





## About RAF Global in India

RAF Global is a private, non-denominational, not-for-profit international organisation committed to improving the quality of life primarily in selected countries across Africa and Asia. RAF Global has branches and affiliates in 6 countries.

RAF Global in India works with the most marginalised individuals, families and communities in the poorest regions of India to improve the Quality of Life, by bringing together resources, technology, systems and effective grassroots strategies, giving better choices and control to people for a lasting change. Operational since 2015, RAF Global is registered in India under section 8 of the Indian Companies Act, 2013.

## Our Programmes

RAF Global in India makes long-term, strategic and systematic investment around the key sectors of healthcare, nutrition, education, and sustainable livelihoods, along with expanding the reach of public services through good governance practices at the sub-national level. The programme portfolio of RAF Global in India encompasses Economic Integration and Livelihood Support for Women and Youth, Climate Smart Agriculture, Health and Nutrition Initiatives, Education and Technology, Good Governance and Humanitarian Response.



Grounded on the experiences of implementing an Integrated Rural Development Programme in Gujarat and, supporting a range of women's livelihood projects, early childhood development and school education interventions across states, RAF Global in India lays key emphasis in supporting Government systems be it in public health, education, strengthening livelihood or any other. It also works with local communities, civil societies, and private agencies to promote impactful work.

## **Our Reach**

In the past, RAF Global in India has supported projects in at least 15 districts, covering the states of Bihar, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Uttar Pradesh and the Union Territory of Delhi. Presently, RAF Global in India has long-term interventions in seven districts across the states of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Jharkhand and Maharashtra. We have reached out to more than 600,000 lives.



## PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

### Economic Integration and Livelihood Support for Women and Youth (EILSWY)

RAF Global in India promotes economic well-being of women and youth, across the spectrum of decent work opportunities—in wage employment, self-employment and enterprise development by aiding their income-generating skills as well as providing them with enabling financial and market linkages. The programme has the following sub-themes namely,

- Financial Inclusion
- Skill Building
- Social Enterprise Fund
- Promotion of Micro Enterprises



Financial inclusion is an effective step in the direction of reducing poverty in India considering that it enables access to a range of products and services for savings, loan and insurance apart from assisting in availing benefits of several government schemes and entitlements.



RAF Global's women focused livelihood improvement initiatives under the Integrated Rural Development Programme in Gujarat, India helps women to collectivize under SHGs where they undertake thrift and credit activities and thereafter, promotes the financial inclusion of the SHGs i.e making available financial services to them such as savings accounts for SHGs, cash credit from banks and insurance services at affordable cost. These groups together, have a savings of over Rs 7 million. Working closely with the block office, banks, National Rural Livelihood Mission and Mission Mangalam scheme of the state Government, technical and donor agencies, the programme endeavours to create access to skilling and up-skilling opportunities, along with creation of an ecosystem of bouquet of services and support where women led small businesses grow, improving their income as well as supporting local communities.



A social enterprise fund has been set up at the district level to provide capital for women SHGs at zero percent interest in order to step up micro enterprises at the local level.

Besides these, RAF Global in India has supported projects on strengthening women's enterprises and career development centre for youth in the Union Territory of Delhi, building life skills and livelihoods training for inmates of Dasna prison in the state of Uttar Pradesh and in the state of Jharkhand, a livelihood intervention that integrated the component of better menstrual health promotion for women and adolescent girls.





## | Health and Nutrition Initiatives (HNI)

Given the inescapable link between poor health and poverty, Public Health and Nutrition is integral to RAF Global's mandate of improving quality of life. The programme has the following sub-themes namely,

- Prevention and care of critical diseases
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)
- Health System Improvement and,
- Building access to social safety nets



Coverage of critical disease include NCDs (Novel Infectious, Chronic and Non-Communicable Diseases) and NTDs (Neglected Tropical Diseases) since, we understand that these diseases disproportionately affect low-income economies and further stress the already weak health systems in these regions, create exorbitant costs at the household level, affect individual productivity, including loss of income and may further push people into poverty and debt.



The key strategy with respect to critical diseases involve creating awareness about the diseases in communities, strengthening systems for preventive healthcare, supporting detection, specialised care including surgeries, and promoting effective referral service programmes.

RAF Global in India has strengthened community access to specialized leprosy care in the tribal belt of East Singhbhum district, Jharkhand for past 6 years, covering a population of 4.5 lakhs, across 4 blocks. In Navi Mumbai, catering to the needs of poor, out stationed cancer patients from across India who visits the city for specialised cancer treatment, RAF Global in India has financed the construction of free boarding and lodging facilities and other facilitation services. This has eased the financial and mental burden of poor patients, and further enabled their access to super specialty cancer hospitals in Mumbai.



Under WASH, RAF Global in India has engaged in the Barmer district of Rajasthan to reconstruct





catchment areas of existing rainwater harvesting tanks (tankas) and is exploring partnerships to work in the area of deepening of ponds in the district at scale, for greater impact. Earlier, it supported the creation of model school sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion among young children and adolescent girls in 11 schools of Gujarat. The recent Bal Pahal initiatives in schools across the districts of Junagadh and Porbandar in Gujarat further sensitised over 6500 children on cleanliness and hygiene practices. Safe drinking water facilities have also been set up in schools to provide a healthy environment to students. RAF Global in India endeavors to work in the area of micro solid waste management and has earlier worked with village panchayat to promote behavior change and waste segregation among 2300 households, 6 schools and 500 shops in Junagadh district of Gujarat.

RAF Global in India believes in complementing and further strengthening the existing public health systems in the states of its operation. It has donated critical medical equipments and consumables to



community health centres, Rotary clubs and district hospitals in both normal times and during public health emergencies such as Covid-19. With the objective of making district hospitals self-sufficient in medical oxygen requirements, RAF Global in India has set up a PSA medical oxygen generation plant of 960 LPM at the GMERS General Hospital in the Junagadh district of Gujarat. The plant has created additional 270 oxygenated beds at the hospital and enhanced GMERS hospital's capacity to perform critical life-saving role for the next 10 years, especially for poor patients.



The interventions of India Country Office in maternal and child healthcare and nutrition are built around the ICDS. RAF Global in India considers social safety nets as critical component under the health programme given its systemic benefits in enabling better food security, household consumption and improvement in human capital at large.



## | Education and Technology Programme (ETP)

RAF Global's programme on Education and Technology strives to equip girls, boys, and young adults with knowledge, skills, technology, and values so that they can maximize their potential and further contribute to the process of nation-building by becoming responsible citizens. The programme promotes equitable and universal access to quality education for underserved communities and has the following sub themes namely,

- Bridging the digital divide
- Early Childhood Development
- School Improvement Programme
- Leadership and Ethics Building

Recognising that the digital divide is a gendered one and creates an impediment to self-advancement for girls as well as boys living in economic poverty and other disadvantages, RAF Global in India has supported initiatives that provided equal access and exposure to information technology in several schools of Gujarat to enable



internet aided learning. The digital classroom support is reaching out to no less than 800 students every year in Chitrawad, Nagalpur, Chhaya and Madressa School. In the district of Singbhum east, Jharkhand, computer education has been restarted in four public schools by plugging small gaps in the IT infrastructures benefitting over 2,000 students.



In the area of early childhood development RAF Global in India endeavours to develop structured engagement of under 6 years old children enrolled at the Anganwadi centres in selected blocks in the states of Gujarat and Rajasthan to offer them the best possible start in life, and prevent learning gaps when they transition to primary grades. The foundation has rich experience of supporting early childhood development in 3 districts of Bihar (covering 108 anganwadis, 12,000 children and parents and about 60,000 community members. It recently undertook rapid assessment of Anganwadi centres in 18 villages across the states of Gujarat



and Rajasthan to identify the gaps in infrastructure, pedagogy and other needs pertaining to ECD and has developed a way forward to work on it.

Another initiative, the Foundational Learning Improvement Programme (FLIP) of India Country Office addresses learning deficits of foundational years in children from urban slums and remote rural schools through grade appropriate coaching support so that they could learn to read and write properly, do basic numerical calculations and cope with school curriculum in upper primary grades. The programme reaches to around 550 children from across 18 villages of Junagadh and Porbandar districts in the state of Gujarat and Barmer district in the state of Rajasthan.

School infrastructure has an important role in the development of an inclusive and effective education system. RAF Global in India therefore invests in improving the learning environment in schools by renovating, up gradating facilities and constructing classrooms, libraries, laboratories and equipments in



resource poor schools apart from supporting creation of affordable students' hostels. No less than 200 students benefit annually as a result of infrastructure development support in the past, to hostels at various locations in Gujarat.

RAF Global recognises that education must provide its learners with the knowledge, skills, attitude and values to lead productive lives, make informed decisions and contribute as responsible citizens in the wider society to foster peaceful societies, practice gender equality and sustainable living. RAF Global invests in building leadership in school students through a range of initiatives integrated with sports and cultural activities. At least 65,000 children and youth have been directly reached through the education programme of RAF Global in India.





## | Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)

The main goal of RAF Global in India under Climate Smart Agriculture is to promote and strengthen farming practices and systems that adapt to climate change in order to ensure sustainable income and food security for smallholder farm families. The programme has the following sub themes namely,

- Promoting Organic Farming
- Conservation Agriculture
- System of Rice Intensification
- E Agriculture
- Micro Irrigation



RAF Global in India is promoting the organic farming method of crop production whereby crop rotation and mix farm strategies are used to build soil's organic matter instead of pesticides or fertilisers. Conservation Agriculture approach is also promoted to reduce soil erosion and restore degraded soil. Regular trainings are conducted for farmers in Junagadh and Porbandar districts of Gujarat for practical implementation of improved methods in their farming practices. Farmer Resource Centres



have also been developed to promote sustainable practices and to enrich existing knowledge of farmers. In the district of Singhbhum East, Jharkhand, we are working with our partners to promote the practice of organic farming with the Shabar tribe who still bears the criminal stigma of British rule and remain highly ostracised and stigmatised in the contemporary society.

Our initiatives promote micro irrigation practices among poor farmers along with investing in restoring traditional rainwater harvesting structures in arid and semi-arid regions. We believe in forging links among various stakeholders such as Government's agriculture extension department, local community of farmers, financial service providers and others to strengthen and diversify the programme.





## Good Governance Programme (GGP)

RAF Global in India believes that good governance has a fundamental bearing on the overall quality of life. The programme's goal is to promote and strengthen good governance practices among sub-national governments in order to expand the scale and scope of public services for inclusive growth, well-being and shared prosperity of the citizens, especially for those belonging to the marginalised and disadvantaged section of society. RAF Global in India has emphasised on ensuring efficient and inclusive public sectors and further pressed for downward accountability of public services with an active and engaged citizenry, primarily at the sub-national level. The programme

- Citizens' access to services and entitlements
- Building Public Accountability
- E Governance

RAF Global in India supported a 3 year long project in 2 blocks of Patna, Bihar whereby 31 existing Government registered Common Services Centres (CSCs) were strengthened and 4 of them emerged as





e-resource centres to guide other CSCs. A total of 7,82,000 benefits of various Government schemes and entitlements were availed by the slum communities through these CSCs. The project revitalised the entire public delivery system, apart from providing viable business for the CSC entrepreneurs. The project demonstrated a smart e-mechanism to improve demand-supply connect by bridging digital divide.



RAF Global in India has supported another initiative towards developing a model for SMART Gram Panchayats, covering 7 Gram Panchayats of Dediapada block of Narmada district in Gujarat. As a result of the capacity enhancement initiatives for elected representatives, citizen leaders and Community based Organisations, the Gram panchayats are functioning more effectively—convening meetings regularly, including the resolutions of Gram Sabhas, integrating technology, and implementing inclusive multi-sectoral plans with enhanced development outcomes. These Panchayats are further improving



the access of citizens to government schemes and services for a wide array of benefits.

During the Covid-19 surge also, the Gram Panchayats effectively carried out work such as household surveys for early identification of symptoms, listing of migrants and encouraging their home quarantine upon return to their villages, listing of vulnerable families to address food insecurity through the Public Distribution System, working actively for commencement of activities under MGNREGA to ensure work availability and facilitating clearance of delayed wage payment under the programme.



## | Humanitarian Response

RAF Global in India has been proactive in its response to emergency situations in India, be it any natural calamity or public health crisis. Besides responding to the appeals for financial contribution by Centre and State Governments, it has worked directly with volunteers, inter-agency networks and local administration for a coordinated response in order to provide life-saving assistance. RAF Global in India lays focus on addressing the needs of women, girls, and the specially abled and other vulnerable groups to ensure that appropriate and timely relief support reaches them to alleviate their suffering. Besides these, it aims to protect their fragile livelihoods and further guard them against slipping into extreme poverty.



During the Covid-19 surge, RAF Global in India intervened in the states of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Goa and Jharkhand responding to the ground realities, ranging from providing ration kits to around 900 extremely poor families in 2 districts of Gujarat during the national lockdown to, providing a wide range of high costing, essential equipments to



selected district hospitals in Gujarat, Rajasthan and Jharkhand and, critical support to the district administration including, setting up a temporary Covid-19 care facility with 100 beds in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan. In the Union Territory of Delhi, through the Afghan embassy and schools run for the children of Afghan refugees in Delhi, RAF Global in India provided essential food supplies to 300 affected families in order to address food scarcity and hunger in the community.



Humanitarian Response therefore, is an emerging programme area for RAF Global in India, an area it is set to grow so that the foundation could provide a wide array of disaster responses tailored around local realities, with a long-term approach.







## TAKE ACTION

RAF Global in India actively seeks to collaborate with like-minded agencies for funding of innovative and impactful development projects in India. We welcome individual donors, institutions, and foundations from across the world as partners in change.

**To donate to RAF in India,  
please contact the following  
office by post or email**

**RAF Global India Country Office**  
DPT 238, DLF Prime Tower, Plot No. 79 & 80,  
Pocket F, Phase I, Okhla Industrial Estate,  
New Delhi- 110 020, India  
Tel: +91-11-41631278 (Landline)

**Email:**  
[donors@rafglobal.org](mailto:donors@rafglobal.org)  
[info.india@rafglobal.org](mailto:info.india@rafglobal.org)

