

Annual Report 2006 & 2007

being the **change...**

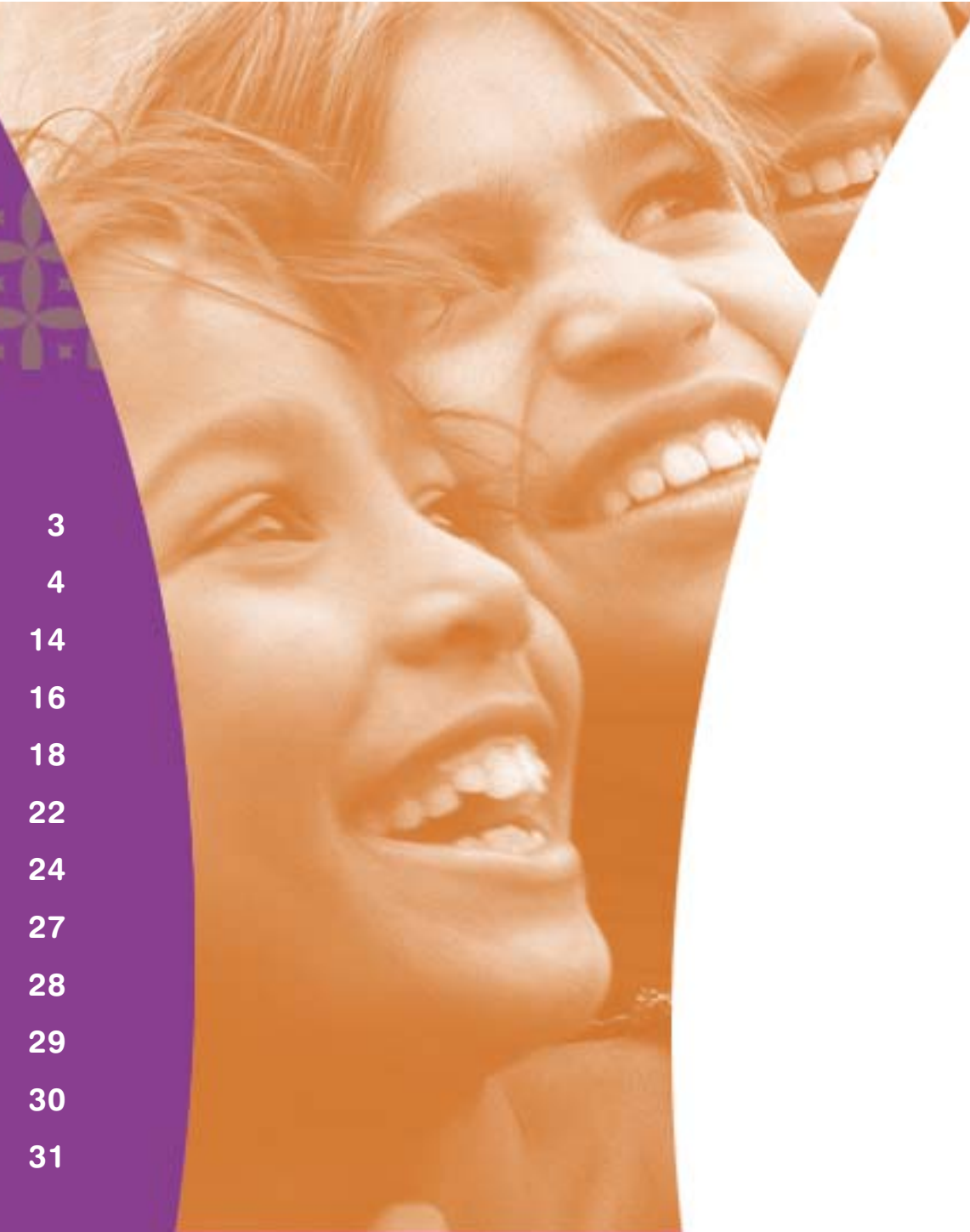


The Sehgal Foundation
working together to empower rural India



Contents

Chairman's Message	3
Being the Change	4
Water Management	14
Rural Community Health	16
Income Enhancement	18
Life Skills Education	22
Agricultural Research	24
Communications	27
Finance	28
The Board	29
The Team	30
Events 2007	31



pioneering a new approach to enable villagers to attack rural poverty at its roots...

Mahatma Gandhi famously counseled his countrymen and women to "be the change we wish to see in the world." This wise advice aptly captures the essence of the Sehgal Foundation's strategy to empower the poor to change their own lives for the better. Respecting this inspirational counsel, we highlight in this Report our approaches to strengthening the capacities of the poor to change their world.

If poverty were easy to cure, it would have been done long ago. Quick-fix, one-size-fits-all, central-directive approaches fail when applied to complex human and social problems. We must inspire and empower the poor to shed their despair and apathy, assertively face their problems, and dare to reach for their hopes and dreams.

Poverty is a trap, with self-reinforcing dynamics. The Sehgal Foundation is pioneering a new approach to enable villagers to attack rural poverty at its roots. We help the poor escape their web of misery through an approach we call "Integrated Sustainable Village Development" (ISVD). Rather than piecemeal or illusory quick-fix interventions, a holistic and steady, long-term approach is taken. It takes time to build confidence within the community, before sustainable development gains its own momentum.

We aspire to inspire. We succeed only to the extent that we motivate our village partners to "be the change." Working side-by-side rather than top-down, we put the village poor in the drivers' seat of development. Through self-empowerment their leadership abilities blossom, and the impossible becomes the achievable. They gain the confidence to solve problems and take advantage of opportunities yet unknown. To escape from a sense of hopelessness, the poor need role models from their own ranks. We begin by identifying Village Champions, gifted individuals who are natural leaders inside each community. The Village Champions inspire others to join in the quest for a better life. After training, a Village Champion assumes leadership for ISVD in the local area.

We launched the ISVD approach in 2002. By 2007 it was being implemented in 17 villages in Mewat & Kurukshetra Districts of Haryana State (near Delhi). As our villages gain capabilities and confidence to drive their own development, we have found that the grassroots approach needs to connect to formal governance bodies to garner essential political support, and to fully take advantage of publicly-sponsored development opportunities.

The first connection to be made is with the local Panchayat, or Village Council. The Panchayat can help villagers take advantage of important pro-poor laws and assistance programs. But we found that the Panchayats were not always fully familiar with these frameworks and how they can tap them to help their constituents. In 2007 we created a task force to explain these mechanisms to Panchayat members and to village interest groups. For example, the Right to Information Act empowers Panchayats to be able to obtain information on how they can request government assistance, and how they can follow these requests through to completion. Similarly the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act of 2005 guarantees a minimum of 100 days of employment to each poor household. The scheme is funded through the Panchayats. We are training Panchayat members on how to put these Acts to good use for the benefit of both the poor and the community.

The Sehgal Foundation is proud to pioneer a new path of integrated sustainable rural development that recognizes that the poor must "be the change", if change is to last. We will continue to strengthen our reputation as a respected, responsible and responsive agent of pro-poor sustainable development. Six hundred million village poor across India need and deserve this kind of commitment and capability.

Sincerely yours,

Suri Sehgal
Chairman
The Sehgal Foundation

A photograph of a group of women and children in a sewing workshop. The women are wearing colorful headscarves and are seated at sewing machines. A young child in a white headscarf is in the foreground, looking towards the camera. The background shows more women working at sewing machines.

being the change...

empowering the people to act...

To be the change as Mahatma Gandhi urged, a new approach to capacity-building is needed. The approach must connect people to their communities and governments and empower them to act, building skills and communication channels within and across diverse sectors of society. This is the approach followed by the Sehgal Foundation.



seeing the possible

On first encounter, many in the villages seem resigned to a life of poverty. They have learned to forget about dreams, and concentrate on surviving from one day to the next. They realize that they are steadily losing ground, but do not see an alternative.

Among the cultural factors that discourage the poor are traditions of strong hierarchy that place them at the bottom rank. They fear the consequences of raising their voices, and lack the confidence to do so. Women are particularly disadvantaged, being discouraged from education, and often prevented from acquiring assets or influence. Children suffer severely from poverty.

Traditional authorities, on the other hand may feel threatened by voices emerging from below. Government and religious leaders sometimes feel neglected or threatened by development agencies, and resist change.

We've carefully studied these issues. By including all sides in discussions, we've found that we can ease such fears, helping all parties see that a better future is possible by working together. Towards this end, in 2007 we:

- Organized interdisciplinary workshops among religious leaders, local professionals, social workers and Panchayat (local self-government) members. As standard operating practice, Foundation staff members now keep both local government and religious leaders fully apprised of village development activities.
- Engaged not only women, but also men in discussions on family planning and reproductive health to encourage them to be supportive of their wives' choices, which has resulted in a marked increase in the utilization of family planning methods.
- Brought guest speakers from Jamia Millia Islamia, a Muslim University and other institutions to speak to Foundation staff, together brainstorming religiously-acceptable ways for Muslim women to engage in personal and village advancement.



village champions

The poor need role models they can relate to, and emulate. Therefore we seek and cultivate people who we call 'Village Champions' — natural leaders within village communities. These Champions motivate others to join in, transforming despair and apathy into energy.

We cannot 'invent' Village Champions. It is a talent that must be discovered within the community, and then nurtured to its full potential. Once identified, we provide these candidates with a six-month leadership training program, and continue to closely mentor them as they apply their enhanced leadership skills in real life.

During 2006/07, five new Village Champions were intensively trained. They are now catalyzing change in five focus villages: Kotla, Bhor, Patkhori, Santhavadi and Uletha.

Knowledge is Power

As part of his training on the Right to Information Act (RTI), a Village Champion named Mubarik approached his village's Block Development Office to ask for information on development tasks that had been carried out by the Panchayat, including the financial details. By citing the RTI he gained respect from the Sub-District Magistrate and access to the information. Now that officials realize that the villagers know what rights they have, they are more diligent about their obligations to serve them.

life skills education

To escape poverty, the poor need to gain skills that will earn them higher incomes. What is less obvious though is that to succeed in new enterprises, they also need to know how to confidently and effectively manage themselves and interact with modern society. These basic life skills are too often overlooked by development agencies, but experience has taught us that they are crucial. Village girls often feel inhibited from participating in village development but a random survey of 102 participants in the Life Skills Education (LSE) course found that the number of girls expressing confidence in interacting with people increased from 26% to 85% after completing our LSE courses.

Since the entire focus of our Life Skills Education Program is on building capacities, we defer a full discussion of this topic to a later section of this Annual Report.

Women Read the Future

Mewat District has one of the lowest female literacy rates in the country (for Muslim women in Mewat literacy rate ranges 1.76% to 2.13 %, lowest in the country). In partnership with Development Alternatives (an NGO), the Foundation initiated a unique computer-based literacy program titled the 'TARA Akshar Project'. This program enables the learning of basic Hindi (reading and writing) within thirty days. The results of the project have been exciting. More than 350 women have successfully completed the course in Mewat villages. The demand for the program has been mounting with increasing number of women and young girls eager to take charge and improve their literacy levels.

voices of the young

We've found that the young can be surprisingly effective voices for change. Traditional societies cherish their children, and elders give the children latitude to explore new ideas. Villages receive a double benefit: change is sparked both for the current, and for the next generation. For example, as a result of the Foundation's water literacy training, schoolchildren now call adults' attention when they see water being wasted, and the parents are often influenced to change behavior.

In Bhond village, villagers had not responded to direct appeals from Foundation staff to reduce the unsanitary dumping of wastewater. However, when we taught the household soakpit technology (simple drainage system to safely dispose wastewater) to girls involved in our Life Skills Education program, they carried the message home. They stimulated community discussions and actions resulting in improved sanitary practices. In Karheda village, a rooftop water-harvesting system was completed in mid- 2007 on two of the school buildings to alleviate a severe shortage of drinking water. The effort drew strong community participation, with support from the Village Education Committee and the Block Education Officer. The system has become a model for water conservation, both for the village and as part of the water literacy curriculum being taught in the school by the Foundation.

School children have become the messengers of proper water management to the community. Ten families of the Karheda village have copied the rainwater harvesting model on their own rooftops. Another six households in nearby Uletha village have also adopted the model. Our Jal Chetna Yatra, or water awareness walk, has become a regular annual event in the focus villages.

The Song of the Lord in Jyotisar: Our Village, Clean Village

Jyotisar, Kurukshetra, is famous as the site where the grand battle described in the Mahabharata was fought. Jyotisar is also where the Bhagvad Gita ('The teachings of the Lord Krishna') is believed to have been recited by Lord Krishna to the warrior Arjuna. The Foundation is simultaneously fighting poverty and helping preserve India's cultural heritage by developing this village's unique tourism potential. Clean sanitary conditions were a pre-requisite if tourists were to be attracted. Initially, we tried the conventional approach of deploying Community Health Volunteers to teach sanitation practices to villagers, but progress was slow. So we shifted tactics, drawing inspiration from this legendary place. We decided to convey the message through the traditional genre of *nukkad natak*, or street plays. Incidents, emotion

and humor related to the everyday life in the villages make it easier to get the message across. We began by developing a village youth dramatics group, called Abhinaya Samooh, developed with the help of Deepalaya (an NGO), a theater group from Delhi. Abhinaya Samooh conducted five street plays in the area in December 2006, which vividly conveyed the benefits of basic hygiene and sanitation.

Community mobilization started almost a week prior to the staging of the plays. Health volunteers mounted a door-to-door campaign to alert villagers for the event. Seventy schoolchildren also participated in a contest to draw beautiful depictions of the theme, *Hamara gaon, saaf gaon* ('Our Village, Clean Village').

We measured the impact of this novel approach. Pre and post-play tests

showed a remarkable increase in awareness among school children. Panchayat (local self-government officials) were also influenced. They initiated regular street-cleaning and garbage collection in Jyotisar, practices which are now spreading to neighboring villages. Within 10 months following the play, the number of household latrines being constructed increased by 47% and it is expected to be 100% in the coming year.

Twenty youth trained by the program continue to spread the word while honing the skills of their new craft. They conducted plays on water literacy in four focus villages in July, 2007. The plays drew large crowds and changed minds. The team capitalized on the momentum built by the actors through follow-up visits with villagers to show them how to implement the new practices.

A photograph showing a person from behind, wearing a light blue shirt and a red headscarf, operating a red tractor. The tractor is pulling a three-furrow implement, creating three distinct furrows in the dry, brown soil of a field. The background shows a line of green trees and a clear sky. The image is partially covered by a purple graphic on the left side.

learning from the

land and
strengthening through workshops and training...

The dominant enterprise in Indian rural villages is agriculture. This explains why capacity-building in agriculture is a prime focus of the Sehgal Foundation. The capacities of Village Level Institutions (VLIs), self-help groups and other members of the Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association (FVGA) also strengthened through agricultural workshops, training and exposure visits.

Kisan Mitra ('Farmer's Friends')

Kisan Mitras are village level volunteers selected and rigorously trained by the Foundation to build farmer capacities. Through intensive efforts, the number of qualified Kisan Mitras was doubled (from 6 to 12) over the past year.

Exposure Visits

Visits to agricultural workshops, centers, research institutions, fairs and model farms are regularly organized for farmers (see table below).

Farmers' Resource Centers

These centers function as information dissemination hubs. Five centers are currently active, in Agon, Ghaghas,

Goela, Raniyala and Rangala villages; monthly training events are conducted for farmers in each of these centers.

On-Farm Demonstrations

The Foundation organizes inter-village group visits to field demonstrations such that they can learn and adapt new and improved practices like balanced use of micro-nutrient fertilizers, intercropping, pulse (bean) cultivation and horticulture.

Community Participation and Mobilization

Across all our focus villages, 700 farmers have participated in agricultural initiatives of the Sehgal Foundation so far; 130 are the members of self-help groups, and over 400 are members of the FVGA in Agon, Goela, Ghaghas, Rangala and Santhawadi villages.

Important agricultural exposure visits and training events organized in 2006-07

Visit/Training Event	Number of People
Visit to farms in Rajasthan state	23 farmers from different villages
Visit to drip-irrigated fields in Brijwasan	25 farmers from different villages
Horticulture training at Horticulture Training Institute (HTI), Karnal	14 farmers from Nagina and Rangala blocks
Drip Irrigation system at IDE and Nunhems demonstration sites (Feb 2007)	20 farmers from Agon and Rangala villages, and all Kisan Mitras
National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal	5 farmers from Goela & Jaffrabad
Training on drip irrigation, vermicompost, integrated nutrient management , and chisel plowing (March 2007)	15 farmers from Notki and Rangala villages
Training in animal husbandry at NDRI, Karnal (August 2007)	30 farmers from across the villages
Training on Rabi crop cultivation (October 2007)	3,550 farmers from across the villages
Agriculture Seed production training at IARI	70 farmers
Training on Modern animal husbandry practices	43 farmers from Agon, Rangala, Ghaghas, Notki and Kotla.

building community

Developing strong individual capacities through the approaches is only the beginning. Community members must also learn how to work together to overcome collective challenges and to represent themselves to outside institutions. The Foundation helps them learn how to do this.

developing individual capacities to overcome collective challenges ...

Four years ago, after studying a range of community development models, the Foundation decided to emphasize Village Level Institutions (VLIs) as a means to build community cooperation. So far, the Foundation has helped establish VLIs in Goela, Agon and Ghaghas villages.

Our goal was to foster VLIs to a level of self-sustainability within four years. The Goela VLI has achieved this goal; however, the other two villages have not. The lessons learnt from both success and from failure, are valuable.

The Goela VLI completed about 23 community tasks in two years, compared to 30 tasks over three years for the other two villages. While this difference is not large on a per-year basis, the Goela VLI is remarkable in being consistently alert for development opportunities and following through until the tasks are complete, while the other two still need to be assisted to a significant extent. The reason for this is not entirely clear. Perhaps the more culturally-diverse population in Goela has made them more accustomed to accommodating different views and working together.

When it became apparent that the Goela community was activated to drive their VLI forward, the Foundation helped it to become officially registered (in February 2006) so that it could more easily apply for government assistance programs. It has already begun exerting this new leverage in improving roads and latrines. Its impact spreads beyond Goela; for example, as a result of the VLI's request for assistance in latrine construction, the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) promised a subsidy of Rs.1,200 for each latrine constructed for all the Panchayats of Mewat.

Task-specific institutions have also been performing well, such as the Village Education Committees (VEC) and Farmer Associations; and 'user groups' such as residents of a particular street who agree to a common initiative like improving drainage for sanitation. One example is the Rangala community, which contributed money to dig a new well when the Panchayat was unable to do so. The success of these focused institutions/groups appears to be due to the quick, tangible results they generate — results that directly benefit the participating members.



In Goela, VLI Stands for ‘Action’

The Goela VLI is a prime example of how building community capacities can lead to autonomy and self-reliance. Credit for identifying the right people to lead the VLI, binding them into a strong team and supporting them through tough times goes to Kamlesh and Arshad, Foundation’s grassroot staff.

Kamlesh reminisces...

Initially I was at a total loss. I didn’t know how I could get anything done here. I used to lie awake at night thinking of how I should go about my work. Then it dawned upon me that I should start by building close relationships with each one of the 193 families.

The Goela VLI has inspired the community to contribute funding and to work closely with the Panchayat. Some highlights:

- The installation of five new hand pumps, a community drinking water tank, two recharge wells, a government borewell, household taps, replacement of a damaged electric transformer used for pumping water, and monthly water literacy sessions.
- A Life Skills Education center has been established; 85% of village adolescent girls have taken a course. About one-third of young married women have now started using family planning methods.
- Three government health camps were assisted by the VLI, one eye examination camp was organized, and about 40 health awareness sessions have taken place. About 95% of new mothers and young children have been immunized, and all child deliveries now make use of a modern midwife kit.
- The number of household latrines has increased from 2 to 108, and soak pits from zero to 37.
- The Health Sub-Center has been rehabilitated.
- There are five women self-help groups which are mutually reinforcing to the VLI.
- The VEC has been revitalized and has greatly strengthened the school. The number of teachers has increased from five to eight, the school building has been repaired, and a roof water harvesting unit has been constructed, as has a kitchen for mid-day meals.
- The Farmer Resource Center has held regular training and demonstrations. About 40% of the farmers have experienced an income increase of up to 50%.

The Goela case demonstrates how the Foundation can use capacity-building to spark community commitment and action towards a better future.

working towards good governance

India's 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments (1994) require the States to devolve power to local levels through village, block and district councils, or 'Panchayats'. Panchayats enjoy strong government support and steady funding. The Foundation sees a major opportunity to improve village conditions by strengthening Panchayat capacities, leveraging good governance to benefit the poor.

The Foundation is training Panchayat members to better understand their powers, roles and responsibilities. They will also be trained in maintaining databases of government departments and programs as well as in administering and implementing them, and in financial accounting and legal issues. Female Panchayat members will be networked to promote peer group learning and confidence to gain more influence within their Panchayats.

In 2007, two Panchayat training camps were organized (in Goela and Ghaghas villages) to explain two major laws that can deliver large benefits to the poor. The Right to Information Act (RTI) can help villages gain better access to government food rations through the Public Distribution System, which is currently not administered effectively in many villages.

The National Rural Employment Guarantee (NREGA) Act of 2005 guarantees a minimum of 100 days of employment (as unskilled labor) to each poor household. This Act can help fight poverty while providing human resources for community development projects. The Government funds the employment through the Panchayats.

Institutional Links: Ladder to Success

Building the capacities of communities to connect to government institutions leverages a wide array of opportunities. Some examples that materialized in 2007 are given below.

Project State Government Linkages

Water	The Public Health Department contributed to the water tap campaign at Ghaghas, Dingerhedi and Rangala Rajpur. The Water Supply and Sanitation Department participated in public water supply, storage and disposal works at Rangala Rajpur. The Public Health Department and Health Department were involved in the roof water harvesting project at Mandikhera hospital.
Health	The Foundation supports the Department of Health and Family Welfare's pulse polio and tuberculosis programs. Eye camps have been organized at the government hospital in Mandikhera. Immunization health camps are held by the Auxiliary Nurse Midwife every month.
Education	The Block Education Offices and the Education Department are approached by the Village Education Committees for permission and funds for all school-related activities. The Department also sends government teachers for training provided by the Foundation.
Income	The Horticulture Department provided five vegetable-washing machines to farmers at 75% subsidy. It also provided 18,000 fruit trees to farmers for commercial cultivation. Vermicompost units and seed storage tanks were subsidized by the Agriculture Department. The Department also provided training in water and soil testing and improved horticulture practices, as well as free seeds, sprays and fertilizers. The Animal Husbandry Department organized training on dairy development at Taoru. District Horticulture Department provided training on Integrated Pest Management and Integrated Nutrient Management in Ghaghas
Alternative Energy	The District Rural Development Agency provided 65% subsidized solar lanterns for homes in Taoru.

building capacities

In the midst of our intensive village activities, it is easy to forget that our Foundation programs and capacities are still very young. We must also invest in and nurture them to bring them to full strength.

IRRAD: Instrument for Change



In early 2008 we expect to complete the construction of our new Institute of Rural Research and Development (IRRAD) in Gurgaon, Haryana. Taking advantage of the inherent synergy between learning, training, and outreach, IRRAD will have three centers: one for rural research in collaboration with universities and colleges; one for the training of Village Champions and other interested parties in rural development (capacity building); and the third for rural policy and governance studies and advice to policymakers.

IRRAD will lead by example, putting the latest knowledge and technology into use. It is a 'smart' facility combining simplicity of design with environment-friendly technologies. The campus is highly energy-efficient and makes use of renewable energy, generating 35 kilowatts of solar power to run all the lighting and computers. It has a 40 cubic-meter underground tank to store rainwater harvested from rooftops for campus use, and to recharge the groundwater table. The campus will recycle its wastewater to reduce offsite pollution. IRRAD will promote conservation of plant genetic resources and help protect endangered plant species.

nurturing a team

Chak De! India is a Bollywood film released in August 2007 which extols a 'nothing is impossible' spirit and incorporates positive messages on team building. It was a big hit throughout India.

The Foundation's communications group organized a special screening for the field team as a popular and entertaining way to open new perspectives on team building and provide impetus for goal-centric efforts. The screening helped the team to set realistic long-term goals for themselves. Key conclusions drawn from the discussions following the screening were:

- Any organization needs to invest in its people.
- Positive mindsets can bring about results.
- TEAM - Together we can Achieve More.
- Success does not mean absence of failures.
- The identities of leader and follower in an organization are symbiotic and need to be mutually supportive.



bubbling with life ... clean water can change lives...

Rural Mewat is thirsty. Rainfall is only 43% of the national average. Much groundwater is saline and unsuitable for human consumption; its use for irrigation damages the soil and reduces crop yields. Unsanitary disposal of household wastewater adds to the water problems that villagers face.

The Foundation is showing how clean water can change lives. Rainwater harvesting for groundwater recharge is being demonstrated through the construction of contour trenches and bunds, gully plugs, check dams, recharge wells, rooftop harvesting and the rehabilitation of traditional reservoirs. Wastewater is disposed safely through 'soak pits' that filter and clean it before it percolates down into the water table.

Sweet water rising

Karheda village was in desperate need of safe drinking water. The ground water was highly saline and unsafe for use. The Government Primary School was the worst affected; students had to go back to their houses just to get a drink of water. Preparing the mid-day meal for 200 school children was very difficult. The Foundation's Water Management Team analyzed the situation and identified a solution. With enthusiastic community participation, a roof water harvesting system was completed on two blocks of the school building in mid-2007. The 300 square-meter roof harvests 1,27,500 liters of rainwater annually, making the school self-sufficient for potable water. This roof water is directed to a recharge well built within the school premises. Sweet water is of lower density and thus floats over saline underground water. Based on this success, the system was expanded to the second block of school building in 2007, harvesting another 50,000 liters of rainwater. The school now harvests more than it needs, and the surplus benefits the surrounding community.

Sand scrubs water clean

To promote the safe drinking water the Foundation has introduced Bio-Sand filters in the villages. The Bio-Sand Filter is a household-based, intermittent-operation system that removes biological contaminants from the water. The system acts on basic principles of mechanical trapping, absorption, predation and natural life cycles of pathogens. Unlike the regular household water purifiers, the Bio-Sand Filter does not require any energy source to operate, is maintenance-free, and lasts a lifetime. We are in the process of spreading awareness about these filters in the villages.

Check and double-check

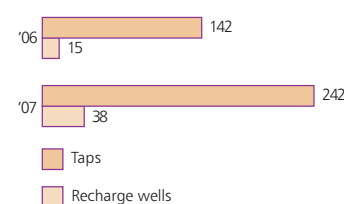
In Kotla village, saline water seeps down from the nearby Aravali hills to contaminate the groundwater table. Non-saline groundwater was available only in a 200-meter stretch of land. Farmers who had access to this small area could only grow mustard or tomato using tubewell irrigation.

Tackling this problem, the Foundation proposed two check dams to recharge freshwater supplies in groundwater and reduce the saline water seepage. It was difficult for the community to raise the matching funds needed for this major engineering project, but through persistence the first check dam was funded and built in mid-2007. Although the monsoon was light that year, villagers were astonished to see the water table rise by seven feet! Now they are demanding, and eager to contribute to the construction of the second check dam.

Water Conservation

The graph below shows the progress achieved in the year 2006 and 2007 in conserving water by installing household taps and building recharge wells.

Water Conservation





growing strength... the rural community health program reaches the poor...

Poverty renders people vulnerable to disease, which in turn reinforces poverty by leaving them too weak to work to improve their lot in life. Poverty condemns its victims to poor nutrition, insufficient access to safe water, unsanitary facilities, substandard clothing and housing, and other health-compromising conditions.

The Foundation's Rural Health programs make people aware of risks, and of inexpensive ways to manage them. The current focus is on reproductive child healthcare and child nutrition, because inadequacies in these areas are widespread and have lifelong, serious consequences for those afflicted.

The Foundation reaches the poor by training and deploying dedicated health workers to the villages. They are supervised by the Village Champions, who help deliver and explain the information to the community. The Foundation also collaborates with public and private-sector health officials to enhance the success of initiatives such as immunization drives for young children, and eye health camps.

Immunization Drives

The Foundation team collaborates closely with local officials to ensure full immunization of expectant mothers, primary immunization of all children less than one year old, and vaccination during each Pulse Polio drive. The graph (across) shows the immunization trends for the year 2006 and 2007.

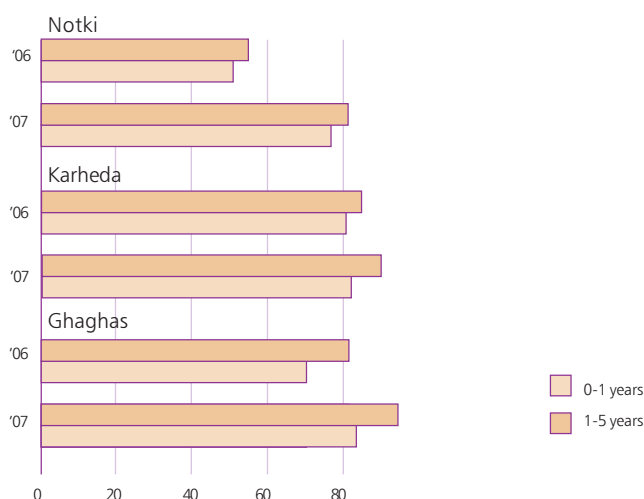
Surgeries in Eye Clinics

Monthly eye clinics have been organized since December 2006 in Nagina and Ferozepur Jhirkha blocks, collaborating with Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital. The graph (across) shows the surgeries conducted in 2006 and 2007 through these eye clinics.

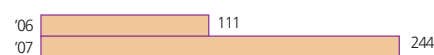
Building Sanitation Consciousness

Domestic wastewater is often dumped carelessly in public areas in the villages of Mewat. Young girls emerging from our Life Skills Education program with increased confidence are spreading the use of the soakpit technology for the sanitary disposal of wastewater. The graph (across) shows the increase observed towards sanitation requirements. The need for the soakpits and household latrines designed by the Foundation is growing among the communities. Our effort towards this behavioral change has led to cleaner villages.

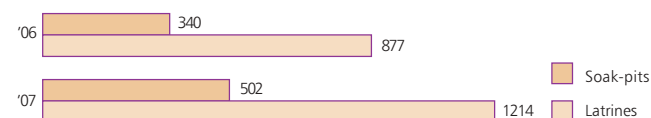
Improving Immunization Coverage



Patient Surgically Treated in Eye Camps



Sanitation Facility



2007 Achievements in Health

- A baseline assessment was carried out in Nagina Block for 'Evaluation of Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses (IMNCI) Program in India: An IPEN study' (first quarter of 2007).
- A project to assess and improve the nutritional status of children up to five years of age was initiated in July 2007.
- The building infrastructure of Agon village health subcenter upgraded during the third quarter of 2007.
- A delivery hut with round-the-clock trained personnel was completed in August 2007, aided by a contribution from the Panchayat in Raniyala village of Ferozepur Jhirka block.
- Under our disability rehabilitation drive 1500 disability certificates have been processed so far, authorizing the disabled to draw a monthly pension from the government.

A photograph showing two men in checkered shirts bending over a large pile of harvested red carrots in a field. The man on the left wears a red and white checkered shirt, and the man on the right wears a blue and white checkered shirt. The carrots are vibrant red with green tops. The background shows a green field under bright sunlight.

raising the **value bar** by devising remunerative
agricultural practices and value-added opportunities...

More than one-quarter of India's population lives below the poverty line. Rural areas account for nearly 75 per cent of the poor. Unemployment, underemployment, low agricultural productivity, family land division, debt cycles, declining land holdings, depleting natural resources, lack of opportunity, lack of respect, and urban migration are rife.

But must the rural folk remain mired in poverty? The Foundation's Income Enhancement Program seeks to challenge this dreary assumption. The Program's strategy is to devise:

- 1 More remunerative and sustainable agricultural practices, and
- 2 Value-added opportunities (e.g. supplying inputs, processing, marketing).

Direct Agricultural Interventions

The Foundation's direct agricultural interventions are farmer-oriented, based on the needs that they express. Innovations they have demanded over the past two years include chisel plowing, horticulture, intercropping, drip irrigation, crop diversification, better livestock practices, and integrated nutrient management.

Intercropping and crop diversification raise and stabilize crop production, particularly through horticultural and pulse crops. During 2006 & 2007, 18,000 tree seedlings of ber, guava and amla were planted in the villages of Mewat.

Better livestock practices encouraged by the Foundation include stall goat farming, dairy improvement, and fodder development. Fish farming is also being encouraged through aquaculture. Integrated nutrient management is being fostered through earthworm composting. A linkage is also established with American Soybean Association (ASA) to provide intensive training on animal health and nutrition.

The following tables graphically display the impact of the interventions

Interventions	2006(Ac)	2007(Ac)
Horticulture	76	111
Chisel	63	70
Drip Irrigation/Sprinkler	7	19
Vermicompost units	62	85
Micro nutrients	500	440
Intercropping	233	230
New crops	0	79



Intercropping got Surinder a Lot More Money

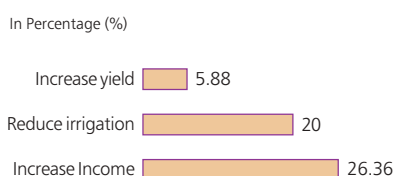
Surinder Singh of Karheda village was interested when through our outreach programs he got to know about a previously unheard-of thing: intercropping! While most farmers' reaction is to shy away from anything new, Surinder thought to himself, why not experiment? So he agreed to try out intercropping on one acre of his land.

Instead of the solo vegetable he used to sow, this year he intercropped tomato, radish, brinjal and spinach. The results were stunning enough to make Surinder happy and bring a smile to his face!

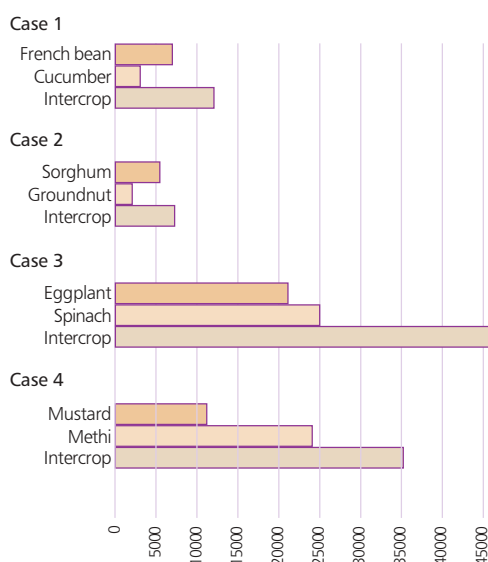
Intercropping Grows Cash

Crop	Monocrop income (INR)	Additional Income through Intercrop (INR)
Tomato (Main Crop)	21740	13867
Radish		7965
Brinjal		9660
Spinach		2665
Total Income	21740	34157
Expenditure	6852	10265
Net return	14888	23892
% increased profit from intercrop	62	

Increase in income due to Chisel on Carrot crop



Intercrop impact



links in a chain

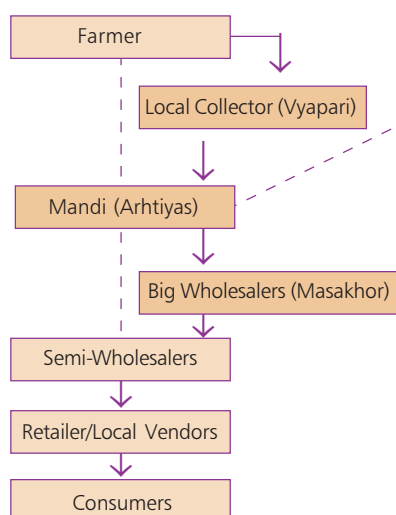
Two kinds of linkages are vital for farmers: backward linkages that provide access to inputs, institutional expertise, policy support and information needed to grow a better crop; and forward linkages to markets, ensuring that the highest possible income is obtained from the sale of the produce.

The Foundation works closely with the State Agriculture Department to help farmers make effective use of the latest research and incentive schemes such as the National Horticulture Mission Scheme. The Horticulture Department provided 5 vegetable washing machines to local farmers at 75% subsidized rates so they could market higher-value vegetables more rapidly and in larger volumes.

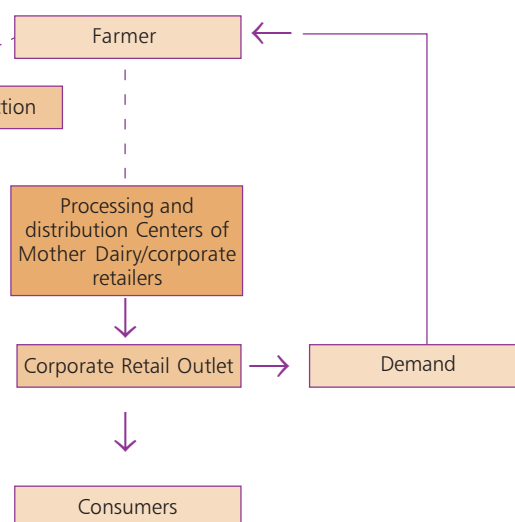
We also developed a linkage with the Mother Dairy vegetable and fruit retail chain, creating a market outlet for their crops. Mother Dairy picks up the vegetables from the village, saving farmers the high transportation costs and commissions. The flowchart below reveals the impact of the linkage for farmers.

Sustainable linkages

TRADITIONAL ROUTE



LINKAGES DEVELOPED



The table below shows the result from the direct linkages in three different villages. The total quantity of vegetable picked up by Mother Dairy is mentioned along with the total value of the produce that has gone directly to the farmer. The active Fruits and Vegetable Growers Associations in these villages will ensure the sustenance of this exercise.

Village	Quantity of vegetables lifted by Mother Dairy	Value in INR	No of farmers in Fruits & Vegetable Growers Association (FVGA)
Rangala	332,206 Kgs	1,244,664	160
Ghaghas	256,619 Kgs	894,874	129
Goela	135,000 Kgs	185,000	46



training the poor

on basic needs
like literacy, self-confidence and vocational training...

The poor yearn for a better future, but lack the basic life skills needed to achieve it. This is the challenge tackled by the Foundation's Life Skills Education (LSE) program. LSE was formed in November 2007 by merging the Foundation's Family Life Education and Livelihood Advancement programs.

LSE starts from the beginning, training the poor on basic but essential needs such as literacy, building self-confidence and personality, and vocational training. LSE also supports government schools in their efforts to improve public education.

Safe Passage

LSE assists young girls as they pass from childhood into adolescence and adulthood. Discussions of sex and reproductive health are taboos in rural India, so misconceptions abound. Many believe that menstruation contaminates the body and makes it unholy. Mewat girls typically marry around age 14 so it is important that they gain an understanding early in life about menstrual hygiene and reproductive health. LSE offers a six-months education program based on The Centre for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA) curriculum for girls between 12 and 19 years of age covering reproductive health issues including menstrual hygiene, and imparting vocational

skills such as tailoring. The average age of the girls attending the course in 2007 was 16 years.

The program emphasizes building positive attitudes that give these young women the self-confidence to address difficult life issues. They are encouraged to accept responsibility, make healthier choices, resist negative pressures, and avoid risky behaviors. Teaching methods are participatory, interactive, and gender-sensitive. The Livelihood Advancement component of the LSE program trains youth and women in market-oriented, demand-driven livelihood skills. Micro-enterprise development, self-help groups, microfinance, institutional linkages and vocational training are some major strategies employed.

Assessing Gains

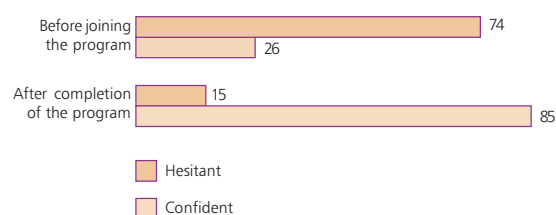
In 2007 we conducted a survey to gauge the impact of our LSE programs. A random sample of 102 beneficiaries was queried about confidence levels, decision-making abilities, and menstrual hygiene practices. The majority of the girls were Meo-Muslims, half of whom had no formal education.

The girls were questioned on whether they felt embarrassed or hesitant in interacting with others, especially on matters related to reproductive health. The study found significant improvements in respondent's self-esteem and decision-making ability, and in the use of menstrual hygiene practices.

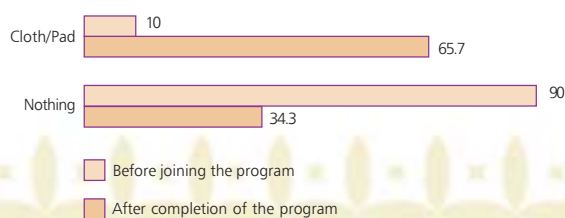
More than half the girls were comfortable discussing menstrual issues, and 66 per cent began using either a cloth or napkin during menses, compared to not using any protection prior to joining the course. Before joining the program 74 per cent of the girls expressed hesitancy in interacting with others, whereas after graduation more than three-fourths said that they no longer felt embarrassed approaching new people and interacting with them. About 56 per cent of the respondents now participated in household decisions, and 53 per cent said they were now the sole decision-makers in purchasing clothes for themselves.

These gains are especially gratifying because they were achieved despite the strongly patriarchal culture of Mewat.

Confidence levels in social interaction before and after the program



Hygiene practices during menstruation before and after the program



Skill Centers

A feasibility study was conducted in conjunction with Dr. Reddy's Foundation (LABS Program). Through this study the labor market investigation was done for skill profiling of the beneficiaries to provide potential livelihood options. We found out the demand of various skill based employment in the local industrial areas. The brief about the vocational courses that are introduced by the foundation are mentioned below:

1. To begin with, a computer center was established at Ghaghas in October 2006 with initial enrolment of four students. The center now has 30 students in two shifts, 4 of whom are girls. The participation of girls is heartening given that the female literacy rate in Mewat is as low as 1.76%. Twenty students finished training in 2007, two of whom found employment from a Telecom service provider as data entry operators. Two students from Nagina block have been employed as typists. Each of them can earn about Rs.3000 per month.
2. Recognizing our endeavors to bridge the gap between Government schemes and beneficiaries; youths from the selected villages of our work area were nominated by district Government of Haryana for a one year training program being conducted by Apparel Training and Design Centre (ATDC) in garment design and manufacturing. Seven boys from Dingerhedi have graduated from the program so far, and all have obtained entry-level jobs in the garment industry.
3. The Foundation introduced an electrician and plumbing course in the year 2007. The first batch of the course has 10 students.



seeding the future

by breeding
higher-yielding, pest & disease resistant varieties ...

Thirty years ago, a revolution transformed Indian agriculture. High Yielding Varieties (HYVs) of wheat and rice and hybrids of sorghum, millet and maize were bred and disseminated, dramatically increasing yields and preventing catastrophic famines that were predicted by many.



The brilliant success of the Green Revolution changed the way India thought about agriculture. Rather than neglecting it as a backward sector lying outside the economic mainstream, the Government came to realize that it was as an important intervention point for combating India's widespread rural hunger and poverty. Agricultural universities were established in all the states, following the pattern of Land Grant Colleges in the USA. As a result of these strong investments, India reversed its chronic food shortages and even became a food exporter.

As the decades passed, agriculture fell victim to its own success. Having overcome food shortages, agriculture gradually lost priority on the national agenda. Government investment in agriculture has now dropped to just 1.7 per cent of the GDP even though the sector still provides livelihoods for about 68 per cent of the population, particularly the poor.

Meanwhile, the Green Revolution also generated food surpluses worldwide that ultimately put downward pressure on grain prices, moderating the income gains that had previously benefited Indian farmers. Yet costs of inputs like fertilizer, water and chemicals continue to rise. Further limiting potential farm

incomes, land passed down from one generation to the next is subdivided into ever-smaller parcels; average landholding size declined from 2.63 hectares in 1960-61 to 1.06 in 2002-03. Buried in debt and despair, farmer suicides have become unsettlingly commonplace.

But a new wind stirs. Grain prices are finally rising again as the demand for meat grows from increasingly-affluent urban centers. Also, the new biofuels (ethanol) is taking huge amounts of grain out of the marketplace in the US. These trends appear to be long-term, so farmers who can increase their yields now stand to reap a more attractive financial reward than in years past.



Research sows a brighter future

The Foundation is helping farmers capture this revitalized opportunity by breeding varieties that are higher-yielding and more resistant to diseases, pests and environmental stresses. Work began in 2002 with corn (maize) through support to the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT). It expanded to include sorghum and millet in 2003 through a close partnership with the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT).

ICRISAT is a global, non-profit public research organization headquartered near Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India. The Foundation is a member of the ICRISAT Crop Consortium that supports these breeding efforts to help poor dryland farmers. The Foundation established a US \$4 million endowment at ICRISAT to provide long-term support to the effort, which enables the Institute to pursue strategic, high-payoff objectives. We also support several targeted projects.

With the recent advent of intellectual property laws in India, the Foundation sees a risk that elite germplasm, like gene technologies in the past may become the exclusive property of the private sector if steps are not taken to preclude this. The Foundation's policy is to make its germplasm freely available to anyone as long as they agree not to seek intellectual property protection on it.

Corn (Maize)

India ranks fifth in area and tenth in production among major corn producing countries worldwide. Corn occupied an area of about 7.6 million hectares in 2005/06 with a production of about 15 million tons. Because of the high prices lately, the acreage in corn is on the increase. Average corn yields in rainfed areas in the country though are among the lowest in the world. In the areas where crop is irrigated and planted with hybrids, the average yields are comparable to some of the sub-temperate countries.

The major thrust of the Foundation's work on corn is to enhance the diversity of the germplasm and its combining ability in hybrid combinations.

Sorghum (Jowar)

Sorghum is a staple food for many of India's poorest people, and is an important source of livestock fodder, feed and industrial raw material. Sorghum is mainly grown under rainfed conditions, with an area of about 8.6 million ha, and the production of 7.2 million tons in 2005/06. Two major breeding priorities are to reduce the high risk of grain mold disease in the *kharif* (rainy) season, and to broaden the range of adaptation of this highly photoperiod-sensitive crop to different environments. The Foundation's investments, in close collaboration with ICRISAT, strongly facilitate the development of high-yielding hybrids tolerant to both biotic and abiotic stresses.

Pearl Millet (Bajra)

Millet is an important coarse grain cereal in India, grown on over 9.6 million ha with a production of about 7.7 million tons in 2005/06. The crop is mainly grown under rainfed conditions in the *kharif* season, and under irrigation in the summer (dry) season. Millet produces grain under drought and low soil fertility conditions too extreme for any other major cereal crop. The major disease constraint is downy mildew. Research by ICRISAT has developed downy mildew resistant hybrids. Improved cultivars with better yield stability and productivity have become available that provide good economic returns to the farmer.

let it be known

The Foundation's communication team has fostered the sharing of knowledge in person, in print, online and on the TV screen. Community interactions through events, meetings and brainstorming sessions, academic papers, popular articles in newspapers and magazines, annual reports, and an active website are the main channels used.

Kisan Melas

Kisan Melas ('Fairs for farmers') were organized in Nagina, Beriwas and Nuh blocks of Haryana in October 2007. Farmers were exposed to new agricultural techniques, products, interventions and information on various government and non-government programs that could benefit them. Demonstrations of roof water harvesting and soak pit systems, for example stimulated farmers to seek further advice from our specialists.

Vikas Patrika

Our quarterly *Vikas Patrika*, literally translated as 'development newsletter', has steadily gained popularity since the first issue in 2003, with a circulation level now at 5,000 copies. Villagers have begun seeing the Patrika as a platform to voice their opinions. Our "leadership case studies", profiles of outstanding people/interventions that serve as examples for others, are very popular and have even stimulated action from public authorities.

Mass Media Coverage

Mass media exposure can have a large impact. It can raise awareness and galvanize popular support on a vast scale, and it can influence government agencies. The work of the Sehgal Foundation during 2006-07 was covered by major national English-language newspapers like *The Times of India*, *The Economic Times* and *The Tribune*, and magazines such as *Developments*, *India Post*, *Catalyst*, and *NRI Achievers*. Our work was also covered in Hindi dailies like *Amar Ujala* and *Dainik Jagran*.

The construction of the IRRAD facility was extensively covered by the media. Its design as a 'green building' drew much attention and sparked a debate in larger society about the need to go green.

Communication milestones 2007

- Number of leadership case studies published: 14
- Number of published papers/articles in other journals/publications: 6 (three on water, one on health, and two on life skills education)
- Total number of articles in national dailies and magazines: 32
- Exposure in the electronic media (Television): 2 stories
- Sponsorships and/or participation in the National Advocacy Conference on Agriculture and Rural Development (October 2007), the 18th South Asian International Fund Raising Workshop (August 2007), and the International Conference on Indian Development Coalition of America (January 2006 and 2007)
- Number of awards received: three. Pinnacle NRI Award to Dr. Sehgal; Pride of India Gold Award to Dr. Sehgal; and Best Water NGO — Water Harvesting Award.

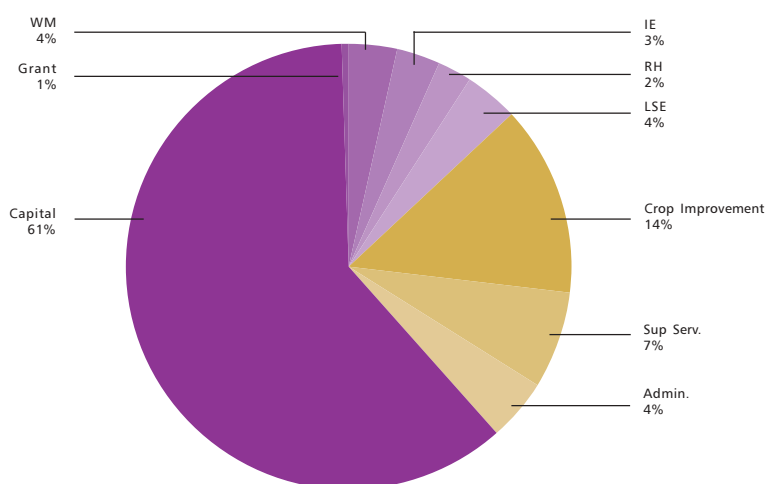
use of funds

Since 1999 the total grants of the Sehgal Family Foundation amount to approximately US \$ 23.46 million. Of the total grants, US \$ 8.7 million were used by the Foundation for its development activities in India. Other direct grants to organizations working in India account for US \$ 8.1 million. Grants to US and other International organizations account for the remaining US\$ 6.66 million.

In 2006 and 2007 total Sehgal Family Foundation grants amounted to US \$ 5.86 million, of which US \$ 4.7 were remitted to the Foundation in India. Other grants to organizations for work in India totaled US \$ 800,000. Grants to organizations in the US and elsewhere totaled US \$ 361,800.

In 2006 and 2007 grants to the S M Sehgal Foundation, India covered US \$4.7 Million of which expenses for programs in Water Management were 4%, Income Enhancement 3%, Rural Health 2%, Life Skills Education 4%, Crop Improvement 14%. Support Services accounted for 7% of total expenses, Grants to other NGOs 1%, Administration 4% and Capital expenditure 61%. The major Capital expenses incurred this year were for the Foundation's knowledge institute, IRRAD.

The Sehgal Foundation Expenditure 2006-2007



FOUNDERS



Dr Suri Sehgal

Chairman of Board of Trustees

Suri Sehgal holds a Ph.D in Plant Genetics from Harvard University, and a diploma in Business Management from the Harvard Business School. He is founder and chairman of Misr Hytech Seed International, Egypt. He is founder and former chairman of the Proagro Group of Companies, India.



Edda G Sehgal

Trustee

Edda Sehgal is a co-founder and trustee of the Sehgal Family Foundation, USA and the Sehgal Foundation, India. She served on the Board of the Proagro Group and of Global Technologies Incorporated, USA from 1990 to 1998.

TRUSTEES

Jayshree Balachander holds a Masters in Public Policy (Development Studies) and a degree from Woodrow Wilson School for Public and International Affairs, Princeton University. Since 1992, she has been active on health, nutrition, human resource development and education issues as part of the World Bank's South and East Asia team.

Nishat Farooq retired as Director of State Resource Centre (SRC), Delhi, which houses the National Nodal Centre for Gender Planning. Currently she is member of the National Book Promotion Committee of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Y C Nanda retired as the Chairman of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) following 38 years of experience in the rural banking and central banking industries. He is a member of the National Commission on Farmers.

Air Vice Marshal (Retired) S Sahni is the Vice President of the NGO "Development Alternatives." A recognized expert in water management and rural employment development, he was appointed to the Government's National Wasteland Development Board during 1991-94.

Raman Sehgal is a management graduate from Asia Institute of Management-Manila. He is currently the Managing Director, Misr Hytech Seed Company, Egypt.

Jagadish Shukla is Professor and Chairman of Climate Dynamics in the School of Computational Sciences at the George Mason University, and President of the Institute of Global Environment and Society, USA

Arvind Bahl served as a trustee from 1999 to 2007. He retired from the board in 2007 through rotation. His contribution to the success of the Foundation is highly appreciated.

Om Thanvi served as a trustee from 2004 to 2007 and retired through rotation. The Foundation greatly appreciates his contributions while serving as a trustee.

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Kamal Bawa is a distinguished Professor of Biology at the University of Massachusetts at Boston. He is an evolutionary ecologist and a conservation biologist. He is the founder-president of the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE).

Amitabh Kundu, Professor of Economics at the Centre for the Study of Regional Development and Dean of the School of Social Sciences at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He has been nominated as a member of National Statistical Commission in 2006.

Sharad Chandra Lele held senior positions at the Pacific Institute for SIDES and Tata Energy Research Institute, and a Bullard Fellowship at Harvard University, before co-founding the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Environment and Development in Bangalore.

Rekha Masilamani, Country Representative of Pathfinder International, graduated from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad in 1970. For 15 years she worked in corporate sector. She moved to the development sector in 1989.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT (Gurgaon)

Archana Chowdhury, Program Leader, Rural Health, graduated from Maulana Azad Medical College, Delhi and specialized in community medicine from Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi. She is a specialist in the training of health functionaries.
Email: a.chowdhury@smsfoundation.org

Anjali Godyal, Program Leader, Life Skills Education. She holds a Rural Management Degree from the Institute of Rural Management (IRMA), Anand, Gujarat, and has completed internship in Business Cluster Development and SHGs.
Email: a.godyal@smsfoundation.org

Ramesh Kapahi, Contoller, Finance & Administration, holds a master's degree in finance and marketing from Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management (LBSIM), Delhi. He worked as an internal auditor for 16 years before joining the Foundation.
Email: r.kapahi@smsfoundation.org

Pawan Kumar, Program Leader, Income Enhancement, holds a Masters degree in Forestry, Science Policy and Management from Oxford Forestry Institute, Oxford University. He has 13 years of experience in Agricultural interventions and expertise in Natural Resource Management.
Email: pawan.kumar@smsfoundation.org

Anjali Makhija, Group Leader, Programs, holds a master's degree in social work, Delhi School of Social Work. She has 14 years of experience in the area of health and integrated community development.
Email: anjali.makhija@smsfoundation.org

Pooja O Murada, Group Leader, Communications, is a post graduate in Mass Communications and carries over 12 years of work experience. She has worked in the area of brand management for advertising, information technology, healthcare and development sectors.
Email: poojamurada@smsfoundation.org

Pradeep K Panda, Director, Rural Research is an economist and a demographer, has 15 years of experience in teaching, training and research in population and development. He has worked in leading academic and research organizations.
Email: pradeep.panda@smsfoundation.org

B R Poonia, responsible for Community Mobilization, holds a master's degree in rural sociology from the University of Udaipur, and has over 28 years of experience in community development. Prior to joining the Foundation, he was employed at CARE-India for 14 years.
Email: br.poonia@smsfoundation.org

Aravinda Satyavada, Program Leader, Impact Assessment, earned her doctoral degree from Kansas State University (KSU). Her areas of specialization include social demography, gender, fertility and family planning, reproductive health and child nutrition.
Email: aravinda@smsfoundation.org

Rajat Jay Sehgal, Executive Director and Managing Trustee of the Sehgal Foundation. Prior to this he worked as a Senior Programmer Analyst in a leading private sector company in the USA and in Proagro Seed Company Ltd, India, as the Director of Information Technology.
Email: jay.sehgal@smsfoundation.org

Lalit Mohan Sharma, Program Leader, Water Management and Infrastructure Building, is a graduate civil engineer, holds a master's degree from Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, and a postgraduate diploma in construction management, and is a Fellow of the Institution of Valuers.
Email: lalit.sharma@smsfoundation.org

SUPPORT TEAM

Pankaj Gaur - Accountant
Arti Manchanda - Communications Associate
Jagdish Prasad - Administration Manager
C S Shekhar - Accounts Officer

CROP IMPROVEMENT (Hyderabad)

M D Gupta, Senior Advisor, holds a PhD in genetics and plant breeding from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Delhi. Dr. Gupta has 30 years of experience in plant breeding and seed enterprise management.
Email: m.d.gupta@cgjar.org

J N Hanumantharya, Sr. Scientist, Corn Breeding, holds Master's degree in Seed Technology from University of Agriculture Sciences, Bangalore. Prior to joining the Foundation, he worked as Maize Breeder with Proagro Seed Company Pvt. Ltd., for a period of 15 years.
Email: jn.hanumantharya@cgjar.org

T Naga Lakshmi, Junior Scientist, Plant Pathology, holds a master's degree in Plant Pathology from Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Andhra Pradesh. She has worked as a Research Associate with Agricultural Research (Maize) Station, Karimnagar, AP
Email: b.nagalakshmi@cgjar.org

FIELD TEAM

Irfan Ali, Facilitator – Taoru
Urmila Gupta, Specialist – Life Skill Education
Jaffar Hussain, Facilitator – Ferozepur Jhirka Block
Mubarik Hussain, Facilitator – Nagina Block
Kamlesh, Specialist – Rural Health
Sarveshwari Mishra, Specialist – Income Enhancement
Jaan Mohammed, Specialist – Community Mobilisation
Mohammed Siddique, Specialist – Water Management
Mahipal Singh, Facilitator – Kurukshetra Block

VILLAGE CHAMPIONS

Sayeed Ahmed -Notki, Karheda
Alamddin -Patkhori
Irfan Ali -Dallabas, Dingerhedi
Mohammed Aslam- Rangala Rajpur
Arshad Hussain -Goela, Jaffarabad
Nasir Hussain -Santhawadi
Mohammed Imran- Kotla
Mohammed Iqbal- Raniyala
Khushi Mohammed -Bhond
Mohammed Saheed -Agon
Salamuddin -Uletha
Sunder -Bhor

CONSULTANTS

M D Asthana, Consultant, has 37 years of experience as a member of India's premier federal administrative service - the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) in the fields of public administration, good governance and public policy.
Email: mdasthana@airtelmail.in

Ryan Clutter, IT Consultant, holds a degree in computer science from Grand View College, Iowa, USA. He has worked as a senior network engineer at a leading US mortgage company, as well as at a regional US hospital prior to becoming a consultant for the Foundation.
Email: r.clutter@smsfoundation.org

S P Deshpande, Visiting Scientist, Biotechnology, holds a PhD in Genetics and Plant Breeding from Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani. He has received hands-on-training in biotechnology while working at International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Patancheru.
Email: s.deshpande@cgjar.org

Mark Winslow, Consultant, holds a Ph.D. in Plant Breeding from Michigan State University. He specializes in new initiative development for the international agricultural research centers of the CGIAR System. He assists the foundation with external communications.
Email: m.winslow@t-online.de

- Six month training for the third batch of Village Champions completed.
- Conducted a baseline assessment in 10 villages of Mewat as part of evaluation of Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses (IMNCI) Program in India: An IPEN study supported by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, UNICEF, USAID, World Bank.
- Tie up with Multiple Action Resource Group (MARG) under "Strengthened Access to Justice in India" (SAJI) project initiated by UNDP and Gol to conduct training on Legal Issues for the field team.
- A survey for the 'short term impact' of the Life Skills Education program completed.
- Model Kitchen at Goela built by the foundation to demonstrate mid day meal cooking.
- Construction of Latrine Block in Jafarabad and Rangala where four non-functional latrines were made functional and three new latrines with separate blocks for boys and girls constructed.
- Construction of roof water harvesting model at handicraft bazaar in Jyotisar Tourist Complex, Kurukshetra and Dalabas.
- As part of Jyotisar Tourism project, 20 youth selected for one month 'dramatics training' by National School of Drama and Nine Youth for one month 'Guides Training', by Shri Krishna Museum, Kurukshetra.
- Collaboration with Tarahaat, for Tara Akshar Project, a computer based literacy program in three villages. More than 350 girls graduated under this 30 days literacy program.
- Inauguration of three new LSE centers in Uletha, Santhawadi and Pathkhori.
- Baseline survey of five new villages - Patkhori, Uletha, Santhawadi, Kotla and Bhore completed.
- VECs organized a campaign to decrease the school 'drop-out' rate in Goela, Santhavadi and Pathkhori.
- Pulse Polio Immunization drive in four villages to ensure 100% coverage of 0-5 years age group children.
- A 'Delivery Hut' set up to ensure services at the doorsteps of the people in Raniyala covering 283 households and other villages.
- Constructed 16 household latrines in Notki from SOW's (Students of the World, US) fund raising project.
- Screening of 'Mahabharata' play in Kurukshetra University Auditorium by Jyotisar Dramatics Group as part of Tourism Project.
- Water Literacy Street Theatre conducted in four villages and two check dams built in Kotla and one in Bhond.
- The Foundation supported Jyotisar Tourism project selected as part of 15 projects in which UNDP will extend the aspect of community involvement.
- Work for connecting the households with public water supply done in 50 households of Dingerhedi.
- Exposure visit of 14 farmers and four field staff from Santhavadi village to Nunhems and Reliance Center. Vegetable marketing, horticulture, rabi crop, dairy products training organized across all blocks.
- 40 Self Help Group (SHG) women in Jyotisar trained on production of handicrafts from waste materials by Shri Krishna Museum, Kurukshetra.
- The Mewat District Family Welfare Office has inducted us as a NGO nominee in the PNDT (Pre-Natal Diagnostic & Therapeutic Act of 1994) Committee to check female foeticide in the area.
- Six eye care camps in collaboration with Dr. Shroff's Charitable Eye Hospital conducted and 66 patients successfully operated across Nagina and Ferozepur blocks.
- A library introduced at every Life Skills Education Center, with 50 books.
- 387 girls graduated from Life Skill education Centers across 17 villages.
- Two Community Health Volunteers from Taoru selected as ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activist) workers by the local Health department officials under the National Rural Health Program.
- Under vocational education; a computer literacy centre and electrician training started.
- Compost technique using EM (Effective Micro-organism) introduced in Firozpur Jhirka and Nagina Block. Two demos set up in Taoru and Ghaghas.
- Participated in Kisan Mela organized by the Haryana Government in Nagina, Nuh, Beriwas and Gurgaon by putting up a stall depicting all our agricultural interventions.
- Training of trainers on Right to Information (RTI) and National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA).
- World AIDS day (Dec 1) was recognized by the foundation in three villages-Goela, Santhavadi, Pathkhori.
- Organized a workshop with Magsasay winner Rajendra Singh on 'Water crisis in Delhi' at Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi.

the sehgal foundation annual report 2006 & 2007



Institute of Rural Research
and Development
(An initiative of S M Sehgal Foundation)

Plot No.- 34, Sector - 44,
Institutional Area, Gurgaon,
Haryana - 122002, India
Tel: +91-124-4744100
Fax: +91-124-4744123
Email: smsf@smsfoundation.org
<http://www.smsfoundation.org>

REGISTERED OFFICE
6346, Sector C6
Vasant Kunj
New Delhi - 110070

SEHGAL FAMILY FOUNDATION
100 Court Ave # 211
Des Moines, IA 50309, U.S.A.
Tel: +1-515-288 0010
Fax: +1-515-288 4501