



**ANNUAL REPORT  
2022-23**



**bala vikasa**<sup>®</sup>  
Helping Communities Help Themselves

## OUR DONORS AND PARTNERS SO FAR



### BALA VIKASA SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY

**Registration No** : 569/1991  
**Income Tax 12 A Provision** : HQRS-11512A | 80G/41/92-93  
**Income Tax 80 G Provision** : DIT(E)/HYD/80G/81(09)/10-12  
**FCRA No** : 010360036

**Program States**  
 Telangana | Andhra Pradesh  
 Maharashtra | Karnataka | Odisha  
 Chhattisgarh | Tamil Nadu

# CONTENTS

<b>OUR VISION, MISSION, VALUES</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>OUR APPROACH</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>OUR WORK - PROGRAMS, COVERAGE, REACH, ACHIEVEMENTS</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>OUR JOURNEY</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>FOUNDERS' MESSAGE</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>PROGRAM REPORTS</b>	<b>11</b>
Sustainable Agriculture	11
Water Conservation	13
Safe Water	17
Annual Conventions	20
Women Empowerment	21
Menstrual Health	25
Quality Education	29
Others	32
Social Entrepreneurship	33
NGO Capacity Building	37
<b>FINANCIAL STATEMENT</b>	<b>41</b>

## OUR VISION

We long for a just and peaceful society in which each individual and each community is empowered and self-reliant; where human dignity, equal rights and equal opportunities are enjoyed by all

## OUR MISSION

Design and deliver innovating and integrated community development solutions by enhancing capabilities of local communities especially of women and youth

Build the capabilities of local and global community development ecosystem stakeholders in sustainable and equitable human development

Provide technical support and training to enable businesses transform themselves into more Responsible Businesses

## OUR VALUES

Integrity, Mutual Respect, Commitment, Professionalism

## OUR 10 DEVELOPMENT RULES

<p><b>Development is People</b> Programs and infrastructure are not the goals of development. People should be the center of the activities that benefit them.</p>	<p><b>Development is Women First</b> Women should be treated as essential actors in the development process of their community and society.</p>
<p><b>Development is Change of Attitude</b> Self-esteem and confidence are prerequisites for self-help. People should reject dependency on others for their development.</p>	<p><b>Development is Solidarity</b> Unity is strength, and groups provide people with greater confidence, encouraging them to invest back into their communities.</p>
<p><b>Development is Iterative</b> Work is arduous and should be broken down into attainable steps. At each step, consistent reflection keeps people on track to achieve goals.</p>	<p><b>Development is Participatory</b> People must participate, be committed and take ownership in all stages of development - from needs assessment to finding solutions.</p>
<p><b>Development is Intra-Cultural</b> Organizations must understand and be immersed in the culture of communities they work with, integrating it into all facets of interventions.</p>	<p><b>Development is Long Term</b> A significant, lasting development impact can be only obtained over time. Authentic change of attitude takes time.</p>
<p><b>Development is not Free</b> Beneficiaries must contribute to their own development in order to feel ownership of their ability to contribute to their own well-being.</p>	<p><b>Development Builds on Results and Credibility</b> Development agents have to achieve results and walk the talk to be trusted and accepted by the community.</p>

## OUR 360° APPROACH TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



The unique 360° Community Driven Development approach of Bala Vikasa places communities at the heart of all development activities. We help them build upon their assets, enhance their capacities, and ensure their active participation in all stages of development.

Hundreds of thousands of non-literate rural folk, especially women, have transformed themselves into **effective agents of change** and emerged as **strong community leaders** as a result of **relentless capacity building**.



COMPULSORY  
COMMUNITY  
PARTICIPATION



DYNAMIC  
COMMUNITY  
LEADERSHIP



INTEGRATED  
HOLISTIC  
DEVELOPMENT



INTENSIVE  
CAPACITY  
BUILDING

## BUILDING COMMUNITIES BEFORE BUILDING PROJECTS

### Changing Mindsets (Head)

using Neuro-Linguistic Programming, Appreciative Inquiry, Participatory Rural Appraisal tools, helping people overcome fears, become confident, take more responsibility, participate, appraise their assets and map their strengths

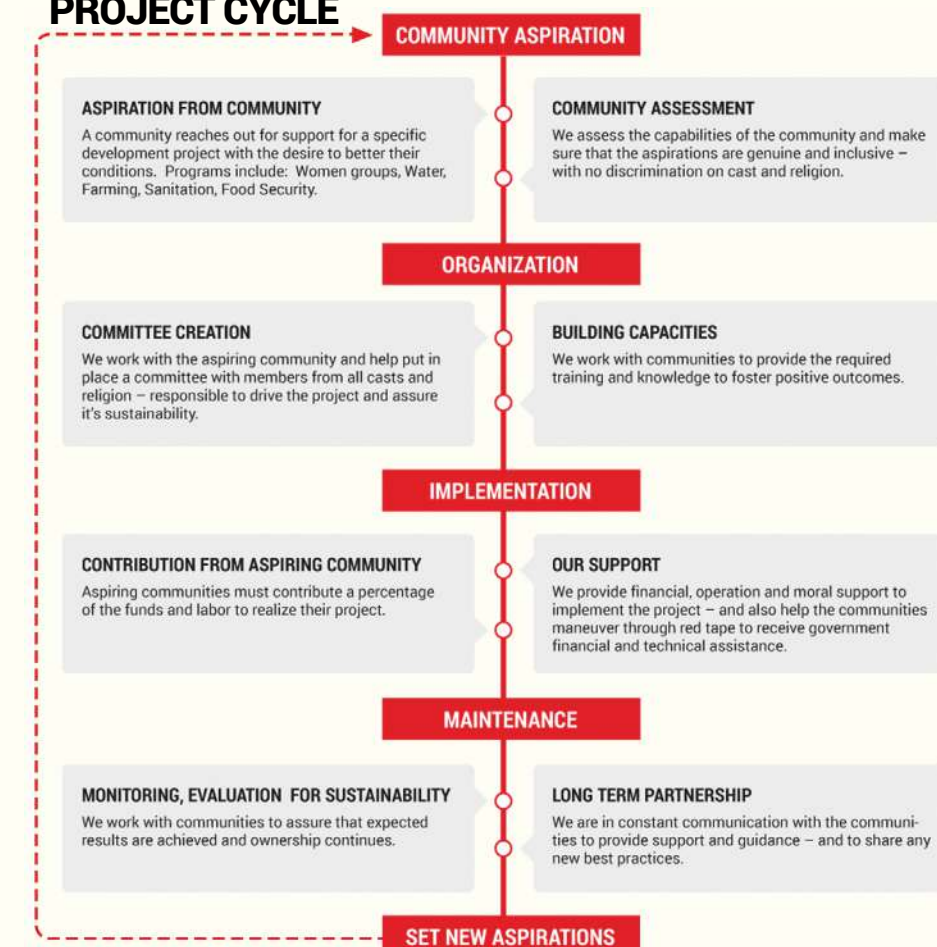
### Instilling Values (Heart)

of empathy, compassion, solidarity, cooperation, unity, belief, respect and hope to overcome barriers of religion, gender, caste, class and creed while participating in development taking greater responsibility and ownership

### Building Capacities (Hand)

for efficient program implementation, effective results, sustainable impact and tangible community development while allowing personal development, professional growth and fulfilment of dreams and aspirations

## PROJECT CYCLE



# OUR WORK

**Bala Vikasa** is a leading non-profit headquartered in Warangal, Telangana, carrying forward a 32s-year legacy of championing Community-Driven Sustainable Development through pioneering multi-sectoral interventions aimed at freeing India's marginalized communities of inequity. In addition, capacity-building programs around time-tested and proven best practices in sustainable development are delivered regularly to global and local nonprofits, academia, and CSR practitioners to strengthen development practice. Strategic alliances between the for-profit and non-profit worlds are being forged to leverage the resources of businesses, and the grass-roots experience of community development organizations to achieve the highest social impact, especially

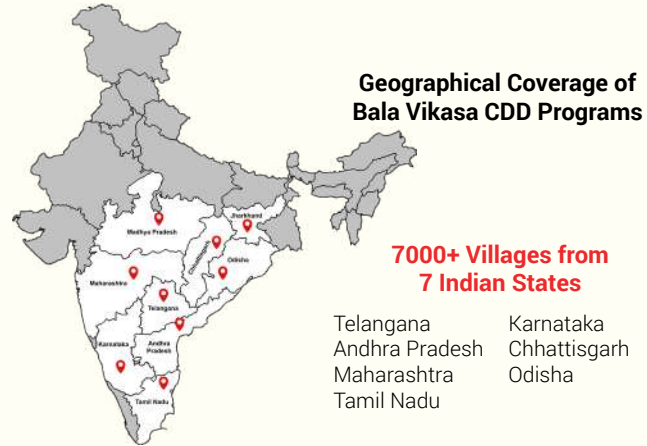
We design and implements innovative, results-driven and sustainable **Community-Driven Development (CDD) Programs** to empower rural poor communities, while ensuring women are at the forefront as key agents of social change. In line with our guiding principle "**Building Communities Before Building Projects**", multi-tiered capacity building activities are undertaken to equip the community with the knowledge needed to participate effectively and contribute significantly while discharging their roles and responsibilities. Effective community mobilization and motivation, elected-committee formation and mandatory beneficiary contribution, all drivers and signifiers of high community participation, have led to the success and sustainability of our programs across sectors.

**cddp** | Community Driven Development Programs  
Transforming Communities 1977

Implementing Sustainable Development Programs



**10 Million Rural Poor Impacted through 10+ high-impact Sustainable Development Programs**



## Sustainable Agriculture



- 815+** Tanks Desilted
- 1,45,000+** Acres Applied with Silt
- 65,000+** Farmers Benefited
- 1,400+** Organic Farmers Enrolled
- 1,725+** Acres under Organic Farming
- 2412+** Farm Ponds

## Women Empowerment



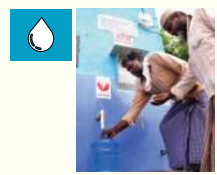
- 237000+** Rural Poor Women Empowered
- 23700+** Self Help Groups Formed
- 2,10,000+** Micro-Entrepreneurs Supported
- 23,000+** Adult Literacy Beneficiaries
- 16,000+** Widows Empowered
- 57** Widows Remarried
- 700+** Awareness Programs

## Health And Sanitation



- 22000+** Family Toilets Constructed
- 1000+** Health Camps Organised
- 9190+** Students Educated on MHM & SRH
- 3,000+** Health & Hygiene Kits Distributed
- 210+** Oxygen Concentrators Distributed
- 160+** Ventilators and BiPAPs Distributed

## Water Access



- 1,500+** Water Purification Plants Established
- 25+** Sujal Any Time Water Kiosks Set Up
- 150+** Tribal Communities Supported
- 6,700+** Borewells with Handpumps Installed
- 30,00,000+** Rural Poor Beneficiaries

## Quality Education



- 560+** Schools Facilities Improved
- 1,70,000+** Students Benefited
- 150+** Mini-Libraries Equipped
- 60+** Digital Classrooms Setup
- 1,500+** Smartphones And Tabs Distributed
- 1,600+** Orphans Supported

## Model Communities



- 130+** Model Villages Built
- 6,00,000+** Saplings Planted
- 55+** Community Steel Banks Established
- 8+** Community Dairy Hostels Constructed
- 10+** Village Level Bus Stops Constructed
- 32000+** Soak Pits Constructed

We share our knowledge, experience and best practices in sustainable development to development professionals from multilateral organizations, governments, INGOs, NGOs, CBOs, CSOs, Universities and Research Institutes in the form of structured training modules at our **People Development Training Center (PDTC)**. Standing by our maxim '**Teaching What We Do and Showing What We Teach**', we provide the participants rich experiential learning by curating field visits where they can see in live action what is taught in our classrooms.

**pdtc** | People Development Training Center  
Investing in People 2002

Training Global Development Professionals



**15,600+ Development Professionals representing 3000+ NGOs, 65+ International Univesities and 120+ Government Departments trained and inspired**



**85+ Countries from 6 Continents**

## Capacity Building



- 360+** Training Programs
- 14,000+** National Participants
- 2,000+** International Participants
- 4,000+** NGOs Represented
- 84** Countries Represented

## Training Areas

Sustainable Development Approaches, Tools and Methodologies  
Contemporary Development Issues and Trends  
Strategic Planning and Program Management  
Proposal Development and Report Writing  
Development Communications

We nurture social entrepreneurship, incubate social startups, drive sustainability agendas, promote responsible business practices and support strategic CSR at our **Center for Social and Responsible Business (CSRb)**. We leverage our broad-ranging expertise in driving high-impact Community-Driven Sustainable Development and rich experience in delivering multi-stakeholder capacity building programs to motivate and transform businesses

**csrb** | Center for Social and Responsible Business  
For businesses that care 2014

Promoting Social Entrepreneurship and Responsible Business



## Service Offerings

**Social Entrepreneurship**  
Social Startup Incubation  
Social Enterprise Development  
Research and Knowledge Products  
Executive Post Graduate Diploma

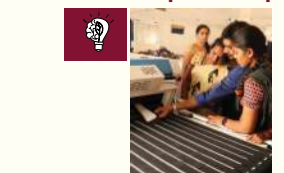
## Responsible Business

CSR Program Design and Compliance  
CSR Capacity Building  
CSR Implementation and Management  
CSR Impact Assessment  
Research and Knowledge Products  
Executive Post Graduate Diploma



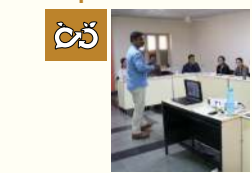
**35+ Social Startups Incubated**  
**250 Rural Women Entrepreneurs Mentored**  
**7000+ Professionals and Students Trained**

## Social Entrepreneurship



- 35+** Startups Incubated
- 250+** Rural Women Entrepreneurs Trained
- 80+** Seminars and Workshops
- 7,000+** Professionals and Students Inspired
- 35+** Partnerships & Collaborations

## Responsible Business



- 125** CSR Professionals Trained
- 60+** Seminars and Workshops Conducted
- 7,000+** Professionals and Students Inspired
- 30+** Partnerships & Collaborations
- 5+** CSR Consultancy Projects Undertaken

# OUR JOURNEY

1977



Bala Theresa Singareddy Gingras and André Gingras, along with friends, start 'SOPAR' (Societe de Partage) in Gatineau, Quebec, Canada to help the poor in India

1979



SOPAR registers itself as a secular, non profit NGO and launches development programs in Education, Water and Shelter through Indian partner societies

1991



The founders start Bala Vikasa as a sister NGO in India to implement SOPAR community development programs

1994



Bala Vikasa launches the Women Integrated Development Program(WID) with a mandate to empower rural poor women economically, socially, intellectually, ethically and politically

1997



Bala Vikasa starts 'Raithu Vikasa Sangam', a Society to serve the farming communities in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh

2000



Bala Vikasa initiates Watershed program and takes up Tank De-siltation programs on a massive scale involving active participation of farmers

2002



Bala Vikasa establishes the 'People Development Training Center' (PDTC), to inspire and train global development practitioners to be effective Agents of Change

2004



Bala Vikasa begins to setup highly sustainable and innovative Community Water Purification Plants providing R.O. purified water to rural communities at a nominal price

2005



Bala Vikasa sets up 'Bala Vikasa Trust' to prompt its Education program for Orphans, Semi Orphans and Poor Children

2006



Bala Vikasa initiates Vidya Vikasa Program to improve the quality of rural government schools through active community participation and school development committees

2010



Bala Vikasa launches its Organic Farming program to promote sustainable agriculture and help farmers to increase their profits by reducing the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides

2012



501(C) (3)

SOPAR Bala Vikasa - USA is registered as a public charity organisation under section 501 (C) (3)

2014



Bala Vikasa lays foundation stone for Bala Vikasa International Center (BVIC) to be built on a 20 acre campus in Hyderabad

BVIC operates from a rented office in Hyderabad

2015



BVIC Launches its flagship SOCENT Fellowship program to provide incubation support to social startups in the form of capacity building, mentoring, networking and seed funding

2015



Bala Vikasa begins to partner with Businesses and Corporations in implementing sustainable CDD projects through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

2016



Bala Vikasa Launches its Sujal ATW project to provide R.O. purified and chilled water to the commuters in cities through innovative water vending kiosks

2017



Bala Vikasa initiates a social movement for Widow Emancipation and organizes the largest gathering of widows with over 10,000 widows participating on the International Widows Day entering the 'Limca Book of Records'

2018



Bala Vikasa founders receive the Meritorious Service Cross (MSC) Award, the second highest civilian award in Canada, in recognition of their work in uplifting rural poor communities in India for 40+ years

2018



Bala Vikasa takes up Urban Water Bodies Restoration works in Chennai to mitigate risks of flood and drought

2020



Bala Vikasa inaugurates its 'Bala Vikasa International Center' (BVIC), a state-of-the-art facility in Ghatkesar. The new campus will be an epicenter of activities promoting Social Entrepreneurship and Responsible Business

2020



Bala Vikasa inaugurates the innovative Community Dairy Hostels project in partnership with the State Government of Telangana and 8 other CSR Partners

2020



Bala Vikasa initiates COVID Relief and Assistance activities to help rural poor communities, hospitals, frontline workers, schools, students put up a strong fight against the three waves that hit India

2020



Bala Vikasa launches Community Steel Banks to arrest the usage of plastic and promote clean and hygienic communities

2022



Bala Vikasa International Center is renamed as 'Center for Social and Responsible Business' (CSRb) to reflect its mission and mandate

# FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

The past twelve months for SOPAR-Bala Vikasa were a roller coaster ride. While we had to slow down our activities to focus more on immediate humanitarian support for impoverished Indian populations, victims of a deadly pandemic, primarily in rural areas, we observed that vaccination and herd immunity now seemed to control COVID and allowed the resumption of our development work.



In the last months of 2022, our grassroots community development programs were coming back to life. Our "People Development Training Center (PDTC)" in Warangal and our "Center for Social Responsibility Business (CSR)" in Hyderabad were starting to reactivate. The implementation of the 2021-2025 strategic plan, a collaboration of all members of the Organization that had been somewhat neglected due to COVID, became a priority again.

In this positive context, at the beginning of 2023, Bala Vikasa in India received a visit from a 13-person Canadian delegation masterfully organized by SOPAR. This delegation included us, the founders. Thus, we were able to appreciate the vitality of our work in India and the results of our actions through meetings in model rural communities, with our orphans, our widows, these hundreds of women who are now development agents in their communities, etc.

In addition to the field visits organized for the Canadian delegation, Bala Vikasa also had four important events on the program to reconnect with its beneficiaries:

- **Friday, January 20:** The celebration of the 20th anniversary of the PDTC. A festive day gathering several hundreds of participants. A lot of joy! Many kind words - including from Government representatives and Ministers - emphasizing the national and international results obtained by the PDTC over the last two decades.
- **Monday, January 23,** at the CSR on the Hyderabad campus, a mega convention gathering some 6000 participants involved in the work of Bala Vikasa on the theme "People's development is Community Development". Eminent figures from state governments also joined this gathering. According to the media covering the event: A resounding success!
- **Sunday, January 29,** at the CSR, a convention with approximately 1000 youth mobilized by Bala Vikasa took place on the theme of "Social Entrepreneurship". A contagious dynamism and a remarkable thirst for learning!
- Finally, on **February 4 and 5,** IMPULSE 2023, an annual conference organized at CSR by our team, focused on Social Entrepreneurship and the responsibility of the business world in community development. Dozens of "startups" and hundreds of participants gathered to plan the future. A success!

In this momentum and with this wind in our sails, on the morning of February 6, a few hours before our return to Canadian soil, we, the founders, met with all the staff of Bala Vikasa in plenary. From the bottom of our hearts, we congratulated them for a job well done so far with dedication and professionalism under difficult conditions. We challenged them to better structure themselves to implement the strategic plan developed in 2021 that was delayed by the pandemic, and transform Bala Vikasa version 1.0 into an organization version 2.0. Also, to establish constructive and nourishing collaboration mechanisms promoting a vibrant partnership between SOPAR in Canada and Bala Vikasa in India, without relying on the sustained support of the founders who are now ready to pass the baton. A heart filled with optimism and positive thoughts inhabited us as we embarked on our return flight to Canada on February 7, 2023.

**Andre Gingras and Bala T Singareddy Gingras**

Founders, Bala Vikasa

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I am deeply gratified to witness the remarkable progress that Bala Vikasa has consistently achieved year after year. As a trailblazing community development organization, Bala Vikasa remains unwavering in its pursuit of generating significant social impact.

We do so by collaborating with a diverse spectrum of stakeholders that encompass not only community members but also numerous NGOs, responsible businesses, social startups, community leaders, development professionals, and government representatives in the social development sector. Through a series of innovative and high-impact initiatives across multiple sectors, we continue to forge ahead.

The growing number of CSRs and individual donors choosing to partner with Bala Vikasa stands as a testament to the credibility we have established within the development sector. Our reputation for effective community mobilization and the successful execution of community-driven development programs continues to drive us forward.

Our People Development Training Center, which celebrated 20 years of capacity building for sustainable impact, continues to be recognized by thousands of NGOs, globally, as the premier capacity-building institute for development professionals. Our Center for Social and Responsible Business is emerging as a leading name in promoting social entrepreneurship throughout the country and is gaining ground in CSR capacity building, consulting and advisory, as evidenced by numerous MOUs with highly esteemed institutions and incubators.

Even during the challenging years of the COVID-19 pandemic, Bala Vikasa's growth has continued without interruptions, surpassing annual targets. Our various departments remain steadfast in their commitment to achieving excellence even in the most adverse circumstances. The success we have achieved thus far is a testament to the unwavering dedication of our Executive Body members and the entire staff of our organization. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to every individual within the organization who has contributed to shaping Bala Vikasa into what it stands for today.

I extend my sincere gratitude to our international supporters, CSR partners, and individual donors for their continued and increasing support for Bala Vikasa. I reserve special gratitude for our founders, Mrs. Bala Gingras and Mr. Andre Gingras, whose enduring inspiration has guided and motivated every member of the Bala Vikasa family.

Bala Vikasa has consistently proven its ability to overcome adversity and thrive. As devoted members of the Bala Vikasa family, let us collectively reaffirm our dedication and contributions in various ways to elevate Bala Vikasa to the status of a global model NGO. Through innovation, impactful initiatives, and inspiration, let us continue to transform lives and communities on a global scale.

**Indra Reddy**

President, Bala Vikasa

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



I am delighted to present to you our Annual Report for the financial year 2022-23, a testament to the relentless dedication and unwavering commitment of our community towards sustainable development and social impact.

As we reflect on the past year, it fills me with immense pride to witness the remarkable progress and transformative initiatives undertaken by our organization across our three verticals: Community-Driven Development Programs (CDDP), People Development Training Center (PDTC), and Center for Social and Responsible Business (CSRB).

In the face of unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, our journey over the past two years has been one of resilience, adaptability, and perseverance. Despite the disruptions caused by the pandemic, our operations remained steadfast, albeit affected, as we navigated through uncertainties and charted new pathways towards our collective vision of a better, more sustainable future.

The subsiding of the COVID-19 crisis marked a significant turning point for us, as activities across our programs regained steam. We expanded our reach to new geographies, including Mysuru in Karnataka, Shahapur in Maharashtra, and many villages in Odisha. This expansion not only broadened our footprint but also deepened our impact. Furthermore, the signing of new Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with esteemed partners such as Nomura, Godfrey Phillips, Intel Technologies, Solarpack, NextEnergy, UnitedWay, and Collective Good, underscores our commitment to forging strategic collaborations that amplify our efforts in driving positive change. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to both our longstanding partners and new supporters for their continued patronage and invaluable contributions towards our shared mission.

Amidst our pursuit of strategic objectives, I am pleased to announce that we have not only met but surpassed our financial targets, a testament to the efficiency and effectiveness of our operations. This achievement not only bolsters our organizational sustainability but also empowers us to further scale our humanitarian assistance efforts, as evidenced by our swift response to flood relief initiatives.

Parallely, our People Development Training Center, celebrated two decades of impactful interventions, and continues to serve as a beacon of knowledge and empowerment. Through comprehensive training programs, we equipped civil society organizations and development professionals from around the globe with the tools, techniques, and methodologies necessary to drive sustainable change in their respective communities. In addition, PDTC was also appointed as the Kshamata Kendra of Telangana by the National AIDS Control with the support of Telangana State AIDS Control Society (T\_SACS) and Solidarity and Action Against The HIV Infection in India (SAATHII) for capacity building of the program staff. Our commitment to expanding our interventions and fostering global partnerships remains unwavering as we strive to leave a lasting legacy of positive change.

Our Center for Social and Responsible Business remains at the forefront of incubating social startups, delivering impactful CSR training programs, and offering consultancy and advisory services in CSR project design and implementation. The resounding success of initiatives such as Impulse 2023, PrISE Cohort, Impact Labs in collaboration with Telangana State Innovation Cell (TSIC), and Pre Incubation program tribal women entrepreneurs in collaboration with We-Hub underscores our dedication to nurturing and supporting social entrepreneurs and innovators who are driving meaningful change.

As we continue our journey, I am filled with renewed optimism and determination. Together, let us continue to harness the collective power of our community-driven sustainable programs to create a world where prosperity is shared, opportunities abound, and every individual has the chance to thrive, leaving no one behind.

I am deeply indebted to Bala Vikasa board members, donors, partners, staff, volunteers, media and all our well wishers for their unwavering support and commitment to our shared vision of a more sustainable and equitable future.

**Shoury Reddy Singareddy**  
Executive Director, Bala Vikasa



## OUTCOMES AND IMPACT CREATED THIS YEAR

# PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

- **1500+ Framers** shifted to **practising organic farming** with improved **knowledge in organic farming practices** by **65%**
- Improved **quality of crop produce** and reduced **crop investment** by **25%** using **natural fertilisers**
- Improved **market linkages** to **314 farmers** through organic mart and melas promoting the consumption of organic produce and consequently, improving customers' health
- Increased **income and savings** for farmers by **15%**
- **104 orgaic farmers** received **quality certification** sold their produce at an **additional profit of 15 %** in an open market
- Enhanced **soil fertility** and conserved **natural resources** actively contribute to **environmental conservation**

## THE MISSION

Modern day farming depends heavily on the use of various agrochemicals that enhance crop yield, thereby securing higher profits for the farmers. However, unrestricted use of the same is having a detrimental effect on biodiversity, soil fertility, plant vitality, food quality and by and large, the environment. More importantly, high input costs of chemical farming are causing the small and marginal farmer to get caught up in debt traps and severe financial distress. When faced with crop losses whether by an act of god or due to ineffective inputs, farmers, unable to cope with the financial and mental pressure, are resorting to extreme measures like suicides.

Bala Vikasa's Sustainable Agriculture program is promoting organic farming practices among the farmers in order to bring them out of this vicious cycle of debt and death. Through a number of awareness programs, training and material assistance initiatives, we are helping farmers shift to a more viable mode of farming that greatly benefits the farmer, the consumer, and the environment.

### Farming Inputs and Assistance Encourage Farmers to Adopt Organic Farming

We promoted **sustainable agricultural practices** through awareness programs, encouraging **1575 farmers** to adopt organic farming for **better quality crops** and **improved income with low crop investment**.

With the support of our partner **Manos Unidas**, we conducted **capacity building sessions** on the **best practices** of organic farming focussing on crop diversity and natural fertilisers preparation. **Group leaders** of **88 Farmers' group** were given training on group dynamics and marketing along with regular field visits and **4 training sessions**.

We provided technical assistance and input support (Desi Cows, Grinders, Green Manure, Pulse Flour, Jaggery, Neem Cake Border Crop Seed, Panchagavya, Pheromone Traps, Lures, Sticky Traps and others) to **1575 farmers** for effective practice of organic farming.

We supported **314 farmers** in registering a district-level **Farmers Producers Organisation (FPO)**. Additionally, we **assisted the FPO** in setting up an **Organic Mart** and organizing an **Organic Mela**, with over **180 varieties of organic produce**. These efforts are aimed to **improve market access** for farmers and **promote the consumption of organic produce**.



I am not using any of the chemical fertilisers or stocking sprays and pumps. I am preparing organic manures with the leaves and extracts available locally after attending the training programs. This reduced Rs 5000 in crop investment and also yielded high quality produce. Assistance in receiving organic certification and market access is also helping us gain financial stability.

Raji Reddy  
Mylaram





## OUTCOMES AND IMPACT CREATED THIS YEAR

### CONSERVING WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

- **1011.552 Million Liters** of water potential was created through various activities benefitting **5644 farmers** for agricultural and livelihood purposes
- **Enhanced soil fertility and crop productivity** through application of **69502 tractor loads** of nutrient-rich silt excavated from desilting **20 minor irrigation tanks** in **1,689 acres** of land.
- **Improved groundwater table** through **construction and restoration** of water structures like **farm ponds, check dams,**

- percolation tanks, borwell recharges, urban water bodies** and **roof water harvesting** benefitting communities of **109 villages**
- Improved livelihood opportunities for **144 farmers** through **fish rearing** and **horticulture.**
- Thousands of farmers from **100+ villages** actively participate in water conservation activities including **plantation of 11746 saplings** and contribute to **environmental conservation**

## THE MISSION

India is at the 13th position on a list of countries classified to be in extreme water stress. Its renewable internal freshwater resources per capita have declined by more than 60% over the past 50 years. Agriculture, the largest consumer of freshwater resources, is the worst affected by this upsetting trend. Depleting surface and groundwater resources are resulting in crop failures affecting the livelihoods of farmers and ultimately threatening the nation's food security. Little is being done by the farming community to conserve water for their present needs or for the future generations.

Bala Vikasa's Water Conservation Program is a farmer-led movement to replenish rural freshwater resources through desiltation of minor irrigation tanks, construction of farm ponds, percolation tanks, check dams and recharge of borewells. Value additions such as silt application to fields, promotion of aquaculture and bund plantation are integrated into the programming for better outcomes.

### Construction of Farm Ponds Facilitates Sustained Irrigation

We encouraged **farmers** who **adopted sustainable agricultural practices** to construct **farm ponds** in their farms for **improved access to water for irrigation** purposes. We constructed **707 farm ponds** with the support of our **CSR partners CGF, Philip Morris International, Godfrey Philips International** and **PRI** creating a water potential of **571 Million Lts.** Additionally, **30 dugout ponds** were also constructed to improve **water access** and **recharge the groundwater.**

Farmers were also **encouraged to grow fruits, vegetables, and flowers** around the farm ponds to **strengthen the bunds.** This provides them with **extra income** while contributing to environmental conservation.

**Farm Ponds** have also become a source of **additional income for 144 farmers** who initiated **fish rearing** in the pond. Encouraging the **farmers,** a total of **1,67,800 fingerlings** (fish babies used for rearing) were distributed. The farmers who invested an average of Rs **2500** are now earning about Rs **8500-9000** additionally.



Lakshman  
Raghavapuram



"I am able to store rainwater and the water from my borewell in the farm pond, which is helping me cultivate 1.5 acres more than usual. There are no cracks in the land, and the soil is regaining its fertility while retaining moisture for longer periods. This has enabled me to reduce crop investments by purchasing fewer fertilisers and has also improved the quality of the produce."

"With a farm pond having all these plants around its bund, there is a very pleasant environment at my farm. Many children come and play around here and it is their hangout place especially in summer. I am very happy to be able to contribute to water conservation and environmental conservation. I also earn about Rs 11,000 income, additionally through fish rearing."



Kommurelli  
Raghavapuram





### Check Dams' Restoration Enhances Water Storage Capacities

We deepened and repaired 16 check dams in Shahapur Taluka, Maharashtra and constructed 4 check dams in Vinukonda, Andhra Pradesh and Vikarabad, Telangana in partnership with Philip Morris International (PMI), Godfrey Phillips India Limited (GPI) and Pernord Ricard India (PRI). The check dams create a water potential of 153.8 Million Lts and improved the groundwater table access to farmers for irrigation.

“ Previously, we only cultivated paddy during the Kharif season. However, with the repair of the check dam, we now have better access to water. This improvement enables us to cultivate crops during the Rabi season as well. Additionally, we can now grow vegetables, fruits, and other crop varieties, significantly increasing our income.



Dhana Mangal Bhagat Jhambulwad



### Borewell Recharges Enhance Access to Water for Rural and Tribal Communities

A total of 251 borewell structures were recharged in Shahapur Taluka, Maharashtra, B Bettahalli, CV Koppalu and other villages of Mysuru and Medchal, Sangareddy and Vikarabad districts of Telangana with the support of CGF, Mysuru and Pernord Ricard India. The borewell structures created a water potential of 131 Million Lts improving the enhanced access to water for household consumption for communities.



Narasimha Sangareddy

We suffered greatly from low crop yields due to insufficient water from our 300 ft deep borewell and we don't have open wells. With Bala Vikasa's intervention, all rainwater is being diverted to the groundwater recharge pits constructed around the borewell. We now have twice the amount of water available for irrigation purposes compared to what we used to receive.



### Roof Water Structures Support Sustainable Water Management Practices

We have constructed 4 Roof Water Structures to store 2.52 million lts of rainwater in public spaces like schools and gram panchayats of Maliyur village in Karnataka and Khurda district of Odisha. The rainwater collected is further filtered through a micron filter and is consumed as drinking water by communities. The overflow from the tank is diverted to a borewell to facilitate the recharge of the groundwater table.

### Desiltation Enhances Storage Capacity, Silt Application Helps Productivity

We desilted 20 minor irrigation tanks in collaboration with our CSR partners - CGF, PMI, AOI, PRI and Apraava Energies. A total of 69502 tractor loads of nutrient-rich silt were excavated and was applied in 1,689 acres of land by 500+ farmers which improved the crop productivity, soil fertility and reduced the use of chemical fertilisers. The desiltation of tanks created a water potential of 156.2 Million Lts.



Ramesh Konkapaka



Due to the silt excavation and subsequent rains, the storage capacity of tanks has been increased sufficient enough to provide irrigation for two crops. The groundwater levels have increased, borewells recharged are providing interrupted water supply.

Our fields, with red sandy soil, usually need 2-3 irrigation cycles. Adding silt has greatly enhanced moisture retention. This helped us in eliminating the expense of purchase chemical fertilizers. We are now saving about Rs 60-65,000 per acre.



Singaiah Pulivaripalem



### Restoration of Urban Water Structures Mitigate Flood Risk

An urban water storage tank with an area of 1.78 acres in Sitalapakkam, Chennai was restored with the support of United Way, Chennai to enhance access to water creating a water potential of 1.232 Million Lts and contribute to environment conservation. The restoration works also facilitated the creation of a beautified space with hygienic conditions for the local community for the leisure/walking/jogging activities.



Ravi S Village President



What was once an unhygienic stinking host for mosquitoes and other water borne diseases has now become a community space for relaxing because of the restoration works. It has improved access to water and also made the surroundings habitable for all the people in the neighbourhood. With fencing works it has become a safe space for children to play as well.



### Village-Level Plantation Activities Promote Environmental Conservation

As part of an initiative to create environmental consciousness among communities, we distributed and planted about 11746 saplings as avenue plantation in schools, around farm ponds and in households.





## OUTCOMES AND IMPACT CREATED THIS YEAR PROVIDING ACCESS TO SAFE WATER

- **Affordable access** to R.O purified drinking water to a total of **31,011 families** through **103 Community Water Purification Plants (CWPPs)**. Individual and community savings of over **80%** on water bills and significant reduction in healthcare expenses
- **Improved access** to water for household consumption through **OHTs, GLTs, Borewells, and Household Taps** to **2873 families** including **532 families from tribal communities of Maharashtra**
- Assets **sustainably monitored and managed** by **Community members**
- **Reduced time, energy and effort** spent in fetching water, especially for women.
- **Improved health and productivity** of rural poor communities
- Belief in the power of collective efforts for community transformation strengthened **Increased unity, cooperation**

## THE MISSION

Over 60 million people living in rural India do not have access to clean, affordable drinking water, locally. Poor Community members, especially women, travel several miles just to fetch water losing precious time and energy every single day. Further, many of the drinking water sources in the country are affected by the presence of Iron, Fluoride, Arsenic, Nitrate, and heavy metals in addition to microbial contamination. This poses grave health risks, leads to loss of productivity, increases medical expenditures and reduces revenue for both individuals and communities

Bala Vikasa's Safe Water program works to create access to clean drinking water locally through different types of water infrastructure like Borewells, Handpumps and Overhead Tanks, and helps purify water with high-fluoride content through Community Water Purification Plants (CWPPs).

### Affordable Access To Safe Water Through Community Water Purification Plants

With the support of SOPAR, Chola, we **set up 58 Community Water Purification Plants (CWPPs)** providing **purified drinking water** at an affordable price of **Rs 5 for 20 litres** through rechargeable **Any Time Water (ATW) cards** ensuring **uninterrupted water supply**, and **transparency and efficiency** in water distribution benefitting **17500 rural poor families** from **Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Maharashtra.**

We **revived and operationalised 45 defunct Water Purification Plants** set up by the Government of Karnataka in the District of **Kalaburgi** with the support of **Bharat Financial Inclusion Limited, IndusIndBank** and the **Government of Karnataka** creating **safe water access to 13500 families.** We ensured their **sustainability** by **empowering and equipping** the communities to **monitor and manage** the CWPPS.



This year also saw two Water Purification Plants (WPPs), one in **Gollapally, Karimnagar** and another in **Kinarapally, Adilabad**, being funded by the **Bala Vikasa Safe Water Program** team members.



Srinivas  
Nagireddypet



Drinking fluoride-contaminated water caused severe body and joint pains restricting our ability to work productively in our fields. Because of the high-costs of buying RO water, many continued to drink the same and spoil their health. Since, drinking water from the CWPP, we are observing a clear improvement in our health. This gives us confidence and makes us feel secure.

Earlier, we used to spend a lot of money on purchasing drinking water. In addition to that, we were also spending money on medical expenses for problems arising out of drinking unsafe water. Now we are not spending so much for drinking water nor are we spending for doctors. Our families are healthy and happy. We are able to use the savings for other important domestic needs.



Gowthami  
Bommandevpalli





### Piped Water Access Benefits Drought-Affected Tribal Communities in Shahapur

We constructed 3 Over Head Tanks (Two of 40,000 liters capacity and one of 60,00 liters) and 2 Ground Level Tanks (1000 liters capacity each) with household taps and water collection tubs in drought-stricken, tribal dominated Shahapur Taluka of Maharashtra benefitting 532 Families.



Sali Sakharam Wakh  
Jambhulwad



Instead of walking for 2-3 Hours for water, now we get water in 2 minutes at our own homes through the tap. It feels like a burden has been lifted off from our heads. We are so happy.

Now, I don't have to waste my time in fetching water. I can instead take up some work and make some money. The taps make it quite easy even for the children to handle. That gives me a lot of relief and for that I am very happy.



Mandha  
Jambhulwad



### Access to Water, Locally, Through Borewells Eases Burden For Communities

We constructed 63 borewells with manually operated hand pumps with the support of SOPAR in several districts of Telangana helping 11450 people have local access to water for daily household consumption reducing the physical and mental strain around fetching water from far-off, undercapacity sources.



Waiting in long lines at the borewell few kilometers away from our home was the worst part of our day. It just felt so wasteful. Now, things have changed for the better. It is just a matter a few minutes and much less physical effort

Struggling to access something as basic as water, locally, always made me feel disappointed. We have been waiting for a remedy to this for some time. We are glad Bala Vikasa provided us with a solution.



### Providing Affordable Water Access In Urban Areas Through Sujal ATW Kiosks

We set up a Sujal Any Time Water (ATW) Kiosk at Kakatiya Multispeciality Hospital to provide access to purified drinking water at an affordable price of Rs 2 per liter for approximately 500 patients and visitors to the hospital on a daily basis with the support of Jala Vikasa Foundation.



## BALA VIKASA ANNUAL CONVENTION INSPIRES 6000+ COMMUNITY LEADERS

About 6000 rural poor men and women who are committee members of Bala Vikasa's safe water, women empowerment, sustainable agriculture, quality education, model communities programs descended at Bala Vikasa's Hyderabad Campus in Keesara, Medchal for the Annual Convention themed 'Building Communities for Sustainable Development'. This platform is for recognizing their efforts, providing technical inputs, and inspiring them for sustained community action.

Telangana State Ministers Thanneeru Harish Rao, Errabelli Dayakar Rao, Malla Reddy and Andhra

Pradesh Minister Ambati Rambabu attended the Convention, shared their views on why they have associated with Bala Vikasa and encouraged the community leaders to keep up their good work.

A session on the role of community leaders in sustainable community-driven development was delivered by T Ravinder Rao, project manager at SERP, Telangana, Hyderabad. The session focused on how awareness creation among communities, especially women, and pro-active community participation plays a critical role in sustainable development.



Ambati Rambabu  
Irrigation Minister, AP

Bala Vikasa gained the trust of the communities and that of CSR implementers through its effective implementation of development projects. Any CSR company is sure that all the funds given to Bala Vikasa will be used in the best possible way for the welfare of the communities. Trust is the most important element for success and Bala Vikasa has been able to instill this confidence among all its stakeholders - people, donors, governments. We will continue to engage with Bala Vikasa in many development projects so that communities can benefit greatly.





## OUTCOMES AND IMPACT CREATED THIS YEAR CHAMPIONING WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

- **2198 rural poor women** joined **220 saving groups** from 290+ villages and actively participated in financial upliftment activities
- **14 Mutually Aided-Cooperative Societies** are formed, a total of **Rs 10.45 Crore** was disbursed as micro-credit loans benefitting **5,482 women**
- **119 women** improve their livelihood opportunities and increase their income through **tailoring and backyard poultry farming**.
- **350 Self Help Group leaders** improved their knowledge in **community mobilisation and implementing development initiatives**
- Thousands of rural poor women **empowered socially, financially and politically** to become **agents of change**.
- **Empowered women** pay it forward by **sponsoring the education of 150 orphans, daily needs of 500 old and destitute, mobilize resources** for conducting **free health camps**

## THE MISSION

Though women form an equal proportion of the population, India is still struggling to ensure fair representation and empowerment of women in its socio-political economy. Child marriages, high school-dropout rates, restricted access to higher education and employment, unequal wages, financial dependency, oppressive gender roles and limited social mobility prevent equal participation of women in decision making. Their knowledge, perspectives and experiences are not considered while setting development goals or while implementing them.

Bala Vikasa's Women Integrated Development (WID) program works to empower rural poor women intellectually, socially, economically and politically through regular, intensive, incremental and multi-tiered capacity building programs, and through the promotion of savings groups and micro entrepreneurship. Women are trained to involve in community development activities as strong change agents with high impact potential. Women who have benefited from the Women Integrated Development initiatives are now paying it forward by addressing the needs of socio economically disadvantaged individuals and fulfilling other community requirements.

### Savings Groups Empower Rural Poor Women Intellectually, Socially and Financially

Supported by **SOPAR**, Bala Vikasa women coordinators along with the existing members motivated poor women in the communities to join the savings groups and gain from the many personality development, skill development and financial upliftment activities being implemented to empower them. **2198 rural poor women** enrolled into **savings groups** and started to

Provision of small loans through Mutually Aided Cooperatives helped **5482 women start small businesses, expand their inventory, cope with the rising costs and meet their daily needs. Self Help Association (SHA)**, formed with the singular purpose of promoting small savings, also **encouraged the women** to pursue **micro entrepreneurship** actively. Monthly group meetings provided a platform for discussing several important topics like health, hygiene, savings and so on.

We conducted **two training programs** for **250-300 Self Help Group leaders** to enhance their skills in **savings group management** and **community mobilisation**.



“ Somakka Danthalapalli

Joining the savings group has been one of the best decisions I took in my life. I gained financial stability through it and also improved my lifestyle because of the training programs in different aspects of life.

Before I joined the savings group, I was very dependent on my husband and would barely contribute to any of the family decisions. Now as a Self Help Group leader, I am supporting my family and also many other women.



Rajitha Huzurabad ”



## Finance Management Trainings Enable Entrepreneurs to Become Self-Reliant

Two training programs were conducted for **70 rural women entrepreneurs** on **planning, finance management** and **collaborations in micro businesses** to help them sustain scale their businesses and live an independent life. Women entrepreneurs, who are excelling in their micro businesses and have the scope for expansion, were selected from the Women Integrated Development program villages. This provided them with much needed knowledge and skills to sustain and scale their businesses.

## Trainings and Material Assistance Help Women Set Up Micro Business

**23 poor women** with basic **tailoring skills** were given a **20-day** Advanced Tailoring and embroidery training to help them upskill themselves and improve their **livelihood opportunities** with the support of **SOPAR and Apraava Energy**. The women were also supported in setting up a business by providing them with modern high-speed **sewing machines** and **other required material**.



Though I used to manage my business all by myself, I was dependent on my husband to do the finances. The program gave me the confidence to do that as well and also improved my skill in scaling my business.

Sowmya  
Huzurabad



With the new sewing machine, I am able to stitch at least 10-12 blouses in a day. This encouraged me to scale my business and now I am running a business with 3 workers earning at least 4 times of what I used to earn.



Geetha  
Jammikunta



## Backyard Poultry Farming Improves Income Sources for Rural Poor Women

In our commitment to assist group members in exploring **diverse livelihood opportunities** with the potential for sustainability and scalability, we distributed **1085 chicks** to **91 women** showing notable interest and motivation. These individuals were also offered **training** on the **best practices of poultry farming, business development, and basic accounting principles**.

## Donations Mobilized By Poor Women Support Education Of Nearly 150 Orphans

Our women beneficiaries who are mostly daily wagers, forgo their one-day's earnings and further donate from their income for the welfare of the orphans (referred as Vikasa Children) they adopted as part of the **Orphan Solidarity program**, an initiative by the women beneficiaries to prevent orphans from going into child labour.

This year, about **5500 rural poor women** donated from their income and also raised funds from local donors to organise the **birthday celebrations** of **149 orphans** and also additionally support their **educational needs**. A total of **Rs 59, 96, 625** fund was raised including the donations of the women.



## Daily Essentials Provided to Old and Destitute To Help Them Meet Their Needs

In their efforts to provide care to the old and destitute, our women beneficiaries have also raised a total of **Rs 12 Lakhs** to provide **clothes, groceries, toiletries** and other **daily essentials** to about **500 rural poor orphaned senior citizens** of Telangana.

## Women Mobilize Resources To Conduct Free Health Camps in Nearly 100 Villages

The women have also mobilised funds to conduct one-day free health camps in **98 villages** of Telangana, providing access to **regular health checkups and diagnoses** to **15,394 poor people**. The camps were organised with a fund of **Rs 16,81,900** with **650 health professionals**.



With the support of our aunts, I was able to complete my education in some of the best institutions. I am very grateful to them for not just helping me in my education but also for always giving me the love and care I need.

Bhargavi  
Nurse, St. Ann's



I am happy that I am able to help some of the most ignored and neglected communities in the society. Though it gets a little difficult to manage sometimes, working for them makes me feel like I have one big family.



Rani  
Wardhannapat





## OUTCOMES AND IMPACT CREATED THIS YEAR

### PROMOTING MENSTRUAL HEALTH

- **Reduced taboos and myths** about **menstruation** and **sexual reproductive health** among **9196 adolescents** from **tribal communities**
- **Improved waste management practices** in **25 schools** of rural Telangana
- **Improved interpersonal skills** among **adolescents** helping them to foster healthy peer relationships
- **Reduced inhibitions** among **230 community workers** and **50 teachers** to discuss menstruation and other related issues.
- **Improved consciousness** on the **need to educate adolescents** on **MHM** and **SRH** among communities
- **Students** became **agents of change** and paving way for an **inclusive future** in menstrual and sexual reproductive health.

## THE MISSION

The lack of awareness on menstrual health management among adolescents, exacerbated by the persistent stigma attached to menstruation, presents a multifaceted challenge. In addition to the social stigma surrounding menstruation, insufficient facilities for maintaining menstrual hygiene in schools further compound the issue, hindering girls' ability to attend school regularly. Moreover, the broader lack of awareness on sexual reproductive health and rights among adolescents leaves them vulnerable to the negative consequences of uninformed decision-making, impacting not only their immediate health but also their long-term prospects for a fulfilling future.

**Bala Vikasa** in partnership with the **Canada Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI)** and **SOPAR** improved menstrual health and hygiene management outcomes for girls through various awareness programs.

### Adolescents' Perspectives Transformed on Menstrual Health and Reproductive Health Through Awareness Programs

We conducted awareness programs on **Menstrual Health and Management** and **Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights** for **7,171 girls** and **2025 boys** in **25 schools** from **tribal communities** with the specialists. The participants improved their knowledge on **disposing menstrual waste, menstrual process, and maintaining interpersonal relationships.**

We formed **25 Student committees** comprising boys and girls were formed at the schools to ensure menstrual hygiene is maintained in schools and students have healthy relationships with their peers. **Capacity building sessions** were also conducted for all the **191 committee members** equipping them to help their peers.

We developed and disseminated **IEC materials** in the form of videos and posters to capture the imagination of students effectively **create awareness** on menstrual health management and sexual reproductive health through **videos and posters.**



Bhukya Vaishnavi  
Nagireddypet



Initially, I did not know much about menstruation and felt very uncomfortable about it because of the stigma and the restrictions that were imposed on me. After the awareness programs, I am more informed about the process and how I should take care of myself. I also realise the need to be more open about it to break the taboo and stop the age-old practices.

As adolescents, we realise there are a few changes happening in us physically and emotionally but we are not sure how to go about them or deal with them. The sessions on Sexual Reproductive Health helped us to embrace these changes, understand ourselves and our peers better. It also gave us an insight into how to maintain healthy and respectful relationships.



B Sathwik  
Mulugu





## Strengthening Facilitators To Guide and Support Adolescents

We conducted **awareness programs on Menstrual Health Management and Sexual Reproductive Health to 230 community health workers and 50 school teachers** creating well-informed communities to guide and help adolescents have a **healthy lifestyle**.



Ramesh  
Teacher

As a biology teacher, I used skip classes on menstruation and sexual reproductive health and I feel guilty for that. The training helped me in fostering a comfortable space for the students and me to discuss the topics.

Earlier, I was hesitant to discuss about menstruation and other related issues with young girls and women in my village. It is only after the training was I able to understand how important it is to educate them on this and I was also able to get over my inhibitions.



Ujwala  
ASHA Worker

## Deployment of Incinerators Promotes Conscious Waste Management Practices

We provided **incinerators to 25 schools from tribal communities** for safe and disposal of **sanitary pads**, encouraging students to practise **waste management** methods to address the issues of **plastic and harmful waste** generated through **sanitary pads**.

About **250 saplings** planted in **25 schools** to curb the smoke and smell generated while using **incinerators** reducing the impact of the emission of harmful gases and contributing to **environmental conservation**.



Sreevani  
Teacher

We've been trying to set up in an incinerator in our school for the last 3-4 years but couldn't. We are very grateful to Bala Vikasa and CFLI for providing one for us and supporting out students.

We spend a lot of money in clearing the drainage blocks due to the improper disposal of sanitary pads. With the incinerator, we are not only having an efficient waste management system but are also saving money.



Latha  
Teacher

We also provided **menstrual cups to 2500 women** working of **Siddipet** with support of our CSR donors. The women were **educated** on the **health, financial and environmental benefits** of using menstrual cups and were encouraged to **adopt menstrual cups** as part of their personal hygiene routine.



## CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER AND US CONSUL GENERAL VISIT BALA VIKASA

During September, His Excellency **Cameron Mackay, High Commissioner for Canada in India**, and his delegation visited our Hyderabad Campus during his official visit to Telangana State.

Bala Vikasa management team briefed the High Commissioner on the projects '**COVID-19 Emergency Response in Rural India**', '**Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights**' and '**Menstrual Health and Management**' implemented in the Telugu States with the support of the Canadian Government. He had elaborate discussions on

the **implementation process and impact**. High Commissioner proceeded for an **interaction** with **sarpanchs, councillors, Government school teachers, students, health workers, adolescent tribal boys and girls, COVID-affected families** who benefitted from the initiatives supported by the Canadian government. He answered many questions that community members asked of him. Bala Vikasa and his delegation deeply **appreciated each others' support in driving impact** at the grassroots through different development programs over the years.

We also had the honour of hosting the **US Consul General in Hyderabad Jennifer Larson, Public Diplomacy Officer Jonathan Orr and Cultural Affairs Specialist Joe Christopher** at our Bala Vikasa **Center For Social and Responsible Business** in November.

Our leadership team briefed the delegation about our sustainable development programs including

the different projects we implemented with the support of the US Government over the past few years. The delegation interacted with three **social entrepreneurs** and explored the various barriers to setting up and growing businesses, especially for women. She appreciated our efforts in **promoting social entrepreneurship** and extended the support of the Government in strengthening entrepreneurship, especially among women.



## OUTCOMES AND IMPACT CREATED THIS YEAR

# ENSURING QUALITY IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

- **Improved access to digital education for 8 rural government schools of Telangana and Karnataka** through setting up computer labs and digital libraries
- **Enhanced skills and school management** of teachers in tech-enabled teaching and learning
- **Improved infrastructure** and other facilities of **10+ public schools of Telangana and Karnataka** benefiting over **4500+ rural students**
- **Improved opporortunities** for students to pursue higher education
- **Reduced school dropouts and improved academic performance** of rural students with access to better educational facilities
- **Effective management of school** with available resources, community participation and contribution

## THE MISSION

Education plays a crucial role in shaping the minds of tomorrow's visionaries. While private schools are beginning to be the first choice even in the most rural and backward areas, public schools offering free education have largely been relegated to the poorest of the poor. It is in these schools that the school dropout rates are noticeably high. While socio-economic conditions at home cause this, the fact also remains that public schools with their limited infrastructure have not been able to attract and retain those who enrolled. Though the schools have highly qualified Government recruited teachers, the comparison to private schools in terms of infrastructure, health, hygiene and management have weakened the cause.

**Bala Vikasa's Quality Education program has been providing public schools the necessary infrastructural and functional aids in order to create a healthy teaching-learning environment and make learning a pleasant and constructive experience to the poor children attending them.**

### Manila Aided Higher Primary School Gets A Facelift, Thanks To Tavant Technologies

As the first step in reconditioning the higher primary school in Bantval, Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka state, we mobilised all the parents and conducted awareness program on **transforming the school leveraging community resources**. The importance of **parents' active participation and contribution** to sustain the school was highly emphasized. A **committee** was formed with **students, parents and teachers** to ensure **effective management and sustainable growth** of the school. We conducted **capacity building sessions** for the **committee members** equipping them in **planning, implementing and monitoring** various development works.

Subsequently, we renovated the school building - **constructing the compound walls, kitchen, flooring and borewell, replacing tiles, painting, electrical works, undertaking repairs**, etc., making the school more **accessible and functional** to the students. We also set up a **Computer Lab with 10 systems** to improve their access to digital education.



“ Tanvitha Student

The school is looking beautiful after the renovation. We are feeling much safer under the new roof. The new kitchen is providing us with good food. We are feeling proud of our school now and are asking our friends to also join .

The school has seen amazing outcomes from the new look. The children are happier and emotionally attached to the school which is improving their attendance. Teachers are also feeling motivated and doing their best. We waited for this day for decades



Dayananda Head Master ”

## Ensuring Digital Inclusion For Rural Poor Students With The Support Of Amazon

We partnered with **Amazon** to set up **Computer Labs and Digital Libraries** in **7 government schools of Telangana State** benefitting **4000 students**. **Education Minister Sabitha Indra Reddy** inaugurated the labs in Jillelaguda and Ravirala in Maheswaram Constituency.

The digital devices' distribution program is playing a crucial role in helping students match the pace at which today's digitally connected world is moving. These labs made **tech-enabled learning** more **inclusive, qualitative and collaborative** at every level and provided students with a **vibrant learning space** – one that stimulates curiosity and nurtures creativity.

Further, as part of the Delivering Smiles program, we also facilitated the **distribution of laptops to 10 students who lost a parent to the COVID19 pandemic**.



Vedavathi  
Principal, ZPHS Keesara

The digital lab is helping our students to understand the concepts better. Most of them are improving their soft skills through the various videos available online and are also clearing their doubts immediately. It is also helping the teachers to stay updated on the latest developments.

As I am from a remote village we rarely get the opportunity to get access computer education with internet. Now, classes have become more interesting. We are able to explore more beyond what is taught. I feel the world is getting very competitive and this will really help us.



Sathwika  
Student



## 11 Public Schools See Improved Academic Performance Due To Reconditioning

A **quality education** program was implemented with the support of **Solarpack** in **11 government schools of Telangana and Karnataka** aimed at enhancing educational outcomes for **1648 school students**.

This included the hiring of **14 private tutors to bolster academic performance**, resulting in improved exam scores among students. Procurement of **145 new classroom benches** enhanced seating comfort for approximately **575 students**, further facilitating concentration and engagement in academic activities.

Additionally, the **repair of a computer lab** helped 200+ students with digital learning. Furthermore, formation, operationalization and capacity building of eco-clubs and awareness programs on hygiene and sanitation through dramas contributed to preserving a healthy environment in schools, fostering conducive learning environments. **2 mini libraries** was also setup in one of the schools.



## OTHER DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES



### Renovated Community Health Center Equipped To Cater To Diverse Patient Needs

Supporting the efforts of **Punjab National Bank (PNB) Housing Finance Limited** to enhance health services to communities, we facilitated the renovation of **Medchal Government Community Health Center** in collaboration with **Bharat Cares by CSR Box**.

**Health and Finance Minister T Harish Rao, Labor and Employment Minister Chamakura Malla Reddy, Suresh Bandila, State Business Head of PNB Housing Finance Ltd, Chaitanya Deepthi, State Manager of Finance, PNB Housing Finance Ltd, Abhishek, Program Coordinator of Bharat Cares by CSR Box, Deepika Narsimha Reddy, Municipal Chairperson of Medchal** inaugurated the **health center**. The CHC was provided with **modern operation theater equipment like Anesthesia Machine, OT Fumigator, OT Table, LED Shadow OT Light, Digital Cautery Machine, Suction Apparatus** and others. In addition to these, **medical cots and beds, wheelchairs, patient trolleys, autoclave drums** and others were also provided.



### 2000+ Flood Relief Kits Help Tribal Communities Survive The Aftermath

The **floods along the Godavari River** wreaked havoc on villages in **Mulugu, Bhadradri and Kothagudem** districts leaving many families without basic essentials. Working alongside **local authorities** and **Amazon**, we distributed relief kits containing **mosquito nets, soaps, sanitary pads, and other necessities** to **1250 families** in these severely impacted villages. The distribution efforts were bolstered by the presence of local **MLA Seethakka**, who acknowledged and appreciated the contributions of **Amazon India** and our organization.

We have also extended our services to provide **relief assistance to 1000 flood-stricken families in Chhabatia, Ohala, Salagna, Amaranga, Oduala and Janara** villages of Puri district, **Odisha**. **Odisha School and Mass Education Minister Samir Ranjan Dash** distributed the kits to the residents supporting our efforts to address the community needs.





## OUTCOMES AND IMPACT CREATED THIS YEAR

# PROMOTING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- **600+ Social Entrepreneurship practitioners** enhanced their understanding and knowledge on the fundamentals, best practices and key aspects of social entrepreneurship
- **3000+ professionals and students** were introduced to Social Entrepreneurship and are encouraged to explore it as a career opportunity.

- **14 social startups** from different sectors gained better access to **investors, mentors and their customers** to establish, scale and sustain their businesses

- **100+ Tribal Women Entrepreneurs** explored various opportunities and strategies to scale their business through training programs

**Bala Vikasa International Center (BVIC) was renamed to Bala Vikasa Center for Social and Responsible Business (CSR) to reflect its mission and mandate much more clearly to all its stakeholders.**

## THE MISSION

Social Entrepreneurship, as an approach to create high-impact sustainable business solutions to solve critical social problems, is still at a nascent stage in India. While there are myriad support systems to aid business entrepreneurs in their entrepreneurial journey, there is a visible gap when it comes to resources that strengthen, guide and facilitate social startups/entrepreneurs, as they strive to sustain their enterprises while striking a balance between achieving their mission and generating revenue.

**Diverse programs and activities are implemented at Bala Vikasa Center for Social and Responsible Business to foster social innovation, support social entrepreneurs and strengthen the ecosystem.**



### Introductory Sessions Create Awareness Among Students and Faculty

We conducted **11 orientation sessions** and an **Annual Convention on Social Entrepreneurship** to create awareness on the sector for **1500+** students and faculty of various educational institutions with exclusive **Student Entrepreneurship Cells** including KG Reddy College of Engineering and Technology. They primarily focused on building **business model canvas**.

### PrISE Incubation Program Launched to Support Social Startups

**PrISE**, a nine-month **non-funded incubation program**, was initiated to support social startups and budding social entrepreneurs in establishing and scaling their enterprises in collaboration with CSR partners, government agencies, and funding institutions.



PrISE is supporting 7 sector-agnostic social startups namely Icare Foundation, **MyUdaan**, **Elementra**, **Daily Labour**, **Jeevamrut**, **Karry Now Dharani Lifeskills** from health, PWD mobility, waste management and other sectors.

As a social startup incubator, CSR is providing the selected social startups with a **coworking space** at its state-of-the-art campus in Keesara, along with **capacity building, market linkages** and **mentorship** in the management and marketing of the enterprise. It is also supporting the incubatees with connections to relevant **industry experts, mentors, impact investors, and ecosystem enablers**.

“



Naresh Udata  
Icare Foundation

During the cohort, we gained knowledge regarding sustainable project iterations and the Social Innovation Ecosystem. Additionally, we learned how to write business proposals with service providers, organize all of our documentation, implement our project's business plan in real time, measure the social impact of our work, and lead a team of people toward the organization's vision. This really helped us have a clear system in place for scaling our services.

”

## Social Startups Mentored To Find Effective Solutions to Social Issues

In collaboration with the **Telangana State Innovation Cell (TSIC)**'s **Impact Labs**, **Bala Vikasa Center for Social and Responsible Business (CSR)** mentored **7 social enterprises** in **co-creation of solutions** with **Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)** for a set of defined social issues.



As **Incubation Partner** of the project supported by **Amazon Web Services (AWS)**, Bala Vikasa CSR strategized, streamlined and executed the co-development of Social Startups and NGOs along with TSIC. It facilitated the **Proof of Concept (PoC)** development process for selected startups:



CSR has been a great support for us in securing many connections with our potential customers and also to reach out to multiple stakeholders in the public and private sector. We see this as a good validation for the ideas we've been working and also is giving us opportunities to scale our business.



Arun Kumar Reddy  
Charge Kart



## Pre Incubation Workshops Empower Aspiring Tribal Women Entrepreneurs

Bala Vikasa Center for Social and Responsible Business in collaboration with **We Hub** facilitated **Pre Incubation workshops** for aspiring tribal women entrepreneurs of **Etnagaram, Utnoor and Bhadrachalam** mandals of **Telangana**. The project was primarily focused on helping aspiring women entrepreneurs to understand the **strategies to transform their idea into a minimal viable product, marketing strategies** and **finance management**.



The program included a **series of workshops** on various topics spread across for a period of **three months**. About **100 women entrepreneurs** enrolled in the program from each of the program implementing areas. During the workshop, the participants were encouraged to practice all the concepts and strategies through various activities.

## 600+ Social Entrepreneurship Practitioners Convened To Discuss on Creating Sustainable Social Impact at Impulse 2023

**Social Entrepreneurship Summit - Impulse 2023**, the **annual flagship event** of Bala Vikasa Center for Social and Responsible Business (CSR) organised in partnership with the **Telangana State Innovation Cell (TSIC)** had over **600 Social Entrepreneurship practitioners** and **enthusiasts** come together to **celebrate the spirit of Social Entrepreneurship** and strengthen the sector making it a **huge success for the ecosystem** at the Bala Vikasa Campus in Keesara, Hyderabad. The event was supported by key innovation and incubation leaders like the **T-Hub, We-Hub, Nexus Incubator, Social Alpha, AgHub and Arthayan** along with leading Institutions and companies like **TISS(Mumbai), ISB, CBIT and Deloitte**.



**Social entrepreneurship stakeholders** including **impact investors, incubators, mentors** participated in various **panel discussions** and **interactive workshops**. Over **70 Social Startups** showcased their **social innovations**, products and services - like **safety devices for mining workers, devices that improve access to digital literacy**, educational innovations that improve social and **emotional intelligence in children, health innovations** that support people with mobility issues and many other innovations that contribute to **sustainable social change**.



Guests, Padma Shri **Dr. BVR Mohan Reddy**, Founder - Chairman, Cyient, **Anshu Gupta**, Founder, Goonj, **André Gingras** and **Bala T. Singareddy Gingras**, Founders of Bala Vikasa addressed the delegates and inaugurated the **Social Startup Expo** in the presence of **Dr Shanta Thoutam, Chief Innovation Officer, Telangana**. The guests interacted with many budding entrepreneurs and innovators and provided their insights in making their products and services more impactful.



Shalini Chabra  
Impact Investor

Impulse connects investors with entrepreneurs to understand each other's perspective. The conversations with entrepreneurs helped me understand what needs to be considered for investment.

The knowledge sessions and discussions very insightful and inspiring. They helped me understand the sector better. This is a great place for all Social Entrepreneurship enthusiasts and for those who wish to grow and build a career in the sector.



Mayur  
Entrepreneur





## OUTCOMES AND IMPACT CREATED THIS YEAR

### BUILDING CAPACITIES OF CSOs

- **Over 70 development professionals** from across the **world** enhanced their knowledge in **development approaches, principles, appreciative leadership** and **community mobilisation** for **sustainable development**
- **24 Development sector professionals** gained knowledge about integrating **Social Entrepreneurship** models for **sustainability** of their **organisations**
- Strengthened the practice of **sustainable community-driven development**
- Enhanced skills of about **82 participants** from different **NGOs** in **developing reports (content and photography)** and **case studies** as per the requirements of various stakeholders
- **Youth** and **development professionals** introduced to latest trends and practices of the sector catalysing **social change** and **development** of **communities**.

## THE MISSION

The practice of results-driven, community-led, high-impact sustainable development requires innovative development strategies, competent program teams, optimal resource management, efficient implementation, accurate reporting, and effective stakeholder management. Development practitioners and NGOs are struggling with knowledge and skill gaps to meet the increasing demands to deliver on these for funding, partnerships and donor retention. The development ecosystem is constantly evolving making way for new paradigms while building on time-tested approaches. People are constantly looking for opportunities to learn and perform.

The People Development Training Center translates Bala Vikasa's expertise and experience in Community-Driven Sustainable Development into highly effective capacity building modules and delivers them to development professionals in the form of short-term/long-term, residential/ non-residential, national/overseas training programs with field exposure and grassroots stakeholder interactions for best outcomes.

### Flagship Trainings on Community-Driven Development Continue to Draw Participants

A total of over **60 international participants** from **\_\_ countries** attended the training programs on **Community-Driven Development** at Bala Vikasa PDC. **3 two-week international training programs** and **2 one-week training programs** on **best practices** of Community Driven Development with **exposure visits to Model villages** with various successful development initiatives provided the participants with the **knowledge and skills** to **implement** and **manage** the **sustainable** community-driven development programs.



“ Abdalla Ali  
Sudan

I had one of the best learning experiences with a very well-designed course. The content and the guidelines given are very close to reality. This helped me enhance approaches to the development projects for sustainable results.

The exposure visit is the highlight of the program. Interacting with the committees and discussing their best practices has been a great learning. I would take back these learning and adopt them in implementing our development programs.



” Betty Peter  
Nigeria



### Helping NGOs Improve Sustainability Through Social Entrepreneurship Models

An introductory session on **Social Entrepreneurship** was held for **NGOs** encouraging them to adopt the concept for the **sustainability** of their organisation, in an attempt to help them **overcome funding challenges**. **24 development professionals** in leadership roles participated in the session. A **session on Crowdfunding** was also held for development professionals.



## Impact Communication Capabilities of NGOs Strengthened Across Formats

National-level capacity building sessions were conducted on **Development Support Communications** covering topics like **effective report writing, case study development, and photo and video documentation**. **80+ development professionals** participated in the sessions, offline and online, and enhanced their skills in **documentation and impact communication for effective stakeholder management**.



“ Deepali Rajesh  
Maharashtra

The training programs were very interactive and are well designed to help us understand complex concepts. I enhanced my skills in understanding and approaching impact communications altogether.

I am very impressed by how every aspect of Communications is customised to the social sector to meet the needs of diverse stakeholders. I've become confident of my skills after attending the program.



” Amrit Pal  
Haryana

## Incubation Program For NGOs Provides Much Needed Support in Programmatic and Organizational Development

An **NGO Incubation program** was piloted by Bala Vikasa PDTC in partnership with **Partnering Hope Into Action (PHIA) Foundation** and **Sattva Consulting**. **16 Participants** from different NGOs who are working as **implementing partners** for PHIA were trained on approaches like **Results-Based Management (RBM), Asset Based Community-Driven Development (ABCD)** to strengthen their capacities in **sustainable development design, implementation and monitoring**. They will also undergo training on **Impact Communication and Organizational Development** over the coming days.



“ Inamul Haque  
Samvad

Understanding different development approaches and interacting with practitioners has been a great learning. It made it easy for me understand communities better and design effective programs that would have sustainable outcomes.

This is a very good initiative of Bala Vikasa to share their knowledge and practices with other NGOs to strengthen the development sector. The topics in discussion are very relevant and have changed my perspective and approaches.



” Ritesh Tripathi

## Bala PDTC appointed as Kshamata Kendra, Conducts Training Programs Creating Awareness on HIV in partnership with T\_SACS and SAATHII

This year, the **Bala Vikasa People Development Training Center (PDTC)** reached another milestone by being **appointed as** one of the **Kshamata Kendras (Regional Training Institute) of National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) for Telangana** to create **awareness on HIV**. Supported by the **Telangana State AIDS Control Society (T\_SACS)** and **Solidarity and Action Against The HIV Infection in India (SAATHII)**, PDTC provided **blended training programs in creating AIDs awareness** among target intervention groups.



We conducted training programs for **trainers, General Nursing and Midwifery staff, Program Managers, Outreach Workers (ORW)**. They were initially introduced to the strategy of **National AIDS Control Program (NACP)** to control and prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS. The participants were then given training in **understanding STIs** and how they spread, **understanding sex, sexuality and gender**, core groups (MSM, Trans Gender Persons, FSWs, PWID), **understanding the risks and vulnerabilities** of the community and also building **interpersonal communications skills**.

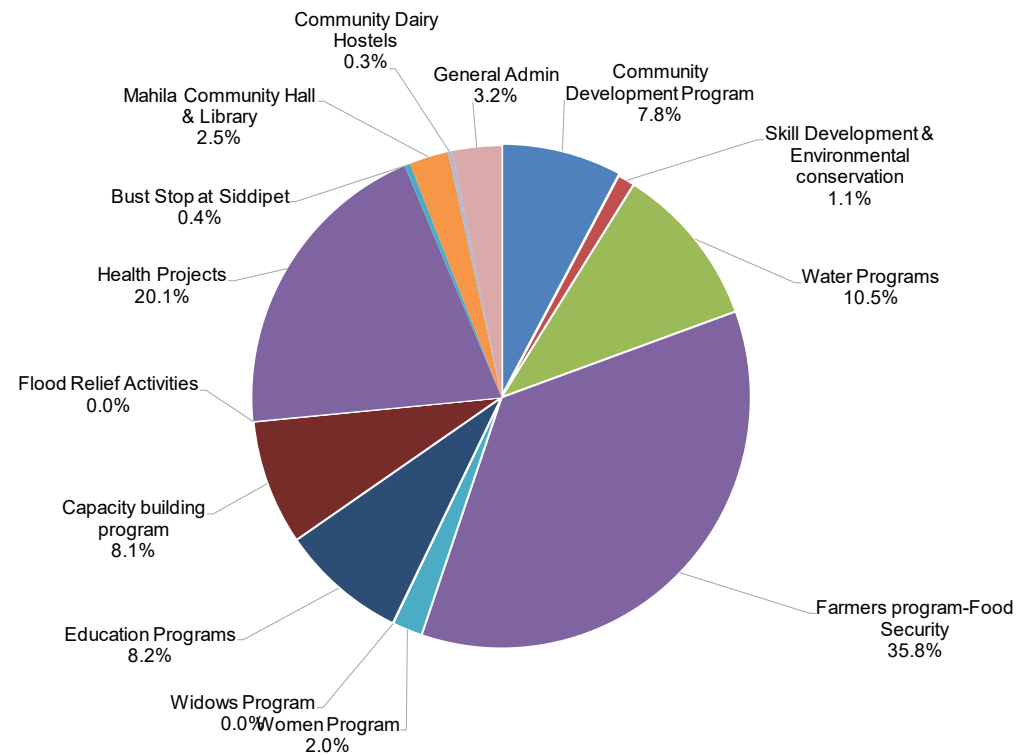


## Communities Assisted to Become Artificial Intelligence (AI) Ready

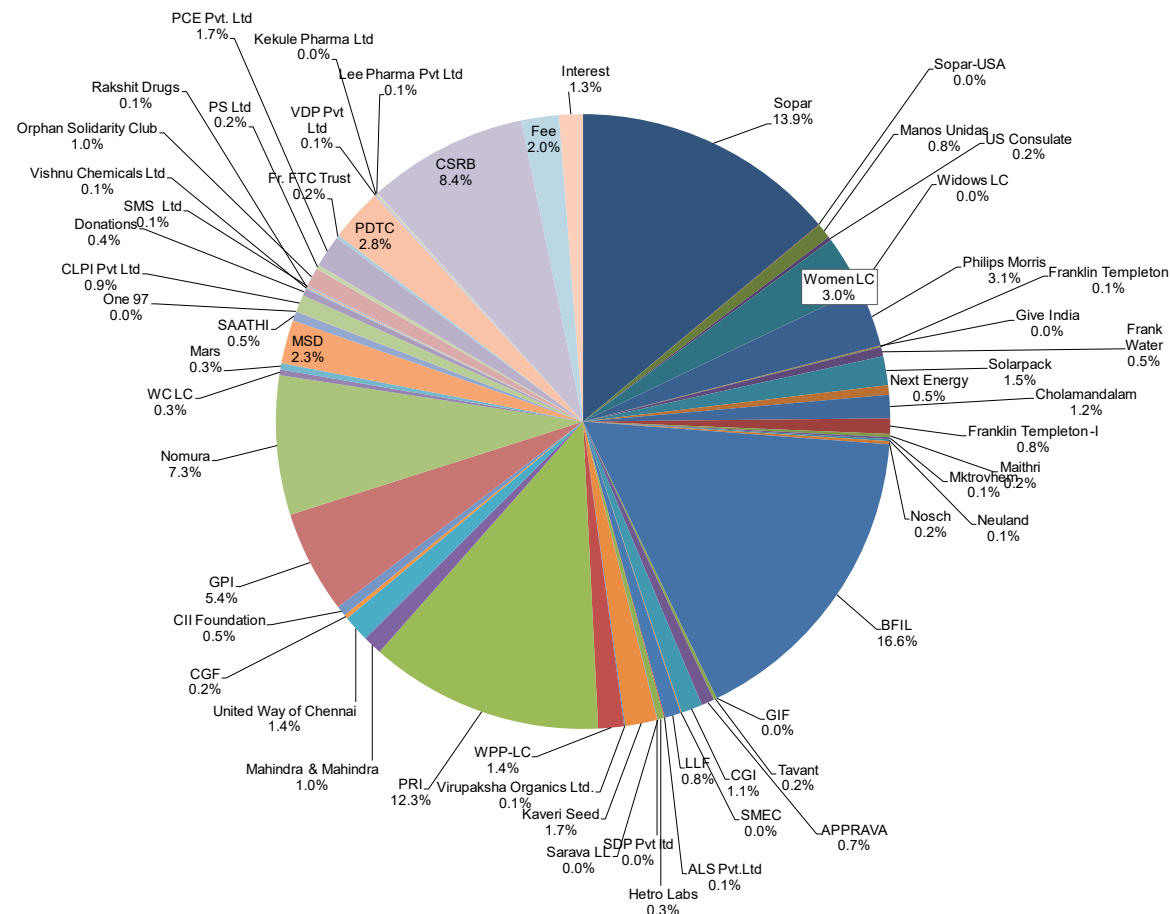
As part of a **partnership with Intel**, Bala Vikasa PDTC **assisted communities in understanding and practising a 4-hour learning program 'Artificial Intelligence (AI) for All'** which introduced the participants to basics of AI, its applications and bust myths and misconceptions on AI.

The learning program provided knowledge on key domains of AI like Computer Vision, Natural Language Processing, and Statistical Data, their impact on various industries, principles and ethics of AI. About **20,000 students of 50 schools in 12 districts of Telangana** are AI ready and are exploring career opportunities in Artificial Intelligence, the future of the coming generations.

## EXPENSES 2022-23 (27,51,50,897 INR)



## INCOME 2022-23 (29,60,35,154 INR)



## FINANCIAL SUMMARY



## BALA VIKASA PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CENTER CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

Bala Vikasa PDTC marked **20 years of Building Capacities of Development Agents in January 2022**. Founders **André Gingras** and **Bala T. Singareddy** along with a few **SOPAR** Board Members and **Donors from Canada**, dignitaries like **Errabelli Dayakar Rao**, Minister for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development, **Banda Prakash**, MLA, Warangal East Constituency, **Dasyam Vinay Bhaskar**, MLA, Warangal West Constituency, and **Gundu Sudharani**, Mayor of Warangal graced the event and shared their views on PDTC's remarkable achievements.

Marking the occasion, our **founders** released a souvenir that encapsulated the **journey of PDTC, important milestones, significant accomplishments** and also the way forward. Our Executive Director, requested the Government's support in equipping **elected local leaders** with **leadership** and **public speaking skills**. **Hundreds** of community members from the villages of Telangana, **development professionals** from across the country, **PDTC alumni** and many of our **partners** also joined us in the **celebrations** as we recalled some of the most **memorable moments**.



**André Gingras**  
Founder

During the inauguration of PDTC, I cried during my speech. I cried because for me that was the beginning of a dream. I was also very worried because a training centre is just a building, but it is content, it is syllabi. We had a tremendous challenge to face - to create professional agents of change who would be able to achieve the result. Now 20 years later, I could see that we met this challenge looking at what the centre had achieved. This day, for me, is a day of thanksgiving because alone, we could not have achieved what we did during the 20 years. We had people around us who were able to do the job and really achieve our objective - to give voice to the poorest of the poor."



H.No. 1-1-867, Siddarthanagar, NIT (post)  
Warangal - 506004, Telangana, India.  
Ph: +91 (0)870-2459287 | Cell: +91 98491 65890  
Email: [balavikasa@balavikasa.org](mailto:balavikasa@balavikasa.org) | Web: [www.balavikasa.org](http://www.balavikasa.org)  
[facebook.com/balavikasa.org](https://facebook.com/balavikasa.org) @balavikasa\_ngo

