



Impact Assessment Sustainable Village Development (Sarv Mangal Gramin Vikas Sansthan – Alwar, Rajasthan)

Corporate Social Responsibility Project by
Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd.

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Introduction



About

The project aims to improve infrastructure and livelihood opportunities at the village level through comprehensive development strategies. It required initiatives in multiple sectors to optimise available resources. Specific project objectives include promoting sustainable agriculture, stimulating economic development and enabling social wellbeing.



Need of the community

The Rajgarh block, predominantly a tribal region with rich resources faces severe challenges such as:

- Declining agricultural productivity reduced the livelihood opportunities.
- Lack of livelihood opportunities in region resulted in poverty, migration, and a lack of development.
- Environmental degradation resulted in soil erosion, water scarcity, and loss of biodiversity.



Project Goals

To promote holistic improvement in communities, sustainable agriculture, enhance livelihood opportunities and manage natural resources.

Background and Geography

90%

of the population in Rajasthan approximately, relies on groundwater for drinking and irrigation. However, it is overexploited resulting in decline in the groundwater table by one meter per year.

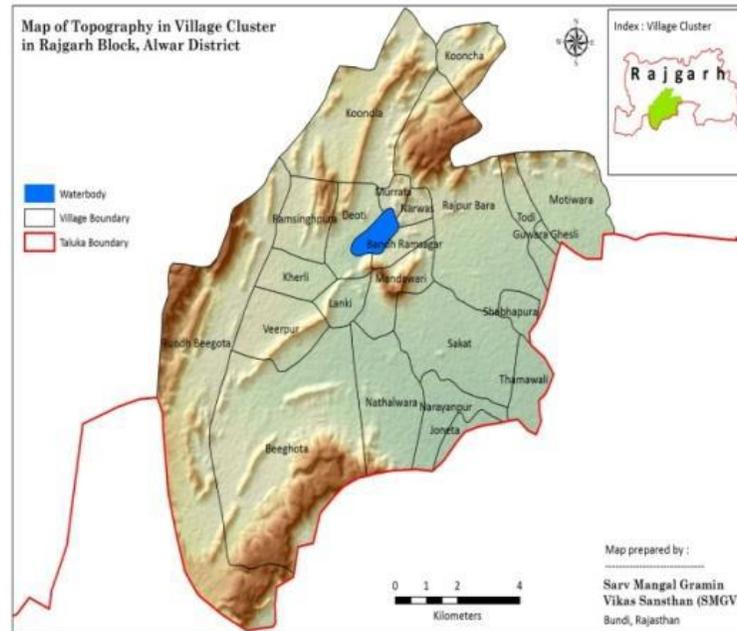
Geography composition:

- ❑ **More than 80%** population consists of SCs and STs.
- ❑ **15%** of total area is revenue land
- ❑ **10%** is pastureland and cultivable wasteland.



Project location

The project area comprises **12 villages** across **Rajgarh block** of **Alwar district, Rajasthan**.



The tribal region rich with natural resources faces severe challenges such as: poverty; unemployment; lack of infrastructure environmental degradation.

The hot arid climate, low rainfall, limited surface water sources reduced the farming season. Agriculture became an unsustainable livelihood causing community migration.

Objectives of the Project

01

Create awareness, build people's organizations for development activities.

02

Prepare village development plan for socio-economic and livelihood advancement.

03

Identify capacity needs, infrastructure development through stakeholder engagement.

04

Manage resources, preserve village ecosystem.

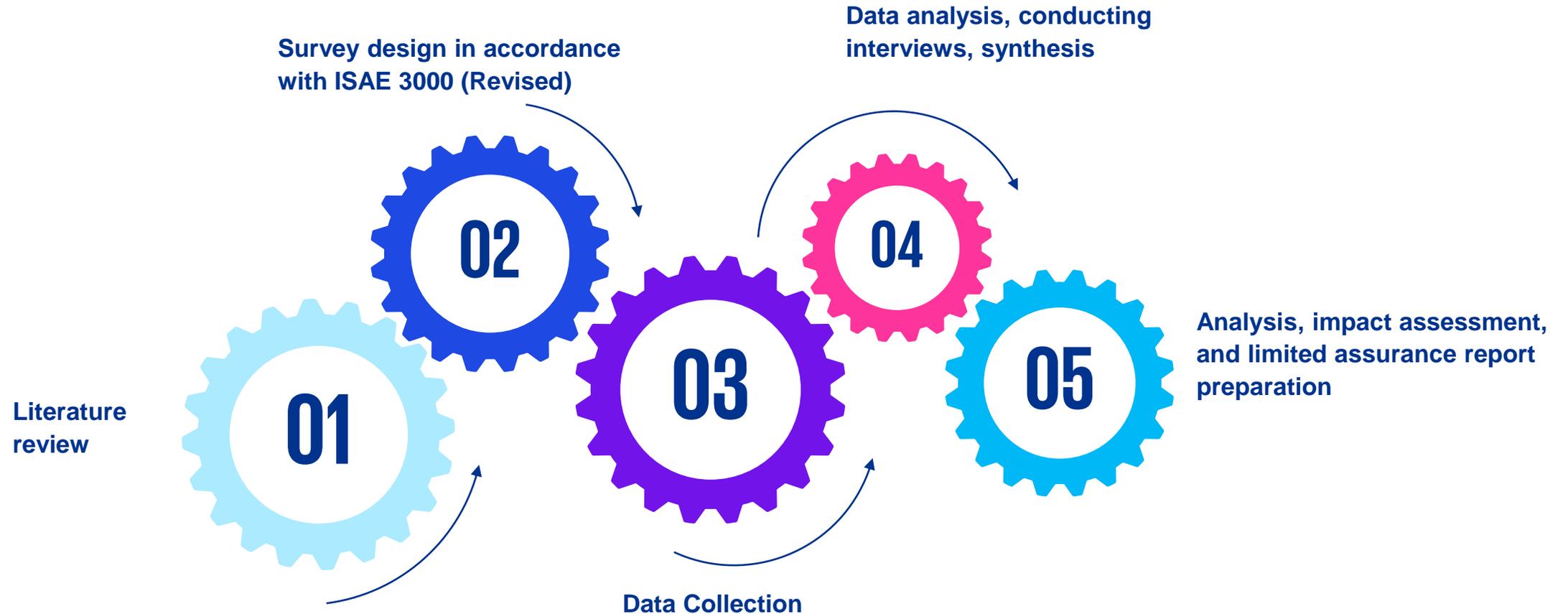
05

Facilitate integration of central/state government programs and agencies.

06

Execute and manage progress of plan implementation.

Approach and Methodology



Findings and Analysis

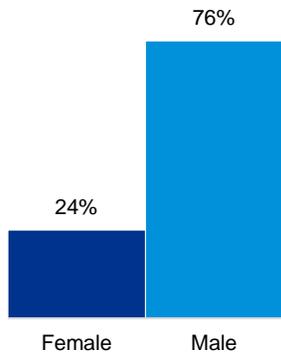


Respondent's Profile

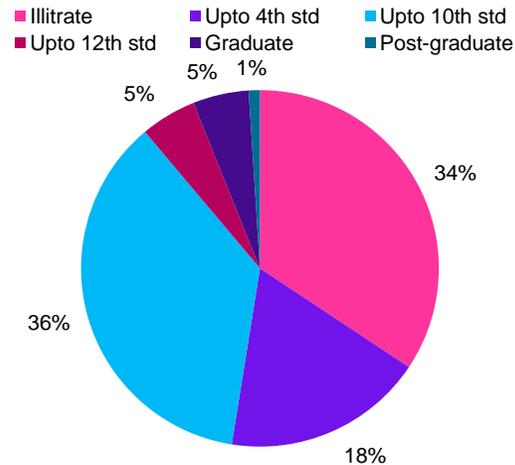
Structured interviews, focus group discussion (FGD) and key informants' interviews (KII) were used to collect data.



Gender wise distribution



Education profile



95%

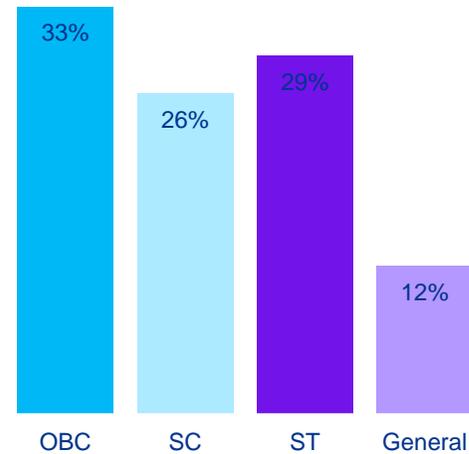
Respondents shared that they involve in community planning processes.

56%



of the respondents were Below Poverty Line (BPL).

Of the total individual surveys conducted, the demography was diverse.



95%

respondents shared that they became more aware of soil moisture conservation after project intervention.

97%

respondents shared that they depend on chemical fertilizers.

97%

respondents shared that they are heavily dependent on rainwater.

Research Findings (1/4)

1. Soil and Water Conservation

Farm bunding, water harvesting structures were built and old structures were renovated. Masonry structures, earthen ponds were built to harvest rainwater.

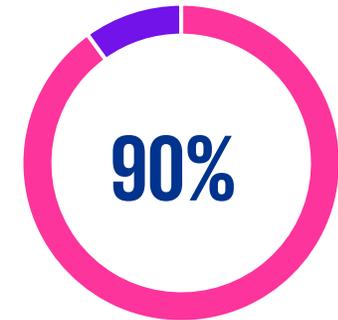
Promoted community engagement. Adopted collective actions through the formation of community institution (12 VDC, 40 SHGs, 18 FFS).



Image 1. Masonry water harvesting structure



Image 2. Manger provided at village for livestock feeding



Respondents shared that they have experienced increase in ground water after implementation of the project, as a result of soil and water conservation



Capacity building training, pasture and plantation techniques, sustainable agriculture.

Research Findings(2/4)

2. Agriculture



- ❑ 99% respondents were aware about the agriculture interventions.
- ❑ 88% respondents regularly adopted activities learnt from training.
- ❑ 87% respondents experienced an increase in their income.

- ❑ Post implementation, there was surplus water, improving quality of resources, soil health, cultivation area and crop yield.
- ❑ Increased women participation in agriculture and income generation activities.



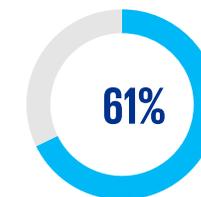
Vegetable cultivation supported under the project.



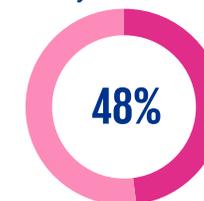
Farmer with their agricultural outputs through the project intervention.

Respondents experienced:

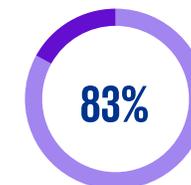
Improved soil health



Increase in crop yield



Reduced dependency on chemical fertilizers



Research Findings (3/4)



3. Women Empowerment through Livestock

Respondents experienced:

64% increased livestock weight gain

80% improved livestock feeding practices

87% improved animal health

90% improved breeding outcome

95% increased milk production

The project provided access to drinking water, nutrition, fodder production and hygienic shelters for livestock.

- ❑ **91%** of the women respondents participated in group activities and income generation activities as part of SHGs.
- ❑ **86%** attended the group meetings actively and participated in discussion and decision-making process.



Supports provided under the project

Research Findings (4/4)

4. Education

This requires a multi-pronged approach. Push for:

- knowledge resource center.
- improving school premises.
- roof-based rainwater tanks.
- safe sanitation facilities.

Will result in improved quality of education and student engagement.



70%

Students shared there has been significant improvement in the condition of school premises.

IRECS Evaluation

Inclusiveness

Ensured participation of all sections of rural community such as SHG members, farmers, women, ST, SC, OBC and general category.

01

02

Relevance

Relevant for remote areas facing issues of water resource structure, excessive fluoride content in water, groundwater depletion.

03

Effectiveness

Resulted in significant improvement in water availability, soil moisture conservation, and increased income from agriculture and livestock.

04

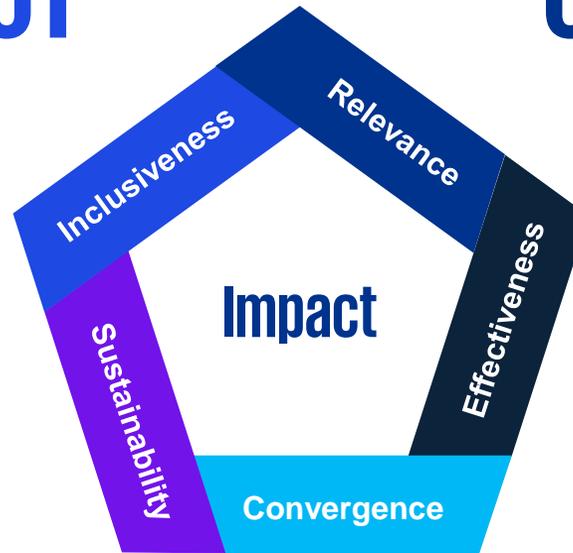
Convergence

Substantial participation of the Panchayat and government officials Gram samiti, health workers, ward members of panchayat in project execution.

05

Sustainability

Improved beneficiaries' income. Gram panchayats and government support will maintain accountability.



Thank You

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