest through Joint forest management.
7. To help the disaster victims for instance the Earthquake affected people through the Projects for organic Farming and Vegetable cultivation and construction of permanent community shelter houses for earthquake victims.
8. Formation of women's group by facilitation of Swarn Jayanti Swarajgar Yojna (SJSY) program.
9. To impart training for skill development for income generation through fruit processing, mushroom cultivation, incense sticks (dhoop agarbatti) production.

About the Operational area:-

Garhwal Uttranchal is a hilly state situated in northern India that encompasses some of the lower, middle and higher ranges of the Himalayas. There is a great variation in the rugged hilly terrain of the state that are marked with valleys, rivers, lakes and mountain ranges. Shri Jagdamba Samiti is a non-governmental organization that has its headquarter in one of the Himalayan valley, called Bhilangana. The organization works to create self-sufficiency among villagers by utilizing the available resources and, raising awareness for participation from the community.

Garhwal Uttrakhand is one of the least populous states with a population of 34,71,371. The hilly terrain has led to problems of inadequate communication and poor access to services like schools, health care and supply of clean drinking water. The people of the area till recently were dependent on agriculture and raising livestock. Now many have moved out of the villages in search of the jobs in factories and Indian defense services.

The sex ratio of the population for 2001 is 1000 males per 964 females, and is higher than the national average of 1000:934.

The **operational areas** chosen for the organization services are:

S.N.	Districts	Blocks	No. of Villages
1.	Dehradun	Doiwala	83
		Raipur	
2.	Tehri	Bhilangana	124
		Jukhnidhar	
3.	Uttarkashi	Dunda	16
		Chinyalisaour	
		Bhatwari	
4.	Rudraprayag	Jakholi	

Activities of Sri Jagdamba Samiti are mainly centered in Tehri Garhwal and Dehradun Districts. Sri Jagdamba Samiti has its registered office at Bhatgaun village of Bhilangana block, in Tehri Garhwal. At present the

administrative activities are being conducted from its Rishikesh based office. Two project offices have been set up in Dehradun and Ghansali. For having a smooth administrative networking and to facilitate better communication, it is being considered to establish a central office with the name given “ Shri Loksamridhi Seva Dham” in Bhatgaun village in Bhilangana block of Tehri Garhwal.

“Shri Loksamridhi Seva Dham” is the center under planning form where main operational and official activities of the organization will be governed. At present Organization has its registered office at village Bhatgaon Bhilang Tehri Garhwal. Monitoring, evaluation and administration office at Vinod Market, Dehradun Road Rishikesh and two project implementation office at New Bus Stand Ghansali and D-23 Nehru Colony Dehradun. Organization is currently working in the 136 villages of Tehri Garhwal district, 124 villages of Dehradun district, 16 villages of Uttarkashi and 7 villages of Rudraprayag district of Uttranchal. Organization has now envisaged extending the activities in the existing villages and districts and also to expand into new districts.

Details of the adopted project implemented:

1-Swajal Project- A collaborative effort of Govt. of Uttranchal and World bank for providing drinking water and sanitation facilities. The following objectives have been set for this project :

- i) To construct drinking water supply and sanitation system in nine village of Bhilangana block in Tehri Garhwal.
- ii) Formation of women self help groups.
- iii) Participation, construction, maintenance and financial contribution from the villagers.

Below are the achievements that have been accomplished with the help of the above mentioned objectives:

- a- Nine drinking water supply systems have been constructed.
- b- Nine village water and sanitation committees with the facilitation of this organization have been organized.
- c- A women group in each of nine villages for conducting environmental sanitation activities has been organized.
- d- The villages have organized a maintenance fund.

- e- Resource management and marketing skill among the villagers have been developed by the intervention of this organization and Swajal project.
- f- Self-sustainable activities like monthly healthy home survey; operation and maintenance of drinking water and sanitation infrastructure are being organized with a common effort of Panchayati Raj institute and Shri Jagdamba Samiti.

2. Uttranchal diversified agriculture support project:

This program is also a collaborative effort of Uttranchal Govt. and World Bank. The main theme of this program is to introduce the diversified agricultural technologies and helping farmers to strengthen the market. Two blocks Doiwala and Raipur from Dehradun district has been adopted for implementing this program-covering total of 123 villages. The following objectives have been set for this project:

- A- Formation of farmer's interest group and self-help groups three in each target village.
- B- Training of the farmers for adoption of integrated plant nutrient management (IPNM) and integrated pest management (IPM).
- C- Training the farmers for adopting the CPP biofertilizer technology.
- D- Training for adoption of vermin composting technology.
- E- Promotion of mushroom production units.
- F- Promotion of post harvesting (fruit processing) units.
- G- Promotion of floriculture activities.
- H- Organization of awareness meets and exposure visit.

The following achievements have been attained against these targets:

- a- 123 villages have been covered through different activities of this project.
- b- 184 farmers groups have been formed.
- c- 230 farmers have been given training for IPNM.
- d- 280 farmers have been given training for IPM.
- e- 182 farmers have been given training for CPP.
- f- 42 farmers have been given training for vermin composting and other bio composting technologies.
- g- 95 horticultural training based on vegetable production have been organized.
- h- Training for setting the 65 mushroom units have been given to the different groups.

- i- 52 post harvesting (Fruit processing) training have been organized.
- j- 34 floricultural activities related training have been organized.
- k- Different awareness program and exposure visits have been organized for the farmers.

3- Organic farming and vegetable cultivation project:

This project been funded by the Department of Biotechnology Govt. of India for providing a sustainable income generation sources to the 1999 earthquake victims for three village in Bhilangana block in Tehri district. The following objective have been set for this project:

- a- To mobilize and form the women's groups in each selected village.
- b- To train the members of these women group in NADEP composting technologies.
- c- To help in construction of NADEP (Naval Air Depot Civilian Employment) compost pits.
- d- To help these group in vegetable production and marketing.

The following achievements have been reached out against these objectives:

- 1- Three women group having 15 members in each group have been formed.
- 2- NADEP composting technology training has been organized for these groups.
- 3- NADEP compost pit for each beneficiary has been constructed.
- 4- Support has been provided for vegetable production and marketing.

4-Extension of payoliser and brequetting technology for charcoal production from waste bio-mass:

Organization has started this renewal energy technology project with help of CAPART for charcoal production from waste bio-mass available in plenty in the working area of organization for providing cooking fuel to the rural poor who depend on the firewood collected from forest. So far 10 units have been established under the project where trainings of the beneficiaries have been imparted.

5- Extension and renewable energy project:-

The Tata Energy Research Institute, New Delhi and ICF Canada for installation of solar and micro hydropower system on full cost recovery basis with the model of “fee for services” are supporting this project. The main objective of this program is to install solar energy systems. So far 80 domestic solar energy systems have been installed in 23 villages Tehri Garhwal, Uttarkashi and Rudraprayag districts.

6-Promotion of fisheries technology:

Another new project with co-ordination of HESCO and financial support from department of science and technology started during the year under which a demonstration site has been constructed in Ghuttu Tehri Garhwal.

7- Child Environment project

This program is being financially assisted by the UNICEF and is being supervised by the Chief Development officer of Tehri Garhwal. This program is being conducted for the awareness generation and infrastructure development in all the 9 block of Tehri Garhwal for improving village environment and sanitation level. Shri Jagdamba Samiti has achieved the following targets:

- 1- 120 water management committees have been formed in 120 villages of Bhilangana block and training program has been providing for each committee.
- 2- 72 rainwater-harvesting tanks have been constructed.
- 3- 26 water ponds have been constructed.
- 4- 18 water sources improvement structures have been constructed.
- 5- Village action plan for improvement in drinking water facilities and environment sanitation has been completed and implementation in progress.

8- Construction of permanent community shelter houses

This project was assisted by CAPART for helping to construct shelters to the earthquake victims in 2 villages of Tehri Garhwal district. The community is now utilizing these shelters as common facility centers for various participatory resource management activities. The communities have successfully conducted various activities in these centers.

9- other activities of the Organization

- 1- Various income-generating activities like training in fruit processing, mushroom cultivation, Incense-Sticks production is being run.
- 2- An educational program is under planning. An initiative has been taken by promoting the bright students with the help of scholarship program. So far 24 students of 16 primary and secondary schools of Bhilangana valley have been benefited under this program.

Future prospective:

Organization has envisaged adopting the following activities in following two-three years on the basis of community based planning for self-dependency and promotion of micro regional economy:

- 1- Extension of agriculture related technologies (esp. Organic farming, bio fertilizers, cropping pattern systems) in Tehri, Rudraprayag and Uttarkashi district besides Dehradun where the agriculture program is currently going on.
- 2- Extension of drinking water and village environment sanitation activities in whole working area of Shri Jagdamba Samiti.
- 3- Implementation of rural technologies related to renewable energy, environment and land and water management.
- 4- Planning and execution of educational training, skill development and Management capacity building programs.
- 5- The main future prospect is to plan and execute the model of “fee for services” for all the selected activities and establishing a marketing network for income generation activities.

Strategy of the organization

Shri Jagdamba Samiti basically adopts the designed projects, which have the similar objectives related with its mission. The project acceptance is also based on the priority options selected from the identified needs, assessed by the community members. Sri Jagdamba Samiti activates as a partner with the funding agency, for implementing the selected projects in the community, with the efforts to make the program sustain even after the project period is over. Involvement of the community members from the stage of assessing the needs, till handling the program on its own is the basic strategy of the organization.

Field Activity Chart

Need Assessment of the community (by involving the community members)



Selection of the priority areas (by the core team members, along with the community members)



Selection of the projects based on the selected priority areas.



Execution of the Projects



Planning & background preparation for making the projects sustain and to reach out the assessed needs.