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Participation and Action towards Community Empowerment

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Cyber Shield for MSMEs: Building Digital Resilience

CUTS organised a total of nine workshops across the districts of Chittorgarh, Bhilwara, and Udaipur, targeting micro and small businesses, nonprofits, social enterprises, and entrepreneurs. These sessions focused on cybersecurity resilience, increasing awareness, and the adoption of cyber-resilient practices.

The aim was to address challenges related to the use of digital technologies and enhance cybersecurity capabilities, with additional discussions on cyber police support and cyber insurance.

Experts from CUTS delivered sessions on various relevant topics. Representatives from the District Industrial Centre, Cyber Police, business



associations, individual entrepreneurs, and victims of cybercrime also shared their insights. In total, 750 micro, small and medium sized enterprises (MSMEs) and business units participated in these workshops.



Empowering Villages: Awareness Drives

Village Awareness Meetings were held at 100 locations to introduce the project objectives, proposed activities, and expected outcomes. The process of forming Citizen Oversight Committees was initiated at these meetings.

The health team conducted visits to various health centres to gather preliminary data on the healthcare system, infrastructure conditions, and community perceptions. They engaged with community members, doctors, para-medical staff, and others to

understand service gaps and planning needs.

Resource persons included local Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs), General Nursing and Midwifery (GNMs), Anganwadi workers, and CUTS representatives. They provided detailed information to participants on health services, identified challenges, and proposed community-based solutions.

Health in Community Hands

Citizen Health Oversight Committee meetings were conducted in 100 *Gram Panchayats*. Identified committee members, local ANMs/GNMs, and



Anganwadi workers attended as resource persons.

The sessions focused on project objectives, health schemes, the role and

responsibilities of health staff, and improving access to quality health services. Key findings from the Community Report Card (CRC) were shared during visits with medical staff and community members.

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Bridging Voices: Community-Stakeholder Connect

nterface meetings brought together community members and stakeholders to discuss healthcare delivery challenges and opportunities. Discussions included the project's goals, malnutrition, institutional deliveries, early pregnancies, family welfare, iron-folic acid consumption, and the role of unregistered health practitioners. Participants highlighted the shortage of doctors and para-medical staff.

Child Health Officers emphasised continuing efforts to combat malnutrition, prevent blindness and tuberculosis, and promote immunisation. These meetings facilitated dialogue, improved mutual



understanding, and generated actionable insights. A total of 734 participants from 49 villages attended.

Smart Tools: Drudgery Reduction in Action



UTS, in collaboration with Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology (MPUAT), Udaipur, organised training on drudgery reduction tools and equipment at 12 locations in Chittorgarh district. Resource persons included Ram Avtar Kaushik, Hemu Rathod, Adarsh Sharma, Rajdeep Pareek, Manish Runthala, Suseela Javvadi, Gauhar Mahad, and Madan Giri.

Demonstrations were held on innovative farm tools like hand ridgers, seed treatment drums, improved sickles, groundnut decorticators, maize shellers, weeders, and picking bags. Participants were

encouraged to adopt these tools to reduce labour intensity and increase productivity. Over 400 farmers attended the 12 training sessions.

Integrated Solutions for Sustainable Growth

total of five Integrated Farming System (IFS) trainings were conducted to educate farmers on integrating various agricultural practices to boost income and sustainability. Demonstrations and discussions covered crop and livestock management, soil health, waste management, and livelihood improvement.

Key resource persons included Avtar Kaushik, Kapil Ameta (Horticulture), Adarsh Sharma, Rajdeep Pareek, Suseela Javvadi,



Gauhar Mahad, and Madan Giri. Around 300 farmers participated in these sessions.

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Stakeholders Unite for Smarter Farming

A stakeholder consultation was held in Chittorgarh in May 2025, attended by R.A. Kaushik and Adarsh Sharma from Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology (MPUAT), along with 16 Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) members and progressive farmers from eight selected blocks.

The consultation reviewed project activities and farmers' feedback. Kaushik discussed achievements, set future targets, and recommended documenting field-level technology



adoption and sharing updates on the Department of Science & Technology (DST) portal.



Empowering Farmers through Poultry Support

On May 30, 2025, a follow-up meeting was held at Badi Sadri Block, where MPUAT distributed 1,000 chicks, 50 water storage containers, feeder pots, and bird feed to 50 tribal farmers to promote poultry farming.

Kaushik emphasised proper care, including nutrition, hygiene, vaccination, and disease prevention for better productivity. Tribal farmers expressed gratitude for receiving quality chicks free of cost.

Farmers Unite for a Greener Tomorrow

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chittorgarh and CUTS FPOs organised a seminar under the *Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan* at Panchayat Bhawan, Bassi, Chittorgarh. Distinguished speakers included:

- Ajit Kumar Karnataka, Vice Chancellor, MPUAT
- R.L. Soni, Director of Extension Education, MPUAT
- Ratan Solanki, Head, KVK
- Mahendra Dudi, District Development Manager, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
- Mukesh Ameta, Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited
- Sitaram Mahawar, All India Radio
- Gauhar Mahmood, CUTS

Sessions focused on organic farming, vermicomposting, soil health, FPO development, and integrated agriculture practices. A total of 130 farmers, including 60 women from FPOs, participated.

FPO Dialogue: Crafting Agri Futures

PO CEOs and Board members attended a seminar at the National Institute of Agricultural Management (NIAM), Jaipur, on June 24, 2025. The event was chaired by Ramnath Thakur, Minister of State, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India.

Discussions covered FPO performance, agricultural production, marketing, government support schemes, and the challenges faced in FPO promotion. Thakur assured participants that their issues would be taken up in departmental meetings for resolution. A total of five participants attended.

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NETWORKING VISITORS AND MEETINGS

- Alok Ranjan, District Collector and Chief Executive Officer and Rajesh Purohit, Additional CEO, District Council on Inclusive Election Campaign
- District Development Managers, NABARD, Chittorgarh, Bhilwara and Banswara
- Rajender Jaga, Joint Director and OP Sharma, Deputy Director, Agriculture
- Rajaram Sukhwal Deputy Director, and Mukesh Dhakad Centre for Excellence, Chittorgarh
- Rakesh Tanwar, Assistant Directors from Women Empowerment Department

- Mahendra Mehta, District Programme Manager, Rajivika, Chittorgarh
- Yogesh Kanojia, Chief Scientist, Krishi Vigyan Kendra and Rajender Solanki, Scientist and Deepa Indoria, Krishi Vigyan Kendra
- Shanker Lal Jat, Deputy Director, Horticulture, and OP Sharma, Agriculture Chittorgarh
- Kuldeep Singh, Director Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) Chittorgarh
- Dashraj Singh, Assistant Director, Agriculture-Extension, Bharatpur
- Ashok Kumar Vaswani, Lead District Manager, Bank of Baroda

REPRESENTATIONS

Health Project Review Meetings: Madan Lal Keer and Madan Giri Goswami participated in virtual meetings on May 06 & May 16, 2025 respectively to review project activities, challenges, and outcomes under the Health Project.

SUNIL_DST Project Follow-up: Gauhar Mahmood and Gaytri Moud attended a follow-up meeting under the SUNIL_DST project. The discussion covered the distribution of chicks to 50 tribal beneficiaries, drudgery reduction initiatives, and the adoption of tools and techniques for integrated farming.

FPO Processing Units and Financial Linkages: Madan Giri Goswami and Gauhar Mahmood held meetings with officials from the Agriculture and Horticulture departments regarding the establishment of processing units in FPOs. They submitted the equity grant application file and initiated the process for credit linkage.

Equity Grant and Licencing: Gourav Chaturvedi held discussions with the Agriculture Department concerning the application for an equity grant, FPO management cost support, licencing, and credit linkage.

