



Vinati Organics Limited



# ANNUAL CSR REPORT 2022-2023



## Note from the Director

**We make efforts towards promoting inclusive growth**

Vinati Organics Limited (VOL) has always believed in giving back to our communities. Being a specialty chemical manufacturing company committed to clean and green technology, we carry forward this same socially responsible attitude while promoting sustainable development in our country.

After the Covid 19 pandemic, this year saw some normalcy similar to pre-pandemic levels. During the pandemic, we supported various Covid-19 relief efforts in Mumbai and around our manufacturing sites in the Raigad and Ratnagiri districts of Maharashtra. VOL has had various CSR interventions promoting education, healthcare, sanitation, water, and the environment in rural Maharashtra. During this fiscal, we expanded our geographic reach to Rajasthan as our family's roots are in Rajasthan. We are providing financial support to underprivileged students to complete their education in Rajasthan. We have also built a chemistry lab in a school and a conference centre in a college in Rajasthan.

While we support promoting education in Rajasthan, our interventions in rural Maharashtra were carried on as usual through our implementing partners. We believe in working collaboratively with our various stakeholders. Our diverse CSR activities have only been made possible because of working in tandem with our VOL staff, CSR committee, NGO partners, communities, government agencies, and panchayats. I would like to thank all our stakeholders for helping us to move closer to achieving many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by promoting inclusive growth.



*-Viral Saraf Mittal,  
Director of CSR at Vinati Organics Limited (VOL)*



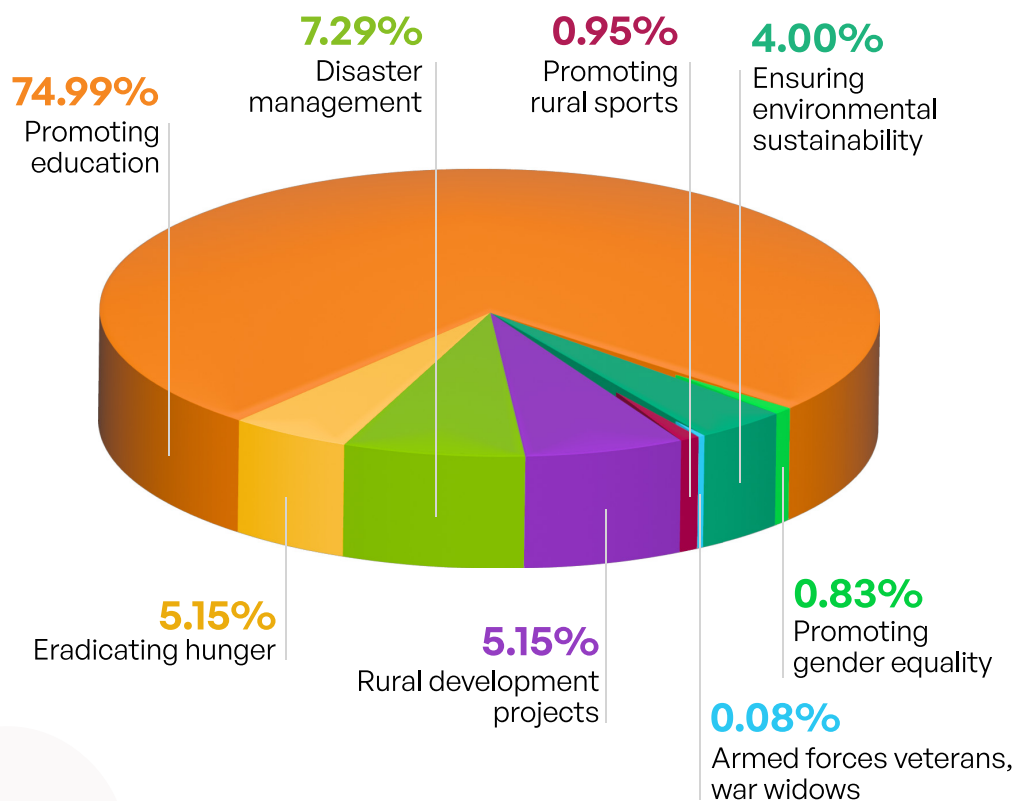
# The year at a glance

## Our Focus

This financial year we continued to support multiple interventions, which allowed us to move further in contributing towards India's sustainable goals and targets. We supported programs aimed at eradicating hunger, poverty, and malnutrition, and promoting health care including preventive health care and sanitation. We also worked towards promoting education and employment by providing access to resources and well-equipped infrastructure, livelihood enhancement and capacity building support.

Our CSR budgets were focused on promoting gender equality, empowering women, facilitating resources and infrastructure to aid the needs of women, orphans and the elderly, and also ensuring environmental sustainability including contributions towards river cleaning, wildlife conservation activities and resource support to manage chemical waste disposal.

Also, we supported various rural development projects, interventions promoting rural sports and disaster management projects including relief and rehabilitation activities and worked towards the benefit of police and armed forces.



Total CSR expenditure : INR 6.5 crores



## SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

### **Enabling Access to Breathing Support for Children in Assam**

We supported InnAccel Technologies Pvt Ltd, one of India's leading medical device innovators, who manufactured and deployed its Saans systems to Assam. The project aims to deploy essential breathing support devices across the state by building treatment capacity for neonates and paediatric patients, especially those in remote areas, thus addressing one of the leading causes of neonatal mortality, i.e., respiratory distress.

Saans was developed to universalize access to breathing support, especially for babies in resource-limited settings, by addressing the key gaps with existing products. The device is infrastructure-independent (with an in-built flow generator and battery), low-skill (large digital display, single push knob operation, and simple user interface), portable, and provides multiple therapy modes (CPAP - Continuous Positive Airway Pressure, HFNC - High Flow Nasal Cannula and soon resuscitation). The device can therefore provide breathing support in a range of hospital and transport settings. Critically, the device can be used with a range of standard patient consumables, thus ensuring affordability during use. This unique product expands access to breathing support, by enabling respiratory care to be given in lower-level hospital and transport settings. The device is designed to be infrastructure-

independent and low-skill.

In Phase 1 of the project between April and November 2022, **153 Saans devices** were deployed across **32 Medical Colleges** and District Hospitals in their SNCU (Special Newborn Care Units). In the majority of the District Hospitals, CPAP therapy was enabled for the first time, due to Saans compatibility with Oxygen Concentrators (not just high-pressure central lines). Thus far, over 1000 babies have been treated.

Currently, the Phase 2 of the project is underway, with 154 devices currently being installed in Pediatric ICUs (Intensive Care Units) across the State.

### **Fulfilling wishes of children diagnosed with critical illnesses**

Every year in India, over 1,00,000 children in the age group of 3 to 18 years get diagnosed with Cancer, Thalassemia, Muscular Dystrophy, HIV and other life-threatening illnesses. Apart from this there are many more that go undetected. The children with such illnesses have simple wishes: a doll, bicycle, battery operated / remote control cars, new dress, birthday celebration, video games, laptop, mobile phone etc. In collaboration with Make-A-Wish India, we supported the wishes of 148 children who were diagnosed with critical illnesses.



On the eve of World Wish Day, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022, Mrs. Vinati Saraf Mutreja, CEO and MD of Vinati Organics Limited participated in the wish granting event and experienced for herself the joy and satisfaction of fulfilling a child's wish.



“The wishes of these children are so simple to grant, but the joy it brings to their faces is so precious”

-Mrs. Vinati Saraf Mutreja,  
CEO and MD of Vinati Organics Limited



**Run for a cause** With reference to Tata Mumbai Marathon 2023, Vinati Organics participated this year in support of Make-A-Wish Foundation Of India. We donated INR 5,50,000, and 25 employees participated in the Marathon.

### **Enabling access to healthcare through Mobile Vision Centres/Vans (MVC Van)**

We understand that due to poor access to healthcare and nutrition, many people can't get proper treatment for poor vision. We partnered with SWADES Foundation following our goal of reducing the burden of avoidable blindness, mainly refractive errors and cataract by providing preventive eye care services to rural populations.

We supported Mobile Vision Centres (MVC Vans) where we identified refractive errors and provided corrective spectacles, diagnosed cataract and linked with partner hospitals to provide surgical intervention through referrals.





## Services available on MVC Van:



Diagnosis of glaucoma and provision of medication for other eye ailments.



Provision for basic blood and urine tests using state-of-art blood + urine analyzer equipment



Health counselling, guidance and referral services.



Involving local doctors in screening and follow- up of Patients' progress through arrangements with local authorities for theme based medical camps



IEC (Information, Education, Communication) for community awareness via Audio Visual aids.



**102**  
No. of Surgery

**293**  
No. of Spectacles

## Our achievements:

- ▶ Increased health awareness and knowledge among community members
- ▶ Reduced occurrence of preventable blindness in the community through early detection of refractive errors/ cataract.
- ▶ Promote better self-care for eye-health – including timely change of spectacles (progressive lenses) and regular check-ups.

## Reduced dependency (financial/Physical)

Increased employability (with better vision and

reduced dependency on earning members earlier being non/less productive to take care of the ailing) – leading to higher earning capacity.

## Ensuring the availability of drinking water for communities

Less than 15% of households receive tap water and therefore depend on stand post (average 1km away), river (avg 5km away) and public wells (avg 1.4km away). In addition, water from all sources is only available for 9-10 months in a year, which leads to a massive water scarcity.





Partnering with SWADES Foundation, our goal was to develop the availability of water through household taps and ensure that the long term water sources are developed or retrofitted during our intervention and sustained by the community.



#### **What we did:**

- ▶ Conducted a ground water Survey (Geo-Physical and Technical Assessments)
- ▶ Built infrastructure for drinking water schemes – construction/repair/augmentation i.e., source development (check dam/spring cordoning, wells etc.) + storage reservoir (ESR - Elevated Storage Reservoir/GSR - Ground Storage Reservoir) + distribution pipeline + tap in homes)
- ▶ Enabled lifting of water (pump - electric / solar as per requirement and willingness of the community)
- ▶ Filtration (in-line chlorination or tap-based filter)
- ▶ Capacity building of village water committees (for upkeep and maintenance

and sustainability of the project)

#### **Outcome and supplementary impact:**

- ▶ Reduced migration due to unavailability of water
- ▶ Reduction in water borne diseases
- ▶ Reduced dependency on water tankers
- ▶ Average time saved due to availability of tap water for women

#### **Geographies we impacted:**

Drinking water (4 additional source schem)	
Mangaon-Talegaon-Tarf-Goregaon-Adivasiwadi 2	52 Households
Sudhagad- Balap-Balap	38 Households
Mahad- Waki Bk-Nanemachi Awad	10 Households
Mahad- Khardi-Payarikond	54 Households

#### **Ensuring the availability of emergency health services:**

We donated INR 7,00,000 to provide ambulance services for Fort Raigad and surrounding villages upon the request of Jansanwad rural development welfare association and Grampanchyat Nijampur. The ambulance availability is a life saver for a patient with a serious illness who needs to be taken to Mumbai or Pune for emergency treatment.



## SDG 4: Quality Education

Providing universal quality education and lifelong learning.

### **Naming rights in the Incubation Centre at BITS Pilani**

In support of entrepreneurial activities in BITS Pilani, we supported the building of an incubation centre that comprises 3 levels, 150 coworking seats and 8-10 innovation labs. A grant of INR 80,00,000 was donated towards the building of Vinati Organics Conference Room and INR 20,00,000 was donated to support smaller conference rooms of the institution.

### **Supporting students through school and hostel fees**



We distributed a donation of INR 2,00,00,000 to Jhunjhunu Academy for hostel fees, books, stationery, uniforms, mid-day meals, health and fitness activities, sports, games and scholarships.

### **Strengthening the future of students**

We supported Rishikul Vidhyapeeth, a school situated at Laxmanghar Sikar, a hard-to-reach town in the state of Rajasthan. Through our

CSR donations, the school was able to build a chemistry lab for its students and provide for the required equipment.

The laboratory construction helped in



supporting the lives of nearly 20 vendor families who now showcase the laboratory as an example of their work to the new clients. The construction of the same benefitted over 400 students who have been able to make better use of the school curriculum as well as improved placement for their future.

### **Capacity building of School Leadership**

In Raigad, children drop out of school after class V. Several reasons for this include migration, poor sanitation, and improper school infrastructure. Our program in partnership with SWADES Foundation aimed at building the leadership capacity of schools so that progressive and skilled leadership could help in reducing the school drop-out rates and create an environment conducive for learning.





### **What we did:**

- ▶ Conducted participatory meetings with school principals to introduce the Teacher Foundation (TF) program and its objectives; methodology and envisioned outcomes with emphasis on the role of school leadership
- ▶ Developed curriculum methodology, timelines and costing in conjunction with TF
- ▶ Created a core group of mentors from Swades/TF to mentor principals and teachers
- ▶ Rolled-out training programs with school principals and teachers
- ▶ Developed a monitoring and feedback mechanism in conjunction with TF and principals to gauge the effects of the training and mentoring program
- ▶ Devised a set of qualitative indicators that children can use to give feedback to their teachers about the new curriculum
- ▶ Conducted a join mid-term and end-term review in conjunction with TF



### **What we achieved:**

- ▶ Many principals have witnessed improvement in their managerial capability in running and managing their schools
- ▶ School heads will oversee and sustain the good practices in the schools post our intervention.
- ▶ 20% improvement in the overall teaching-learning-assessment at the end of the program as compared to their baseline scores
- ▶ Teachers will be using the handouts as

reference during lesson preparation/classroom delivery

- ▶ Report generated by TF, action plan by HM (Headmaster), Observation records and feedback analysis

### **Sahyadri Shikshan Sanstha, Chiplun**



We supported the expansion of the English Medium School, and constructed 13 classrooms, library, science laboratory, multipurpose hall, office and pantry. Our intervention has supported more than 200 Students and 25 staff members.

### **Hindavi Garjana “English Medium School” Aavashi - Khed**



Through this intervention, we supported the Hindavi Garjana High School to facilitate their school expansion for seating arrangement of the school students. The intervention helped in supporting over 400 students by constructing classrooms and building toilets.

### **Reconstruction** of two classrooms for Zillah

Parishad School, Kambale, Tal- Mahad, through Mrs. Kavita Vinod Saraf Foundation., upon request of Grampanchyat Kambale Tarfe Mahad.

Reconstruction of Zilla Parishad School, Kambale Tarfe Birwadi upon request of Grampanchayat - 48 needy children from 1st to 7th grade from the surrounding villages are studying in this school. We dispersed a grant of INR 9,90,000 and about 90% of work has been completed.



School Management Committee, we donated steel worth INR 3,00,000 where currently 122 underprivileged students from surrounding villages are studying.

### In School Training

With the aim of scaling up the potential of adolescents, we continued the engagement with school students in Mahad through the In-school training program in partnership with



We donated 20 Plastic chairs to Zilla Parishad School, Haware, Poladpur upon request letter from school and helped 45 children from grade 1st to 4th studying in this school.



Donation of LED TV to Zilla Parishad School, Nangalwadi, upon request letter from school benefitted 32 children from grades 1st to 4th studying in this school.

We provided financial assistance for the construction of a classroom in Turbhe High school, Poladpur. Upon a request letter from the

Samhita-Collective Good Foundation and Yuva Mitra. Through “HERS” (Health, Education, REVIVE, Skilling) across 18 schools in Mahad Taluka of Raigad District, we trained over 2,100+ adolescent students from Grades 5 to 12 (girls and boys) through regular in-school training sessions to help them effectively navigate the vulnerable period which included aspects such as essential life skills, gender sensitization, physical and mental health, menstrual hygiene management and reproductive health, nutrition, child rights, disaster management and career counselling. The program also helped



strengthen the capacities of over 66 school teachers to equip them to better understand, engage and guide their students to address the challenges of adolescence they may face.

At the end of the training sessions, the students demonstrated a significant improvement in their knowledge of menstruation and menstrual hygiene, anaemia and nutrition and gender equality.

The students gave stronger, more favourable responses with respect to social norms around gender, equality in gender roles and rights within and outside the house. The students also reported stronger responses about their self-awareness, communication skills, problem-solving abilities and attitude towards their career.

**“During the training sessions for girls, we were given important information on various topics: Concepts of gender and sexuality, natural differences, physical and mental changes that happen during adolescence, attraction, challenges during menstruation, menstrual hygiene, female reproductive system. Under life skills, we learned about communication skills, healthy thoughts, understanding and management of emotions, understanding and tolerance, and decision making. The training sessions have been extremely informative and encouraging to us.”**

*-Aadini Balkrushna Kadam (Grade 12 student),  
S.S. Sawant Higher Secondary school, Shirgaon*

### **Sponsoring Chemical Research**

Indian Institute of Chemical Technology: VOL sponsored a Post Doctoral Fellow for researching chemical products at the Indian Institute of Chemical Technology by donating an amount of INR 6,00,000.

**“Our efforts have always aimed to give every child access to quality education and the best learning environment so that they can reach their maximum potential and lead the future of our country.”**

*- Mr. Vinod Banwarilal Saraf  
Executive Chairman, Vinati Organics Limited*



## Khasdar Chashak - State Level Cricket Tournaments, Chiplun

We hosted a sports tournament for underprivileged children in Chiplun. Around 27 different cricket teams from Maharashtra participated in the organised tournament. More

than 20,000 people enjoyed this tournament. Participating in sports plays a key role in improving the mental and physical well-being of persons involved in the long run, making it a important component of holistic development.







## SDG 5: Gender Equality

**Eliminating all forms of violence against women and young girls**

### **Kartel Grampanchayat, Kartel - Khed**

Grampanchayat Kartel and a group of all ladies from “Bachat Gat ” required seating arrangement for their meetings, various training and other social activities. Through our donation, we were able to support the availability of around 200 chairs for the same.



## SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

**Ensuring access to water and sanitation for all**

### **Donation of Garbage Tipper**



We donated a garbage tipper to Grampanchayat Dadali, Tal-Mahad, upon request letters from Sarpanch, Upsarpanch and Grampanchayat members. To promote health and hygiene of the villagers, we donated a closed body

Garbage Tipper in line with the “Swachh Bharat Abhiyan”. Through our donation of INR 5,00,000, we were able to promote a clean and protected village environment and about 1,500 people benefitted from improved health and hygiene leading to a better quality of life.

### **School sanitation**

One of the most severe roadblocks to healthy development, often faced by young children and adolescents, can be traced back to poor health and sanitation conditions, especially at schools where students spend a significant amount of their day. Many schools across the country do not have functional, well-maintained toilets with running water, or even separate

toilets for girls in some cases<sup>1</sup>. The challenges for female students are worsened, due to the lack of proper WASH (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene) awareness, health education, menstrual hygiene awareness and support that is available at the school level.

the school sanitation project was scaled up to impact five schools in and around MIDC Lote in Ratnagiri district (Maharashtra) reaching over 1,700 students and teachers. The on-ground activities for the project included refurbishment of toilet blocks, installation of RO water filters and sanitary pad vending machines, IEC sessions on WASH and MHM practices with



Over 23% of adolescent girls tend to drop out of school due to the lack of functioning toilets and poor access to menstrual hygiene products in school which further negatively impacts their educational pursuits and aspirations.

### Our partnership with Samhita-CGF

Recognizing this vital need, we supported the School sanitation and Behaviour Change Campaign (BCC) under the HERS initiative in partnership with Collective Good Foundation and Ecosan Services Foundation. Following the successful implementation and positive feedback from the schools in Mahad (Raigad),



students and teachers, illustrative wall paintings on personal hygiene, good sanitation practices, handwashing, water conservation and waste segregation, distribution of school health cards, informational handbooks and Operation and Maintenance (O&M) kits to enable schools to regularly monitor the status of WASH facilities in their schools and ensure better upkeep and sustainability of the infrastructure.

**“In addition to the repair of the toilet block in the school, the team conducted a session on menstrual health for adolescent students from Grades 5 to 12 which is extremely beneficial and important. These topics are not taught at home because the parents do not feel comfortable discussing menstruation with their children but through the training session, the students received clear information on menstruation and menstrual health in a way that makes them comfortable to discuss these things with their peers and also their female teachers in the school.**

Vilas Namdeo Chorge, Principal,  
New English School and Junior college,  
Ambadas (Lote, Ratnagiri)



# SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

## Solar Street Lights for Villages



In India, several villages continue to live in the dark without any street lights. This not only impacts the quality of life but also is an impediment to the safety and security of the community members. Besides, during calamities, the villages spend days in darkness for an average 15-60 days annually; depending on the severity of calamity and remoteness of each village.

Through our partnership with SWADES Foundation, we worked towards providing solar street light facilities in the villages to have adequate well-lit corners/ areas; presently dark areas where no existing/ functional streetlight or sustainable power supply is available.



### Our interventions:

- Provided solar street lights that are inclusive of a 40 watt solar panel, 18Ah battery, 12w

LED light and Galvanized Iron (GI) pole of 5 metres.

- Provided at least 4-10 street lights per village; as per size of village and density of households.
- Each Village Development Committee (VDC) collects INR 5-10 from the Households as a corpus / maintenance fund and also has access to funds from the Gram Panchayat for such repairs and maintenance. The ownership of the streetlights is with the relevant VDCs.



### What we achieved:

- Functional solar street lights in supported villages
- Reduced dark places in the villages
- Overall increase in safe mobility at night due to solar lighting

### Solar lights for households

Though most households have an electricity connection, the quality of power supply and the amount of power disruption continues to remain a concern. This inconvenience is further exacerbated during monsoons and related natural calamities (e.g., cyclones, floods) hitting our geography frequently. Also, load shedding during the year leads to limited



power being available for household activities – lighting, fans and/or charging of mobile phones. Every year, we face immense difficulty in coordination / relief work when mobile phones are not rechargeable. Communication with all stakeholders becomes extremely difficult, as people are not reachable / traceable when mobile phone batteries run out of charge during calamities and power outages.



Through our intervention with SWADES Foundation, we aimed at empowering homes with sustainable power back-up to counter electricity supply disruptions and improve quality of life with access to sustainable power supply in critical times such as medical emergency/calamities.



### **Our interventions:**

Distribution of off-grid solar home lighting kits to households inclusive of a control box, 2 LED tubes, 1 LED bulb and 1 Solar panel.

- ▶ During the day, an attached 11 volts/ 8 watts solar panel collects energy from the sun, uses it to charge the solar batteries; it takes

about 6-8 hours to charge under sufficient sunlight (direct/indirect) or 10-11 hours by AC (Alternating current) adapter.

- ▶ Sufficient to power 1 bulb for 16 hours, 1 tube light for 10 hours / 2 tube lights for 5 hours / 1 bulb and 2 tube lights for 4 hours / charge a mobile phone for 30 minutes.
- ▶ The unit is ideal for small homes, charge phones and provide lighting during disasters/ power cuts.



### **What we achieved:**

- ▶ Functional solar powered-electricity back up (including lighting + mobile phone charging) in supported households.
- ▶ Savings in annual electricity expenditure (average 30 days of power outage in a year = estimated savings of INR 300-500 in the electricity bill).
- ▶ Supplementary power available for many hours per day (provides 4-8 hours of lighting on 3 points – fans, lights etc. OR 30 mins of mobile phone charging).
- ▶ Use of emergency lighting during disasters / power outage.
- ▶ Improvement in quality of life such as lighting for children's studies, ability to do home chores, lighting for economic activities.





## SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth

**Promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.**



With Samhita - CGF's REVIVE Alliance, we have supported the livelihoods of over 4,800 women in various districts of Maharashtra, with affordable financial support in the form of returnable grants as a part of the HERS initiative. The returnable grant is an innovative social finance mechanism that provides zero-

cost finance to vulnerable individuals, with a moral obligation to repay, as opposed to a legal obligation. It is actioned through a revolving fund mechanism, by which money returned by a set of beneficiaries is provided to a new set of beneficiaries, and so on and so forth, generating a significant multiplier effect over a one-time grant.

In partnership with Samhita-Collective Good Foundation, we supported three main cohorts by providing them with Returnable Grants:

- ▶ Women farmers
- ▶ Women artisans
- ▶ Women micro-entrepreneurs

### **Women farmers**

Agriculture in most parts of the country is highly dependent on climate, whilst also being very labour and capital intensive in nature. We supported a total of **600 women farmers** of Chandrapur (Maharashtra) through the returnable grants which included two cycles of deployment. The first cohort of 300 women farmers were given the returnable grant before the start of the Kharif agriculture season to facilitate their agricultural inputs. After harvesting and selling their produce, the women farmers were able to repay the grant amount with a 100% repayment rate and the funds were further deployed to a second cohort of 300 women farmers in the next Kharif season, enabling us to scale up the impact by 100%.

**“I am Anusaya Ram Jadhav, member of Sanjeevani SHG Dhanoli Tanda, Block Korpana Dist.Chandrapur, Maharashtra. This year I came to know about the RG Fund, when I was in the midst of a crisis. I had spent 1,20,000 rupees in the hospital in my treatment. I was cured, but lost out on a large portion of my savings, which put me into a dilemma on how to farm this year and somehow earn money. Once I got the information about the Samhita CGF RG Fund, Tai Kelvatkar, the Cluster**

*Incharge of Lakhamapur cluster filled out the request form. Through the team alone, I was able to get a support of INR 10,000, which helped me to buy seeds and fertilizers for agriculture under the committee of Ekata Mahila Trust. I am sure the entire process will certainly help me earn once the agriculture produce is ready.*

*Anusuya Ram Jadhav,  
Farmer from Chandrapur district,  
Maharashtra*

## **Women artisans**

Since the lockdown, artisans witnessed their productions come to a standstill. Huge unsold inventory piled up, while sales opportunities



through exhibitions and orders either came to a stop or dwindled quite low. Some of the artisans reported their savings drying up and not having enough to even be able to meet their basic daily expenses.

With our aim to revive social enterprises, we supported over 402 women pottery artisans from Ratnagiri and Raigad districts

of Maharashtra through returnable grants. The grant served as working capital for the artisans to invest in the production cycle and diversification of newer products following the latest trends, market requirements and seasonal/ festive preferences. This enabled the women artisans to increase the number of sales and generate higher incomes, which was then re-added into the pool of returnable grants



to scale the impact and benefit more women artisans. In addition to the economic revival, the women artisans also underwent training and capacity building workshops to enhance their skills and diversify their products.

**“***My name is Nayana Balwant Tharwal from Kalhe village in the Raigad District of Maharashtra. I am 47 years old and have studied till 4th standard. I lost my husband at a very early age, and with two children to feed, I knew I could not sit idle at home. That is when I started working at the Yusuf Meherally centre in the oil extracting centre, or accompanying some children to and from school. Then I started learning pottery, and it's been 17 years that I have been engaged in the craft of pottery. In this span, I have made almost all products, like, lamps, diyas, clocks, jewellery, Ganpati idols. I am also a member of the Shri Samarth Bachat Gat. I got an opportunity to visit Mumbai*



*for some workshops and exhibitions and also conduct workshops for the elite people of the society and officers of higher positions. I can now effectively communicate with people, and also know how to sell my products, even though it is a very small beginning. I am forever grateful for the exposure that I got on coming out of my small world.*

*Nayana Balwant Tharwal,  
Pottery Artisan from Raigad district, Maharashtra*

## Women Micro entrepreneurs

Economic crises have the most severe repercussions for marginalized women entrepreneurs who face significant barriers to livelihood assistance and capital due to little



or no credit history, lack of collateral, limited social capital, etc. Through Samhita-CGF's REVIVE initiative, we provided affordable finance to women micro-entrepreneurs in the form of zero-cost returnable grants along with basic financial and digital literacy training. The cohort of micro entrepreneurs engaged in different kinds of businesses (selling fish, vegetables, small businesses) were able to invest more capital into their businesses, earn more income and profit and generate more

savings which enabled them to consistently repay the returnable grant, with the repayment rates being always or more than 100%. While the initial returnable grants (RG) were targeted to support 1000 women, at the end of two years, we were able to support over **3,172 women micro-entrepreneurs** over several rounds of redeployment.. The new phase of returnable grant supported an additional **696 women micro entrepreneurs** over two rounds of redeployment. Given that the RG is a zero-interest loan, the women micro entrepreneurs



did not have to depend on money lenders and this also helped them become more confident about seeking formal bank loans and paying them within the mentioned timelines.

**“I was a homemaker for a long time but I always wanted to do something of my own and earn. I took a loan from Mann Deshi and started a hotel. Gradually, my income increased. When I needed funds to buy raw materials, I took a revolving grant of Rs 5,000 from Mann Deshi. In my business journey, I have received a lot of support from the revolving grant.”**

*Sadhana Sachin Godse,  
Microentrepreneur running a small-scale hotel in Vaduj (Maharashtra)*

## **Creating a Positive Social Impact**

**Social Venture Partners (SVP), India**, provides a platform for philanthropists to engage with the non-profit sector in a hands-on manner, thereby enabling the capacity building of the NGOs. VOL supported SVP and disbursed an amount of INR 2,50,000 towards general donations, creating a positive social impact and other related incidental expenses as part of venture philanthropy.







## SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities

Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

### Police Welfare Fund

We donated an amount of INR 50,000 to about 2,400 police men in Raigad District Police Force enabling facilities such as dormitories, guest houses, libraries, gymnasiums, toilets, restrooms, subsidiary canteen, coaching classes etc.



**Construction of Social Community Hall** from **Mrs. Kavita Vinod Saraf Foundation** benefitting 350 villagers from Kalijkond village, Grampanchayat Kharawali, Tal-Mahad upon request of Grampanchayat Kharawali, which is 2 kms away from our manufacturing unit. The community hall has enabled cultural growth in the village by providing a space for performing



cultural programs, arranging lectures on Ramayana and Mahabharat, arranging medical camps for senior citizens, and creating a space within the community for leisure and social activities.

### Lote Grampanchayat, Lote - Khed

We supported the construction of a retaining wall to avoid landslides, which will protect nearly 30-35 houses in Lote from floods, landslides or from any other natural calamity.

**Construction of Ghat and Shed for Social Community** upon request of Sarpanch and Grampanchayat members of Grampanchayat Nadgaon Tarfe Birwadi. In order to promote spiritual and religious activities on the bank



of Savitri River, we supported a sitting and resting space for community people. Through a donation of INR 19,70,000 we supported construction of Ghat with a shed, which would benefit 2,500 people who can carry out religious activities.



# SDG 15: Life on Land



**Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss**



Our intervention, ‘Advancing Conservation Outcomes in the Sahyadri Landscape through Capacity Building and Management Planning’ is a multi-year project with Wildlife Conservation Trust (WCT) that aims to build the capacity of the frontline forest staff of the Maharashtra Forest Department in the Sahyadri Landscape through on-ground training workshops and conservation measures that assist in Management Planning in the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve and existing Conservation Reserves (CRs) of the corridor. In addition to these objectives, in 2022-24, the project aims to assess the minimum population of two large

carnivores (tiger and leopard) using camera trap monitoring and also assess bottlenecks in the movement of four large carnivores (tiger, leopard, dhole and sloth bear). Another significant component of the project is training local stakeholders and forest staff in wildlife survey techniques, wildlife monitoring and ecotourism through well-curated workshops.



## **Our achievements from 2021-23:**

- ▶ We supported WCT to conduct 27 training workshops on trauma management, wildlife forensics, wildlife law enforcement, and wildlife monitoring for 300 forest staff members in Sahyadri Tiger Reserve, Radhanagari Wildlife Sanctuary, and seven CRs (Vishalgad, Panhalgad, Gaganbawda, Ajara - Bhudargad, Amboli - Dodamarg, Chandgad, and Tillari).
- ▶ As a part of the project, WCT contributed



to the development of Management Plans of four CRs (Tillari CR, Jor-Jambhli CR, Panhalgad CR, and Chandgad CR) and the Tiger Conservation Plan of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve.

- ▶ For the first time after their formation, five CRs (Vishalgad, Panhalgad, Gaganbawda, Tillari, Amboli-Dodamarg) surveyed systematically for large carnivores using camera-traps covering nearly 350 sq. km. of forest area. Six individual tigers captured on camera-traps.
- ▶ Nearly 700 co-branded, all-weather jackets were distributed to the front-line forest staff.
- ▶ Nearly 300 frontline forest guards, foresters, and Range Forest Officers were trained and provided with training manuals and kits. This is nearly 90% of the frontline forest staff of the region.
- ▶ Nearly 400 frontline forest watchers received all-weather jackets and waist pouches.

### **Geographic reach**

The project has a large geographic reach covering an area of nearly 2,400 sq. km. of Protected Areas in the Satara, Kolhapur, and Sindhudurg districts of Maharashtra. The area



of influence of the current project is categorized as a “Global Biodiversity Hotspot” by the International Union of Conservation Network (IUCN) and also a “UNESCO World Heritage Site”.





# Conclusion and Vision for the Future

## Learnings from the past year

At Vinati Organics, we firmly believe in the power of collaboration and our aim has always been to synergize the strengths and capabilities of the various stakeholders including the community in our endeavours to create holistic and sustainable impact in the years to come. This year, we expanded the geographic reach of our programs and deepened our existing interventions to build on the impact of our work so far. The reach of our interventions and activities in the past year have been wide and diverse ranging from education, healthcare, sanitation and water to livelihoods, community development and environmental sustainability. We aim to continue our diverse engagements with the communities through a comprehensive, holistic approach to magnify our reach and impact, furthering our vision for the inclusive growth of communities.



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# Collective Good Foundation

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