

From Smoke to Solutions: The Zero-Burning Revolution

Crop Residue Management Initiative



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From Smoke to Solutions: The Zero-Burning Revolution

Crop Residue Management Initiative



Messages



B Thiagarajan

Chairman, CII National Committee on CSR and
Managing Director, Blue Star Limited

Guided by the vision of inclusive and sustainable development, we took on the challenge of changing the narrative. We adopted a multi-stakeholder approach and devised a project model to create a zero-stubble burning movement.

The Crop Residue Management initiative is one of CII Foundation's most significant climate and community-led interventions. It was launched to address a critical environmental challenge – farm stubble burning - a leading cause of air pollution, soil degradation and falling farmer incomes over the long term.

When the project was launched in 2018, farm stubble burning in India's north-west, especially in Punjab and Haryana, was considered an inevitable part of post-harvest practices— a practice driven by constraints of time, cost, and accessibility and a lack of awareness about the devastating damage due to burning.

Guided by the vision of inclusive and sustainable development, we took on the challenge of changing this narrative. We adopted a multi-stakeholder approach bringing together diverse stakeholders such as Government, industry, academia and the farmer community and devised a project model to create a zero-stubble burning movement.

The project was launched in 19 villages in Punjab, focusing on creating awareness, building trust, and supporting farmers with the requisite machinery and technical support for optimal usage of the machinery. Today, the initiative spans 1,000 villages, covers over 12 lakh acres of farmland, and has enabled thousands of

farmers to adopt in-situ and ex-situ solutions that eliminate the need to burn crop residue.

The results have been inspiring. In 2024, over 87% of land under the project in 793 villages was saved from burning. Air quality has improved visibly during the harvesting season, and farmers reported better soil health and reduced input costs.

But beyond the numbers, it is the stories that matter. Farmers who were once resigned to burning farm stubble are now proud ambassadors of change. Villages that once choked on smoke now have zero stubble burning. This initiative offers a practical roadmap to build robust climate resilience in agriculture. It demonstrates how locally led adaptation and mitigation can intersect meaningfully with national and global agendas. Climate change is not a siloed problem, and this project proves that with the right partnerships and community ownership, transformative change is possible.

I take this opportunity to thank all our stakeholders.

Through this coffee table book we have attempted to present not only the scale and the impact, but the human spirit behind it. I hope it inspires many more stakeholders to act — because sustainable development thrives on collaboration.



Chandrajit Banerjee

Director General
Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

Businesses can contribute to accelerating India's transition to a sustainable economy through innovation, investment, and community engagement, which aligns with Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 13 (Climate Action).

The climate situation continues to evolve yearly. Extreme weather events, high levels of air pollution, and water stress are notable aspects of this development. The increasing complexity of the climate situation highlights a need for comprehensive and collaborative solutions.

The Confederation of Indian Industry emphasizes that the industry should lead in the climate response. Businesses can contribute to accelerating India's transition to a sustainable economy through innovation, investment, and community engagement, which aligns with Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 13 (Climate Action).

CII leads several initiatives to address the challenges posed by climate change such as the Cleaner Air- Better Life initiative. A flagship intervention under Cleaner Air - Better Life is a crop residue management initiative. CII created a multi-stakeholder platform, bringing together and leveraging the strengths of government, industry, academia and the farmer community as key stakeholders for the crop residue management project, which is implemented on ground by the CII Foundation.

Launched in 2018 in 19 villages in Punjab, the initiative aims to create a 'zero-stubble burning movement' by supporting farmers

to adopt viable alternatives to stubble burning. Today the initiative covers almost 1,000 villages of Punjab and Haryana and has made a significant contribution in reducing stubble burning by driving behaviour change and promoting sustainable agriculture.

The crop residue management initiative is an example of how multi-stakeholder partnerships can make an impact on the ground. It represents CII's effort to create an impact that is environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive. It illustrates how issues like stubble burning, which are often due to resource gaps, lack of awareness, and socio-economic pressure, can be addressed through a systems-based approach with all stakeholders working toward a common goal.

I extend my sincere appreciation to all our partners who have invested in this vision and walked alongside us in creating impact that is both measurable and meaningful.

This coffee table book presents our journey of transformation and the possibilities ahead and I hope it inspires greater collaboration, reinforces the urgency of climate action, and reaffirms our shared responsibility to build a cleaner, healthier, and more resilient India.



About this Book

This Coffee Table Book captures the transformative journey of the Crop Residue Management (CRM) initiative from its inception in 2018 to its current scale. It highlights key milestones, community-driven innovations, and multi-stakeholder collaborations that have helped reduce stubble burning and promote sustainable agricultural practices. Through compelling narratives, data insights, and visual documentation, the book showcases the impact of the project across Punjab and Haryana, offering a replicable model for climate-resilient farming.

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Introduction



The scale of the Problem

Driven by the need to quickly clear fields after crop harvests (mainly rice and wheat), Crop Residue Burning (CRB) is a widespread agricultural practice in India, particularly in the Indo-Gangetic Plains (IGP). Farmers burn an estimated 92 million metric tons of crop residue annually to expedite land preparation for subsequent crops. CRB stems from the mechanization of agriculture, particularly the use of combine harvesters that leave behind substantial stubble, coupled with shrinking gaps between cropping cycles and labour shortages. While CRB offers short-term convenience, it perpetuates a cycle of environmental degradation, health hazards, and soil fertility loss, making it a critical scientific and policy challenge.

Despite bans under Section 144 of the CrPC and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, enforcement remains weak - primarily due to socioeconomic dependencies and the lack of affordable alternatives. The science of CRB involves complex interactions between combustion chemistry, atmospheric transport, and soil biogeochemistry, necessitating interdisciplinary solutions.



Combustion Dynamics & Emissions

- **Burning releases**
 - PM_{2.5} (193–270 µg/m³ during peak seasons) - 4× India's air quality standard.
 - Black carbon (accelerates Himalayan glacial melt via albedo reduction).
 - GHGs (CO₂, CH₄, N₂O) and sulfate aerosols (short-term cooling, long-term warming).
- Smoke from Punjab/Haryana contributes 7–8% of Delhi's annual PM_{2.5}.



Environmental & Agricultural Impacts

- **Crop residue burning**
 - Destroys 5.5–8.5 million metric tons of soil organic carbon/year.
 - Reduces microbial biomass and nutrient availability (80–90% N loss).
 - Hardens soil, lowers water infiltration, and decreases yields over time.
 - Linked to respiratory/cardiovascular diseases.



Socioeconomic Drivers

- Habitual practice: Farmers burning rice residue are 15–21% more likely to burn wheat residue.
- **Barriers to alternatives**
 - High cost of machinery (e.g., Happy Seeders).
 - Weak market demand for residue-based products (biomass, compost).
- **Policy gaps:** Subsidies (50–80% of machinery costs) face delays and low awareness.



Sustainable Solutions

- **In-situ methods**
 - Mulching/incorporation (boosts soil carbon by 15–20%).
 - Zero-till sowing
 - Biochar conversion of crop residue for soil incorporation in the field.
- **Ex-situ methods**
 - Biomass plants convert 30–40% of surplus residue into energy/fertilizers.
- **Policy frameworks**
 - CROP initiative (Conversion, Regulation, Optimization, Prevention).
 - Multi-stakeholder collaboration: Machinery rental hubs, biomass markets, climate-smart agriculture integration.

Source: CII Cleaner - Air Better Life (2025) analysis of primary data from field

Highlights



Crop residue burning is a nexus of environmental, agricultural, and public health crises.



Solutions require technology adoption, market incentives, and strict policy enforcement.



A holistic approach is needed to balance farmer livelihoods and sustainability.

Project Snapshot



Location

13 districts across
Punjab and Haryana

Timeline

2018 onwards

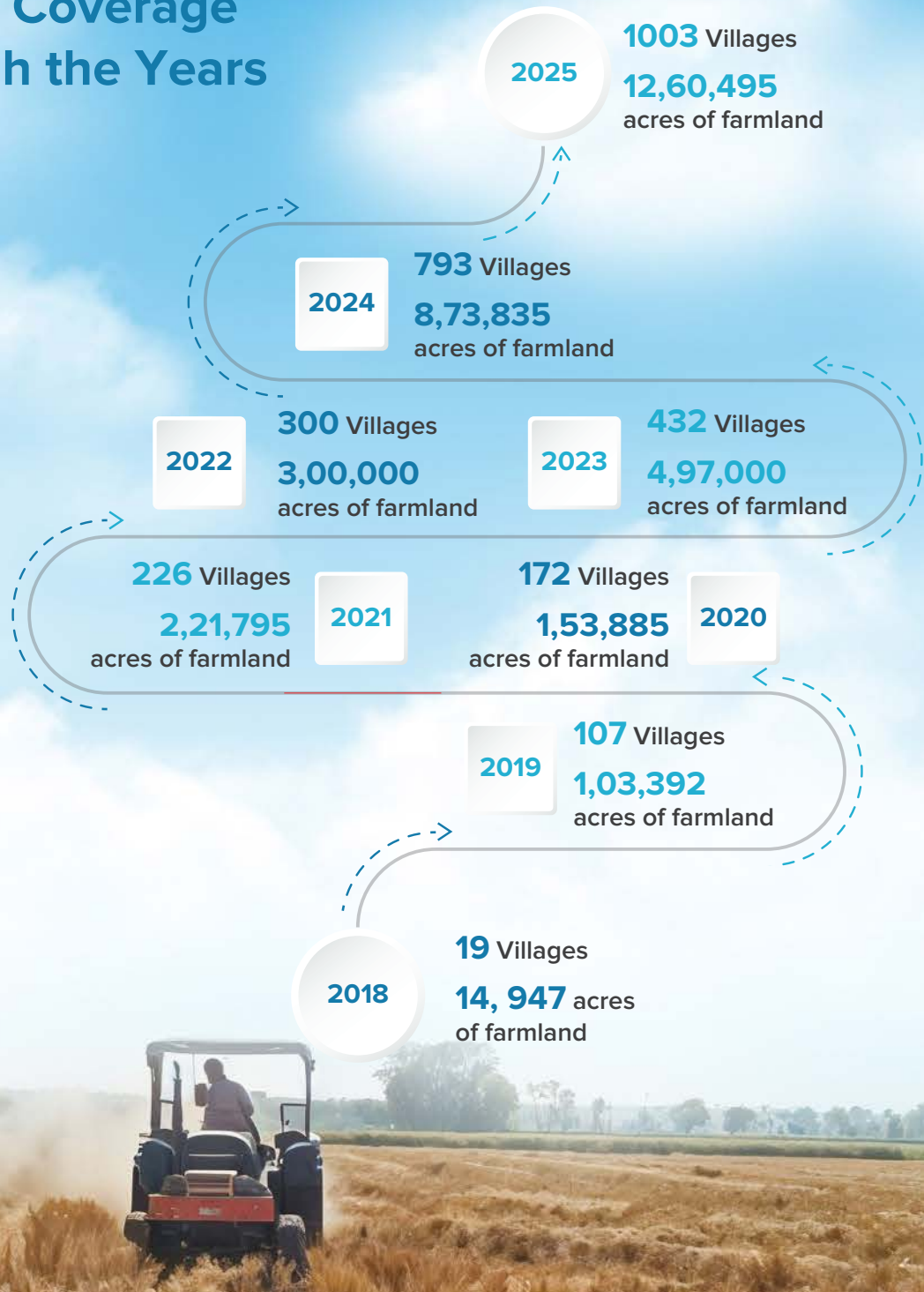
Objective

The crop residue management project aims to reduce stubble burning and promote sustainable agricultural practices by driving behaviour change and encouraging farmers to adopt eco-friendly straw management practices.

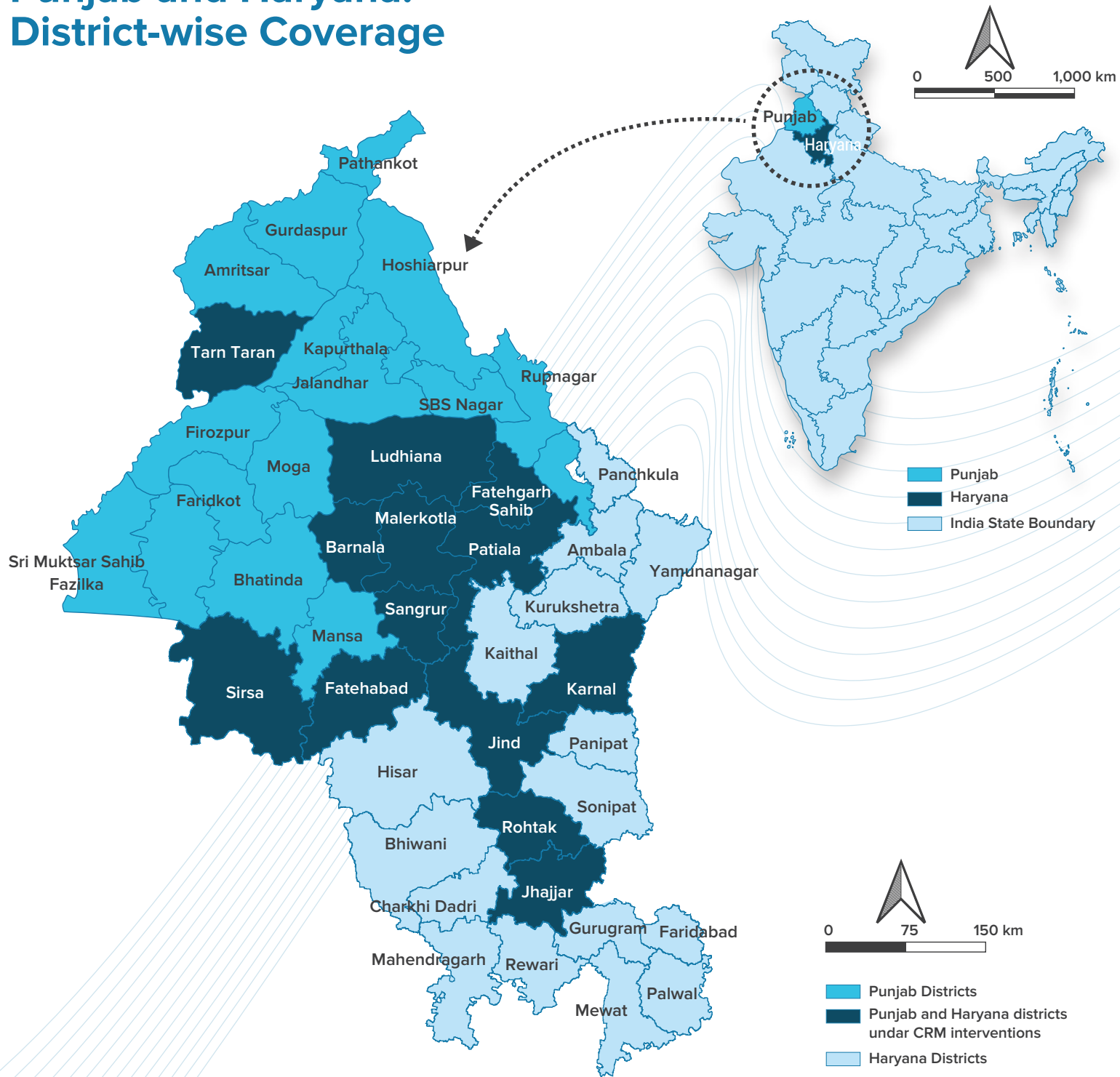
Goal

Behavioural change and large-scale adoption of eco-friendly straw management practices.

Project Coverage Through the Years



Punjab and Haryana: District-wise Coverage



The Beginning: How the Project was Conceptualized



Extensive groundwork was conducted including meetings with district authorities, panchayats, village societies, and agricultural departments.

Key stakeholders like Charanjeet Singh, Deputy Director, Punjab Pollution Control Board; Manmohan Kalia, Joint Director, Department of Agriculture, Punjab; Kanhan Singh, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Punjab, were also consulted to build a robust multi-stakeholder model.

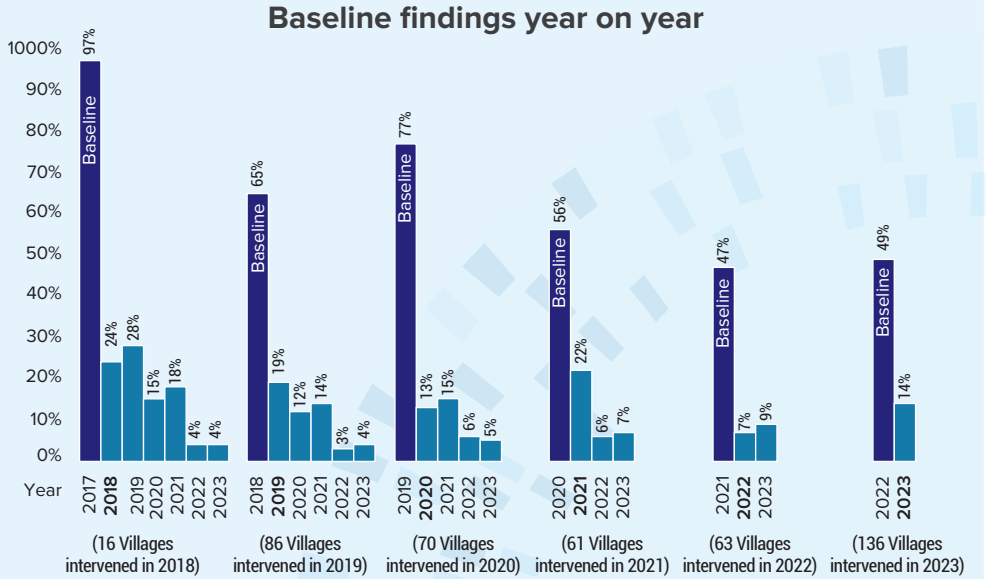
Insights from field visits and discussions shaped a collaborative project model guided by the district administration.

Baseline Data

A survey of farmers across 16 villages in 2018 revealed that 97% of households in the villages practiced full or partial burning.

By the end of season 2024, the project expanded to 1,000 villages. The baseline data showed 54% of fields under some form of burning.

Focus group discussions highlighted lack of access to machinery and awareness.



Source: CII Cleaner Air Better Life (2024) analysis of primary data from field

Project Launch Events








The project was launched in 2018 across 19 villages in two districts of Punjab as a follow-up to the CII-NITI Aayog 'Action Plan for Biomass Management'. As the program grew, outreach events were conducted in different villages in partnership with district administrations, featuring key dignitaries from Government and corporate donors, cooperative leaders, and hundreds of farmers. These events introduced machinery and sustainable practices while reinforcing stakeholder commitment.

Project Interventions



Reaching Out to Every Farmer to Drive Behavioural Change for Large-Scale Impact.

Interventions include:

-  Awareness generation through village meetings, school sessions, awareness vans, and wall art
-  Machinery provision via tool banks
-  Technical training for farmers
-  Ex-situ solutions like bio-composting
-  Field visits and community engagement



Awareness Generation Activities

To create awareness about the ill-effects of stubble burning and viable alternatives available to farmers, a series of awareness drives are undertaken regularly. Meetings, wall paintings, farm field visits, awareness vans that are run during the season encourage farmers to associate with the project and adopt sustainable agricultural practices



Meetings with
farmer cooperative
societies
10,000+

Meetings with
village Panchayat
1,000+

Awareness session
with students
700+ with over
50,000
students

Village level
meetings
25,000+

Field visits by
volunteers
50,000+

Awareness
session with
farmers
8,000+



Facilitating the Adoption of Machinery and Providing Technical Support

Tool banks were set up and machinery procured and made available to farmers through the tool banks.

Farmers from the project villages were encouraged to rent out this machinery for adopting mechanized straw management methods. Special training session were held regularly to promote the adoption of machinery.

Total number of
tool banks
established
450

Total no of machines
1250
Punjab - 920
Haryana - 330



Technical Training

Technical training with support from manufacturers, Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), and other expert farmers has been organized regularly. Each farmer, individually, has also been given a demonstration of the usage.

Technical training for farmers
2,000+



Ex-situ Interventions

In addition to in-situ interventions, the initiative has expanded its impact through ex-situ solutions to transform paddy straw into valuable resources.

Installed **9 Biogas** plants and **3 Bio compost** plants. Installation of bio palletisation plants are underway.





Field Visits

Field visits and meetings with farmers and Sarpanches were also undertaken to understand the changes on-ground and intensify project interventions for greater impact.

Field visits by dignitaries
150+



Farmer Outreach Events

Regular farmer outreach events have been conducted, including knowledge sharing, equipment handovers, and recognition ceremonies for cooperative societies.

Farmer Outreach Events
50+



Participation in Agricultural and CSR Events



The project was showcased at leading Krishi Melas and CSR Summits, generating awareness among farmers, officials, and industry members about sustainable crop management.

Participation at the CII AgroTech 2022



At the CII AgroTech 2022, CII's premier Agro and Food Technology Trade fair in Chandigarh, a Kisan Goshthee on Preventive Stubble Burning — *Prali, Kisan Ki Mitra Ya Dushman, Chalein Janein* was held. **Er Jagminder Singh Nain**, Joint Director (Engg), Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department, Haryana; **Mr Jagdish Singh**, Joint Director Agriculture (Engineering Wing), Government of Punjab; **Mr Vinod Pande**, Advisor CSR, PTC India Financial Services Limited; **Dr Mahesh Narang**, Head of Farm Machinery Training Department, Punjab Agricultural University and over 250 farmers from Punjab and Haryana discussed ways to manage stubble. The unanimous voice was that stubble can be a farmer's friend and a source of earnings as well. The Punjab State Agriculture Minister, Mr Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal visited the CII Foundation stall and was apprised of the project and its impact. Along with him, a large number of farmers, Industry members and other visitors also visited the stall.

Participation at the CII National CSR Summit 2023

The CII Foundation participated in the 12th edition of the CII National CSR Summit in New Delhi on 23rd January 2023. Through a stall, the CII Foundation showcased the crop residue management initiative in Punjab and Haryana. At the CSR Summit platform, Farmer Cooperatives which have played an active role in crop residue management to achieve zero stubble burning were recognised with certificates handed over by Mr

Vinod Pande, Former Advisor CSR, PTC India Financial Services Limited, in the presence of Mr L Prabhakar, Vice President & Head – Social Investments, ITC Limited, Ms Mamata Singh, Associate Director – Investments & Head – CSR, Fidelity International, Mr Pradeep TP, Deputy General Manager, Bosch Engineering & Business Solutions.



Participation in Krishi Melas

In 2022, the CII Foundation participated in the Krishi Darshan Kisan Mela at Hissar in Haryana from 12-14 March. The Mela was attended by key Government officials, and many farmers from Punjab, Haryana, UP, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh. The Foundation's stall drew the attention of key Government officials, as well as the farmers as they visited to understand how the CII Foundation is promoting sustainable agriculture practices to reduce environmental damage, especially air pollution. A few regional media houses, namely, Krishi Helpline, Sandhya Border Times, and Fasal Kranti covered the event and the CII Foundation initiative.

The CII Foundation participated in the Kharif Kisan Mela held at ICAR-Indian Council of Agricultural Research Central Soil Salinity Research Institute (CSSRI) Karnal. The Mela saw farmers from Karnal district, Officials from the Agriculture Department Haryana, people from the community, and students, attending it to know more about sustainable agricultural practices. In February 2023, at the Krishi Darshan Expo at Northern Region Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institute - NRFMTTI (Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare, Government of India) Hisar, Haryana, the crop residue management project was showcased amongst 2,000 farmers from Haryana and neighbouring states visiting the stall. Dr Mukesh Jain, Director, NRFMT&TI, Hisar and Sh. Tawinder Singh, Program Lead, Krishi Darshan, visited the stall and were apprised of the initiative. Students of Bal Bharti Model School Hisar also learnt about the initiative and were briefed about the environmental issues caused by crop residue burning and the possible alternatives available to tackle it. The Krishi Darshan Expo offered a single venue interface for the Indian agriculture and farming community to congregate for mutual benefits. To help advance their respective businesses, the event draws manufacturers, service providers, policymakers, government departments, and institutes.



Participation at the CII Agrotech 2024



The CII Foundation showcased its CRM initiative at AgroTech India - Krishi Bharat 2024, held from 15–18 November 2024 in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. As part of the event, the Foundation facilitated a ‘Kisan Goshthee’ on 16 November, which brought together over 550 farmers, experts, and innovators to discuss environment-friendly crop residue management and

sustainable agriculture. Perspectives on the environmental impact of stubble burning, available CRM technologies, government subsidies, and the role of collaborative efforts in promoting sustainable agriculture were shared. Farmers also shared their successful experiences, and an interactive Q&A session provided clarity on CRM practices.



Project Results and Impact



The project has seen widespread adoption of sustainable practices, particularly among farmers with small landholdings.

Due to the project intervention, more than 2.7 million tonnes of stubble were saved from being burned, marking a major climate milestone.

Environmental Impact

Avoided Global Warming Impact

Oxides of Sulphur (SOx)

Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx)

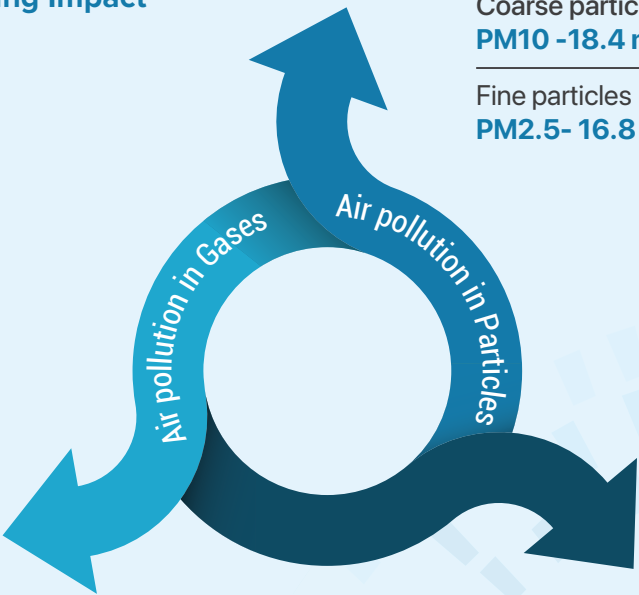
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)

Ammonia (NH3)

39 million kg

Coarse particles
PM10 -18.4 million kg

Fine particles
PM2.5- 16.8 million kg



Non-CO2 greenhouse gases/GHGs
870 million kg

Black Carbon (BC)
1.8 million kg

Groundwater in agriculture
200 million cubic metre

Awards and Recognition

The Crop Residue Management initiative has received national and international recognition for its impactful, scalable, and community-driven approach to climate resilience and sustainable agriculture:



UNSDG Action Awards, November 2020: Conferred by UNDP and the Government of Punjab for exemplary contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals.



Most Innovative Development Project - Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction in Rural Areas (1st Prize), Global Development Network (GDN), October 2021

Testimonials



Mrs Manreet Rana (PCS)
Sub Divisional Magistrate, Khamanon
Government of Punjab

“Burning stubble offers no benefits-it neither increases income nor improves farms. Instead, it degrades soil health and contributes to pollution. The farmers of Polo Majra recognized this and successfully achieved zero stubble burning. By adopting sustainable practices, they have taken a crucial step toward protecting the environment and improving soil health.”



Farmer Satnam Singh
Khizrabad, Assandh,
Karnal District, Haryana

“Prior to the CRM initiative, we would burn the stubble because it was the quickest way to clear the field. However, this practice was detrimental to both the field and the farmers' finances over time. After the project's intervention, we received the necessary training and equipment, which reduced the overall input of fertilisers, DAP, Urea, etc. while also increasing the yield over time and contributing to the surrounding area's clean air.”



Ms Shomita Biswas
Former Joint Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India

“The CII has been doing commendable work, especially with the involvement of village volunteers. The peer-to-peer learning approach is effective in addressing issues that the government may not be able to address directly. When farmers learn from their peers, they are more likely to adopt sustainable practices in their agricultural activities. The involvement of students and youth in the initiative has also been impressive. Their ability to communicate the message amongst their groups has helped to spread awareness about the importance of sustainable practices in agriculture.”



Farmer Raju Dharnia
Village Dholu
Fatehabad, Haryana

“After installing a biogas plant at home, I haven't had to purchase a single LPG cylinder, saving me over ₹10,000. The plant is highly efficient, hassle-free, and produces no unpleasant odour. It has made cooking more sustainable while also reducing my household expenses significantly.”

Case Studies - Villages that Achieved Zero Stubble Burning

Case Study of Village Jatana



“ Jatana village, located in Khanna block, Ludhiana district, Punjab, has 550 acres of agricultural land and 95 active farmers. Before the launch of the project by CII Foundation and HDFC Bank, nearly 30-40% of farmers resorted to stubble burning due to the lack of viable solutions and agricultural equipment, contributing to environmental pollution. After CII Foundation and HDFC Bank began working with the village’s cooperative society, several awareness campaigns were conducted to educate farmers about the harmful effects of stubble burning on the environment and health. To support them with sustainable alternatives, they provided the village co-operative with three agricultural machines-one Super Seeder, one Smart Seeder, and one Surface Seeder-along with proper training on their usage. With this support, significant improvements have been seen in Jatana. Farmers increasingly used advanced 25 agricultural equipment like Happy Seeders, Smart Seeders, MB Ploughs, Surface Seeders, and Super Seeders. As a result, the non-burning area reached 99%, making Jatana the lowest stubble-burning village in Ludhiana district. In the 2024 season, Jatana achieved a remarkable 0% stubble burning status, setting an example for sustainable agriculture. The successful implementation of crop residue management techniques in Jatana has not only reduced air pollution but also improved soil health, water conservation, and overall agricultural productivity. ”

Case Study on Village Polo Majra



“ Polo Majra village in Fatehgarh Sahib district in Punjab has set a remarkable example by achieving zero stubble burning - a significant step towards preserving soil health and combating environmental degradation. Stubble burning, a practice which harms soil quality and contributes to air pollution, was eliminated in the village in 2024. This milestone, achieved with the support of the District Administration, PTC India Financial Services Limited (PFS), CII Foundation, and farmers, reduced stubble burning from 117 acres in the previous year to zero in season 2024 , saving a total of 390 acres of farmland. ”

Media Coverage

The project received significant media attention across regional platforms, further amplifying its message and showcasing success stories.



PUNJAB, HARYANA MAKE A FIRM BEGINNING

Stubble burning: Fire rages but the heat goes down

SANDIP DAS
Barnala (Punjab)/Fatehabad
(Haryana), December 10

	2021	2022	2023
Punjab	71,304	49,992	36,663
Haryana	6,987	3,661	2,303
UP	4,242	3,017	3,996
Delhi	4	10	5
Rajasthan	1,350	1,268	1,775
MP	8,160	11,737	12,500
Total	92,047	69,606	57,242

Source: CREAMS

The Kandhargargh farmer, who recently harvested paddy from his 18-acre farm, used a super-seeder machine financed by the local cooperative to cut the straw and

Farmers are being offered significant state support to desist from straw burning, which is estimated to contribute as much as 30% of pre-winter deterioration of air qual-

The Haryana government extends a financial assistance of ₹7,000/acre for diversification from paddy to other crops, given that paddy straw is the most voluminous of residues. The state also gives each farmer ₹1,000/acre for ex-situ management of paddy

Index (AQI) to plunge steeply and remain in the "hazardous" range for several days, before marginally improving. The average AQI in Delhi last month was 372, clearly in the "poor category."

However, according to official data, stubble burning in Punjab, which accounts for two-thirds of

the total farm fires of 57,242 in northern India registered this season. Last year, as many as 71,300 such events were witnessed in Haryana, too, reported a 67% decline in fire events this season compared to the level two years ago.

However, he said that in addition to immersing paddy straw in soil (mulching), the Punjab government has man-

in Kandhargharh village of Jangar district of Punjab, visited by FE recently, all the 200+ farmers used straw from paddy as mulch before sowing wheat thus turning the village into a red-zone (which reports high farm fire) in 2017 to green-zone (no reports of stubble

spoke to a number of farmers in Punjab and those who cultivate the variety developed by the Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) for the

ਸੰਗਰੂਰ- (ਫਾਇਨੈਕਸਪ੍ਰੈਸ ਨਿਊਜ਼) - ਐੱਚ.ਡੀ.ਐੱਫ. ਬੈਂਕ ਨੇ ਆਪਣੇ ਸੀਐਮ

ਭਵਾਨਗਰ) ਵੀ ਹਾਜ਼ਰ ਸਨ।
ਰੋਇਲਾਵਾ ਐੱਚ ਡੀ ਐੱਚ ਸ
ਦੇ ਸੀਨੀਅਰ ਅਧਿਕਾਰੀ ਸ

ਵਿਦਿਆਰਥੀਆਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਹਿੰਤਧਾਰਕਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਭਾਗ ਲਿਆ। ਪਹਿਲਕਦਮੀ

ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਹੈ। ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਕਿਹਾ ਕਿ ਇਸ ਬਲਾਕ ਵਿੱਚ ਰਣਨੀਤਕ ਦਖਲਅੰਦਾਜ਼ੀ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਪਰਾਲੀ ਨੇ ਸਾਫ਼ਨ ਦੀ ਦਰ ਵਿੱਚ 50 ਫ਼ੀਸਦੀ ਦੀ ਕਮੀ ਆਈ ਹੈ। ਡੀਜੀ ਨੇ ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਕਿਸਾਨਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਮਿਲਣ ਦੇ ਆਪਣੇ

सवेरा न्यूज/ह.स. फतेहाबाद :
सिस्टम्स के साथ मिल कर फतेहा

सीआईआई फाउंडेशन ने कैडेंस डिजिटल जिला के भूना ब्लॉक में अपने फाउंडेशन के

प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा फसल प्रबंधन अभियान के सी.आई.आई. फाऊंडेशन अपरवा एनर्जी ने पाली होने वाली बायो खाद क रानिया ब्लॉक में लगाया ग

CII Foundation and Cadence Conduct a Crop Residue Management Farmer Outreach Event in Bhuna, Fatehabad

FATEHABAD: The CII Foundation, in partnership with Cadence Design Systems, today organized a Farmer Outreach Event to expand its Crop Residue Management (CRM) initiative in the Bhuna block of Fatehabad district. The event, held at the Community Centre in Dullat village, brought together over 150 local farmers and dignitaries.

Launched in 2019, the CII Foundation's CRM initiative has already made a significant impact. This year, the project is further expanding its reach and the CII Foundation and Cadence Design Systems will support an additional 1,520 farmers across 15,400 acres in Fatehabad. The primary goal remains to reduce stubble burning and promote sustainable agricultural practices. To further strengthen the initiative, 10 new in-situ machines will be distributed this year, in addition to the 36 machines already provided.

Speaking at the occasion, SDAO, Dr. Bhin Singh Kulharia said "The CII Foundation's CRM initiative is a commendable effort to address the pressing



Issue of stubble burning. By providing farmers with the necessary tools and knowledge, we can significantly reduce air pollution and improve soil health."

A AE Dr. Pawan Jyani said "Government schemes and subsidies are available to support farmers in adopting sustainable agricultural practices. I urge all farmers to take advantage of these opportunities and work towards a greener future."

Farmer Outreach Event organised by CII and IOCL

PATIALA: Over 350 farmers participated in a farmer outreach event in Bhamna village, district Patiala, organised by CII and the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) on Thursday to launch Project Vayu Amrit 2.0, a crop residue management initiative to mitigate stubble burning. **BPE**

plants and division of the material for ethanol production. In October, the state's CM had said that long-duration Pusa-44 paddy variety developed by Indian Agriculture Research Institute, which yields better but is late maturing, will be banned from the next kharif season.

The variety is transplanted in mid-June for harvesting only toward late October to allow farmers a window to manage the straw before sowing the next wheat crop. Farmers resort to burning the standing stubble and the loose straw that remains after harvesting using combine machines.

On its part, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Foundation has helped farmers in Punjab and Haryana to adopt a multi-pronged strategy to deal with paddy straw, which includes mulching and conversion of straw to industrial input. This has been instrumental in Fatehabad district reporting a 25% reduction in paddy burning this season.

Since 2017, the Foundation under the Clean Air Better Life initiative supported 88,000 farmers across 473 villages in

super seed machine, which costs about ₹23,000, on a nominal charge of ₹150/hour from the Kandhargarh Cooperative Society to harvest high-yielding and long-duration paddy variety Pusa-44. Farmers confirm that mulching has helped the soil health improve and led to a reduction in use of fertilisers.

Yields nearly 27-28/quintal while other varieties' yield is about 20% less.

However, the long-duration variety (160 days, 35 days more than other varieties) generates straw of 40 quintal/acre and so managing the residue prior to sowing of wheat becomes a challenge.

Goodyear India extends partnership with CII

BARNALA: Goodyear India (Goodyear) has extended its partnership with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) to support farmers in Barnala, Punjab mitigate crop residue burning, a significant cause of air pollution and soil health deterioration. The collaboration aims to reduce environmental impact on the community, by increasing the accessibility of farm tools and upskilling farmers so they can adopt climate-friendly agricultural practices. **BPE**

सांस्कृतिक क्षेत्र में की अभियानकारी वर्ष के प्रमुख में लुटाने के प्रयासों के माध्यम से ऑर्गनाइज किया गया, जिसमें 150 से अधिक स्थानीय किसान और गणमान्य लोग व्यक्तित्व थे। इन अनसंभार पर वोलते हुए, एस्पेरोओ, "यहां, मैंने सीह कुकुराविया ने कहा कि सीआईआई-छात्रों के सीआईएम प्रवास पाली जिले की भीषण समस्या को संबोधित करने का एक सहायक प्रयास है। किसानों को आवश्यक उपकरण और ज्ञान देकर, हम वास्तु प्रदूषण को काफी हद तक कम कर सकते हैं और मिट्टी के स्वास्थ्य में सुधार कर सकते हैं। एपार्डू डॉ. पुनः जलाने ने कहा कि सरकार की योजनाएं और सिव्वाडी किसानों को स्थानीय कृषि पद्धतियों को अपनाने में समर्थन देने के लिए उसलाने हैं। मैं सभी किसानों से आग्रह करता हूँ कि वे इन अनसंभार का लाभ उठाएं और एक सहज भविष्य की दिशा में काम करें। ब्लाक ऑफि अधिकारियों (नयानां सहलैट्टीट्टी) राजनो मैने ने कहा कि स्थानीय समुदायों के साथ सीआईआई-छात्रों की सहयोगों ने सीआईएम तकनीकों को अपनाने को बढ़ावा देने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है। हम एक अधिक स्थानीय कृषि परिदृश्य बनाने के लिए मिलकर काम करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित हैं। यह परियोजना किसानों को स्थानीय कृषि पद्धतियों को अपनाने में समर्थन करती, जिससे खेतों में पाली जलाने को कम किया जा सकता, जो कि पर्यावरणीय प्रदूषण का एक प्रमुख कारक है।

[illegible]

ਪੀ. ਐਫ. ਐਸ. ਅਤੇ ਸੀ. ਆਈ. ਆਈ. ਨੇ ਕਿਸਾਨ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਪ੍ਰੋਗਰਾਮ ਕਰਵਾਇਆ

ਫ਼ਤਹਗੜ੍ਹ ਸਾਹਿਬ, 18 ਮਾਰਚ (ਜ. ਬ.)—ਪੀ. ਟੀ. ਸੀ. ਇੰਡੀਆ ਲਿਮਿਟਡ ਅਤੇ ਪੀ. ਟੀ. ਸੀ. ਇੰਡੀਆ ਫਾਇਨੇਸ਼ੀਅਲ ਸਰਵਿਸਿਜ਼ ਲਿਮਿਟਡ (ਪੀ. ਐਫ. ਐਸ.) ਨੇ ਫ਼ਾਰਮੀ ਉਦਯੋਗ ਸੰਘ (ਸੀ. ਆਈ. ਆਈ.) ਅਤੇ ਫ਼ਤਹਗੜ੍ਹ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਦੇ ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਪ੍ਰਸ਼ਾਸਨ ਦੇ ਸਹਿਯੋਗ ਨਾਲ ਫ਼ਤਹਗੜ੍ਹ ਸਾਹਿਬ (ਪੰਜਾਬ) 'ਚ ਫਸਲਾਂ ਦੀ ਰਹਿਦ-ਖੁੰਹਦ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਨ ਪਹਿਲ ਦੇ ਹਿੱਸੇ ਵਜੋਂ ਇੱਕ ਕਿਸਾਨ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਪ੍ਰੋਗਰਾਮ ਕਰਵਾਇਆ। ਹਰ ਸਾਲ ਸਰਦੀਆਂ ਦੌਰਾਨ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਅਤੇ ਹਰਿਆਣਾ 'ਚ ਕਈ ਖੇਤਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਫ਼ਸਲਾਂ ਦੀ ਰਹਿਦ-ਖੁੰਹਦ ਨੂੰ ਸਾਜ਼ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ। ਇਹ ਹਵਾ ਦੇ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ 'ਚ ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਯੋਗਦਾਨ ਪਾਉਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਚਾਵਾਂ-ਫਰਟ, ਖਾਸ ਕਰ ਕੇ ਮਿੱਟੀ ਦੀ ਉਪਜਾਊ ਸ਼ਕਤੀ ਅਤੇ ਕਿਸਾਨਾਂ ਦੀ ਕਮਾਈ 'ਤੇ ਉਲਟਾ ਅਸਰ ਪਾਉਂਦਾ ਹੈ। ਪੀ. ਟੀ. ਸੀ. ਇੰਡੀਆ ਲਿਮਿਟਡ, ਪੀ. ਟੀ. ਸੀ. ਇੰਡੀਆ ਫਾਇਨੇਸ਼ੀਅਲ ਸਰਵਿਸਿਜ਼ ਲਿਮਿਟਡ ਅਤੇ ਸੀ. ਆਈ. ਆਈ. ਪਹਾਲੀ ਸਾਫ਼ਨ ਦੇ ਖ਼ਤਰਿਆਂ, ਨਵੀਆਂ ਤਕਨੀਕਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਖੇਤੀ ਯੰਤਰਾਂ ਵਰਗੇ ਵਿਕਲਪਾਂ ਬਾਰੇ ਜਾਗਰੂਕਤਾ ਵਧਾ ਕੇ ਫਸਲਾਂ ਦੀ ਰਹਿਦ-ਖੁੰਹਦ ਨੂੰ ਸਾਫ਼ਨ ਤੋਂ ਰੋਕਣ ਲਈ ਕੋਸ਼ਿਸ਼ ਕਰਦੇ ਹਨ। ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਯੋਜਨਾਵਾਂ ਦੁਆਰਾ, ਕਿਸਾਨਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਦੀ ਘੱਟ-ਘੱਟ ਵਰਤੋਂ ਲਈ ਲੋੜੀਂਦੀ ਮਸ਼ੀਨਰੀ ਅਤੇ

Our Key Supporters

The project is driven by a collaborative approach, involving CII Foundation, government bodies, industry partners, and local communities for sustainable impact.



The CII Foundation was set up by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in 2011 and works across India through a collaborative approach, partnering with the government, corporates, civil society, and NGOs, academic institutions, and other key stakeholders to drive social change. The Foundation undertakes projects in diverse areas, often on a pilot basis initially, and presents a successful model of engagement that is replicable and scalable to amplify impact.

The CII Foundation works in the areas of Climate Change, Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation, Early Childhood Education, Healthcare, Skilling and Livelihood, Women Empowerment, and Waste Management adopting a multistakeholder approach and leveraging the expertise of each stakeholder to channelize their collective resources towards social and community development.

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