

Internship report

A Study on impact of veterinary services provided through Pashu Sakhi
in Dang, Gujrat under the AKRSP(I)”



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by

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Introduction-

The was created with a particular emphasis on the marginalized and landless tribal people, while it also included a targeted approach for the poorest coastal Gujarat households. Goat rearing and dairy farming are not viable sources of income on their own, but they have provided marginalized populations in Gujarat with extra money and support. Every aspect of the ecosystem has been touched by activities, including infrastructure assistance for goats to veterinary care, knowledge sharing, and capacity building. The Goatry Ecosystem First, communities of marginalized and landless farmers emerge. Impact Lower Death Rate and Higher Incomes Entry Area Building Training Capacity and Sharing Knowledge Exposure Visits Pashu Sakhis Provides Preventive Healthcare Services (vaccination and deworming) Feed Enhancement Goat the Covering Receiving Credit Activities for promoting dairy products Obtaining Credit in Tribal South Gujarat, there has been a lot of promotion of dairy products. The goal has been to give indigenous people who lack land a means of livelihood. 295 animals were given to tribal households in the Dangs program region in collaboration with Vasudhara Dairy with support from the Tribal Sub plan. Goat Rearing: From the start of goat rearing Feeding Goats Since the goat rearing program was started in 2014, it has grown to be one of the main activities in Dangs Gujarat's animal husbandry portfolio. 5412 homes have benefited from this program so far this year. The Goat Rearing Groups are a village-level platform designed to promote information sharing under this program. Goat rearers are presently actively being worked with by these groups. Goat farming groups united in 2015 to form a larger apex body that they have named the "Nimar Bakari palak Group." Each member paid a 500-rupee membership fee, which was deposited in the Bank of India along with the entire 75,000-rupee membership cost. account under the federation's name. The goat farmers will use this sum to encourage group selling of their livestock. The true success of the Dangs goat farming initiative is Pashu Sakhis, a group of women from the community who have received training in basic preventive veterinary care. In villages, they function as community-based animal health workers. They are important extension workers for vaccinations, deworming poultry, and sharing expertise. One of the most important aspects of the Pashu Sakhi model is that the village's goat rearers now have round-the-clock access to all primary healthcare services for the animals. With their training, 36 Pashu Sakhis and 7 Murgi Sakhi are employed as village-level para vets in 1876, households benefited from first aid provided at home, and 1836 homes benefited from veterinary care.

Gujarat Dangs dist. team continues to implement integrated goat and poultry development program. Goat and poultry plays a critical role in livelihood risk mitigation for tribal communities of our program region. Around

50% of the

households keep goats while over 65% households keep backyard poultry in program villages hence these are

important livelihood sources for the community.

Major highlights of livestock program in Dangs dist.

- Interventions reached to more than 5000 households during the year.
- 83 Pashu Sakhis are actively working in the program villages providing services like de-worming, vaccinations and castration.
- 138 Pashu Palak Groups (PPGs) are currently functioning in the program villages. These groups have membership of over 2500 women.
- 138 households benefitted through poultry shelters activity while 47 households covered under goat shelters activity.
- 31417 chicks vaccinated and 7324 had gone through de worming process.
- 4202 HHs have been provided preventive veterinary services by Pashu Sakhis
- 40777 goats were vaccinated, and 24414 goats had gone through deworming process.

Objective of Internship:

Impact of Veterinary Services on Animal husbandry in Dang dist. Gujrat Tribal Areas

The provision of veterinary services has shown significant positive impacts on tribal communities.

- **Adoption of Services:** Studies indicate high adoption rates of veterinary services when they are culturally appropriate and easily accessible. The involvement of local community members in service delivery has further enhanced acceptance

- **Scalability and Sustainability:** Training local para-veterinarians has been a key factor in scaling up services sustainably. This approach not only ensures the availability of services but also builds community trust and engagement
- **Economic Benefits:** Improved animal health has led to increased productivity and reduced mortality rates, which in turn have enhanced household incomes. Livestock, being a significant asset for tribal households, contributes directly to their economic stability

Objective:

- To study the various kinds of services and approaches adopted under veterinary services provided through Pashu Sakhi.
- To assess the impact of veterinary services in terms of adoption and income enhancement among tribal beneficiaries
- To study the current issues and challenges associated with the services and further opportunities under the Programme.

Organization profile:

Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (India) is a non-denominational, non-government development organization. AKRSP(I) works as a catalyst for the betterment of rural communities by providing direct support to local communities. AKRSP(I) is active in over **3255** villages of **Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Maharashtra**. It has impacted the lives of over 3.5 million people from marginalized sections of society. Over 80% of the households impacted by AKRSP(I)'s work belong to marginalized communities like tribals, dalits, and minorities. Over 60% of beneficiaries are women who form a core group for program interventions. AKRSP(I) has pioneered various participatory development approaches in the country and has won various national and international accolades for this. The backbone of AKRSP(I)'s work is the empowerment of rural communities, particularly in underprivileged communities and for women

- through collectivization as well as promotion of individual enterprises. Building self-reliant people's institutions for financial inclusion, livelihoods enhancement and improved rural governance is the heart of the organization's approach. Currently AKRSP(I) has major interventions in the areas of: AKRSP(I) started its operations in Gujarat in 1986 in the then districts of Surendra Nagar, Bharuch and Junagadh. Over the years, the programme has expanded and entered newer geographies and is now active in **15 districts of the state**. The work in Gujarat is in 3 distinct regions: the coastal saline region with its headquarters in Mangrol, the drought-prone region with its headquarters in Sayla, and the tribal South Gujarat region with its headquarters in Dangs and Netrang.

Agriculture and Climate Resilience

Work and Enterprise

Rural Governance

Health and Nutrition

Service provided by organization

- Drinking water and sanitation
- Dairy and agriculture-based livelihoods
- Natural resource management: irrigation, watershed etc.
- Micro Enterprise Development
- Solar energy for irrigation and drinking water pumping
- Improving local Governance (Panchayati Raj Institutions)
- Early childhood development and primary education, Skills development and vocational placement for youth

- Certificate Course on Development Management (CCDM) for tribal youth
- Yuva junction
- Work and enterprises
- Livestock development
- Gender and education
- Knowledge management
- Entrepreneurship development

- **Key Learning veterinary services project:**

- Veterinary health services through Pasu Sakhi impact poultry goat and milch cattle In this project, we got better information about veterinary health diseases. How is Pasu Sakhi providing health services to the villagers in rural villages at a reasonable price? In the rural areas of Dang district where Government doctors are unable to reach in hilly areas, Pasu Sakhi is providing better services in those hilly areas. In this project dissertation, we have to know about the basic livestock of the rural community like poultry, dairy milk, how their daily life is run from the livelihood coming from goat. What diseases occur on veterinary health and how much impact they have. Diseases due to which cattle suffer a lot, what impact does it have on their lives, what changes do veterinary services bring to the life of the cattle, how much benefit has the community received from veterinary services and to what extent are the diseases reducing among farmers and cattle due to veterinary services, all this got to be understood and learnt, cattle farming does vaccinations 2 to 3 times in a year at poultry

and deworming is done on goats as per the need, medicines are given to the cattle, basic treatment is given to milk cattle when they get infected In this way we got the opportunity to learn veterinary health services.

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