

# ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022

OUR ANNUAL REPORT INFORMS ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES, EVENTS AND OTHER ORGANISATIONAL DETAILS FOR THE YEAR 2021-22.



# INTRODUCTION

We are happy to present our Annual report for the period April 2021 to March 2022. Happy because Corona seems to be fading away and hope which is an important element in our work is returning. However, the year that went by wasnt easy. When we started the second wave was upon us with some tragic impact. The process to get bavk on our feet was hectic and complex as well. While the urgency to catch up with our 'targets' as soon as possible was weighing heavily on our minds, the threat of Corona was in full force. As we began to gain momentum , the demands for our services was on the rise and due to the readiness of the team to get going we were able to fulfil most of the set goals. We have utilised our limited resources well and are satisfied with our work.

The aftermath of the second wave of the COVID-19 has been overwhelming. Its scar on the mental health of the people along with other effects on physical health has been unprecedented. Several of our team members were severely affected, more by the feeling of helplessness and frustration at being denied hospital beds and access to health care. The trauma, the suffering, and experiences of death from close quarters cannot be expressed easily. The most damning part was the unavailability of support, care and understanding left many with wounds which will take long time to heal. It's a challenging aspect for many NGOs who work on providing such support and care.

One of the highlight was the survey we did in the villages where we work to find the impact of Covid on people's lives. The picture was dismal but we hope that the awareness we created would lead to improvement in accessing health services like the freely available vaccine. The other important aspect of our work was recognizing the need for introducing mental health in our intervention as the pandemic has affected society severely. Our survey did indicate this aspect and we are seriously considering initiating a project on similar lines. Our work with young girls and rural communities on livelihood is going strong. The need to empower the young rural girls and strengthen their agency is critical and important while the urgency to start local livelihoods cannot be overemphasized enough. Our core programme of capacity building and audio-visual production continues with several collaborations. The media campaign on gender and sexuality for Humsafar Trust was exciting and led to several insights, the one on producing digital content for elected women representatives at local level resulted in adding animation to our range of audio-visual services. That we were able to deal effectively with the diverse demands on us from our partners was an enormous learning opportunity for our team. We can say the same about our training services as we were on our toes in designing a module on self-awareness for our partner working in Gujarat and that we are satisfied to narrate that the module was received and implemented by them successfully.

As we near the end of yet another tumultuous year, let's hope things will stabilise for the better. What this means is that we will be able to travel, meet community members, partners and friends and execute the activities as per our plans. Hope this good tiding continues in the new financial year.

## SHODHINI (community researchers) empowering young rural girls

We have been active in strengthening the agency of young rural girls for the last six years and have succeeded in reaching out to many marginalised communities. We are now active in six villages in the Trimbakeshwar taluka of Nashik District. Our main focus has been to identify young girls and build their various capacities so that they are able to conduct action research in their respective villages. The process of research enables them to know their own selves as well as their families, peers and communities and contributes to their leadership development. Here is the account of the activities that were conducted during the year.

### FACILITATING RESEARCH WORKSHOPS

We had planned for two workshops on research and leadership which we were able to complete on time. The two workshops were held at end of July and August. The young girls of villages Sapgoan, Waghera, Shirasgoan, Ghumodi and Ambai attended. The aim of the workshop was to develop knowledge and skills on research concepts so that the girls are able to conduct the research in their villages. The workshop also gave inputs on leadership qualities, gender issues and sexuality. The girls were able to navigate the rather difficult concepts of research and were able to put their heads together to design a questionnaire on the research theme.





## DATA ANALYSIS WORKSHOP -YAR ON MENTAL HEALTH

The workshop on data analysis on mental health was conducted from 24th to 30th November 2021 at Leslie Sawhney Training Centre with 17 participants from the villages of Hirdi, Velunje, Malegaon & Boripada. During the workshop the young girls learnt to segregate and analyse the data. They also learnt basic report writing. Some key findings of the workshop are as follows - loss of livelihood, online education and digital divide, lack of awareness about Covid 19 and superstitions and lack of human connections and communication due to strict lockdown rules.

#### A SECOND WORKSHOP ON DATA ANALYSIS

There were 20 participants from Ambai, Sapgaon & Shirasgaon villages. The workshop focused on analyzing interviews conducted earlier on research themes of early and forced marriage of girls. Our alumni Shodhini were invited as mentors to work with new Shodhinis. The Shodhini worked enthusiastically to understand the analysis framework.





#### WORKSHOP ON GENDER FOR YOUNG BOYS

A four-day workshop on understanding gender was organised for the young boys of six villages where Shodhini are working. Twenty-two young boys participated in the workshop organised in the last week of August at Leslie Sawhny Centre, Deolali. The Shodhini facilitators were helped by Sunil Gangawane from Mumbai. The workshop dealt with the concepts of power, patriarchy and gender roles and relationships which enabled the youth to connect with the concept with their own stories and experiences. The workshop was powerful and enabled the rural youth to open about their own struggles and pressures of being men.

## WORKSHOP ON PATRIARCHY, GENDER & SEXUALITY

About 17 youth participated in a workshop conducted on patriarchy, gender and sexuality from 7th December to 9th December 2021. For the first time, we were facilitating a workshop with both Shodhak and Shodhini on a sensitive topic of gender and sexuality. Through the use of books like 'What is a girl? What is a boy' we established the concept of gender and sex. By screening popular movies like 'Natrang' we discussed basic concepts around sexuality and sexual orientation. Developing a lens of understanding gender and sexuality was necessary to identify, understand and act upon the discrimination based on gender, caste, class and sexuality. In order to initiate discussion on taboo topics, participants were asked to put their questions anonymously in a bowl. The notes were read out loud, discussed and inputs were given. A Marathi web series on sexuality was also screened later followed by short discussion to sum-up the process.





## CELEBRATING THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

Abhivyakti team members of Shodhini project participated in an online meeting organised by ASPBAE to celebrate the International Youth Day on 12th August. Abhivyakti had earlier convened a meeting with the youth to know their views on the future of education. The views were compiled and shared with UNESCO who had taken the initiative to publish a report. On this important day the Indian country report on the Future of Education was released. Several partners of ASPBAE who had participated in the meeting shared the voices of youth from the margins.

## WORKSHOP ON YOUTH-BASED ACTION RESEARCH TOOLKIT

The workshop was facilitated by Kajal on 20th & 21st November 2021. The Shodhini and Shodhak along with the new participants since the last five years have undertaken the process of research in different villages across Nashik and training has turned out to be an important aspect of this YAR process. To transform these co-learning into a learning module or toolkit, the inputs of the process were taken from alumni Shodhak and Shodhini, and the following important tools were developed like Patriarchy Square, Comic Book, Puppet, Case Story, Photo Language and Community Mapping.





#### **MEDIA SKILLS & CAREER GUIDANCE**

A one-day workshop on career, education and media skills was organised at one of the project villages named Hirdi on 26th December 2021. In the first half, Khadeshwar who has gained field level experience in understanding the challenges faced by rural youth in education and career gave inputs on how participants can avail government schemes for education and jobs. In the second half, Pravin Pagare, a professional filmmaker and photographer conducted a session on techniques of photography and videography using mobile handsets with participants.

#### **LEARNING JOURNEY**

The learning journey to Mumbai in the second week of December consolidated the learnings of the entire youth constituency building programme. Throughout the 3 days we were able to understand the meaning of emotions. On a few instances the Shodhak and Shodhini observed random people on Mumbai roads and shared that the person was sad, or distressed. We visited the office of Maharashtra Administrative Tribunal, Paani Foundation, and interacted with Prof. Nene and Ganga, who discussed issues of rural employment. Sharing of experiences, lived realities and travelling made us learn from each other. Our journey began on 10th December & ended on 12th December 2021.





#### **COMMUNITY MAP DESIGNING**

In December, two collective sessions were conducted in Nutan School & Nanamalusare school on designing community maps. A total of 22 participants participated from Shirasgaon, Dhumodi, Sapgaon, Ambai & Pahine. Four shodhaks from Ambai village also participated in sketching the map. The girls marked important locations like administrative offices, safe, unsafe places in the village, community seating arrangements for men & women or collectively. The girls hesitated initially to draw the maps, but eventually managed completing it as every village group helped each other to think about their villages and this resulted in finalization of community Maps.

#### **VOICE IT OUT EVENT**

On March 9th, on the occasion of womens day, we organised an online event - Voice it out, which was an opportunity to listen to diverse voices of rural girls. Sonali Tongare, Punam Pardhi, Manisha Donde, Shaila Dhule and Pallavi from villages of Kochargaon, Dahegaon & Hirdi were invited to share their experiences and insights on different issues of education. The young women researchers from marginalized communities also shared their recommendations and demands about education. We had also invited a few experts to respond to the Shodhini demands. The experts appreciated the courage shown by the Shodhini and endorsed their demands, calling the civil society to support the demands. The event was supported by the Commonwealth Scholarships Commission.





#### PARENTS MEETING

Realising that the Parents are important stakeholders in the Shodhini initiative, we organised a parents meeting. The aim was to acquaint the parents of Shodhinis about Abhivyakti, about the reasons for working with young rural girls and its various outcomes. The meeting was held on 19th March, 2022 at Sapgaon village. Various Shodhinis & their parents from villages of Shirasgaon, Dhumodi, Ambai, Pahine, Sapgaon & Waghera participated. Shodhinis from Sapgaon enacted a skit on forced marriage, which all parents appreciated. The meeting was lively and the Shodhini team articulated their work and its various functions. The parents shared that they would support girls if they studied and behaved well. They agreed with the concerns shared in the skit about how girls have to leave aside their studies and engage in household chores.



# STRENGTHENING LOCAL ECONOMIES

We have been taking lot of efforts to sustain the local enterprises started and managed by rural communities. In ten villages of Trimbakeshwar, we have been helping tribal communities to manage six businesses started in late 2020. The six local enterprises are Milk dairy, Honey unit, Orchards, Seed bank, Ragi products and Surface cleaning products. While initiating it was relatively simple, managing it has been challenging due to COVID.

#### WORKSHOP TO LEARN SEED-MAKING

To enable the women of Ganeshgoan get familiar with the process of seed-making and conservation, a one-day workshop was organised at Kobhalne. Padmashri-honoured Rahibai Popare gave her guidance. She emphasised the importance of home-grown organic seeds and its effect on living sustainably. Rahibai narrated her own life-journey of growing organic seeds and efforts to develop a Seed bank in her village. The women of Ganeshgoan visited the Seed bank and saw its functioning and were greatly inspired by Rahibai who herself was a tribal woman like them and who was honoured with Padmashri for her pioneering work in preserving seeds for the benefit of farmers interested in sustainable farming.





## TRAINING ON HANDLING THE SEED MACHINE

A two-day training was organized on 30th and 31st July 2021 for tribal women to develop the skills of handling the seed machine. Gopal Chauhan from Haryana was present for this training. He trained 20 women and demonstrated how to prepare the seeds.

#### DAIRY AT KHARWAL

After much struggle, the milk diary was started in Kharwak village on the day of Christmas. About hundred litres of milk is being collected from the villagers and its fat content measured. Later, the ilk is sold to local dairies in Harsul town. The people are cooperating in running this dairy as lot of factors go into managing it.





#### SURFACE CLEANER

Two villages of Boripada and Hathlondhi have been active in producing Surface Cleaner. However, its marketing is still an issue. One opportunity came in the month of October. Nashik Bazar Haat was being organised in Nashik to promote indigenous products. Women from both the villages set up their stall of Surface Cleaner and were able to sell nearly 200 litres. The women faced many visitors and impressed them with their honesty and vulnerability. For the women it was a wonderful learning opportunity and it certainly strengthened their confidence and motivation.

#### **CAPACITY BUILDING EFFORTS**

Two training were organised in this period. One was on basic accounting and financial management which was facilitated by Abhivyakti's accounts team. Twenty-five women from Boripada, Hathlondhi, Ganeshgoan, Berwal and Gavtha participated enthusiastically in the last week of November. The second workshop was on learning production techniques of Surface Cleaner and other products like Hand wash and Toilet Cleaner. The workshop was facilitated by Atul Kothmire who gave inputs on efficient production values and tips on marketing. 17 women participated from Hathlondhi and Boripada villages who were keen to improve their production.





#### HORTICULTURE FARMING

Horticulture farming began in Behedpada and Chirapali villages– The mango saplings that we had planted in both these villages are in good condition. Farmers are working hard to get access to water and efforts to dig pits and store water in plastic sheets or carry water from outside in bullock carts and store it in the pits to help watering trees. We are even drawing the attention of the government officials to gather help for these farmers. During this period, the Krushi Vigyan Kendra, Nashik supported the farmers further by installing vermi-compost beds and distributed a variety of vegetable seeds like onion, garlic, seeds especially for kitchen gardens that include spinach, radish, fenugreek and more which has definitely helped the farmers.

#### MAHUA SURFACE CLEANER

Mahua surface cleaner production began in two centers at Hatlondi and Boripada. We were happy to see that women were taking a lot of efforts to market their products and earn from their hard work. Their reach out has also been good during this month, especially in the surrounding markets of Harsul and Thanapada, as well as few neighboring villages. This has helped them in gaining valuable experience and learning in convincing people in general. Though they are still learning documentation and sometimes they are able to make out the mistakes they had made while putting entries in the registers.





### NAGLI PROCESSING UNITS

Nagli Processing Units at Berwal and Gavatha are functioning well. The women are making Nagli papad, colored Papad from rice, as well as Kuradaya (Fryums), Nagli flour and Nagli Sattva(extract) and are able to sell all the items in Thanapada yatra. However, to make it into a viable livelihood option the women will have to learn marketing skills and go out of their villages into the cities to meet and explore other avenues.

## MEETING WITH SEED CORPORATION, AKOLA

A one-day meeting was held at Seed Testing Center Akola and Seed Corporation Limited Akola to discuss the process of making seeds and selling them. At this time, the government officials gave detailed information about seed distribution and its testing. An exchange of views was held on whether we can work together in the future.





## **OUR CORE PROGRAMMES**

# CAPACITY BUILDING

We have been conducting participatory workshops on different themes related to media, communications and leadership, and it has always been mutually learning experiences.

## FACILITATED WORKSHOP ON SELF IDENTITY AND COMMUNICATION

We were invited by Sarva Vikas Deep Sanstha based in Mangoan to facilitate a 2-day workshop on communication skills for their team members. The workshop was held in October and was attended by twenty team members. The workshop was interactive and inputs on self and communication was shared with the participants who found the various exercises, team interaction and inputs relevant and meaningful.





## HOSTED WORKSHOP FOR ASPBAE ON BASIC LEADERSHIP

ASPBAE's flagship workshop on Basic Leadership was hosted by Abhivyakti in Nashik from 25th to 30th October. It was first time ASPBAE was organising this workshop in a blended way which was mix of online workshop for the participants of three countries, namely India, Mangolia and Timor Leste, and off-line skill-based workshops facilitated by local hosts in their respective countries. After the online workshop on leadership and important concepts facilitated by the ASPBAE team, the Abhivyakti team facilitated workshops for ten partners of ASPBAE on communication skills, mental health and photography skills. It was first time a blended workshop was being organised, and due to diligence and preparations the workshop went off smoothly with lots of learnings.

#### SESSION ON SELF MOTIVATION

On the Occasion of womens day, a one-day session was facilitated on motivation for women leaders in Nashik. More than 240 women participated.

## SESSION ON UNDERSTANDING MENTAL HEALTH

A half-day session was conducted for the design faculty of MET college of Architecture, Nashik on understanding mental health and its various elements.



#### **ONLINE SESSIONS**

A. Abhivyakti organised two online sessions on Mindfullness for the activists, functionaries and volunteers of Vikas Sahayog Pratishthan and NTLN (Non-traditional Livelihoods Network) in the month of June. It was felt that the topic was important in the context of COVID and awareness on mental health was critical. The sessions were facilitated by Dr Rajendra Barve, Board member of Abhivyakti on mindfulness and how to strengthen resilience and endurance. Both the sessions were well attended and appreciated by the participants who also had many questions about practicing mindfulness.

B. Series of online workshops were organised in collaboration with College of Architecture and Design and MET College of Architecture based in Nashik for their first-year students on creating awareness on environmental perception.

C. We facilitated a two-day online orientation workshop for the first-year students of design of the MET college of Architecture and Design, Nashik. The workshop enabled the students to understand themselves and interact with their peers.

D. Another online session was on understanding mental health for the students of Psychology of a local college of Arts, Nashik.



# **MEDIA PRODUCTIONS**

We have been producing and disseminating different types of media for grassroots and NGO functionaries for more than three decades and the experience has been meaningful and full of learning. It has enabled us to understand the needs of the NGO sector which we have been trying to fulfil. The crucial aspect of media production is that it is not a one way channel of communication rather it is a means to further our objectives through dialogue and exchange with the members of the communities. This year too we have produced number of audio visual productions whose details you will find below. Some of our films you can watch on our You tube channel in our name.

POSTER MAKING

## As a response to the 2nd wave of the COVID pandemic, we created series of posters on Vaccine awareness and on the issue of Mucormycosis to generate awareness in rural and

urban areas. We released the posters in the villages and shared it with our field contacts who were responsible to distribute the posters to others in the villages where we work. We also disseminated the posters on our social media platform.





## MAKING SHORT VIDEOS AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR ONLINE EVENT

Vikas Sahayog Pratisthan, Mumbai approached us for making short videos on their interventions and provide technical support for the online HRDP (Holistic Rural Development Project) Handover Ceremony event on 25 June 2021 at Dhule. The event focused on interacting with the project stakeholders of HRDP in Dhule, Maharashtra. The Success of the projects were shared along with recognition and appreciation.

We made videos on seven successful stories on livelihood enhancement, education, health care, and sanitation. The videos were released in their online ceremony.

## DOCUMENTARY - 'VESHIVARCHYA PORI' (THE GIRLS ON THE MARGINS)

A video film 'Veshivarchya Pori' (The Girls on the Margins) was completed by the production team. The film captures the struggles of young rural girls as they go about living their life full of strife and 'muted' existence and how the setting up of a library for girls in the village creates hope and space for dialogue and learning.





## COMMUNITY VIDEO WORKSHOP WITH WATER FOR PEOPLE INDIA TRUST

A Community Video Manual based on the experiences of organising a workshop for community members to learn video skills was published. The workshop was facilitated by Abhivyakti for 'Water for People Trust'. The manual captures the key moments of the workshop and how the skills of learning video and using it was facilitated by the Abhivyakti team to enable the readers to get valuable information and practical tips to organise community video workshop in their own regions.

## WORKSHOP ON PHOTOGRAPHY AND CASE STUDY

Yuva Rural Association, Nagpur requested us to facilitate a three-day workshop for their field-level functionaries on photography and Case study. It was felt that learning these skills would enable the field workers to document and understand their work better. The three-day workshop enabled the participants to learn the skills and use it to see how much they have learnt. The need for capacitating the NGO team members with such skills and perspective is indeed the need of the present reality!





## ONLINE WORKSHOP ON PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO

The online workshop was for the participants of Youth4jobs, Hyderabad who work with physically handicapped young people. The organisation equips them with different skills to raise their competencies. Abhivyakti was invited to give inputs on photography and video documentation. About 30 youth participated and learnt skills of visual documentation.

## ANIMATION VIDEO ON MENTAL HEALTH

We are producing two animated short videos for ASPBAE's youth action research (YAR) mental health project. The video production is in the final stages of completion.





## FILM -CANVAS OF CHANGE - STORY OF SHODHAK

We completed a video film on the impact of Youth Action Research process on a village youth from Kochargoan. The film titled Shodhak – Canvas of Change, captures the story of Nitin Tongare, an active Shodak (seeker) who uses his skills of sketching and painting to depict change and learn from the experiences of working with Shodhini in the villages. The process was transforming for Nitin and the video narrates this story of change.

## COLLABORATIONS

## HUMSAFAR TRUST, LUCKNOW

#### **PRODUCTION OF SOCIAL MEDIA**

Abhivyakti is always keen to collaborate with other partner organisations to upgrade their media and human resources. We are producing social media for Humsafar Trust on the issue of gender and sexuality. It includes memes, video films and posters. The creation of Memes and video films on different issues related to gender and sexuality wasn't easy but regular dialogue with the team of Humsafar enabled us to understand their context and need much better. The collaboration has been important to us in strengthening our perspective on gender and sexuality as well as in developing our creative inputs.



## WATER FOR PEOPLE TRUST, AMRAVATI



## WORKSHOP ON CREATIVE COMMUNICATION

Abhivyakti team went to Amravati in August to train the community members of a few villages in puppetry, creative communication and other group media skills. The ten-day workshop was organised by 'Water for People India Trust' who work on the issue of water and who have been using our training services to enhance the media capacity of their community members so that awareness about water usage and conservation is escalated in villages leading to sustainable development.

#### WORKSHOP ON COMMUNITY VIDEO

We have been training their staff and community members in community media to promote the importance of water and its conservation and usage. Two ten-day workshops were conducted with Kesharpur and Hirdamal villagers at Chikhaldara block, Amravati in January and February. A total of twenty-one girls and women from the community participated and also made films on themes related to water which were later screened before the community. The workshop was facilitated jointly by our training and media team.





#### **PUPPET-MAKING WORKSHOP**

Another workshop to facilitate a ten-day training on making and using puppet to create awareness among the villages on the issue of water conservation and use was organized in the month of February 22. The workshop was for village youth who participated eagerly and learnt the skills of puppet making. Later, they organised a few puppet shows in the villages to create awareness on the issue of water. They gained valuable experience in media and leadership by conducting dialogue with the villagers. They promoted critical concepts related to groundwater, sanitation and personal hygiene.

#### PAHAL, MUMBAI

#### **DESIGNING MODULE ON SELF AWARENESS**

Our collaboration with PAHAL, Mumbai continued with work on developing the Self Awareness module. The module is part of several such modules which will be facilitated in a workshop for youth of Gujarat and Maharashtra to build their capacities with the aim to raise their employability and empowerment. The process of working on the self-awareness module was an enriching experience as the duration of the module was limited to only seven hours. The Self Awareness module will be tested with the youth in the coming months.





#### WORKSHOP ON SELF AWARENESS MODULE

After designing the self-awareness module, we were ready to test it with participant-trainers to see its relevance and ease of understanding. The workshop on self-awareness was facilitated in the second week of December in Karjan, Gujarat. There were 18 participants in total with 12 young girls and 8 young men. Various concepts in the module on self-awareness like personal and social identity, power equations, diversity, and discrimination among other concepts were facilitated through interesting simulation exercises which led to lot of discussions among the participants. The module was appreciated as it brought to light many aspects of the self and its connection to the larger context.

## **RSCD, MUMBAI**

## PRODUCING DIGITAL TOOLS FOR INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCE

Abhivyakti was approached by RSCD to make a series of digital tools that would be part of the training manual on local governance for the elected women representatives based in five countries of India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Pakistan. The digital tools are based on practical and useful information on local self-government that will be of much use for the elected women leaders of local governance. The production of the digital tool is in progress.





#### CONSULTANCY

Abhivyakti senior member was invited to facilitate the review of an important ASPBAE programme called 'Youth-led Action Research' (YAR) and document important lessons from it from its nine partners located in different Asia and Pacific countries. The dialogue with the senior team members of YAR partners and its directors from seven countries based in India, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, Timor Leste, Nepal, Philippines and Indonesia was interesting and insightful. The online interaction was based on different themes that were important for the partners in implementing the YAR projet in their country. The highlight was the stories of empowerment that the youth members shared while engaged in the action research process.

# HAPPENINGS

- Shubhangi and Rohini, Shodhini from Hirdi Village participated in a webinar hosted by MASUM, Pune on the issue of Child Marriage where they shared their experiences of early marriages of girls, especially during COVID.
- Abhivyakti also participated in an online session on designing Gap Year programme for the youth which was organised by UNICEF.
- Abhivyakti attended the General Body meeting of the Indian Multiversity Alliance (IMA) in June which is a network to promote alternatives to higher education.
- Kajal Boraste who was leading the Shodhini initiative has decided to leave the organisation from October onwards. Kajal worked for five years and was responsible for empowering the young girls from the rural areas. She will be missed.
- The students of the local College of Social Work visited 'Boripada' village and interacted with women who have started a local business of making surface cleaner.





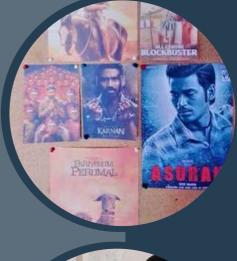
- The young members of our Shodhini team attended an online workshop on mental health organised jointly by ASPBAE and Mariwala Health Initiative to explore possibilities of initiating mental health work in the rural communities. The workshop was meaningful and lively.
- Abhivyakti took the responsibility of collecting information from marginalised tribal communities based in Surgana, Trimbak and Nashik blocks. The Hunger Watch survey was for Right to Food Campaign, Maharashtra and Human Rights Law Network, Mumbai.
- Two students, Arpita and Pooja interned in Abhivyakti to learn about media and social issues.
- Abhivyakti organised its media stall at the 94th Sahitya Sammelan held in Nashik where it managed to distribute its books to various people who visited its stall. The interaction was helpful in sharing the work of Abhivyakti. Similarly, another stall was held at the Vidrohi Sahitya Sammelan in the first week of December.

- Abhivyakti is also collaborating with Satori Film Club, Nashik in screening films and documentaries every fortnight on important social issues related to gender discrimination, violence, caste, oppression, etc to create awareness and discussion among the audience who come to watch it.
- Shodhini Vidya Maule participated in the Global Campaign for Education event and shared her experiences of intergenerational learning and its benefits, which was appreciated by the audience.
- We have been in several online discussion with Felix Bivens and Illana from the Regenerative School, USA about including a few Shodhini as community guides to share their experiences of action research and community work with the participants of a proposed online course on participatory action research on Peace Building.
- About 40 design students visited the project villages of Shodhini and interacted with the Shodhini and other villagers to gain experience of village life and its culture. The Shodhini team was present to guide the students and enable their learning.

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**Bubbles** 

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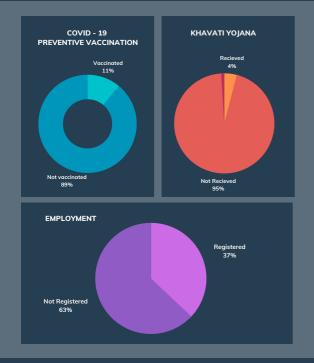


- Abhivyakti organised a half-day session on fake news for its team members. The workshop was facilitated by Samrin of Fact Shala who provided information on how to understand and review information that is coming to us through socials media and how it is manipulated.
- In January, we celebrated 'Abhivyakti' day by inviting Bhim Raskar, our Executive Council member and Director of RSCD to talk about his various experiences in the development sector. He motivated the Abhivyakti team to use their collective wisdom and field experiences to create change that benefits the marginalised sector.
- Kshitij Malani from NIMS, Mumbai and Hushar and Jeevan from College of Social Work, Nashik did their internship during this period. Kshitij developed a dashboard on monitoring, while the other students assisted our various projects and learnt from visits to the villages and interacting with our team.
- One of our senior members presented Abhivyakti's experiences of using development communications to the students of social work at the state-level online conference entitled 'STEP' (Social work Theory to Effective Practice) organised by VSM in March.

## **COVID SURVEY**

We decided to reach some of the villagers to collect data on the ground realities during the second wave of the pandemic. We focused on four main areas – vaccination, employment, facilities available in the primary health centre and sub centres and the reality of Khawati scheme. We reached out to 324 people in 12 villages and collected data on the above issues. Our village field team took due precaution amidst rising Covid crisis. We intend to present the data to the health officials at the local and regional level so that health services become easily accessible to the people.





## **REPORT OF THE COVID SURVEY**

What does the data of Covid survey inform? We collected data from 324 people in 12 villages. The picture is dismal. People are wary of the treatment, have many misconceptions about the disease as well of the vaccination process. People with symptoms refused to visit the health centres and relied on household remedies. Due to poor transportation facilities, reaching the health centre was a big hurdle. The highlight of the survey points to the following – only 11% of those surveyed had taken vaccination, regarding receiving Khavati aid, only 4% had got it, and only 37% had benefitted from the employment guarantee scheme. The report is available with us.

#### **BOARD MEETINGS**

We have an active Board which meets regularly, once in a quarter. Apart from the Board meetings we have also our General Body meeting which meets once in a year. This year the Board met three times on 13th June 2021, 26th September 2021 and 20th February 2022 to discuss critical issues of the organisations. Some of the issues were about reviewing the performance of the programmes, financials of the organisations, leadership issues and transitions. The board has appointed a financial committee which monitors the finances and other related matters of the organization and keeps a critical eye on legal compliance.

### **STAFF COUNCIL**

We also look forward to the start of the financial year as it means new staff council will be in place for a year. The Staff Council is an elected independent body which has been formed for organising staff welfare programme as well as look into staff grievances and solve them.

This year, too staff council elections were held, and a new team was elected.

The team members are - Shubhangi Bagul (Sarpanch), Mayuri Dhumal (Up-Sarpanch), Manisha Gangode, Kajal Boraste and Bhila Thakre

They organized the following activities - Birthday, farewell and Diwali celebration for the staff members.

#### **INTERNAL COMMITTEE FOR SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

The Committee met a few times during the year to look into complaints regarding sexual harassment. There was no complaints made by the staff members.

## **DIVERSITY WITHIN THE** ORGANISATION

We present a table on Diversity within the organization. We are conscious of having a diverse team in all matters of our functioning be it the Board, internal team. staff council or in other committees formed for special occasion.

The table is as follows :

Designation	Gender		Total	Caste					
	Men	Women		SC	ST	NT	OBC	GENERAL	MINORITY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	1		1	•	-	-	-	1	-
LEADER	2	-	2	÷.,	14	14	1	1	
COORDINATOR	4		4	1	-	-	3		-
PROJECT INCHARGE	3	1	1		8	10	8	1	-
FACILITATOR	2	3	5	1	2	-	2	2	-
ASSISTANT	-	2	2		1	-	1		
TOTAL :-	9	6	15	2	3	1	5	5	22

### **STAFF REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

Abhivyakti has a broad salary structure and benefits for its team members. It also follows a practice of disclosure about its practices. The Executive Director receives an annual pay of six lakhs sixty thousand while the lowest rank member receives about a lakh of rupees. Some of the benefits include PF, Gratuity, Medical and accident Insurance, etc.

### **NETWORK & PARTNERSHIP**

- LOGIN ASIA
- ASPBAE
- Swaraj University
- RSCD and MRA
- Learning Societies UnConference
- Vikas Sahayog Pratishtan
- Tata Institute of Social Sciences
- VANI
- MAHAVAN

## **BOARD MEMBERS**

#### **FUNDERS**

- ASPBAE, Philippines
- AJWS, New York
- DS Group, Noida
- Individual Donors

Dr Sanjay Savale	President Board member since 2013
Mr Bhimrao Raskar	Vice-President Board member since 2019
Ms Anita Borkar	General Secretary Co-founder
Mr Anurag Kenge	Treasurer Board Member since 2010
Ms Pradnya Khadilkar	Member Board Member since 2021
Ms Rewati Bhagwat	Member Board Member since 2015
Dr Rajendra Barve	Member Board Member since 2016

## ABHIVYAKTI TEAM



Avinash



Bhikan



Bhila



Gayatri



Jitendra



Khadeshwar



Mahesh



Manisha



Manisha G.



Mannat



Mayuri



Nitin



Ranjeet



Sandip



Shubhangi

1,94,33,333 97,19,896 TOTAL RUPERS TOTAL RUPPES ASPER OUR REPORT AS ON EVEN DATE FOR ABBIEVYAKTI MEDIA FOR DEVELOPMENT, FOR C. S. AJGAOTRAR & COMPANY, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS (4. No. 10284) (1892 102214) DATE - 13 SEP 2022 ANJAY SAVALED ANITA BORKARD BECHETARY smani Contracto IV. S. DMAND DATE --14 SEP 2022

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REASURER

1.04.33,333

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PUNDS AND LIABILITIES	SCHEDELE	CURRENT VEAR AMOUNT	PREVIOUS VEAR AMOUNT	PROPERTY AND ASSETS	SCHEDELE	CURRENT VEAR AMOUNT	PREVIOUS VEAR AMOUNT
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		1.97,18,114	14614194	and the second se		145.05114	141415

### **FINANCIAL STATUS**

## **LEGAL INFORMATION**

Societies Registration No.	Maharashtra State, Mumbai – 5, 1987, G.B.B.S.D, Dt. 05/01/1987
Charity Registration No.	F – 2702, Dt. 29/05/1991
80-G Registration No.	INS. 25935 Dt. 11/09/1987
12- A Registration No.	Maharashtra State, Mumbai – 5, 1987, G.B.B.S.D, Dt. 05/01/1987
FCRA Registration No.	083900052 Dt. 01/11/2016
Abhivyakti Pan No.	AAATA0061D
NGO DARPAN No	Unique ID - MH/2017/0169650
CSR1 Certificate No	CSR 00004999

## **AUDITORS**

C. S Ajgaonkar & Co. Chartered Accountants Proprietor C. A. Vidyadhar Somani Unit No. 127, 1st Floor, Prabhadevi Unique Industrial Premises Co-op Soc Ltd., Prabhadevi, Mumbai-400 025 Phone No. 022 66624558 Email:- vidyadhar@cavssomani.com







# Abhivyakti Media For Development

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