



**bala vikasa**

Helping Communities Help Themselves

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2017-18



## CSR Partners



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# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES ACROSS VERTICALS THROUGH NUMEROUS ACTIVITIES



## WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

- **2,29,000** Rural Poor Women Empowered
- **19,375** Women Groups
- **1,76,337** Microenterprises Established
- **41,974** Women Members Achieved Adult Literacy
- **20** Different Types of Development Activities



## WIDOW EMPOWERMENT

- **15,428** Widows Empowered
- **54** Widows Remarried
- **175** Awareness Programs Against Discrimination of Widows
- **53,663** People given Awareness on Social Justice
- **35** Committees formed to Eradicate Discrimination



## MODEL COMMUNITIES

- **129** Model Villages
- **831** Village Development Committees
- **6,680** Community Leaders Driving Change
- **360<sup>0</sup>** Community Driven Development
- **20** Different Types of Community Development Activities



## EDUCATION

- **541** Schools Improved Facilities
- **1, 61, 397** Students Benefitted
- **135** Mini-Libraries, **50** Digital Classrooms Provided
- **959** Student and Parent Committees
- **1600** Orphans Supported

## FOOD SECURITY

- 758 Tanks Desilted
- 114,711 Acres Applied with Silt
- 61,491 Farmers Benefitted
- 1039 Organic Farmers Enrolled
- 1173 Acres under Organic Farming



## WATER

- 850 Water Purification Plants
- 22 Sujal Any Time Water Kiosks
- 40 Tribal Communities Provided Water Infrastructure
- 6,400 Borewells with Handpumps
- 22,00,000 People Benefitted



## CAPACITY BUILDING

- 367 Training Programs
- 11,347 National Participants (NGOs & CBOs)
- 1,410 International Participants
- 2,850 NGOs Represented
- 66 Countries and 26 States Represented



## SE & BSR

- 14 Start ups Incubated
- 19 Seminars and Workshops
- 3300 Professionals and Students Inspired
- 20 Partnerships & Collaborations



# PDTC INSPIRED 12,757 DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS FROM ACROSS 66 COUNTRIES



## ASIA

Afghanistan | Bangladesh | Bhutan | Cambodia  
China | Iran | India | Japan | Jordan | Lebanon  
Maldives | Myanmar | Nepal | Pakistan Palestine  
Philippines | Qatar | Sri Lanka | Syria Taiwan  
Tajikistan | Thailand | Timor-Leste Vietnam  
Yemen

## Europe



Austria | France | Germany | Italy | Latvia  
Netherlands | Norway | Romania | Russia  
Slovakia | Spain | Sweden | UK

## North America



Canada | Guatemala | Haiti | USA

## Africa



Botswana | Cameroon | Dr.Congo | Egypt | Eritrea  
Ethiopia | Ghana | Guinea | Liberia | Malawi | Mali  
Mauritius | Nigeria | Senegal | Sierra Leone |  
South Africa | South Sudan | Sudan | Tanzania  
Togo | Tunisia | Uganda | Zimbabwe

## Australia



Fiji



# FOUNDERS' MESSAGE



“Daring altruism!”. This is the conclusion of the masterly book, recently published by the ordained Tibetan monk, Matthieu Ricard, one of the world specialists of Tibetan Buddhism and the French spoke-person of Dalai Lama. Altruism: The power of compassion to change yourself and the world. Selfless concern for the happiness and wellbeing of others.

His book Altruism is based on his years of scientific research and experiences. It shows the meaning to our lives -in giving, willingness to do things that bring advantage to others. Altruism plays a determining role in almost every dimension of our life. It is the essential key to resolving crises we are experiencing now – social, economic, ecological etc.

Ricard's research and conclusions on Altruism echo on us - Bala Vikasa people. It is the corner stone of our organization. We form an organization: men and women, young and old people; united to promote, in word and action, a SOciety for PARternship and Sharing, firmly connected to the evolutive process of a humanity in search of well-being for all. evolution needs cooperation, mutual aid, sharing, exchange, participation etc. It allows us to accomplish tasks that one person would not be able to accomplish by himself.

May, we of Bala Vikasa continue to be moved by an “open ended altruism”.

*Bala Theresa (Angel) & André Gingras*

**Bala Theresa (Angel) and André Gingras**

July 8, 2018



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another eventful and successful year has passed as usual. I sometimes wonder how we are able to sustain our level of success, year after year. And when properly analyzed it looks very simple. It is all the result of proper planning and guidance. Thanks to Andre – For his vision and being a think tank to organization - thanks to Bala – proper inspirational motivation, thanks to dynamic Shoury – proper execution and management and thanks to the whole team of Bala Vikasa for their cooperation and dedication.

Let us all congratulate ourselves for accomplishing the commendable success during the year. We feel immense joy and satisfaction when politicians and government officials praise Bala Vikasa for the sincere service rendered to the needy people. But our satisfaction is much more – when we see the glow on the faces of our beneficiaries, who get benefitted by our schemes. The glow and happiness on their faces should motivate us to do much more for them.

As it is we have completed number of successful schemes during the year. What is heartening is the way the model village's scheme is progressing. We must appreciate the concerned staff and the director for their efforts.

The social movement on widows is taking a positive momentum with the involvement of different religious priests, media and political leaders. A meeting with ten thousand widows was organized on the occasion of international widows day, which turned out be a unique meeting in the world entering even the Limca Book of World Records for the biggest gathering of widows ever.

Our next challenge is the completion of Bala Vikasa International Centre. After unavoidable delays – the work on the project is moving in the right direction. Thanks to the efforts of D. Showry and Indra Reddy who are giving their full support for the completion of the project.

Let us all continue with the same vigour and commitment till our Project –BVIC gets its final shape. And I am sure that it would be the most beautiful gift, we could present to our beloved leader Andre Gingras for all the efforts he made for making Bala Vikasa to become what it is today.

Thanking you all.

Basani Marreddy  
President, Bala Vikasa



# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The reporting year has been very gratifying to all of us at Bala Vikasa as our Founders, Mrs. Bala Theresa Gingras and Mr. Andre Gingras, have received the second highest civilian award in Canada "Meritorious Service Decoration" from the Governor General of Canada, which is a testimony to global recognition and widespread appreciation of Bala Vikasa's efforts towards social service and community development.

Besides that, the CSR leadership award as 'Water Champion', Wockhardt Foundations Women's popular award for 'Women Empowerment', Bommidala Foundation's Spoorthi Award for 'Agriculture and Rural Development' and entering the Limca book of records for the biggest gathering of Widows for the cause of Justice to the widows show Bala Vikasa's success in effective community driven multi-sectoral development.

This year, Bala Vikasa also expanded its water conservation program to Tamil Nadu state for the first time in collaboration with the prestigious Confederation of Indian Industries (CII). With this, Bala Vikasa has its presence in 6 states of India. With increasing requests from different states inviting Bala Vikasa to initiate their services in their regions, Bala Vikasa is expanding strategically.

The collaboration, cooperation and endorsement received from the government, media, NGOs, political leaders, students, religious leaders and civil society in strengthening the 'Widow Empowerment Movement' initiated by Bala Vikasa to empower the widows in India, especially in the Telugu states, has been uplifting. Social transformation is taking root slowly but firmly due to the persistent efforts of Bala Vikasa and its network. As we are looking forward to a revolutionary social change, we thank all the collaborators for standing by us in this monumental task.

Bala Vikasa International Center (BVIC) has also been very active this year incubating 10 social startups and also building required network with various stakeholders in the social entrepreneurship domain. The number of collaborations made, events organized, individuals, institutions and startups looking to associate with BVIC, indicates that we are now recognized as an active institution in the domain of social entrepreneurship.

The reach of PDTC has now reached 66 countries across the globe making Bala Vikasa a globally inspiring organization in development sector. The project models of BV in water, women, organic farming continue to impact and inspire globally.

We are very grateful to our Founders for their continuous support, inspiration and guidance that helped BV succeed in the community development sector. We thank our parent organization SOPAR-Canada for their support in implementing different projects. We also thank all our individual, institutional and corporate donors for their encouragement which helps BV reach more and more deserving communities year after year. A big thanks to our President and the Board members for their constant encouragement and contributions to the growth of the organization. A big Salute to all the staff at Bala vikasa for their selfless dedication and sincere hardwork towards empowering the communities.

Thanking you all.

S. Shoury Reddy  
Executive Director, Bala Vikasa



# 360° COMMUNITY DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT

**IT TAKES TIME AND COMMITMENT – AND IT WORKS.**  
SOPAR has built this approach over 35 years of field experience – with concrete results helping entire communities reach their full potential and get out of extreme poverty.



**IT FOCUSES ON THE COMMUNITY**  
We strive to get an entire community involved. It may start with a small group, evolving, with time, into vibrant and dynamic community.



**IT'S COMMUNITY FULL CIRCLE**  
All activities of the community are covered: income generation, health, education, water, food security, environment, social justice. Our approach is integrated and sustainable.

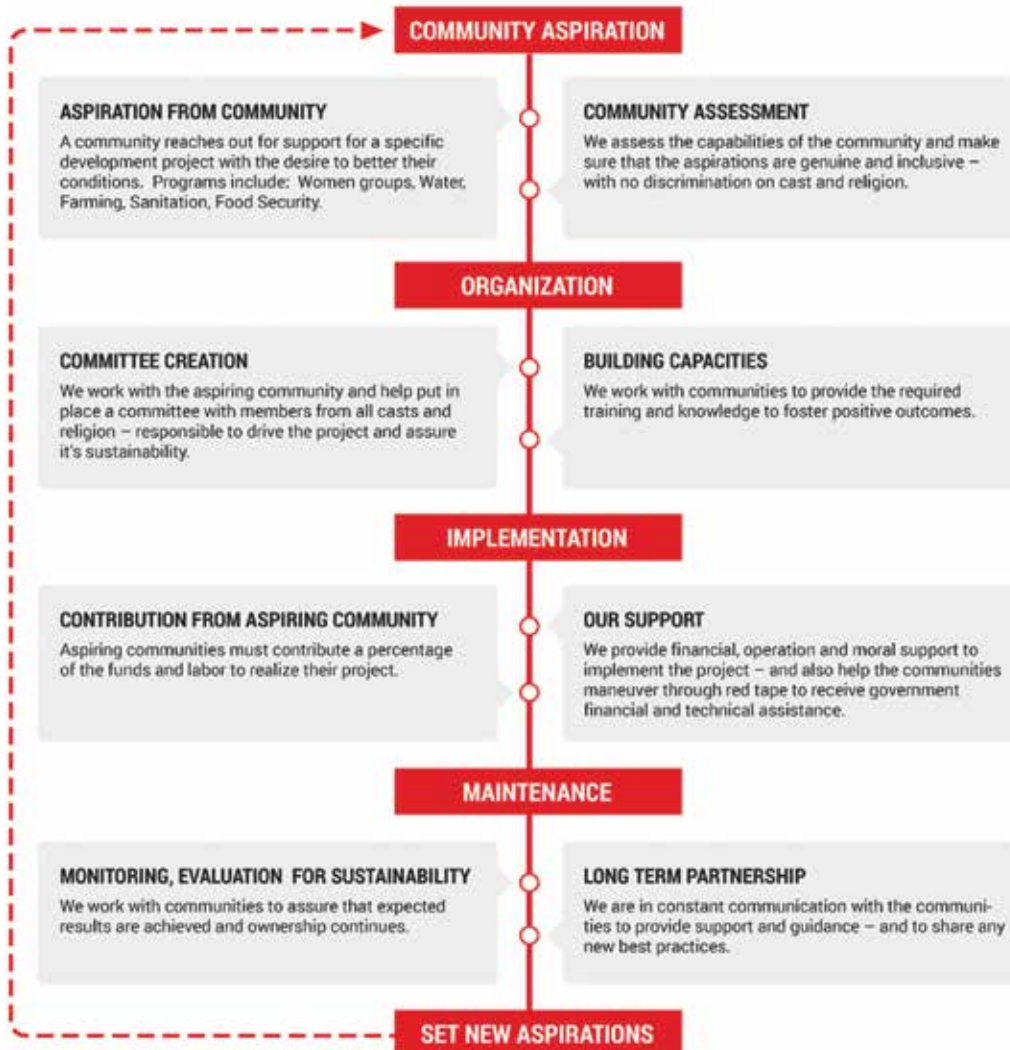


**IT'S DRIVEN BY THE COMMUNITY**  
All people in the community are the real actors. They build on their existing assets. They contribute their time, money and energy. We help, support and guide.



**IT'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPING THROUGH CAPACITY BUILDING**  
We share our professional expertise. With new knowledge, skills and a change of attitude, people become agents of change in their communities.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?



# EMPOWERING WOMEN, TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES



Bala Vikasa strongly advocates that women should play a decisive role in community driven development.

## The WOMEN INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

empowers rural poor women in driving social change from the frontlines

Bala Vikasa women are intellectually, socially, economically and politically empowered through a myriad activities

### PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

#### CUMULATIVE

**1,600**  
Villages Reached

**2,29,000**  
Rural Poor Women  
Empowered

**1,40,817**  
Women Members Handed  
over to Partner Institutions

**43**  
Partner  
Institutions

#### 2017-18

**6,585**  
New Members  
Joined this Year

**88,183**  
Women Members  
with Bala Vikasa

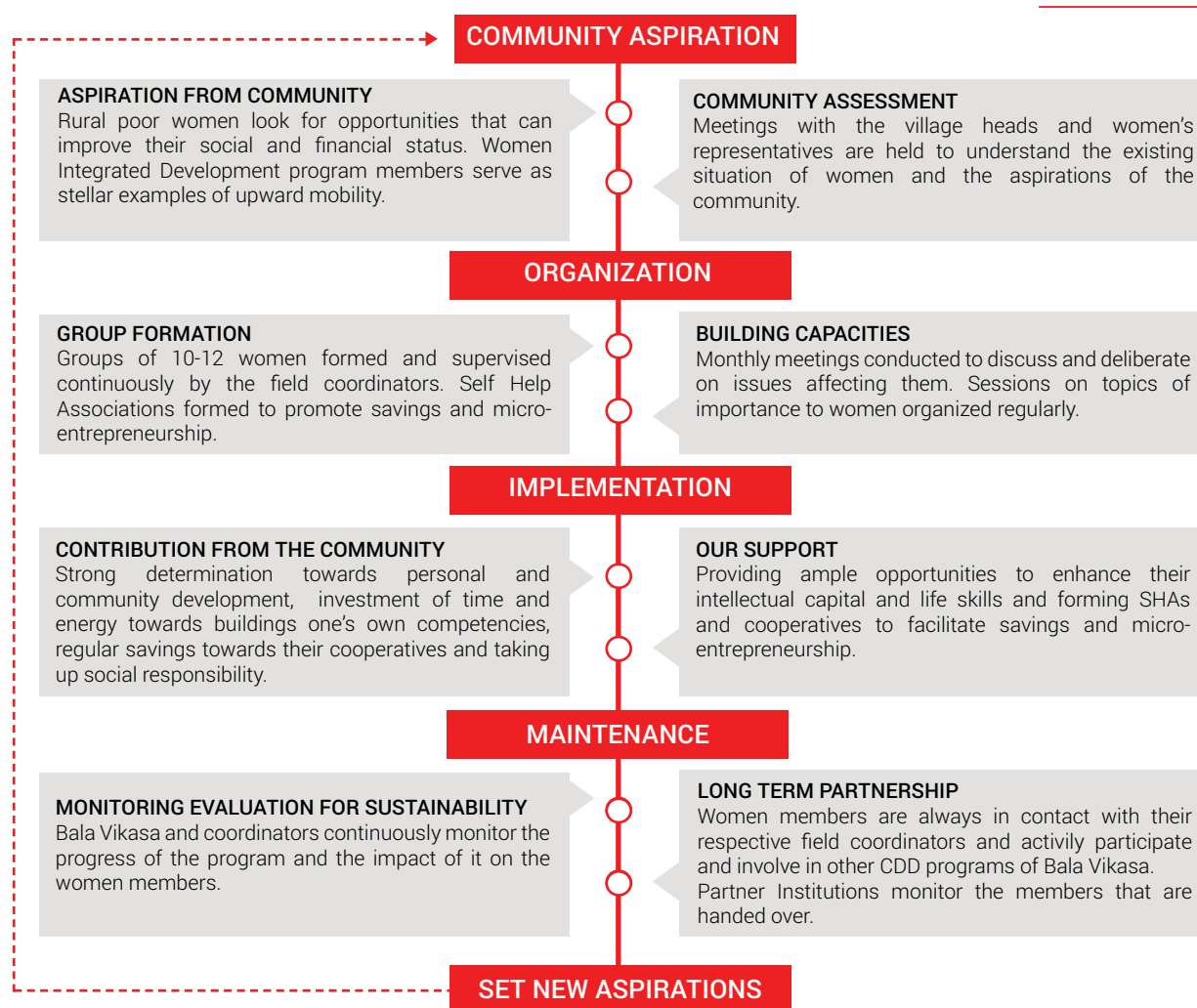
**771**  
Villages

While equipping women with motivation, knowledge, skills and resources to become the primary agents of change, Bala Vikasa integrates their knowledge, perspectives, experiences, aspirations and expectations into mainstream of development paradigm.

### PROGRAM IMPACT



Empowered women rose above the cultural, social and economic biases, grew in intellectual maturity, financial stability and social responsibility, involved in political affairs, participated as vital stakeholders in rural development projects and advocated for health, hygiene and environmental preservation.



**From A Daily Wage Laborer to A Budding Entrepreneur**

**CASE STUDY**



Kanjarla Laxmi and her husband Ravi Kumar along with their two children live in Wardhannapet Village in Warangal District. They used to work as daily wage laborers, earning barely enough to arrange two square meals a day. It was heartbreaking for Laxmi to see her children go to bed hungry and discontented.

She began searching for ways to escape the vicious circle of poverty. It was around that time, Laxmi heard about the Women Integrated Development Program being run by Bala Vikasa. She decided to be a part of it in hope of finding some solution to her problems. Women members welcomed her with arms wide open and started helping her out in multiple ways.

She began to attend the various meetings where women were motivated to empower themselves. Laxmi made use of these meetings to enhance her knowledge of different business opportunities. As she was very active in the meetings she was made a member of the Self Help Association (SHA).

After a year, she borrowed her first loan and started a door-to-door vegetable selling business. A few years later, she applied for another loan and started a micro enterprise. Today she is the proud owner of a small but successful Kirana (general provisions) store. The profits made from the store enabled her to repay her loan on time. She also purchased a sewing machine and started a tailoring business.

I have constructed a house now and my children are successfully pursuing their higher education. The long association with Bala Vikasa has helped me in truning life around for the better. I am very thankful for all their efforts.

## FOUR TIERED CAPACITY BUILDING FOR EMPOWERMENT

Regular capacity building sessions inspire, encourage and equip women with the necessary intellectual capital to overcome everyday challenges and implement the various development activities

- Monthly meetings cum trainings were organized for all the women members to build their competencies and instill in faith in their own potential. They were educated on various issues of personal and social interest. This helped them in becoming critical thinkers, orators, decision makers and change agents.

**12**

Monthly Training Sessions

Planning development activities, discussing prevailing socio-economic problems like education, gender equality, widow empowerment, health, hygiene, etc., and finding solutions

**55,278**

Women Members

- Group leaders were capacitated to offer inspiring, dynamic and effective leadership to the members in all the activities. Consequently, women emerged as community leaders with a greater role to play in rural development.

**44**

Leaders Trainings

Role of leaders in building model villages, leading widow empowerment movement, bridging gender gaps, social justice, forming cooperatives, raising business capital and election of SHA members

**5,607**

Group Leaders

- Self Help Association (SHA) committee members were trained exhaustively on cooperatives, savings, micro-entrepreneurship, business models and sustainable development.

**6**

SHA Trainings

Importance of SHA, roles and responsibilities, enhancing capabilities of members, collective decision making, idea of savings and self financing, taking up social responsibilities and community development

**350**

SHA Committee Members

- Field coordinators were provided with sector specific knowledge and core development principles while great care was taken to enhance their communication skills, public speaking and confidence levels.

**12**

Field Coordinators Trainings

Program execution, meeting expectations, achieving results, evaluating progress, record keeping, monitoring, evaluation methods and communication skills

**180**

Field Coordinators Members



## WOMEN BECOME ADVOCATES FOR MOTHER AND CHILD CARE

**Pregnant women and new mothers were given valuable information on pregnancy, childbirth, nutrition and vaccination**

Interactive sessions on pre and post natal care informed woman of several aspects to be taken care of during pregnancy and post childbirth. Participants understood the importance of nutritious food for both mother and child. Emphasis was also laid on personal hygiene. General check-up was also conducted for pregnant women and babies along with adequate counselling. Iron & vitamin tablets and nutritious food were supplied to all.

- 55 Mother and Child Care Camps
- 2,800 Pregnant and Young Mothers
- 190 Medical Staff
- 5,600 Tins of Nutritious Food given



## HEALTH CAMPS ORGANIZED SOLELY BY RURAL WOMEN PROMOTE WELL-BEING IN VILLAGES

**Rural Women organize health camps, raise donations, procure medicines and mobilize doctors to attend to the healthcare needs of their communities**

Women came forward to organize several health camps to improve the public health of their communities. They motivated the community members to contribute towards the cause by offering a donation towards buying medical supplies. They were able to convince hundreds of doctors to offer voluntary service for a day. Free consultation and medicines were given to the people.

- 44 General Health Camps
- 8000 Patients Checkup
- 264 Doctors and Paramedical Staff Volunteered
- 394 Donors Contributed
- 3,52,000 Worth Medicines Distributed Freely



Free water distributing stalls were set up by the women members in 246 villages to provide purified water for free during the sweltering summer months as part of 'Jala Danam' initiative. 15,49,800 poor people benefitted from this.

## WOMEN LEAD IN BUILDING MODEL COMMUNITIES

**The Model Communities concept has been at the heart of Bala Vikasa's social outreach initiatives and empowered women are at its very center**

Bala Vikasa's WID program is the base for as many as 128 villages to make the transition to Model Communities with improved metrics across various verticals such as Water and Sanitation, Food Security, Education, Health, Environment, Widow Empowerment, Village Development and other Humanitarian efforts. Historically marginalized women members of the society are turning into torch bearers of community driven development that is people-centric, inclusive and sustainable.



## RURAL POOR WOMEN TURN ENTREPRENEURS WITH ASSISTANCE FROM SHA

**Self Help Associations (SHA) support poor women with financial help to turn their small business ideas into reality**

Bala Vikasa ensured that poor women in its program villages start saving the equivalent of one day's wage each month. The amount saved is collected during monthly group meetings and deposited in SHA accounts opened in the name of their mahila cooperative. Women access small loans from these community savings for income generating activities.

**5 421 Members Benefitted** ■

**8 New Cooperatives Formed** ■

**99% Repayment Rate** ■

**Members Share Interest on Savings** ■

**125 Types of Small Businesses Started** ■



International Women's Day was celebrated with much ado with several rallies, games and special meetings organized in 75 villages. 7003 women and 179 guests participated in the events that revolved around gender equality and stopping violence against women.



A Convention for Youth themed 'Youth as Change Agents' was held for WID members children. Over 3700 young boys and girls were enlightened on their role in social responsibility and emphasis was laid on the ongoing Widow Empowerment movement.



## EMPOWERED WOMEN CARE AND SHARE WITH THE ORPHANS, THE OLD AND THE DESTITUTE

**Women members pursue the joy of giving in meeting the needs of the weak, orphaned, old and destitute despite their own financial setbacks**

### Caring for the Orphans

About 1500 orphan children, identified by the women members, are currently being taken care of by Bala Vikasa. Women members empathize by showing their love and care, support them in their education and make sure that the children always feel loved and cared, monitor their academic performance, interact with their school teachers, counsel them on moving forward and comfort them in times of distress. Their daily subsistence, school and hostel fees, books, stationery and clothes is borne by Bala Vikasa.

Further, 'Solidarity Day with Orphans' is celebrated every year on a large scale with women members foregoing a day's work and income to spend time with the orphans, celebrating their birthdays. Every women member contributes something in cash or kind to meet the needs of these children.

The event which is marked by the presence of several dignitaries sees a lot of spontaneous voluntary contributions, which reflects the impact of Bala Vikasa's intervention and commitment.

■ **33,092 Women attended Solidarity Days**

■ **Rs 53,165,691 Contributed by women Members**

### Sharing with the Old and Destitute

For over 15 years, Bala Vikasa has been reaching out to the aged, the abandoned and the weak. As part of their social responsibility, Bala Vikasa has encouraged the women members to offer their assistance to old and destitute. Consequently, the women are taking care of the needy with in their communities. Women members themselves contribute in cash and kind to give out provisions like rice, dal, oil and soap to the identified persons.

964 elderly persons are currently under the care of Bala Vikasa. One woman helper per one elderly person was arranged to keep an eye on their health, help them receive pensions and take them to the doctor when needed. Thus the poor are taking care of the poorest.

■ **Women provided 22,000 Kilos of Rice**

■ **New clothes given**

■ **Last rites of 137 elderly deceased were arranged**



# EQUALITY, FREEDOM, EMPOWERMENT AND JUSTICE TO THE WIDOWS



A vast majority of widows in India suffer various indignations, even within their own families, owing to widespread prejudices and superstitions. The **WIDOW EMPOWERMENT MOVEMENT** is how Bala Vikasa is spearheading a mass movement to create awareness among the general public to ensure equal rights, opportunities, freedom and justice to the widows

Bala Vikasa cast the vision of Widow Empowerment on numerous NGOs, governments, religious heads, politicians, media, corporates, artistes, social activists and students for a widespread reach and impact

## PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

### CUMULATIVE

**15,458**  
Widows Empowered

**54**  
Widows Remarried

### 2017-18

**4**  
District Level Seminars

**6,505**  
Participants including Policy Makers, Religious Leaders, Bureaucrats

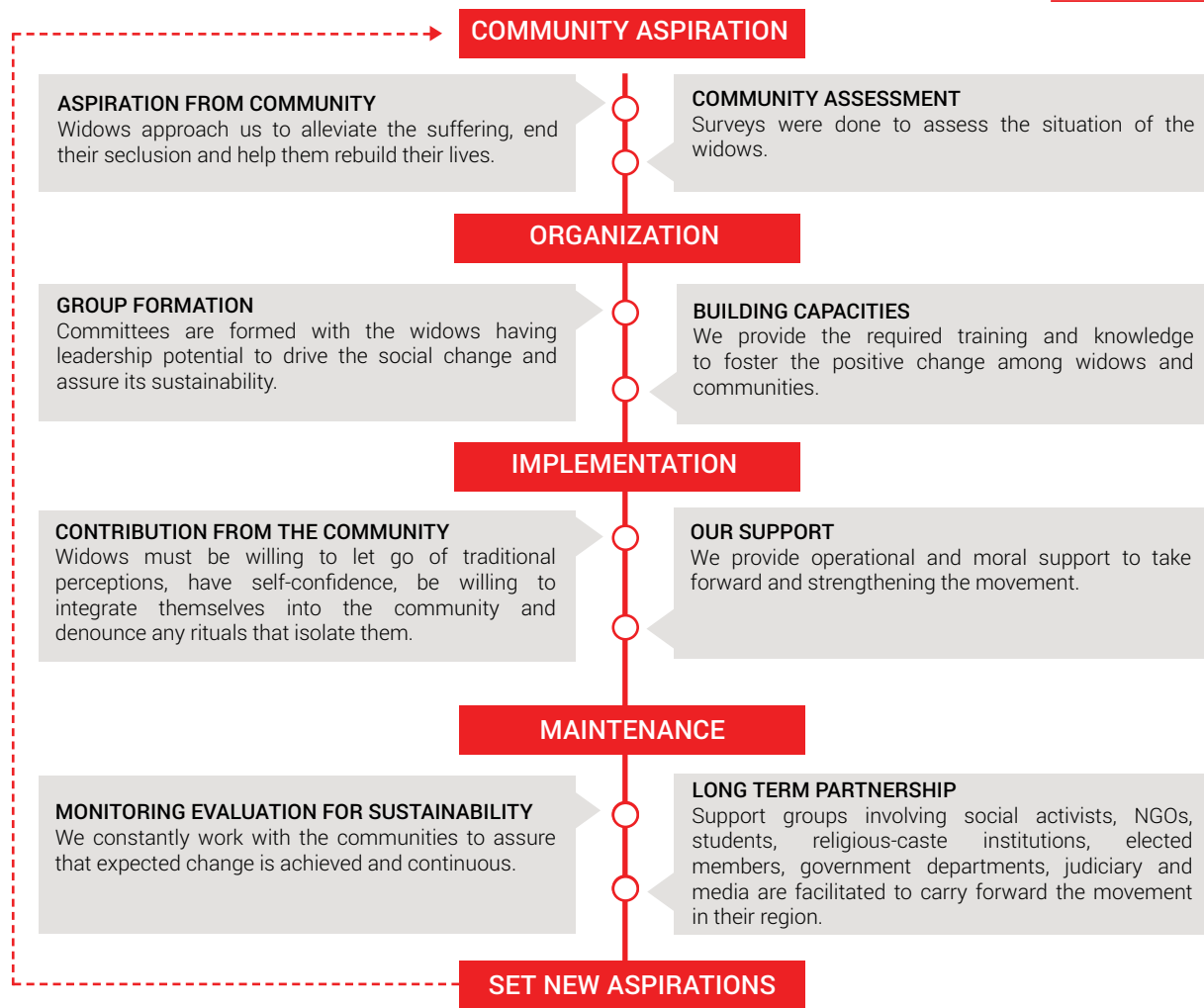
**19**  
Seminars for Youth

**9,261**  
College Students

Bala Vikasa has done much work on changing the prevailing discourses that perpetuate discrimination against widows through collaborations and discussions with various religious leaders, opinion leaders, politicians, writers, poets, advocates, artists and NGOs. On the other hand, Bala Vikasa empowered the widows through several awareness campaigns, seminars, workshops, conventions and counseling sessions.

## PROGRAM IMPACT

Empowered widows resisted discriminatory practices against them, reconstructed their worldviews, faced various challenges with courage and confidence, supported one another, rose above their pain and suffering through building inner strength and participated in various functions, rituals and customs like putting bindi, bangles and flowers, which they were prevented from doing all along.



RE-INVENTING HERSELF



**Nadigadda Renuka :** “My husband died in 2006. Once I was crossing the road when my neighbors were passing on to go for shopping. Looking at me, they immediately dropped the idea and turned back home. It made me feel very insult.

Recently, while I was cleaning the wedding place where the couple sits for thalambralu, my sister took away the broom from me and said it was inauspicious for a widow to sweep the wedding place. I face many discriminatory incidents like these. I was unable to mingle with people and was isolated. I faced a lot of depression and even thought of committing suicide. In this hard times, I got the opportunity to attend Bala Vikasa’s young widows group meetings where we had regular counseling and pain relieving sessions. These techniques helped me heal and the confidence I got helped me to put up a brave fight among all odds”.

FIGHTING FOR HER LEGAL RIGHTS



**Manjula, Venkatapuram :** After my husband’s death my mother-in-law told me to stay back with my parents until her younger son gets married. I was living with my parents for the past 7 years along with my 9 year old son. I visit my in-laws during vacations and festivals.

Recently her younger son got married and I asked for my share of property. My mother-in-law rejected to give me, beat me and my son severely, put me in closed doors without food and she decided to register all the property to her younger son. Not knowing what to do I approached Bala Vikasa, they offered legal aid by which I informed my mother-in-law about my decision to file a case on her. Rattled by the prospect of losing her government job, she immediately came down to me and registered my share of property. Now there is some security for me and my son to move forward in life.

## CAPACITY BUILDING AS AN ESSENTIAL TOOL TO EMPOWER WIDOWS

Bala Vikasa has conducted many capacity building sessions for the widows in order to steer them away from feelings of depression, low self esteem, self loathing and suicidal tendencies that come with the ill-treatment meted out to them

Several sessions on building confidence, staying strong, letting out their agony and letting go of past hurts were conducted in order to help them begin life afresh without any baggage. Yoga and meditation were also deployed to help them relieve stress and pain. In order to make them aware of their legal rights and entitlements, lawyers and legal advisors were roped in.



**45**

Centre Level Meetings

Motivating them to start afresh, increasing their confidence, strengthening their resolve, making them aware of their rights and entitlements

**5,278**

Participants

**7**

Widow Empowerment Group Trainings

Psychological motivation to rebuild self-confidence, self-reliance and dignity. pain relieving session using techniques like NLP and yoga

**500**

Young Widows

**4**

District Level Seminars

Creating awareness about widows issues, asking people not to discriminate, calling for action to eradicate superstitions, providing equal opportunities

**6,505**

Policy Makers, Religious Leaders, Bureaucrats

**19**

Seminars for Youth

Role of youth in widow empowerment

**9,261**

College Students Participated



### NETWORKING WITH NGOS FROM ANDHRA PRADESH FOR A WIDER REACH

Bala Vikasa organized a seminar in Vijayawada on the 20th of March themed 'Social Transformation and Widows' Empowerment', exclusively for NGOs of Andhra Pradesh in order to discuss and leverage their platforms and networks to push the message of Widow Empowerment. This event greatly helped in creating a common understanding around the issue and in evolving a common vision and strategy to take the movement forward. It was also decided to celebrate international widows day in Andhra Pradesh with over 10,000 widows on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June, 2018.

**WITH 10,252 WIDOWS, BALA VIKASA ORGANIZED THE BIGGEST GATHERING OF WIDOWS IN INDIA TO MARK INTERNATIONAL WIDOWS DAY**

Bala Vikasa organized International Widows Day with much ado on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June every year to sensitize the entire country on the issues surrounding widows. This year, Bala Vikasa, in collaboration with like-minded institutions and individuals, organized a State-level Widows' Convention with 10,252 widows at LB Stadium, Hyderabad. This was the first convention of its kind in the history of India, with such a large gathering just to spread the social movement on widows' issues and advocate for justice.

Eminent guests and leaders from all religions, political parties, NGOs and Media from across the nation came together to support the cause. Several problems plaguing widows were discussed and the distinguished guests assured their support to join hands to fight for this cause. The convention was a big step in strengthening the widow empowerment movement as it brought together widows from across states and tried to instill in them the courage to withstand the existing injustices and know for a fact that there are determined efforts being made to change the oppressive conditions and ensure a life of dignity, respect and opportunity for them. Bala Vikasa demanded the Government to set up a special corporation that would design and implement special schemes and policies for the empowerment of the widows.

- 5 NGOs and 4 government departments collaborated in organizing the event
- This event entered the Limca Book of records for being the biggest gathering of widows ever



**Hon. Minister T. Harish Rao, Minister for irrigation, donated one month salary as his contribution to support the widows empowerment movement**

## INFLUENCING YOUNG MINDS TO STRIVE FOR JUSTICE TO WIDOWS

Bala Vikasa continued to educate and inspire youth through numerous seminars for college going students on the prevalent superstitious beliefs in order to create awareness and the strong desire for change. Participating students, who lost their fathers, spoke about their personal ordeal in seeing their mothers suffering with discrimination, which left a strong impression on the other students. They pledged to stand by the widows and committed themselves producing campaign material in the forms of posters, articles, social media posts to spread awareness.

Another major development was to form Widows' Rights Protection Committees with 7 to 9 volunteers from each college. A total of 209 youth (both boys and girls) enrolled themselves in to these committees and vowed to strive for Widow Empowerment by initiating various activities in their colleges, communities and villages.



## EXTENDING THE SPHERE OF INFLUENCE FROM THE VILLAGE LEVEL TO THE DISTRICT LEVEL

Four District Level Seminars were organized on 'Eradication of Superstitions and Protection of Widows' Rights'. This was done to create awareness, motivate ordinary citizens to support widows and lobby the government for widows' welfare schemes. A total of 6,505 members participated in these seminars and were attended by leading members of the judiciary, political parties, bureaucracy, government, religious orders and NGOs.

The widows present shared their painful experiences at home and outside after the demise of their husbands. Religious representatives and other guests on the stage were moved by their narratives and not only condemned the discrimination but also pledged to bring an end to it. Women leaders made a powerful public statement on the stage by adorning the widows with bindi, bangles, and flowers, a practice that is considered taboo in orthodox circles.

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### Local leaders shared their solidarity by bearing all the costs in organizing the widows events

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## KESHAVAPUR DECIDES TO PUT AN END TO HUMILIATING RITUALS ASSOCIATED WITH WIDOWHOOD

Village elders and community members of Keshavpur, a village in Elkathurthy mandal of Warangal, passed a unanimous resolution to put an end to the humiliating practice of depriving widowed women from sindhoor, bangles, flowers, ornaments and jewellery.

The villagers also decided to involve widows in all ceremonies taking place in their respective families. With Bala Vikasa's motivation, they decided to give equal opportunities and the chance to lead a dignified existence to all the widows in their village. About 60 widows got the chance to break age-old shackles and participate in the Bathukamma celebrations.

## WIDOWS PARTICIPATE IN CULTURAL FESTIVITIES BREAKING AGE-OLD TABOOS

**Celebrating bathukamma in some of the most popular temples of Warangal was a symbolic but profound statement against centuries-old prejudices that fostered discrimination against widows**

The widows, dressed up in colorful clothes, sang and danced along with other women – a far cry from the life of rejection and humiliation that is forced upon them in the name of tradition. They were welcomed with offerings of turmeric and saffron as a mark of their inclusion in the auspicious celebrations.

Women leaders from the women empowerment program villages took the lead in organizing and mobilizing the widows. Widows fell short of words to express their feelings after celebrating bathukamma with such pomp and grandeur, for the first time since the demise of their husbands, and being part of celebrations along with all other woman without any exclusion.



# A PATHBREAKING APPROACH TO BUILDING COMMUNITY DRIVEN MODEL COMMUNITIES



The model communities concept adopted by Bala Vikasa seeks to move marginalized rural communities and settlements to the centerstage of social and economic transformation, in accordance with its philosophy of 360° Community Driven Development

**Bala Vikasa's model communities program create self - sustaining communities run by empowered, united and confident villagers practicing grassroots democracy.**

Building Model Communities program created communities that relied on the strength of their local assets and their human resources to drive their economy, improve their quality of life, eradicate vices and bring sweeping changes in community participation. Community members, irrespective of their caste, creed, gender, were encouraged to take leadership in their community development through several capacity building sessions. The aspects of health, sanitation, environment, agriculture, education, social justice and youth development received special attention through specially formed committees.

## PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

### CUMULATIVE

**129**  
Model  
Communities

**903**  
Committees

**6,321**  
Committee  
Members

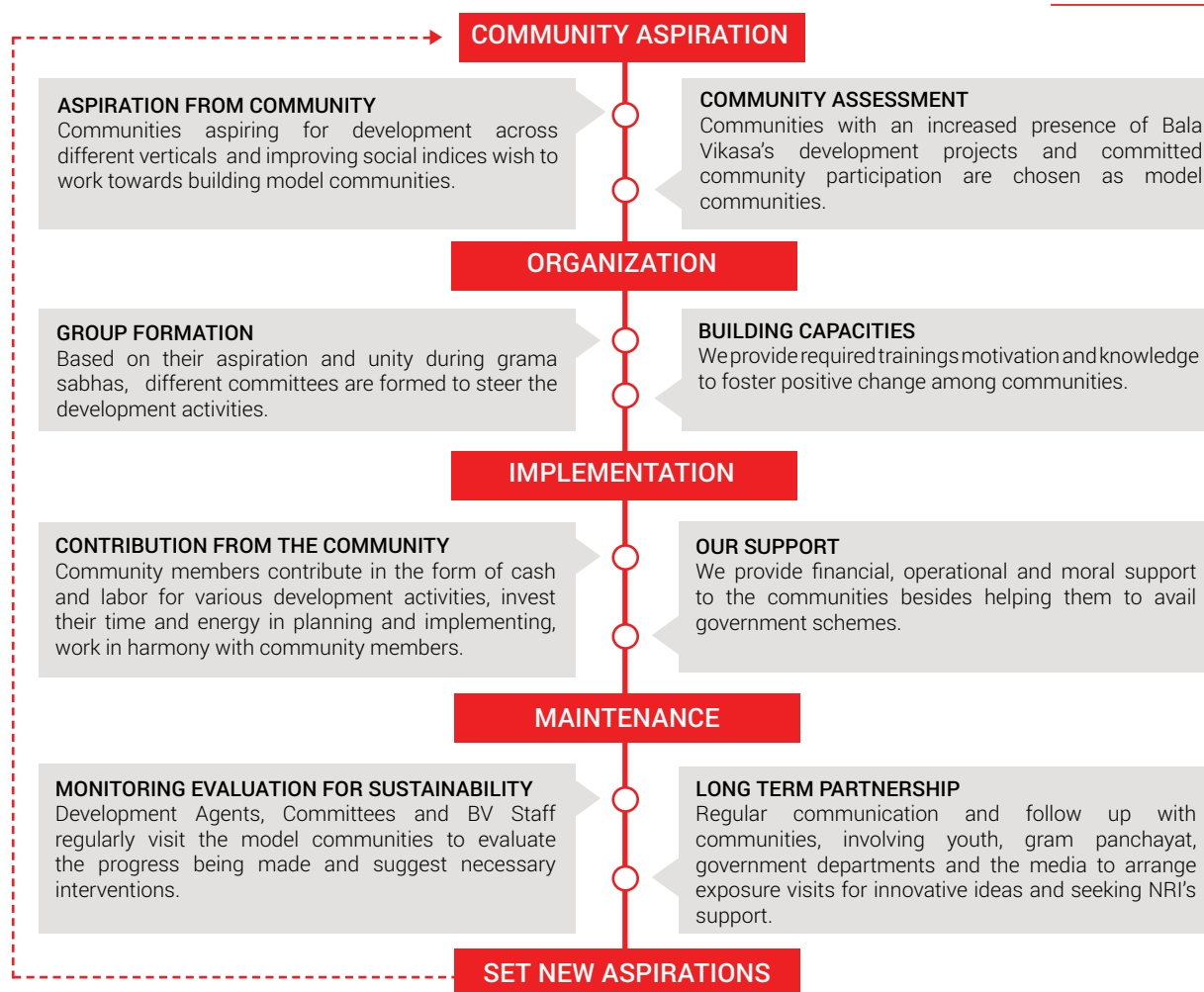
### 2017-18

**9**  
National Level  
Awards

**40**  
District Level  
Awards

## PROGRAM IMPACT

Community members became true stakeholders in the social transformation of their communities. Model communities began performing well on metrics related to standard of living and a significant improvement was seen in healthcare, hygiene and sanitation, good enough to win the laurels from the government.



**Award Winning Village Raghavapur**

**CASE STUDY**

Raghavapur is a Village in Ghanpur (station) Mandal in Jangaon district of Telangana State with over 1800 people from 477 households.

Raghavapur has successfully constructed Individual Sanitary Latrines (ISLs) in all the 477 households and has also implemented a complete ban on liquor in the village. Due to these two crucial activities, the public improved by leaps and bounds. Acknowledging the success of this village, it was bestowed with the 'Best Village' award at district level with a cash prize of Rs. 10,000 for village development.



## TRAINING COMMITTEES, DEVELOPMENT AGENTS, LEADERS TO WORK EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY

Several capacity building sessions were conducted to improve the methods of planning, monitoring and implementation associated with rural development and model communities. Capacitated community leaders performed their duties with much more energy, determination and proficiency which led to the success of many development activities.

<b>12</b> Monthly Trainings	Leadership, planning, discussions and review	<b>30</b> Development Agents
<b>4</b> Committee Trainings	Village development presidents, village leaders, health committee, care & share committee, widows committee, water committee, education and environment committees	<b>793</b> Development Committee Members
<b>19</b> AGB Meetings	Evaluate the results and make necessary amendments	<b>6,446</b> Villagers



## MODEL COMMUNITIES BAG 9 NATIONAL LEVEL AWARDS AND 40 DISTRICT LEVEL AWARDS

Koheda, Ananthasagar and Ramachandrapuram received the National level 'Nirmal Puraskar' and State Level 'Shubram' awards. Padmanabunipalli and Appannapalli have been awarded for being Open Defecation Free. In addition, District Level awards were given away to another forty model communities for excelling in soak pit construction, tax payments and leadership. These awards are proof of the great success achieved by Bala Vikasa in transforming the rural communities on various fronts.



## HEALTH COMMITTEES CHAMPION THE CAUSE OF IMPROVING PUBLIC HEALTH INDICES IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

General Health Camps, Pre-Natal and Post-Natal Medical Camps, Blood Donation Camps and Eye Camps were planned, organized and executed by members of the Health committees in all the model communities to improve the health indices of people in their communities. Committee members themselves shouldered the responsibilities of mobilizing volunteering doctors and paramedical staff, motivating community members to make contributions and procuring all the medicines needed to be given away.

### HEALTH CAMPS

- 123 Villages
- 26, 969 Beneficiaries
- 786 Doctors and Nurses Volunteered
- 170 Donors Contributed towards Medicines

### PRE AND POST NATAL CAMPS

- 55 Sessions
- 2,800 Beneficiaries
- 5,600 GRD Tins Distributed

### EYE CAMPS

- 96 Villages
- Over 10,000 Beneficiaries,
- 1,367 Eye Glasses Provided
- 757 Referred for Free Cataract Operations



## WELL-INFORMED FARMERS CONSTRUCT 1,238 FARM PONDS AND 16,761 FAMILIES CONSTRUCT SOAK PITS USING NREGA

Extensive awareness sessions were conducted by Bala Vikasa to help farmers understand the benefits of farm ponds in the conservation of water and mitigating water scarcity for their crops. As a result of which, many came forward to dig farm ponds in their fields, who were then capacitated on making use of the existing NREGA scheme for the same.

- 16,761 Families built Soak Pits and 1,238 Farm Ponds

## 5,68, 230 SAPLINGS PLANTED USING THE HARITHAHARAM SCHEME

Clean and Green Committees approached the concerned Mandal Parishad Development Officers (MPDO) with a request to issue the required number of shade giving and fruit bearing trees under the Haritha Haram Scheme. Some of these were distributed to the households in the model communities and some of them were planted alongside the village roads. The committees also took responsibility for the protection and maintenance of these plantations which was appreciated even by the Hon. Minister Shri. Harish Rao.

- 5,68, 230 Saplings
- 117 Villages

## CARE AND SHARE COMMITTEES REACH OUT TO THE OLD AND THE DESTITUTE

Care and Share committees educate and motivate all the committee members of the model communities program on the importance of coming to the aid of the old and destitute and inspiring community members to take up the cause by contributing in cash or kind for their daily subsistence. Community members are made aware of their suffering and encouraged to help and support them in whatever ways they can. Inspired community members contributed rice, dal, oil, soaps, dresses, bedsheets besides making cash donations for helping about 1000 old and destitute people.

- **4872 kgs of Rice contributed by the 240 Community Donors**

## COMMUNITY MEMBERS COME FORWARD TO SET UP FREE WATER DISTRIBUTION STALLS

Community members were motivated to see the worth in providing free water to people toiling hard during the hot summer months. Several people came forward to contribute towards setting up of the water distributing stalls which quenched the thirst of many preventing dehydration and consequent heat strokes.

- **756,000 Thirsty Villagers in 120 Model Villages**

## COMMUNITY YOUTH MOBILIZED TO DONATE BLOOD

Health Committees played a key role in educating the youth on the need for blood donations and mobilized hundreds of them to donate blood. Villages collaborated with Red Cross and ensured that these events were organized in the best way possible.

- **451 gave Blood as Donation.**



## BV PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF 49,357 FAMILY TOILETS UNDER THE SWACH BHARAT MISSION IN ALL THE MODEL COMMUNITIES

Bala Vikasa's Development Agents created widespread awareness on the benefits of having a toilet, assisted several thousands of rural families in obtaining approvals and funding for the construction and guided them through the entire process.

- **49,357 Family Toilets**

## SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE COMMUNITY MEMBERS VOLUNTEER TO KEEP THEIR STREETS CLEAN AND THEIR SURROUNDINGS FREE FROM GARBAGE



After a concerted effort by Bala Vikasa to educate members of the model communities on the importance of health, hygiene and sanitation, community members were successfully motivated to clean their streets regularly and dispose garbage only at the designated places. After numerous camps at schools and rallies in villages, people started using cloth bags, contributed money to buy dustbins, stopped littering and became more socially responsible citizens.

## ANNUAL CONVENTION PROVIDES A PLATFORM FOR NEW LEARNINGS AND PROBLEM SOLVING IN IMPLEMENTING MODEL COMMUNITIES

Building model communities convention held in January, 2018, created a platform for the model community committee members to share the progress they have made in various aspects, discuss the challenges they have faced, learn from others' experiences and come up with solutions to various problems in implementation.

Mr. G. Sudheer Babu, commissioner of police warangal commissionerate, who graced the occasion, explained the need for promoting model communities to foster integrated community driven sustainable development. He lauded the committee members for being role models to many people from other villages through their innovative initiatives. He appreciated Bala Vikasa for its unique approach of "building communities before building projects" which is the key for holistic development.

Mrs. Bala Theresa Gingras, congratulated the development committee members for initiating different development activities to bring holistic development of village through their active, selfless, dedicated, united, and honest services. She expressed her pleasure to see that the committee members are thinking different and acting different to make difference in transforming their village into a model one.

**2,500 Model Village Committee Members**

**Sarpanches of 129 Model Villages**



### CHANGE SEEN AT THE GRASSROOTS

- Creation of strong community leadership at the grassroots with high levels of motivation
- Improved mobilization of local resources and decreased dependence on external aid
- Establishment of unity and common vision among both the community leaders and members
- Removal of divisions created by factors such as politics, caste and religion
- Greater degree of public participation, motivation and discipline due to village development meetings, training sessions and follow-up programs
- Improved knowledge and awareness among committee members about village development techniques, ABCD approach, government schemes etc.
- Change in attitude of villagers towards aspects like alcoholism, environmental protection, health and sanitation due to role of committees
- Community contribution in cash and kind for village development schemes such as plantation activity, installation of dustbins, organization of health camps etc.

# PROVIDING ACCESS TO CLEAN DRINKING WATER



63.4 million people in India do not have access to potable water. There is widespread prevalence of fluoride, arsenic, heavy metals and bacterial contamination. Bala Vikasa's WATER PURIFICATION PLANTS (WPPs) provide safe drinking water to thousands of families living in fluoride-affected areas

Bala Vikasa's unique Any Time Water (ATW) prepaid cards help people to access drinking water at any time of the day and also ensure transparency and accountability in water distribution

## PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

### CUMULATIVE

**850**

Water Purification Plants

**2**

Million People Benefitted

**5**

States

**850**

Community Members Employed

### 2017-18

**102**

Water Purification Plants

**131,150**

People Benefitted

**4**

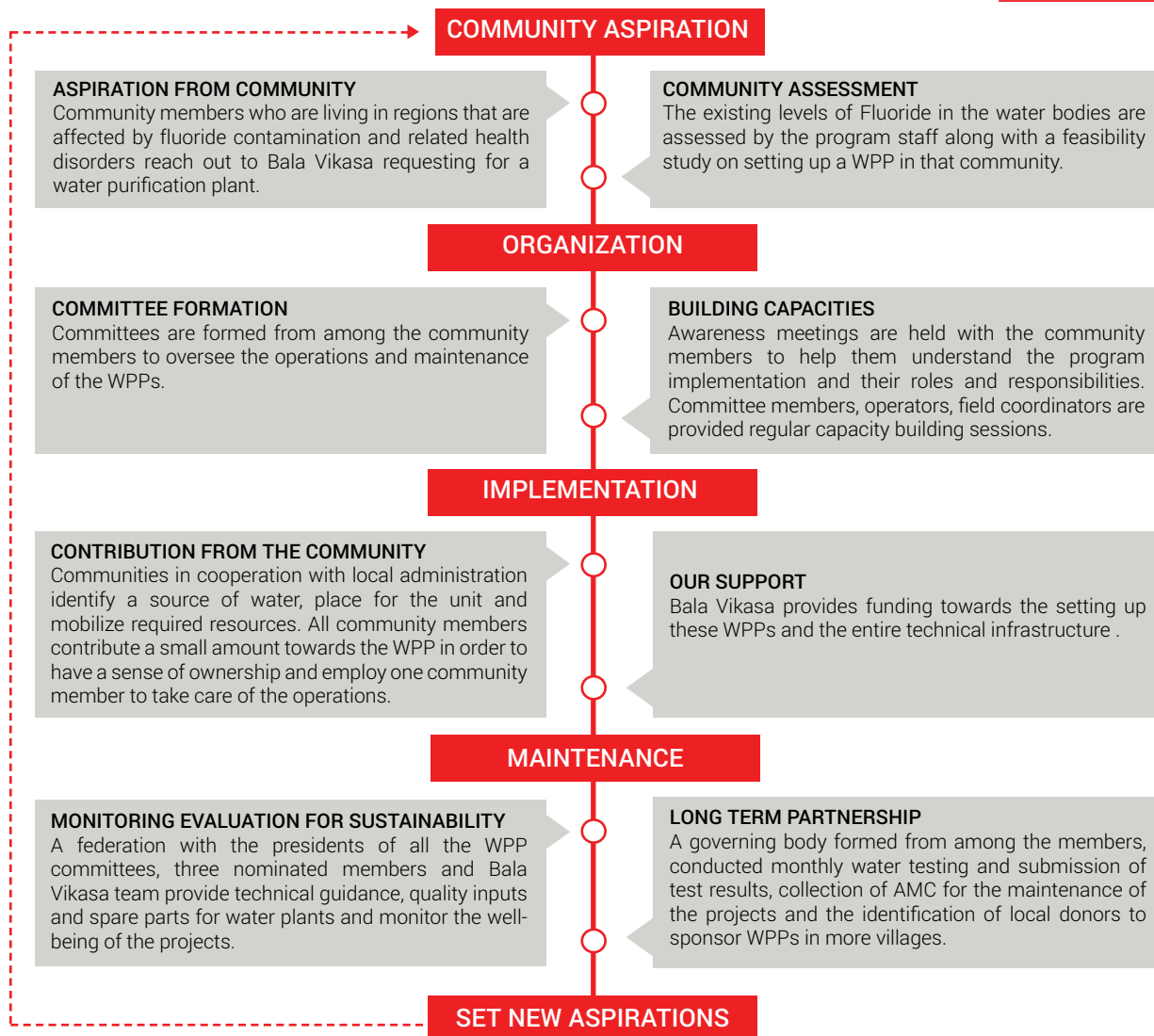
States

Purified drinking water is provided at just Rs. 3 for 20 liters, which goes towards the overhead costs of maintaining the plant

Over the past 14 years, Bala Vikasa has setup nearly 850 Water Purification Plants spread across 5 states in order to reduce the incidence of fluorosis and improve the public health. These WPPs made safe drinking water not only accessible but also affordable to the rural poor when water is increasingly commodified.

## PROGRAM IMPACT

Bala Vikasa WPPs ensured the reduction in episodes of fluorosis and related ailments, curbed the occurrence of water borne communicable diseases, improved public health indices, created health awareness in the beneficiary communities, ensured savings for villagers in medical expenditure, taught the communities to lead themselves towards a common goal and increased their competencies in terms of leadership, implementation and water management.



**WPP comes to the rescue of Kantathmakur after suffering for 10 long years**

**CASE STUDY**

Warangal District's Kantathmakur village, with about 450 families, has been suffering due to fluorosis for the past ten years as their primary water source has 2 ppm fluoride, way above the permissible limits. While few well-to-do families buy packaged drinking water @ Rs. 15 per 20 litres, the majority of the community members consume the contamination water due to their inability to purchase water at such a high cost.

It was in this situation that the villagers approached Bala Vikasa and got a project approved to install a 1000 litre per hour capacity machine. The villagers formed a committee with 7 community members and collected contributions in the form of membership fee from every family in the community.

With Bala Vikasa's assistance the project committee formulated the necessary rules and regulations regarding the price, supply timings, pre-paid card system and maintenance. Every family received 20 litres of water for just Rs. 3 and used ATW cards to access water 24 hours a day.

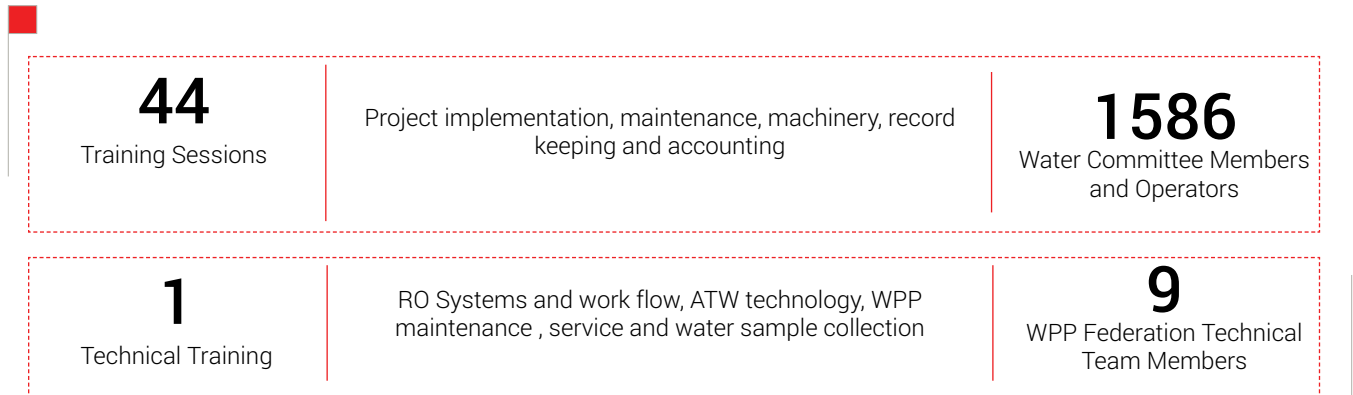
As even the poorest of the poor could afford purified drinking water, the village experienced a clear improvement in their health and reduction in medical bills, making them happier and more productive.

**R. Rajitha, committee treasurer says, "earlier, my mother-in-law was suffering from joint pains but now with potable water available she has found relief".**



## CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SMOOTH RUNNING OF THE WPPS

Numerous capacity building and motivation sessions were conducted for the elected committee members as well as the machine operators on project implementation, maintenance, machinery, record keeping, accounting and sustainability to ensure that the WPPs are running in the most efficient and transparent way.



## GRASSROOTS SUCCESS THROUGH COLLECTIVE OWNERSHIP

One crucial aspect of the water purification program has been the involvement of the villagers at every step of the way. This puts them in charge, provides them a sense of ownership and incentivizes efficiency. To effectively promote community ownership, community members raised 20 % of the project cost as their contribution. The amount coming from beneficiaries' pockets instills in them a sense of responsibility towards the project and makes it sustainable.

**Bala Vikasa's WPPs, owned, operated and managed by the communities, serve as an exceptional model for sustainable development that is highly effective, transparent and economical**



## WATER CONVENTION TO STRENGTHEN THE FEDERATION AND ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY

For the first time, Bala Vikasa organized its water purification committee members' interstate convention outside Bala Vikasa's Warangal headquarters at Siddipet. The meet focused on innovative methods to make water purification projects march towards development. The convention provided federation members a platform to share their experiences, problem solving and mitigation measures.

Mr. T. Harish Rao, Telangana State' Minister for irrigation, marketing and legislative affairs, who graced the occasion appreciated Bala Vikasa's project models saying that they are sustainable and successful because of the unique community participatory approaches that are involved. He also said that Bala Vikasa's tank desiltation and water projects have inspired the government to take up similar projects like Mission Kakatiya and Mission Bhageeratha on a larger scale.

The Minister also reiterated that the request to consider Bala Vikasa's WPP for subsidized electric supply has been submitted to power supply regulator board.

Smt. Bala Theresa Gingras lauded the federation members' roles in sustaining the projects in their respective villages. Mr. Gunavanthrao Patil, Maharashtra State Farmers' Union President and Mr. Manjunatha Reddy of Karnataka recounted how Bala Vikasa had inspired local communities to undertake community projects in their states.

**2800**  
Committee Members  
Participated

**4**  
States Represented



## 50TH WATER PURIFICATION PLANT SET UP IN THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA

Bala Vikasa reached an important milestone this year by setting up its 50th WPP in Chikala Village of Nanded district, Maharashtra. To mark this occasion, a Water Convention was organized for the first time in the state of Maharashtra for the committee members of the 50 WPPs. The participants were extremely happy to have the convention in their home state as they had to travel all the way to Warangal previously for the conventions.

The convention was attended by all the Bala Vikasa staff and WPP federation members. Mrs. Bala Theresa Gingras congratulated the villagers and all the participants for successfully maintaining the projects in the state and advocated for spreading the good work into more villages and districts of Maharashtra.



# SUPPLYING CHILLED PURIFIED DRINKING WATER TO URBAN COMMUTERS



Sujal ATW Kiosks, an indigenous innovation of Bala Vikasa, is a one-of-its-kind water-dispensing unit that supplies 1 liter of purified and chilled drinking water at the drop of a 1 Rupee coin

First of its kind in the country established in Warangal city which provides purified and chilled water of 1 liter @ just Rs.1

## PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

### CUMULATIVE

**22**  
Sujal ATWs

**30**  
Persons with  
Disability Employed

**2**  
States

Sujal Kiosks provided chilled and purified drinking water during the searing Indian summer to urban commuters so that they don't have to shell out too much on buying commercial water bottles. Many people including urban poor like daily wage labourers, auto drivers, hawkers and vendors benefited greatly from this initiative. District authorities and municipal corporations came forward to partner with Bala Vikasa as this project reached out to all sections of the urban populace with affordable drinking water.



*"Accessing a liter of chilled purified drinking water, just a few feet away from where I sell fruits, comes as a saving grace during these hot summer months."* – **Shareef, Fruit Seller**



*"In these times when drinking water is being sold at exuberant prices, this initiative reflects the commitment of Bala Vikasa towards providing purified water to the most marginalized communities in the city."* – **Praveen, Daily Commuter**



*"Earlier, we were forced to buy expensive chilled mineral water bottles at the rate of Rs. 20 per 1 liter during the hot summer days. Now we are buying a liter of purified drinking water at just 1 Rupee."* - **Srikanth, Private Bus Driver**

# BOREWELLS: A SIMPLE SOLUTION TO PERSISTENT PROBLEMS



By providing additional BOREWELLS, Bala Vikasa prevented conflicts among the community members surrounding access to water

## Bala Vikasa provided several thousands of bore wells, hand pumps and hundreds of overhead tanks in villages with no water infrastructure

While Bala Vikasa assisted communities with funds and necessary trainings to manage the bore wells with handpumps, communities identified and procured sites for the borewells, raised 15% of the funds on their own, contributed labor for the project and established committees to oversee the operations and maintenance.

## The participative approach transformed the sites of conflict at borewells to a shared community resource

While Sopar, Frank Water, Novara and SFC were the primary donors, children from Italy and Canada pooled in small amounts from their pocket money to help rural families get a bore well of their own. Bala Vikasa's initiative has inspired even the youngest to join is a testament to its success.

### PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

#### CUMULATIVE

**6,350**

Bore Wells Installed

**191,615**

Families Benefitted

#### 2017-18

**126**

Bore Wells Installed

**4,452**

Families Benefitted

### PROGRAM IMPACT

The water infrastructure provided by Bala Vikasa ensured continuous water supply to hundreds of rural communities, substantial reduction in terms of medical expenses and time wasted, greater cohesion among villagers, professional management of water infrastructure, improved health indices and greater awareness on health and sanitation issues.

# REACHING TRIBAL COMMUNITIES WITH WATER INFRASTRUCTURE



Tribal communities of Central and South India like Gonds, Koyas, and Chenchus face a number of challenges on account of their remote location. Far from the mainstream, they continue to struggle for even the most basic of amenities. One of these is clean drinking water. **WATER FOR TRIBAL COMMUNITIES** initiative provides tribal communities access to clean water, basic sanitation and a healthy lifestyle

**Bala Vikasa provided three different types of water infrastructure - borewell with handpump, borewell with motor and pipeline and borewell with motor, pipeline and overhead tank depending on the requirements of the communities**

## PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

### CUMULATIVE

<b>102</b> Tribal Communities	<b>23,747</b> People Benefitted	<b>26</b> Borewell, Motor and Pipeline
<b>24</b> Borewell, Motor, Pipeline and Over Head Tank with Household Taps	<b>52</b> Borewell with Manually Operated Handpumps	

Community members were also capacitated on proper sanitation and basic hygiene using various IEC materials to make it a holistic WASH program. Bala Vikasa distributed two sets of awareness creating posters for its awareness meetings. These were pasted in the main streets and community centers to sensitize community members on all aspects of WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene). In order to motivate them further, street plays were organized in target communities.

## PROGRAM IMPACT

The 'Water for Tribal Communities' project provided round-the-clock access to potable drinking water, improved the health profile of marginalized communities, decreased the amount of time wasted on going long distances in search of water, increased awareness on health and sanitation and brought unity and participation among the community members.

## CAPACITY BUILDING TO EDUCATE THE TRIBAL COMMUNITIES ON THE NEED AND IMPACT OF EFFICIENT WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Intensive Capacity Building sessions were conducted for the members of the tribal communities to make them aware of the process that will be in play in setting up of the water infrastructure, the role they need to play, the impact and results that are going to emerge out of all the efforts that are being put in.

<p><b>1</b> Training to Water Committees</p>	<p>Roles and responsibilities, tank design and construction, bore well drilling and hand pump fitting process, local contribution collections</p>	<p><b>70</b> Water Committee Members</p>
<p><b>1</b> Follow up Trainings</p>	<p>Feedback on project progress, feedback from the ground, plan for overcoming challenges, review on sanitation &amp; hygiene progress</p>	<p><b>98</b> Field Coordinators</p>
<p><b>1</b> Training cum Review Meetings</p>	<p>Roles and responsibilities in awareness creation, monitoring sanitation and hygiene practices among the community members, engaging with GPs to increase resources for water and sanitation and maintenance of existing projects</p>	<p><b>17</b> WASH Committee Members</p>



### CREATING SUSTAINABLE, ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES TO ENSURE CONTINUOUS RUNNING OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Total 5 communities with bore, motor, pipeline and overhead tanks with household taps infrastructure were provided with solar systems to run 3 H.P & 5 H.P motor pumps in the past 3 years and in the reporting year, 2 Solar systems of 4.85 KW power were provided.

#### CASE STUDY

Ratna, a middle-aged resident of Gopalapuram Patha Gumpu in Telangana, lives with her two young daughters, husband and inlaws. Ratna has a list of daily activities that she needs water for – drinking, cooking, washing clothes, cleaning the floor, and bathing. She fetches water for herself and her family from a borewell about half a kilometer away.

Walking to and from the borewell, several times a day, used to take up all of her time. She was forced to skip work every other day - losing that day's wage as a result. It was the only way she could address the demand for water. To make matters worse, when the rains came, the water was often contaminated. Her children would fall sick more often.

Last year, the H&M Foundation working with Frank Water installed a borewell and handpump in Ratna's village. This simple act changed Ratna's life forever. Today, she can manage all of her chores quickly, without wasting extra time, or foregoing her work.

*"Before the handpump was installed I would walk to canals and wells, far away from the village. Now I can do everything at home. It's more convenient, I have more privacy and more time. This is the first generation to have access to safe water. We enjoy good health and new opportunities "* **said Ratna.**

# PROMOTING A VIABLE, ECO-FRIENDLY ALTERNATIVE FARMING MODE



Realizing the tremendous impact of the adoption of organic farming could have on the rural economy, Bala Vikasa initiated the **ORGANIC FARMING** program. The initiative is designed to provide an alternative to conventional, chemicals-based agriculture, became a major boost for the farming community

Bala Vikasa demonstrated the efficacy of organic farming techniques to farmers, reducing their dependence on chemicals, revitalizing farmland and boosting productivity.

## PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

### CUMULATIVE

**1039**  
Organic Farmers  
Enrolled

**1173**  
Acres Under  
Cultivation

**9**  
Demo Plots in  
78 Acres

### 2017-18

**107**  
New Organic  
Farmers Enrolled

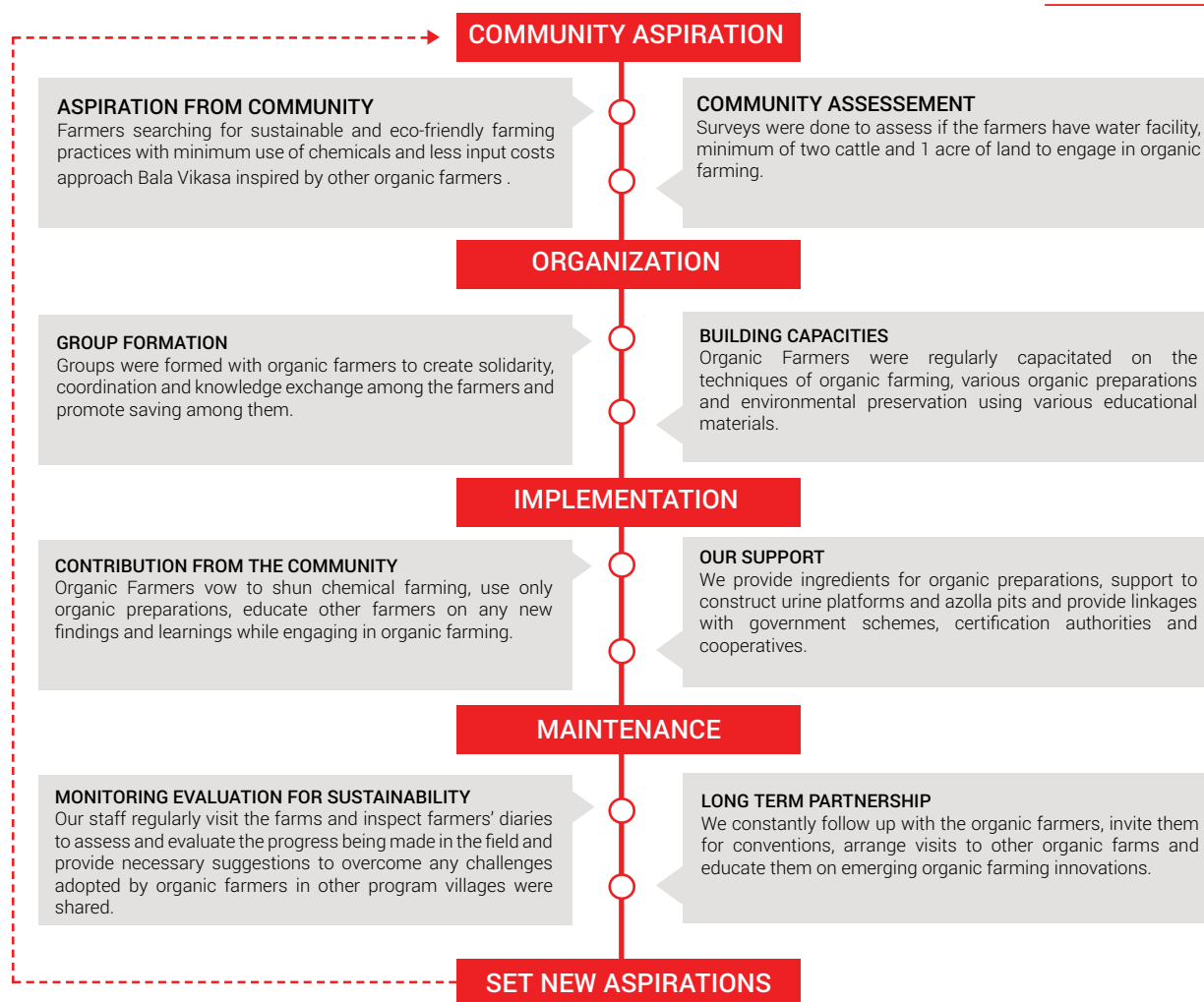
**107**  
Additional Acres Brought  
Under Cultivation

- 1202 Farmers visited demo farms, enhanced knowledge and learnt on the best practices by Bala Vikasa
- 5 farmers earned an average of Rs. 5000 from fish cultivation in their farm ponds

Bala Vikasa introduced the concept to small and medium scale farmers by establishing food security groups and farmer committees and training them in organic farming techniques. With knowledge of alternative soil enrichment and crop protection methods, villagers became eager participants and began to practise organic farming.

## PROGRAM IMPACT

The initiative successfully reversed the heavy use of chemicals contaminating food and impacting consumers. Productivity rose while the soil was restored to its original condition, significant reduction in crop investment, increase in crop yield resulting in high net profits and production of healthy organic food.



**TIRUPATHI REDUCES CROP INVESTMENT AND INCREASES NET INCOME**

**CASE STUDY**



Mr. Y. Tirupathi a small farmer with a land holding of 3 acres in Ramunipatla Village, Chinna Koduru Mandal of Siddipet District. Earlier, he was cultivating paddy in his entire land holding using chemical fertilizers. He was hardly making any profit through farming and began thinking of leaving farmin. Around this time, Bala Vikasa was organizing awareness meetings on organic farming in his village. Mr. Tirupathi took note of the different points mentioned in the meetings and decided to give farming a last shot by adopting organic practices over his entire plot.

Mr. Tirupathi was given material inputs as incentive to cultivate his land using organic practices. He applied Azolla

in his paddy to control weed growth, reducing the expenses on labour for weed removal from Rs. 3000 to Rs. 6000. He prepared various decoctions and pesticides with cattle urine and totally eliminated the usage of chemical pesticides. His yield was same as last year but the crop investment reduced resulting in a spike in his net profit. He is playing the role of a catalyst in bringing farmers of neighboring villages into the organic movement, helping them enroll in Bala Vikasa's organic farming initiative.

- **Yield – Rs 18 Quintals**
- **Crop Investment Savings – Rs. 8000**

*“For the first time in my life I feel proud to be farmer as I am contributing towards a change in farming. This gives me immense satisfaction”.* said Tirupathi

## CAPACITY BUILDING TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE IN ORGANIC FARMING

Bala Vikasa identified village leaders with close ties to the farming community in the selected villages and introduced them to organic farming. Monthly Training programs were conducted regularly that focused on the preparation of organic manure and pesticides and their application at the right time (Planting of seeds, growth of crops, ripening). Apart from the regular trainings at the Bala Vikasa Training Centres, farmers were taken to agricultural shows and introduced to various agricultural scientists.

<b>2</b> Seasonal Trainings	Planning of seasonal crops and importance of organic farming practices	<b>1037</b> Organic Farmers
<b>16</b> Leaders Training	Public speaking, community mobilization, project planning, monitoring and evaluating skills	<b>438</b> Group Leaders
<b>3</b> Exposure Visits	Multiple crops cultivation in different ways and effective organic preparation methods	<b>198</b> Farmers
<b>2</b> Farm Pond Trainings	Benifits of farm ponds, excavation mechanism, cost sharing, work distribution, maintenance	<b>153</b> Farmers

**18 Street Plays screened to 5400 people made sure that 526 Farmers from the 18 organic villages organized themselves into 29 groups to adopt organic practices**



### EXPOSURE VISITS ON ORGANIC TECHNIQUES

BalaVikasa organized three exposure visits – two to Bala Vikasa supported organic fields in different villages, and a third to the National Institute for Plant Health Management (NIPHM), Hyderabad. This included the visit to an 8-year old model farm in Kummarigudem to show farmers how diversified crops could be cultivated using organic practices. The farmers were exposed to the advantages of organic horticulture, Azolla pit usage, cattle urine collection platforms, farm ponds, mass organic preparations etc.

## SUPPLY OF PULVERIZERS TO VILLAGE GROUPS TO ENCOURAGE FARMERS TO PREPARE ORGANIC MANURES AND FERTILIZERS

Organic farming requires grinding different kinds of leaves in order to prepare various organic preparations for manure and pest control. In order to prevent farmers from quitting organic farming due to the intense manual labour involved in making these organic preparations, Bala Vikasa provided one pulverizer each to 15 organic farming villages. These made work easy and encouraged the farmers to continue organic farming.



## PUBLICATION OF BOOKS TO INCREASE THE KNOWLEDGE OF ORGANIC FARMERS

Books printed by Bala Vikasa on different organic practices for previous projects were made available to the organic farmers free of cost. To encourage farmers in organic farming, the group leaders and project staff compiled a book highlighting success stories of different organic farmers. The publication itself was brought out using an amount shared between the two - farmers contributing 25% of the cost with the remaining 75% being covered as part of the organic farming project.

## ORGANIC FARMERS' ANNUAL CONVENTION FOCUSES ON THE NEED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION

Bala Vikasa organized Organic Farmers' Convention in January 2018. Organic farmers sponsored by various funding organizations, gathered at the convention to enlist their achievements, share their experiences, discuss the lessons learnt in the year gone by, and plan for the forthcoming year. The overarching objective is to scale up the program. The theme for this year's convention was 'Role of Organic Farming in Environmental Conservation'. A total of 1,200 organic farmers from all organic farming villages of Bala Vikasa attended the convention. The resource persons delivered valuable tips to farmers on how to add value to their organic produce and generate profits.



"I was overwhelmed with joy seeing 1200 farmers adopting organic practices and feel proud to be a part of the organic farming movement in the state. The experiences shared during the convention erased the small doubt in my mind about organic farming not being profitable. Now I've decided not to quit organic farming at any cost," says **Mr. T. Laxman Singh of Ramunipatla Village**

- 1,200 organic farmers participated



# TANK DESILTATION FOR WATER STORAGE AND FARM IRRIGATION



Water bodies play a key role in the agrarian economy by providing water for surface and ground water irrigation. Their reducing storage capacity due to the accumulation of silt is hurting the farming community. TANK DESILTATION PROGRAM by Bala Vikasa is a crucial intervention made to de-silt and restore these water tanks

Bala Vikasa rescued the farming community by desilting old tanks and supplying the resultant silt to neighboring fields, leading to a considerable reduction in farming expenses.

## PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

### CUMULATIVE

<b>758</b> Tanks Excavated	<b>114,711</b> Acres Applied with Silt	<b>61,491</b> Farmers Benefitted
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**3,253,486**  
Tractor Loads of Silt Excavated

### 2017-18

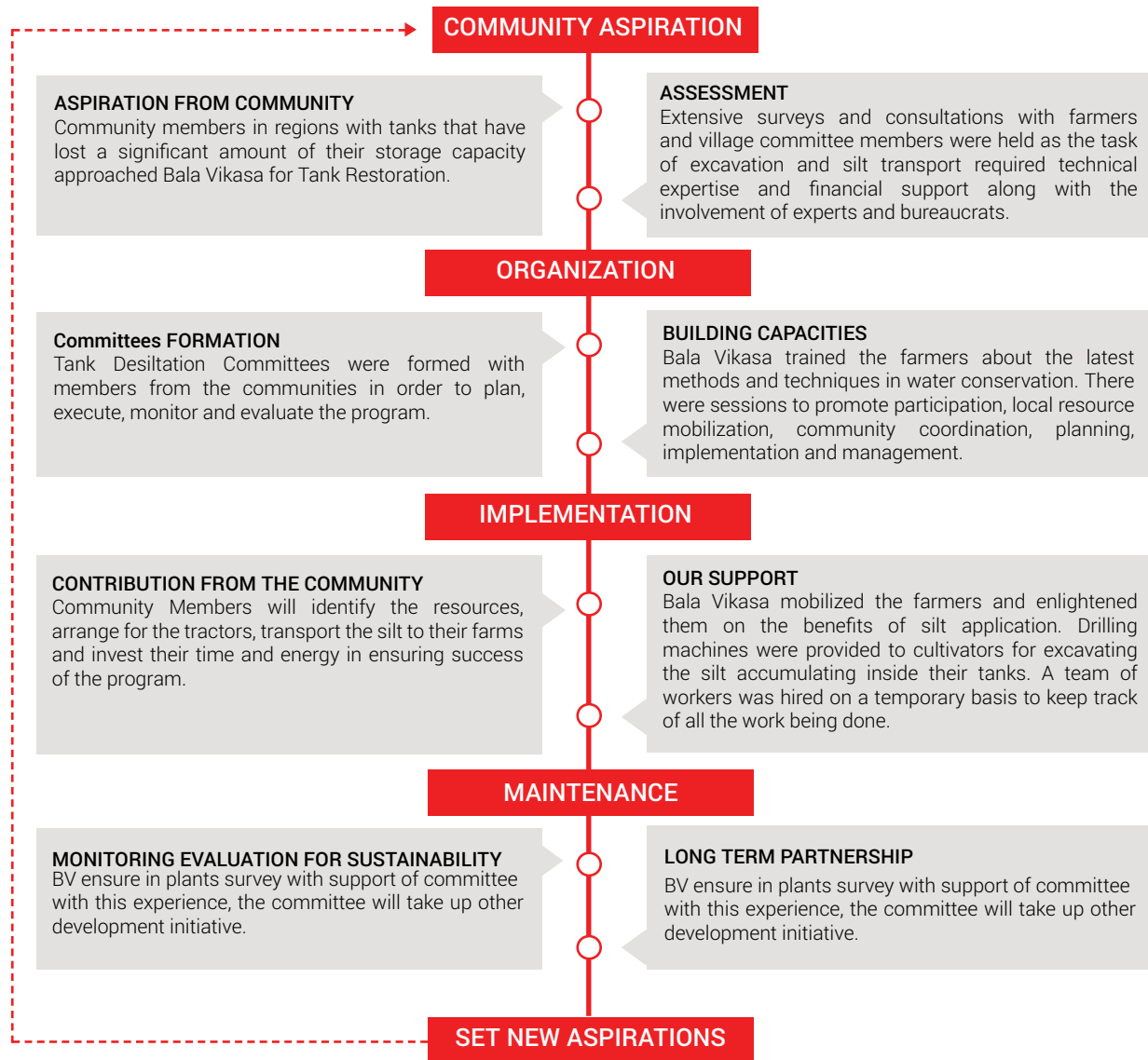
<b>11</b> Tanks Excavated	<b>2,022</b> Acres Applied with Silt	<b>2,090</b> Farmers Benefitted
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**50,407**  
Tractor Loads of Silt Excavated

Selected tanks were brought under the control of local desiltation committees that were trained in different aspects of tank management and operation. By pooling together resources and expertise, local farms were rid of their dependence on chemical inputs and incentivized to maintain surrounding water bodies and greenery.

## PROGRAM IMPACT

Tank Desiltation increasing the water storage capacities of tanks reducing the water stress faced by crops, silt excavation and application decreased spending on chemical fertilizers boosted farmers' incomes resulting in high quality, organic produce, united the farmers around one common cause and helped maintain ecological balance.



**TANK'S STORAGE CAPACITY INCREASES BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS**

**CASE STUDY**



A small tank covering an area of approximately 8 to 10 acres in R. Thummalapalli village, Pulivendula mandal, Kadapa district was in a dilapidated condition with no proper maintenance. The tank was seeing water accumulate at one end and overflow leaving behind little for storage once the rains subsided. Its storage

capacity was next to nothing. Farmers from the village approached Bala Vikasa and requested its support in tank desiltation.

Extensive work was done with a total of 7,475 tractor loads excavating as much as 16,819 cubic meters of silt. The final outcome was worth it as the tank's storage capacity increased to 1,68,18,750 Litres. It was a great matter of pride for the community as the soil fertility improved with the application of silt, usage of chemical fertilizers reduced by 70% and the crop yield increased by 20%. Additionally fish cultivation also took off in the tank.

## CAPACITY BUILDING FOR BETTER IMPLEMENTATION

Capacity building helped the farmers to understand the tank de-siltation process and the mode in which silt will be provided to them. Committees were also capacitated on how to go about in implementing tank desiltation.



**1**

Committees Training

Role and responsibility of committee members, improved effective management skills

**21**

Committee Members



## PLANTATION ACTIVITY TO MAINTAIN ECOLOGICAL BALANCE

Villagers, in the regions where tank desiltation was taking place, undertook tree plantation activity after being motivated by Bala Vikasa. They took care of the saplings and regularly watered them. A total of 4,451 saplings were planted including fruit- and vegetable-bearing species like Mango, Guava, Pomegranate, and Drumstick, as well as shade-giving plants. Organic farmers, school students and program beneficiaries participated pro-actively in the plantation drive.

### IMPACT ON WATER STORAGE CAPACITY

Water storage capacity of the tanks increased by 15-30%

Silt excavation fastened the process of water percolation and recharged the water table.

Water levels in open and bore wells within a radius of 2 km saw an increase of 20-30%.

Increased water yield in both irrigation and drinking water sources.

Abandoned wells were restored and villages regained their lost greenery.

### IMPACT ON FARMS' SOIL FERTILITY

Application of silt to fields improved soil fertility and increased production by 20-30%.

Application of chemical fertilizers went down by 40-50%, reducing the overall cost.

Application of silt produced healthy plants with fewer pests, which reduced the incidence of diseases.

Silt application improved the soil's moisture holding capacity and reduced water consumption by 15-25%.

# INITIATING WATER CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION WORKS IN CHENNAI IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CII



Bala Vikasa partnered with CII-SR for the restoration and conservation of water bodies in the urban areas of Chennai to mitigate crises caused both by flood like situations and recurring droughts.

The experience and credibility of Bala Vikasa in Watershed programs for over a decade served as an impetus for the prestigious CII-SR to consider it as its implementation partner in the restoration of water bodies in Tamil Nadu.

Bala Vikasa undertook feasibility studies in 18 Tanks of Kanchipuram, Thiruvallur and Chennai districts in the reporting year. A strategy was chalked out to revive the water bodies and restore them through:

- De-siltation
- Cleaning the feeder channels
- Jungle clearance
- Strengthening the bunds
- Fencing
- Improving the plantation and
- Setting up recreational facilities like walking tracks and benches



Budget and DPRs were prepared for 11 tanks and works commenced in two of them in the reporting year.

Companies like GRUNDFOS, BORG WARNER, PONPURE, DANFOSS and GMMCO came together to support the Chennai watershed program as part of their CSR exercises.

**This initiative will improve tank storage capacities, prevent flooding and channelize the flow of water into desired streamlines, enable ground water recharge and preserve the local environment.**

# UPGRADING PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO ENSURE QUALITY EDUCATION TO THE POOR



Shortage of funds, poor infrastructure, low enrollment, student absenteeism and high dropout rates are problems that plague the public schooling system in rural India. Bala Vikasa's **VIDYA VIKASA** program provides even the most deprived students, quality education through the state-run institutions

**Bala Vikasa's Vidya Vikasa Program transformed the teaching-learning process by improving infrastructure facilities and implementing the digital classrooms concept**

Bala Vikasa Education program didn't merely focus on physical infrastructure. As schools are more than the sum of their classrooms, playgrounds and libraries, it has worked towards fostering a conducive teaching environment where all stakeholders – teachers, pupils, and parents were equally involved and capacitated. With its digital classrooms, modern educational equipment, capacity building sessions and school committees, Bala Vikasa has managed to inject much-needed change into a moribund system.

## PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

### CUMULATIVE

**541**  
Schools

**1,61,397**  
Students Benefitted

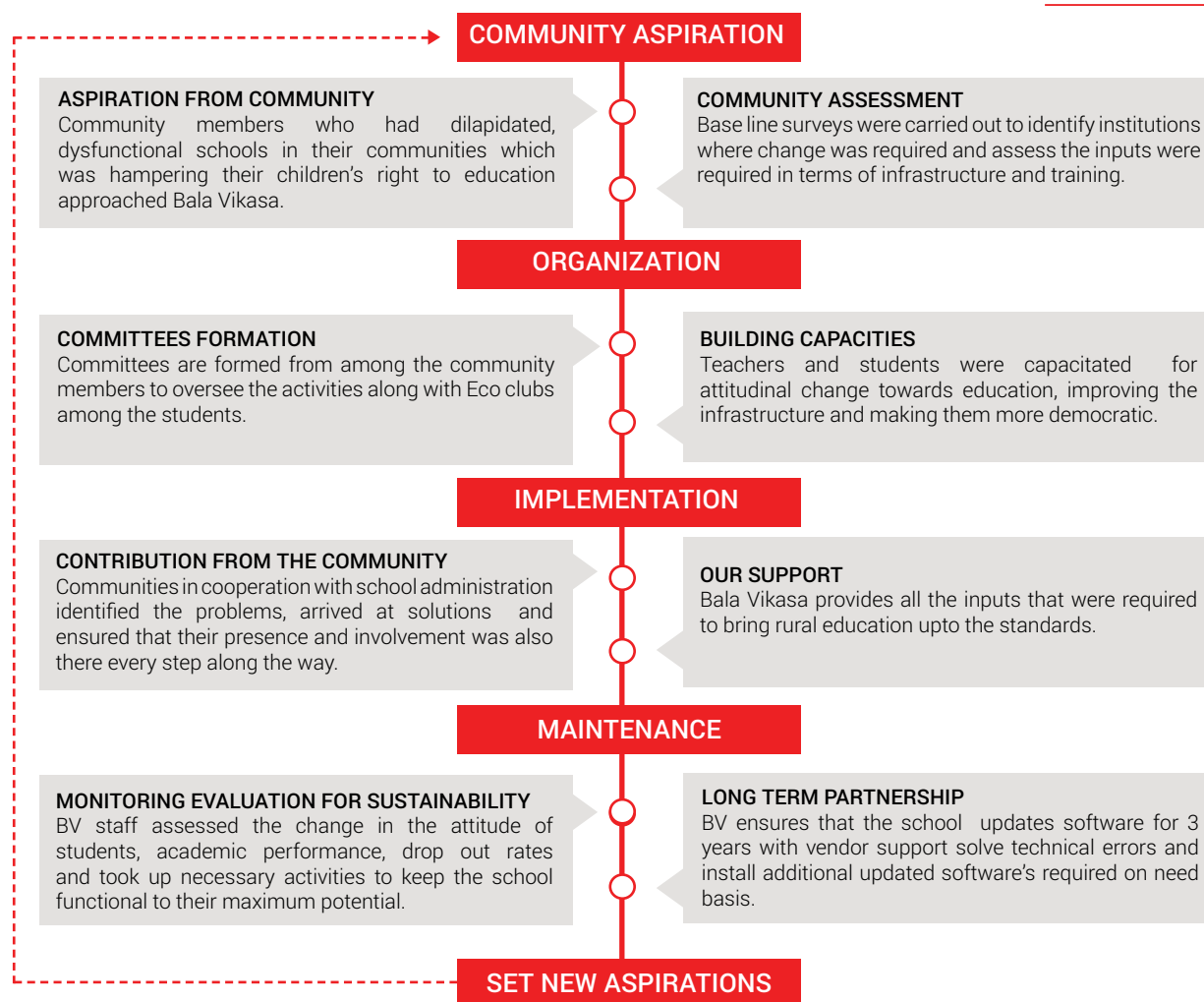
### 2017-18

**50**  
Digital  
Classrooms

**19,260**  
Students Benefitted

## PROGRAM IMPACT

Improved infrastructure of schools led to better academic atmosphere for students and faculty, improvement in confidence levels of students who were better prepared for exams, more efficient teaching methods led to better retention and understanding of lessons, noticeable improvement in students' performance in class assignments and tasks, teachers able to explain complex topics and concepts using digital education tools, reduction in absenteeism and higher levels of teacher-student interaction and clean, green and inviting school premises with all basic facilities required by students.



### PROVIDING A CUTTING EDGE THROUGH CAPACITATED HUMAN RESOURCES

The real success of the initiative lay in the human resources involved, that is, the school teachers. Bala Vikasa conducted several motivation-cum-orientation programs for teachers. To make teachers aware of different aspects of the project and ensure their participation, orientation meetings were organized in two batches for all schools involved.



### TRANSFORMING THE RURAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT THROUGH DIGITAL CLASSROOMS

In order to enhance the quality of education, rural public schools of Medak district were provided with digital classrooms and the latest equipment. Bala Vikasa also made sure that teachers were provided orientation and received technical training to ensure project sustenance. LCD/LED projectors were also handed out as part of the program.

- **50 Government Schools**
- **19,260 Students Benefitted (including 10,001 girls)**
- **40 Android Projectors with Ceiling Mount, Wireless Mouse, Wireless Keyboard, Speakers, Projector Screens and Software in Pen Drives.**

# BUILDING CAPACITIES OF DEVELOPMENT WORKERS IMPROVING EFFICACY OF DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE



**PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CENTER** has translated this wealth of knowledge into well-structured, customized and highly effective capacity building modules to help other development workers and agencies benefit from all its learnings

**Bala Vikasa PDTC performs the essential function of building the capacities of development workers thereby improving the intellectual and organization capital of their organizations**

Several thousands of development workers and hundreds of development organizations from across the world have been capacitated at the PDTC over the past 16 years. From sector specific subject knowledge to emerging trends in development practice to various approaches in sustainable development to grassroots experiential learnings, PDTC has offered exhaustive trainings and exposure in everything to build well-informed, competent and committed development practitioners.

PROGRAM SNAPSHOT			
<b>CUMULATIVE</b>			
<b>283</b> Training programs	<b>66</b> Countries	<b>29</b> States	<b>2,669</b> NGOs
<b>1089</b> International Participants		<b>9947</b> National Participants	
<b>2017-18</b>			
<b>21</b> Training Programs	<b>7</b> New Countries	<b>8</b> States	<b>191</b> NGOs
<b>167</b> International Participants		<b>610</b> National Participants	

## PROGRAM IMPACT

Development professionals from across the globe shared their knowledge and expertise with others, familiarized themselves with the best practices and emerging trends in the sector and were exposed to an environment of cultural diversity. Development organizations got a boost in the form of trained human resources equipped to deliver highly effective results in their work. New linkages were formed between individuals, organizations and institutions

# CAPACITY BUILDING TO ENHANCE INTELLECTUAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL CAPITAL

## National Level Capacity Building Programs

PDTC organized three-day capacity building programs on development skills and approaches to various National NGOs. Participants were trained in processes such as documentation, report writing and video documentation at the organizational level. They were also given guidance in aspects like cultivating positive mindsets, winning over people, techniques of training, and identifying and utilizing the existing resources. Participants were extremely confident about themselves after trainings and spoke of applying the all the concepts in their day-to-day practice.

A seminar on Social Entrepreneurship was also organized for college level students to deepen their theoretical and practical understanding of concepts, knowledge of strategies and tools of social entrepreneurship. A total of 128 students from 9 colleges were part of this one-day event.

- **8 Three-Day Capacity Building Programs**
- **639 Participants (261 Women and 378 Men)**
- **From Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Assam, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh**

## International Capacity Building Programs

Four international Capacity Building Programs were held at PDTC, which saw participants coming from over 15 countries. As a residential program, participants stayed for several days learning core methodologies and approaches of Bala Vikasa, working in groups on different concepts, visiting the field to see the various innovative CDD models at work and sharing their experiences and challenges back in their countries. PDTC helped them gain more confidence, relate theory to praxis and replicate similar approaches towards building model communities back home. Trainees expressed the utility of the program in benefiting them on personal and professional levels. They realized the importance of building people before building projects.



## PDTC CUSTOMIZED PROGRAMS

### ST. JOSEPH'S SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKSHOP

PDTC conducted a one-day workshop on Social Entrepreneurship at the request of St. Joseph's Degree & PG College, Hyderabad on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017. A total of 45 students took part and learnt the concept of Social Entrepreneurship. Afterwards, they visited Bala Vikasa's Sujal water vending kiosks to see the concept being executed as a project under the Social Enterprise Model.



### CARITAS BANGLADESH EXPOSURE VISIT

6 senior level executives from Caritas Bangladesh visited Bala Vikasa from the 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> of June 2017. They were exposed to the ABCD (Asset Based Community Development) and RBM methodologies. This was followed by visits to Model Villages where Bala Vikasa community programs were being implemented in order to help them see the practical application of those models and assess their impact. Upon their return to Bangladesh, Caritas' executives shared their knowledge of these methods with their subordinates in achieving sustainable and measurable results at the grassroots level.



### LEAD PRAYANA LEADERSHIP VISIT

Lead Prayana refers to a yearly event organized by Deshpande Foundation to provide its students lessons in transformative leadership by meeting inspiring role models, thereby starting them on a journey of leadership. As part of this drive, Deshpande Foundation sent 45 students on a visit to Bala Vikasa on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2018. PDTC helped them gain an insight into Bala Vikasa's sustainable development approaches and methodologies and educated them on the need to foster development in local communities through a change of attitude.



*Empower yourself to empower others. That is what I have realized at Bala Vikasa. I am equipped with the right knowledge and skills and it has brought about a change in my attitude towards the poor.* **Kamini Sahu, Odisha, June 2017**

### RASHTRIYA SEWA SAMITHI EXPOSURE VISIT

26 Project Staff and Panchayat Raj Institution members from the Rashtriya Sewa Samithi (RASS) of Andhra Pradesh visited Bala Vikasa on the 28<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> of May 2017, paying a visit to Bala Vikasa's model village Gangadevipalli and associated water projects. The trip was organized to show them how community owned projects could make a difference and help communities drive their own development.



### MADHYA PRADESH SAMAJ SEWA SANSTHAN EXPOSURE VISIT

A total of 26 participants from Madhya Pradesh Samaj Sewa Sansthan (MPSSS) visited Bala Vikasa from the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2018 to familiarize themselves with the sustainable practices of Bala Vikasa and their application in the field. The group underwent an orientation program on the Bala Vikasa model of implementing community programs before visiting the model village, model school, model organic farm and desilted tank. This was followed up by an interaction with community members and lessons in developing community unity and harmony.



### BREDS ANDHRA PRADESH EXPOSURE VISIT

As many as 23 Village Heads from BREDS Andhra Pradesh visited Bala Vikasa on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2018 for an exposure visit. Orientation was followed by a group visit to the model village of Gangadevipalli and interactions with the various development committee heads. The session helped the visitors understand the process by which the locals overcame different challenges and transformed their village into a shining example of community driven development.



*"Enhanced the knowledge in building the communities and implement the people centric projects which is the only way to bring sustainability. Thanks to Bala Vikasa for teaching this."* **Sogand Sepehri, Iran, July 2017**

## RELIANCE FOUNDATION EXPOSURE VISIT

A one-day exposure trip was organized to model village, following a brief orientation session, by Bala Vikasa for 26 community leaders of Reliance Foundation, Chhattisgarh on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 2018. The group was keen to observe and learn from the methods being implemented by Bala Vikasa in the community. They expressed their desire to develop model villages along similar lines in their state after their return. The trip also saw a candid interaction between community leaders and villagers over aspects such as the functioning of different village committees, the strong points of the community, and the pride and sense of ownership they felt towards the village.



## VIDIYAL FOUNDATION EXPOSURE VISIT

15 participants from Vidiyal Foundation, Chennai visited Bala Vikasa to see the workings of the model community and model cooperative in action. The two-day visit was split between Gangadevipalli model village and Mulkanoor cooperative farming society. The visitors were educated in the importance of unity and leadership, an element crucial to the community mapping and investing in their resources in order to blaze a trail and become an inspiration for others.



## SCHULICH SCHOOL OF BUSINESS EXPOSURE VISIT

48 students from Schulich School of Business visited PDTC on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 2017 to familiarize themselves with the ABCD Model and social enterprise model of Bala Vikasa. They visited the sujal project of Bala Vikasa and learnt the intricacies of its functioning as a social enterprise model catering to the needs of thirsty urban commuters.



*"I am proud to be here because I developed my attitude and skills. I have changed my mindset and now my goal is to change my society and to turn people into change makers."* **Nahla Hussien Madny, Sudan, CDD January, 2018**

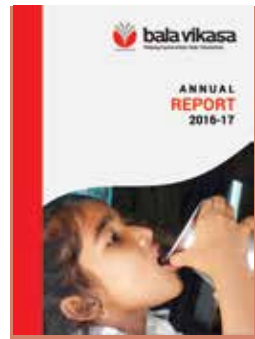
## DISSEMINATING KNOWLEDGE THROUGH DOCUMENTATION

The multimedia unit of PDTC documents Bala Vikasa's development experiences and best practices and shares them with like-minded NGOs, civil, government and non-governmental organizations in and outside of India.



### Social Responsibility Series 4

The series includes the latest title – 'SMEs and Social Business Responsibility: The New Era of Business'. This publication enlists the opportunities and challenges associated that are associated with the BSR (Business Social Responsibility) approach in small and medium enterprises. It gives an understanding of how small business have turned around after integrating business social responsibility as part of their organizational DNA through some business cases from the Indian and European SME sector.



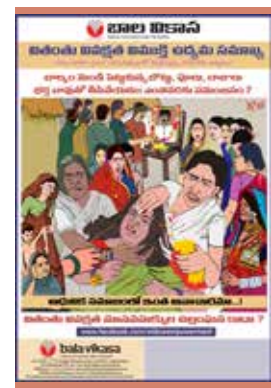
### Bala Vikasa Annual Report

2016-17 report describes all the program activities and results during the reporting year. The hard and soft copy of this report is distributed among the NGOs, trainees, funding agencies and other stakeholders.



### Tharangini Newsletters

This quarterly newsletter published in the months of May, September and January shares the updates of all Bala Vikasa's community driven development programs. The e-copy of Tharangini is being circulated to all the NGO's. The printed copy of Tharangini in english and local language is distributed among all the stakeholders, partners and donors.



### Bala Vikasa Posters

Bala Vikasa launched posters raising awareness among the general public on the issue of discrimination against widows in rural areas. The posters were printed and distributed in several villages, where they were put up on walls to help communities combat this social evil.

### Bala Vikasa Promotional Videos and Brochures

PDTC has been involved in promotional videos on a range of subjects - community driven development training programs, sujal water kiosks, organic farming. They have been found to be the ideal promotional and educational tools when it comes to reaching out to various stakeholders.

# REDEFINING ENTREPRENEURSHIP, CREATING NEW ECOSYSTEMS



In order to engage India's best and brightest business minds, promote sustainable business practices, advocate responsible entrepreneurship and create social entrepreneurs, Bala Vikasa set up the much touted **BALA VIKASA INTERNATIONAL CENTER** or **BVIC**, as it is popularly called

**BVIC's mission is to promote the idea of 'Responsible Entrepreneurship' across the globe. In doing so BVIC works on two parallel streams: Business Social Responsibility BSR and Social Entrepreneurship or SE.**

BVIC strives to persuade businesses and start-ups to integrate responsible business practices in their efforts towards making profits. It encourages businesses to aim for an inclusive growth that delivers social and economic benefits to all the stakeholders while conserving the environment for the coming generations.

BVIC advocates a greater support for social entrepreneurs by all. SOCENT Fellowship, the in-house incubation program for social entrepreneurs is a one-of-its-kind initiative that offers support in the areas of mentoring, global exposure, industry networks, investor access and seed funding.

## PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

### SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**14**

Start ups incubated

**19**

Seminars and Workshops

**11**

Colleges and Institutions reached

**3300**

Professionals & Students inspired

### BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITY

**20**

Panels & Judging sessions

**20**

Partnerships & Collaborations

## PROGRAM IMPACT

BVIC has so far interacted with hundreds of young minds on how to channelize their thoughts and innovate in creating sustainable business solutions for social problems.

14 social enterprises, with high potential to create a big socio-economic impact have been incubated.

Through collaborations, BVIC has also reached out to several corporates, many industry professionals and experts in initiating discussions and deliberating on the theme of responsible business and seeding the culture.

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## Other initiatives at BVIC

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To strengthen and augment the larger agenda of socio-economic development through responsible entrepreneurship, BVIC offers capacity building, advisory and consultancy services to corporates and businesses to strategize, implement and measure impact of their CSR activities.



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## NEW BALA VIKASA INTERNATIONAL CENTER FACILITY UNDERWAY

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The new Bala Vikasa International Centre Campus at Ghatkesar, Hyderabad, will be a space dedicated to creating a new ecosystem for Innovation, Incubation and Business Responsibility

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The campus comprises of training halls, conference halls, meeting rooms, library, media production centre and co-working space and residential facility. The facility boasts of close to 1,20,000 sq. ft of which 20,000 sq. ft. as been earmarked for incubation facility, which includes training rooms, co-working space, library and other common facilities. Through this facility, BVIC is determined to bring together three crucial stakeholders - NGOs, corporates and innovators, in imagining and implementing a new sustainable development model through continuous engagement and partnerships.

## RE-IMAGINING BUSINESSES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Social Entrepreneurship, while offering a re-imagination of business, development and sustainability, has succeeded in creating a new socio-economic development model that benefits the society by and large. BVIC therefore promotes social entrepreneurship and has started a SOCENT Fellowship Program, BVIC's flagship incubation program.

**SOCENT Fellowship, deriving from the words Social Entrepreneur, is a unique incubation program that provides aspiring social entrepreneurs both financial and non-financial assistance in the form of coaching, mentoring, networking and business development over a period of one year.**

Four start-ups graduated this year after receiving intense mentoring, business fundamentals, tools and techniques in running a successful enterprise and ten more have joined the program for current fiscal year.



SOCENT Fellows' stalls at 'Responsible Entrepreneurship' seminar

### The second cohort of SOCENT fellows with 10 startups was inducted for incubation this year

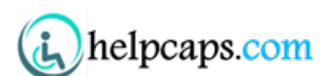


Sixteen shortlisted start-ups pitched their ideas for the second cohort of SOCENT Fellowship in front of a panel of reputed personalities from government, national awardees, renowned academicians, impact investors and from central government institutes.

The final 10 startups were inducted at the Warangal campus the following day. From diverse areas like agriculture, environment, education, gender sensitivity and safety, they are set to receive intensive capacity

building, crucial technical know-how, continuous mentoring and introduction to several industry networks in order to build their businesses and grow their influence.

## INCUBATES OF THE SECOND COHORT OF THE SOCENT FELLOWSHIP



## WITH NEWFOUND CONFIDENCE, SUBJECT EXPERTISE AND INDUSTRY CONNECTIONS SOCENT FELLOWS ARE READY TO SCALE NEW HEIGHTS



**Abdul Mujeeb**  
Founder, Allika

*"Allika received support ranging from networking, marketing opportunities to business and financial aspects of running a startup. We were offered monthly mentoring & coaching sessions, workshops & training programs combined with regular review of our progress to ensure our continuous growth. We are blessed to have been supported by BVIC through SOCENT fellowship program. I look forward to continue this association and working together in future."*

**Company description:** A social enterprise that converts an environmentally hazardous water hyacinth (weed) into beautiful handicraft products and simultaneously creates employment/livelihood opportunities for women and empowers them.



**Vandhya Lakkaraju  
Rekha Mutyala**  
Founders, ISHMA

*"The support offered by BVIC through incubation program in every step of our growth was very crucial. Their continuous mentorship really eased us into the big world of business and gave us the confidence. We are glad to have the opportunity to collaborate with BVIC and it has been proved to be very fruitful for us. They supported us in start-up incorporation, financial aspects, business fundamentals, enhancing our social impact, product testing, along with continuous mentoring. It was an overwhelming experience. BVIC team is very open and is more like a family than an incubator. BVIC is the best place for social entrepreneurs to get incubated."*

**Company description:** Ishma Accessories creates jewelry from traditional handicrafts and art forms with the support of rural artisans and works in improving their livelihoods. In the process, their aim is preserve India's heritage and culture by reviving these art forms that are on the verge of dying.



**Monisha Vemavarapu  
Neha Swain**  
Founders, Rubaroo

*"The Incubation Program has helped us channelize our milestones and understand the progress that we are actually making. BVIC not only helped us with its vast network of rural connect in optimizing our efforts and time, but also empowered and made us realize our potential as entrepreneurs. The program challenged our capabilities and fastened our growth process, which would not have been possible otherwise. The fellowship selects sustainable and value driven start-ups and helps them in their growth journey."*

**Company description:** Rubaroo's purpose is to build social leadership skills within young people to construct a just, equitable and inclusive society. It endeavors to initiate a journey of self- discovery and unleashes an individual's hidden potential, in order to make them responsible and sensible citizens.



**Udita Chadha  
Gauri Mahendra**  
Founders, UMEED

*"We thank BVIC for supporting Umeed through this incubation program. We are grateful to all the mentors for their focused approach in helping Umeed develop its strategy and business operations. We have immensely benefitted especially from their emphasis on the importance of financial management."*

**Company description:** Umeed works for empowerment of women from low-income communities. Umeed adopts holistic approach by building their skills in making beautiful & eco-friendly newspaper handicrafts and also focusing on values & mindsets and exposure to achieve their goals.

**SOCENT Fellowship provided much needed motivation and handholding for the incubates to think big and scale up their ventures efficiently**

## BVIC collaborates with CII to promote Entrepreneurship among Rural Women

CII and BVIC organized 'Prerana', a conference on promoting entrepreneurship among rural women' on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018, attended by over 130 rural women entrepreneurs. The event brought together the prominent personalities like Mr. V Rajanna (Chairman-CII TS), Ms. Vanitha Datla (Chair, IWN –South), Ms. Gundu Sudharani (Former MP), Mr. SN Venky (CII – TS CSR Panel), Mr. Rajeev Nag (Director-CII TS) and Mr Suresh Agrawal (DGM-SBI). BVIC played a crucial role in enriching the knowledge of these women in entrepreneurship elements. One of the sessions was conducted by Mr. Vijay Kumar, Lead-BVIC.



## BVIC organizes a session on Business Planning and Financial Modelling in Social Entrepreneurship at T-Hub

BVIC in partnership with villgro organized a knowledge sharing session for social entrepreneurs at T-Hub on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017, as part of the unconvention program. Mr. Rahul Bhardwaj, Head-BVIC, conducted the session on 'Business Planning and Financial Modelling in Social Entrepreneurship' for the packed audience and enthusiastic social entrepreneurs from diverse sectors. They were also given a glimpse of BVIC's drive to establish a strong social entrepreneurship eco-system in Hyderabad and Telangana State, various activities undertaken by BVIC, in particular, the Incubation Program and information on the upcoming vast campus at Ghatkesar.



## Workshops on Social Entrepreneurship for Women organized at Warangal, Siddipet and Karimnagar

Three workshops on social entrepreneurship for women (SEW), sponsored by the US consulate Hyderabad, were organized in association with KIIT - Bhubaneswar, at Warangal, Siddipet and Karimnagar cities. BVIC helped a dozen student teams at each workshop to identify social problems and come up with entrepreneurship solutions. More than 200 participants were present in total. Mr Vijay Kumar, Lead-BVIC conducted the two day workshops in both Telugu and English.

## BVIC facilitates exposure and experiential learning for 'LEAD – Prayana'

Kakatiya Sandbox and Deshpande Foundation, Nizamabad, approached Bala Vikasa to provide exposure and experiential learning for their current year cohort with 40 participants from Telangana and Karnataka, as part of their annual summer learning and experience program 'LEAD – Prayana'. A one-day workshop on Social Entrepreneurship was conducted for students at PDTC Warangal on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2017. BVIC team offered them insights of social entrepreneurship and presented case studies on how to create impactful social start-ups.

## BVIC offers training in Social Entrepreneurship, CSR, Climate Change, and Sustainability to International CDD participants

BVIC oversaw three training sessions for international CDD participants in the months of August, September and October, in 2017. Mr. Vijay Kumar, Lead-BVIC, conducted one-day sessions on Social Entrepreneurship, corporate social responsibility, climate change and sustainability for international participants at PDTC. Participants were familiarized with different aspects of social entrepreneurship, existing funding sources and emerging business models and underwent rigorous group exercises to come up with innovative ideas, creative solutions and strategies for various subject themes.

## Seminar on 'Responsible Entrepreneurship' to inculcate responsible culture among businesses

BVIC unveiled SRS 4 publication through a seminar on 'SMEs & Business Social Responsibility: The new era for business sustainability', in the presence of chief guest Mr. Andrew Fleming, British Deputy High Commissioner, along with special guests Mr. Akash Suri - US Consulate, Mr. Vikram Jain – Canada Consulate, Mr. K Sudhir Reddy – President of TIF and Ms Kavitha Rajesh - ALEAP on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017 at Hotel Marigold, Hyderabad. The half-day seminar was attended by 125 participants including industrial associations, SMEs, start-ups and professionals from the sector. The seminar deliberated on diverse forms of responsible entrepreneurship and enlightened the participants with the concepts, programs and opportunities to engage in responsible business practices. In addition, the first cohort of BVIC incubates were introduced and their start-up stories were presented to inspire the participants in the event.

## BVIC MODERATES AND CHAIRS SEVERAL PANEL DISCUSSIONS ON BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITY AND SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. Rahul Bhardwaj, Head BVIC, was invited as a panelist, at the prestigious 'International Conference on Innovation, Incubation & Industrialization' at Vizag (AP) by the Association of Lady Entrepreneurs of India (ALEAP), to deliberate on the subject of 'The New Era of Business - SMEs, business social responsibility social entrepreneurship'. Mr. Rahul led the deliberations on the subject and came up with practical conclusions among the panelists. The event saw the participation of over 1000 people and graced by the Honorable Vice president of India and Chief Minister of the state.



Mr. Ramana Gupta, Board Member of Bala Vikasa, moderated the panel session on 'Integrated Rural Development through Collaboration' at the Deccan CSR Summit 2018. The summit brought together government bodies, companies, NGOs, social enterprises and advisory firms. Mr. Ramana moderated the discussions of panel with eminent panelists from Reliance Foundation, Infosys, United Breweries and Bharati Cement along with four Members of Parliament (MPs), in exploring the possibilities of development through CSR.

BITS Pilani Hyderabad campus conducted their annual entrepreneurial summit 'Launchpad-2018'. Mr. Vijay Kumar, Lead-BVIC was invited as panel judge for social entrepreneurship competition 'Launch Pad: Beyond Profits'. Mr. Vijay Kumar screened the start-ups along with other panel judges from N-Core & Deshpande foundation, evaluated and felicitated the social start-ups. Three winners were selected among the total of 15 start-ups that have presented. As an incubation partner, BVIC offered three months of incubation support to the competition winners and spoke about the incubation program, upcoming facility and their contribution to the social start-up ecosystem in Hyderabad.

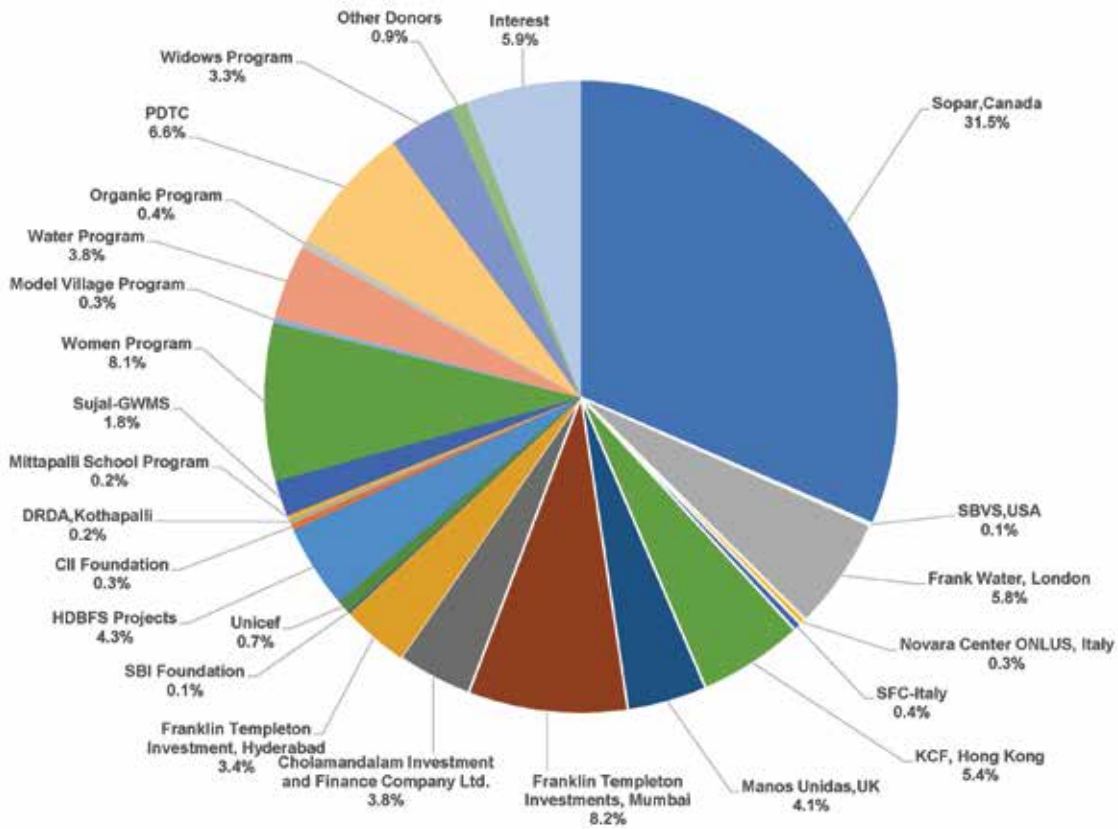


BVIC was one of the corporate partners to the Prime Minister's India-Israel Innovation Bridge Program in collaboration with Start-up India. As the guest speaker on water challenge for innovative and affordable solutions, Mr. Rahul Bhardwaj, Head of BVIC, introduced Bala Vikasa's sujal and ATW projects as successful undertakings delivering potable drinking water at the point of use in both rural and urban areas, an idea which could be replicated by Indian and Israeli start-ups. He was also on the panel of CNBC town hall along with Mr. Ramesh Abhishek (Secretary, DIPP), representatives from Israel Innovation Authority (IIA), and renowned sector experts.

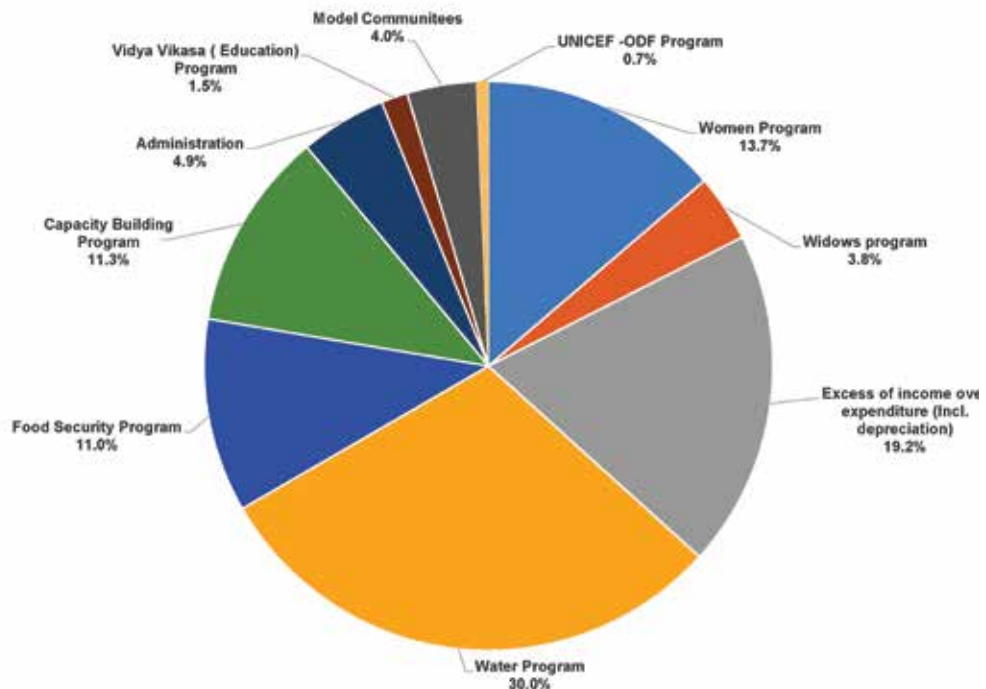
BVIC was the one of the incubation partners for Ipreneur 2017, the flagship event of Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai, considered India's biggest social entrepreneurial summit. BVIC team presented the incubation program model, facilities and chaired the selection panel for start-ups.

# Summary of Financial Statement 2017-18

Income Rs. 122,799,959



Expenditure Rs. 122,799,959



# BALA VIKASA 10 RULES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Bala Vikasa has formulated the following 10 rules for Sustainable Development from its two decades of field experience. These rules form the core of its development policies and have become the guiding principles of its development approach. The ten rules are pointers to an Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) approach. They are embedded in Bala Vikasa's motto **"Helping Communities Help Themselves"**.

<b>Rule 1</b> <b>Development is people</b>	Bala Vikasa is people centric and its philosophy is that people are the corner stones and the main assets for development. Bala Vikasa believes that development should be for the people, of the people and by the people.
<b>Rule 2</b> <b>Development is women</b>	Women are the heart of development. Bala Vikasa believes that if development has to be tangible, women must be given their rightful place in the community and in the society in which they play significant roles and are major assets.
<b>Rule 3</b> <b>Development is change of attitude</b>	Development starts in the mind. Self-esteem and self-confidence in people's own abilities are pre-requisites for self development. If people want to change their lives, they have to first reject their "mendicant mentality" and build on their own assets.
<b>Rule 4</b> <b>Development is solidarity within the groups and the communities</b>	Unity is strength! In the search for well being, people should support one another in the group. They must evolve and bloom in their group and the community.
<b>Rule 5</b> <b>Development is iterative</b>	The road to development is long and arduous. People's development must progress step by step. At each step, the question to be asked is: "Are we in pursuance of the goal?" Listening to the voices of the people and taking corrective actions is BV's unique iterative development approach.
<b>Rule 6</b> <b>Development is participatory</b>	People must participate at all stages of their development: they have to identify their assets and their needs. They themselves have to find the solutions to their problems. They must take ownership of each phase of the development process starting from the conceptual stage, as Bala Vikasa's strategies are 'bottom-up'.
<b>Rule 7</b> <b>Development is intra-cultural</b>	Agents of change and organizations must be fully cognizant of the culture and sub-cultures of the people they work with. People's culture has to be understood as an important dimension and integrated into all facets of a community's development.
<b>Rule 8</b> <b>Development is long term</b>	Change of attitude towards self help takes time. The real impact of development can be gauged only after years of community activities. Bala Vikasa aims at long-term results.
<b>Rule 9</b> <b>Development is not free</b>	People have to feel that the project is their own and be motivated to contribute in kind and in money to their own development. People's contribution warrants ownership, an essential condition for sustainable development.
<b>Rule 10</b> <b>Development builds on results and credibility</b>	Agents of change involved in community development must produce tangible results for trust to be built and be accepted by the people. Credibility of an NGO, is based on consistency between the rules and mission, professionalism and performance, and transparency and commitment at all levels.



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