



RBS Foundation India

Annual Report

2018-19

Our mission is to build
climate resilience of
India's communities and
natural ecosystems.

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N Sunil Kumar

Head of Sustainability, RBS India
Chief Functionary, RBS Foundation India

The Government of India recently announced its aspiration to be a \$5 trillion economy by the year 2024. The ambition outlines a transformative five-year phase for India with prosperity expected to permeate its population.

This phase can be defining for its natural capital as well. As an economy, whatever its size cannot be meaningfully evaluated independently of the natural capital in it.

As India takes its first steps towards this ambition, there is a need to recognize the present challenges -

- India is one of the most affected by Climate Change. Its impacts are turning critical, putting as much as 600 million of our citizens at risk. Floods, droughts, and heat-waves are more frequent than ever. In 2018 – 19, we lost as much as 2,400 lives due to extreme weather events. Two-thirds of the world's most polluted cities are in India – shortening lives and lowering productivity. International Labour Organisation estimates that heat stress will lead to loss of 34 million full time jobs in India – up from 15 million in 1995.
- India is a land of rivers which are integral to life and the backbone of our agrarian economy. Our rivers face challenges such as nutrient run-off from agriculture, widespread degradation of its riparian zones and forests, over-extraction of water, construction of dams and pollution from sewage discharge and solid waste dumping. This combined with impacts of climate change and agriculture policies that drive excessive usage of water, continue to hamper our water security.
- India is seeing rising inequalities and resultant increasing vulnerability of a large section of its population like never before. Research indicates increasing concentration of wealth in fewer hands. Our commons, including forests, that are a critical livelihood support and coping mechanism of over 300 million vulnerable citizens continue to face degradation. This along with rising water scarcity and agricultural stress has reduced the ability of such families to stay above the threshold of poverty – deepening inequalities.

In this backdrop, it is an imperative that India's developmental strategies are aligned to make careful and sustainable use of its natural capital and avoid intensification of the above

challenges.

The questions that arise are:

- How can India combat these challenges while approaching a \$5 trillion economy?
- How can it balance its high developmental aspirations and heightened environmental responsibility?

The answer lies in how India manages its Landscapes – especially its forests. Forest ecosystems have the potential to address India's present-day challenges– Climate change, water insecurity, and rising inequalities. Just about 4% of India's land is under protected forests which are the head-waters of its rivers, strongholds of biodiversity, and major carbon sinks. This 4% land is the foundation of India's sustainable growth and thus protection of these landscapes should be integral to any developmental strategies towards the \$5 trillion benchmark.

Conserving India's protected forests and restoring surrounding degraded forests has the potential to reduce the estimated investments required in combating climate change - estimated to be around \$2.5 trillion. The strategy can be seen as the most efficient and cost-effective way forward to India becoming a \$5 trillion economy while addressing its most pressing issues. It can also be seen a fundamental contributor towards India's Commitment to Bonn Challenge, its NDCs, and the UN SDGs, mainly those on climate change, poverty eradication, food security, water, and biodiversity conservation.

Since its inception in 2007, RBS Foundation India (RBS FI) has been contributing to India's efforts towards sustainable development and combating climate change. By striving to work in consonance with the RBS Group and national priorities, our 'Supporting Enterprises' programme reaches out to the most excluded communities of the country whose lives are inextricably intertwined with some of our most important natural ecosystems. Our projects provide sustainable livelihoods to indigenous and other vulnerable sections, support restoration of degraded commons including forests, and focus on strengthening governance of the relationship between communities and ecosystems.

Our work directly contributes to 7 of the 17 SDGs and is aligned to India's NDCs and other international commitments like the Bonn Challenge.

Our partners from the civil society, government, and multilaterals have been integral to our work and with their support we continue to deepen our impacts and contribute towards the issues we side with.

Our RBS colleagues have also played a crucial part in the success of our work. Their time and skills contribution have not only resulted in great value addition for the projects, it has also created responsible citizens with skills and commitments to make a difference to the society.

It is my pleasure to present our Annual Report for 2018-19. The report describes the three pillars of our approach. Through which we benefit 126,500 families and improve 130,000 hectares of degraded lands in some of India's most critical landscapes like - Central Indian Highlands, Eastern Ghats, Chota-Nagpur plateau, Western Ghats and the Himalayas.



Programme Highlights*

Total outreach of ongoing Projects:

113,643 Households

938 Villages

20 Projects

Our partners:

17 Civil society organisations

2 Government Agencies

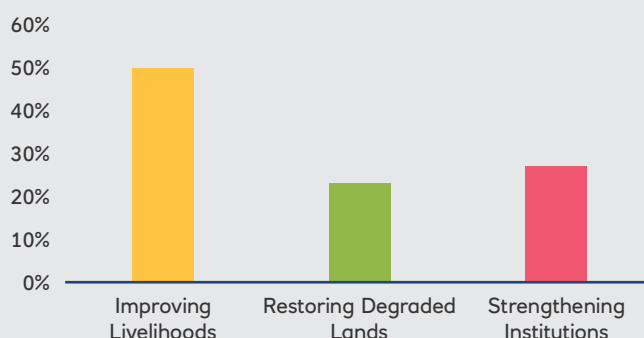
1 Multi-lateral Organisation

Area conserved / improved:

1,30,000
hectares

Funding during 2018 – 19

INR **15.83** crores



Convergence achieved during 2018–19

INR **23.02** crores

The above details cover our ongoing projects implemented during Year 2018 – 19. We continue to benefit 12,907 families in 112 villages with projects completed before March 2018.

Alignment with

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

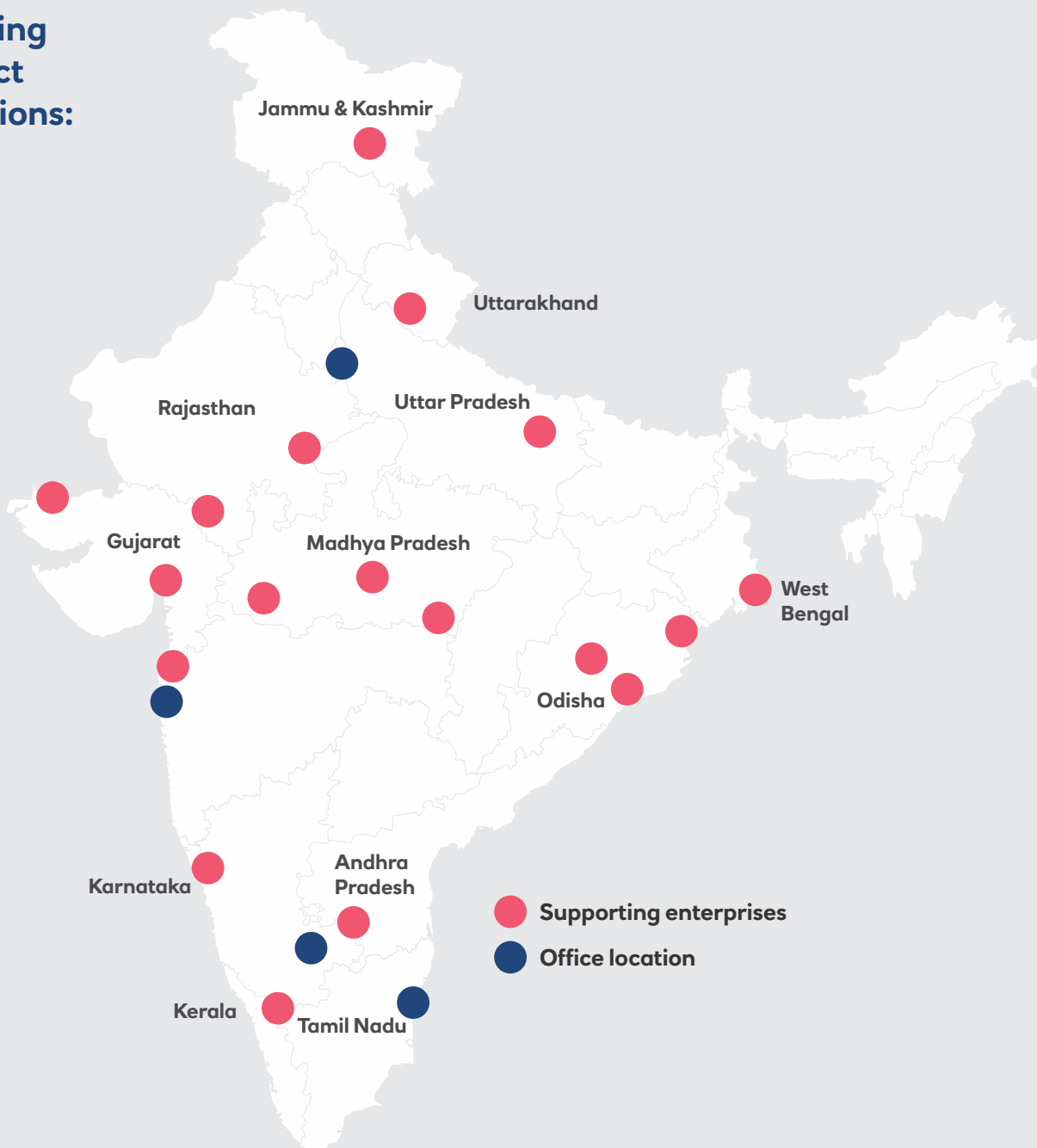


Reduced poverty in 126,500 families through improved natural resource management and sustainable livelihood.



Ensured year round food security in 90% of our beneficiaries.

Ongoing Project Locations:



Provided quality education and improved life skills in 3,000 children.



20,000+ women led enterprises supported. Improved women participation in 900 village industries.



Strategic partnerships with Government, Multilaterals - UNFCCC, Academia and Civil society.



Over 130,000 hectares of land improved / conserved.



Enhanced adaptive capacities of 126,500 vulnerable families.





About RBS

We are a financial services company, providing a wide range of products and services to personal, commercial, large corporate and institutional customers. Our purpose is to serve customers well. We serve around 18.90 million customers across the globe, and our aim is to consistently meet their needs wherever they find us.

We are building a safe, simple and customer-focused bank. To do so we are doing business in a way that aligns with our values and considers the longer-term impacts of our decisions and actions. Underpinning that ambition is our blueprint for lasting success.

Approach to Climate Change

We continue to recognise that climate change is a significant global issue and fully support the objectives of the Paris Climate Agreement and the emission reduction strategies set by the UK and devolved Governments. Climate change presents both risks and opportunities to our business across our customers, operations and suppliers. In the last year, the importance and urgency of tackling climate change has been made more evident following the publication of the IPCC 1.5°C report. RBS has continued to engage with the regulators, investors, NGOs and other key stakeholders on the actions we are taking to play our part in addressing this important issue.

As part of our developing strategy to address climate change, we are helping accelerate the transition to a low carbon economy by supporting customers and integrating climate change into core business decision making. Over the last decade, we have become one of the leading lenders to the UK sustainable energy market, with expertise and services designed for customers from small businesses to large corporations.

As the world around us continues to change, we welcome the growing prominence of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 2030 targets. In 2018, we completed an assessment of our business activities against the SDGs and we're engaging with a range of stakeholders to help us align our strategy to contribute to them.

2018 Highlights

- Recognised as the leading lender to UK renewables sector by no. of transactions over the past ten years (2008 - 2018).
 - Committed £10 billion funding towards Sustainable Energy Sector by 2020.
 - Committed to RE100 and pledged 100% renewable electricity in our global operations by 2025.
 - As at 31 December 2018, our total lending exposure remains at 1.20% to Power and Oil & Gas sectors.
-

Community Policy

We are committed to supporting our communities through delivery of bank-wide strategic programmes, making donations for specific charitable purposes and encouraging our employees to get involved with the community through giving, fundraising and volunteering. Every member of our staff is entitled to a minimum of three days volunteering to help their local community.

2018 Highlights

- Under our MoneySense programme—77,602 young people in UK schools received financial education.
 - We trained 31,637 employees to be 'Friends against scams' as part of our fight against financial crime.
 - Through the generosity of our employees, charities received £4,402,764.
 - Our employees completed 100,368 hours of volunteering during business time.
-

“We consider the long-term impact of our decisions and actions and are proud of the way our enterprise and financial education programmes continue to make a positive difference to our customers and communities. We also remain committed to contribute towards the global priorities of climate change and 2030 agenda on Sustainable development. RBS Foundation India plays a significant role in supporting this commitment. By enhancing capacities in 126,500 most vulnerable households and improving over 130,000 hectares of land in some of India’s most critical ecosystems, the Foundation continues to deliver strongly to address climate change issues and contribute to the SDGs in alignment with India’s national priorities.”

Kirsty Britz, Director of Sustainable Banking, RBS



RBS in India

Our ambition as a bank is to become UK's #1 bank for customer service, trust and advocacy by 2020. RBS global workforce is integral to helping achieve this goal. RBS India is the innovation and operations hub of RBS. With our vibrant India hubs spanning across Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi and Gurugram, we have wide reaching resources that allow us to leverage the right talent and efficiencies to provide an enhanced customer experience. With the incredible variety of roles across Technology, Global Finance Services, Risk, Operations & Shared Services, Human Resources and Internal Audit,

we've brought together an array of experts to cater for the changing needs of our 18.9 million customers across the UK.

Our colleagues reflect our values and ambitions by promoting equality and workplace inclusion at every opportunity, while always putting our customers first.

Diversity and Inclusion

We are committed to making RBS a great place to work and providing an inclusive and supportive working environment while encouraging a healthy work-life balance.

Our commitment to inclusion and diversity in the workplace is reflected in the broad range of skills and areas of expertise that our colleagues bring to the table. We value these diverse capabilities and offer opportunities to further develop these skills to enhance their careers, while continually recognising and rewarding hard work and contributions.

"Our colleagues reflect our values and ambitions by promoting equality and workplace inclusion at every opportunity, while always putting our customers first."

Our Inclusion plans apply globally and are formed around 5 key priorities:

- Gender Balanced
- Disability Smart
- Ethnically Diverse
- LGBT Innovative
- Inclusive Culture





Employee Engagement and Volunteering

We are committed to investing in our people and providing them the exposure to community service, not only at the work place but also at our community development and social responsibility projects. We strongly believe that such exposure to our project communities and landscapes instils a sense of social responsibility, inclusiveness and long term thinking in our colleagues.

Having identified this inter-relationship, we continuously engage colleagues from all office locations in

India through our volunteering initiative – DISHA. We facilitate opportunities on our Supporting Enterprises programme and with local charity partners working with underprivileged children at locations near our office. The aim is to create an ecosystem where we can learn and contribute. Our volunteers, managing the local charity partners entirely on their own, demonstrate the engagement that exists in our volunteering programmes.

These opportunities sensitise our people on relevant issues and provide them a platform to make a

difference to our society. These programmes are also an excellent opportunity for our diverse set of colleagues to come together and contribute towards a common objective.

By contributing their time and skills on our ongoing projects, our colleagues take back learnings and experiences to initiate desk-based skill volunteering and community development projects on their own. Such exposures create a visible pride and loyalty among our colleagues and reinforce our commitment to be a Great Place to Work.

“It’s a great opportunity for me to share with you what DISHA, our employee-led CSR initiative in India has achieved so far. DISHA continues to provide holistic welfare for underprivileged sections of our society through Education, health & nutrition, shelter & employment for children and the youth. Through

their Teach and Sponsorship program, I am heartened to see employees volunteering through teaching and contribute towards school fees and books. I am proud that Disha’s biggest achievement is to provide girls and women in rural areas an opportunity to secure jobs through the Mentorship program. It

is amazing that Disha has clocked more than 8,000 hours of volunteering and collected a total of GBP 19592.37 so far. Through DISHA, I feel we are all doing our bit to serve the community and help the underprivileged.”

Neeraj Goyal, DISHA – Lead and Head of Technology, RBS India





Quotes by leadership



Pankaj Phatarphod

I have always believed that, one must always be the change they wish to see. Keeping abreast with this thought, RBS Foundation India have been offering tremendous contribution towards the society, for several years now. By supporting sustainable growth for the foreseeable future, by embracing new paradigm of development and by reaching out to 126,500 households in 1,055 villages through its strategic projects and benefitting 3,000 children through local charities in 5 cities, the Foundation continues to provide overwhelming support to all their communities and programs. They have also become the first business globally to have partnered with the UN Climate Adaptation Fund.

The Foundation has always served as a great platform for employees in RBS to give back to society. It gives me immense pleasure to see our colleagues creating a positive impact through volunteering opportunities and other contributions through the DISHA volunteering initiatives. I urge each of you at RBS to continue to be the part of the Foundation and provide service to our society.



Anuranjita Kumar

I am extremely proud of being a part of RBS, an organisation that has, over the years, been a torch bearer for its CSR activities. We do our bit for the community on a consistent and everyday basis, never forgetting for a moment the responsibility we have towards the generations ahead. RBS has been an active crusader in ensuring that we contribute in every way, be it through the DISHA volunteering activities or creating social champions, empowering our colleagues to lead these initiatives. The spectrum of initiatives that RBS leads and supports is immense and the scope of work we do for the community is far reaching, in our quest to enrich lives.



Rajesh Jogi

For years, RBS Foundation India has driven the global sustainability agenda in India through a balance of economic inclusion and environmental conservation. Our projects, spread across remote locations in 11 states, achieve great strides in sustainability and climate change, making a difference to vulnerable communities in India, whilst preserving our planet.

In the words of our late Chairperson, Ms. Meera Sanyal, “We must strive continuously to understand the role of business in tackling the critical issues of human development and environmental sustainability in developing countries.”

I am very proud to be a part of this heritage.



Bala Pisupati

Application of right Knowledge and convergence of resources are key to making material impact on landscapes and large communities. Community Institutions are important to sustain these impacts. Where the RBS Foundation India initiatives differ from others is that it moves beyond being a donor but being a partner in implementation, scaling up the impacts and sustain them

Our Board of Directors

Pankaj Phatarphod

Managing Director and Country
Head of Services, India, RBS
Chairperson, RBS FI

Rajesh Jogi

Head of Risk Hub, India, RBS

Anuranjita Kumar

Managing Director and Head of
Human Resources, International
Hubs, RBS

Saurabh Gupta

Head of Finance Hub, India

N Sunil Kumar

Head of Sustainability, India, RBS
Chief Functionary, RBS FI

Andrea Dacosta

Employee Director, RBS FI

Dr Bala Krishna Pisupati

Conservation and Development
Specialist;
Independent Director, RBS FI





RBS Foundation India

RBS Foundation India (RBS FI) is a not for profit organization promoted by RBS under the Indian Companies Act, 2013 to carry out its community development and social responsibility work in India.

Our approach

As India develops, rapid urbanization is expected to be one of its most dominant trends in the coming years. It is estimated that as against 30% currently about 40% of the country's population would be urban by 2030. With population and income growth, this shift will likely be realized alongside demographic changes that will exponentially increase the demand for infrastructure and urban amenities like housing, energy, transport, food, water, and waste disposal.

Given the imperative of becoming an economic powerhouse while addressing issues of widespread poverty, water insecurity and climate change, India faces a formidable and complex challenge. Especially since its vast population continues to be dependent on its increasingly stressed natural resources –also the basis of economic growth.

In this backdrop, India's natural

ecosystems face severe pressure and widespread degradation. The resultant loss in biodiversity and functionality of these ecosystems triggers a vicious cycle - affecting the most vulnerable. Such vulnerable communities, who earn about a third of their income by extracting natural resources from their surroundings, often rely on these resources as safety nets to keep themselves above the poverty threshold and thus are the most affected. It is estimated over 200 million people in India fall under this classification.

With diminished value of natural ecosystems due to - diversion and over extraction to meet rising peri-urban/ urban demands and climate change impacts, more and more people face the risk of being forced into poverty. Poverty thus runs deepest amongst those dependent on natural ecosystems.

The socio-economic and environmental impacts of degradation are even more in the context of ecosystems which support high biodiversity and are ecologically critical for the wider range of services they provide. Ensuring functionality of such landscapes is thus vital. However, it cannot be ensured unless the community is integral to the conservation action and management of natural resources.

Addressing developmental requirements of the local community while fostering conservation of such ecologically important ecosystems is thus the approach adopted by RBS FI. Through its 'Supporting Enterprise' programme, we aim to promote social, environmental, and economic equity by building on the three pillars of our approach. These

are – Improving livelihoods, restoring degraded land, and strengthening institutions.

Since its inception in year 2007, the Supporting Enterprise programme has benefitted 126,500 families residing in 1,055 villages and improved over 130,000 hectares of degraded lands. Through our approach, we continue to create shared and sustained benefits for India's community, biodiversity and landscapes.

The success of our work lies in our inclusive approach and we continue to focus on forming and strengthening partnerships with implementing partners, government bodies and multilateral agencies. Our partners continue to endorse our work by supporting its replication and expansion in other parts of India.

“Our Supporting Enterprises programme is designed to create resilience in the most vulnerable communities and landscapes across India.”





Pillar I: Improving Livelihoods

Livelihoods in rural India are centered around agriculture and along with allied sectors like animal husbandry, forestry and fisheries it supports 70% (~900 million) of our population. Thus, agriculture remains the mainstay of rural economy even while its contribution to GDP has seen a steady decline, especially since the 1990s.

Small-holder systems form the majority of rural India with as much as 82% farmers being small and marginal. These systems rely on a basket of activities to ensure their livelihood security. These activities are primarily agriculture and agriculture-allied in nature. However, these systems are getting increasingly vulnerable and relying on distress migration to make ends meet. This trend is mainly attributed to rise in population and low returns from agriculture. The rainfed area continues to constitute as much as 60% of sown area in the country.

Rising land degradation, deepening water insecurity, and frequent

climate change impacts have also contributed to this trend. With these expected to intensify, the livelihood security of small-holder systems faces threats, deeply undermining their ability to remain above the threshold of poverty. Such communities residing in and around India's critical and mostly protected ecosystems are even more vulnerable. This is attributed to lack of tenurial access to natural resources and their remoteness which often leads to a lack of intensity and unequitable distribution of government welfare schemes.

With a view to ensure livelihood security in such communities, RBS FI promotes livelihoods that are ecologically aligned, equitably prioritized, and economically rewarding. We believe that livelihoods of small-holder systems are strongly linked to the health of the ecosystem and its components like soil, water, and biodiversity. Our interventions are thus designed to secure livelihoods within the threshold of an ecosystem so as to

ensure their sustainability.

We also support diversified livelihoods like development of handicraft enterprises. Handicraft, India's second largest employer, is integral to the rural economy and provides a safety net to most vulnerable families including the landless and contributes to reviving traditional practices. Contemporary diversified livelihoods like Ecotourism and Skill Development are also promoted considering the local context and aspirations of the community, especially the youth. Such diversified practices contribute directly to efficient utilization and conservation of natural resources by providing additional incentives to the community.

Our interventions also recognize the influence of local institutions in driving livelihood decisions and we design our interventions to improve collective action. This is done with a view to reduce transactional costs, distribute related risks, and promote efficient usage of natural resources.

Highlights

Agriculture & Allied
(households)

Agriculture
43,732

Vegetable Farming
14,295

Livestock / NTFP based
24,186

Diversified
(Individuals)

Ecotourism
974

Handicrafts
2,914

Skill Development
3,506



Pillar II: Restoring Degraded Lands

India’s ability to meet its developmental aspirations and environmental commitments rests heavily on how it manages its landscapes. Meanwhile, land degradation is increasing in India and studies estimate that as much as one-fourth land in India has potential for restoration i.e. around 80 million hectares of the total 330 million hectares.

Through enhanced productivity of land, restoration has the ability to strengthen rural economy, diversify incomes, and create new employment and enterprise opportunities. Successful landscape restoration also provides multiple long-term environmental benefits such as soil and moisture conservation, biodiversity protection, and carbon sequestration.

Restoring degraded lands has a direct bearing to the resilience of the most excluded and vulnerable communities. Since in the rural context, the relatively well-to-do families have a greater ability to exploit ecosystems and natural resources as they have larger assets

like livestock, access to hired labour, credit and markets. On the contrary, it’s the most vulnerable and asset poor households that rely significantly on common pool resources under open access or common property regimes. These sections are heavily dependent on biodiversity and commons as a risk mitigation strategy to cope with shocks and stay above the threshold of poverty.

Restoring degraded lands is seen as the most efficient and cost-effective way forward to alleviate poverty and generate climate benefits. It is also seen fundamental to achieving India’s NDC and the UN SDGs, mainly those on climate change, poverty eradication, food security, water, and biodiversity conservation. Acknowledging the importance and effectiveness of restoration, India has committed to restore 21 million hectares by 2030 under the Bonn Challenge.

RBS FI has been assisting rural communities to undertake restoration of degraded common and private lands through our initiatives

across India. We support the communities adopt a process that enables conservation planning at a village level. This is with a view to address degradation of commons and private lands– including grazing areas, waterbodies, and woodlots. Our interventions focus on land treatment, eradication of invasive species, and afforestation of indigenous species. These activities are complemented by establishing governance around optimum harvest of fuelwood, fodder, water, NTFPs considering the threshold of the ecosystem and its regenerative capacity.

Local knowledge and practices are integral to these interventions and they are implemented within the customary resource sharing mechanisms. Our projects aim to establish linkages and bring together multiple village level institutions to promote a landscape approach to restoration and derive larger benefits for the biodiversity and ensure the long-term ecological security.

Highlights

Agriculture area improved
86,979 hectares

Land treated
21,735 hectares

Afforestation & Community conservation
10,816 hectares

Eradication of invasive species
1,395 hectares



Pillar III: Strengthening Institutions

In India, community institutions traditionally play an important role in driving local governance, livelihood practices, and management of natural resources. By distributing risks, including those associated with climate change, these institutions structure vulnerability, particularly in small-holder systems. They play an important role in defining how the community responds to adversity and addresses its development aspiration. Efficient institutions are thus the basis of resilient community and landscape.

However due to missing synergy in the efforts of communities and welfare departments of Government, effectiveness of these institutions is seen to be diminishing. Conflicting alignment of conservation priorities with developmental agendas and lack of participation/misrepresentation of vulnerable sections like women, particularly vulnerable indigenous groups is often noticed as well.

This institutional deficit affects the ability of communities to take collective and informed decisions around livelihoods, ensure equitable access and judicious usage of natural

resources, and provide impartial access and distribution of welfare programmes. Addressing this institutional vacuum is thus essential to foster locally agreed, collective, and equitable behaviors that keep individual interests in check and safeguard interest of the most vulnerable.

Strong local institutions help communities seek active support for adaptation in the form of financial flows, information and capacity building support. Therefore, empowerment through strengthened community-institutions can contribute significantly to reducing the vulnerability of communities to various risks, including those related to climate variability and change.

Recognising the importance of local institutions for communities' overall resilience, strengthening of community institutions has been an integral component of the projects supported by RBS FI. Our projects assist the community form new and strengthen existing institutions with a view to fill the existing institutional void. This is done with a view to promote alignment of conservational priorities and developmental

aspirations at a local and landscape level.

We support these institutions to grow under the Panchayats ambit and ensure that relevant village level issues, especially those on livelihoods and conservation are made part of the Panchayats discussion and addressed through equitable governance. Through established processes, our initiatives promote inclusive and neutral institutions with balanced representation from marginal and excluded groups.

By focusing on strengthening institutions and making them integral to planning and action, our interventions under livelihoods and restoration are able to make a lasting impact. Thus, investing in strengthening institutions has not only improved the probability of such physical interventions being successful, it has also developed the community's ownership to self-initiate action for their long-term well-being.

Highlights

Village institutions
913

**Self Help
Groups**
2,321

**Multi-stakeholder
groups**
10

**Farmer Producer
Organisations**
7





Quotes from community members



We have 14 hectares of common forests which was inaccessible, unused and unproductive for the last 20 years due to Lantana infestation. With the Lantana gone, we have established governance to conserve that area. Since it became accessible, each family in our village has been able to earn an amount of INR 4,000/- per annum by collecting and selling tendu leaves. We are using that area for cattle grazing for last two years. Incidence of crop raiding by wild animals has also reduced drastically.

Basanta Kumar Jhariya, Village Chhichari of Bichiya, Mandla

Few years back, you would not have seen me in the village during this time of the year. I have stopped going to Chennai for work since I have become a member of the Mangalajodi Ecotourism Trust. I am getting work here as a boatman, so I don't have to leave my family now to earn for them. Last year, I earned INR 25,000 through tourism. Nanda Behera, Boatman,

Mangalajodi Ecotourism Trust in Tangi, Khorda

Desi (country) chicken are very important in our life. They are like an ATM for us as we can sell it anytime, whenever we face financial crisis. I started rearing 40 chickens in 2018, of which, I sold 38 chickens and earned INR 18,000. Timely vaccination of the flock is helping their growth and has decreased the mortality rate. My dream is to build a new shed and improve my cash income.

Mamta Dhodre, Village Katalbodi of Paraswada, Balaghat.

Quotes from employee volunteers



We conducted quiz programs to increase awareness of school children on ecological and regional facts. We believe that sensitizing children will have a major impact on conservation of the ecological system and their regional wellbeing. It gives me immense satisfaction to have contributed time and skill for such a social and environmental cause. I wish to continue participating in such activities.”

Sharmila Selvam, Volunteered at Anantpur project

It was a great opportunity for me, to

experience and understand the problems faced by people (especially women) in rural parts of Udaipur, India. As the event was held on the occasion of International Women’s day the theme of the event was “Balance for better”. Awareness about issues existing around us is very important. It encourages direction towards resolution rather than being overwhelmed by the issues.

Archana Vishwakarma, Volunteered at Udaipur Project

While volunteering at a school, I observed that majority of the students were clear about what they wanted to do, however they needed help on how to achieve those goals. I shared my story with them which they found to be useful. While wrapping up, many kids hugged me and asked me to not leave. I will cherish this memory for the rest of my life. It felt really good.

Deepak Puri, Volunteered at Ranthambore Project

Quotes from our partners



It's hard to find a donor so committed to make a lasting impact on ecological hotspots like the Kanha Pench Corridor, as is RBS Foundation India. The sheer willingness to collaborate with partners shown by the Foundation and its team is infectious.

Ishan Agarwal, Senior Programme Manager, Foundation for Ecological Security

Some partnerships are beautiful, not just because they exude trust, but also, they leave you enriched. This aptly describes Indian Grameen Services' 12 solid years of association with RBS Foundation India. Our joint initiatives in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Odisha have led to some innovative and replicable conservation and livelihood strategies that are being adopted in IGS' other projects as well.

Bharati Joshi, Chief Executive Officer, Indian Grameen Services

For us at AIACA, the experience of partnership with RBS Foundation India has been a collaboration in the truest sense of the term. Worthy of special mention are their innovative methodologies of hosting learning and sharing workshops for partners - an equitable forum is co-created for diverse and rich knowledge exchanges annually.

Sreya Mojumdar, Executive Director, All India Artisans and Craftworkers Association



Project Outreach

Project	Partners	State, District	Household	Villages
Livelihood Enhancement Programme through Natural Resource Management in Gujarat	Development Support Center	Gujarat Multiple	40,000	165
Kanha Pench Corridor Climate Adaptation Project	Foundation for Ecological Security; Professional Assistance for Rural Development; Watershed Organisation Trust; BAIF Institute of Sustainable Development	Madhya Pradesh Mandla, Balaghat and Seoni	18,787	267
Livelihood Enhancement Programme through Natural Resource Management in Madhya Pradesh	Development Support Center	Madhya Pradesh Dhar, Dewas and Alirajpur	16,000	98
Developing Craftmark Green	All India Artisans and Craftworkers Association	Multiple	10,000	NA
Integrated Livelihoods in the hills of Uttarakhand	Appropriate Technology India	Uttarakhand Pauri	3,702	131
Supporting Enterprises at Kotra	Seva Mandir	Rajasthan Udaipur	3,500	10
Supporting Enterprises at Andhra Pradesh	Foundation for Ecological Security	Andhra Pradesh Anantpur, Chittoor	3,000	61
Supporting Enterprises at Sathyamangalam	Care Earth Trust	Tamil Nadu Erode	2,600	16
Supporting Enterprises at Malenad-Mysore	Wildlife Conservation Society	Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu Multiple	2,500	8
Supporting Enterprises at Ladakh	Nature Conservation Foundation and Leh Nutrition Project	Jammu and Kashmir Leh	2,250	34

Project	Partners	State, District	Household	Villages
Supporting Enterprises at Satkosia	Foundation for Ecological Security	Odisha Angul	2,000	30
Supporting Enterprises at Similipal	Indian Grameen Services	Odisha Mayurbhanj	1,900	46
Supporting Enterprises at Kutch	Hunnarshala Foundation	Gujarat Kutch	1,600	41
Supporting Enterprises through crafts	All India Artisans and Craftworkers Association	Multiple	1,500	NA
Supporting Enterprises at Sunderbans	Nature and Wildlife Society	West Bengal 24 South Parganas	1,500	1
Supporting Enterprises at Tansa	Tata Institute of Social Sciences	Maharashtra Thane	1,000	1
Supporting Enterprises at Hoshangabad	Indian Grameen Services	Madhya Pradesh Hoshangabad	784	25
Ecotourism at Mangalajodi	Indian Grameen Services	Odisha Khorda	500	1
Wayanad Flood Relief Project	Wildlife Conservation Society	Kerala Wayanad	400	1
Supporting Enterprises at Ranthambhore	Ranthambhore Foundation	Rajasthan Sawai Madhopur	120	2

Total outreach of ongoing Projects

Households	Villages
113,643	938

Total outreach of closed projects*

Households	Villages
12,907	112

Total outreach of closed projects*

Total outreach since inception

Households	Villages
126,550	1,050

We are thankful to our
colleagues and partners
for contributing their
wonderful photographs.





*A woodlot of Sal trees stands tall in
a typical setting of the Kanha
landscape in Madhya Pradesh.
Ecosystems like Kanha perform
extremely vital functions, from
helping mitigate climate change to
being headwaters of our rivers. By
building capacity of communities
who are custodians of such
landscapes, RBS Foundation India is
committed to protect our nation's
natural capital.*

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RBS Foundation India

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