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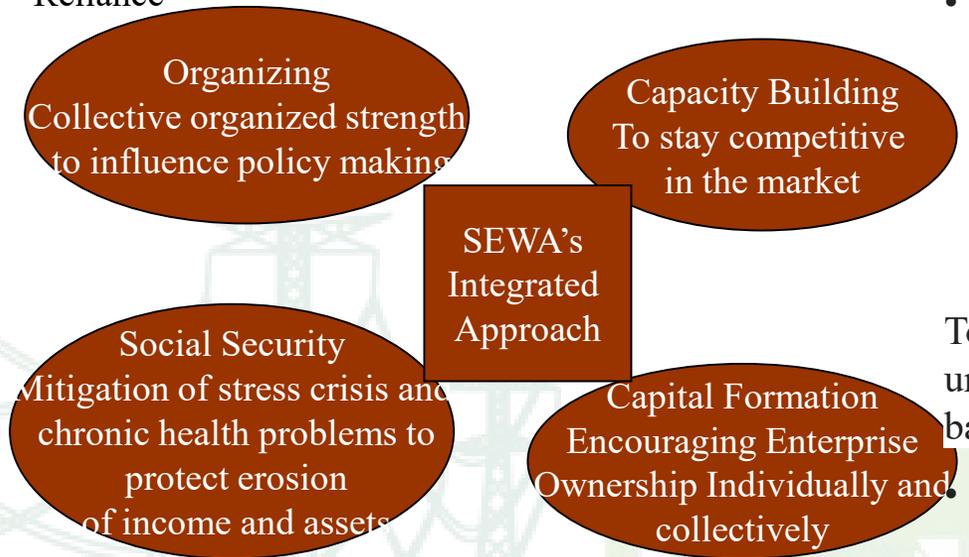
REGIONAL CONFERENCE

INCLUSIVE ENERGY TRANSITION IN SOUTH ASIA AND BEYOND

7–9 MAY 2024 • Galle, Sri Lanka



- Established in 1972 by Shri Elaben Bhatt
- Over 2.9 million poor, self employed women as members with its presence in 18 state in India
- Also works in in Neighbouring SAARC countries
- Members Profile : 125 trades –4 categories viz. Home-based Workers, Vendors & Hawkers, Small Producers and Manual Labourers
- Twin Goal of SEWA – Full Employment and Self Reliance



- High spendings and unaffordable energy sources : SEWA's experiences has shown that poor spent 30 to 40% of their income on getting various energies & inputs :
 - The poor spend between 15% to 20% of their incomes to buy fuel for 4 activities – lighting, cooking, pumping, running small tools
 - They spend between 10% to 25% of their time in collecting fuel (usually 2 days in a week)
 - The efforts they spend on accessing energy, inputs is unpaid labour, especially the drudgery involved in carrying wood, in cooking, etc.
- Livelihood of SEWA members are heavily dependent on behavior of the nature and therefore poor SEWA members are greater risk from climate crisis - heavy rains, unseasonal rains / climatic conditions, severe cold or heat
 - Affects them economically, threatening to their health and livelihood - Affects on work and income security, access to food and nutrition, health security, access to market and much more .

To address the issues and challenges faced by the members for high spendings and unaffordable energy sources and build resilience against adverse impact of climate change, based on the needs and demands of the members, SEWA members are :

Launch of Swachh Aakash Campaign (SAC) - three fundamental principles: Environmental Security, Livelihood Security, and Health & Social Security, laying the groundwork for Sustainable Well-being and a Just Transition for SEWA sisters

Video Link Swachh Aakash <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fYkJp7VuPHc1SMLGxifmcYMM5xvALE6t/view?usp=sharing>

SEWA's Methodology / Approaches for Energy Transition



- Need based / demand driven - Emerging from the Energy Planning and Budgeting
- Accessibility - Searching for products / solutions that meet these specifications as per the Need, Delivery at the door step
- Awareness / Education
- Affordability - understanding the underlying cash flows of the trades Installments
- Implementation by the members collectives – federations, groups, co-operatives etc
- Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) activities to measure impact
- Build systems and processes designed to scale up
- Building Ecosystem

Sr no	Product Name	Picture	Impact			
1	<i>Energy-Efficient Fans Bulbs, and Solar lar light</i>		Energy-efficient fans and lights are good for saving money (Reducing the Light bill by ~100-150 rs per 2 months) and helping the environment.	8	<i>Off-grid Solar System</i>	 Solar Off Grid systems generate electricity store the power in the battery and give backup during the Night time also reduce the cost of electricity.
2	<i>Biogas Plant.</i>		Reduces indoor air pollution, Improves women's and children's health; Annual savings of INR 12,500	9	<i>Solar Fencing</i>	 Saves crops from animal trespassing.Enhances farm security
3	<i>Precision irrigation System through Solar Energy</i>		Increases annual household income from INR 40,000 – 150,000 and also saves the water	10	<i>Rural Mobility : Electric Vehicle</i>	 Reduce their Transportation Cost and Time and also reduce the pollution.
4	<i>Cool Roof</i>		Enhanced thermal comfort due to lower ambient indoor temperature by 1.5 to 5°C (2.7 to 9°F)	11	<i>Vermicompost bags</i>	 It is used to store nutrient-rich compost produced by worms. It is easy to handle and apply vermicompost to plants and crops, by using these bags. Members get good-quality compost which make their land healthy, and reduce the usage of chemical fertilizer.
5	<i>Solar Trap Light</i> Protect the crop from Insects		Protect the crop from Insects and reduce the Loss of production	12	<i>Tree plantation</i>	 It aims to improve people's health, reduce pollution in simple way. It involves growing more trees & plants, which can clean air, making it fresher to breathe. This helps us stay healthier and reduces harmful effects of pollution.
6	<i>Solar Fodder System</i> Reduce The cost of animal food		Increase milk production and improve the quality Reduce The cost of animal food.			
7	<i>Solar Water Pump</i>		Solar pumps help farmers save money on Diesel expenses, grow more crops, and protect the environment by using the sun's energy to pump water for irrigation.			

Under its Swachh Aakash Campaign SEWA has taken various initiatives – few of the many initiatives

Hariyali Village (Green Village)

- 40 % or more households are using minimum 3 or more Green Energy Equipments / technology
- Identifying, adapting, piloting, owning and managing various green energy solutions
- 300+ villages in 17 blocks of 4 states – Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh

Building a Cadre of Climate Entrepreneurs

- Sustainable Ecosystem - Trained cadre of local leaders from within the community
- Train and build Climate Entrepreneurs to rapidly scale up Sustainable Adoption of Green Energy Products and Services
- Training modules developed – Class room and practical trainings
- Create Awareness / Education of Green / Sustainable Energy technology and equipments
- Converting the awareness creation activity in Demand Generation
- Repairs, Operation and Maintenance of Green Energy Technology and equipments at the door step
- Green Livelihoods for Climate Entrepreneurs



Video of Sarojben <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=06PCh93cWPA>

Surya – Feminising the Power of Solar Energy

- Equips young members with valuable skills (Theoretical and Practical) - Solar PV Installation, Solar Repair and Maintenance, Adept Handling and repairing of Solar Pumps, fundamental aspects of electrical engineering.
- Practical skills to navigate challenges in the dynamic field effectively.
- Syllabus and Certification of Skills Council of Green Jobs
- Integrates various life skill / soft skill communication trainings - basic computer, online exam, entrepreneurship skills, preparing for interviews, developing effective communication skills for client interactions etc.
- Green Livelihood Opportunities and Inclusion in the Solar Industry and just transition - facilitated 38 % employed / taken up as entrepreneurship in Solar Industry - earning INR 15000 to INR 24000 per month.
- Standing on their feet and marching forward towards second freedom.
- Improved livelihoods lead to - getting out of debt trap, better education for their children and siblings, improved Social Security



Meenaben shares “Despite of my education till 9th I got an opportunity to undergo Surya training and I got a job. I left my village first time for a job and am earning INR 18000 / month and am very happy. With my earnings I am able to save my family from the debt trap of money lenders, as he used to take loan at 12-15 % / month. I am very thankful to SEWA / GTNfW for preparing a less educated person like me to work with dignity.”

Solar Pumps and Community Owned Solar Park of Salt Farmers

- Use of Solar Pumps in Salt Pan – 1600 Salt farmers shifted to clean energy solution
- 30 % saving in cost of Fuel
- Constant debt ridden condition to Savings
- Starvation and malnourishment to dignified two meals a day.
- Setting up of Offseason Solar Park
 - Model of Energy Inclusion of poor women and building an Energy Value Chain of poor and women.
- Green livelihoods for the poor salt workers - additional revenue of INR 7000-8000 during offseason
- Creation of Green Jobs for women inclusion in power sector - Next generation of agariya sisters (~18 years to 30 years)- technical job roles in the solar park.
- Reduced burden of debts and facilitate the poor salt workers get out of the clutches of the traders and money lenders
- Improved spending power towards basic necessities of life.



Video Link Jamnaben : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEjMrOzkeYw>

Before

After

Impact



Environmental Impact :

- Reduced Pollution, Wastage / less usage of water and improved soil health,
- Converting waste into renewable natural gas and producing decentralized electricity
- Alternate energy and Green initiatives leads to mitigating climate crisis by reducing carbon emissions and carbon footprints, decreased use of fossil energy, environment protection
- Greener and cleaner soil, water and air; thereby leading to cleaner skies for all.

Livelihood Impact – Increased / Improved Income and Cost Saving :

- Reduced expenses on conventional Energy - kerosene, diesel etc..
- Increased Time for Livelihoods - Saved time for Fuel collection, Cooking, getting LPG, watering the farms etc.
- Reduced Input costs / labour Cost
- Increased Productivity and Production
- Reduced Wastage
- Reduced Indebtedness
- Feminisation in the Solar Power Industry
- Equitable and Just transition - Future of Work and Workers : Better Newer Kind of livelihood opportunities
- Life of Dignity and Self Respect
- Benefits from Carban Credit – Solar Pumps for Salt farmers, Negotiated with the price of Biogas from 45000 to 9000

Social Security

- Lessened health issues
- Increased Food security / Nutritious Food
- Improved Child Education
- Curbs Migration

Way Forward



- Industries should come forward and work towards inclusion and equitable opportunities for Poor women for Informal Economy
- Need for scaling up of grassroot level initiatives
- Incentivization and Carbon Credit Benefits should be availed by such small but collective efforts
- Easy access and affordable financing for the poor
- Newer Kind of Financial Instruments – Blended pool of Finance : Equity, Grant, Debt etc.
- Energy Farming - each house backyard as a source of clean energy - each farmer chooses a portion of agri land be used for solar electricity generation - during climate shock, green energy becomes lifeline for livelihood.



Thank You

