



Background

In 1983, CUTS a rights advocacy group, began its journey with a rural development communication initiative, a wall newspaper entitled Gram Gadar (Village Revolution). It regularly reached far-flung and remote villages in Rajasthan and has been instrumental in providing a forum for vulnerable communities and underprivileged classes to get justice.

To facilitate the intervention process for community-based action programmes at the grassroots level, CUTS Centre for Human Development was established in 1990 in the village Senthil of Chittorgarh district in Rajasthan. This Centre started with a rural empowerment programme and has expanded its scope and activities with intervention at the grassroots and policy levels.

Presently, the Centre is also working in Bhilwara, Banswara, Pratapgarh, Bharatpur and other adjoining districts.

Objectives

- Steering human development through intervention focusing on weaker, disadvantaged people and empowering them to participate in governance
- Achieving equitable access to social equity, economic justice and good governance
- Empowering skills, capacities and networking for influencers and organisations



Resources

- A range of committed and experienced staff who work in coherence
- Affiliated with important national committees and several international organisations
- Vast networking in Rajasthan with over 1,000 voluntary organisations and grassroots groups



Recently Concluded and/or Ongoing Projects

- Formation and Promotion of Farmer-Producer Organisations
- Social Inclusion Programme for Persons with Disabilities
- 'Nai Roshni' Leadership Development of Women
- Childline 1098
- "Netra Vasant" Rural Eye Health
- Developing a Culture of Sustainable Consumption and Lifestyle Through Promoting Organic Consumption and Production
- National Environment Awareness Campaign
- Giving the Poorest Consumers Greater Voice in India
- Consumer Care Centre (Grahak Sahayta Kendra)
- Send Children back to School
- Stronger Voice to Excluded Children
- Improving the Quality of the Elementary Education
- Mother NGOs Scheme on Health Awareness

Publications

Recent

- *Gram Gadar* (Village revolution: Wall Newspaper)
- *PACE* (Quarterly e-newsletter)

Past

- *Stories of Change*
- *Disability is Not an Inability*
- *Self-Help Groups: A Catalyst for Women's Empowerment*
- *Stronger Voice to the Excluded Children*
- *Jaiv Vividhta Ke Samvaahak Guni* (Traditional healers improving biodiversity)
- *Rajasthan Mein Upbhoktao ki Stithi* (Status of Consumers in Rajasthan)
- *Alakh Jaga hey Gaon Gaon Mein* (the light has awakened in villages)
- *Khuli Khidkiya Khuli Darwaze* (Open Windows, Open Doors)
- *Bata Gyan Ri I and II* (Matter of Knowledge)
- *Sashakht Nari Sudhira Samaj* (Empowered Women, Robust Society)

Achievements

- A CUTS networker was awarded the international prize on 'Creativity of Women in Rural Life' in 2002 by Women World Summit Foundation, Geneva, Switzerland
- Felicitated for mobilising 22 notorious criminals of the Kanjar Community to bring them into the mainstream of society in 2009
- State-level Best Performing SHG Awards felicitated by NABARD in 2011, 2013 and 2016
- State Awards for excellent work in the area of disability in 2016 and 2019
- Certificate of appreciation for better serving persons with disabilities in 2018 by Sightsavers India
- District Awards for Women Empowerment, Child Development, and Disability by District Administration, Chittorgarh and Bhilwara in 2015 and 2018



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Also at Jaipur, Delhi and Calcutta (India); Lusaka (Zambia); Nairobi (Kenya); Accra (Ghana); Hanoi (Vietnam); and Geneva (Switzerland); Washington DC, (USA).

To be an innovative centre for strategic interventions to raise the living standards of people.