

QUARTERLY UPDATE

Swayam Shikshan Prayog

October - December 2022



We welcome the '2023' New Year with new hopes and dreams. The past year has been very eventful for SSP - a testing period that was loaded with challenges. Nevertheless, it has been a year of immense gratification as well. We lost SSP's beloved founder, Ms. Prema Gopalan, which came as a huge shock to all of us. We would like to express our deep appreciation for all our donors, partners and staff, who worked tirelessly and selflessly, and were a constant support to our communities across India.

In the last quarter, SSP has transformed over **7,950 grassroots women** in its operational areas into well-recognized and respected leaders and entrepreneurs through its entrepreneurship development programs. SSP has been bringing new women leaders onboard, and engaging with its women entrepreneurs on several digital platforms for training, workshops and improving their businesses.

SSP's **globally recognized Women-led Climate Resilient Farming (WCRF) model** has scaled up to new geographies and communities across Maharashtra and Kerala.

We have supported 6,892 rural women in becoming financially independent and empowered by starting their own businesses. We have also been developing rural value chains through the creation of **6 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)** with 5000+ shareholders, who are taking the lead in agriculture and agri-allied sectors.

SSP is facilitating grassroots women's entrepreneurship through awareness and promotion of affordable **clean energy solutions** such as biogas cookstoves, solar products, Subjee Coolers (energy saving vegetable coolers), water conservation techniques, organic agri-inputs, solar powered milk chiller plants etc.

Through SSP's Women's Initiative to Learn and Lead (WILL), our block and cluster leaders supported Village Action Groups (VAGs) to prioritize women's issues and work closely with the Gram Panchayat and government officials to support them service delivery that reaches underserved and vulnerable communities.

SSP receives the Local Adaptation Champions Awards at COP27!



Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP) is proud to be recognized at global level as in November 2022, SSP received the Local Adaptation Champion Award from Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) at the COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

SSP is one of the four organisations recognized for its pioneering work in leading climate change adaptation in vulnerable communities. We won the award in the 'Capacity and Knowledge' category, for our work in supporting women farmers to adopt more resilient and sustainable agricultural practices in Marathwada, Maharashtra, where a focus on water-intensive cash crops is leaving farmers exposed to climate shocks such as poor and uncertain monsoon seasons.

Over the past 10 years, SSP developed the Women-led Climate Resilient Farming (WCRF) model, helping small and marginal farmers to transition from cash crops to food crops, as well as from chemical to bio inputs, while also supporting in the conservation of soil and water and the promotion of more diversified and resilient livelihoods through farm-allied businesses.

Sheela Patel, Founding Director of SPARC, and Professor Patrick V. Verkooijen, CEO of GCA were both members of the prestigious jury and presented the award to Upmanyu Patil, Director Programs at SSP. During the event, Sheela Patel dedicated SSP's award to the late Ms. Prema Gopalan, Founder of SSP, and highlighted the inspiring work done by our organisation over the past 25 years.

Program Updates

Sustainable Water Management

The **'Marathwada District Transformation Model'** program, supported by Hindustan Unilever Foundation (HUF), focuses on developing and implementing a model of sustainable water usage in agriculture in Marathwada. This program aims to improve water security and wellbeing of one lakh women farmers across 6 blocks in the drought-prone Osmanabad district of Maharashtra. The achievements of the last quarter are:

- 40,000 farmers from 6 blocks in Osmanabad have adopted the Women-led Climate Resilient Farming Model.
- A certification course on watershed management has been conceptualized and started in Osmanabad for 100 Sakhis.
- 1000 demonstration farms have been set up across 6 Blocks in Osmanabad, to demonstrate the WCRF model and best practices in organic farming to other farmers.
- In 6 Blocks of Osmanabad District:
 - Farmers were able to access credit linkages of INR 23.34 lakh.
 - Farmers accessed government schemes worth INR 74.46 lakh.
- In Osmanabad District, Two Farmer Producer Companies were able to:
 - Purchase 1.5 tons of soybeans and sell 610 kgs of pulses, ensuring that farmers connecting to the FPO received fair prices for their produce.



Women's Entrepreneurship and Value Chains

The **'ISUDWOG: Inclusive and Sustainable Development for Women and Girls'** project, supported by the European Union, focuses on adoption of bio-farming practices, developing women's entrepreneurship and establishing cluster level enterprises like dairy, pulses, vegetables and goat rearing. It aims to reach up to 7,000 women and girls across 8 blocks in Osmanabad district of Maharashtra. The achievements of the last quarter are:

- 3000 producers (small and marginalised farmers) have been connected to the four value chains as producers.
- 2043 beneficiaries have received benefits of INR 1.67 crores from government schemes and subsidies.
- 100 women-run milk collection units, called Laxmi Dairy, have been established in Osmanabad District. Over 1800 milk farmers have been linked with these dairy units, collecting a total of over 10,000 liters of milk on a daily basis.

Program Updates

Clean Energy and Women's Entrepreneurship

The **'Improved Access to Clean Energy and Nature Based Solutions through Women Entrepreneurs' /Sakhi Network in underserved villages in Bihar** project, supported by Misereor, is focusing on 600 villages in Nalanda and Gaya districts of Bihar. The project is increasing awareness about clean energy, reaching over 5,00,000 people at the last mile in project districts through various types of awareness generation activities. 200 grassroots women have been trained on entrepreneurship and technical knowledge on initiating clean energy business. The project structure has 20 business mentors or super sakhis who are equipped with the capacity to support these rural women entrepreneurs.

The achievements in the last quarter include:

- Clean Energy Program in Bihar, SSP focused on networking and capacity building of Energy Sakhis.
- A dialogue workshop was organised by Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP) as part of the project. Twenty Clean Energy Sakhis and entrepreneurs from Gaya and Nalanda districts of Bihar shared their experiences and learnings in promoting renewable energy solutions and building skills as clean energy entrepreneurs at the local level.
- Awareness programme on women-led clean energy solutions with renewable energy product partners, organic fertilizers and sanitary pad makers was organised.
- Workshops with local government and locally elected panchayat members were organised at block and Gram Panchayat level for private and public partnership to access government schemes and programmes on affordable renewable energy promotion. A total of 260 people participated in these events.



Gender Sensitisation

The **Gender Transformative Programme** is being implemented by SSP in partnership with UNICEF, MAVA and CORO India in Osmanabad. The programme seeks to reduce the gender disparities in Osmanabad by engaging with students and teachers of upper primary and secondary schools. Under this, SSP has started sessions with students and teachers of 20 schools in Osmanabad District.

Program Updates

Clean Energy and Women's Entrepreneurship

The **South Asia Regional Energy Partnership (SAREP)** project, supported by RTI International and funded by USAID, is focusing on scaling-up access to innovative and energy efficient solutions through the promotion of biodigesters and vegetable (subjee) coolers for rural populations in 500 villages across 5 districts in Maharashtra (Latur, Osmanabad, Solapur) and Bihar (Gaya, Nalanda) through a women-led micro-entrepreneurship model.

Achievements include:

- Awareness raising and promotion of biogas as an affordable and clean energy solution. SSP's women leaders are conducting household visits, meetings with SHGs, and conducting promotions through van road shows, stalls at weekly markets and presentations using audio/video materials in the villages.
- Over 1,100 Sistema.bio biodigesters have been booked so far out of which 1050 are in Maharashtra and 50 are in Bihar. 541 biodigesters have been installed out of which 147 have been commissioned.
- Rukart has initiated finetuning carbon emission reduction calculations to frame the carbon program around subjee coolers
- SSP has organised Entrepreneurship development training for 72 women from 20 villages in Bihar, and supported them in becoming Clean Energy Sakhi's. Families in these 20 new villages have large scale vegetable cultivation and animal husbandry operations, that makes these villages ideal for biogas production.



Women's Entrepreneurship

Strengthening grassroots women entrepreneurs through building a business development ecosystem: This HSBC funded project focuses on strengthening grassroots women entrepreneurs by building a business development ecosystem for 1,000 women entrepreneurs in 100 villages across two districts of Maharashtra - Latur and Solapur. Project achievements in the last quarter include:

- Mobilization of 2000 women farmers by village leaders in 100 villages.
- 1000 women entrepreneurs received training.
- 320 new women entrepreneurs emerged in the last quarter, setting up small-scale businesses in their villages. These fledgling entrepreneurs have been assigned 12 senior leaders as mentors, who guide them in market linkages and customer acquisition.
- 1000 customers acquired in Solapur and Latur districts in Maharashtra.

Program Updates

Economic Empowerment through Women's Entrepreneurship

The 'Power of Voices FAIR for ALL' Program, supported by Huairou Commission, aims to economically empower 30,000 women farmers by 2025, and is being implemented in Wayanad district of Kerala, and Osmanabad district of Maharashtra. The project is focusing on strengthening civil society and mobilizing grassroots women to demand and contribute to more inclusive and sustainable trade and value chains.

Kerala

- SSP's team in Wayanad, Kerala conducted awareness programmes with Sakhi Farmers, leading to 342 new shareholders joining the Keravriksha Farmer Producer Company.
- 15 new Sakhi Farmers Groups were formed in Kottathara, which will sell their produce and strengthen the Keravriksha FPO.
- Two basic business management and marketing trainings were conducted with 66 participants from four Sakhi Farmer groups in Wayanad, Kerala. Capacity building for Directors and Promoters of the FPO were also conducted.
- 44 women from Wayanad participated in SSP's Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP). These trainings were organised in partnership with the local Krishi Vigyan Kendra's in Wayanad.
- 28 women farmers started implementing SSP's WCRF agriculture model, with the technical support of the local Krishi Vibhag (Agriculture Department) in Kottathara.
- Five women leaders and five field coordinators from Kerala and Maharashtra participated in Outcome Harvesting Workshop in Pune from 8th to 10th November 2022, facilitated by Huairou Commission and Oxfam Novib as part of the Fair For All Project.

Maharashtra

- SSP's leaders carried out orientation sessions on FPOs in Bhoom block, Maharashtra. As a result, 65 farmers have been identified to become new members of the FPO.
- 684 women participated in entrepreneurship development training in Osmanabad.
- FPO Directors were taken on a field visit to Govind Dairy in Satara to understand the operational processes of Dairy units, and how to run a successful dairy.



Program Updates

Community-led Water Management

The **'Community Water Project: Enhancing the Access to Water through Awareness Demonstration and Convergence'** project supported by Sterling and Wilson Private Limited focuses on increasing community awareness on water conservation, linking the Gram Panchayat and farmers to local government line departments to avail schemes for better water management, knowledge and capacity building of farmers on water conservation through improved irrigation practices like farm ponds, farm bunding, recharge pits, drip irrigation and sprinklers.

The major achievements in the past quarter are:

- Reached over 1350 women farmers in 50 villages to spread awareness on water conservation practices and relevant schemes on irrigation.
- Conducted village-level planning, water budgeting and advocacy workshops with villagers and Gram Panchayat members, to include better water management measures into the GPDP. Local officials from the Block and Agriculture Department also attended these meetings. This was conducted in 22 villages, with participation of over 270 persons.
- 873 farmers from 17 villages were able to avail government schemes on water management and agriculture as a result of the training.



Women's Entrepreneurship

The **'Repositioning rural women as advanced entrepreneurs and business leaders in 50 villages in the Latur district in Maharashtra'** Project, supported by Avendus, aims to build knowledge about commodity markets, identify business opportunities for women farmers, and encourage them to set up small-scale businesses. SSP will target 500 potential women entrepreneurs in the first year, providing them with capacity building opportunities and technical support. The major achievements in the last quarter are:

- Carried out awareness raising activities on women's entrepreneurship in Ausa and Shirrur Anantpal Block of Latur district through household visits, audio/visual presentations, meetings with SHGs and stalls at weekly markets.
- SSP conducted 533 EDP (entrepreneurship development) Trainings in the last quarter in Latur district.
- 810 Hand holding Support provided.
- SSP has given importance to the selection of new villages.
- More than 1000 Customer base has been created till the date.

Program Updates

Women-led Resilient Development

The 'Improvement of the socio-economic conditions of women from poor households' project, supported by Misereor, focuses on community driven resilience and change that is led by women. This project envisions women-driven change in communities, markets and local governance systems, and aims to reach 50,000 farmers across 500 villages in 10 blocks in Latur, Solapur, Osmanabad, Nanded and Jalna districts of Maharashtra.

Major achievements in the last quarter are:

- SSP supported the local women-led VAGs (Village Action Groups) in conducting meetings, both internally and with Gram Panchayat members, for village micro-planning and accessing relevant government schemes. Over 8589 women leaders attended these meetings from 552 villages in Maharashtra.
- Farmer sensitisation meetings were organised in 131 villages, where 2393 women farmers were oriented on the WCRF model of agriculture and the benefits of an integrated organic farming process.
- 5931 women farmers from 216 villages are now using the WCRF agriculture model on their farms. Block leaders follow up with the adopter farmers on a monthly basis to provide guidance and mentorship.
- SSP carried out awareness and capacity building on women's land rights in 71 villages in the last quarter. As a result 277 women have now been included on the land ownership documents in their households.
- SSP provided training and support to 218 women from the 4 districts to start small-scale agri-allied businesses in their villages.
- SSP provided support and guidance to women farmers and entrepreneurs, helping 1385 women receive loans of INR 33,05,99,464 in value from local (micro-finance) and national banks in total.
- With SSP's support, 968 women farmers from 221 villages were able to avail of subsidies worth INR 1,08,85,800 under various government schemes like MGNREGS and PoCRA.
- Due to the awareness raising efforts of SSP's Block Leaders, 2426 women received the Ayushman Bharat Health Card under the National Health Protection Scheme. 228 women farmers were also able to register and receive their E-Shram Cards, making them eligible for various government benefits.



Stories from the Field

Transforming into a Leader - the Journey of Shubhangi Tai

Shubhangi Kulkarni is a powerhouse of a woman, leading other grassroots women farmers in her community and facilitating dialogues with the local government for positive change!

From Bavi village in Osmanabad district of Maharashtra, Shubhangi tai is a veteran leader, having been associated with SSP for over seven years. Currently working as a block leader, she carries out training and mentors other women on entrepreneurship and agriculture. As a block leader, Shubhangi tai facilitated Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) in 10 villages in Washi block and helped community members map and identify the major challenges that they face, along with discussions of a plan of action on how to address these issues. In four of these villages, the local women-led Village Action Group (VAG) was able to successfully negotiate with the Gram Panchayat, Gram Sevak and Block Officials to address issues such as access to clean drinking water, electricity, safe transportation for women, waste management and drainage. Many of these issues were also formally included in the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) in these four villages.



Events

SSP at the 2022 Community Based Adaptation Conference (CBA16)

"When we look at women's climate leadership, we should not look at women as victims but we should see women as equal partners. I invite donors and policy makers to invest in women's groups, especially grassroots women"

Naseem Shaikh, Associate Director-Programs at SSP, was a panelist at the CBA16 Conference event titled "What does women's climate leadership mean in the context of LLA?". In addition to speaking about SSP's role in empowering grassroots women in the climate-sensitive regions of India, she also highlighted that while women carry out around 80 percent of the country's farm work, they lack access to finance, technology and markets. While grassroots women are leading #localadaptation efforts, safeguarding their families and communities, there is an immediate need to bring women, especially grassroots women, into discussions around climate policy and finance.

Stories from the Field

Clean Energy - lighting up the sky



Chandani Devi, from Murgawa village in the Nalanda district of Bihar, was married at a very young age. Her family was fully depended on agriculture for their household income. As a member of the village Self Help Group, she was introduced to SSP during a meeting in 2020, where the leaders spoke about the importance of organic farming and the clean energy program that supported women’s entrepreneurship. Inspired by this, Chandani Devi decided to become a clean energy entrepreneur, or ‘Urja Sakhi’. She began to sell clean energy products like solar lamps and energy-saving LED bulbs as well as products related to women’s menstrual health and hygiene in her village and also in neighbouring villages. She used to set up stalls at meetings and local markets, conduct home visits and even travel with SSP’s clean energy vans for awareness-raising and marketing of products.

By 2021, Chandani Devi convinced her family to start adopting more sustainable farming practices that included mixed cropping of both grains and vegetables and a shift to chemical-free farming methods using organic manure. While initially her family disapproved of her work, after she started earning a stable income of INR 4,000-6,000 every month and was able to contribute to household expenses, they slowly started to support her efforts and even agreed to help with childcare when she had to travel to other villages. Today, her in-laws and husband include her in household decision-making and she is also recognised in the community as a leader and mentor. Most importantly, she is now able to support her children’s education.



Stories from the Field

Alternative livelihoods: The story of Anita Tai



Anita Nirmal is a farmer from Padoli village in Bhoom taluka of Osmanabad, Maharashtra. Coming from a poor and landless household, Anita tai and her husband both worked as daily wage labourers in other farms for many years. In 2021, SSP started working in Anita tai's village, and assessing the needs of women, facilitated the creation of a women goat farmers group.

Anita tai and her fellow goat farmers received trainings on improving the nutrition, health and sanitation of goats, as well as awareness about vaccinations, deworming and how to respond to small medical issues that might arise with their goats. Anita tai was one of the first women in her village to implement what was learnt in the training. From providing nutritional supplements to her goats to getting them vaccinated and improving their feed, she made many changes in her goat farming techniques. Soon enough, she noticed that the health of her goats improved, and she was able to sell her goats at a higher rate to buyers. As the mortality of Anita tai's goats reduced, she increased her goat herd by 15 goats within one year itself. Today, Anita tai earns over 2 lakhs rupees per year from her goat rearing income. Anita tai is now using the large amount of goat dung from her herd of 35 goats as manure in her fields, leading to reduced input costs and improved yield of crops.

Events

SSP at the COP27 South Asia Resilience Hub

Swayam Shikshan Prayog hosted the South Asia Regional Resilience Hub as part of COP27. The theme of the virtual event was 'Women Led Climate Resilient Initiatives: Lessons and Challenges'. The video is available on YouTube!

Click here to watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EDEBYIDHaAY>



Events

State Level Workshop on 'Women-led Clean Energy Solutions'

SSP organised a state-level workshop on 'Women-led Clean Energy Solutions' in Patna, Bihar on December 9, 2022. The workshop was part of the project 'Improving Access to Clean Energy through Women's Entrepreneurship', supported by Misereor, Germany. Twenty Clean Energy Sakhis/women entrepreneurs from Gaya and Nalanda districts of Bihar shared their experiences and learnings in promoting renewable energy solutions and building skills as clean energy entrepreneurs.

The workshop was inaugurated by Shri P N Rai, Member, Bihar State Disaster Management Authority (BSDMA), Government of Bihar. A total of 55 people from various organisations and government departments participated in the event. Mr. Upmanyu Patil, Director - Programs, Ms. Naseem Shaikh, Associate Director - Programs and Ms. Godavari Dange, Grassroots leader from Swayam Shikshan Prayog Maharashtra had highlighted the importance of women's leadership in building economic and community resilience in climate threatened areas. 10 NGO partners from eight districts who are part of Saksham Samaj Pahal also shared their experiences in addressing climatic and disaster risk through women's leadership.



International Rural Women's Day 2022

On the occasion of International Rural Women's Day, grassroots women from MCVS Aurangabad visited Swayam Shikshan Prayog on October 15th to learn how women farmers are working in agriculture to increase food and income security. 80 women from various villages of Aurangabad visited two villages and interacted with women farmers to learn the climate resilient farming model and entrepreneurship initiatives facilitated by SSP.



Events

Training on Water Conservation and Management

As part of the ongoing Marathwada District Transformation Model project, SSP carried out training on Water Conservation and Management with local Panchayat staff including the Sarpanch, Gram Sevaks, Krushi Sahayak and Rojgar Sevaks in four blocks of Marathwada (Tuljapur, Osmanabad, Kallam and Lohara) between September 29th and October 7th, 2022.

Through the workshop, the GP staff were oriented on the importance of including grassroots women and local communities in implementation of developmental activities, and how to identify beneficiaries for government schemes so that marginalised and vulnerable members of the community are also able to avail necessary schemes like the MGNREGA (employment guarantee scheme), Atal Byujal Yojana (groundwater management scheme) and other relevant schemes from the Department of Agriculture and PoCRA (Project on Climate Resilient Agriculture in Maharashtra).



Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) for Sakhis in Bihar



SSP organised a capacity building training for Sakhis and new women leaders as part of the Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) in Rajgir, Bihar on October 13-14, 2022. The training, attended by over 100 women, aimed to support rural women in starting small-scale businesses and promoting clean energy products like solar lights, solar lanterns, etc. The training focused on aspects of business promotion and development, financial management, product identification, market outreach and ways to increase incomes around Clean Energy Products.

The Clean Energy Project is supported by Misereor, Germany to address climate change by promoting eco-friendly, sustainable energy products and enhancing business skills of grassroots women in rural areas.

In the Media

Short Film on Clean Energy Entrepreneurs in Bihar

This film, created by Swayam Shikshan Prayog, narrates the journey of Oorja Sakhis to promote clean energy solutions in Bihar. It showcases the experiences and achievements of women entrepreneurs in addressing carbon emission reduction initiatives in Gaya and Nalanda Districts, Bihar, India.



Watch the film here:

<https://youtu.be/SjIY6wPJfQA>

Turning Disaster into Success: The Case of SSP

LLA Champions Swayam Shikshan Prayog created the 1-acre Climate Resilient Farming model where women borrow a parcel of land to cultivate food crops for their families instead of water-intensive cash crops.

Read more in the Global Hub on Locally Led Adaptation at:

<https://adaptationportal.gca.org/llahub/>



'I Started With Rs 10 & Built 6 Ventures': Woman Helps 5000 Others Start Micro Biz

Kamal Kumbhar from Osmanabad spent her early years battling incessant poverty, till one NGO changed the course of her life. Today, she hopes she can play the same role for women like her, by helping them become entrepreneurs.

On the occasion of Women's Day of 2022, Kamal was presented the Nari Shakti Award by former president Ram Nath Kovind.

Read here:

<https://www.thebetterindia.com/304836/kamal-kumbhar-from-maharashtra-helps-village-women-become-entrepreneurs-start-micro-biz/>



In the Media

Rural women empower a model that thrives



SSP's investment in rural women builds their confidence to assume public leadership roles and helps them promote climate resilience, food security, and more.

Anantika Singh, portfolio and partnership lead at Hindustan Unilever Foundation, says, "We work with many organisations. But the impact that sakhis make on the ground is stark. In some organisations, women are beneficiaries but not participants. In others, women move up the ladder and participate. Then you have Swayam Shikshan Prayog - SSP, where women are leaders. They have shifted from presence to participation to leadership."

Since Prema triggered the sakhi movement with the intention of 'building back better', the idea of women as community resource persons has gained traction in the country. SSP has created a replicable approach which, while responding to the challenges of a community, puts planning and decision-making in the hands of women and instills in them the confidence they need to assume public leadership roles. With every sakhi that joins the fold, and every community that is served, Prema's vision lives on.

Read here: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/developing-contemporary-india/rural-women-empower-a-model-that-thrives/>

News on the GCA Award at COP27

COP27: Swayam Shikshan Prayog wins Local Adaptation Champions Awards

The Maharashtra-based organisation is among the four recognised for their work in leading climate change adaptation for vulnerable local communities.

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/cop27-swayam-shikshan-prayog-wins-local-adaptation-champions-awards/article66139153.ece>





In the Media

News on the GCA Award at COP27

Community-led initiatives for climate change adaptation recognized at COP27

The award in the capacity and knowledge category goes to Swayam Shikshan Prayog for their work in supporting women farmers to adopt more resilient and sustainable agricultural practices in Maharashtra, India, where a focus on water-intensive cash crops currently leaves farmers exposed to climate shocks such as poor monsoon seasons.

<https://gca.org/news/community-led-initiatives-for-climate-change-adaptation-recognized-at-cop27>

Pune-based NGO wins Local Adaptation Champions Award at COP27 climate summit

Swayam Shikshan Prayog won the award in the 'capacity and knowledge' category for the work in supporting women farmers to adopt more resilient and sustainable agricultural practices in Marathwada in Maharashtra

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/pune-news/punebased-ngo-wins-local-adaptation-champions-award-at-cop27-climate-summit-101669646484999-amp.html>

This Pune non-profit led by women bagged an award at COP27 for climate adaptation

Swayam Shikshan Prayog promotes water-efficient irrigation models by creating awareness of water conservation for farms, households and communities. SSP encourages fellow women farmers from marginalised communities to diversify and increase crop cycles on small land holdings.

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/agriculture/this-pune-non-profit-led-by-women-bagged-an-award-at-cop27-for-climate-adaptation-86355>

Pune-based NGO wins Local Adaptation Champions Award at COP27 climate summit

Climate prize winner empowers women in India to become farmers and entrepreneurs
Interview with Mr. Upmanyu Patil, Director, Programmes, Swayam Shikshan Prayog

<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2022/11/12/1136071045/climate-prize-winner-empowers-women-in-india-to-become-farmers-and-entrepreneurs>

Our Partners:

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