We envision every person across rural India empowered to lead a more secure, prosperous, and dignified life.

Our mission is to strengthen community-led development initiatives to achieve positive social, economic, and environmental change across rural India.

Vision

Mission

3.9 million people impacted
1,829 villages
53 districts
11 states
Message from the Founder

As India celebrates 75 years of independence as Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, I recall the days of partition and the evolutionary journey of the people as well as the country’s recognition of its glorious history, culture, and achievements. I resonate closely with the Mahotsav theme of dedication to the people of India who have not only been instrumental in bringing India thus far, but also hold within them the power and potential to uplift the spirit of Aatmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India).

I believe that people should always come first.

This self-reliance within the communities sets the base for all our work in rural development through the S M Sehgal Foundation, which I founded together with my wife, Edda Sehgal, back in 1999, with a vision to see every person across rural India leading a secure, dignified, and prosperous life.

As a rural development organization, I feel proud to see ourselves as contributors to sustainable development and positive social change in rural communities. We partner with communities to create opportunities and build resilience in addressing the world’s most pressing issues: water security, food security, local participation, empowerment of women and girls, and any information asymmetry that keeps India from realizing the sustainable development goals.

We lead by example in an open, transparent, and participatory manner, and demonstrate a proven track record in engaging with communities on rural development solutions that create lasting impact.

S M Sehgal Foundation work, based on a community-led approach, creates lasting impact and sustainability. With increased awareness, village-based institutions and citizens are driving social change at the grassroots. Active village development committees and institutions maintain the physical and social capital created in the villages even after we complete projects and trainings in the villages. That’s the power of empowerment!

Suri Sehgal
Founder and Chairman
Our Programs

**Water Management**

**Building Water Conscious Communities**

India has about 18 percent of the world’s population and only 4 percent of the world’s water resources. It is severely water-stressed, thereby making water management a national priority.

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**Agriculture Development**

**Helping Farmers Sustainably Produce More**

India’s economic stability is dependent on the sustained growth of agriculture and allied activities. Agriculture in all sectors is the primary source of livelihood in India. In addition to the traditional challenges, climate change is a major concern in agriculture that impacts small farmers.

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**Transform Lives one school at a time**

**Providing better learning environment for school children**

Many government schools in rural India do not have adequate resources or facilities to provide a safe and conducive learning environment to children, because of which learning outcomes also get affected.
Local Participation and Sustainability

Building capacities for inclusive and sustainable development

For the socioeconomic development of any society, including rural development in India, access to reliable information is critical, guiding participation and decision-making, and enabling communities to recognize and address development issues that affect them the most.

Outreach for Development

Facilitating behavior change through outreach in rural communities

For the socioeconomic development of any society, including rural development in India, access to reliable information is critical, guiding participation and decision-making, and enabling communities to recognize and address development issues that affect them the most.

Rural Research and Development

Informing action, outcomes, and learning

Rural Research and Development maximizes the impact of poverty alleviation initiatives for rural communities through using participatory research and impact evaluation. Leveraging experiential insights from the grassroots, it uses evidence to disseminate knowledge and promote thought leadership on key development issues.
Irfan lives with his seven-member family and owns 2.5 acres of inherited agricultural land in district Nuh, Haryana. The land was saline, with limited irrigation facilities, and produced low yields owing to a primitive package of practices (PoP) in millet. He was one of the farmers who took part in the demonstration of cultivating millet, using modern practices on 0.5 acres of his land. In the new PoP, farmers were trained to include micro and macronutrients in the soil for higher crop yields, which had previously been damaged due to excessive use of urea and DAP. Irfan was astonished to see a major increase in yield in the demonstration plot versus the control plot where he used his traditional methods. Since then, he has adopted the modern PoP for the entire field.
राजकीय उच्च माध्यमिक विद्यालय साहोडी
Neelam is a twenty-year-old girl residing in village Lily in Alwar, Rajasthan. Neelam’s family of five owns 1.25 acres of land. Her father is only able to earn fifty-to-sixty thousand rupees per annum, which is inadequate for the family. They sometimes have no grain available even for their own food. This difficult situation ignited Neelam’s spirit to enhance her knowledge and achieve some skills to financially contribute to her family’s income. She gained new confidence and exposure from the digital and life skills training along with her younger sister. She aspired to be a government primary school teacher, for which she enrolled in the two-year Basic School Training Certificate Course, and is now in the final year of this course.
Bihar

Suman Jaiswal from district Muzaffarpur, Bihar, is a member of the Women’s Leadership School (WLS) in her village. She had never heard of the term “gender equality” before. Learning about the concept of gender equality from the WLS trainings, she asked her husband to help her with household chores, to which he was receptive.

Suman also made efforts to no longer discriminate among her children on the basis of gender. She is happy seeing this change within herself.
Uttar Pradesh

Mamta, a twenty-eight-year-old woman residing in district Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, set up a home garden that has given her family an assured supply of nutritive vegetables such as okra, spinach, pumpkin, gourd, and others. Now they don’t need to buy vegetables from the market. She sells the surplus vegetables to other women, earning extra income.

“I feel very happy with the homegrown vegetables that help my family attain good nutrition and well-being.”

Key Partners
HDFC Bank | John Deere | Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd. | Mosaic India Pvt. Ltd.
Pernod Ricard India Foundation | The Mosaic Company Foundation | Walmart Foundation
Villagers across Sillod and Phulmbari block in Aurangabad are no longer worried about not having access to potable water. Water ATMs were set up to provide safe drinking water to the community in five villages. The pricing, the villagers say, is reasonable. Operated through a card metering system, water is available around the clock at a flexible price of Rs 5 for 20 liters, along with the re-use of wastewater. The water management committee operates and manages the drinking water system benefitting a population of 5,000.

Key Partners
Coca-Cola India Foundation | DCB Bank | Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd. | Pernod Ricard India Foundation
Madhya Pradesh

Samar Singh, the construction of the pond in his village smoothed the way for providing timely and adequate irrigation to his crops. The water level in his well was previously at about 55 feet deep, and now it has risen up to 45 feet! Watershed interventions in district Gwalior helped increase the water levels in villages. The agricultural community mainly depends on the groundwater for irrigation, and the replenishment of the depleting water table with pond construction and rejuvenation creates surface water storage.

Himachal Pradesh

In district Solan, villages Mhasi Palasi and Nikoowal have a water lining through water storage structures that together create 22 million liters of water harvesting capacity, which helps farmers in agriculture and increases groundwater levels in the area.

Satish Busar, a long-time resident and one of the many beneficiaries, shares, “The construction of the Nikoowal pond has helped us overcome problems of accessing irrigation water for our crops in the past. Now that we have water in the pond, we can meet much of the requirements for irrigation and drinking water for the livestock. Nikoowal and the neighboring villages will benefit greatly from this.”
Check dams in villages of Anantapur constructed on Chitravathi and Kushavathi rivers of Chilamathur Mandal. The area falls under the rain shadow zone, receiving much less rainfall with predominantly rain-fed agriculture. Due to acute water shortages, the local farmers struggling to take even one good crop in kharif season are now engaging in two or more crops per season with higher yields and profits. The households previously dependent on tanker water supply for six to eight months now rely on public water supply sources that are recharged and yield good water.

“Since the check dam is in place, the level of water in my bore well is showing visible improvements. We have water in our bore wells for eight months now.” — T. Sreenivasulu, Koduru.

Key Partners
Coca-Cola India Foundation | Pernod Ricard India Foundation
Karnataka

Masthi Venkatesh Iyengar Horticulture Farmer Producer Company Ltd. (FPO) was registered in 2016, in village Rajenahalli, Malur Taluka of Kolar, Karnataka. When formed, the FPO had 650 members and thirty farmer interest groups (FIGs). With a small input business in the five years since the FPO’s inception, only 150 new members had joined. Of the 150, only ninety members had paid their share capital amount. The mobilization of farmers in FPOs led to an increase of eighty-five members in just four months, totaling 885 members, each with a paid share capital. Farmers call it a new beginning for their FPO.

Key Partners
Coca-Cola India Foundation | Pernod Ricard India Foundation | Walmart Foundation
Telangana

Forty-year-old Rajamma is a single parent and practices agriculture in her father’s three-acre land. She gained immense knowledge and empowerment being a part of the Women Farmers Club Narsampalli. At the farmers’ club, she learned about nutrient management and says, "I have used bio manure as well as waste decomposer as an organic pesticide in my field, as a result of which I have a good yield at a comparatively lower cost, since my expenditure on buying chemical fertilizers reduced."

Key Partners
Guru Krupa Foundation | Hytech Seeds | Pernod Ricard India Foundation
In Chunni Kala village in district Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab, farmers are reaping benefits of using the super seeder machine for paddy crop. The crop residue burned in the largest scale, as in the case of paddy, is one cause of air pollution. The machine does three operations simultaneously, such as ploughing and mixing the crop stubble into the soil, from its front side, and simultaneously sowing the wheat from its rear end. Substituting the traditional method with the super seeder saves the farmer INR 1,500 per acre and about two hours of time per acre. In addition, the fertility of the soil is increased through the addition of organic carbon, due to the mixing of the crop stubble into the soil.

Key Partners
Godrej & Boyce Mfg Co Ltd.
Impact in 11 states

Community Radio
Sabir tunes into Alfaz-e-Mewat daily to listen to the agricultural program called Tohfa-e-Kudrat: Jal, Jungle, Zameen (gifts of nature-water, forests, and land). Information on laser land leveling caught his attention, and he was prompted to find out how he could reap the benefits of this technology.

His one-acre field sown with wheat crop yielded much more than before after laser leveling. In the past, his family members came forward to help at the time of irrigation; however, since Sabir resorted to laser leveling, his produce has increased, and irrigating the fields is much more convenient and easily manageable by one person.

Over 3.9 million people impacted across 1,829 villages and counting
Over 10,000 students trained in Digital and Life Skills Awareness
225 villages access Community Radio
35,291 students impacted by school transformations
44,391 crop demonstrations improve farm practices
1,286 acres covered with drip/sprinkler irrigation
164 schools with rainwater harvesting structures
162 check dams/nallah bunds constructed
95 ponds developed and rejuvenated
In FY 2021–22, Sehgal Foundation in the US grants to S M Sehgal Foundation amounted to US$ 1,968,800 (INR 145,079,939). S M Sehgal Foundation also received funding from other organizations amounting to US$ 5,512,876 (INR 406,241,212). To date, total grants from Sehgal Foundation in the US have been $34,510,853 (INR 1,957,869,641).

These grants and other income (interest, community contribution, and office space rental–net of expenses for leased space) were used for water management (29%); agricultural development (25%); rural research (3%); local participation and sustainability (16%); outreach for development and fundraising (4%); Transform Lives (16%) and general administration (7%).

### Abridged Balance Sheet as on 31st March 2022

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Current Year Amount (Rs.)</th>
<th>Prev. Year Amount (Rs.)</th>
<th>Current Year Amount (US$)</th>
<th>Prev. Year Amount (US$)</th>
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<td>Fixed Assets</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>603,792</td>
<td>8,534</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>530,366</td>
<td>7,893</td>
<td>7,113</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>628,772</td>
<td>603,792</td>
<td>8,534</td>
<td>8,098</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SM Sehgal Foundation Program Expenses during FY21–22 US$ 6.98 million (INR 514 million)*

*Excluding Building Maintenance expenses for the leased space and Capex
Awards and Affiliations

**Bhamashah Award by the Department of Education, Rajasthan**, for work in rural government schools under the Transform Lives program.

**The Amazing Indians Awards by The Times Network** to Ms. Anjali Makhija, Trustee and CEO, Finalist in the Rural Development category.

**ABSA Award for Agriculture Development** in Agri-Business Summit and Agri Awards.

**India Association of Minnesota (IAM) Person of the Year Award** to Mr. Jay Sehgal for recognition of his impactful COVID relief service to Indian and Minnesota communities.

**EK Naam Recognition** by Apollo Tyres Foundation for Geeta, project coordinator, Sehgal Foundation, for her work in water management and sanitation.
Board of Trustees

SURINDER (SURI) M. SEHGAL, PhD, is cofounder and chairman of Board of Trustees of S M Sehgal Foundation and Sehgal Foundation in the US; founder of William L. Brown Center for Economic Botany at the Missouri Botanical Garden, St Louis, Missouri, and emeritus trustee of the Garden.

EDDA G. SEHGAL, educated at Hohenstaufen Gymnasium, Goppingen, Germany; cofounder of S M Sehgal Foundation in India and Sehgal Foundation in the US; and board member of Proagro Group, India, and Global Technologies Incorporated, USA (1990–1998).

ANJALI MAKHIJA, MA, CEO; Certified Corporate Director, Institute of Directors (IOD); Leadership Foundational Principles certificate course by HarvardX; Life member of National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI), President of Haryana Agriculture Council of Women’s Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (WICCI), Internal Committee member for Marks and Spencer India Sourcing Office and member of advisory committee of University Outreach Program of Maharishi Dayanand University.

BEN SEHGAL, PhD, member of the board of directors of Sehgal Foundation in the US, and board member of the William L. Brown Center at the Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Missouri, USA.

BHAMY SHENOY, PhD, associated with Mysore Grahakara Parishat, Pratham, and other NGOs.

GANESAN BALACHANDER, PhD, former director, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, Bangalore, India, and member of Consortium Board of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

RAJAT JAY SEHGAL, executive vice president of Sehgal Foundation in the US and former managing trustee and executive director of S M Sehgal Foundation.

SUHAS P. WANI, PhD, Research Program director, Asia Region, and director, ICRISAT Development Center, ICRISAT, Patancheru, Telangana, India.

NEELIMA KHETAN, visiting fellow, Brookings India; former Group CSR head, Vedanta Group; VP of CSR at Hindustan Zinc; director, CSR and Sustainability, Coca-Cola India and South West Asia; India Country director, American India Foundation; CEO, Seva Mandir; acting director, Institute of Rural Management, Anand and recipient of Lakshmipat Singhania-IIM Lucknow National Leadership Award and Maharana Mewar Award.
M. D. ASTHANA has held multiple former positions in the Indian Administrative Services (IAS) in Haryana government and the Government of India; and former director of the Council for Social Development (2001–2004).

JAN LEEMANS, PhD member board of directors, Misr Hytech Seed International, Egypt; Solynta, Wageningen, The Netherlands; and Agrosave, Gent, Belgium; former research director of Plant Genetic Systems, Belgium.

JANE E. SCHUKOSKE, BA, JD, LLM, higher education and development consultant based in the US. Former executive director of US-India Educational Foundation, associate professor at University of Baltimore School of Law, and CEO of S M Sehgal Foundation (2011–16).

GENSUKE TOKORO, Professor (special appointment) at the Institute of Innovation Research of Hitotsubashi University, Japan (2008–2014); president and CEO of NAI Inc. and Kyoto Biopharmaceuticals Inc.; and board member of Institute for the study of Panspermia and Astroeconomics.

RAMAN K. SEHGAL, MBA, managing director and a member of the Board of Directors of Misr Hytech Seed International, Egypt; and a member of the Board of Directors of Hytech Seed, India.

S. K. VASAL, PhD, plant breeder and geneticist from CIMMYT, World Food Prize laureate, and recipient of Dr. M S Swaminathan Award for Leadership in Agriculture.

VYOMA NAIR, executive board adviser to Nucleus, an expert on international expansion who developed an integrated “one-stop shopping” service model covering multi-country HR, legal, accounting, tax, and compliance services for smaller US tech companies seeking international expansion; formerly worked with Redback Networks, RedHat Software, and Theorem Clinical Research.

VENKATA SUBBARAO, KOLLI, PhD, a strategic business leader with extensive experience in agriculture, biosciences, and life sciences; a seasoned professional and a strategic thinker. He retired as Regional President – Corteva Agriscience and has also served as Vice Chair for Federation of Seed Association of India, President of National Seed Association of India from 2011–13; on CII Agriculture Council and FICCI Biotechnology committee.

(w.e.f. November 1, 2022)
Team

Ajay Bhawsar, assistant program lead, Madhya Pradesh

Akansha Sharma, assistant manager, Projects

Akhilesh Sharma, assistant program lead, Haryana

Amritanshu Pandey, assistant program lead, Madhya Pradesh

Amba Mukherjee, senior research associate, Rural Research and Development

Anjali Godyal, chief development officer

Anjali Makhija, trustee and chief executive officer

Ankit Ojha, assistant program lead, Transform Lives one school at a time

Anvesha Ranjan, assistant manager, Projects

Aparajeeta, assistant program lead, Water Research and Training

Arti Manchanda Grover, senior program lead, Outreach for Development

Ashutosh Singh, assistant program lead, Uttar Pradesh

Barsha Das, assistant program lead, Local Participation and Sustainability

Bhupendra Singh Barati, assistant program lead, Rajasthan

Chander Shekhar Mehra, social scientist, Rural Research and Development

Chander Shekhar, senior manager, Finance & Accounts

Debarchita Sinha, assistant program lead, Local Participation and Sustainability

Debika Goswami, senior program lead, Local Participation and Sustainability

Ellora Mubashir, project documentation specialist

Gurpreet Singh, accounts officer

Hari Bhagwan Sharma, assistant manager, MIS

Jagdish Prasad, senior manager, Procurement & Support Services

Jatin Kalra, accountant, ERP

Jitendra Yadav, accountant

Kamal Bisht, assistant program lead, Haryana

Kamini Vikram, assistant manager, Accounts & Admin, Telangana

Kotti Vemanarayana, assistant program lead, Telangana

Kuldeep, assistant program lead, Haryana

Kunika Sharma, assistant manager, Projects

Lalit Mohan Sharma, principal scientist, Water Research and Training

Mahipal Singh, assistant program lead, Uttar Pradesh

Manoj Sharma, head, IT Infrastructure

Meenakshi Mrinalini, senior manager, Human Resources

Mohd Sadique, assistant program lead, Punjab

N P Singh, program lead, Agriculture Development

Nasir Husain, assistant program lead, Haryana

Navneet Narwal, associate lead, Transform Lives one school at a time

Neema Joshi, manager, Project Development
Neeraj Kumar Dubey, assistant program lead, Bihar

Niti Saxena, principal scientist, Rural Research and Development

Pankaj Gaur, manager, External Reports and Indirect Taxes

Pawan Kumar Kaswan, program lead, Water Management

Pawan Kumar, principal lead, Agriculture Development

Pooja O Murada, principal lead, Outreach for Development

Rahul Kumar, program lead, Bihar

Ramesh Kapahi, chief financial officer

Rashi Gupta, manager, Partnerships and Fundraising

Richa Saxena, senior research associate, Rural Research and Development

Salahuddin Saiphy, principal lead, Water Management

Sam Kapoor, manager, Projects and Fundraising

Sanjay Tiwari, program lead
Saurabh Srivastava, senior program lead, Local Participation and Sustainability
Shailesh Pant, program lead, Agriculture Development
Shalinder Singh, manager, MIS
Shashank Devra, program lead, Local Participation and Sustainability
Shrey Yadav, officer, Administration
Shruchi Singh, program lead, Projects
Siprian Kiro, assistant manager, Outreach for Development
Sonia Chopra, program lead, Outreach for Development
Subhransu Kumar Bebarta, manager, Project Development
Sudhansu Singh, program lead
Sunder Lal, accountant, Rajasthan
Susmita Guru, senior social scientist, Rural Research and Development

Swati Sinha, program lead, Projects
Vaikunth Nath Shukla, accountant, ERP
Vanaparla Santosh Kumar, program lead, Telangana
Vidhi Tandon, manager, Accounts
Vikas Jha, principal lead, Local Participation and Sustainability
Vishnu B Khedkar, program lead, Maharashtra
Vrindaa Sharma, assistant manager, MIS
Yashi Gautam, assistant program lead, Water Research and Training
Yogesh Rohidas Singare, assistant program lead, Maharashtra
M D Gupta, director, Special Projects

FIELD TEAMS
S M Sehgal Foundation field teams operate across 11 states of India.
Project Offices

BIHAR
- Sharma Sadan NH 28, Infront of DAV School Khabra, Muzzaffarpur 842001

HARYANA
- House No. 550, Ward No. 4, Sohna, Gurgaon 122103
- Village Khedli Kankar PO Rewasan, Nuh 122107
- House No. 567, HUDA Sector, Narnaul, Mahendergarh 123001
- Biwan Road Gandhi Colony, Ward No. 5, Near Dal Meel, Ferozpur Jhirka 122104

KARNATAKA
- # 1490, 1st floor, Padmanabhaiah Complex, K G Halli Village, Tekal Hobali PO Malur Taluk, Kolar 563137

MADHYA PRADESH
- 125 Vrindavan Dham, Madhya Pradesh Bhopal Corridor Road, Adarsh Nagar, Dewas-455001
- Balaji Phase II, Beside Indian Oil Petrol Pump, Nearitol Hotel, Purani Chhawani, Gwalior 474010

MAHARASHTRA
- Plot No. 124, Ganesh Kunj, Veer Sawarkar Nagar, N-5 South CIDCO Colony, Aurangabad 431003
- Anas House, No. 2086, Ajintha Road, Phulambri, Aurangabad 431111

RAJASTHAN
- 00, Indra Colony, Near Sarwan Cement Factory, Alwar Road, Behror 301701
- Mohalla Kala Kaun, Near Sain Dharamshala, Kanaha Tower Main Road, Alwar 301001
- Ward No. 14, Near Ram Mandir Padampur, Ganganagar 335041

TELANGANA
- House No: 4-132/18/A, Survey No. 361, Ravalkole village, Medchal Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri, 501401
- C/O Y. Bala Kishan, Bhuvaneshwari Auto Mobiles, Door No. 9-69, 1st Floor, Ambedkar Circle, Doultabad, Siddipet, 502247

UTTAR PRADESH
- C-243, Avas Vikas, Ashok Nagar, Khatauli, Muzaffarnagar 251201
- 35, West Master Colony, Maholi, Bara Gaon Road Maholi, Sitapur 261141
- House near Munna Market Shergarh Tiraha, Chhata, Mathura
- Daud Nagar, Mewalal Ki Bagiya, Near Grace Dental Clinic, Prayagraj 211008

UTTARAKHAND
- Near TRC, Shivansh Sadan Champawat 262523