

**Solidaridad**

# ANNUAL REPORT

## Solidaridad Regional Expertise Centre

2019



2019



2020



2020





# CONTENTS

01

FOREWORD

07

CASTOR

The Taste of  
SuCCESS

43

SOY

Integrated Farming  
System for Nutrition  
and Prosperity

83

PARTNERS/  
DONORS

03

COMMODITIES  
& OUTREACH

17

COTTON

Towards Organic  
Transformation

61

SUGARCANE

An Assured  
Programme for Change

85

HUMAN  
RESOURCE

04

CHANGE THAT  
MATTERS

29

LEATHER

Partnering for a  
Change That Matters

71

TEA

Digital Gateway for  
STGs

93

FINANCIAL  
STATEMENT  
2019-2020

## *From The Director's Desk*



I am pleased to present the Annual Report of Solidaridad Regional Expertise Centre for 2019-20. In the pages that follow, we have tried to update you on our progress in enabling farmers and workers to earn a better income while combating ecological challenges in a sustainable way. The report also highlights how Solidaridad supports processors, such as miners, or processors in the leather or textiles industry, to implement more efficient methods to reduce soil, water, and air pollution.

Despite their enormous contribution in stabilising the country's social and economic life, the farmers of India are among the poorest sections of the society. On top of it, they face new climate change challenges, making Indian farmers affected by "Ecological Poverty". Ecological poverty emerges from the inability to fight climate change and meet the basic requirements of life due to environmental degradation. Reducing groundwater, pollution, increased desertification of agricultural land are converting self-sufficient farmers into migrant daily wage earners in the big cities. Such a scenario would pose a massive food security challenge for India. Solidaridad has applied several innovative measures in different sectors to reduce ecological poverty faced by Indian farmers.

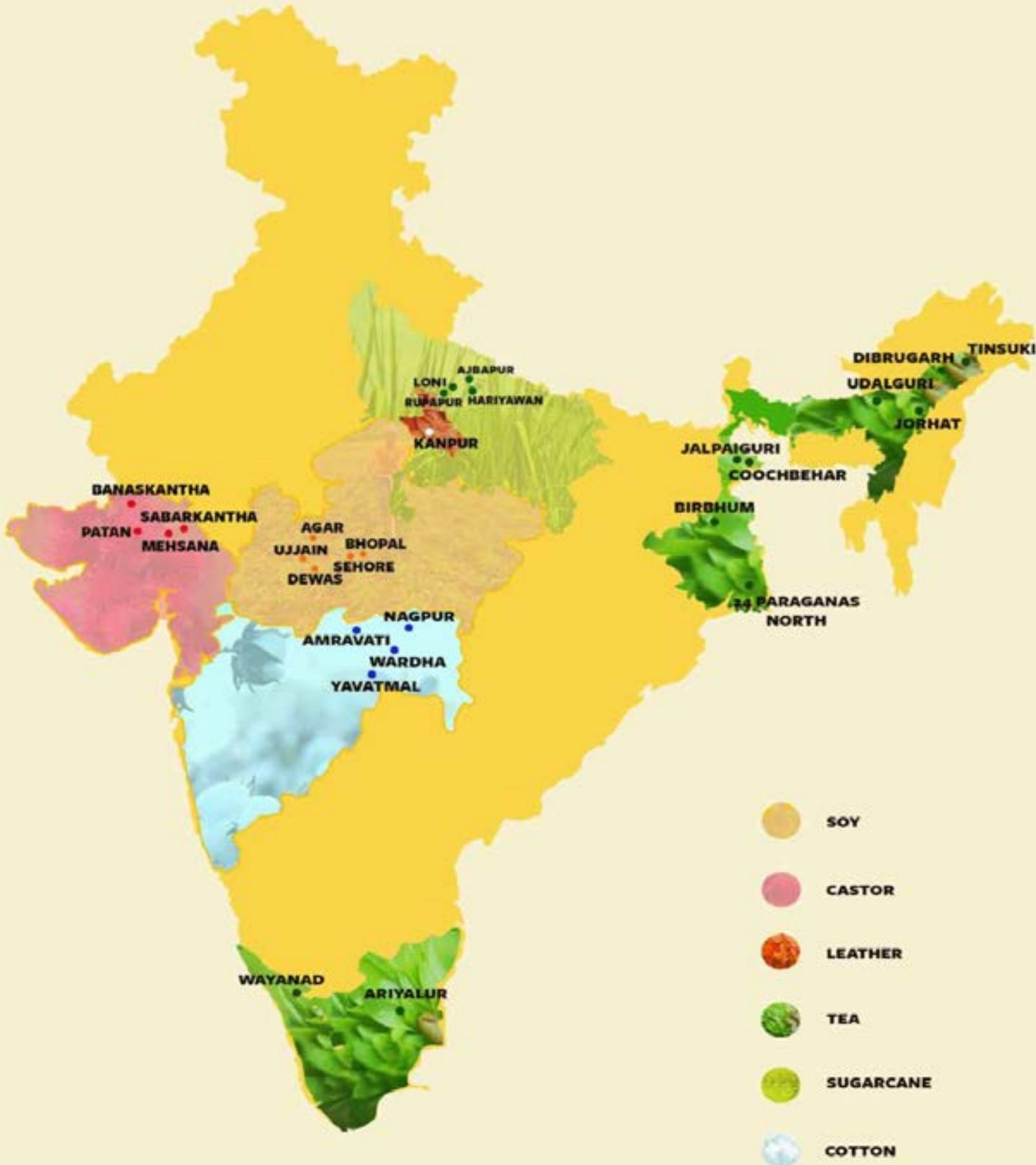
We used digital applications to support smallholder farmers to farm in balance with nature and connected them with high-value markets while also creating green jobs. We analysed market sectors to identify and promote ways for people living in poverty to capture a more significant value. Solidaridad has also emerged as a trusted convener of multi-stakeholder platforms in India. We bring all players together in soy, tea, cotton, leather and jointly design interventions that address the most relevant supply and demand issues in a sector and formulate solutions that benefit all market players.

As I write, the spread of coronavirus has thrown the world into disarray. Solidaridad is working closely with our stakeholders to respond to the crisis and become more resilient. Our field offices in India allowed our team members to act quickly and come to the support of the farmers and the workers alongside the efforts put up by the Government. As the covid pandemic keeps evolving, our experts on the ground continuously improvised their approach, delivering impactful results at scale.

Thank you for walking with us and the hardworking people we serve on the ground in this journey to create ever more layers of impact.

Regards  
SHATADRU CHATTOPADHAYAY

# SOLIDARIDAD REGIONAL EXPERTISE CENTRE: COMMODITIES & OUTREACH



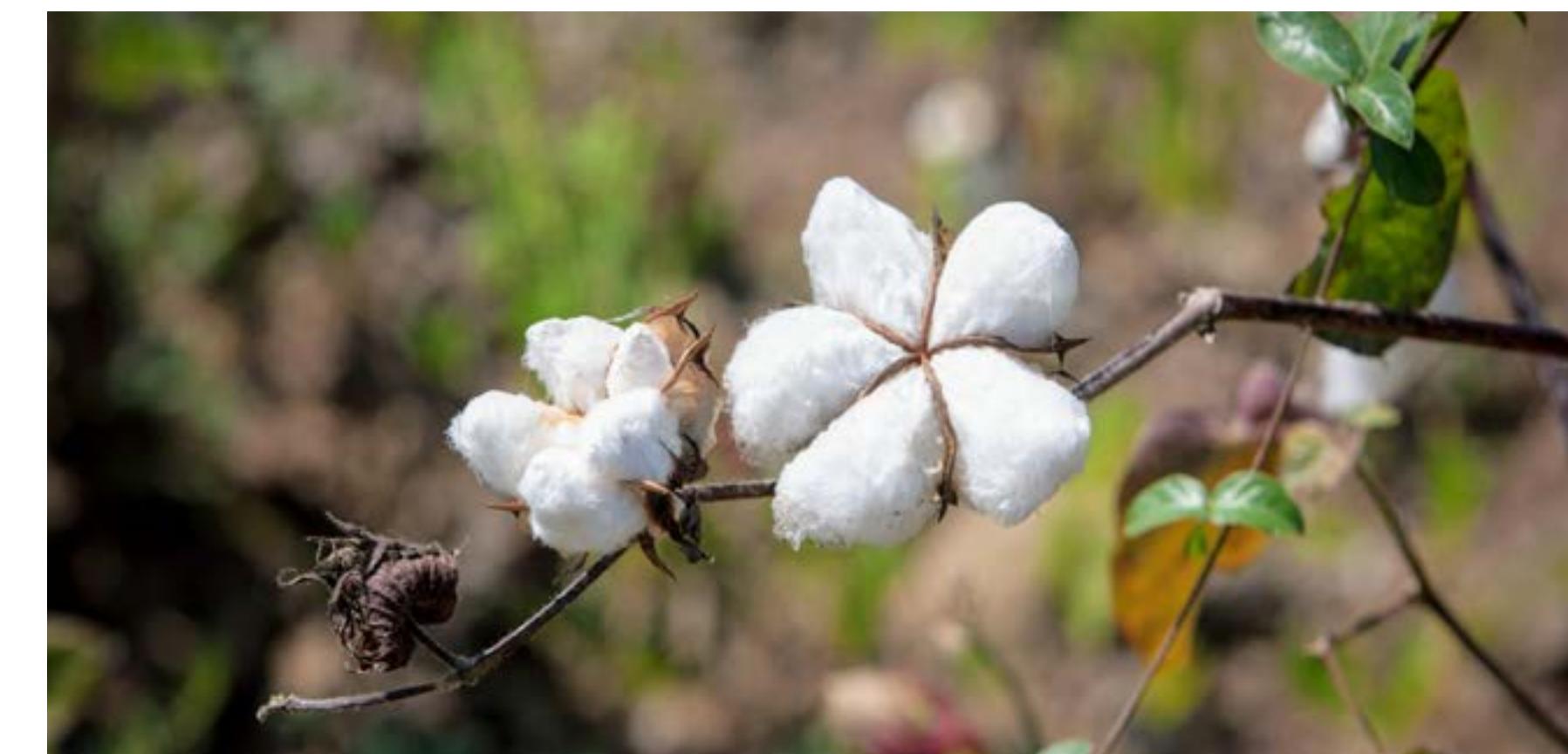
# CHANGE THAT MATTERS

At Solidaridad, we aspire for inclusive supply chains built on cognitive diversity, equity and mutual respect across different rungs of the pyramid. Is it impossible to create a world in which all we produce and consume can sustain us and future generations without impacting the natural capital? We nudge ourselves constantly on the challenges that plague today's global food chain and dare to push the sustainability boundaries in food and nutritional security.

**Working in a multi-stakeholder format, we bring together different supply chain actors and facilitate innovative sustainability solutions towards a resilient network that maximises benefit for all.**

The year 2019-2020 was predominantly about reaping the harvest of goodwill from the ongoing projects. For example, the progressive *Pragati* programme for castor in Gujarat witnessed an extension. Looking at the progress of our SUCCESS code, the project partners realised the need to extend the programme for another three years with an ambitious goal—to more than double the number of participating farmers. In cotton, we saw an increasing number of farmers integrating various aspects of sustainability through existing and innovative ways while adopting organic cotton production. In leather, our interventions not only helped the tanneries achieve reduced chromium discharge and H<sub>2</sub>S gas emission, but also addressed the issues of downstream farming on cattle and fodder management. Our soy programme involved an additional 3,000 women farmers in trainings on food and nutrition, besides strengthening FPOs with market support and resource base for larger outreach and impact.

During 2019-2020, our sugarcane programme, *'Meetha Sona Unnati'*, received the formal assurance from a third-party consultancy as an effective initiative towards sustainable sugarcane production. The programme was acclaimed as a model initiative and recommended for replication in other sugar mill areas across India. In tea, TRINITEA continued to explore the digital space far and wide to make the sector truly transparent, sustainable and remunerative for the small tea growers of India.





# CASTOR

The Taste of SuCCESS



# Phase-I Saga...



**3,129**

farmers awarded sustainability certificates



**13,411 tonnes**

of castor seeds certified



**5,121 hectares**

of land certified under SuCESS principles



**8,000+ hours**

of classroom training completed



**3,000+**

safety kits and crop protection product storage boxes distributed



**25%**

drop in water consumption in demo plots



**50%**

higher crop yield observed compared to 2016 baseline study

## Inspired for a Double!

A wide range of successful positive impact during 2016-2019 inspired partners to extend the *Pragati* programme for another three years with a goal to more than double the number of participating farmers.

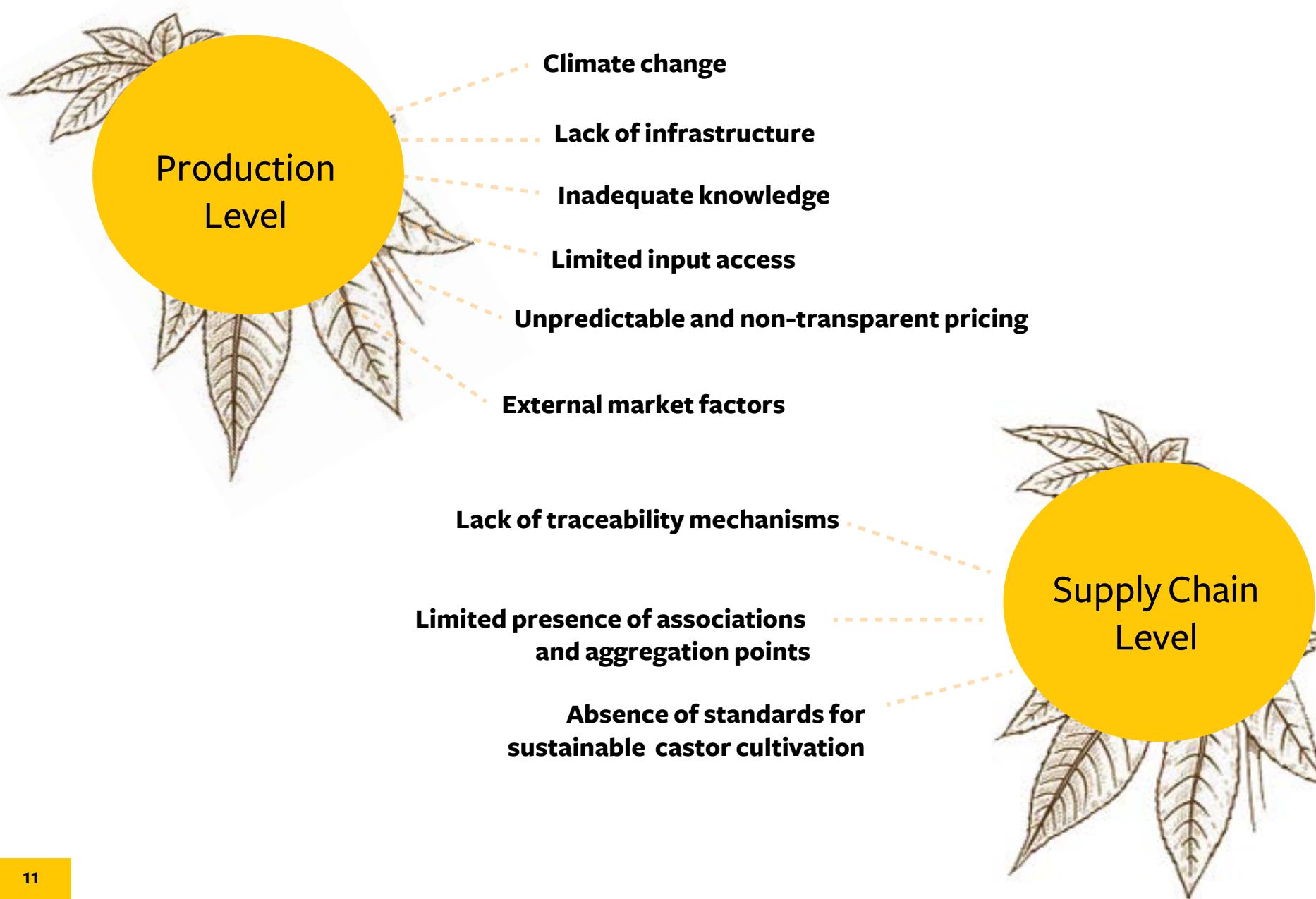


## A TWO-TIER CHALLENGE

A rapid assessment conducted by Solidaridad in Phase 1 indicated that the interest in castor cultivation was declining among the farming communities. The challenges came across in two categories: production level and supply chain level.

Production-level challenges such as inadequate rainfall and lack of efficient irrigation facilities along with poor knowledge on good agricultural practices posed major hurdles. Limited access to quality seeds and adverse pricing and market factors added to the woes at the production level.

Impediments abounded at the supply chain level as well. Lack of traceability, owing to the largely scattered castor market with a high number of small and marginal farmers, was a major challenge to the industry. A large smallholder base also limited the presence or formation of farmers' groups and associations, thus affecting their mobilisation. Besides, there were no standards for responsible sourcing and processing of castor in India until Sustainable Castor Caring Environmental & Social Standard (SuCCESS), came around.



## A FRESH START

The Sustainable Castor Initiative Programme, *Pragati*, was launched in 2016 to facilitate and support the castor farmers of four districts in north Gujarat, India, in their pursuit of good agricultural practices. Solidaridad along with its partners undertook active roles in transforming the supply chain actors of castor towards social responsibility and environment sustainability. A globally aligned sustainability standard, Sustainable Castor Caring Environmental & Social Standard (SuCCESS), was implemented under the programme. During 2016-2019, the programme successfully trained and supported the certification of 3,000 farmers by the code.

The programme provided castor growers in Gujarat the means to improve their economic, social and environmental performance through the implementation of sustainable practices and compliance with the code. This resulted in intensive farmer engagement and better farm management, including safety measures, input efficiency, increased yield and income for the farmers. The programme further established an independent code secretariat during the phase, which is meant to support the certification process in full capacity even beyond the project period.



## PHASE II: UPPING THE ANTE

On 15 October 2019 and 23 January 2020, the project steering committee (PSC) met with participants on behalf of all the funders--who were briefed on the current state of the project. During the meetings, the project partners decided to scale it up to Phase II, taking the elements of success in Phase I, to reach out to 7,000 farmers and strengthen the code governance.

### KEY GOALS PHASE II



## CULTIVATING KNOWLEDGE

Solidaridad's farmer training programmes focussed on compliance with the sustainability principles of SuCESS, such as, *inter alia*, those related to crop protection methods, usage of personal protective equipment during pesticide use and waste management and storage of chemicals. The trainings were held in the key meeting areas of the farmers to ensure maximum participation. The programmes also encouraged farmers to engage in discussions, which further helped in dissemination of the interventions and good practices.

The first year of Phase II saw more than 1,400 farmers being trained through an intensive engagement process. Rigorous sessions were conducted for both lead farmers and individual farmers by castor experts and the field staff. The programmes were conducted for farmer groups in villages and much alike Phase I, through on-field demonstrations to help farmers experience the benefits of good agricultural practices in a real practical environment.



14 villages



40 sessions



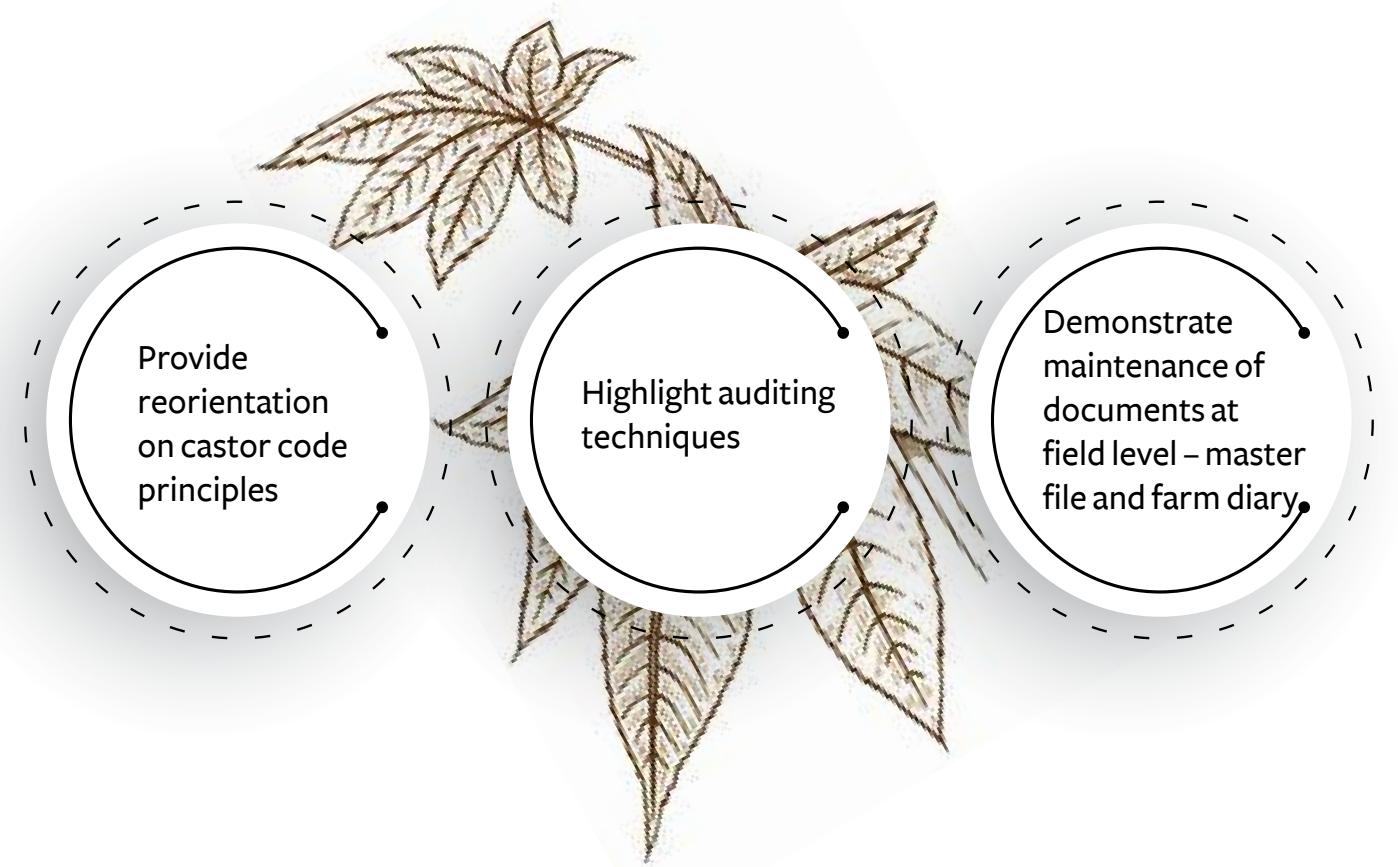
1,495 farmers



## WORKSHOP FOR AUDITORS

A workshop for auditors was organised on 13 March 2020 to help them understand the significance of the various sustainability principles of the SuCCESS code. The workshop not only involved trainings on the quantitative principles of the code, but also focussed on the qualitative interpretation of the principles.

The Solidaridad implementation team, certification bodies and audit experts were among the participants at the event, exchanging ideas and discussing experiences of the field team. Three empanelled third-party certifying bodies, namely Control Union, Indocert and SGS, attended the workshop.



The workshop was followed with an assessment on the castor code and audit protocol for two new auditors, each from Indocert and SGS, to check the understanding and learning of the participants with respect to independently auditing an entity. Results declared on the same day confirmed both the firms qualified for auditing and the participants were issued certificates in a felicitation session.

## PILOT AUDITS & GAP ASSESSMENT

The programme engaged Consultivo, a management advisory and consulting firm, to conduct pilot gap assessments of castor farms. Pilot audits were carried out in more than 120 farms for over 1,500 farmers in all the 14 new villages registered in Phase II. The square root formula was adopted to arrive at the sample size for the audit.



# COTTON

## Towards Organic Transformation



# FACT FILE



**5,497**  
farmers certified



**3,480**  
cotton farmers certified



**1,754** acre  
under organic cotton  
production



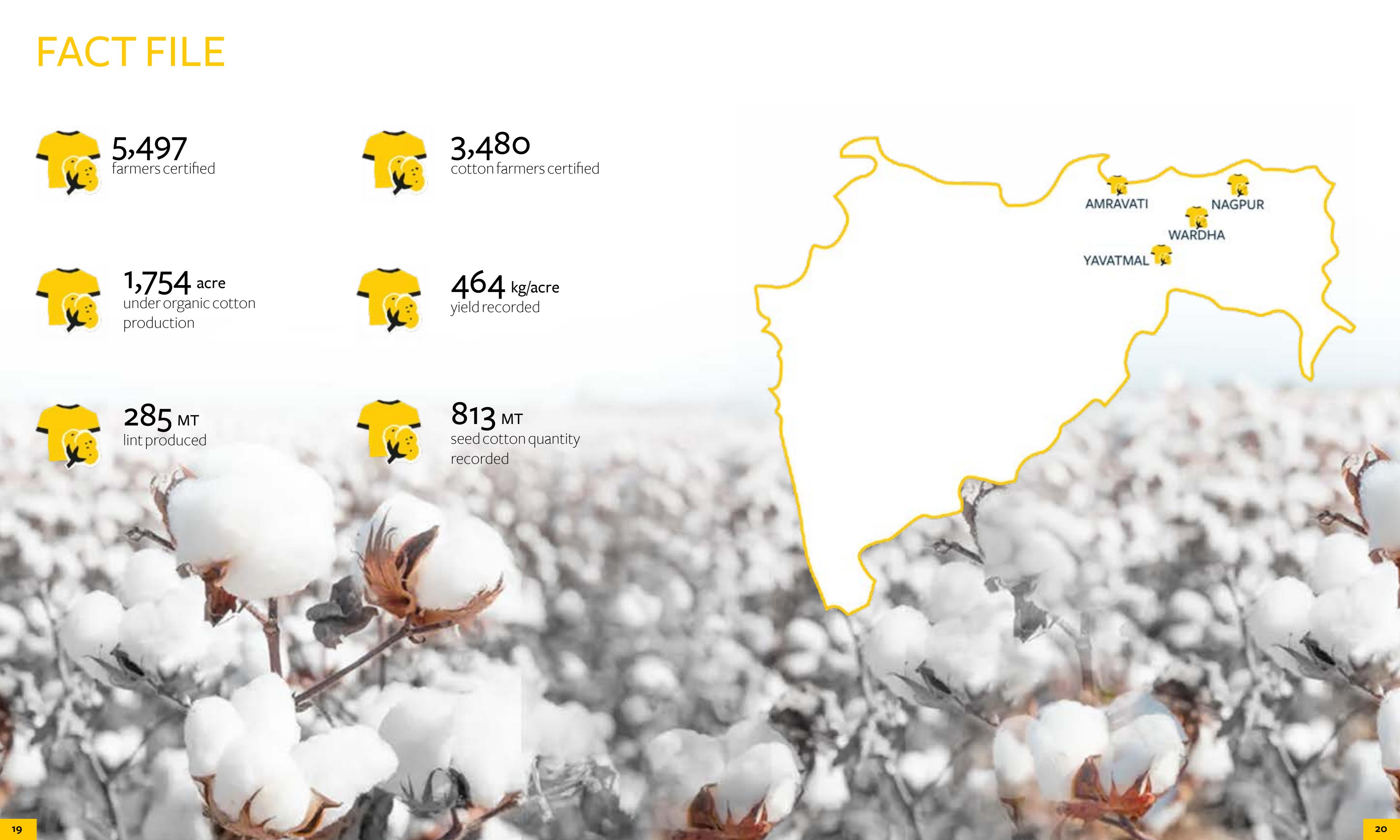
**464** kg/acre  
yield recorded



**285** MT  
lint produced



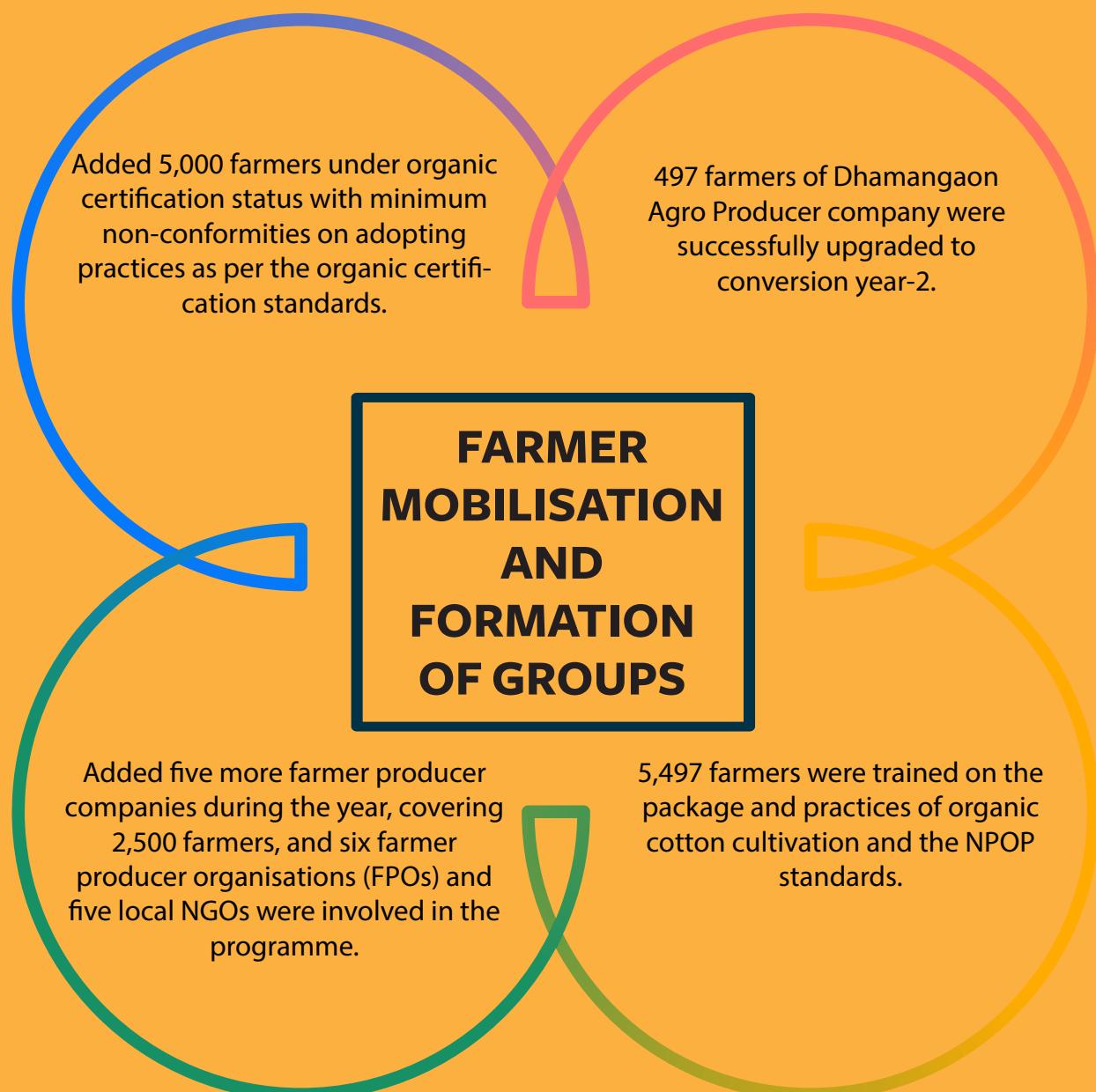
**813** MT  
seed cotton quantity  
recorded



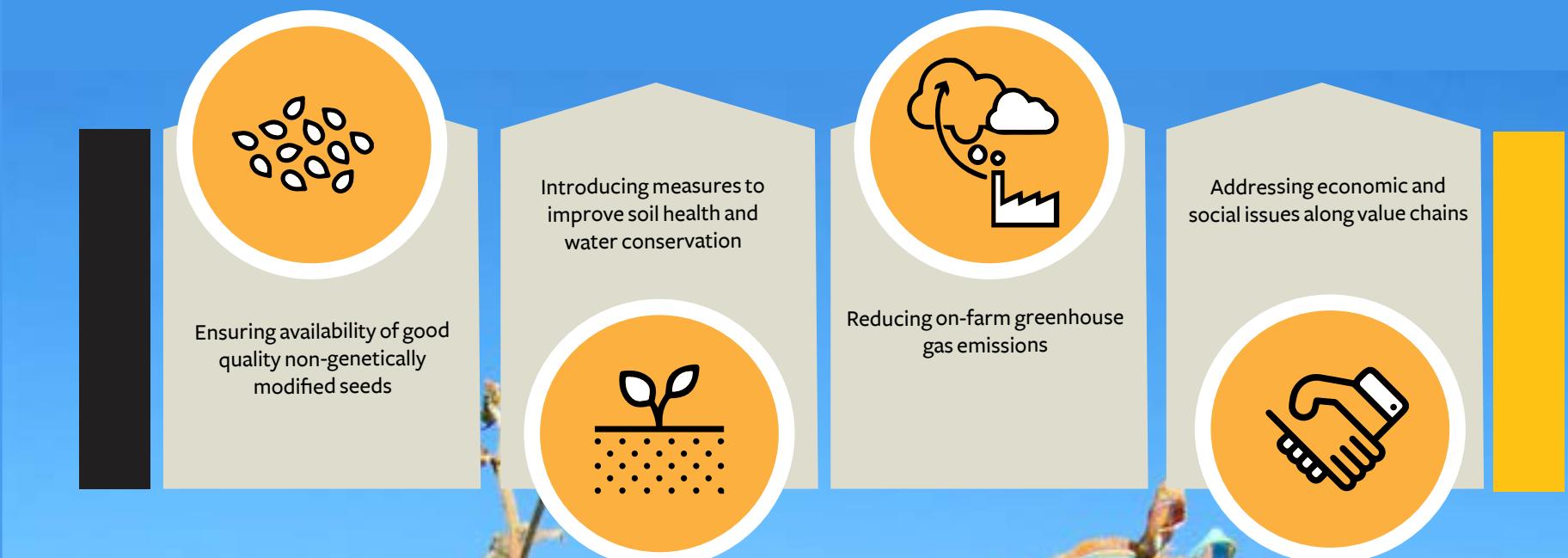
## VIDARBHA, THE EPICENTRE

The Vidarbha region in Maharashtra, India, is not only drought-prone, but also known for its infamously shallow soils. From indiscriminate pesticide use to inefficient irrigation practices, the cotton farmers in the region would have continued to misconstrue their soil and crop needs if not for the organic cotton programme introduced by Solidaridad.

During 2019-2020, the cotton programme initiative worked on integrating various aspects of sustainability through existing and innovative ways to support farmers in adopting organic cotton production.



## PIVOTS OF CHANGE



## TRAINING & KNOWLEDGE ENHANCEMENT

The training module developed during the first year of the programme on organic cotton cultivation practices was further refined and used for training newly registered farmers. Demonstrations on preparation and handling of organic inputs were carried out in villages to train the farming communities on proper method of input production and its storage. Trainings on agronomic and programmatic aspects, including preparations for pest and nutrient management were conducted to further build capacity and enhance access to organic inputs at the local level.

Farmers have been trained on preparation procedures of compost, vermicompost for nutrient management; *Beejamrut, Amrutpani* for seed treatment and *Neem* seed kernel extract, *Dashparniark* for pest and disease management.

Farmers were also trained on other programmatic aspects and certification standards. NPOP guidelines were printed and distributed to all programme farmers. The extension teams continued visiting these farmers regularly and training them on various organic activities.

## SEEDING GOOD PRACTICES

Seed varieties from several companies were assessed and analysed for distribution to the programme farmers. In order to check their integrity, samples were collected from fields at three different stages, i.e. seed, leaf & boll and raw cotton (maturity stage) and tested against the GM detection PCR tests. The results showed 78 per cent in conformation with integrity during 2019-2020.

Demonstration plots were set up in each district with NH-615, NACH-433, Swadeshi-5, NCH-744 and NCH-996. Swadeshi -5 from Ankur Seeds recorded the best yield but the staple length of the cultivar remained a limitation. NACH-433 performed better in Amravati but did not do well in Wardha. The results of the trial were not conclusive and further trials and evaluations need be continued in the next growing cycle.

## OF BENEVOLENCE & PARTNERSHIPS

Team Solidaridad held several meetings with research institutions and seed companies for research and mapping of current efforts for non-GMO seed production.



### Research institutions

- CICR- Nagpur
- KVK- Nagpur- Wardha and Yavatmal
- Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth-Akola



### Seed companies

- Partech Seeds
- Green Gold Seeds
- Ankur Seeds
- Nirmal seeds



## WATER & WELFARE

A socio-economic survey along with hydrogeological assessment was conducted during July-August 2019. The study covered 55 villages and 345 individual farmer surveys in Wardha, Yavatmal and Amravati. A multi-stakeholder meeting was also conducted during this survey, with participation from Biocare Pvt. Ltd., Welspan Foundation, KVKS of Wardha and Yavatmal, Ground Water Survey and Development Agency and various village level associations.

Based on the recommendations following the survey, water conservation measures are being planned at the target area to help cotton growing farmers cope with the dwindling water availability. Along with socio-economic and hydrogeological surveys, the project area is also being assessed for water storage interventions. GIS-based applications are being used for identification of hotspots where a water storage structure will be most beneficial.



## MARKET ACCESS AND ORGANIC CERTIFICATION

Discussions were initiated with two ginning units and two handloom units during 2019. Talks were also initiated with Ecofarms, Arvind Limited and Inditex for market linkages for the season. Unfortunately, no outcome was achieved for the season due to premium requirements and in-conversion certification status. In terms of certification, 11 grower groups were certified during the second season of the programme comprising 5,497 farmers. Currently, there are 497 farmers with an area of 276 acres under second year of conversion and 5,000 farmers with an area of 2,495 acres under first year of conversion. The cotton area for the season was 1,754 acres and a yield of 813 MT of seed cotton was recorded from the same. An MoU was signed with Gram Sewa Mandal, Gopuri, for uptake of 25MT of seed cotton at a premium of 10 per cent over MSP.



## THE COTTON TRAILBLAZER

The Cotton Trailblazer, held in December 2019 in Maharashtra, India, and co-hosted by Laudes Foundation in collaboration with Solidaridad Asia and Organic Cotton Accelerator (OCA), saw over 150 delegates from India and other parts of the world representing governments, industry, academia, research institutions, civil society and farmer groups attending the event.



Along with discussions on making an effective business case for organic cotton in the region, the speakers deliberated on how local handloom enterprises can engage directly with farmers of their own state and pay them a premium price for cotton in transition towards organic. Participants also shed light on policy enablers that would help strengthen the organic cotton sector. A need for traceability in the organic supply chain and importance of sustainability in the fashion industry was emphasised.

# LEATHER

Partnering for a Change That Matters



# FACT FILE

50

tanneries engaged

505

farmers sensitised on good agricultural and dairy practices

1,500

tannery workers sensitised on cleaner technologies

15

organisations engaged in public-private platform

850

men and women workers and tanners trained on occupational health & safety and preventions from hydrogen sulphide



## THE PLIGHT OF A MIGHTY RIVER

The river Ganga has significant economic, environmental and cultural value in South Asia, specifically in India. However, the rise of industrialisation and increasing population have resulted in creating immense pressure on the holy river and its surroundings, threatening the biodiversity and sustainability of the entire landscape.

One of the most pertinent industries surrounding the Ganga landscape is the leather industry. The leather sector provides extensive employment and export opportunities to the Indian economy. It is considered to be one of the top 10 forex earners for the country.

Despite the sector's huge economic growth potential, it has suffered from poor implementation of clean and green technologies, leading to several environmental and social issues. The tanning process involves extensive use of fresh water and simultaneous discharge of polluted waste water into the river stream. In addition, workers in tanneries are exposed to a large number of chemicals and toxic gases. Their work also involves handling of heavy hides or skins and exposure floors, often without the use of any decent protective equipment. Downstream, the farming communities have been witnessing a decline in the agriculture and dairy production over the past decade due to the use of polluted and semi-treated water.

### ADDED WOES

The closure of tanneries has been one critical challenge that slowed down the pace of deliverables in 2019. The tanneries were initially shut down for three months due to the religious event, *Kumbh Mela*, where devotees visit Allahabad (downstream of Kanpur) to take a dip in the river Ganga.

The closure was prolonged and continued for nine months until Solidaridad along with the Dutch Embassy in India made extensive advocacy efforts to reopen the tanneries in September, with a licensed production capacity reduced to 50 per cent.



## THE SUSTAINABLE WAY OUT

Solidaridad adopted a holistic landscape approach to address the key challenges of the leather industry, which affect the agricultural and industrial sectors, along with the associated communities. Under the industrial focus of the project, Solidaridad aimed to not only reduce the water pollution load from the tanneries, but also minimise water consumption. Further, Solidaridad promoted adoption of advanced and clean technologies to comply with the pollution norms.

Solidaridad's "Pollution Prevention and Efficient Water Use in Kanpur-Unnao Leather Cluster" programme has been contributing to the reduction of pollution levels and rejuvenation of the River Ganga. The project is in line with the objectives of the Government of India's National Mission for Clean Ganga. To achieve the objective, a public-private partnership was promoted between tanners and local water authorities of the government. The partnership was formed to effectively address the main challenges of overutilisation of water and rise of organic and chemical waste levels in the effluent water. The PPP model also serves as a blueprint for other projects and programmes under the 'Clean Ganga' river basin programme.



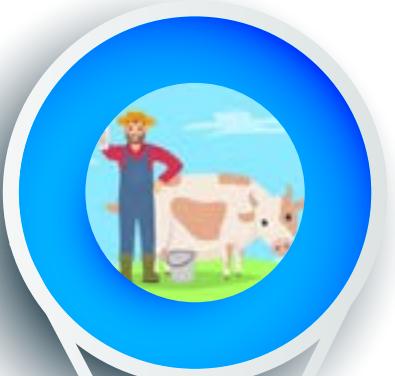
The project was shortlisted by the Embassy of the Netherlands to showcase in front of His Majesty King Willem-Alexander and Her Majesty Queen Maxima of the Kingdom of the Netherlands under the water domain, during their participation in the Tech Summit held in New Delhi on 15 October 2019.

## KEY OBJECTIVES

Safety and prevention  
from hydrogen  
sulphide gas



Reduction of pollution  
level in tanneries



Capacity enhancement  
of downstream farming  
communities on improved  
farming and dairy practices,  
including animal health

# CHANGES AT THE TANNERY LEVEL

## DEMONSTRATION OF ECO-FRIENDLY TECHNOLOGIES

Chromium is considered to be one of the necessary components for leather processing and is widely used for tanning. Out of 18 billion sq. ft. of annual global leather production, about 16 billion sq. ft. uses chromium. However, the average uptake of chromium during tanning is only 65 per cent out of the chrome tanning agent and the remaining becomes part of the waste water discharge.

**Five tanneries** have implemented the waterless chrome tanning technology and **16 tanneries** have secured their financial contribution.

CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute (CSIR-CLRI) has introduced a technology called waterless chrome tanning, which increases the chromium uptake and reduces the chrome discharge in waste water. Solidaridad has signed an agreement with CLRI to implement this technology in 50 small scale tanneries in Jajmau, wherein CLRI agreed to reduce the licensing fees of the technology from INR 2.5 lakhs to INR 60,000. Solidaridad and CLRI experts are now implementing and building the capacities of tannery workers on this technology in these small scale tanneries.

## CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT OF WORKERS ON OHS

The various production processes in tanning pose many hazards to the health of the workers. The workers are exposed to toxic chemicals such as hydrogen sulphide, chromium, bleaching agents, disinfectants, dyes, physical agents and biological agents like anthrax. Further, most of the workers have harmful body postures while working, leading to multiple repetitive musculoskeletal disorders and back, knee and joint pains.

Solidaridad, with a group of subject matter experts, is working on building capacities of tannery workers on occupational health & safety (OHS) aspects through a series of shop floor trainings, including trainings on chemical safety and handling, preventions from hydrogen sulphide gas, health camps and check-up of workers, first aid trainings, nutrition trainings, ergonomics and many more. Solidaridad is also providing rigorous trainings to two workers per tannery on the key aspects of OHS, first aid actions, fire safety, PPE use etc.



**900 workers** from  
**19 tanneries** in  
Kanpur-Unnao region have  
been trained.

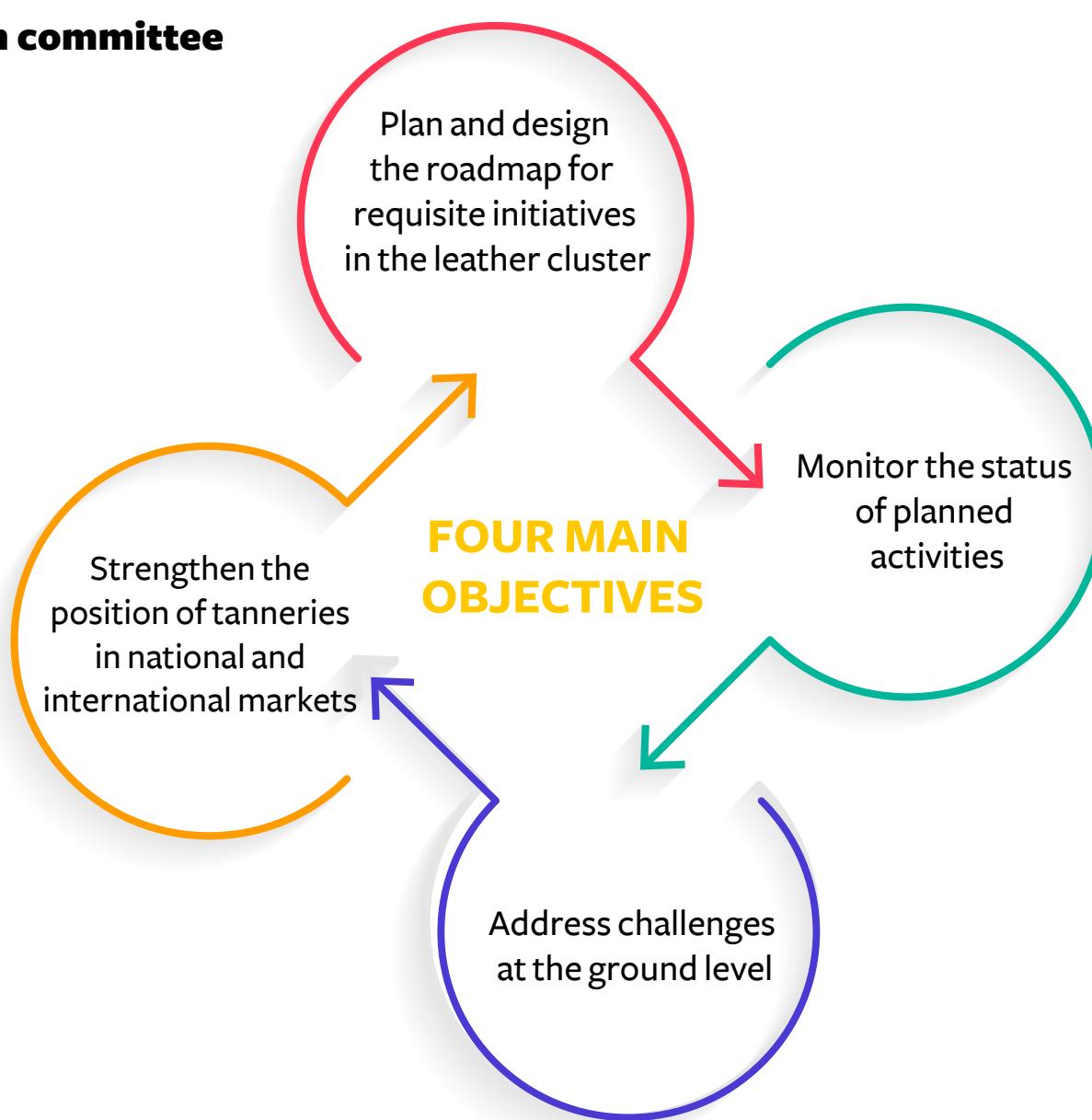
# ADVOCACY FOR CHANGE

## Harnessing public-private partnerships

A multi-stakeholder platform was launched on 19 November 2019, under the chairmanship of National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG). Members of the platform include key stakeholders of the industry such as Uttar Pradesh Leather Industries Association (UPLIA), Small Tanners Association (STA), Ganga Pollution Control Unit, Council for Leather Exports (CLE), Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI), Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Stahl, PUM, Directorate of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Jajmau Tanners Effluent Treatment Association, Embassy of Kingdom of Netherlands among others.

Primarily, the platform encourages and mobilises the key players in the sector to pool in their capacities, knowledge and resources, to align their strategic interests. This platform is therefore instrumental in exploring the right kind of solutions to address the problems of the cluster, viz. solid waste management, effluent minimisation, water stewardship etc.

## TDS Action committee



Water pollution caused due to total dissolved solids (TDS) is one of the key challenges in the leather industry. The slaughterhouses practise salting of hides to avoid any putrefaction. These hides are dusted and then processed within the tanneries. The use of salt increases the TDS in the waste water discharged from the tanneries.

The Central Pollution Control Board constituted a TDS Action committee on 7 November 2019 with Solidaridad as the convenor. The key objective of the committee is to scope and evaluate potentially viable solutions for TDS reduction in tanneries and slaughterhouses of the Kanpur-Uttar Pradash cluster. Multiple meetings have been conducted through this platform, and a timeline-specific action plan is being formulated by the tanners and slaughterhouses for taking measures to reduce TDS.



## BETTERING DOWNSTREAM OPERATIONS

The farming communities in the villages downstream of Kanpur-Unnao cluster are the recipient of ill-treated tannery waste water used for agricultural and dairy activities. This has led to a sharp decline in agriculture and dairy production in the villages.

Solidaridad has taken an initiative to build capacities of the farmers on improved agriculture and dairy practices through a series of trainings and demonstration activities. A slew of trainings and activities were conducted during 2019-2020, including dairy and cattle rearing awareness; animal health check-up camp; distribution of Napier hybrid grass to dairy farmers; sensitisation on use of right pesticides at the right time, among others.



## STORIES FROM THE FIELD

“

The result at the wet blue stage is quite appreciable as it discharges no or very less amount of water. It helps in reducing the chromium discharge in the final wastewater outlet. The feel of the leather is similar to the leather made through conventional process.

**Mr. Amaan**

Amaan Tannery, Jajmau, Kanpur

“

“

The H<sub>2</sub>S gas is a very big issue in tanneries. With the help of Solidaridad, we have provided trainings to the floor management team and staff who are directly and indirectly working in beam house area and PETP. Solidaridad is regularly helping and supporting the tanneries in addressing the issue.

**Mr. Rizwan Nadri**

Nadri & Sons, Jajmau, Kanpur

“

**SOY**

# Integrated Farming System for Nutrition and Prosperity





# FACT FILE

**27,000+**

farmers were trained  
on good agriculture  
practices (GAP)



**415**

trained lead farmers  
disseminated knowledge  
on GAP

**29,500+ hectare**

of land brought under GAP,  
which helped reduce cost and  
increase yield by around 10.5 per cent



**100+**

Nutri Sakhis trained  
on soy food processing,  
GAPs, bio-based inputs,  
nutrition garden etc

**50+**

lead women farmers  
facilitated trainings for other  
women on GAPs, soy food  
nutrition, nutrition garden  
and women-friendly farm tools

**5 FPOs**

formed



**235**

women received  
vegetable seed kits  
for growing nutrition  
garden

**400**

farmers' trainings organised  
on climate-resilient  
production technology

**60+**

rural youths trained on agriculture  
supply chain, agricultural input and  
output linkages and agricultural  
extension services, etc

**150 FLDs**

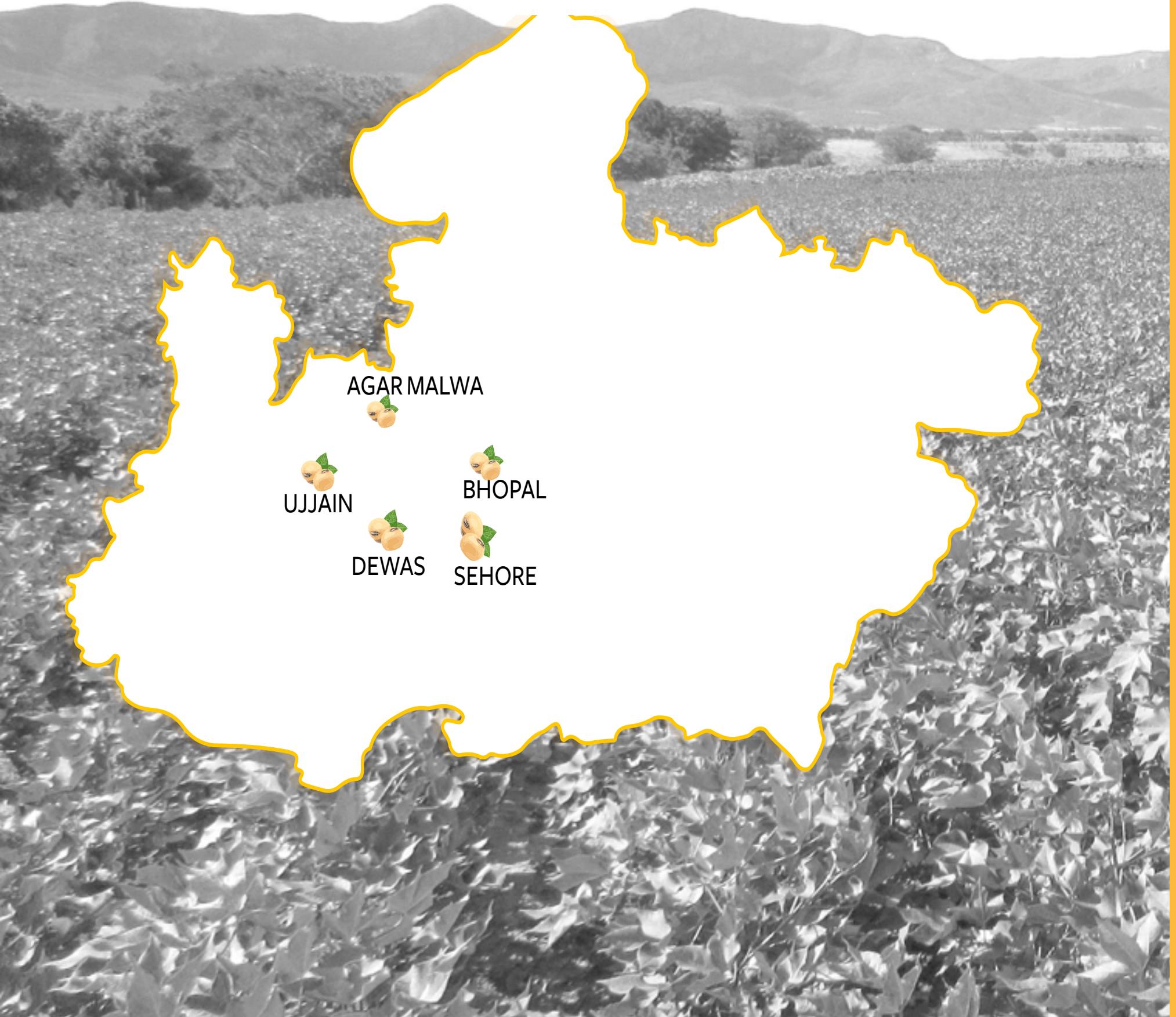
(120 for wheat and 30 for gram)  
conducted in Rabi season



**200**

dedicated trainings  
organised for women  
on climate-smart  
practices





## A TALE OF PROLONGED MISERY

Soybean-cereal cultivation is the predominant cropping system in Madhya Pradesh, with more than 80 per cent of soy farmers relying on farming as the main source of livelihood. However, the farmers here are grappling with challenges at all stages of farming: lack of access to improved quality seeds as well as resource and infrastructure and dearth of adequate and timely extension services. In absence of any guidance, they end up paying more for unwarranted inputs, especially excess chemicals. Since soybean is cultivated in the rain-fed ecosystem—predominantly with low and erratic rainfall and under input-starved conditions—low yield is realised. While the potential yield is around 1.5 to 2 tonnes per hectare, the average productivity of soybean hovers around 1 tonne per hectare. This yield gap is linked to the factors mentioned above.

Climate shock is the other risk that farm households and livelihoods face in the region, which affects agricultural productivity and increases food insecurity. Lack of coping mechanisms often means that farmers can do very little to overcome such shocks. Ill-distribution of rainfall, coupled with extended number of cloudy days, proves detrimental for most of the crops, including soybean.

In addition, overexploitation and mismanagement of soil and water resources have been aggravating land degradation. Accumulation of toxic elements in soil and change in vegetation types also deteriorate land quality. This results in poor agricultural output and risks the income and livelihood of the farming community.

Lack of women's access to knowledge and nutritional risks is a major social challenge prevalent in the state. Women perform more than 70 per cent work in agriculture, but their access to knowledge and improved technologies is very limited. This affects their decision-making. Moreover, the rate of malnutrition and anaemia among women and children is significantly high in the region. It is ironical that women in Madhya Pradesh—the largest soy producing state in the country—face the highest levels of anaemia (almost 56 per cent of women), which further reinforces the cycle of malnutrition.

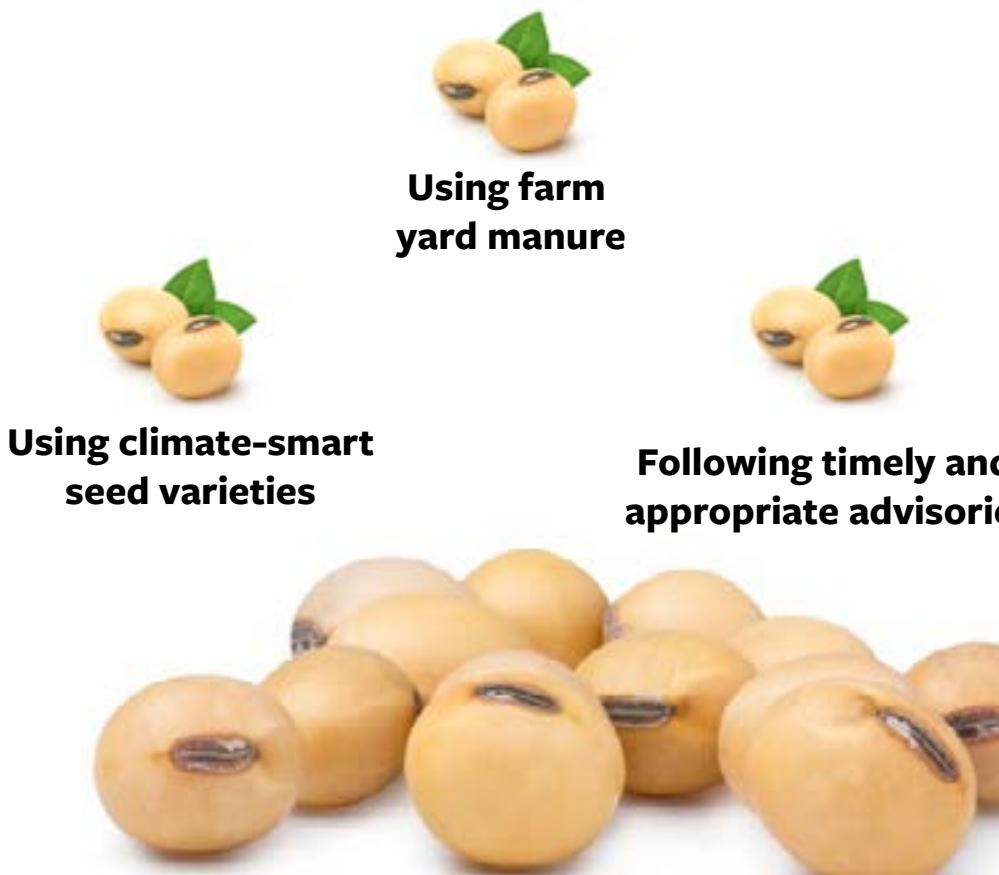
In this context, Solidaridad adopted the Integrated Farming System (IFS) approach, which is primarily focused on making farming more profitable and dependable for farmers. IFS reduces the smallholder farmers' uncertainties, helps prevent natural resource degradation as well as reduced risks associated with mono cropping. IFS is not only helpful in ensuring food, nutrition and livelihood security but also ensures social, economic and environmental sustainability.

# INTEGRATED FARMING SYSTEM TOWARDS NUTRITION AND PROSPERITY

Solidaridad, along with partners and stakeholders, continues to promote Integrated Farming System (IFS) as well as implement interventions that address the issues of knowledge gap and productivity as well as access to quality seeds, inputs and market linkages. The programme also promotes the food value of soy and kitchen gardens to address malnutrition.

In 2019-2020, Solidaridad made a concerted focus on rising social, environmental and economic challenges by pursuing a holistic integrated farming system approach. Solidaridad strategised to reach out to the farmers with a cadre of trained frontline workers comprising rural entrepreneurs, lead farmers, nutri sakhis and service providers. The programme also facilitated the farmer producer organisations (FPOs) in backward and forward linkages. The interventions promoted through the programme contributed towards socio economic development of farmers in the region, including women farmers.

## CLIMATE ADAPTIVE PRACTICES



**Adopting soil and moisture conservation measures**



**Using climate-smart seed varieties**



**Following timely and appropriate advisories**



**Using farm yard manure**



## Training of trainers (ToT)

Solidaridad accords high priority to train frontline rural extension workers at the state and district level. Customised trainings involved detailed lecture sessions on the package of practices for key crops such as soybean, wheat and gram.

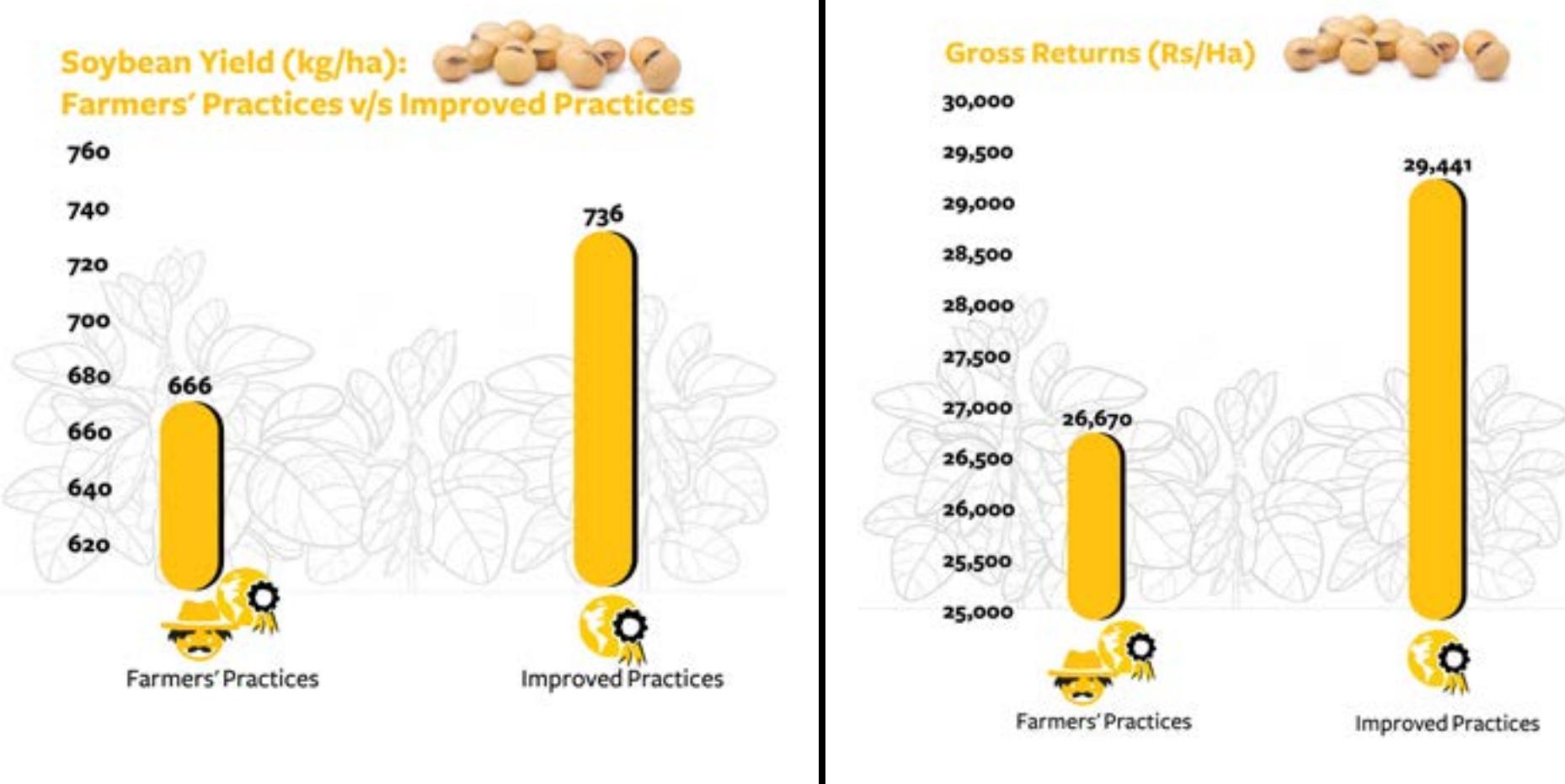
Field trainings were organised during different crop intervals, such as pre-sowing, post-sowing and post harvesting. More than 400 trainings were organised by scientists and experts from research institutes such as Indian Institute of Soybean Research (IISR)-Indore and Krishi Vikash Kendras (KVKs) to facilitate knowledge transfer among farmers.



## **'Lab to Lands' through Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs)**

FLDs are used as field schools for dissemination of good practices and technologies among farmers under the guidance of crop specialists. During 2019-2020, FLDs were conducted to share knowledge as well as demonstration of improved sowing methods, integrated pest management, biopesticides, micronutrients such as sulphur, molybdenum, biofertilisers and high yielding variety seeds, etc. De-composer culture was also demonstrated.

Knowledge was imparted on application of enriched compost, sowing in altered land configuration like broad-bed furrows (BBF) and raised-bed furrow-irrigated (FIRB). The best examples of BBF and FIRB methods were the plots where adoption of improved practices by the trained farmers led to around 20 per cent increase in soy yield despite some of the targeted districts receiving excess rainfall throughout the crop growth stage. Besides this, the promotion of vegetable cultivation through trainings and demonstrations has brought significant change in the income level of farmers. Vegetable production makes way for the availability of nutritious vegetables at household level as well as offers additional income opportunity for farmers.

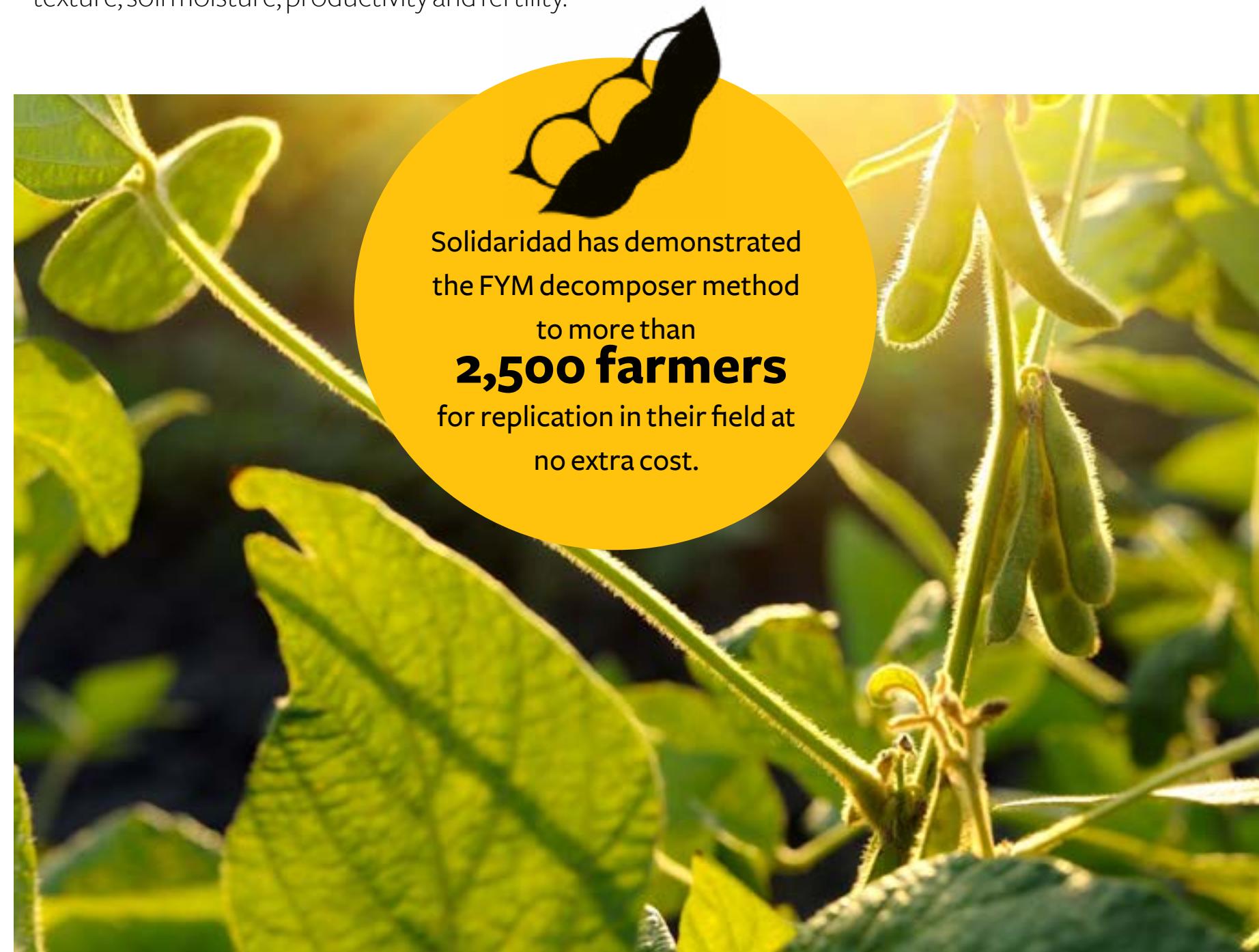


## **Environmental conservation and resource-efficient production practices**

During 2019-2020, trainings and demonstrations on improved composting methods, seed practices, sowing methods, IPM methods and bio-pesticides were organised for farmers. The demonstrations and trainings were conducted to orient farmers towards utilising available natural resources for improving soil health. Besides soybean, Solidaridad demonstrated water use efficiency practices for wheat as well.

### **Promotion of enriched compost for soil health improvement**

Farmyard manure (FYM) applied by farmers is not properly decomposed, and hence, does not give the requisite nutrition to soil. Through on-field demonstrations to lead farmers, Solidaridad promoted use of waste decomposer for speedy and efficient decomposition of FYM. The decomposer culture is a cost-effective solution and speeds up the process of composting. It improves soil health and texture, soil moisture, productivity and fertility.



## **Empowering women on nutritional health**

Special emphasis was given on empowering the women farmers during 2019-2020. Women farmers were mobilised and capacitated on nutrition garden, soy food processing, seed practices, bio-pesticide and composting with use of kitchen waste, waste decomposer, Jivamrut and Dashparni. In September 2019, a month-long awareness programme on nutrition, including distribution of vegetable seed kit among women and training on soy food process were conducted among others.



### **A cause that matters...**

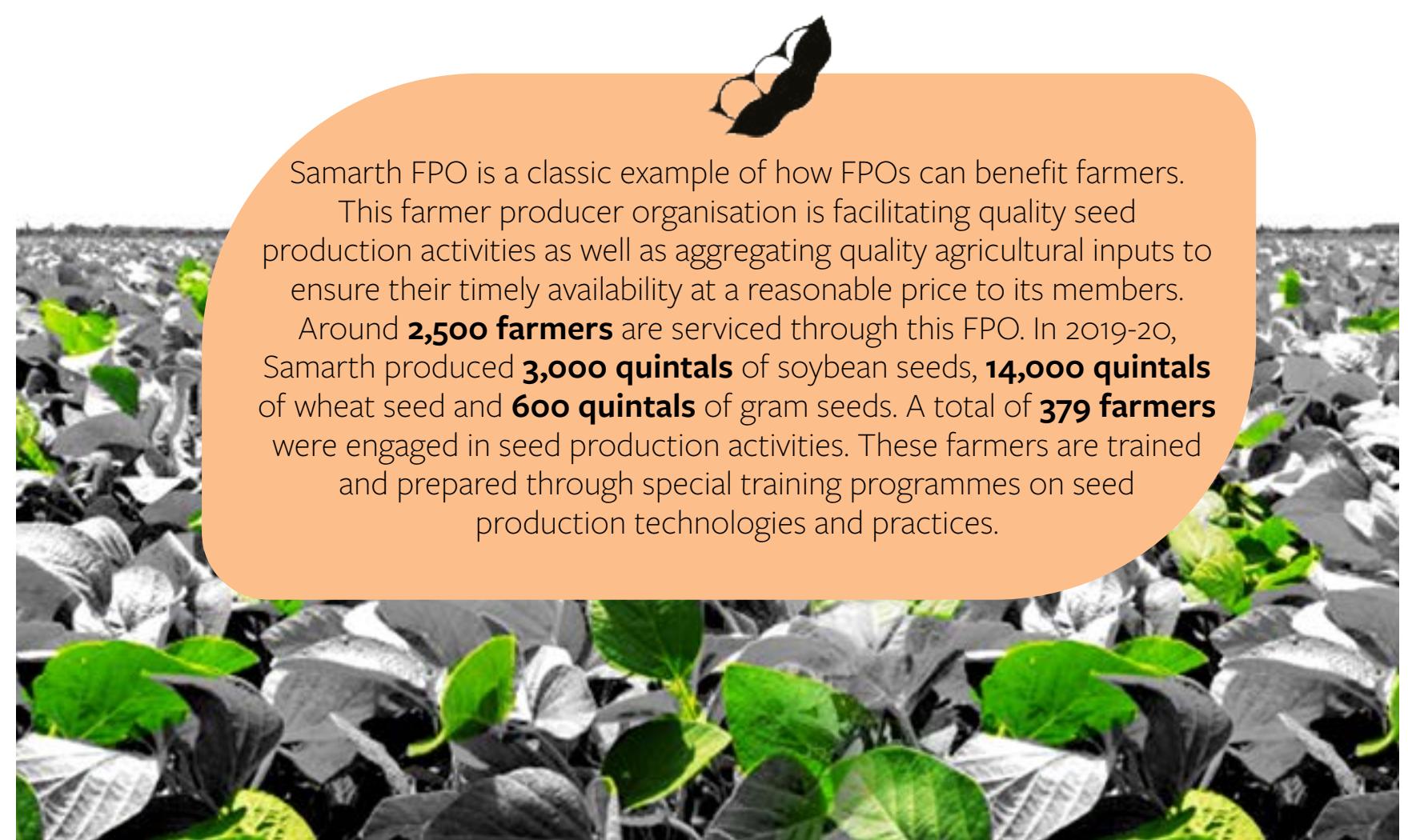
Besides continuing with training programme for our rural associates on GAPs, kitchen garden, sustainable production practices and nutrition, we also emphasised on addressing the issue of malnutrition and anaemia among children and women.

## **Strengthening farmer producer organisations (FPOs)**

Solidaridad works with FPOs by giving market support, capacity building and developing resource base for larger reach out and impact. FPOs are being promoted for better integration of farmers into the value chain so as to improve their incomes, access to quality inputs, infrastructure facilities, value addition, processing and market linkages etc.

In 2019, Solidaridad continued to extend its support to the newly formed FPOs in Dewas, Sehore and Bhopal apart from Samarth Kisan FPO in Agar Malwa. A platform was created to support FPOs in setting up a management information system (MIS), operational manual, infrastructure and developing lateral linkages with supportive organisations. A viable agri-preneur model has evolved, which is much useful for farmers, FPOs and the entrepreneurs. It facilitates forward and backward integration with FPO and helps extend extension services in time.

Trainings on better governance and business planning have been one of the key thrust areas of our work with the FPOs. Customised training modules were developed for the members and the office bearers. More than 15 such trainings have been organised by Solidaridad so far.



Samarth FPO is a classic example of how FPOs can benefit farmers.

This farmer producer organisation is facilitating quality seed production activities as well as aggregating quality agricultural inputs to ensure their timely availability at a reasonable price to its members.

Around **2,500 farmers** are serviced through this FPO. In 2019-20, Samarth produced **3,000 quintals** of soybean seeds, **14,000 quintals** of wheat seed and **600 quintals** of gram seeds. A total of **379 farmers** were engaged in seed production activities. These farmers are trained and prepared through special training programmes on seed production technologies and practices.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Solidaridad facilitated community-owned events to deepen the rapport and bonding with the community and other institutions. Nutri Fair, a massive awareness-cum-celebration programme, was organised to commemorate International Women's Day 2020. The event saw participation of over 1,200 women from 50 villages, along with senior agriculture scientists, nutrition experts and several representatives from civil society organisations.**

**Sustainable Soy Week was observed from June 1-7, 2019 to create mass awareness among farmers about the good agriculture practices with regard to soybean before sowing.**

**Solidaridad also observed Nutrition month in September 2019 and organised different trainings for women farmers to expose them to the concept of nutrition garden.**

## LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY: FROM SUBSISTENCE TO ENTERPRISE FARMING

Solidaridad, with the support of Vodafone India Foundation, initiated the Smart Agri project in January 2020. The project intends to implement an integrated programme to help farmers move from subsistence to enterprise farming in soy and cotton in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. In Madhya Pradesh, the project would cover 25,000 farmers and 50,000 hectares of land across five districts: Bhopal, Sehore, Agar-Malwa, Ujjain and Dewas.

The project aims at enhancing the livelihood of small farmers through sustainable farming approaches and capacity building with the use of SMART technology and good farm practices. Agricultural practices will be supported through adoption of sensors, drones and AI-based solutions. The project will promote transition from traditional delivery channels to ICT-enabled channels. Currently, the project is mobilising farmers and working on setting up automatic weather stations (AWS) and front-line demonstrations.



## INTEGRATION OF MEDICINAL AND HERBAL PLANTS

During 2019-20, Solidaridad initiated a programme on medicinal and herbal plants with the objective of addressing the key sustainability issues with in the supply chain and contributing towards improved community health and nutrition, economic stability, enhanced livelihood as well as increased social resilience and stability.



### **Stakeholders' Roundtable on Sustainable Medicinal Plants and Herbal Medicines**

The medicinal and aromatic plants sector in India is largely unorganised and faces many challenges and sustainability issues. The roundtable was organised to facilitate the initiation of process for setting-up of the I-MAP Medicinal and Herbal Medicine Industry Association. The proposed association aims to bring all the stakeholder into one platform for facilitating collective and coherent efforts by all the players engaged in the chain towards advancement and long-term sustainability of MAPs sector.



*Training of Trainers on Good Field Collection Practices (GFCP) in MAPs*

A Training of Trainers (ToT) programme was organised for the members of the Vindhyaamrut Primary Cooperative Society on Voluntary Certification Scheme for Medicinal Plants Produce (VCSMPP) - Good Field Collection Practices (GFCP) in MAPs. VCSMPP standards are developed by the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of AYUSH – Government of India. The standards promote the implementation of sustainable practices and enhance the availability of certified quality medicinal plants and raw materials in the country.



The ToT programme is organised for the community health workers, i.e. Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA)/ANM, with the objective of orienting them about the basic concepts of AYUSH remedies for Primary Health Care and the management of common ailments with locally available medicinal plants and products/traditional practices. They are also oriented about the promotion of home herbal gardens. The programme will encourage and guide the community for setting-up of herbal home gardens/plantation of medicinal plants in their surroundings and use of home remedies available in their homes. These trainings will help to mobilise the grass root workers like ASHA/ANM to work within the community and facilitate them in health and health related services. Such activities will be effectively utilised for creating awareness and providing primary AYUSH preventive healthcare for prevention of common ailments. They will also help popularise common Ayurveda remedies/practices for the management of such illnesses. Interventions like these are very well-linked with our ongoing programmes and activities related to the health-agri-nutrition aspects and will help further our efforts.



*Training of Trainers programme for ASHA/ANM workers*

## Success Stories



### A *nutri sakhi* promoting soy food processing

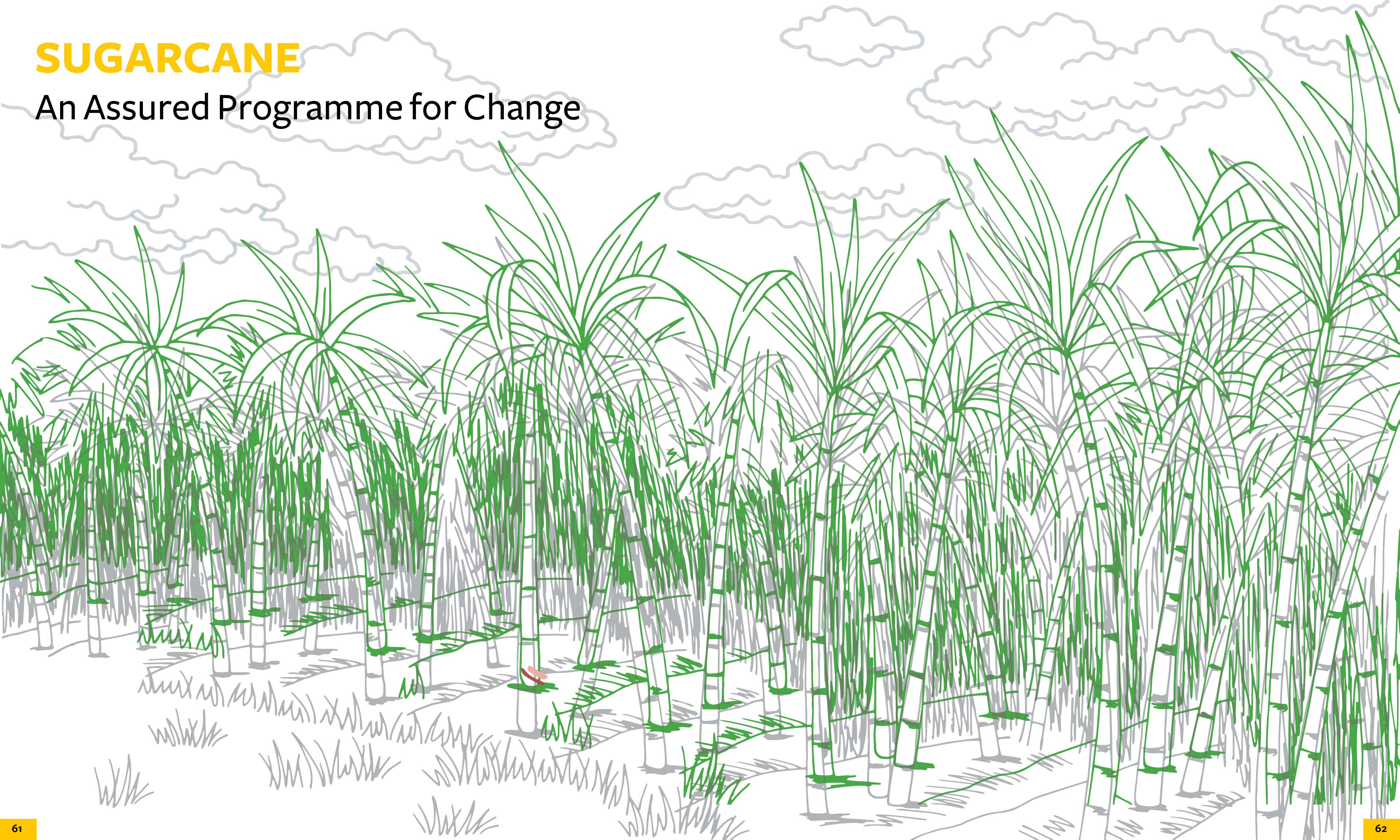
#### Preeti Shrivastava

A *nutri sakhi* from Sarvar village in Bhopal district, Preeti has been associated with Solidaridad's soy programme since 2018. She has been actively participating in all training programmes pertaining to soy food processing and kitchen garden layouts conducted by Solidaridad. She has also experienced several exposure visits and capacity building programmes conducted at RAK college of Agriculture, Sehore and ICAR-CIAE, Bhopal.

Now, Preeti is an established trainer and a *nutri sakhi*. Every month, she conducts around five to six trainings for women farmers on soy-processing techniques and kitchen garden layouts. She even manufactures soy food products like biscuits and snacks and earns from selling them locally.

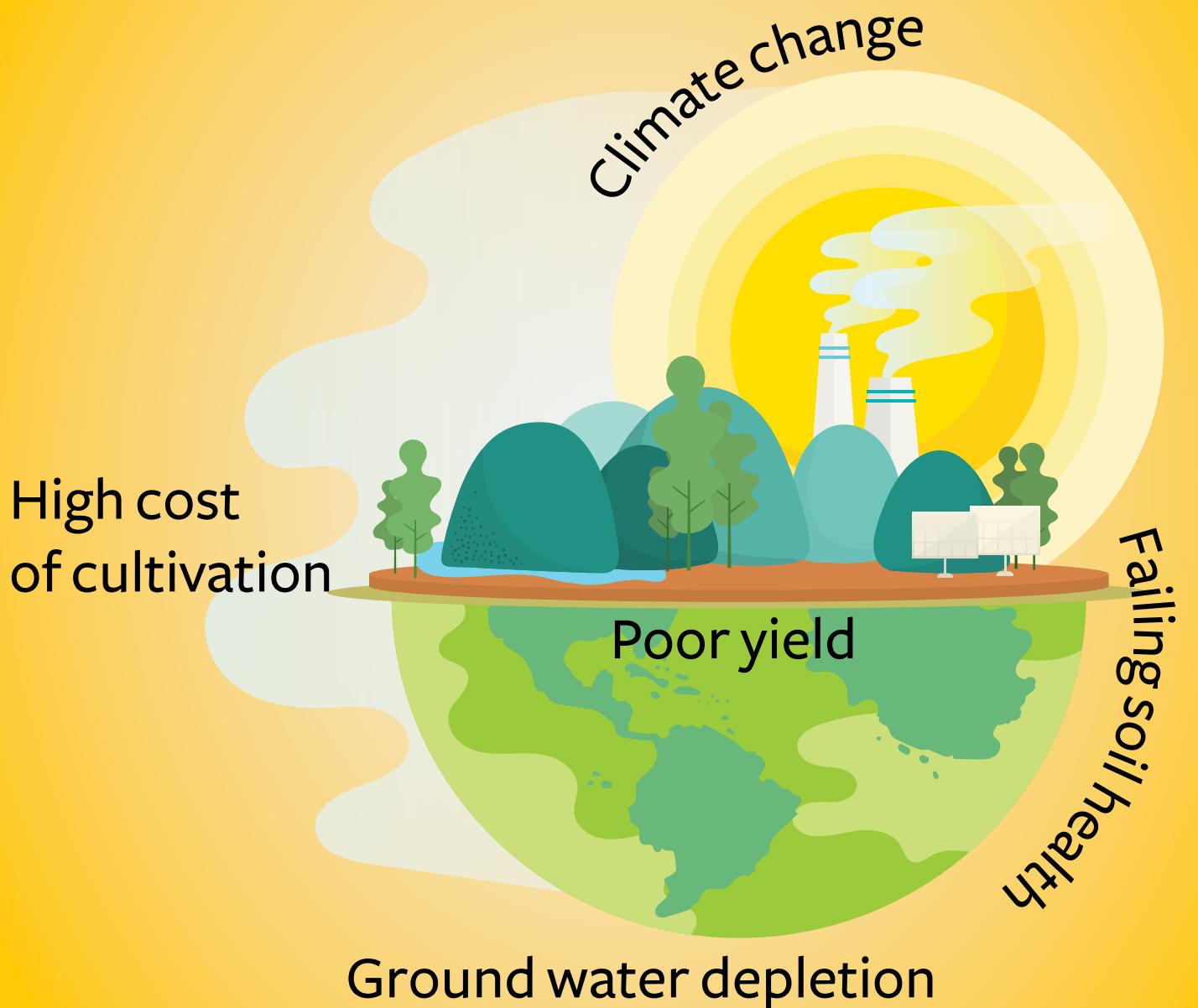
# SUGARCANE

An Assured Programme for Change





# Reasons for Change



Sustainable sugarcane production and socio-economic welfare of sugarcane smallholders have been the primary goals driving the flagship sugarcane programme — *Meetha Sona Unnati* (MSU). The project involved intensive capacity building and training programmes for farmers and workers. The underlying agenda was three-pronged — improve livelihood, support entrepreneurship and generate employment for small growers in Ajbapur, Rupapur, Loni and Harijawan regions of Uttar Pradesh (UP), India.

The MSU programme increasingly focussed on promoting good agricultural practices with use of organic manure, press mud, farm yard manure (FYM) and bio control and bio-pesticides among others. One of the primary objectives was to improve water savings on the demand-side, along with enhancing Pol % in cane. A strong focus on water conservation, soil health improvement, yield and income enhancement and engagement of more women in formal agriculture sector led the project to its success through 2016-2019.

**48,000**

**farmers were trained during this tenure,  
all of whom have adopted GAP in their farms.**



## A FORMAL SUSTAINABILITY ASSURANCE

The project that kick-started in 2016 by Solidaridad, DCM Shriram (DSCL-Sugar), International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Coca Cola received formal sustainability assurance in July 2019. The third-party assessment was conducted by Thinkthrough Consulting (TTC), based on ISAE 3000 (Revised) and AA1000AS standards.

Thinkthrough Consulting (TTC) is a licensed assurance provider as per AA1000AS.



## Success Stories

### A MODEL INITIATIVE

The report by the third-party consultancy has assured *Meetha Sona Unnati* as an effective initiative towards sustainable sugarcane production. It even recommended replication of the model in other sugar mill areas across the country!



### The Change Agent

**Anita Katiyar,  
Hardoi district, Uttar Pradesh, India**

Anita has a vision — not just for her own 2 ha of land but for her entire village! The 45-year-old farmer dreams of making her entire village free from commercial chemical fertilisers.

Following a training programme on sustainable practices under '*Meetha Sona Unnati*', Anita has been using only bio-fertilisers fields along with compost and organic manure for her land. She has also developed a pit to produce worms and compost for her field and encourages other farmers in her vicinity to adopt bio-fertilisers.

The model woman farmer also seeks to bring about a change in the way women and their contributions are perceived in the region. Overcoming the feudal challenges for herself, Anita is now a 'Change Agent', supporting other women in the area to work freely in fields and generate income from activities.

**TEA**

Digital Gateway for STGs



## FACT FILE

**35,684**

growers registered  
and trained on  
TRINITEA framework



**27,776 ha**

of land brought under  
climate management practices



**28,495 ha**

of land brought under  
better management practices



**2,302**

women samallholders  
trained on  
TRINITEA framework



**60**

community mobilisers  
engaged for providing  
extension services to small  
tea growers



## DEMOGRAPHY ASSESSMENT

**4**

States

**14**

Districts

**54**

Taluks

**1,131**

Villages

## A NON-REMUNERATIVE STRUCTURE

The small tea growers (STGs) in India have steadily grown in numbers over years. Presently, they contribute more than 47 per cent of the total tea production in the country. It is predicted that the share of the smallholders would further increase. However, the STGs have remained outside the ambit of any major development programmes in the sector despite of best efforts. It is mainly due to the difficulty in reaching out to them alongside a variety of socio-economic reasons.

Unfortunately, the STGs are also not immune to the problems that the farming community at large is facing across the country. Climate change-induced excess rainfall leads to erosion of top soil, causing a negative effect on tea production. Producers have to buy more fertilisers to maintain soil fertility and spray more pesticides to tackle new pests that are emerging. It not only increases the cost of tea production, but also affects food safety, which are among the top buying concerns of most tea packers.

Non-remunerative returns due to inability of the smallholders to add value and participate in high-value supply chains is also a persistent challenge. The supply chains are opaque and therefore, lacks traceability on quality, price and other aspects. The average auction prices at the turn of the decade were \$1.5 per kilogram of black tea for Assam and now stands at \$2 per kilo at the end of the decade in 2019. Such a marginal increase in price is not remunerative even if we avoid adjusting this price against inflation. The inability to aggregate their inputs and outputs also constitutes a significant off-farm challenge for the STGs, making cost of production high and price realisation low.



## A DIGITAL GATEWAY TOWARDS EMPOWERMENT

The TRINITEA programme aims at helping the STGs move up the value chain. To begin with, it is targeted to reach out to 60,000 STG families across India—which is 30 per cent of all STGs in India. The programme aims to improve the social, economic, agronomic and environmental performances of the STGs.

As a self-assessment framework, TRINITEA is available in the form of a simple android application in local languages. The programme has been designed to promote good agricultural practices, improve farm yield and quality, introduce climate-adaptive farming and create digital supply chains. It aims at bringing the interventions to scale and facilitating sectorial transformation in the Indian tea sector.

By collecting and analysing information in a structured way, the TRINITEA framework supports a continuous improvement model, which assists farmers over time in a meaningful way, rather than the snapshot, fixed audit model of certification protocols. The digital services have been developed to provide targeted support to farmers with scarce resources across vast geographical areas. The programme involves evidence collection and development of next generation programme strategies, which will encourage engagement of upstream supply chain actors, leading to improved governance of smallholder groups and better policy implementation by the Tea Board of India.

# KEY INTERVENTION STRATEGIES



# Outcome



## Region



**South Bank (Assam)**



**North Bengal**



**South India**

**All India Total**

**Target for 2019  
#Growers to be  
enumerated**

**15,500**

**4,500**

**5,000**

**5,000**

**30,000**

**Assessment  
completed**

**# Growers**

**19,643**

**4,548**

**6,257**

**5,236**

**35,684**

**Tea area (hectare)**

**13,155**

**5,484**

**4,996**

**4,860**

**28,495**



The programme registered 35,684 growers and trained them on TRINITEA framework. These growers committed to making progress and meeting three criteria under the framework: Essential (E), Good (G) and Leadership (L).



**635 growers** complied with all the ‘Essential’ criteria as stipulated in the TRINITEA framework by virtue of having followed mandatory practices



**550 growers** fulfilled the ‘Good’ criteria demonstrating high standards of sustainability



**157 growers** joined the ‘Leadership’ league, which is observed only in leader-growers in sustainability



**88 per cent** of the farmers now do not use toxic chemicals



**7 farmer** associations received support towards strengthening membership, with a strong focus on:

- Ensuring tea growing activities do not have any negative impact on native flora and fauna
- Encouraging and guiding smallholders to plant recommended shade trees within and around tea growing plots
- Convincing smallholders to reduce, reuse and recycle waste and by-products of harvesting, instead of burning or dumping them in water bodies
- Suggesting measures to optimise energy-use efficiency in farm operations

## GENDER BALANCING IN TEA GARDENS



As a part of Solidaridad's efforts towards promoting gender equity and equality, TRINITEA trained 2,302 women smallholders. All the women smallholders and workers were trained to follow equal wage and women-friendly, safe and non-discriminatory work policies. As per the framework, women workers were not engaged in hazardous practices such as spraying of harmful chemicals. Sixty people (20 in Assam, 15 in North Bengal, 25 in South India) were engaged as Community Mobilisers (CMs) for providing extension services to the STGs. They were trained on TRINITEA framework to enable them to disseminate accurate information to the growers as per the provisions of the framework.



## WORDS OF HOPE & ENCOURAGEMENT



TRINITEA programme will not only help small growers to improve their quality of tea, but also to become landmark players in the industry.

**Vivek Goenka**

Chairman, Indian Tea Association



I hope this initiative (TRINITEA) will go a long way in creating a strong bond among various tea associations to work in tandem for a strong and vibrant tea industry in the country.

**Chandra Mohan Patowary**

Industries and Commerce Minister of Assam



TRINITEA programme will help facilitate alignment of small growers with the main tea industry and help in ensuring sustainable production.

**Arun Kumar Ray**

Deputy Chairman, Tea Board of India

# PARTNERS/DONORS



Jayant Agro-Organics Ltd.  
—Leadership through innovation—



C&A Foundation



KRISHI VIKAS  
KENDRAS- NAGPUR-  
WARDHA AND YAVATMAL

JALPAIGURI DISTRICT  
SMALL GROWERS'  
ASSOCIATION



कृषि विकास केंद्र

ALL ASSAM SMALL TEA  
GROWERS'  
ASSOCIATION (AASTGA)

SMALL TEA GROWERS'  
ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH  
INDIA (STASI)

DIBRUGARH SMALL TEA  
GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

ALL BODOLAND SMALL TEA  
GROWERS' ASSOCIATION  
(ABSTGA)

JORHAT SMALL TEA  
GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

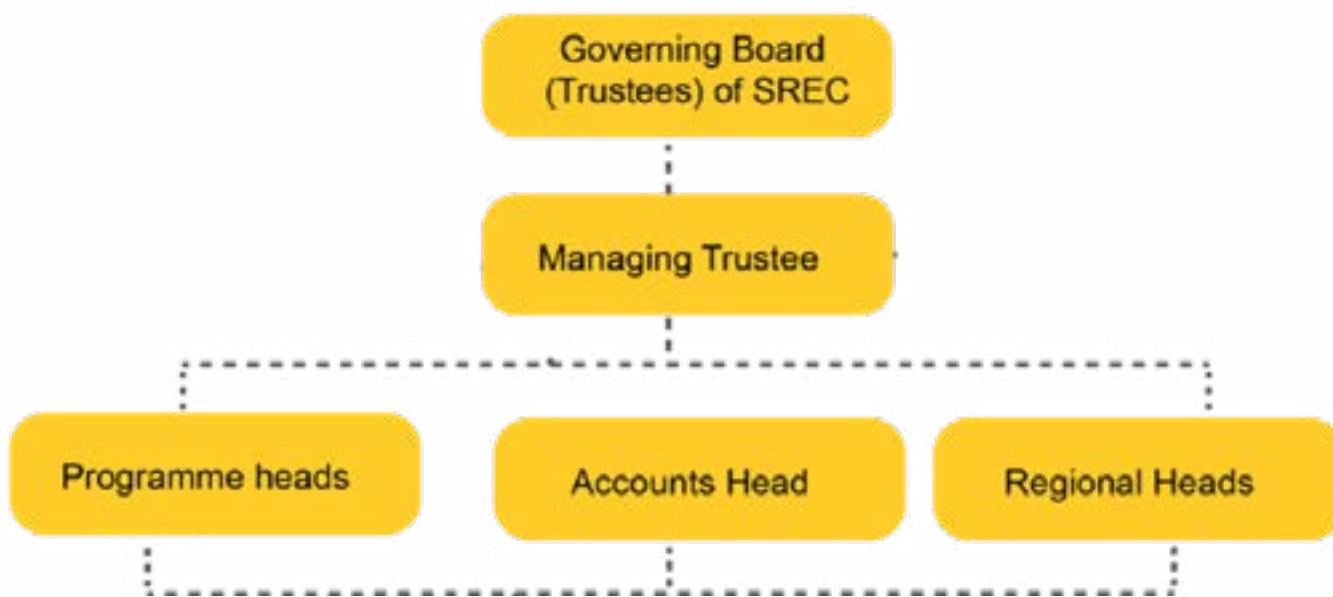
# HUMAN RESOURCE



# ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE & GOVERNANCE

Solidaridad Regional Expertise Centre (SREC) is an NGO registered under the Indian Registration Act, 1908. The certificate has been issued by the Sub Registrar of Janakpuri, New Delhi, under Section 60 of the act with the registration number 17474 in additional Book No.4 Volume No. 12384 on page 113 to 126 on 18 December 2008.

SREC satisfies the conditions of u/s 80G of the Income Tax Act of 1961 and is also registered under Section 12 A of the Income Tax Act of 1961.



## WE EMPHASISE ON...

### INCLUSIVE POLICY, DECISION AND HR SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT

SREC is firmly committed to a policy of equal opportunity in all HR practices based on performance and competences. We provide an environment that is free of harassment of any kind, including harassments related to sex, race, ethnic origin, religious beliefs, caste, age, nationality, disability or sexual orientation among others. We are inclined to engage with well-trained and motivated people, who ensure high standards of competence, through a transparent recruitment and selection process while providing equal opportunities to all applicants.

### FUTURE-READY WORKFORCE

The organisation's human resource philosophy is to provide and nurture a congenial work culture to help employees strive for growth and excellence in their work. The development of people is the primary responsibility of the organisation and we strongly believe that if an environment is created where individuals can develop their competencies, people can and will do their best. During 2019-2020, several initiatives were taken to build capacity of the young talent within the organisation. SREC recognises the importance of the staff's ongoing performance, while also realising the relevance of staff training and development, which refers to activities that improve an organisation's ability to achieve its mission or a person's ability to define and realise his/her goals and to do his/her job more effectively. The premise of the HR cycle and the performance and talent management system is a continual (formal and informal) dialogue between employees and their line managers.

### SAFE AND HAPPY ENVIRONMENT

The organisation values the individual needs of staff, intern and other associates, and commits to providing an environment that facilitates work and life balance. Our constant endeavour has been:

- To provide appropriate working conditions and resources to enable the staff to work efficiently and support them to realise their potential
- To respect and be sensitive to the needs of the staff throughout the employment relationship, building a high-performance culture
- To demonstrate a passion for quality
- It is our constant endeavour to explore alternatives in the ways of working that embrace and harmonise all important areas of our lives.

### EXCITING PLACE FOR INNOVATIONS

The organisation seeks to achieve sustainable employability for its employees and encourages and facilitates their personal and professional development. The employer and the employee are jointly responsible for ensuring that the employee remains competent, engaged, motivated and fit. The process of staff development complements the organisation's strategy, especially the ethos of being a learning organisation. The capacity building trainings are broadly on:

- Knowledge and technical skills
- Attitude and competencies of individuals
- Leadership

### GENDER-INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT

SREC is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of gender, caste, religion, race, disability etc. Women are highly encouraged to apply for suitable positions in the organisation. SREC has been constantly working towards improving the gender balance within its teams.

SREC's anti-Harassment policy applies to all employees and protects them from harassment by co-workers, seniors, and any other individual at the workplace. The Code of Conduct and Good Practices (CCGP) of the organisation is applicable to all staff members. SREC conducts awareness of such policies through workshops and during the onboarding process of new employees.

### GOVERNANCE AND INTEGRITY

SREC is committed to operate with integrity and respect towards people, both internally and externally, while performing its activities.

### SUBSIDIARITY AND LOCAL CULTURE INTEGRATION

We acknowledge and value the diversity of our employees as much as we respect the diversity of the communities we work with.



## HUMAN RESOURCES, STAFF AND MANAGEMENT

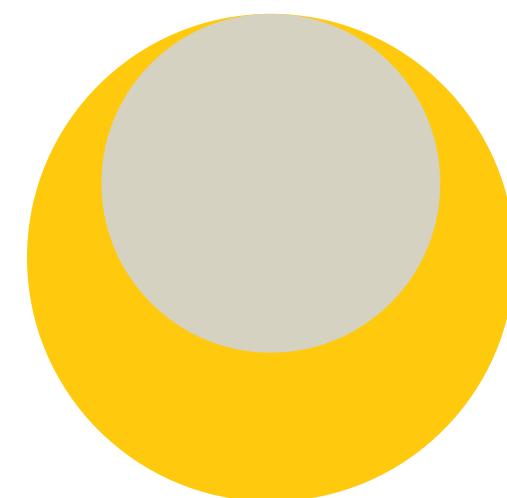
SREC has a well defined human resource (HR) policy, which is an attempt to document prevalent organisational practices and norms in a standardised format for user-friendly reference. This HR Policy contains the key policies, goals, benefits and expectations of SREC and other information an employee will need in the course of seeking employment in the organisation.

## ISO 9001-2008 CERTIFIED

Solidaridad Regional Expertise Centre is certified under ISO 9001-2008 since 9 September 2009. The purpose of the certification is to follow a globally accepted quality management of the work in order to:

- Demonstrate our ability to consistently provide services that meet applicable statutory and regulatory requirements of donors and beneficiaries.
- Enhance donors' and beneficiaries' interest and satisfaction through effective application of the system, including processes for continual improvement of the system and the assurance of conformity to donor and applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.

## EMPLOYEE STRENGTH 2019-2020

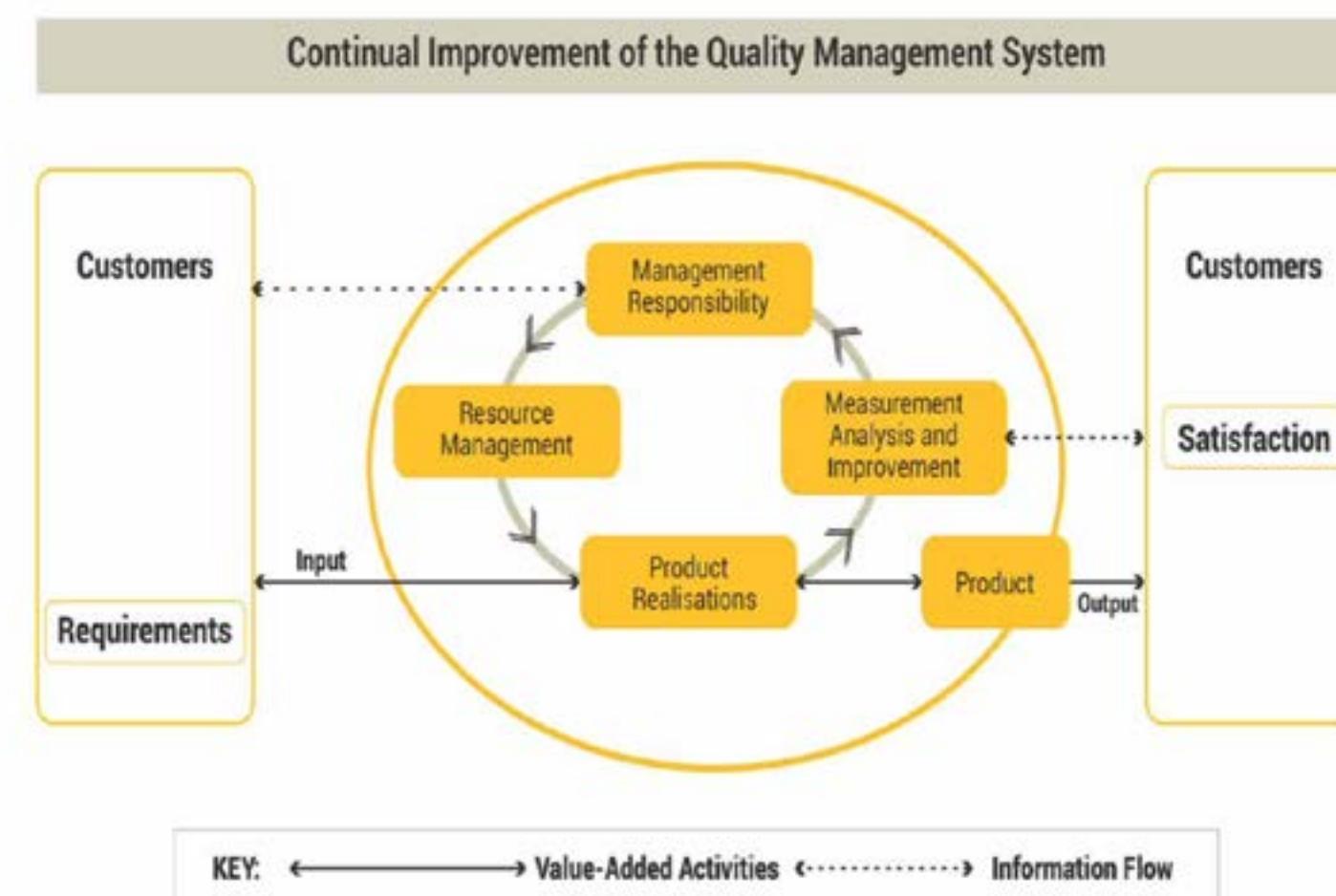


Staff  
Consultant

Staff	Consultant	Total
<b>52</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>84</b>



## DECISION-MAKING PROCESS IN SREC



## THE PROGRAMMES IN SREC ARE DEVELOPED AS PER FOLLOWING:

1. The programme team under the supervision of the Managing Trustee (Managing director) develops multi-annual strategy plan (MASP) within India. These MASPs are in line with local priorities and in alignment with government plans.
2. The MASP is then placed for consultation before the Board of Trustees and inputs are collected.
3. The MASP serves as the basis for the preparation of annual plans by the Managing Director, which are again deliberated and approved by the Board of Trustees.
4. The overall responsibility of managing and implementing the programmes and projects in line with MASP lies with the Managing Director. The Managing Director further delegates this function to programme coordinators.
5. Each commodity has a coordinator or manager assigned in SREC who are overall responsible for the project implementation.
6. Each project is registered by the Programme Support Officer (PSO) in SREC under the overall supervision of the Manager-Accounts and Administration of SREC.

The Admin & Accounts Manager, along with the PSO, registers the project in a database where a unique number is generated. With the number on the project, the PSO makes a digital file. In this file, all the important documents of the project are saved. Each digital project folder should have at least the following elements:



**Reporting:** Every month, staff meetings are organised in SREC to evaluate and discuss the progress of different programmes, and if necessary, corrective actions are taken. The key outcomes of the monthly meetings are documented and preserved in hard and soft copies. An annual overall report, along with audited financial statement, is prepared as well.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

2019-2020



# DHINGRA & JUNEJA

**Chartered Accountants**

13/82, LGF, Vikram Vihar  
Lajpat Nagar-IV, New Delhi-110024  
Tel. : 011-41729407, 46103248, 9811991182  
E-mail : [vdhingra1231@gmail.com](mailto:vdhingra1231@gmail.com)  
[Vikas.dhingra@dhingrajuneja.com](mailto:Vikas.dhingra@dhingrajuneja.com)

## Extract of Independent auditor's report of the trustees of the Solidaridad Regional Expertise Centre

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the financial statements give the information so required and give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India:

- a) In the case of Balance Sheet of the state of affairs of the Trust as at 31st March 2020,  
and
- b) In the case of Statement of Income and Expenditure, of the excess of expenditure over income for the period from 1 April, 2019 to 31st March 2020.

For Dhingra & Juneja  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Registration Number: 018799N

**VIKAS**  
**DHINGRA**  
Digitally signed by  
VIKAS DHINGRA  
Date: 2021.05.06  
09:40:38 +05'30'  
Vikas Dhingra  
(Partner)  
Membership No: 099604  
UDIN: 21099604AAAAEF8535

Date: May 06, 2021  
Place: New Delhi





<b>Donors</b>	<b>Type of contribution</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Vippy Industries Limited	Local Contribution	To implement the Project on "India Sustainable Soy Program"
Gujarat Tea Processors & Packers Limited	Local Contribution	To implement the Project on "India Domestic Sustainable Tea" (IIInd Phase)
Indian Institute of Soybean Research	Local Contribution	Front line demonstrations of Soybean
Jayant Agro Organics Limited	Local Contribution	Sustainable Castor Initiative "Pragati"
Vodafone Foundation	Local Contribution	Smart Agri : Leveraging technology for self subsistence to enterprise farming
C & A Foundation	Foreign Contribution	Establishing an Organic Cotton Hotspot in Maharashtra, India
Solidaridad Network Asia Limited	Foreign Contribution	Building CSO capacities on participatory decision making in Ganga basin
Solidaridad Network Asia Limited	Foreign Contribution	Assessment of Hydrological resources and location-specific needs and opportunities in cotton production system, Maharashtra
Solidaridad Network Asia Limited	Foreign Contribution	To Improve the social, economics, agronomics and environmental performance of Small Tea Grower families across India
Solidaridad Network Asia Limited	Foreign Contribution	Imparting Knowledge to farmers on good practices from the perspective of Safely Handling Pesticides and other Agri chemicals and reducing its usage in castor farming

<b>Statements of Financial Position</b>				<b>Statements of Activities</b>			
	<b>As at 31st March 2018</b>	<b>As at 31st March 2019</b>	<b>As at 31st March 2020</b>	<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Financial Year 2017-18</b>	<b>Financial Year 2018-19</b>	<b>Financial Year 2019-20</b>
<b>Funds &amp; Liabilities</b>				<b>Revenues</b>			
- Trust Fund	10,000	10,000	10,000	<b>Restricted Income (Grants &amp; Donations)</b>	17,809,402	34,507,148	48,620,671
- Capital Fund	3,270,152	3,162,200	3,574,660	<b>Unrestricted Income</b>			
(Represented by Fixed Assets)							
- Restricted Fund	16,417,091	19,930,150	51,998,030	Overhead Support	2,229,188	4,727,411	4,513,249
- General Fund							
Towards general objectives of the Trust	4,064,463	7,960,664	5,925,081	Interest from Bank	230,731	1,024,355	718,110
Towards specific objectives of the Trust	-	9,626,000	9,626,000				
- Current Liabilities & Provisions	2,693,347	2,870,350	5,518,407	<b>Voluntary Contribution (Donation)</b>	2,958,613	10,166,104	291,005
	<b>26,455,053</b>	<b>43,559,364</b>	<b>76,652,178</b>		<b>23,227,934</b>	<b>50,425,018</b>	<b>54,143,035</b>
<b>Property &amp; Assets</b>				<b>Expenses</b>			
- Fixed Assets				Programme Related Expenses	20,019,688	34,774,030	48,620,671
Gross Block	8,512,292	10,729,758	12,661,218				
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	5,242,140	6,165,359	7,592,469	Management & General Expenses	2,008,269	3,737,918	7,557,946
Net Block	3,270,152	4,564,399	5,068,749	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>22,027,957</b>	<b>38,511,948</b>	<b>56,178,617</b>
- Current Assets and Loans & Advances				Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	1,199,977	11,913,070	(2,035,582)
Cash & Bank Balances	22,255,472	34,968,404	65,426,399				
Other Current Assets	326,601	2,295,034	2,705,550				
Loans & Advances	602,828	1,731,527	3,451,480				
	<b>26,455,053</b>	<b>43,559,364</b>	<b>76,652,178</b>	<b>Changes in Net Assets</b>	<b>1,199,977</b>	<b>11,913,070</b>	<b>(2,035,582)</b>



## Solidaridad

### **Solidaridad Regional Expertise Centre**

A-5, Shankar Garden, Main Najafgarh Road, Vikas Puri,  
New Delhi – 110018 | Tel: +91 (11) 4513 4500