# GUWAHATI GANA SEVA SOCIETY To Communicate To Empower To Sustain

NASE

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ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

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# **GGSS PROFILE**

The Guwahati Gana Seva Society is the social work wing of the Archdiocese of Guwahati having its principal office at Peace Centre, G.N.B. Road, Ambari, Guwahati. The society was formed in 1992 with the aim of supporting and empowering the poor and marginalized section of people irrespective of their caste, creed or religion living in the operational areas of the Archdiocese.

The Society lays its focus on livelihood promotional activities among rural farmers with sustainable farming practices and initiating Agri product marketing, group wise viable income generation activities among the rural SHG women and vocational trainings for school dropout and unemployed tribal youth. It also tries to tap various Govt. schemes and benefits for the target groups.

# **LEGAL STATUS**

GGSS is registered under Societies Registration Act 1860, with registration number 2163/1992-93 obtained on 9<sup>th</sup> September 1992. It is also registered with the Ministry of Home Affairs under FCRA 1976 vide FCRA No., 020780064. It has also 12 (A) registration for tax exemption vide Registration No.12A/38/2001-02/1272-74, The Society's PAN No is AAATG5227D.

# VISION

A Self-Reliant Society based on Love, Justice, Unity and Peace.

# MISSION

To empower the poor and marginalized ethnic groups by promoting selfreliance among them through awareness creation and people's Organization

# **OBJECTIVES**

\* To create awareness and mobilize the less privileged groups of the society and help them to improve their conditions and find solutions to their problems.

\* To assist and train the Animators to integrate, mobilize and develop human resources.

\* To formulate and undertake different developmental projects on education, health and agriculture for improving the socio-economic status of the people.

\* To collaborate with government and other secular organizations to promote development for humanitarian activities.

\* To undertake relief, rehabilitation and welfare services for the victims of flood, ethnic violence, fire etc. as the situation demands.

\* To initiate and undertake research, field study and documentation for the better planning, monitoring, and evaluation of our developmental activities. Most Rev. John Moolachira Archbishop of Guwahati



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The challenges of life of the poor and backward sections of the society in the socioeconomic life of the present world are often overlooked and unnoticed. A sustainable support and care for the needy is one of the essential aspects of developmental work of Guwahati Gana Seva Society (GGSS). GGSS, as the Social Work Entity of Archdiocese of Guwahati has contributed towards the growth and empowerment of the poor and marginalized section of the society through its various action oriented developmental projects. The Annual Report 2022 -2023 gives an essence of the various sustainable developmental activities which GGSS has been undertaking for the poor and marginalized people of the present society.

I am happy to inscribe that GGSS had carried out many developmental activities for the poor and needy through various sustainable projects in the midst of challenging circumstances with its committed and dedicated staff members. The commendable services of GGSS are visible in its health care services, enhancing rural farmers, empowering rural widows, including children in organic farming by incorporating organic farming in children's hostels, and other emergency humanitarian response during natural calamities.

I sincerely appreciate and thank GGSS team for their ongoing dedicated services to the poor and most vulnerable sections of the society within the Archdiocese of Guwahati. I also request all the General and Governing Body Members to encourage and support GGSS team.



Guwahati Gana Seva Soci Archbishop John Moolachira President Guwahati Gana Seva Society



**GUWAHATI GANA SEVA SOCIETY** 

(REGD. No. : 2163/ 1992 - 93)

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'PEACE CENTRE' G.N.B. ROAD, AMBARI GUWAHATI - 781 001 ASSAM, INDIA

The concept of option for the poor and vulnerable invites every existing human person to care in a special way for those who need the most help in the society. The reality of the present globalized society is not free from the existence of poor and marginalized people who suffer the most in diverse forms. They are sometimes denied of equal access to opportunities, their rights and privileges on the basis of his/her race, caste, colour, religion, sex etc. The spirit of love and sharing with the poor and needy can give hope and assurance to those most neglected and marginalized sections of the society.

Guwahati Gana Seva Society (GGSS), the social work wing of the Archdiocese of Guwahati renders its service to the most vulnerable and marginalized communities of the society through its developmental projects and clear vision of empowering them to a sustainable development. In the year 2022 - 2023, the GGSS had been implementing different developmental projects and emergency humanitarian relief responses to assist and help the poor and vulnerable people of the region. The beneficiaries had been empowered towards wholistic sustainable development by the project interventions.

I am very glad to present the Annual Report of GGSS for the year 2022- 2023. The annual report highlights the achievements and dedicated service rendered by the GGSS staff to the cause of the poor and needy as well as generous support and collaboration of various partners and well-wishers.

With great joy, I thank all the partners and funding agencies for their constant support and help for the past developmental project activities of the year. I also thank the Archbishop, Most Rev. John Moolachira, the president of GGSS, the General and Governing Boldy Members for their immense support and encouragement. I sincerely appreciate and thank GGSS staff who had played a vital role to uplift the most neglected and vulnerable sections of society.



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Fr. Maya Martin Muchahary Director Guwahati Gana Seva Society

Global Program India: Poverty Reduction and Food Security, Promoting Social Inclusion of Marginalized Groups as well as Increasing the Resilience to Disasters in High-Risk Areas, BMZ Supported by Caritas Germany

Global Program India is a project which Guwahati Gana Seva Society has been running with the support of Caritas Germany in the flood prone areas of 20 revenue villages of Mayong and Laharighat blocks, Morigaon Dirstrict. Overall development objective of the project aims on poverty reduction, food security and promotion of social inclusion of marginalized groups and increase resilience to disasters.

# **Project Location**

State: Assam District: Morigaon Blocks: Mayong & Laharighat Panchayat: 8 Village: 20 Revenue Villages Household: 5517 Population: 30920



1. Mobilization of village communities through
 public information campaigns



The activity was conducted 1 time per village in all the 20 project villages with the objective of enhancing knowledge of the community on the needs of active participation at Gram Sabha at least twice a year.

At least 30% of the community people took part at

Gram Sabha after the mobilization of the community members. Through their active participation at Gram Sabha, 75% of the general population have availed government entitlements such as PMGAY house, community toilets etc.



2. PDRA Participatory Disaster Risk Analyses are conducted at the community level for various disaster scenarios (Multi Hazard) and corresponding response plans are developed.

Participatory Disaster Risk Analyses exercise was required. It was conducted 1 time each in 20 project villages by assessing the risk elements, vulnerability and capacity of the community.

Through the exercise of PDRA, the risk elements of the community, their vulnerability and Capacity is assessed and identified. The community could realize their immediate needs for addressing the issues, and for which they can submit proposals in the form of Action plans at Gram Sabha. The people also could identify some of their capacity and local resources, such as locally available resources of bamboos, banana trees and lakes where they can fish and earn their daily needs.



# J. Coordination meetings at Gram Panchayat, □ block and district levels

This coordination meeting was organized in 4 Gram Panchayats selectively among 8 Gram Panchayats as per requirement to establish good relations with GP and coordinate in the development activities for the communities.

The coordination meeting at Gram Panchayats helped to accumulate sufficient information on the schemes and activities taking place through GP in the communities/wards. The project staff presented their opinion and suggestions to the GP Presidents to consider more towards the project households for availing government entitlements like individual toilets.



4. Training task forces of volunteer emergency responders, climate change adaptation action groups and conducting annual emergency drills.

Annual Mock Drill for taskforces, students and volunteers was organized 20 times covering every target village community by enhancing knowledge of

the taskforces on life-saving skills particularly on search, rescue and evacuation methods as preparedness measures against unpredicted disaster.

The community taskforce and volunteers are confident of executing search, rescue and evacuation methods. The community people could also learn preparing improvised saving kits with locally available resources such as waste thermocol, bamboos and waste water plastic bottles.



5. Capacity building and promotion of participation in DRR measures with representatives of particularly marginalized groups in special committees

This capacity building activity was conducted 20 times according to the needs of each target villages by enhancing the knowledge of marginalized farmers, and other groups of people for self-sustaining and income alternatives during the floods.

This activity has helped the marginalized households to choose income alternatives in the face of disaster particularly floods adopting raised models for preparing Vermin-Composed Resilient Paddy crops (Ranjet sub-1, Bahadur Sub-1 and Bina 11) and weaving fulom-Gamucha. The community is marching as self-sustaining and models in the neighbouring villages.



6. Preparatory training at panchayat level to provide orientation for the technical and methodological implementation

Through this activity the Action Plans in the form of proposal is developed in the project villages. Hence, one each Action Plan was developed for each project villages.

The community or the ward member and community leaders are trained to prepare Action Plans for their community. It helped the community to develop Action Plans for themselves. Technical support had been given for the same and the community could better analyze their issues of risk factors and vulnerable areas.



7. Workshops and follow-up measures for municipal representatives for planning, development and approval procedures of DRR plans and their coordinated implementation with block and district administrations

One time event that was conducted in Kushtoli GP in collaboration with SIPRD to follow-up with the

submitted Action Plans during Gram Sabha and to know the updated information about it. This activity gave opportunity to update information from the Gaon Panchayats on incorporation of action plan proposals previsouly submtted to GP from the community.



8. Mapping of disaster risk areas at the district level and revision of DDMPs based on revised plans to implement prevention measures

This was one time event conducted at district level for mapping of disaster risk areas in the district and articulating the DDMP by district project officer for the common participants of the event.

Through this activity the most vulnerable areas of

district are identified by Water Resource Engineer. This workshop also helped to disseminate information by DDMA on the District Disaster Management Plan in the district. The exchange of ideas on vulnerability and required action for protection of possibility of damages caused by flood in the flood prone areas was done during the workshop.



9. Strengthening the Inter-Agency Groups (IAG) in all project regions at district level to train NGO personnel and coordinate coordinated response mechanisms

The activity was conducted 3 times to revive the Interagency Groups in the district. The Inter-Agency Groups in the district is revived and new executive body was formed by incorporating many new local

NGOs in Inter-Agency Group. Around 21 local NGOs including CBOs and Clubs are included in the IAG.



10. Staff and municipal representatives are trained on existing government support programs in order to be able to pass on relevant information to the general population

The activity was conducted 1 time in every village to train staff and community leaders on existing government support schemes available for the general

population. The participants learned about the existing government support programs and how to apply for them. Self-confidence was boosted among the participants and better communication was established between the PRI members and the general population.

# Shelter Phase -II Tribal Widows' Programme Goalpara District, Assam

Guwahati Gana Seva Society (GGSS) has taken note of the need of an empowering initiative to enhance the socio-economic life of poor widows by implementing again previously launched 'SHELTER: TRIBAL WIDOWS' PROGRAMME' supported by MANOS UNIDAS as 'SHELTER PHASE II: TRIBAL WIDOWS' PROGRAMME' in Goalpara district. The main focus point of the project is an integrated development of 110 widows belonging to BPL families. The main aim of this program is to empower them to lead a dignified life.



### PROJECT LOCATION

State: Assam District: Goalpara Village: 15 Village Block: Matia Beneficiary: 110 Widows' Families



Supported by Manos Unidas, Spain

☐ 1. Two days Orientation program for widow ☐ headed family

Two days orientation program was conducted at St. Sebastian's School Matia on 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022. Mr. Nabjyot Das and Mrs Paulina animated the beneficiaries. Director encouraged and motivated the participants to involve actively in the project activities and learn about their rights and dignity. Fr. Messiah,

the principal of St. Sebastian's School, in his address appreciated the widows for taking part in the project activities.



# 2. Two days Training on Mental Health and Stress Management

Two days training program was conducted to impart knowledge on mental health and dealing with stress, on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022. Mrs. Josbina Sangma and Miss Banuma Uraon from civil hospital Goalpara facilitated the training program by encouraging the participants to practice meditation and few exercises daily in order to have a sound mind and health.

# 3. Two Days Training on Developing Homestead Nutrition Kitchen Garden

Two days training program was conducted on 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023 to train widows on Developing homestead nutrition kitchen garden. It was heled in St. Sebastian's School Matia, Goalpara District, Assam. Mrs. Poli Saikia (Scientist in KVK) and Mrs. Minakshi Borah (scientist KVK) were the resource persons



# 4. Capacity Building Training for the Staff

The capacity building training for staff was held at SCJM Women Development Centre, Goalpara from 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023. Mrs. Arlin Sangma and Mrs. Sunanda Hajong, facilitated the programm by sharing their knowledge on building self-confidence, inculcating positive thinking, time management and available govt. support schemes for widows.

5. Three Days Training on Household Financial Management

Training on household financial management for the targeted widows was conducted from 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023 with the resource persons Ms. Joyrita TS, Mr. Pulan Talukdar and Mr. Prabin Minj. The knowledge on preparing household budget, various means of savings for future and ways of income generation were

shared by the resource persons. The participant widows were motivated.







# 6. Celebration of Important Events

# 6.1. International Girl Child Day

International Girl Child Day was celebrated on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022 with a focus on the challenges that the girl child face in the modern society. They were encouraged to empower themselves and know their rights.

# 6.2. International Day for the Rural Women

International Day for the Rural Women was celebrated on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2022 in the target villages with the objective to create awareness about the fact that rural women's contributions to the society are not appreciated and unnoticed.

# **6.3. World Cancer Day**

To create awareness about the cancer disease among the masses different rallies were taken out in support of World Cancer Day on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023. The participants carried placards in their hands to demonstrate and communicate the message of cancer disease and its consequent effects in human life.

# <image>

# 6.4. International Human Rights Day

International Human Rights Day was observed on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023, with the objective that every person deserves basic right to live in a dignified manner. The participants were enabled to learn about their basic rights and freedom.

# 6. 5. International women's Day

International Women's Day was celebrated on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 highlighting the importance of promoting gender equality and greater participation of women in the main stream of the society.



# 7. Creation of 21 Small Widows' Group

21 Small Widows' Groups are successfully formed by segregating 110 beneficiary widows into different groups based on geographical locations of target villages and neighbourhoods. It has created a common platform for widows to have regular group meetings and to share their personal family problems

as well as find possible and relevant solutions. They are able lighten themselves from emotional burdens created by accumulated negative experience of their widowhood and unexpressed emotions.



# 8. Regular Family Visit

Project Staff made regular family visit to 110 widows headed households. It helped the staff to build up good rapport with the widows and their families. The staff became more aware of the socio-economic conditions of the poor widows.

### 9. Monthly Review Meetings

Project staff conducted regular monthly review meeting to evaluate the progress of the project implementation as well as to prepare action plan for the next activities. Ecological Hostels, Kitchen Garden and Preservation of Bio-Diversity for 26 Hostels of the Archdiocese of Guwahati/India – Phase – III (Promotion of Food Security)

# Supported by Kindermissionswerk

**Project Activities** 

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**Ecological Hostels, Kitchen Garden and Preservation of Bio-Diversity for 26 Hostels of the Archdiocese of Guwahati/India – Phase – III** has been launched for the period of two years. The organic farms are created in all 26 homes by the previous project interventions and the children are enjoying the benefits. With the Phase-III intervention, GGSS team aim to give constant learning and accumulating new knowledge on organic farming and environment to the children of 26 hostels for both old and newcomers. GGSS also intend to educate the hostel inmates and day scholar students with the knowledge of preservation of bio-diversity and its positive effects. The objectives and desired results are to educate and influence the young children to be responsible citizens of the mother earth one who cares for it and contribute towards its preservation in the near future.

# **Project Location**

State: Assam District: Morigaon, Nagaon, Hojai, Goalpara, Kamrup & Baksa Area: 26 Hostels Beneficiary: Students of 26 Hostels & 13 Schools

NAMES OF THE HOSTELS SL NO DISTRICT ST VINCENT'S BOYS' HOSTEL, AMSOI 1 MORIGAON 2 HOLY CROSS CONVENT, AMSOI MORIGAON 3 CHRIST JYOTI BOYS' HOSTEL, SILCHANG MORIGAON 4 CHRIST JYOTI GIRLS' HOSTEL, SILCHANG MORIGAON 5 ST ALPHONSA GIRLS' BOARDING, CHAPARMUKH NAGAON 6 ST THOMAS GIRLS HOME, KAKI NAGAON 7 ST THOMAS BOYS HOME, KAKI NAGAON ST THOMAS BOARDING FOR BOYS, KATHIATOLI 8 HOJAI 9 VENERINERI GIRLS' BOARDING, KATHIATOLI HOJAI 10 ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI BOYS, HOSTEL, RANGJULI GOALPARA LITTLE FLOWER GIRLS BOARDING, RANGJULI 11 GOALPARA 12 ASSISI BOYS' BOARDING, MARIAMPUR GOALPARA 13 ST JOSEPH GIRLS' HOME, MARIAMPUR GOALPARA ST PAUL'S BOYS' HOME, PANISHALI GOALPARA 14 15 FERRANDO GIRLS' BOARDING, PANISHALI GOALPARA ST PETER'S BOYS' HOME, CHANDRAPUR 16 KAMRUP 17 ST MARY'S GIRLS' HOME, CHANDRAPUR KAMRUP 18 ST PATRIK'S BOYS' HOSTEL, SONAPUR KAMRUP 19 ST MARY'S GIRLS' HOME, SONAPUR KAMRUP 20 DON BOSCO BOYS' BOARDING, SONAIGULI KAMRUP RESURRECTION GIRLS' BOARDING, SONAIGULI 21 KAMRUP JEROME INSTITUTE, SONAIGULI KAMRUP 22 23 ST JUDE'S BOYS' BOARDING, NAGRIJULI BAKSA 24 ST JUDE'S GIRLS' BOARDING, NAGRIJULI BAKSA 25 ST XAVIER'S BOYS' HOSTEL, TAMULPUR BAKSA ST XAVIER'S GIRLS' HOSTEL, TAMULPUR 26 BAKSA TOTAL - 26 Hostels



# Project Orientation and Training Programme

The project orientation and training programme was conducted for two different groups in two locations, one in GGSS Conference Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 and another in St Paul's Catechetical Centre, Rangia on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The first group consisted of the



school principals as well as heads of the target hostels. The second groups consisted of hostel gardeners. The concept of organic garden and preservation of biodiversity was shared with the participants of the programme. Dr. D. N. Dutta, the agro-consultant of GGSS, had explained the importance of organic

farming and bio-diversity as well as the necessity to impart this knowledge to young students. The director also presented a brief description of project activities and objectives to be achieved during the project period. The different methods on organic farming were taught to the hostel gardeners by the project coordinators, Mr. Prabin Minz, Mr. Prabin Narzary and Mr. Prabin Boro. They taught them how to make bio-insect repellent, weed composting, vermin composting, seed preservation and keeping proper farm records.



2. Tree Plantation Drive on the Observation on **Environment Day and Earth Day in the School** 

Tree plantation drive was observed on World Environmental Day on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023 by the school children of 15 educational institutions. The objective was to enable the students to acquire sufficient practical knowledge on the relevance of bio-diversity and contribute to the preservation of the environment individually by planting trees. According to the project objective, to observe Environmental Day, GGSS has supplied 3050 saplings to 15 educational institutions and the students planted those saplings in their locality under the guidance of their principals and teachers. The saplings consisted of varieties of tree saplings and

varieties of fruit saplings. Each educational institution received 200 saplings i. e. 150 tree saplings and 50 fruit saplings.



# 3. Distribution of Seeds and Seedlings of **Vegetables and Fruits**

To strengthen the organic farming in the target hostels, 17 varieties of seasonal vegetable seeds and a variety of fruit plants had been distributed to 26 hostels. This seed support was provided to encourage towards the development of seed bank in every hostel for future use. It also aimed to give opportunity to the hostel children for active involvement in the kitchen gardens. Through it, the children will be encouraged to engage

themselves in the organic farming processes such as seedling, preparing nurseries, transplantation, cultivating, weeding, irrigation and harvesting etc.





Hostel Level Awareness Workshops on Promotion of Organic Farming for the Inmates in 26 Hostels was conducted in the months of August and September 2023 in every target hostels. The awareness programm concentrated on introducing the project goals and objectives, organic farming, difference between organic farming and inorganic farming, advantage of organic farming, importance of having chemical free vegetables etc. The children were taught on the importance of organic farming and its sustainable agriculture.

# FARM NORTHEAST PHASE - IV (Facilitating Agriculture Regeneration Measures) (November 2022 to October 2025)

# Supported by Misereor & Caritas India

FARM Northeast Phase - IV is a three-year intervention funded by Misereor and supported by Caritas India, starting from November 2022 to October 2025. The project focuses on small-holder farmers to enhance their economy, health and Panchayati Raj. The objective of the project will assist the families in producing enough food to suit their needs and ensure that the food meets their standards. It will assist the households in becoming more resilient to the anticipated severe effects of climate change, and assist the chosen smallholder farmers in selling their produce at neighbourhood markets. FARM N.E. Phase-IV's intervention is carried out using the People-Led Development Approach (PLDA), which prioritises the activities of the people, develops a community plan with their input, and implements it using the resources that are available in the community.

# **Project Location**

State: Assam District: Nagaon, Morigaon & Kamrup Metro Block: Raha, Mayong & Dimoria Village: 12 Villages



plants were explained during the launching progarmme.



1. Project Launching & Orientation

GGSS launched FARM N.E., Phase – IV on April 20, 2023. Sri Suren Nath Knowar, Sohori Deo Raja, a wellknown and highly respected figure in the area, presided over the inauguration celebration. The GGSS team shared the overall gaol and objectives of Farm N. E. – IV. The major activities such as integrated farming system, preservation and promotion of traditional knowledge, promotion of millet and its health benefits, creation of models for IFS, food forests and medicinal

# 2. Promotion of Millet Cultivation

GGSS through Farm N. E., Phase – IV has initiated promoting Millet cultivation among the smallholder farmers in this International Year of Millets. The farmers are encouraged to start millet cultivation. A genus of smallseeded grasses known as millets have been grown for millennia in India. It has climate resilient capacity which can be cultivated in dryland areas with less water and little fertiliser support. The finished product of millet cultivation has good health value.

# 3. Training on Integrated Small-Scale Farming Systems

Training programmes on integrated small-scale farming systems were conducted with the aim of enhancing food production, income, and nutritional food intake for small and marginal farmers. Trainings on animal husbandry and general farming methods were given to them. Following the input session, the farmers were supported with mallet seeds and various seasonal vegetable saplings.

# 4. Orientation on Organic Farm Inputs

Orientations on organic agriculture inputs made from locally accessible resources were carried out through demonstration and training workshops at village level covering 10 villages. The farmers were trained how to prepare bio-pest repellent by using cow urine, ginger, garlic, chilli, ear leaves, dhautra leaves, neem leaves, akon plants and earthen clay pots. They were also trained how to prepare composting organic manure with cow dung, weeds and bamboo.

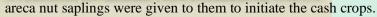
5. Promotion of Exposure Visits for Learning and Adoption

GGSS Farm N. E. project team participated Exposure Visit to Sagar District, Madhya Pradesh organized by the Caritas India N. E. Zonal Team. The exposure visit gave opportunity to learn and see how smallholder farmers of Baigrohi village implement various IFS elements in a limited area of land. The team also visited a farm and interacted with the farmers. During the visit, they observed

the most effective use of land for raising livestock and growing crops. GGSS team also participated in a millet conclave on April 4 to celebrate the international millet year organized by MVSS.

### 6. Promotion on Food Forest

The concept of developing a model for integrated farming and food forests was initiated by a group of ten farmers under guidance of GGSS staff. They outlined the strategy, demonstrating various forms of horticulture, raising livestock and using seasonal vegetables, local seeds, wild delicacies and medicinal plants. The farmers also decided to plant cash crops such as areca nuts and other climbers. 1000













issues, solution-finding, and decision- making.



# 7. Promotion of Millet Cultivation Among Youths and Children

Children and youth are encouraged and made aware on the cultivation of millets through its promotion in village schools and ensuring that the traditional knowledge is passed on to the next generation.

# 8. Promotion of Action Plan and Incorporation with 3 Years Village Development Plan

An awareness on developing village action plan and incorporating it in the village development plan was created among the 12 project village communities through meetings. To ensure community participation in creation of action plan an exercise was conducted on transaction walk, social and resource mapping, seasonal cultivation calendar, identification of the problems and issues, prioritization of

J 9. Orientation on Conservation and Protection
 ☐ of Biodiversity

Orientation programmes were conducted on conservation and protection & replenishment of natural resources including medicinal plant biodiversity in 9 villages to conscientize the village communities to contribute towards the preservation of bio-diversity. The concept of limiting deforestation, avoiding wastage of timber and firewood, prevention of forest fires, afforestation, policy of reduce, reuse and recycle was communicated to the participant

farmers. GGSS supported the farmers in 9 villages with 675 tree and fruit saplings to initiate their contribution towards the preservation of bio-diversity.



farmers will continue to benefit from each other.



# **10. Restoration of the Old System**

The project intervention has revived a long-standing custom of farmers supporting other farmers. To initiate the process, the assistance was given to collective farmers to start pig, fish, goat, duck and local chicken farms. In the same way other farmers were provided with ginger, mustard seed and lemon saplings for extensive cultivations. The process of handing over to the next group of farmers with similar assistance will continue at harvesting time. Hence, the



Creation of common marketing platform for smallholder farmers to sell their products and natural food resources for the consumers was started by the project intervention. The smallholder famers are able to sell their surplus food items regularly and earn Rs. 300 to Rs.500 each day.

# 12. Seed Donations for the Common Seed Bank of Indigenous Varieties

The concept of developing a common seed bank is communicated to the farmers of project villages. The GGSS staff, to create a community level common seed bank, are conscientizing the communities to donate indigenous types of rice and vegetable seeds with the help of some farmers. The farmers have started to contribute indigenous seeds to create a community level common seed bank.

☐ 13. Training on Air Layer Propagation for ☐ Growing Saplings

Farmers received training in the air layering propagation method for growing saplings. They are able to grow saplings according to their needs based on preferred breed of plants and trees. According to ALP method, saplings can be produced within 25 to 30 days. The farmers have started to apply the method to produce saplings.



# 14. System of Rice Intensification (SRI) Method of Farming

The farmers are trained on System of Rice Intensification (SRI) method. To start the process, 76 farmers of 7 groups of 5 villages are provided hands-on support and 4 varieties of paddy seeds for SRI farming on 160 bigha of farmland. Technical assistance and plastic mulching techniques were given to the farmers while creating seed bed and transfer of the seeds into the paddy field for productions.



# 15. Seed Storage at Village Schools

Indigenous seed banks were developed at village schools, to involve and educate the students in maintaining and conserving indigenous types of seeds as well as to cultivate at their school kitchen gardens. The process of saving seeds for the following year and multiplying them had been taught.



# 16. Exposure Visit of Smallholder Farmers

Exposure Visit to a large-scale agricultural area of a farmer group and NEDFi was arranged for 50 farmers from three project villages. The farmers were introduced to the handmade goods manufactured out of local resources and their market demand. They were given instructions on the techniques of preparing those products. The process of selling in the market and developing large-scale farming by farmers' groups were made known to them. Improving Access to Comprehensive Maternal and Child Health Services, and for Diseases and Condition of District Level Importance in North East India.

# Supported by MISEREOR

'Improving Access to Comprehensive Material and Child Health Services; and for Disease and Conditions of Districts Level Importance in North East India (Phase-IV)' is a healthcare project through which GGSS provide healthcare services to the rural populations. The objective of the project aims at marginalized communities to provide access to comprehensive maternal and child healthcare services. Through the project intervention targeted pregnant women, lactating mothers and children under five years will be provided complete cascade of maternal and child health services including ANC, institutional delivery, appropriate feeding, growth monitoring, nutrition, immunization and treatment of various ailments.

# **Project Location**

State: Assam District: Baksa, Goalpara & Kamrup Rural Health Centre: Under Five Health Centres Village: 46 Villages





1. Introduction Training to Peer Educators and Health Coordinators (F-IMCI & IMNCI)

As an orientation and training for Health supervisors and Asha workers, 'Introduction Training to Peer Educators and Health Coordinators (F-IMCI & IMNCI)' was conducted from 24th to 29 May 2023 at Priests' Home, Sonaighuli, Guwahati. Mr. Sanjeeb Kakoti and Ms. Joytika Baruah (VHAA), the invited resource persons animated 46 ASHA workers and 5 health supervisors. The participants were enhanced with the knowledge on F-IMNCI & C-IMNCI,

importance of ANC, institutional delivery, appropriate feeding, growth monitoring, nutrition, immunization and treatment of various ailment as well as various health schemes.



2. Village Community Meeting V H W / Peer Educators Meeting

This activity is conducted in every targeted village to provide basic health knowledge to the communities. The Peer-Educators and ASHA workers, through the meetings created health awareness amongst the communities by instructing and advising them on matters of regular checkup, 4 times ANC, PNC, USG, care for pregnant women, mother and child care, and importance of immunization below 5 years.

3. Daily Home Visits and Monthly Reporting by Peer-Educator

Rugular home visits are made by the peer-educators /the project staff to assist the communities and pregnant women in matter of maternal and child health care. The peer educators counselled and advised the village communities to attain good health for pregnant women and children. They prepared pregnant women for hospital delivery and IFA & ANC checkup. The peer educators monitored the growth of

children and encouraged Mothers for regular Immunization and take good nutritious food.

### 4. Monthly Review and Planning Meeting

Monthly Review Meetings are conducted in the five health centres regularly. The health supervisors and ASHA workers made regular assessment of project activities during monthly meetings. They analysed the progress of the project and past project activities, and accordingly prepared action plan for the following month. They also shared their field reports and documented them in the health centres.

# **5. Quarterly Review and Planning Meeting**

Quarterly Review and Planning Meetings were held in GGSS conference hall in every quarter. The health supervisors, coordinator, accountant and director were part of the meetings to review and assess the past project activities. During the meetings, the health supervisors presented the details of past project activities. They also discussed and analysed the results and achievements of the

project objectives. They prepared action plans for the following project activities. They were also given instructions how to maintain proper bills & vouchers, records and documentation.

# Strengthening Disaster Resilience and Community Preparedness on DRR in 13 Vulnerable Villages of Morigaon District of Assam, North East India.

### Supported by Manos Unidas, Spain

"Strengthening Disaster Resilience and Community Preparedness on DRR in 13 Vulnerable Villages of Morigaon District of Assam, North East India", is a DRR project that is designed towards change of attitudes of communities, families and individuals, in larger extent line departments and motivate all stakeholders to understand their present living conditions and improve them. The objective of the project is to build disaster resilience amongst the vulnerable communities and enhance their capacity to reduce vulnerabilities and adverse effects of the disasters caused by flood and other natural calamities. The activities of the project are designed to address the need and problems of the marginalized and deprived sections of the vulnerable communities by enabling them to take advantage of every opportunity of development process and increase their participation in decision making process, i. e. planning and implementation of the main stream of the society. It also aims to promote sustainable livelihood of the vulnerable communities, their protection and recovery during disasters and emergencies as well as to prepare the vulnerable communities to identify vulnerabilities and build up their disaster resilience to manage and respond to any disaster and reduce its greater effects on their livelihoods.

### **Project Location**

State: Assam; District: Morigaon Block: Mayong & Laharighat Panchayat: Niz- Saharia, Boralimari, Gormari, Ghogua, Ghagolmari Asighar Village: 13 Villages; Population: 8198; Families: 1167



# I. Project Launching and Dissemination of Project Concept on DRR

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**Project Activities** 

New DRR project was launched successfully at Goraimari Gaon Panchayat in Morigaon District on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The launching programme was participated by the representatives of 13 vulnerable village communities, village Gaonburah, Panchayat Presidents, members of the panchayats, GGSS director and Dr. D. N. Dutta, the consultant of the organization. The aims and objectives of the project was made known to the participants during the launching programme. Dr. D. N. Dutta, the consultant of the organization spoke about the emergency during flood and post flood resilience for the survival of animal and human being



2. Mobilization of Communities through Information Campaign, Formation, and identification of existing Task Force Groups.

Community mobilization was conducted in 13 targeted project villages creating awareness on the importance of forming village task force groups as emergency helpline of the vulnerable communities during the natural calamities. 13 village task force groups were formed for every targeted village consisting of 10 members. The role and responsibilities of the village task force group was

explained to the members and the communities. One of the important roles of the task force group is to extend help to rescue vulnerable people withing the village during emergency time.



# 3. Mapping and Analysis of Disaster Risks through Participatory Disaster Risk Analysis (PDRA)

Social mapping and analysis of disaster risk exercise was done in every 13 targeted project villages with the participants of village communities, panchayat members, village headmen and GGSS project staff. The exercise helped to identify demography and geographical location of the village, detail information

of land, resources, houses, educational institutions, health facilities, vulnerability and resilient capacity of the communities.

# Women Federation Groups Activities Under GGSS

# **Follow Up Programme GGSS**

Guwahati Gana Seva Society works closely with the rural village women to empower and enhance their economic conditions. The federations are formed as community based multi support centres for the self-help groups. There are 4 federations named as Basundhara Federation, Tamulpur; Notun Jivan Federation, Nagrijuli; Nabajagaran Federation, Kumarikatta; and Shining Star Federation, Sashipur. There are 40 SHGs registered under NRLM (Block). The 4 federations are being supervised by CLF (Cluster Level Federation) named as Akangsha Mahla Seva Kendra. GGSS facilitates different training programmes by networking with Rural Self-Employment Training Institute of Baksa and as a result members are able to participate in various training programmes conducted by RSETI. The linkage created with Veterinary Department provides opportunity for the women to registered for livestock insurance. The various income generating activities carried out also empower the rural women economically and socially.

# ACTIVITY LOCATION District- Baksa, Assam





GGSS, together with Federations conducted awareness programme to mobilize the local farmers to create interests on pig farming. The aims and objectives, responsibilities of federations and GGSS were made known to the farmers. Through the mobilization meetings number of members in federation have increased gradually.

# **2. Livestock Registration/ Swine Flu Vaccine** The importance of livestock insurance was communicat



The importance of livestock insurance was communicated to the farmer through mobilization meetings and many have registered for livestock insurance with the support of Veterinary Hospital Tamulpur. They also received free swine flu vaccination from the veterinary department.

# **3. Monitoring and Field Visit**

The GGSS staff made regular monitoring field visit in order to evaluate and follow up the progress of federation. The field visits facilitated in instructing and strengthening the members of the federations

# 4. Monthly Meetings of Federations

Regular Monthly Meetings of the federations are being conducted by the members to discuss their common problems and its hindrance to the progress and functioning of federation especially income earned and status of revolving fund as well as establishing credit linkage with banks and other institutions.

# HUMANATERIAN RELIEF RESPONSE TO THE AFFECTED FAMILIES OF FLOOD 2022, ASSAM Guwahati Gana Seva Society (GGSS)

The people of Assam had been affected by the effects of the first and the second waves of floods since the middle of May 2022 in 29 districts. The massive damages caused by the incessant rain fall and its consequent flood disasters was immensely harmful and frightening which took the lives of many people in the state. A great number of populations were displaced and forced to live in different temporary relief camps. The massive destructive effects of floods had damaged houses, road and communications, properties and livestock, crops and agricultural land etc. The essential needs for food, shelter and health care were the great matter of concern and crucial problems for the affected families. At that juncture, Guwahati Gana Seva Society (GGSS), within the Archdiocese of Guwahati had carried out an emergency humanitarian relief response to combat the effects of floods and to alleviate the crisis and problems of affected families. The total number of 5817 flood affected families, approximate of 27,000 individuals were assisted with emergency humanitarian response to combat the effects of floods. In terms of financial resources, Guwahati Gana Seva Society (GGSS) was supported by the foreign donor agencies such as Manos Unidas Spain, Catholic Relief Service (CRS) US and Taize Brothers France and local donors such as Guwahati Archdiocese, different diocesan and religious institutes of the Archdiocese as well as outside of the Archdiocese. GGSS spent Rs. 1,49,86,435.40 for the support of flood affected families in 2022 within the Archdiocese of Guwahati.

# **ACTIVITY LOCATIONS**

District: Nagaon, Hojai, Morigaon, Kamrup, Baksa State: Assam





# 1. Distribution of Relief Materials

Emergency Humanitarian Relief Response was conducted in different intervals to help and support the suffering brothers and sisters of the flood of disasters within the Archdiocese of Guwahati. GGSS provided immediate basic requirement of food and sanitary items. Through this intervention, GGSS reached out and supported 4904 flood affected families with dry ration and wash kit materials in the remote villages of Hojai, Nagaon, Morigaon, Baksa, Kamrup Rural and Kamrup Metro districts of Assam.

# 2. Free Medical Camp

Eight Times Free Medical Camps were conducted to assist the victims of flood disasters in different locations of Nagaon, Baksa, Morigaon and Kamrup Districts of Assam. The medical team from Camelian Task Force and St. John's Medical College, Bangalore, along with two doctors and nurses were invited to help GGSS in reaching out those flood-affected population. 940 individual patients were given free treatment and free medicines during the medical camps.

# 3. Unconditional/Conditional Cash Support

Guwahati Gana Seva Society (GGSS) supported another 913 flood affected families by transferring Rs. 6299/- to each family as an unconditional cash transfer to their bank accounts for multi-purpose use. Besides the unconditional cash transfer, 43 households, whose houses were damaged by the effects of floods also received additional cash amount of Rs. 10000/- each to repair their damaged houses.



# POHAR – THE EDUCATION AID 2023

# Guwahati Gana Seva Society (GGSS)

Guwahati Gana Seva Society extends its help and support to the children of economically backward families through POHAR – THE EDUCATION AID. The main objective of its mission is to provide a minimum basic financial support to economically poor students who find difficult to afford for their educational expenses. Every year, needy students are selected from different institutions and supported with Rs. 5000/- each. In the academic 2023, GGSS has extended its financial help to 25 students of 12 Institutions of the Archdiocese of Guwahati.

| SL      | DISTRICT | PARISH           | NAME OF THE SCHOOL              |                         |
|---------|----------|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| NO<br>1 | GOALPARA | RANGJULI         | ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI<br>SCHOOL | STUDENTS<br>BRENI MARAK |
| 2       |          |                  |                                 | TRALINA MOMIN           |
| 3       |          |                  |                                 | JOSEPH SANGMA           |
| 4       |          | BHALUKDUBI       | ST. THOMAS SCHOOL               | CHRISTINA SANGMA        |
| 5       |          |                  |                                 | LISTINA MARAK           |
| 6       |          | TILLAPARA        | ST. ALPHONSA'S SCHOOL           | ANCHIRA MOMIN           |
| 7       |          |                  |                                 | VENCENTIA MARAK         |
| 8       |          | PANISHALI        | ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL               | GITIKA RABHA            |
| 9       |          |                  |                                 | LESY MARAK              |
| 10      | BAKSA    | NAGRIJULI        | ST. JUDE'S SCHOOL               | LUKASH KHALKO           |
| 11      |          |                  |                                 | RAJIB KHALKO            |
| 12      | NOGAON   | KATHIATOLI       | ST. THOMAS HIGH SCHOOL          | PITOR RONGPI            |
| 13      |          |                  |                                 | ASHA MUNDA              |
| 14      |          |                  | ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HIGH        | GEORGE ANGTUK<br>KRO    |
| 15      |          |                  | SCHOOL                          | ANYSIA BEYPI            |
| 16      |          | CHAPARMUKH       | ST. BASIL'S ACADEMY             | ANANYA RONGPIPI         |
| 17      |          |                  |                                 | MANISHA TOPPO           |
| 18      | KAMRUP   | MOLLANGKONA      | CHRIST THE KING SCHOOL          | REKSTAR A MARAK         |
| 19      |          |                  |                                 | MARIA M MARAK           |
| 20      |          | NOWAPARA,        | ST. LOUIS SCHOOL                | NIKITA RABHA            |
| 21      |          | CHHAYGAON        |                                 | BHABISTO MARAK          |
| 22      | HOJAI    | KAKI             | ST. THOMAS SCHOOL               | ROY MARAK               |
| 23      |          |                  |                                 | Ismail MARAK            |
| 24      | MORIGAON | ORIGAON MORIGAON | ST. TERESA'S SCHOOL             | TERESA MINJ             |
| 25      |          |                  |                                 | RIYAN KINDO             |

# **STUDENTS OF THE YEAR 2023**

# FINANCIAL REPORT: 2022-2023

### GUWAHATI GANA SEVA SOCIETY. G.N.B. ROAD, AMBARI, GUWAHATI : ASSAM



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Guwahati

DATE: 19.07.2023

MEMBERSHIP NO.: 305209

# **CORE GROUP: 2022-2023**



Fr. Maya Martin M. Director



Joyrita T. S. Office Accountant



Dr. D. N Dutta Consultant



Probin Boro Documentation Officer



Sr. Salina George Administrator



Sr. Anita Pereira Project Coordinator



Prabin Minz Project Coordinattor



Prabin Narzary Project Coordinator



Honok Boro Project Coordinator



Pulen Talukdar Field Coordinator



Sanju Sangma Driver



Jaya Kakoti Support Staff



Mary Kispotta Support Staff

# **ACTIVITY PHOTOS: 2022-2023**



# **ACTIVITY PHOTOS: 2022-2023**



# **ACTIVITY PHOTOS: 2022-2023**



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