

Participation and Action towards Community Empowerment

Volume 18, January-March 2022

## **Commemorating International Women's Day**

**C**UTS Centre for Human Development (CUTS CHD) commemorated International Women's Day with tribal women at Limbodi, Kataro ka Kheda on March 08, 2022. The topic of discussion was the gender gap and sensitisation among the tribal community. The event was attended by Government Teachers, Sarpanch, Secretary, Anganwadi Workers, Ward Panch and Local Community Leaders.



Afterwards, the awareness rally was organised

with school children with messages, such as 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao, Baal Shram Aparadh Hai, Baal Vivah Paap Hain; Ache Pariwar ki Kya Pehchan, Shikshit Nari Ghar ki Shaan etc. Another event was organised with Women Farmer Producer Organisations in Bassi village. The chief guest was Aparna Gupta, IAS, CEO District Council, Chittorgarh. She said that for many people, the role of women is limited to household chores only. However, this needs to be changed as women deserve equal freedom and opportunities in everything like men. The world is moving towards gender equality. More than 190 participants attended the two events.



## World Consumer Rights Day Observed

World Consumer Rights Day on 'Empowering Consumers for Sustainable Consumption' was organised on March 15, 2022. FPOs observed the Day and the team shared that consumers have the right to be aware of their rights and the importance of protecting them against market abuses and social injustices. This Day is celebrated to raise awareness about consumer rights and entitlements. Around 300 farmers and consumers attended the event.

# Asha Kiran: A Ray of Hope

With the support of the Rotary India Literacy Mission, CUTS CHD undertook a project entitled 'Asha Kiran- A Ray of Hope (A programme to send children back to school).

The Centre identified the 400 eligible children from various locations and prepared the profile of each child as per the prescribed format. After its review by Rotary India Literacy Mission, the details have been uploaded on the portal. A total of 150 children were screened.

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## **Farmers' Formation and Promotion**

**C**UTS undertook Farmers Producer Organisations (FPOs) project with the support from the Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC), National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD), and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) in Bharatpur, Chittorgarh and Banswara districts of Rajasthan. The aim is to facilitate the development of sustainable income-oriented farming, enhance productivity, and effective capacity building to develop agriculture entrepreneurship skills.

#### **Mobilisation Meetings**

Mobilisation meetings were held in four districts to conduct various activities, such as mobilising farmers to become shareholders, formation of Farmer Interest Groups (FIGs), informative materials to farmers, networking visits at the Department of Agriculture, Rajasthan Seed Corporation, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Department of Horticulture, District Development Manager, NABARD to linkage with various agriculture promotion schemes. More than 10000 farmers attended the meetings.



#### **Training for BoDs and CEOs**

A CEO Training-cum-Orientation and Board of Directors training were held under the NCDC NABARD



FPO programme at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banswara, on January 05-06, 2022. During the training, Madan Lal Keer welcomed the team and briefed them about project objectives, proposed activities, roles and responsibilities. Kanakmal Katara, Member of Parliament, Banswara; Nirmal Makwana, Pradhan Talwara block; Vishram Meena, DDM, NABARD; Deputy Director (Agriculture); and Scientist Krishi Vigyan Kendra attended the programme. More than 120 participants participated.

# **Prevention of Child Labour Programme**

The launch meeting of the project entitled 'Child Labour Prevention was held on March 22, 2022. Sangeeta Beniwal, Chairperson of State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, was the Chief Guest of the event and Prakash Chandra Sharma, District Collector; Chiranji Lal Meena, Additional Superintendent of Police, Pratapgarh; and Chairperson of District Child Protection Unit, were special guests.

Around 70 stakeholders attended the event, including District level officers of various departments, i.e. Child Welfare Committee; Child Helpline 1098; Labour Department; Employment Department; Department of Social Justice & Empowerment; Health Department; Education Department; Police Department; Juvenile Justice Board; District Council; Public Relationship Department; Rajasthan State Livelihood Development Corporation; Rajivika; Baroda Swarojgar Vikas



Sansthan; and representatives from *Panchayati Raj Institutions*, Children's groups and Non-government Organisations, i.e. Srijan Sansthan, Gayatri Sewa Sansthan etc. Sasmita Lalit Jena, Area Associate Director, World Vision; George Cheriyan, Director, CUTS International and CHD team attended the programme.



### **Promoting Responsible Consumption and Production**

CUTS has undertaken a project entitled, 'Developing a Culture of Sustainable Consumption and Lifestyle Through Promoting Organic Consumption and Production and Adopting Sustainable Consumption Practices by Engaging Consumers in the State of Rajasthan, India' (ProScop). This project is being implemented in 12 targeted districts and all seven divisions of Rajasthan for five years (2022-2026).

The ProScope, including ProOrganic activities, started with:

- identification of areas and communities to develop a culture of sustainable development;
- setting up the community seed bank and vermin-compost cell with the help of farmers; developing organic gardens in selected schools in each district;
- creating a demand for organic consumption among the consumers; and
- getting the acquaintance with organic consumption with the help of exposure in Chittorgarh, Bhilwara, Banswara and Pratapgarh districts of Rajasthan.

# **Formation of Tribal Children Groups**

wo children's groups of age 6-12 years were formed in Limbodi and Kataro ka Kheda villages of Pratapgarh district of Rajasthan. Each group comprised 12 children. Children played engaging activities, i.e. local games, rhymes, and telling stories.

The aim was to strengthen the Panchayat-level Child Protection Committee to ensure an inclusive and accessible community and collaborate effectively to protect children from harmful child labour and risk. Child-



related issues were raised, and the CHD team made a brief presentation on laws and legislature on child rights, roles and responsibilities of Block/*Panchayat*-Level Child Protection Committees.

### NETWORKING AND VISITORS

- Sangeeta Beniwal, Chairperson, Shailender Pandya and Narender Naga
- Members, Rajasthan State Commission for Protection of Child Rights
- Prakash Chand Sharma, District Collector, Pratapgarh
- Gopal Lal Swarankar, Additional District Magistrate, Pratapgarh
- Arvind Kumar Pashwal, District Collector, Chittorgarh
- Shiv Kumar Nakate, District Collector
- Tara Chand Meena, District Collector, Chittorgarh
- Ankit Singh, District Collector, Banswara
- Dataram, CEO, District Council, Chittorgarh

- Gyanmal Khatik, Chief Executive Officer, District Council, Chittorgarh
- Sushil Kumar, Chief Executive Officer, District Council, Bharatpur
- Yogender Kanojiya, Scientist, KVK
- Rajaram Sukhwal Deputy Director, Horticulture
- Shanker Lal Jat, Deputy Director, Agriculture
- Mushtaq Khan, Chief Medical and Health Officer, Bhilwara
- RC Goswami, Additional CMHO
- Dharamraj Pratihar, Deputy Director, Social Justice and Empowerment
- Santhosh Chouhan, District Coordinator, Nehru Yuva Kendra
- AK Singh, AGM, Sachin Badetiya, Vishesh Meena and Rajesh Meena, District Development Managers, NABARD

### **REPRESENTATIONS**

- George Cheriyan, Gauhar Mehmood, Nimisha Gaur, Kamlesh Kumar Jangid and Mukesh Singhal attended a two-day Start-up workshop organised by the World Vision of Germany on January 27-28, 2022, to orient the partners about the Child Labour Project.
- Gauhar Mehmood and Madan Giri Goswami attended District Monitoring Committee members' discussion on FPOs review and planning with CEO District Council, DDM, NABARD, DD Agriculture, Horticulture, Secretary, Mandi Samiti, Chief Scientist, Krishi Vigyan Kendra.
- Gourav Chaturvedi and Hemant Kumar Sisodia attended a Workshop on POCSO Act 2012 and JJ Act 2015 in collaboration with the CUTS and SP office on February 04, 2022. Mahendra Kumar Dabey, ADJ-cum Secretary, District legal service authority, Bhilwara and Jyeshtha Maitraiyee (IPS) ASP, and 55 police officials, attended the event.

- Kamlesh Kumar Jangid, N S Choubisa and Gauhar Mehmood attended a meeting organised by World Vision on February 08, 2022, and discussed the financial and physical deliverables.
- Pushpendra Mehta and and Sanju Masar attended a Training Programme on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offence (POCSO) Act, 2012 and Amendment, 2019, organised by Kailash Satyarthi Foundation on March 11-12, 2022.
- Kamlesh Kumar Jangid and N S Choubisa attended a meeting organised by WV Germany on March 29, 2022, to discuss project activities, budget planning and financial issues.
- Gauhar Mehmood, Gaytri Moad, Gourav Chaturvedi and Madan Giri Goswami attended a Webinar on World Water Day held on March 23, 2022. Gopal Krishna Agarwal, Mathew Cherian, Joydeep Gupta, and Shubha Ramachandran were speakers.



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