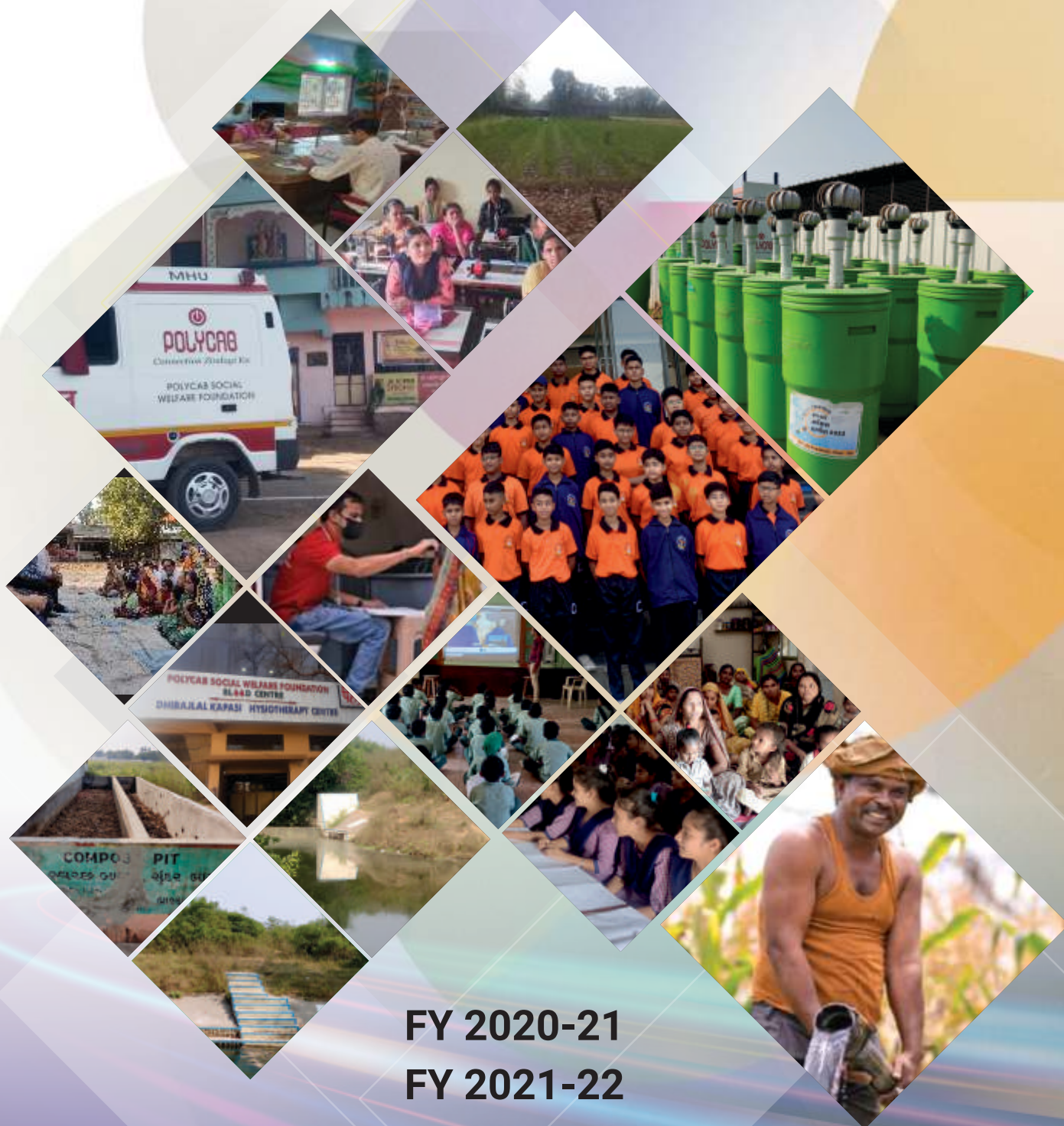


Polycab India Limited

CSR IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT



FY 2020-21

FY 2021-22

FY 2022-23

Acknowledgement

The report aims to study the CSR impact of various initiatives taken by Polycab India Limited (PIL) with the Polycab Social Welfare Foundation (PSWF) in the state of Gujarat, Maharashtra and the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli in various sectors like Education, Healthcare, Rural Development and Environment.

In Education, the impact assessment study was covering initiatives such as construction and renovation of schools and Anganwadi's, integration of smart classrooms, science labs, and computer labs in schools, support to schools and Anganwadi's by providing various resources, equipment, and facilities, conducting skill development programs in schools, and teacher training for Anganwadi teachers. In Healthcare, initiatives like Mobile Medical services taking preventive measures and sanitation initiatives through various medical camps, there has also been support for expanding hospitals and providing necessary medical equipment and machinery were studied through this assessment.

In Rural Development, the impact assessment study was covering various initiatives like cattle sheds, animal husbandry, veterinary clinics, village infrastructure including toilet blocks, rainwater harvesting, and streetlights, as well as village construction projects like the acquisition of town halls, construction of libraries, village sports facilities, organic farming, women empowerment and pond deepening programs. While Environment initiatives covered construction of check dams, waste management program and forest restoration.

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the officials of the Polycab team who provided great cooperation in accomplishing the study at various levels on the ground. We especially thank Manita Gonsalves, Chitra Dave, Neeraj Kundani, Ved Prakash, Ashwini Ambrale, Ashish Varia, Tarun Solanki, Bhargav, and Arpit Shukla for their continuous support and assistance.

The assessment team extends warm appreciation to all primary and secondary stakeholders who shared their experiences, thoughts, and suggestions and dedicated their valuable time to understand the implementation of projects during the execution of this assessment.



Polycab India Limited

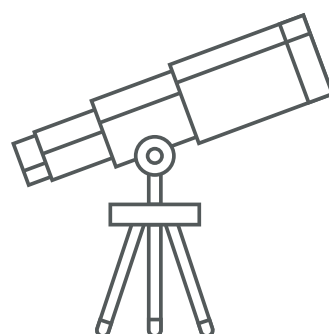
Established in the year 1964, Polycab has embarked a reputation for producing and promoting premium-quality wires, swiftly followed by cables, from their manufacturing facilities in Daman and Halol. Presently, these wires and cables cater to a wide range of applications, serving households, offices, and various industrial and infrastructure projects. The Company has extended its footprint beyond India, reaching more than 43 countries worldwide.

In recent years, the Company has expanded its expertise in electrical engineering to encompass a diverse range of consumer electrical products, including switches, switchgear, lighting solutions, fans, geysers, and home appliances. All these products are meticulously manufactured to meet stringent quality standards at their factories located in Halol, Baroda, Nasik, Bhilwadi, and Roorkee.

During FY 2023, the company reported consolidated revenue from operation of INR 141,078 million, profit before tax and exceptional items was 17,073 million.

CSR Vision

“To help people achieve their ambitions by playing a broader role in society through community investments beyond what we deliver through core business activities. By aligning our community investment strategy to our skills and experience, the positive impact of which will be much more than just a financial contribution.”



Polycab's CSR initiatives

Polycab is India's leading wires and cables Company, boasts a remarkable legacy spanning over four decades. The core objective of the Company's Policy is to establish the guiding principles for executing various projects, programs, or activities undertaken by the Company in the realm of CSR. PIL dedicates itself to support diverse initiatives through both financial contributions and volunteer efforts. Polycab in collaboration with the Polycab Social Welfare Foundation (PSWF) undertakes initiatives which are aimed in promoting education, healthcare, rural development and environment sectors. The total CSR expenditure allocated by Polycab for all sectors, as well as the overall population of the intervention-focused areas, which have benefited the beneficiaries apart from the direct ones, are as followed:

Sector	Total CSR Spent (INR in million)	Population of intervention area	Direct Beneficiaries	Indirect Beneficiaries
Education	184.4	900,111	16,351	22,800
Healthcare	92.9	16,91,960	144,316	495,544
Rural Development	104.8	82,076	12,217	36,390
Environment	70.59	43,700	11,594	13,884

Cross-Sectoral CSR initiatives:

Polycab's CSR initiatives are woven in such a way that each strand is linked with another initiative, impacting any of the area i.e. education, healthcare, rural development and environment and represent holistic concept of Corporate Social Responsibility.

Education - The construction and renovation of schools and Anganwadi Centres have improved enrolment rates and indirectly contributed to rural development by enhancing the overall populations by access to education. The initiatives such as constructing school toilets, conducting health camps, and providing water purifiers have significantly contributed in improvement in the health and well-being of students, thereby indirectly supporting Healthcare and rural development. The integration of digital learning and technology like Computer lab and Smart boards along with skill development training prepares students for future livelihood opportunities by acquiring various skills impacting rural villages.

Healthcare - The Healthcare facilities provided like Mobile Medical Units (MMUs), conducting various health camps, and providing nutritional support to families in Daman has treated primary illnesses with improving health and overall well-being of communities has improved punctuality of students in schools but has also contributed to the socio-economic development of rural areas. The initiative of cochlear

implants in children have empowered them by improving their hearing and speaking abilities, consequently reducing school dropout rates and enabling regular attendance thus impacting Education sector. Medical equipment's provided to Hospitals and supporting hospital by building expansion, Polycab has directly contributed to rural development, ensuring essential healthcare services reach to the underprivileged communities in Aurangabad and Gujarat. The establishment of a blood bank centre has played a crucial role in saving lives not only within intervention focused areas but also across various other rural communities in Gujarat.

Rural Development - Polycab's approach in integration of organic farming methods has enhanced the financial status of rural communities and also supported environmental sustainability by eliminating harmful fertilizers and pesticides while farming. This shift towards organic food production not only improves health and supports healthcare sector but also promotes environmentally friendly agricultural practices. Polycab constructed toilet blocks, Pond deepening and implemented rainwater harvesting which has helped in conservation of water, improving sanitation and hygiene practices but also contributed to environmental conservation by reducing open defecation, contamination of water sources and soil pollution thus impacting healthcare sector and Environment. Polycab's initiatives in the construction of cattle sheds, veterinary clinics, conducting animal husbandry sessions which has facilitated healthcare access for livestock and women empowerment have elevated the income status of communities through livestock support and livelihood thus improving rural lifestyle and supporting healthcare sector. Village sports implementation has improved collaboration among various communities and helped in improving physical and mental health, thus directly supporting the healthcare sector.

Environment - The construction of check dams has helped in conservation of water and also reduced the water scarcity, thereby enhancing healthcare sector by improvement in cleanliness, health, hygiene, sanitation practices and also improving agricultural yields. Forest restoration initiatives by providing farmers with grazing lands and facilitating access to cattle drinking water through pond deepening, have contributed to environmental preservation and rural development resulting in livelihood opportunities thus improving economic stability which is interconnecting to healthcare sector and Rural Development. Polycab's waste management approach effectively reduced waste in rural areas thus improvement in health and overall wellbeing of community people keeping healthy life of rural population.

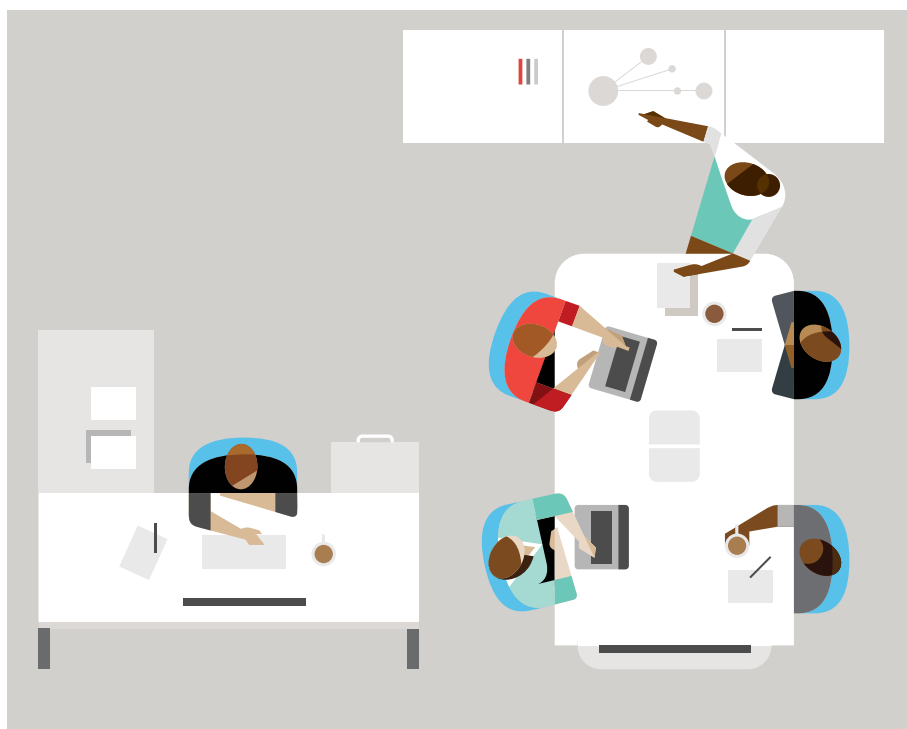


MMJC

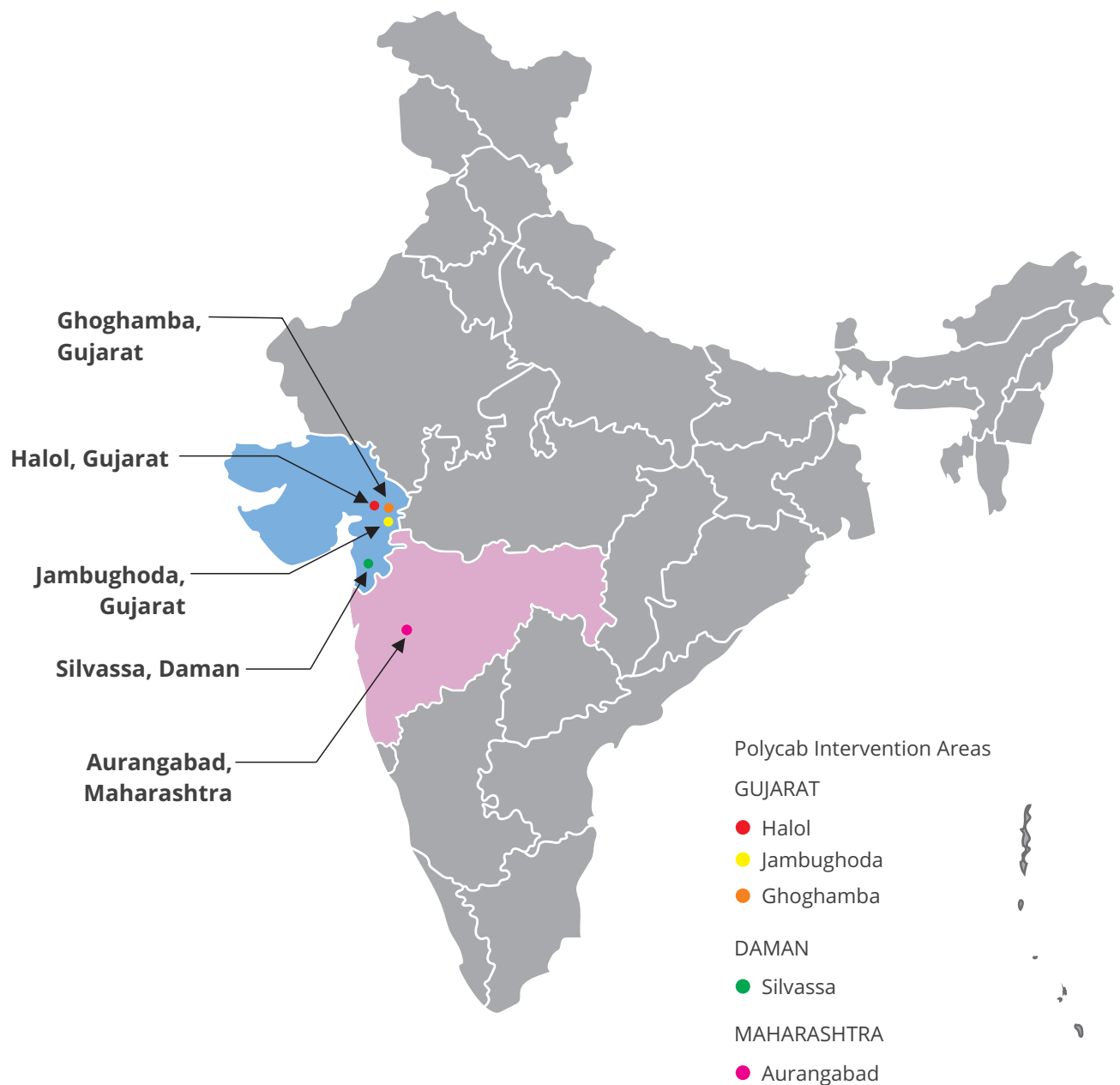
MMJC is a 23 - year-old Corporate Consultancy firm led by Mr. Makarand Joshi, Founder Partner. The firm has 8 Partners catering specialized verticals. The firm has a team size of 160 out of which 60 are multi-face professionals being Company Secretaries and Law Graduates rendering unique quality and an array of services under one roof. MMJC's Head office is situated at Mulund and has a branch office situated at Nashik and has a reach in all major cities across India.

Team Members

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Location of the programs



Abbreviations

Sr. No.	Abbreviated word	Abbreviations
1.	Anganwadi centre	AWC
2.	Corporate Social Responsibility	CSR
3.	Financial Year	FY
4.	Focused Group Discussion	FGD
5.	Impact Assessment	IA
6.	Genetically Modified Organisms	GMO
7.	Medical Mobile Unit	MMU
8.	National Education Policy	NEP
9.	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development	OECD
10.	Polycab Industries Limited	PIL
11.	Polycab Social Welfare Foundation	PSWF
12.	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan	SSA
13.	School Management Committee	SMC
14.	Skill Development Program	SDP
15.	Teaching Learning Material	TLM
16.	The Leadership Enrichment for Adolescence through Assessment & Development	LEAAD

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MMJC

Polycab India Limited

CSR IMPACT
ASSESSMENT REPORT
2022-23

EDUCATION



Executive Summary

Education Program:

Polycab in collaboration with Polycab Social Welfare Foundation (PSWF) undertakes educational initiatives which are aimed at eliminating hunger, poverty, and malnutrition, while fostering education through various initiatives such as the construction and refurbishment of schools and Anganwadi's. These efforts include the integration of smart classrooms, computer and science labs, and skill development programs, aiming to uplift communities and empower future generations.

The Company has constructed 7 schools and renovated 4 schools in Gujarat benefiting 2073 students and 56 teachers in between FY 20-21 to FY 22-23. Additionally, 43 Anganwadi's were newly constructed and 24 were renovated benefiting 3,627 students and 67 teachers in between FY 20-21 to FY 22-23.

Essential infrastructure and amenities were extended to schools and Anganwadi's, encompassing smart classrooms equipped with digital boards, scientific apparatus, computer labs, toilet construction, and the LEAAD Programme, aimed at elevating the educational standards for children.

Additionally, the Company facilitated the provision of benches and water purifiers to schools, thereby enriching the learning ambience with comfortable seating arrangements and guaranteeing access to safe drinking water. Through targeted interventions the Company has not just attended to immediate necessities, but also established a robust groundwork for sustained viability and community empowerment, thereby creating an enduring legacy of constructive influence in Gujarat and Daman.

During the impact assessment, approximately 325 students from Daman and Halol participated in the survey. Among these, 80% of Daman participants engaged in the education intervention, notably the establishment of a military school, were aged between 10 to 15 years, while the majority of respondents from Halol, comprising 78% of the



total, fell within the age bracket of up to 20 years old. The literacy rate in Halol stands at 71.83%, as compared to Daman's higher literacy rate of 91.01%.

Polycab's mission to uplift underprivileged communities is evidenced by the demographics : 61% of respondents from Halol identify as Scheduled Tribes, and 40% of respondents from Daman belong to Other Backward Classes (OBCs). These initiatives are poised to empower these communities, equipping them to thrive in today's competitive landscape.

My Dream School, Asoj and BAPS School- Swami Narayan Vidyamandir, Bodeli are constructed and renovated by the Company. Prior to the intervention the school was in Asoj was in bad shape with old buildings whereas school in Bodeli lacked support to enhance students' education. Post the intervention by Polycab, more students started coming to school regularly. The classrooms also got prettier with nice walls, inside and outside. They even built new bathrooms for boys and girls. Now, the school is really nice and lots of kids want to come here, even from far places.

Moreover, within the community, particularly affecting children and women, health concerns arose from a combination of insufficient awareness and unhygienic environmental conditions. In response, Polycab organised a series of health camps held at schools and Anganwadi centres to address these pressing issues.



Research Methodology



Findings of the study

- 100% of the respondents agreed that there was an improvement in the student's education due to Construction and Renovation of Schools.
- 100% respondents experienced improvements in themselves due to Educational support provided out of which, 67.08% of the respondents felt that education had become more interesting, interactive and involving leading to regular attendance at BAPS school.
- 82.76% of the respondents are utilizing various digital resources like smart boards, projectors, computer systems provided by Polycab to enhance digital learning experience and environment.
- 98% of the respondents found the Science and computer labs necessary for enhancing education while 85% of them affirming the labs' ease of accessibility.
- After the construction and renovation of Anganwadi's, 85% of respondents expressed that the School's and Anganwadi's condition has improved as compared to the previous poor conditions.
- 100% of the respondents agreed (including 25% somewhat agree) that smart classes have improved the learning efficiency of the students in Halol.
- 88% respondents reported observing changes in students as a result of the newly provided learning facilities, and out of above respondents 90% noted an enhancement in the teaching and learning process.

Impact created

Change in Lives: By providing financial support, developing infrastructure, offering digital literacy classes, and establishing sports facilities, the company has fostered a transformative change in the lives of individuals. These initiatives have indirectly led to the creation of collaborative learning environments within communities, resulting in a notable enhancement in the overall quality of education.

Upskilling Students: Polycab's LEAAD skill development program has played a crucial role in upskilling students for future job opportunities, empowering them with life skills, vocational training, and career guidance.

Digital Literacy: This initiative helps bridge the gap between rural and urban students, ensuring

that all students have access to important technological resources for their learning and future career life.

Digital learning including the installation of digital boards in the classrooms: As per survey, respondents felt that education had become interesting, interactive and involving leading to regular attendance at school.

Increased Awareness of Health: Health camps organized by Polycab created an outstanding impact and increased awareness in health and change in habits of students which directly reduced the health problems in the students and also helped in early detections of various illnesses and diseases.

Conclusion

Polycab's CSR endeavours in education showcase a comprehensive influence that underscores the Company's commitment to fostering substantial and enduring transformations. Through focused actions, the Company has not only met immediate requirements but also established frameworks for sustained progress and community upliftment, thereby imprinting a lasting legacy of constructive influence in Gujarat and Daman.

These initiatives not only enhance the learning experience but also cultivate a deeper enthusiasm for education, with computer labs serving as pivotal tools in elevating student involvement and refining their digital competencies. Furthermore, the implementation has outfitted schools with resources such as Smart Classrooms, Science labs, and Computer labs, resulting

in tangible educational advancements through infrastructure enhancements like wall embellishments and classroom expansions. Insights gathered from student feedback highlight positive transformations including heightened self-assurance, leadership acumen, proactiveness, increased participation in extra-curricular pursuits and athletics, and enriched academic understanding.

About the Project

Polycab has undertaken various projects in the education sector aimed at improving learning environments and creating opportunities for students. Through this initiative significant progress has been made in constructing and renovating schools and Anganwadi's centres.

The Company has constructed 7 schools and renovated 4 schools in Gujarat benefiting 2073 students and 56 teachers in between FY 20-21 to FY 22-23. Additionally, 43 Anganwadi's were newly constructed and 24 were renovated benefiting 3,627 students and 67 teachers in between FY 20-21 to FY 22-23.



Construction of School - Halol



Construction and renovation of Anganwadi - Halol

CSR Spent on Education Sector			
Interventions	FY 20-21 (INR)	FY 21-22 (INR)	FY 22-23 (INR)
Computer lab	3,298,210	5,117,348	3,145,518
Construction of Anganwadi's	15,866,000	40,543,600	3,349,000
Renovation of Anganwadi's	2,948,000	7,681,000	1,158,000
Construction of Schools	2,300,584	28,570,334	23,845,697
Renovation of Schools	8,037,442	2,876,127	NA
Skill Development	6,934,311	3,760,000	554,965
Science lab	NA	1,688,215	1,175,538
Smart Classroom	NA	1,795,296	1,291,950
Support to schools and Anganwadi's	97,940	1,795,296	5,773,952

Schools and Anganwadi's were provided essential infrastructure and facilities like Smart classrooms with digital boards, science apparatus, computer labs, construction of toilets, and LEAAD Programme to enhance the quality of education for children.

There were additions to these initiatives Company provided benches and Water purifier to Schools which has promoted a comfortable and hygienic learning environment, contributing to students' overall well-being.

In Daman, Polycab has newly constructed Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Military Academy (NSCBMA) school in the FY 2022-2023.

Overall, Polycab's projects in Gujarat and Halol has initiated a holistic approach to education, addressing infrastructure development, modernization, and skill-building initiatives to ensure inclusive and quality education for all.



Smart Classrooms with Digital boards - Halol



Science Apparatus - Halol

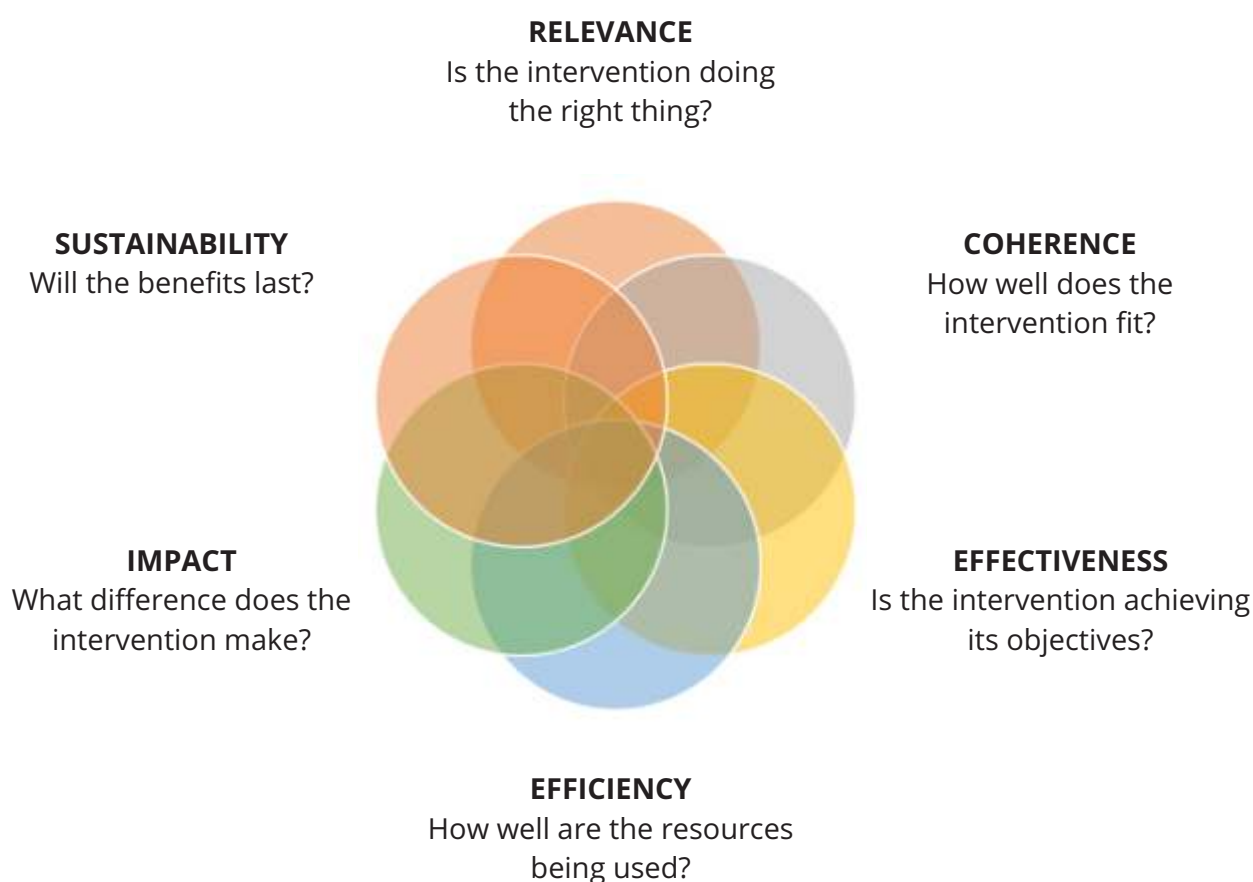


Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Military Academy (NSCBMA) – Silvassa, Daman

OECD

The study used the OECD DAC framework for evaluating the impact of the CSR projects:

The OECD DAC Network on Development Evaluation (Eval Net) has outlined six evaluation criteria, namely Relevance, Coherence, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, and Sustainability, along with two guiding principles for their application. These criteria establish a standard framework for assessing the value and significance of an intervention, such as a policy strategy, program, project, or activity. They form the foundation upon which evaluation assessments are conducted to gauge the intervention's merit and effectiveness.



Purpose and objectives of the study

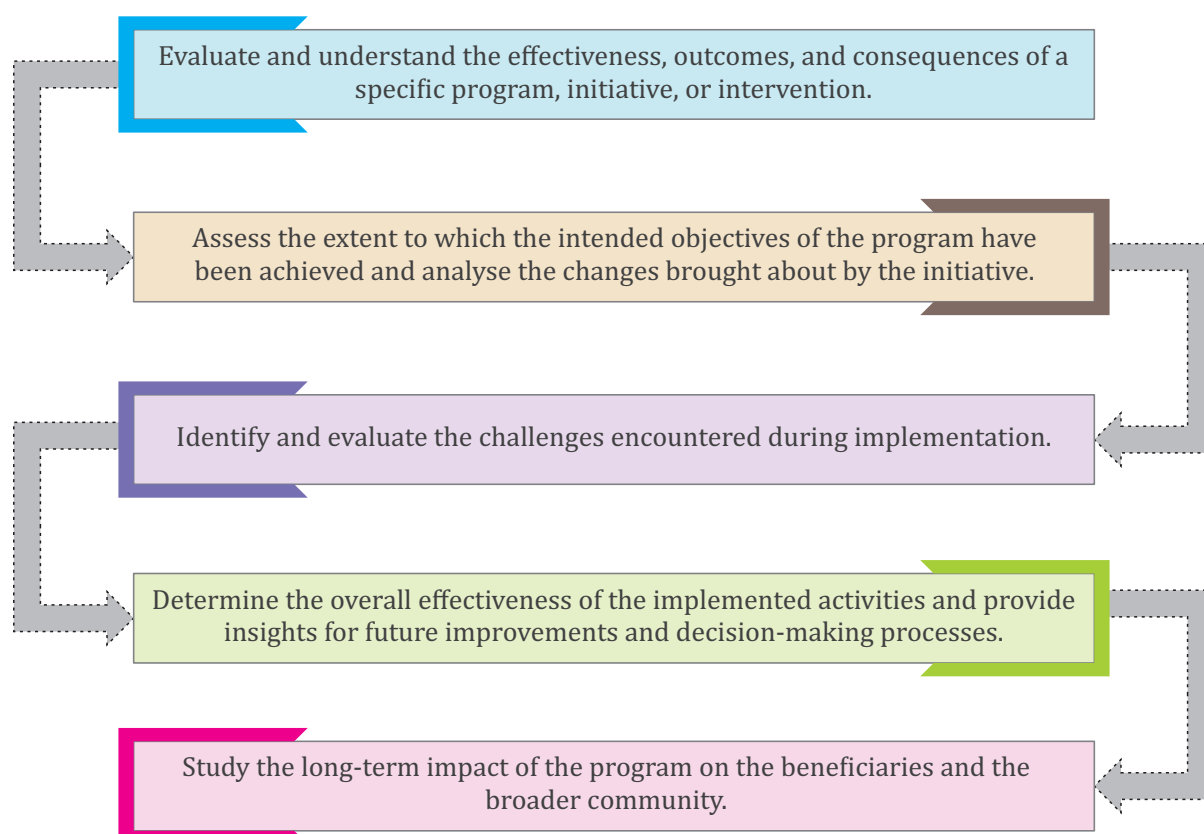
The Impact Assessment study aims to evaluate and understand the effectiveness, outcomes, and consequences of a particular program, initiative, or intervention. It seeks to assess the extent to which the intended objectives have been achieved, the changes brought about by the initiative, the challenges encountered, and the overall effectiveness of the implemented activities.

Through comprehensive analysis and evaluation, the study aims to provide insights and recommendations for future improvements and decision-making processes and study the long-term impact on the beneficiaries.

The guiding philosophy behind this study is to add value by showcasing successful initiatives and recommending possible ways to address existing challenges.

The study is expected to provide evidence-based findings which would inform the Company in making operational and strategic decisions while planning and funding its partner organizations for such programmes. The evaluation was also an opportunity to learn about the relevance of the programmes implemented and their effectiveness.

Impact Assessment



Data collection

The primary data was collected to understand the impact of the project from the direct beneficiaries i.e., students. In addition, to understand the programme holistically, faculty members and parents were consulted to get an overview of the programme.

Students and parents for the primary data collection were selected through random sampling, to avoid biases and prejudices.

Largely, the students were surveyed with a questionnaire developed to capture the benefits they experienced in the school.

Survey Team Discussion with students



Daman



Halol

Primary Stakeholders

Students

Secondary Stakeholders

Faculty



Parents

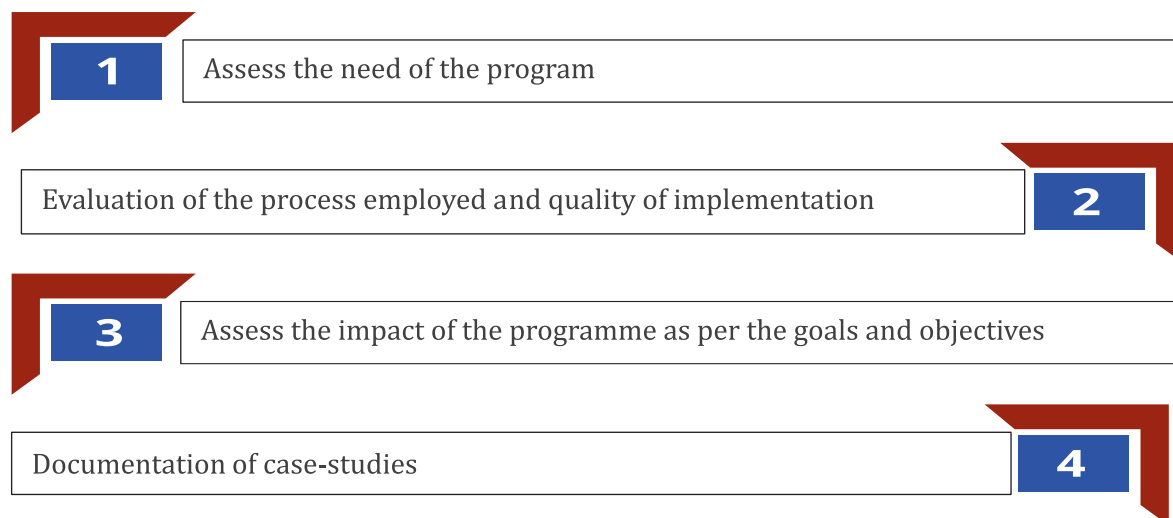


Random Sampling – Data collection – Halol

Assessment Approach & Evaluation Framework

Given the objectives of the study were to determine the inclusiveness, relevance, and outcomes, of the project, the evaluation used the OECD framework. The OECD framework has defined six evaluation criteria –Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Coherence, Impact and Sustainability. These criteria provide a normative framework which is used to determine the merit or worth of an intervention. They serve as the basis upon which evaluative judgements are made.

Impact assessment design and approach



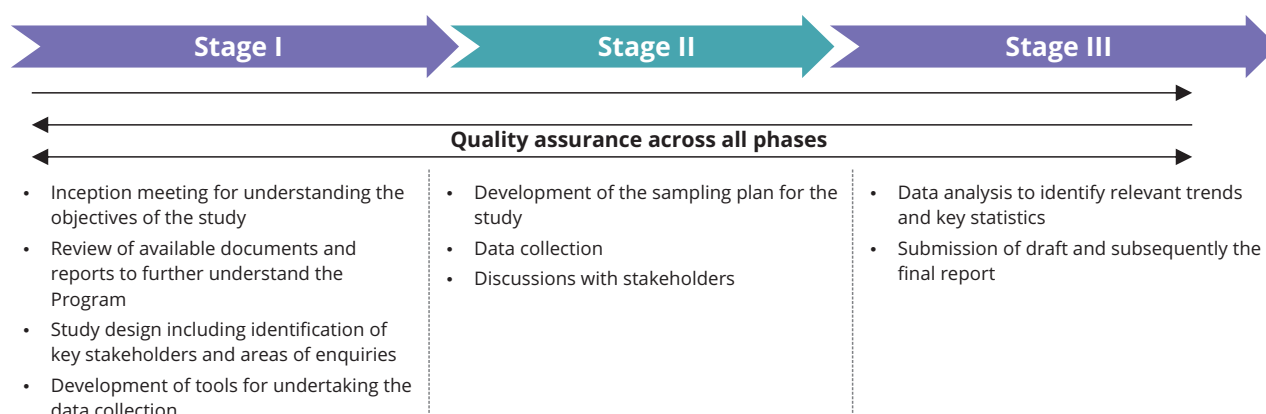
Approach & Methodology

The Assessment approach utilized a mixed-method approach to gather primary and secondary data, employing both qualitative and quantitative methods.

The methodology included primary data collection by conducting face-to-face individual surveys with children and engaging in discussions with secondary stakeholders of the program, including parents, teachers, Government officials, and other relevant people. Secondary data pertaining to program-related aspects were obtained through existing program data and publicly available documents relevant to the respective domain areas.



Mixed Method Approach



Sample size and distribution

Sampling method for qualitative data

Stage 1 – Selection of villages

Sample villages where the interventions took place were selected for the Quantitative method. During the study, 46 village samples were collected using a random sampling method from Halol & Daman to ensure adequate representation. An appropriate number of samples were taken from villages with the highest number of interventions to ensure a comprehensive analysis of all program components implemented.

Stage 2 – Selection of beneficiaries

Beneficiary selection was conducted independently for each program based on the specific domain. Beneficiaries included were students, parents, teachers, Government officials, and other relevant stakeholders. Secondary data was obtained from project completion reports, baseline surveys, and need assessment reports, in addition to primary sources.

Sampling method for qualitative data -



To measure the effectiveness of the intervention and gain insights into its impact on beneficiaries, study in- depth discussions and focus group discussions (FGDs). These sessions researched into both the experiences of individual beneficiaries and household-level assessments, providing a comprehensive understanding of the intervention's long-term effects. Our approach involved revisiting critical indicators at the program's outset and at regular intervals throughout its implementation. Through this method, respondents' perspectives were assessed and changes were tracked over time.

Sample Size Covered During the Assessment

Location	Stakeholders	Sample size achieved	Tool	Mode of collection data
Halol & Daman	Students & Parents	325 (249+66)	Survey & FGD	Physical

A team of local enumerators, with requisite education and experience, was hired for data collection.

Research tools

In-depth discussions with students: The qualitative assessment involved an elicitation process conducted through one-on-one discussions with students, aimed at understanding their perspective on receiving support through various interventions.

The tracking of the impact was categorized according to the program's objectives, including gender perception, increased student involvement in school, efficiency development, educational awareness, and more. This assessment framework was developed based on a comprehensive review of the intervention and discussions with the Polycab team. Our team recorded individual discussions to capture insights tailored to each intervention.

Structured Interviews: Structured interviews & questionnaire were carried out with school principals, teachers, and Government officials within schools, as well as with students in the skill development intervention area.

Focus Group Discussions (FGDs): Discussions were held with stakeholder groups including the intervention team from each location, teachers, and parents, among other relevant people.

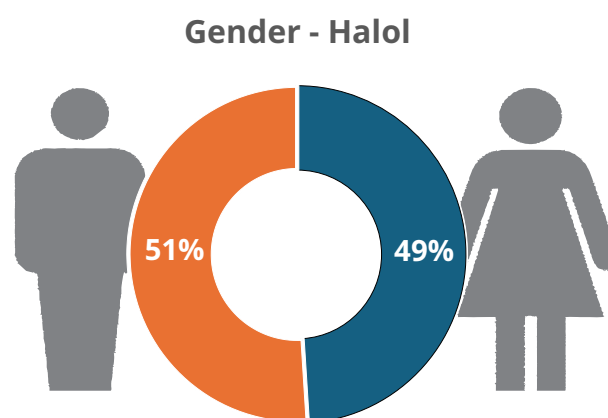


Demographic profile - HALOL

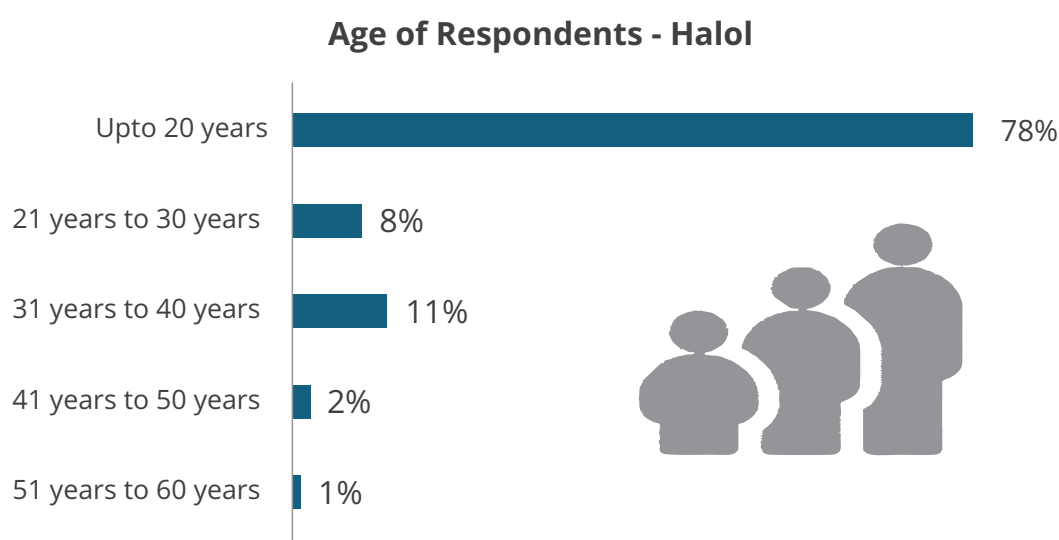
Halol Taluka houses a population of 237,959 individuals, demonstrating a commendable literacy rate of 71.83% and a balanced sex ratio of 927 females for every 1000 males, as indicated by secondary sources.

The survey conducted showcases the various demographic profiles of the Halol location, including the gender, age, qualifications, and income status of the respondents who actively participated in the survey.

The data from the survey conducted in Halol reveals active participation. Specifically, the graph illustrates a slightly higher participation rate among males, with 51% of the participants being male compared to females.

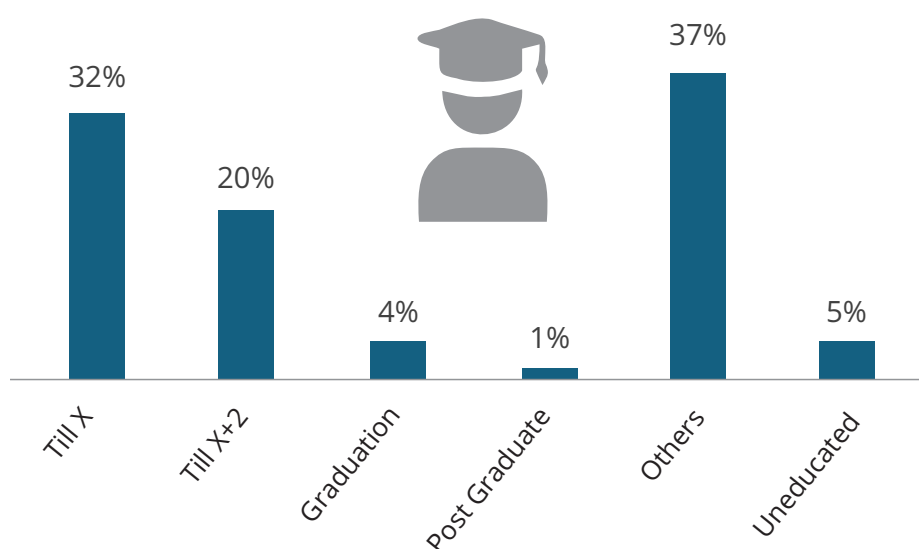


The graph illustrates that the majority of respondents, comprising 78% of the total, were students aged up to 20 years old. The remaining participants consisted of parents, guardians, teachers, principals, and other relevant stakeholders.



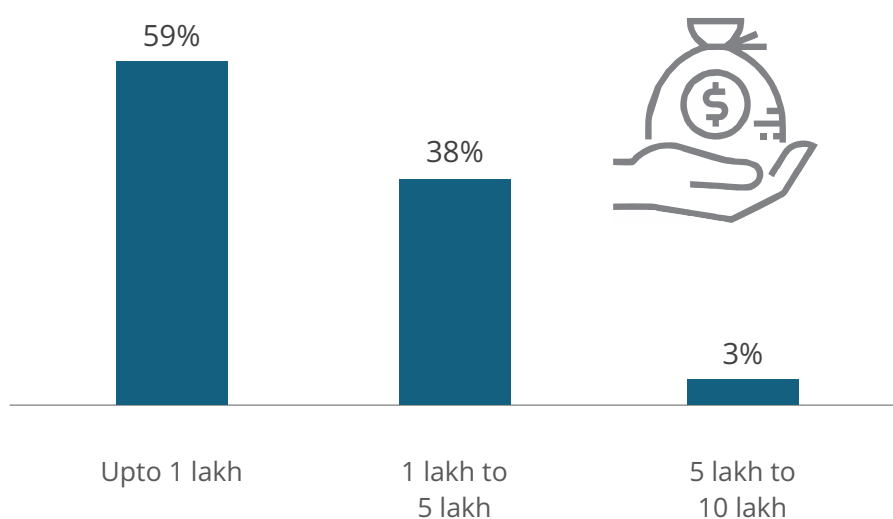
The graph below is illustrating educational qualifications in Halol with a diverse landscape among respondents. It reveals that approximately 52% of respondents have completed Grade X and Grade X+2, while 5% have attained graduation and post-graduation degrees. Additionally, 5% of respondents lacked formal education, underscoring the relevance of the Education Intervention. The remaining respondents represent a variety of qualifications, indicating active participation in the assessment process from diverse fields.

Qualification - Halol



Yearly Income - Halol

The graph reveals that 59% of the population in Halol earns up to 1 lakh per year, while the remaining respondents have varying income levels, distributed between the income brackets of 1 lakh to 5 lakhs and above 5 lakhs to 10 lakhs annually.



Key Ratios – Gujarat Schools - Halol

SR.No.	School Name	Boys/girls Ratio	Teacher to Students Ratio
1	Javahar Asharam School, Narukot	1.16	23.50
2	KVS High School, Shivrajpur	1.14	29.53
3	Nootan Vidhyalaya, Navakuva	1.60	37.33
4	Morarji Desai Ashram School, Chhatardivav	1.02	27.33
5	Uttar Buniyadi Ashram School, Narukot	0.52	11.71
6	Pavagadh High School, Pavagadh	0.61	21.38
7	Zaliyakuva Primary School	1.09	16.75
8	Jambughoda Primary School	1.19	12.90
9	Palla Primary School	0.99	19.38
10	Uttar Buniyadi Ashram School, Chhatardivav	1.06	11.00
11	Nalanda Vidhyalaya, Ghoghamba	1.57	15.83
12	Luv Kush Ashram School, Kathola	1.26	17.11
13	Ghansar Muvadi High School	0.84	41.50
14	High School, Malav	1.52	154.50
15	KGBV Hirapur	0.00	25.00
16	Sonipur Ashram School	1.24	85.00
17	Navi Bhhat Primary School	0.83	18.33
18	Nathkuva Primary School	1.07	45.50
19	Shivrajpur Ashram School	0.95	55.50
20	Sarvajanik Girls High School	0.61	45.00
21	Chhajdiwali Primary School	0.55	19.67
22	Jimiyapur Primary School	0.71	11.00

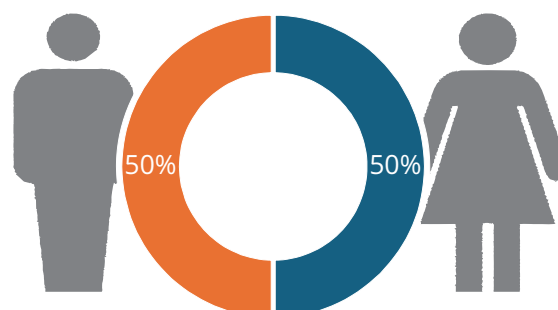
Demographic profile - DAMAN

Daman, with a population of 133,000 individuals, boasts an impressive literacy rate of 91.01% and a distinctive sex ratio of 755 females for every 1000 males, according to secondary sources.

Various demographic profile for Daman location is given below –

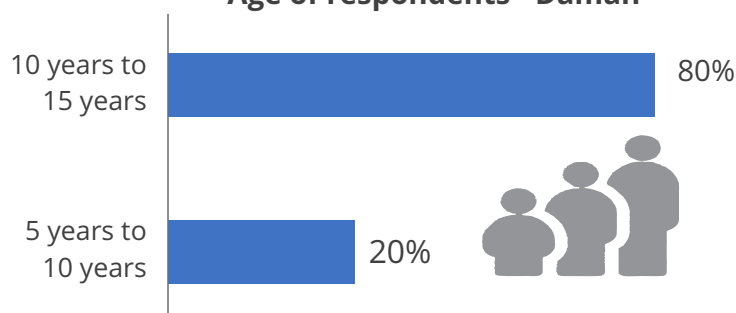
The survey conducted in Daman as part of the education sector initiative revealed an equal gender distribution among respondents, indicating active participation from both males and females in the assessment process.

Survey Participation Genderwise



Military School - Daman

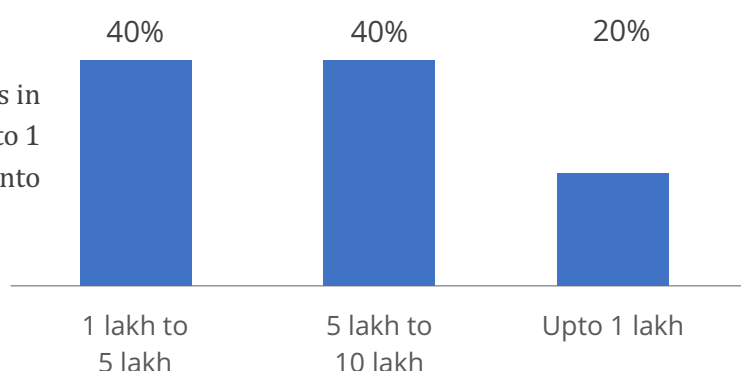
Age of respondents - Daman



The graph illustrates that 80% of the participants in the education intervention, specifically the construction of a military school in Daman, were between the ages of 10 to 15 years. The remaining participants, who were younger than this age group, provided their feedback through elicitation methods.

The graph illustrates that 20% of respondents in Daman reported a yearly income status of up to 1 lakh, with the majority of respondents falling into various income brackets.

Yearly Income - Daman



Findings and analysis (Relevance, Coherence, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, Sustainability)

Evaluation criterion 1: Relevance

“Relevance” is a critical measure of how well a program aligns with the needs and priorities of its stakeholders, ensuring that interventions effectively address existing challenges and aspirations.

In Halol, the prevailing conditions in schools and Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) were dire, characterized by dilapidated or poor infrastructure. School buildings were often inundated with water, reaching depths of up to 5 feet in front of the premises. Insufficient classroom facilities resulted in students having to sit outside due to a lack of benches and the high student-to-space ratio. This situation forced students to endure harsh sunlight during lunch breaks on the playground and sometimes spend the entire day outdoors due to inadequate classroom space or poor building infrastructure. Consequently, students faced challenges such as back and neck pain, as well as health and hygiene issues, making it imperative to address these conditions to ensure the program's relevance in improving educational and health outcomes.

Based on the Need Assessment Report provided, we obtained images depicting the conditions of schools and Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) prior to the intervention. These visuals serve to illustrate the previous infrastructure and facilities, highlighting areas that require improvement and renovation, images of which are shown



Above Photos of Previous Infrastructure Schools Conditions - Halol



Above Photos of Previous Infrastructure Anganwadi centres - Halol



Earlier Images of deteriorated conditions of Schools and Anganwadi's - Halol

Schools - As a consequence of inadequate classroom space in schools and due to poor school building structure, children use to sit outside the classrooms for study.



In some schools it was observed that the students use to sit outside the classroom in sun and study due to insufficient classrooms availability.



Anganwadi - Previously, students faced a shortage of benches and insufficient classroom space, leading them to eat lunch while seated on the ground, posing health and hygiene concerns.

The assessment of Government-aided schools and Anganwadi centres highlighted concerning conditions, with many facilities having poor infrastructure conditions and inadequate, providing a non-conducive environment for students.

According to parental feedback, student attendance and enrolment were notably low prior to the program's initiation, and there was minimal interest among students in attending school regularly.

This highlighted the urgent necessity to improve infrastructure and educational facilities to meet the basic requirements of the community.

Recognizing these challenges, Polycab took the initiative in enhancing infrastructure of Schools and Anganwadi's, constructions of classrooms, providing benches thereby creating a conducive and safe environment for students to study.

Also, people in the community, especially children and women, had health issues due to lack of awareness and non-hygienic environment conditions. So, Polycab organized various health camps at Schools and Anganwadi centres.

The villages where the Company spearheaded efforts to enhance education faced challenges earlier such as resource scarcity, inability to afford educational fees, and financial constraints hindering children from attending school.

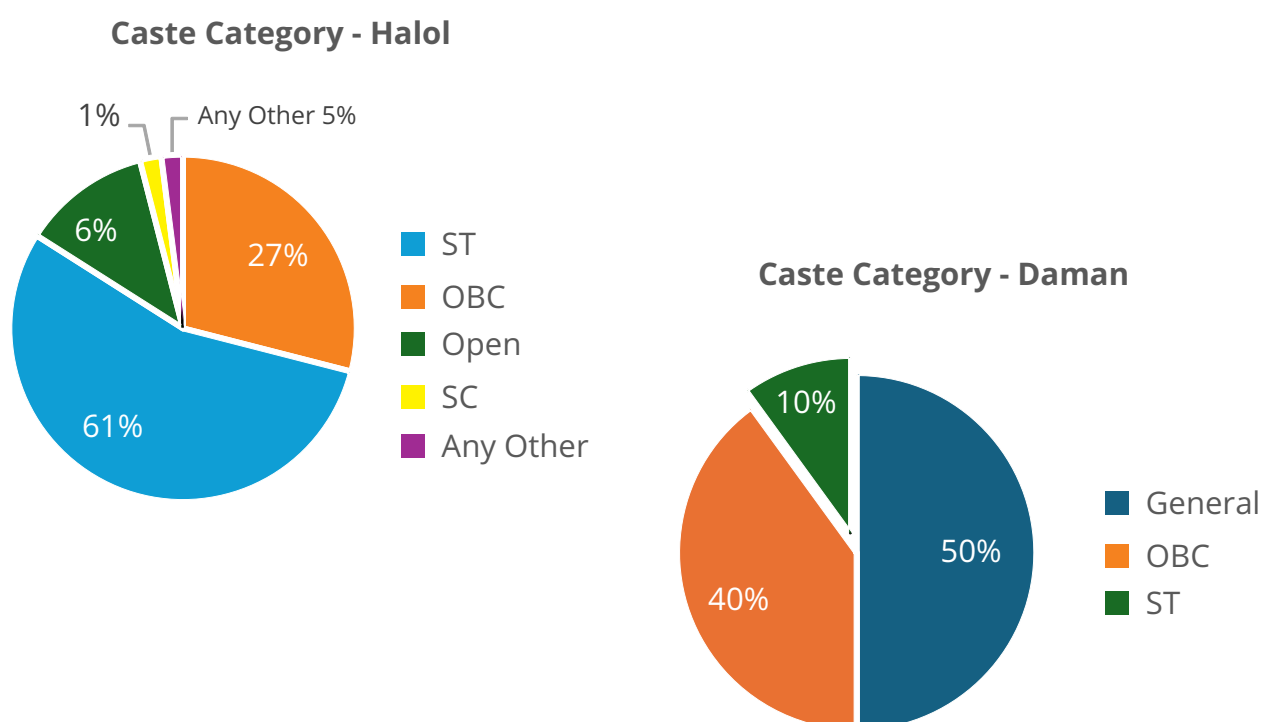


Benches provided in schools - Halol



Health camps conducted at School and Anganwadi's - Halol

Polycab aims to uplift underprivileged communities, with 61% of respondents from Halol identifying as Scheduled Tribes and 40% of respondents from Daman belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs). These initiatives will empower them to sustain in the current competitive environment.



At the time of the 1st visit, it was found that space utilization in Anganwadi centres was suboptimal, with children's play elements kept in storerooms, restricting physical activity and child development. However, after the recent visit, these challenges were addressed by the Company, with children's play elements now readily accessible, promoting physical activity and supporting holistic child development.

The provision of play equipment became increasingly relevant within schools and Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) due to their previously poor condition or absence. Recognizing the importance of physical activities, the Company supplied toys for play at the AWCs and teachers also ensured all students could participate in the activities conducted. This inclusive approach not only promoted a sense of community but also aided students in focusing on their learning, thereby improving their academic performance and overall educational experience.

The Company recognised the significance of providing quality education to students from diverse socio-economic backgrounds and highlighted the continuous need for support to sustain educational endeavours.

My Dream School, Asoj



The Asoj School building was previously in a dilapidated condition with poor infrastructure facilities. During the monsoon, the school premises used to flood up to 5 feet, and classrooms would fill with water. It was challenging for the students and staff to manage regularly, affecting student enrolment and attendance. Polycab recognized this challenge and took the initiative to support the construction of a new building with all necessary facilities.

After the construction of the school building, it had an outstanding impact on the lives of the community members. Student enrolment increased, with regular attendance, and students also benefited from a conducive learning environment due to the beautification of walls inside and outside the classrooms. Toilets were also constructed for boys and girls. The school became a model institution, attracting students not only from nearby villages but also from outside the villages.

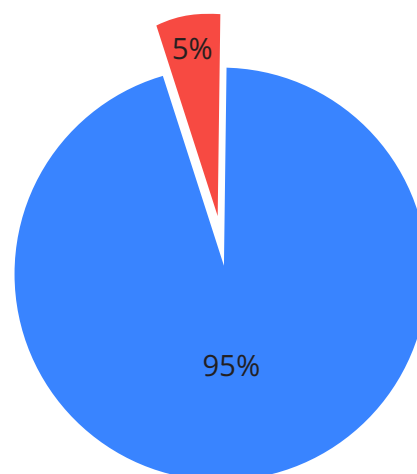
The CSR spent on Asoj School amounted to INR 33,429,900 in the fiscal year 2021-22 which benefited a total of 361 students.

During the assessment, the team noted challenges in the school premises. The newly constructed toilets were unclean, posing health risks. Additionally, the drinking water source caused concerns as students refilled their water jars from stagnant water pools. To address this, the company should enhance toilet hygiene and improve drinking water facilities to ensure safe and clean water for the students.

Principal of Asoj School said, "I express my gratitude for Polycab's initiative. We noted that in the academic year 2022-23, student enrollment stood at 364.

However, following Polycab's intervention, this number surged to 377 in the subsequent academic year, marking a significant increase of 13 students. This rise in enrollment serves as a testament to the enhanced educational opportunities and facilities made possible by Polycab's CSR initiatives".

Parents and Students responses on improvement in students education - Asoj



■ Agree ■ Somewhat agree

The survey conducted at Asoj School revealed overwhelmingly positive feedback from both parents and students regarding the impact of the newly constructed school building and facilities on education. 100% of the respondents agreed that there was an improvement in the student's education due to Construction and Renovation of Schools.

It was seen that the infrastructural enhancements, such as construction and renovation of Schools and Anganwadi's, construction of classrooms, alongside essential educational amenities like science labs, computer labs, benches, play elements and other various support were provided. Polycab has also conducted health camps which were crucial to meet the evolving needs of the educational landscape. And so, the Company addressed educational inequalities and focused on enhancing education in these specific focus areas which makes the intervention approach relevance for the need of the program.

Evaluation criterion 2: Coherence

'Coherence' refers to how well the intervention fits into the larger framework.

The project aligns with Polycab's CSR Policy, focusing on activities related to education, including formal schools, Anganwadi, quality elementary education, Polycab aims to foster a passion for learning and knowledge at every stage.

The project is in line with the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan, a Government of India initiative to promote education. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) aims to provide universal access to quality elementary education for all children aged 6 to 14 years, focusing on bridging gender and social gaps in education.

These education initiatives aim to increase student enrolment, reduce dropouts, create a better educational environment, and uplift underprivileged communities by enhancing their standard of living through education.



According to Government policy, the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 aims to transform the education system in India with a focus on holistic development, flexible learning, and quality education for all. NEP 2020 emphasizes the importance of improving infrastructure, promoting extracurricular activities, and fostering a conducive learning environment in schools and Anganwadi centres.

In coherence with NEP 2020, the intervention aligns well with the Government's goals of enhancing education quality and access. The provision of improved infrastructure, extracurricular activities, and educational facilities in schools and Anganwadi centres reflects the emphasis on holistic development and conducive learning environments outlined in NEP 2020.

Similarly, The Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) Mission under NIPUN Bharat is an educational initiative in India aimed at improving the basic literacy and numeracy skills of students, particularly in the early grades of primary school.

Thus, the Polycab is aligned with FLN as it has initiated workshops to train teachers on some developing skills in students like numeracy, counting and creating patterns which indirectly helps students to improve their numeracy and literacy skills.



AWC Students developing Numeracy and literacy skills - Halol

The project's focus on increasing student enrolment, reducing dropouts, and improving educational outcomes resonates with the objectives of the FLN program to ensure that all children acquire essential literacy and numeracy skills.

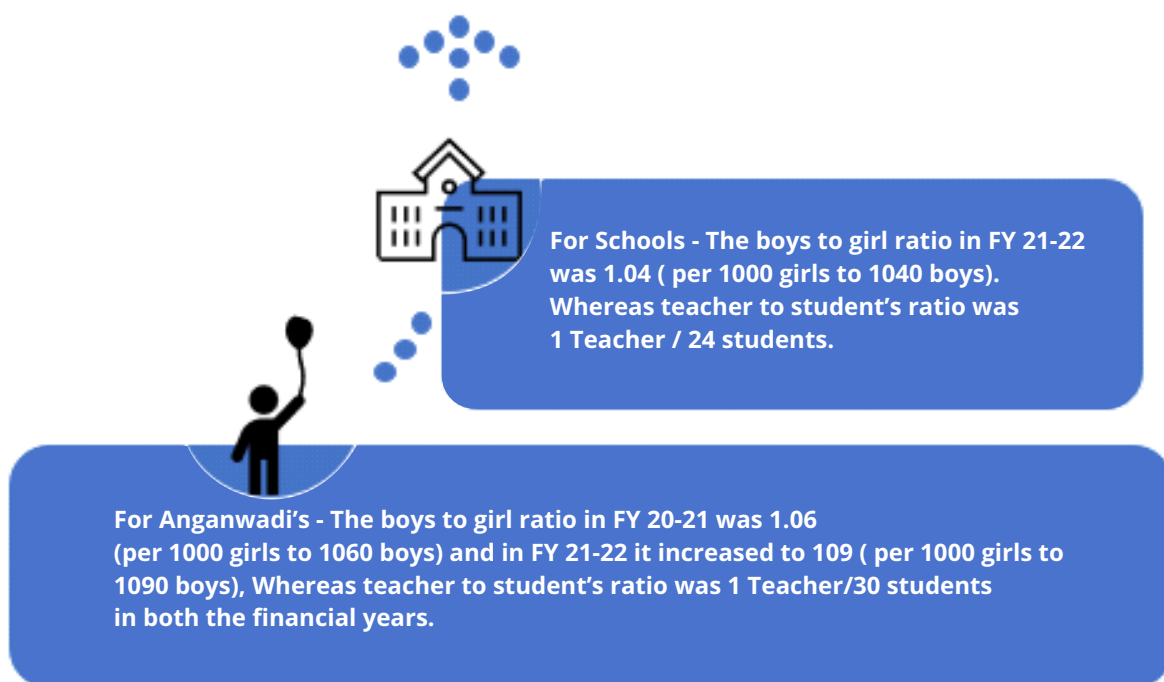
The intervention demonstrates coherence with both NEP 2020 and the FLN program by addressing key priorities in education and aligning with Government initiatives to enhance learning outcomes and promote equitable access to quality education for all children.

Evaluation criterion 3: Effectiveness

Effectiveness in education refers to the extent to which educational interventions achieve desired outcomes and improve access, quality, and relevance of education for the target beneficiaries. It involves assessing the impact of interventions on learning, educational attainment, and the overall development of learners, while considering factors such as alignment with Government educational policies or initiatives.

The intervention focuses on improving education pathways, which in turn develops students' interest in achieving higher education. Its main aim is to reduce the number of students dropping out of higher-level classes and encourage them to pursue better educational opportunities.

The conditions prior intervention showcased some key ratios at the time of visit –



The Polycab's intervention provided Infrastructure needs and also supported schools and Anganwadi's with providing necessary digital educational elements and labs.

BAPS School- Swami Narayan Vidyamandir, Bodeli

The BAPS school is located within the Swaminarayan Mandir Campus in Bodeli, Chotaudepur District. BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha plays a pivotal role in providing a value-based education to numerous students across its various school branches. These schools are equipped with essential facilities such as language labs, computer labs, and recreational amenities. However, the school in Bodeli encountered challenges due to insufficient funds and lacked support to enhance students' education. This issue was addressed by Polycab Company, which initiated support by providing the necessary facilities and resources to the school.



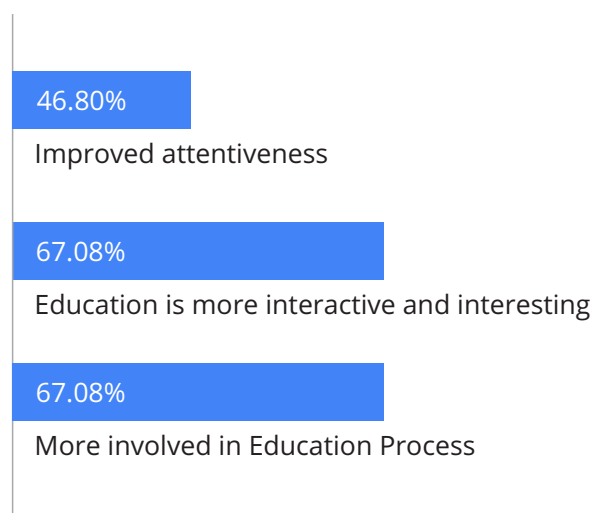
The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) expenditure allocated to BAPS School in Bodeli amounted to INR 6,916,023 during the fiscal years 2020-2021 and 2022-2023.

This support provided to the school not only helped create a conducive environment but also improved academic results, attendance, and enrolment. It has enabled children from average-income families to attend the school by charging a minimal fee and providing hostel facilities. Additionally, the provision of ethics and values classes, along with other resources provided by Polycab, has contributed to the overall growth and development of the students in the school.

Certain challenges were identified during our assessment. The team observed that while computers were provided to the school, few were utilized for administrative purposes, limiting their availability for educational use. Additionally, the science lab apparatus provided was found to be stored aside at the time of visit, detracting from its intended purpose. Moreover, the solar panels installed for the school's energy needs were also being utilized by the adjacent ITI building, reducing their direct benefit to the school. To address these challenges, the Company should ensure the proper utilization of educational resources and closely monitor and evaluate the usage of computers and solar panels to ensure they serve their intended educational purpose.

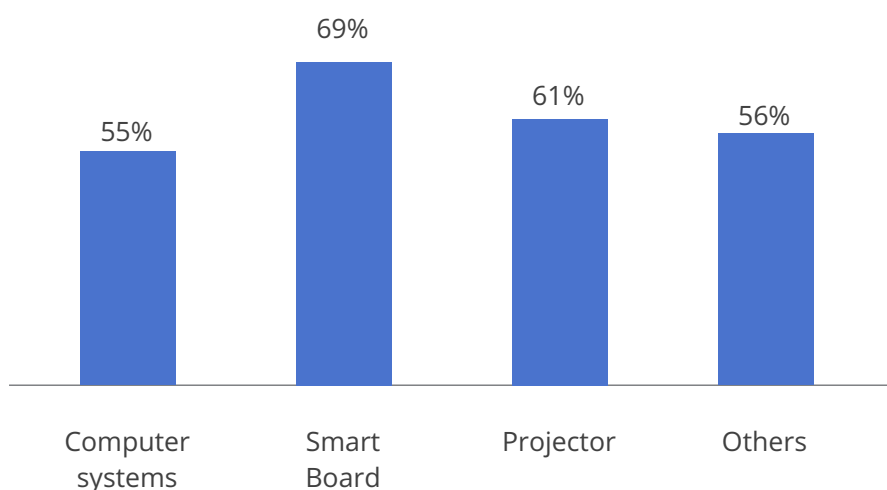
Mr. Mehul Rathva, the school's Principal stated, enthusiastically expressed, "The introduction of a computer lab has greatly enhanced our educational initiatives. This initiative has helped the school integrate the Veda Classes app, which generates syllabus-aligned question papers and provides daily practice sessions to the students. This innovative approach to learning has empowered our students with valuable resources and tools to excel academically."

Students Responses on education support provided – BAPS School, Bodeli



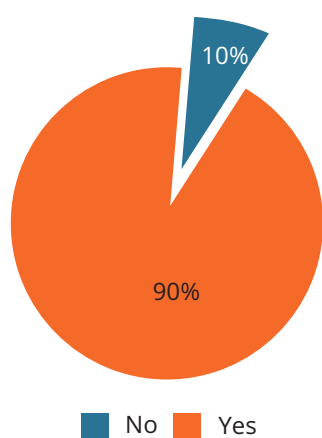
During the visit, it was observed that the responses from all the students were positive regarding their educational development experiences. 67.08% of respondents felt that education had become more interesting, interactive and involving leading to regular attendance at school.

Kind of smart or digital technology was provided in the classrooms - Halol



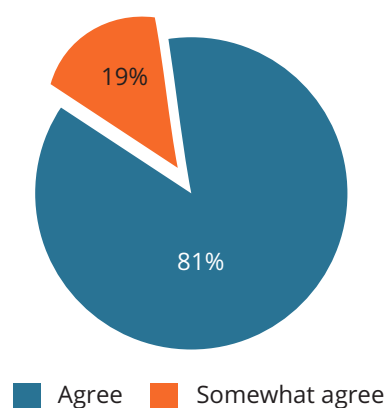
The graph illustrates the technology integration in schools based on responses from respondents. It reveals that, 82.76% of the respondents are utilizing various digital resources like smart boards, projectors, computer systems provided by Polycab to enhance digital learning experience and environment.

Fixed timetable for utilization of labs - Halol



About 90 % of student responded that the school has a fixed timetable for the utilization of both the labs.

Science & Computer labs helped in better education and learning environment - Halol

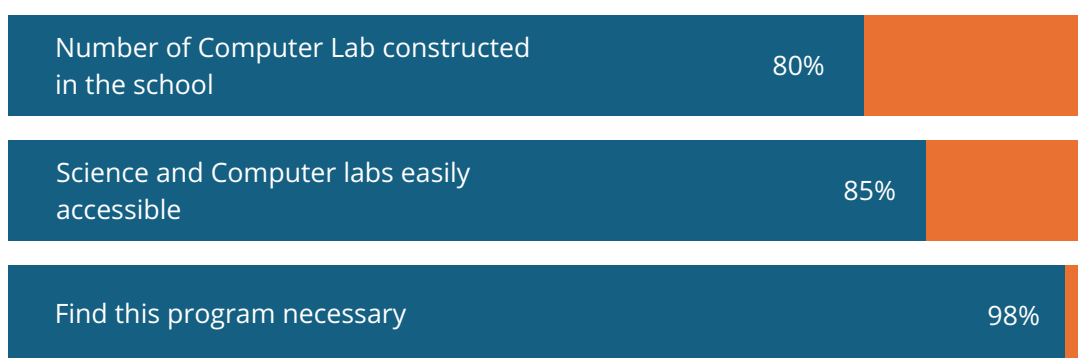


Whereas 81% students' perception says that these labs have helped in better education and learning environment.



Utilization of Labs – Schools - Halol

Science & Computer Lab program assessment - Halol

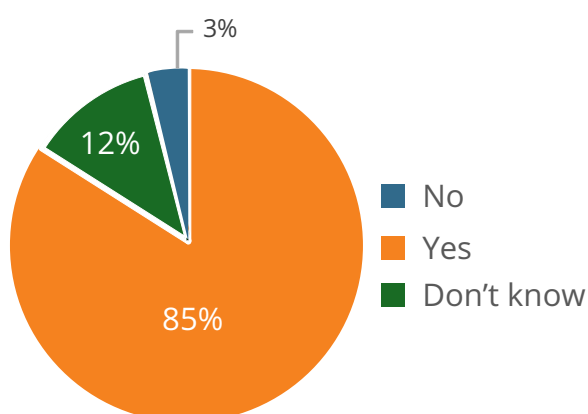


The graph illustrates that 98% of students expressed the program's necessity for enhancing education. Specifically, 85% of students attributed this necessity to the provision of computer and science labs, highlighting their crucial role in facilitating learning.

In the earlier period when computers were provided, there were challenges leading to non-operational or underutilized computers. The COVID-19 pandemic necessitated online learning, resulting in reduced usage and maintenance requirements for some computers. Moreover, students' limited awareness and exposure to technology contributed to low initial usage rates. Students coming from underprivileged backgrounds, students lacked familiarity with computers, leading to hesitation in understanding computer courses.

However, as students gradually developed interest and understanding. These computers were originally provided to meet basic educational needs and facilitate hands-on learning experiences, with subject teachers guiding students.

Parents & Students responses - Halol

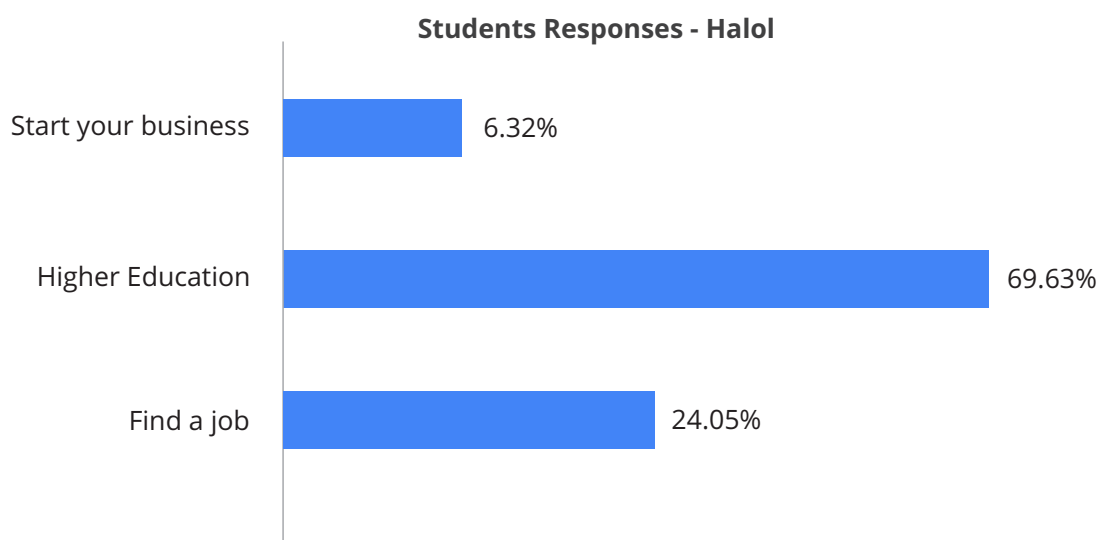


At the time of visit, team collected responses after the construction and renovation from Parents and students where, 85% of respondents expressed that the School's and Anganwadi's condition has improved as compared to the previous poor conditions.

Improving school infrastructure, which includes setting up computer labs, smart classrooms, and science labs, as well as enhancing the visual view of school walls with Teaching learning material (TLM), has fostered a supportive learning atmosphere, leading to increased attendance and reduced dropout rates.

At the time of the 1st visit, it was found that science education in schools was not being prioritized, with limited access to science labs and practical learning opportunities. However, after the recent visit, these challenges were addressed by the Company, with dedicated space and resources allocated for science education, emphasizing the importance of STEM education and providing practical learning opportunities for students.

Earlier students had a mindset of choosing various opportunities due to unfavourable conditions at home like earning livelihood and getting a job, starting up a business or taking up the work their parents are doing could be farming or on daily wages thus leading to dropping out of Schools and helping students in thinking about Higher Education.



The LEAAD program supporting for the Skill development of Students included Sewing techniques, Bharat Natyam Dance, Karate, LEAAD and Domestic wiring program were some of the Education and Skill development programmes (SDP) which were initiated by Polycab which benefited 668 students among all the various SDP between FY 20-21 to FY 22-23.



LEAAD Training programs - Halol

The training programs have been implemented in schools to equip students with practical skills for employment and other career opportunities. These programs empower students to explore diverse career paths and make meaningful contributions to society.

At the time of survey team found that the constructed toilet facilities in schools were unclean toilets and 1 of the toilets had cracks posing hygiene and safety concerns. However, after the recent visit by team these challenges were addressed by the Company, resulting in improved toilet facilities with noticeable enhancements in hygiene, safety, and quality standards.



Constructions of Toilets –
Shree Mahakali Madhyamik School - Pavagadh- Halol

During the visit by team, it was found that the drinking water facilities in schools were surrounded by stagnant water pools, exacerbating hygiene issues and compromising student health. However, after the recent visit, these challenges were addressed by the Company, with measures taken to eliminate stagnant water pools around drinking water sources, ensuring improved hygiene and safeguarding student health.



Despite efforts to introduce and promote the use of the provided water purifier, the children initially continued their habit of drinking water from the borewell coming to water tank. However, with ongoing awareness initiatives, there has been a gradual shift in behaviour, and they are beginning to develop a preference for the taste of purified water.

During visit to Anganwadi centres team observed some challenges that hindered the smooth functioning of these community resources -

- One significant challenge identified was the issue of water supply. Low water pressure often hampered the filling of overhead water tanks, leading to inconsistent access to clean water for Anganwadi activities. It is imperative to explore solutions to optimize water supply systems to ensure consistent and reliable access to clean water, essential for the health and well-being of children and staff.
- Another pressing concern observed was the inadequate waste disposal practices. Improper waste management often led to the dumping and burning of garbage near Anganwadi compounds, posing significant health and hygiene risks for children and staff alike. Implementing proper waste management practices is essential to mitigate these risks and create a safe and hygienic environment conducive to the overall development of children attending Anganwadi centres.

The support to Schools and Anganwadi's included providing various elements which are as mentioned below –

Support provided	Provided to No of AWC or schools
Tube lights	4 AWC's
Televisions (TV)	66 AWC's
Pen drives	85 AWC's
Fans	66 AWC's
Toys	106 AWC's
Library books	3 Schools
Educational kits	122 Schools
Teachers Training	87 AWC's

These support to all Schools and AWC's benefited to 3,164 students in total and 123 teachers between the FY 20-21 to FY 22-23.

These initiatives not only improve learning but also foster a greater interest in education, with computer labs playing a crucial role in enhancing student engagement and honing their computer skills. Additionally, the intervention has equipped schools with facilities like Smart Classrooms, Science labs, and Computer labs, leading to tangible advancements in learning outcomes through infrastructure enhancements such as beautification of walls and construction of classrooms.

The construction of the military school in Daman has brought outstanding improvements to the lives of students. Feedback from student respondents indicates positive changes such as increased confidence, leadership skills, initiative-taking, participation in extracurricular activities and sports, and enhanced subject knowledge.

Case Story



"I am delighted to share the remarkable effectiveness of Polycab's initiatives on Shree Mahakali Madhyamik School in Chapaner, Pavagadh. Thanks to the support provided by Polycab, our school has witnessed significant advancements and achievements."

*Shree Mahakali Madhyamik School
Principal about Effectiveness*



Additionally, we are proud to announce the establishment of a Student Police Cadet (SPC) unit at our school, with a commendable enrolment of 44 students, comprising 22 boys and 22 girls. This initiative not only fosters discipline and leadership among our students but also aims for Government certification through the Suraksha Setu Society.

These achievements stand as a testament to the transformative impact of Polycab's support, empowering our school to provide enhanced educational opportunities and holistic development for our students. We are immensely grateful for Polycab's continued commitment to the betterment of education in our community."

Evaluation criterion 4: Efficiency

The evaluation of 'Efficiency' encompasses not only the overall progress but also the prudent utilization of resources.

This project has demonstrated notable success, particularly in benefiting target groups such as disadvantaged communities. There has been a significant enhancement in the quality of education.

Student-led initiatives to integrate digital boards in classrooms have notably enriched teaching and learning experiences for all students. This not only fosters better learning outcomes but also ignites a greater passion for education. The utilization of provided facilities has promoted enhanced interactivity and engagement among students, elevating the overall learning journey.

Efforts to improve the learning environment included the provision of furniture sets to middle and primary schools as well as Anganwadi centres, thereby enhancing student comfort and focus. The implementation of a well-structured timetable incorporating smart classrooms, computer labs, and science labs has enabled teachers to conduct specialized sessions, optimizing learning experiences while ensuring efficient resource allocation.

Smart classroom:

In Halol, most of the villages consist of underprivileged communities and the rural schools often lack the resources to offer diverse learning opportunities comparable to urban. There is need to bridge the gap between rural and urban education by providing access to modern teaching methodologies and technology. These smart classrooms offer students access to a wealth of educational resources and digital content, preparing them for a future where digital literacy is necessity. But these rural schools lack in funds for development. Recognizing this educational gap, Polycab has taken the initiative to integrate smart classrooms into several schools in Halol Through this initiative, Polycab endeavours to equip students with essential skills necessary for success in an increasingly digital-centric world

This initiative of providing Smart Classroom to 10 schools which directly benefited 2,019 students with one time training provided to 70 teachers for operating Smart boards in Smart classrooms.



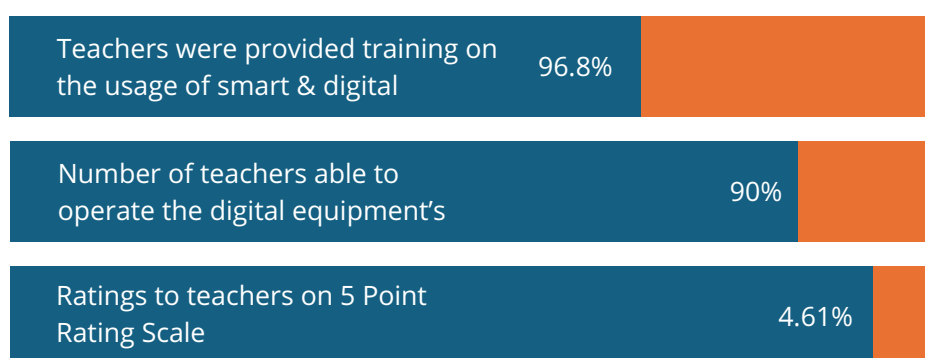
The implementation of smart classrooms by Polycab has been a significant investment in the educational infrastructure of various schools. In the fiscal years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023, Polycab allocated INR 1,795,296 and INR 1,291,950, respectively, towards setting up smart classrooms in various schools.

The implementation of smart classrooms has not only facilitated student learning through digital resources but has also fostered skill development and heightened classroom engagement. Additionally, students have had the opportunity to explore beyond the confines of the standard syllabus, resulting in academic improvements and outstanding academic outcomes.

During our visits at schools, we encountered some challenges regarding the functionality and utilization of smart classrooms. Maintenance issues with some smart boards led to interruptions in educational activities, and one of the smart classrooms was non-operational as used for storage purpose. It is recommended that Maintenance issues and regular monitoring and evaluation are essential to optimize the utilization of educational resources of smart classrooms.

Shree Mahakali Madhyamik School Principal remarked, "The transition to smart classrooms offers innovative opportunities for group learning and personalized instruction. However, this transition requires time and patience as students adapt to the new technology. The gradual adoption of smart classroom technology allows students to integrate and fully leverage its benefits for enhanced learning experiences."

Responses on Teacher's Training- Halol

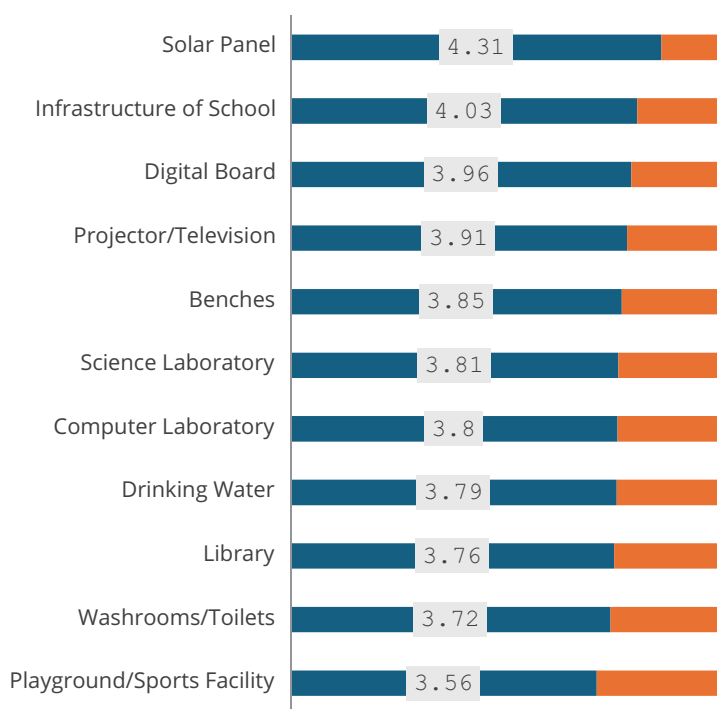


Teacher's training for efficiency of the program

The graph illustrates that a significant majority of teachers, 96.8%, have undergone training in using digital and smart classrooms, enabling them to proficiently operate digital equipment. Moreover, students highly rated the qualitative change in teachers' facilitation through these digital equipment's, with an average score of 4.61 out of 5.



Ratings on Facilities provided to School - Halol

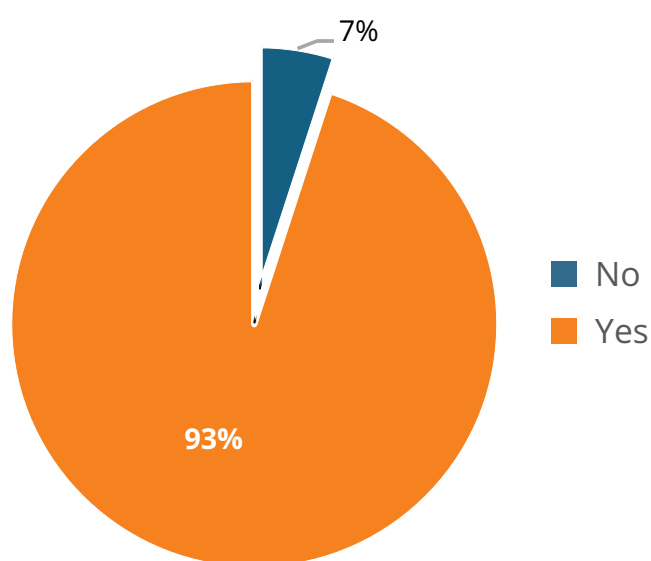


The graph illustrates overwhelmingly positive feedback from students, teachers, and parents regarding the facilities provided by the Company. Specifically, infrastructure received the highest rating of 4.03 out of 5, indicating strong satisfaction. Additionally, facilities such as the digital board, projector/television, science lab, and computer lab were rated above 3.5 out of 5, suggesting significant approval.

Furthermore, other facilities received outstanding ratings, reflecting overall satisfaction with the amenities offered by the Company.

In terms of Efficiency, factors such as the efficient utilization of resources and the maintenance of constructed or renovated infrastructure are paramount. Educational interventions have excelled in these aspects, creating an environment conducive to students, teachers, and parents alike.

Parents response - Ongoing Monitoring and Evaluation for maintaining quality and functionality of Schools and AWC's - Halol



In discussions with respondents from Halol, it was found that 93% of parents confirmed that the Company diligently oversees and assesses the quality and functionality of schools and Anganwadi centres.

In conclusion, the impact assessment of educational interventions undertaken by Polycab has demonstrated commendable efficiency in resource utilization. Through strategic allocation of resources and meticulous planning, Polycab has succeeded in implementing various educational initiatives across different regions, serving underprivileged communities effectively. By leveraging partnerships, innovative approaches, and targeted interventions, Polycab has been able to achieve significant outcomes while optimizing resources. Moving forward, continued emphasis on efficiency will be crucial for sustaining and scaling up these initiatives to further enhance their impact and contribute to the overall development of the communities served.

Case Stories



"As the head of BAPS - Swaminarayan Vidyalaya, Bodeli, I am thrilled to share how the resources provided by Polycab through its CSR funds have significantly enhanced the efficiency and success of our school."

BAPS Sanstha Head on Efficiency

- In the academic year 2022-23, our dedication to academic excellence was evident as we achieved a remarkable 100% pass rate in both 10th and 12th-grade Science, along with a commendable 78% pass rate in the 12th-grade Commerce stream. These outstanding results reflect the commitment and hard work of our students and teachers alike.
- One remarkable example of our students' dedication is Hitesh Rathva, who achieved a perfect score of 100/100 in mathematics during the board exams. Hailing from the Adivasi Community and with his father working as a bus conductor, Hitesh's success exemplifies the transformative impact of education provided by our school. Despite his background, Hitesh has thrived academically, showcasing the empowering environment fostered by our institution.
- Similarly, Bharat Rathva's journey highlights the supportive atmosphere cultivated at our school. Facing financial constraints and considering leaving school due to admission fees, Bharat received crucial assistance from our management, enabling him to continue his education. His perseverance paid off as he not only achieved an impressive 85% in grade 11 but also secured a perfect score of 100/100 in physics. Bharat's success underscores the transformative power of support and dedication to education.

We are immensely grateful to Polycab for their generous support, which has played a pivotal role in enhancing the educational opportunities and success of our students at BAPS - Swaminarayan Vidyalaya, Bodeli."

Evaluation criterion 5: Impact

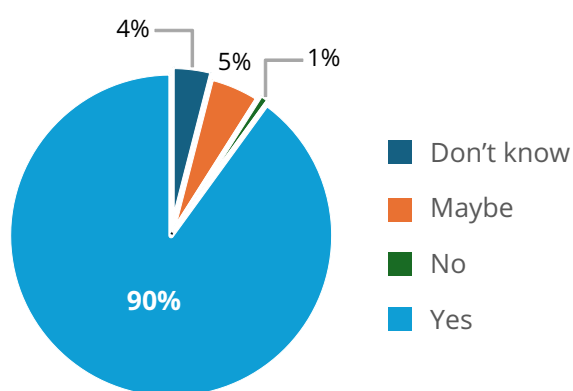
The impact criterion evaluates how much the intervention has changed the lives of the beneficiaries. Through various means such as financial support, infrastructure development, digital literacy classes, and sports facilities, the Company has indirectly created a collaborative learning environment in communities, significantly enhancing the overall quality of education.

The project extends its impact beyond primary education to early childhood development through the construction and renovation of Anganwadi's and schools. These facilities play a vital role in providing nutrition, healthcare, and early education to young children.

The construction of schools and Anganwadi's initiated by Polycab has significantly impacted the educational landscape of targeted communities. These infrastructural developments have created accessible and conducive learning environments for children, leading to improved educational outcomes and fostering a culture of learning within the communities.

Additionally, Polycab's support, including the introduction of smart classrooms, science labs, and computer labs, has revolutionized educational institutions by integrating them with the latest learning technologies. This technological advancement not only enhances education quality but also equips students with essential digital skills for their future. Moreover, Polycab has provided essential amenities such as benches, water purifiers, tube lights, and toys, contributing to a comfortable and hygienic learning environment, thereby facilitating students' overall well-being and development.

Furthermore, Polycab's LEAAD skill development program has played a crucial role in upskilling students for future job opportunities, empowering them with life skills, vocational training, and career guidance. The Company also recognizes the importance of teacher training and has provided comprehensive programs for teachers associated with Anganwadi Centres (AWCs), resulting in improved educational outcomes. Overall, Polycab's multifaceted interventions in the education sector have profoundly impacted children and communities, laying the groundwork for a brighter and more prosperous future.



Halol - School's provide Equal Opportunities to Both Gender

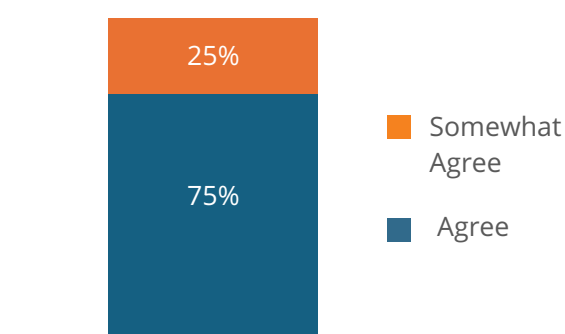
HALOL

The responses received from students assessing equal opportunities for boys and girls indicate that these initiatives have not only improved students' skills but also promoted gender equality within schools, fostering more interest and attention, which contributes to their overall development.

The data from the visit highlights that 90% of student respondents acknowledged the provision of equal opportunities for both girls and boys. This suggests a positive impact on girls' education, indicating that opportunities are being created and promoted through the Company's initiative.

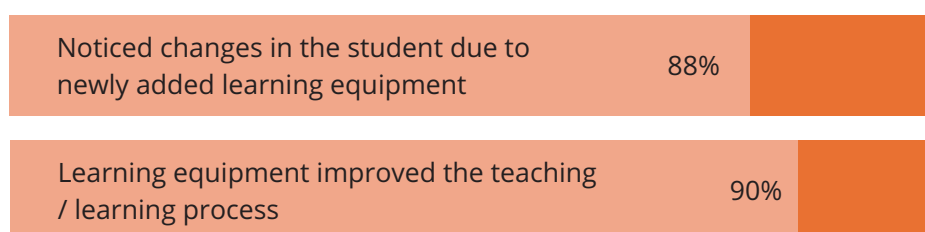
Teachers, parents, and other stakeholders also perceived that following the Company's initiative to provide learning facilities to schools, numerous improvements have been noted upon implementation. The teaching-learning process has contributed to educating the community in a distinct and engaging manner.

Smart classes increased the learning efficiency of Students - Halol



Smart classrooms with the digital boards have increased the learning efficiency of students where, 75 % of students have agreed on the perception and rest 25 % students somewhat agree.

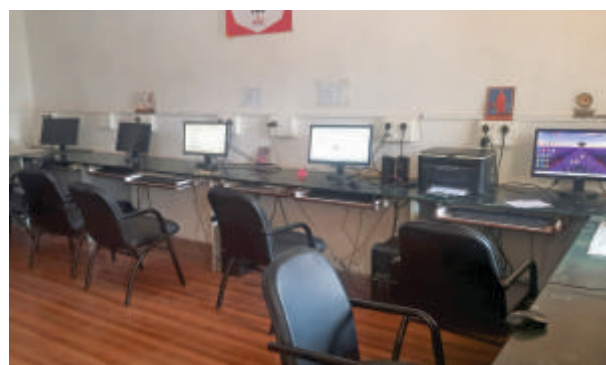
Stakeholder's perception on Student's Learning - Halol



Among all stakeholder respondents, 88% reported observing changes in students as a result of the newly provided learning facilities, while 90% noted an enhancement in the teaching and learning process.

Computer lab

Computer labs play a crucial role in rural communities by providing students with essential digital skills. In today's digital age, computer literacy is vital for success in both education and careers. Unfortunately, many rural schools struggle to afford computers. This initiative helps bridge the gap between rural and urban students, ensuring that all students have access to important technological resources for their learning and future career life. However, Polycab recognized this need and supported various schools by providing computer labs.



During the F.Y. 2021-22, a total of 143 computer devices and in FY 22-23, a total of 51 Computer devices were distributed across 23 schools and benefited 2,885 students.

The CSR expenditure by Polycab for integrating computer labs in various schools amounted to INR 3,298,210 in the FY 2020-2021, INR 5,117,348 in FY 2021-2022, and INR 3,145,518 for FY 2022-2023

The provision of computer labs has significantly enhanced students' academic experiences. These labs have enabled teachers to deliver interactive and engaging lessons by integrating multimedia resources and innovative teaching methods. Students have benefited from hands-on learning experiences, where they have explored educational concepts, conducted research, and collaborated on various topics. Access to technology in the classroom has fostered critical thinking and problem-solving skills, preparing students for academic success and future career opportunities. Moreover, this interactive nature of computer-based learning has resulted in student engagement and active participation, ultimately contributing to a more dynamic and effective learning environment.

During our school visits and assessment of computer labs, we observed some challenges like few non-functional computers and limited access for lower grades. To overcome these hurdles, it's vital for the Company to ensure optimal use of educational resources. This requires close monitoring of computer usage and implementing maintenance plans in collaboration with School Management Committees (SMC). By addressing operational issues, resolving the interrupted access to resources can be ensured. Moreover, expanding computer lab access to all grades will provide broader technology exposure for students.

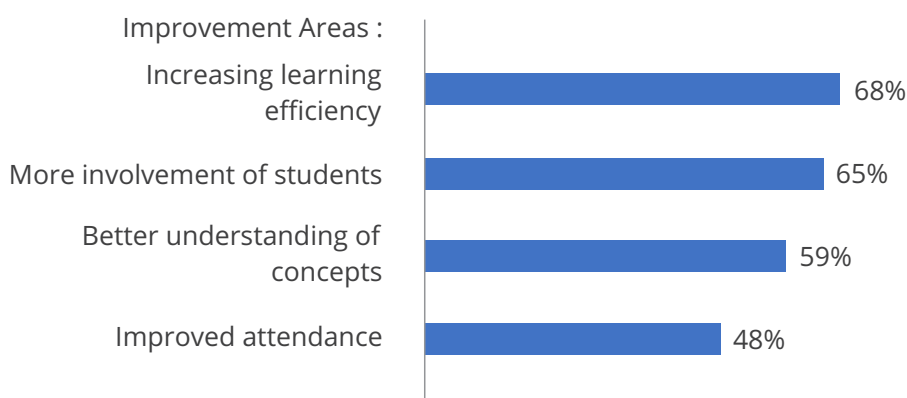
Shree Mahakali Madhyamik School Principal stated, "Our school has witnessed remarkable progress with the availability of computer labs. Securing Government approval to introduce grades 11 and 12 for Arts and Commerce streams was a crucial milestone, and the provision of computer labs was a prerequisite for this approval. In 2021, we proudly inaugurated grade 11, followed by grade 12 in 2022, welcoming a total of 94 students. The impact was evident as our enrolment surged further in the academic year 2022-23, with a total of 99 students across both grades. This achievement underscores the significance of modern facilities in fostering academic growth and opportunities for our students."

Impact of Digital Literacy tools on Education of Children - Halol



The graph depicts that 88% of students and parents provided positive feedback regarding the overall improvement and increased interest in education attributed to the digital equipment provided by the Company.

Extending formal education to economically disadvantaged sections has had a profoundly positive effect on students and their families, leading to higher attendance and enrolment rates and fewer dropouts.



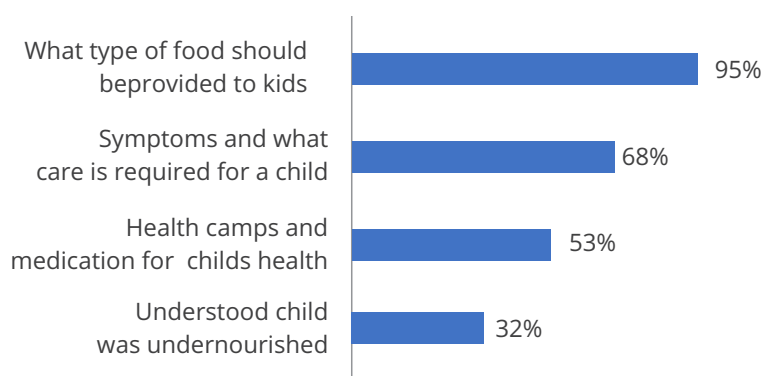
The graph illustrates the impact of digital equipment on various aspects of learning, as reported by students and parents during the visit. Specifically, between 65% and 69% of respondents noted increased learning efficiency and heightened student attention and involvement due to the support provided by the equipment. Additionally, between 48% and 60% of respondents reported improvements in attendance and getting clarity of concepts.

In early childhood education, the Company's efforts, such as organizing health camps in community schools and Anganwadi's, have indirectly benefited both students and parents, yielding profound impacts on the community.

These efforts have not only addressed immediate health concerns but have also promoted health awareness and parental engagement, contributing to the holistic development of children.

During the survey, the team received favourable feedback regarding parents' and teachers' perceptions of the health camps held in schools and Anganwadi's, indicating a positive impact on children's health.

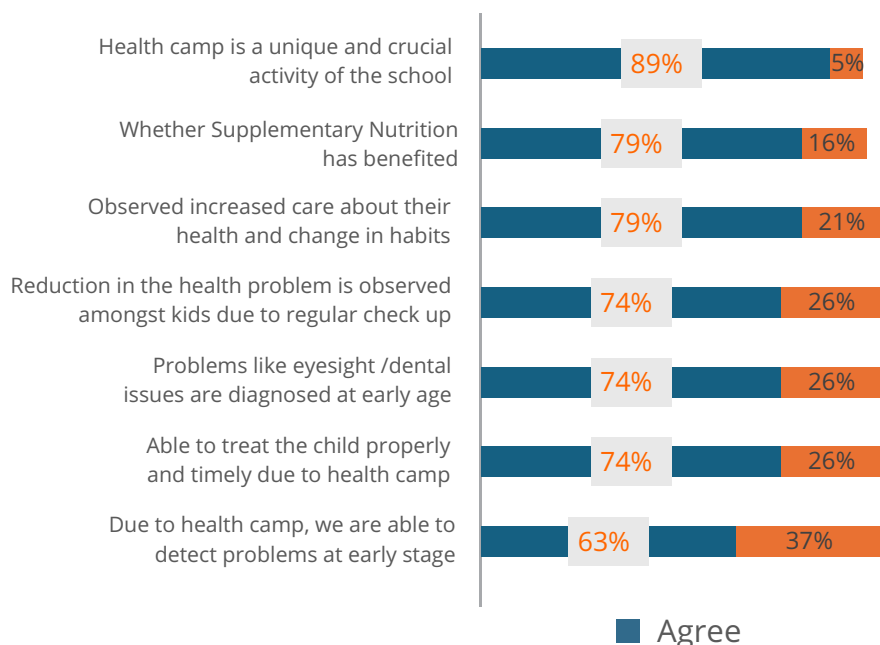
Health Camps: Anganwadi - Halol



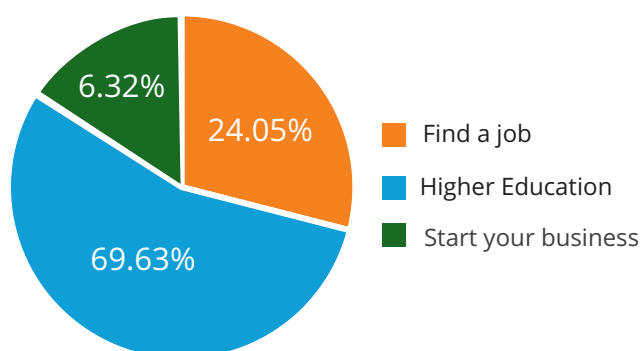
The graph illustrates that in the survey conducted among Anganwadi parents and teachers, a significant majority, comprising 95% of respondents, gained insights into appropriate student diets. Furthermore, 68% of participants have also understood about kind of symptoms can be shown by kids w.r.t health issues and the care & the medication which needs to be taken reported understanding symptom care, while the remaining few respondents indicated learning about medications and came to know that kid is undernourished

All the respondents have given a positive feedback on health camps conducted in the schools whereas, it has helped in many ways to the respondents out of which 89% felt that it is a crucial activity which should be conducted in the schools which has created a outstanding impact by experiencing increased awareness in health and change in habits of students which directly reduced the health problems in the students and also helped in early detections of various illnesses and diseases.

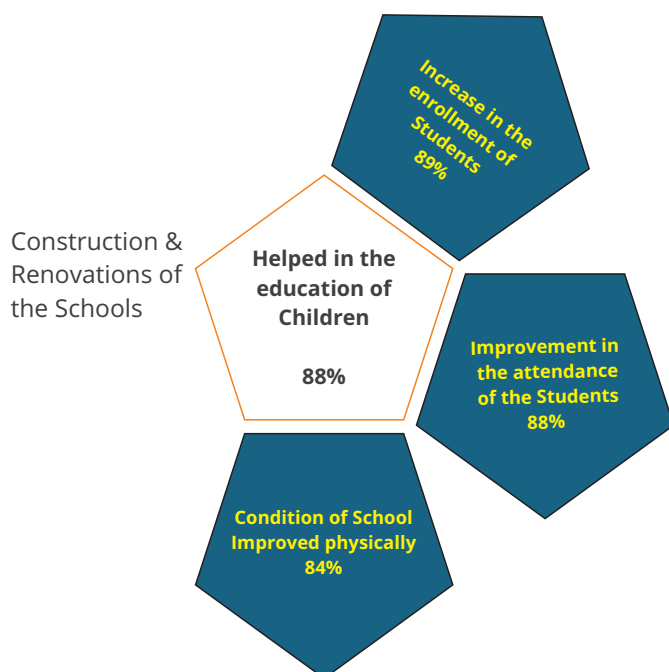
Health Camps : Parents Perception - Halol



Students Responses - Halol



All the Support and services provided to the schools and Anganwadi's have created a excellent impact on the students mindset as 69.63 % of students responded that they want to pursue Higher Education rather than finding a job or picking up a business by dropping out of school



The graphical data illustrates the positive impact of the Company's initiative on various aspects of education. Specifically, it indicates that after the implementation of the initiative, there was a notable improvement in attendance, with 88% of parents observing better attendance rates among students. Additionally, 89% of parents noticed an increase in enrolment, suggesting that more students were enrolling in schools following the initiative. Furthermore, parents observed improvements in school conditions, indicating enhancements in infrastructure or facilities and believed that the initiative positively contributed to children's education, highlighting the perceived educational benefits resulting from the Company's efforts. Overall, the data suggests that the Company's initiative had a significant and positive impact on various aspects of education within the community.

Case Stories



"I am proud to share the remarkable changes that have unfolded at Asoj School, thanks to the impactful CSR initiatives undertaken by Polycab"

Asoj School Principal about the Impact

- Furthermore, I am delighted to highlight the achievements of our alumni, Nikita Chauhan, Kaushal Thakur, Jayesh Bhalla, Nisha Harijan, Viksit Baria, and Aryan Baria, who now received scholarships ranging from INR 12k to 18k annually for their higher education from 9th to 12th grade. This financial assistance has empowered them to pursue their academic aspirations and further their studies.
- Kaushal Thakur's success is particularly noteworthy, as she recently clinched the 1st Prize in an Essay Competition, receiving accolades from Pradip Singh Parmar, the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment. This recognition not only reflects Kaushal's exceptional talents but also underscores the quality education and nurturing environment provided by Asoj School.
- Moreover, I am pleased to share that student like Meghraj and Hiral, hailing from distant villages like Hansapura and Pratapura, situated 1.5 km away from Asoj, have joined our school due to the infrastructural enhancements facilitated by Polycab. This expansion of our student base demonstrates the growing reach and positive impact of Asoj School on surrounding communities.

In conclusion, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Polycab for their unwavering support and commitment to empowering our students and enriching their educational journey. With their continued partnership, I am confident that Asoj School will continue to thrive and inspire generations of learners."

The cumulative impact of Polycab's initiatives is evident in the positive changes observed in beneficiary communities. Reduced dropout rates, increased attendance, and heightened interest in sports, as evidenced by students representing their schools at state and national levels, stand as testimony to the effectiveness and relevance of these programs. These outcomes highlight the transformative power of education in unlocking opportunities and empowering individuals to realize their full potential, ultimately contributing to the holistic development of communities. Moving forward, it is imperative to build upon these achievements and continue investing in impactful interventions to further advance education and uplift communities.

Evaluation criterion 6: Sustainability

Sustainability in education is the ability of educational interventions to endure and maintain positive outcomes over time, beyond initial implementation. It involves ensuring lasting improvements in access, quality, and outcomes, even after external support ends.

The sustainability of this program initiative extends beyond immediate benefits to students. By fostering self-reliance within schools, the initiative ensures lasting impact, empowering them to independently maintain and enhance the facilities provided.



Assessing the long-term benefits of an intervention is essential for gauging its sustainability. Education plays a pivotal role in uplifting communities socioeconomically, thereby enhancing living standards across society. Its benefits endure, leaving lasting impacts on both students and communities.

This proactive approach significantly strengthens the sustainability of the program. The sustainability of educational support goes beyond mere physical infrastructure; it encompasses innovative teaching methods and resources as well.

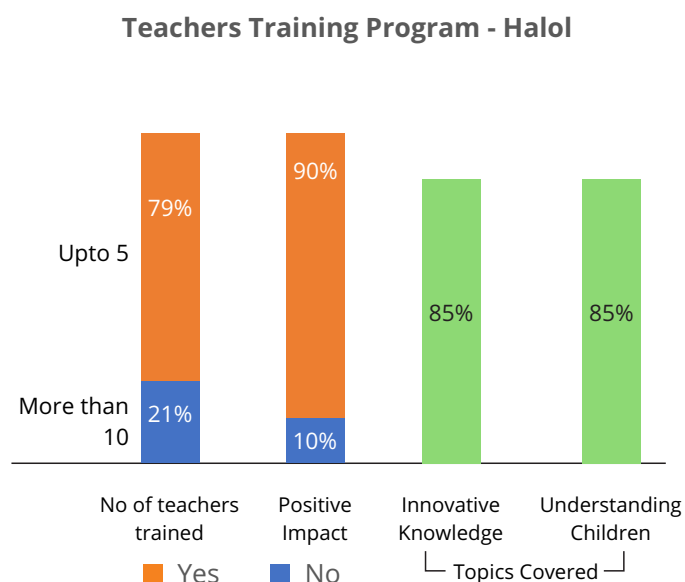


The Teaching Learning Material (TLM) displayed on the walls of schools has proven beneficial for students, offering them learning opportunities beyond traditional textbooks. This initiative ensures sustainability, as the TLM can still be utilized by teachers for teaching purposes in situations where electricity is unavailable.

Initiatives that equip teachers with the necessary resources for interactive and collaborative classrooms can revolutionize teaching and learning approaches. By involving both teachers and students in these activities, a sense of ownership and commitment is fostered, thereby ensuring the long-term viability of the project's outcomes. Additionally, conducting training sessions for teachers plays a crucial role in contributing to sustainability.

The training has supported teachers in enhancing the teaching-learning environment through the innovative digital and infrastructure facilities provided by the Company, thereby making it easier for students to comprehend.

The teacher training program has had a significant impact, with 90% of teachers reporting positive outcomes such as the development of innovative teaching techniques and a better understanding of students. This has led to more sustainable learning experiences, facilitated by the introduction of new teaching methods during the training sessions conducted by the Company.



The science lab's sustainability is ensured through efficient resource utilization and the implementation of eco-friendly practices, promoting long-term environmental stewardship and responsible education.

Science lab

Science labs are crucial in rural schools of Gujarat to provide hands-on learning experiences and practical exposure to scientific concepts. These labs offer students the opportunity to conduct experiments, observe phenomena, and apply theoretical knowledge in a real-world context. They prepare them for future academic pursuits and careers in science and technology, contributing to their overall academic and personal development. However, these schools in rural areas of Gujarat cannot afford expensive science lab equipment. Recognizing the necessity of science labs, Polycab took the initiative to develop science labs in various schools by providing science apparatus for the development of rural schools in Gujarat.



The Company provided Science labs to 12 schools, benefiting 2,583 students to learn through hands on experience with various Science apparatus provided in the Science lab.

Polycab's investment in school science labs underscores its dedication to improving science education. In 2021-2022, the Company allocated INR 1,688,215, followed by INR 1,175,538 in 2022-2023.

The introduction of science labs at schools has significantly impacted students by providing hands-on experiences and fostering essential scientific skills for their future careers. Through practical experimentation, students are gaining a deeper understanding of scientific principles, develop critical thinking abilities, and learn to collaborate effectively. These labs have served as dynamic learning environments, nurturing curiosity and encouraging students to explore scientific phenomena. Overall, the science labs have enriched the academic experience of our students and prepared them for success in science and technology.

During our recent visits to schools, our team noticed that some of the science labs provided by Polycab were not being fully utilized. Many pieces of apparatus and equipment were left untouched and covered in dust. As per further conversation with the principals the underutilization was due to the COVID-19 pandemic, during which schools were closed, and learning shifted to online platforms. As a result, the science equipment remained unused for some period.

To maximize the impact of its science lab initiative, Polycab should consider the following recommendations:

- Implement regular monitoring and evaluation of science lab usage to identify underutilized resources and areas for improvement.
- Foster collaboration with School Management Committees (SMCs) and school staff to take ownership of the support provided by Polycab, ensuring effective utilization of science labs.
- Emphasize practical learning opportunities within the science curriculum, including hands-on experiments and activities, to underscore the importance of science education.

Sustainability in education is reflected in the ongoing interest of students to pursue learning and in their ability to create earning opportunities for themselves and their families. By providing students with the necessary knowledge and skills for future employment, education serves as a catalyst for continuous socioeconomic development within communities. This sustained interest in education not only ensures individual livelihoods but also strengthens the resilience and growth of society as a whole.

Case Story

"As the principal of Malav School, I am delighted to share the remarkable impact of Polycab's support on our institution's sustainability. Thanks to their generous assistance, we have witnessed a significant increase in enrolment for the academic year 2023-24, particularly in Grade 9th. This surge in student numbers has necessitated the creation of a new division, 9th-C, to accommodate the growing cohort of students. This expansion not only reflects the trust and confidence parents have in our school but also underscores the tangible difference Polycab's support has made in enhancing our capacity to provide quality education to more students. We are immensely grateful for Polycab's unwavering commitment to education and their invaluable contribution to our school's growth and sustainability."

Malav School Principal on Sustainability

Case study: Jayshree's Story – Empowered Education



Before receiving support from Polycab, Jayshree, a 12-year-old student in the 8th grade, was grappling with significant financial hardships following the untimely passing of her mother. With the family's limited resources strained further, Jayshree lacked access to essential educational materials and struggled with the absence of reliable transportation to school. Consequently, she found herself frequently absent from classes, unable to keep up with her studies, and feeling increasingly disheartened about her academic prospects.

However, thanks to the generous support provided by Polycab, Jayshree's circumstances underwent a remarkable transformation. Through Polycab's intervention, Jayshree received a well-equipped school bag containing all the necessary supplies, including books, notebooks, pens, and other stationery items. Additionally, she was provided with a sturdy bicycle, enabling her to overcome the transportation challenges she previously faced. With these essential resources in hand, Jayshree's ability to attend school regularly was greatly enhanced, leading to a noticeable improvement in her academic performance and overall well-being.

With newfound access to education and transportation, Jayshree not only regained her enthusiasm for learning but also demonstrated remarkable academic progress. Her attendance record improved significantly, and she began actively participating in classroom activities, displaying a newfound confidence in her abilities. Moreover, Jayshree took on additional responsibilities at home, assisting her family with chores and contributing to the household income where possible.

The support provided by Polycab has had a profound impact on Jayshree's life, empowering her to pursue her educational goals and aspire to a brighter future. Through this intervention, Jayshree's journey serves as a testament to the transformative power of education and the positive outcomes that can be achieved through targeted support and intervention in the lives of underprivileged students.

Improvement Areas

Schools:

- **Enhance Toilet Hygiene:** Implement regular cleaning schedules and maintenance protocols to address unclean toilets and cracks, ensuring hygiene, safety, and quality standards are met.
- **Improve Drinking Water Facilities:** Undertake measures to eliminate stagnant water pools around drinking water sources, such as water purifiers or jars, to mitigate hygiene concerns and safeguard student health.
- **Enhance Access to Science and Computer Labs:** Ensure equitable access to science and computer labs for students across all grades, tailoring activities to different learning levels to maximize educational impact.
- **Ensure Proper Utilization of Educational Resources:** Monitor and evaluate the utilization of distributed resources, such as computers and solar panels, to ensure they are optimally utilized for educational purposes rather than administrative tasks or alternative uses.
- **Prioritize Science Education:** Allocate dedicated space and resources for science education, including practical learning opportunities, to underscore the importance of STEM education and enhance students' scientific knowledge and skills.
- **Increase use of Digital Resources:** Digital resources The utilization of provided digital resources can be increased by integrating it in the classroom as well as while teaching the syllabus.
- **Conducting hand on experience activities:** Students can be given access to handle the digital equipment on their own (under teacher's supervision) to get hands on experience to reduce their fear of using new digital technologies.
- **Parental involvement:** Parents can be involved in education process so that they are aware about the utilization of provided resources and could closely experience the change in students.

Anganwadi:

- **Address Water Supply Issues:** Address low water pressure issues affecting the filling of overhead water tanks by exploring solutions to optimize water supply systems, ensuring consistent access to clean water for Anganwadi activities.
- **Manage Waste Disposal:** Implement proper waste management practices to prevent the dumping and burning of garbage near Anganwadi compounds, mitigating health and hygiene risks for children and staff.
- **Optimize Space Utilization:** Review storage practices and ensure children's play elements are readily accessible, promoting physical activity and fostering holistic child development.

By addressing these challenges and implementing it in the existing intervention can be enhanced to better meet the needs of schools and Anganwadi centres, thereby maximizing its impact on educational outcomes and community well-being.

Recommendations

- ✓ A comprehensive Need Assessment needs to be conducted to align with the need, size, and scale of the project to ensure effective initiation and implementation.
- ✓ Regular Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) activities should be conducted on a quarterly basis to assess the condition and utilization of the facilities provided to students so that, making changes and improvements quickly when necessary.
- ✓ Documentation like permission letters or demolition order certificate from Government stakeholders should be accompanied by tentative timelines to ensure timely execution and smooth implementation of projects.
- ✓ Quarterly School Management Committee (SMC) meetings should be organized regularly to foster ownership of the support provided by the Company, and to ensure effective maintenance management of facilities.
- ✓ Parents Teachers Meetings (PTMs) should be held quarterly to inform parents about the contributions made by the Company and to encourage their active involvement in monitoring the effectiveness of the initiatives as well as involve parents in educational activities.
- ✓ Conducting Teachers Training – Conducting trainings for teacher for capacity building on effective utilization and technique to integrate technology while teaching and also enhance their skills and expertise in delivering high-quality education and childcare services, ensuring continuous improvement in educational outcomes.
- ✓ Conducting Health Awareness sessions - These sessions could create a deeper understanding about cleanliness, Health, Hygiene and help to clearly know the importance of Healthy life.
- ✓ Career and mental counselling sessions – In the addition to the conducive environment provided by the digital resources, these sessions will also help them to understand the importance of Education and also help them in getting a way out of the personal mental problems faced in the community.
- ✓ Community Engagement sessions should be organized periodically to raise awareness about the importance of education, address dropout and attendance issues, importance of parental involvement and garner community support for sustained impact.
- ✓ Collaboration with Government entities should be sought to secure 5-10% funding from the Education department or Panchayat members, promoting sustainability and community ownership of the initiatives taken by the company.
- ✓ Continuous stakeholder engagement initiatives should be implemented to maintain community support and ensure the long-term success of the CSR initiatives, fostering a collaborative approach towards sustainable development.
- ✓ Implement a strong Strengthening system for data & record maintenance, including regular updates on attendance and enrolment ratios, to ensure accurate tracking of student progress and program effectiveness and impact.
- ✓ Establish asset maintenance in schools, including regular monitoring and maintenance schedules, to improve the lifespan of provided resources and optimize their utility for educational purposes. Training sessions can also be conducted for school staff on proper asset care and maintenance practices to maximize their longevity and functionality of the resources.

Alignment with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

SDGs	SDG Targets	Alignment with the SDGs
	3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health -care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all	Health camps at schools align with SDG 3.8 by promoting universal health coverage and ensuring access to quality healthcare services for children and adolescents.
	4. a. Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non -violent, inclusive and effective learning e nvironments for all.	The project interventions ensure equitable quality education for children.
	5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere. 5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic, and public life.	The programme promotes quality education for all students irrespective of gender, caste, disability, and background. This ensures no gender discrimination among participants, in alignment with the SDG targets
	6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations	Toilet construction in schools aligns with SDG 6.2, ensuring access to adequate sanitation and hygiene for all, especially women, girls, and vulnerable populations, to end open defecation by 2030 .
	10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.	The programme encourages the participation of students from all gender, caste, creed and religion. This ensures equal opportunity for all in alignment with the SDG targets.

MMJC

Polycab India Limited

CSR IMPACT
ASSESSMENT REPORT

HEALTHCARE



Executive Summary

Healthcare Program:

Polycab in collaboration with Polycab Social Welfare Foundation (PSWF) undertakes healthcare initiative. This endeavour encompasses mobile medical services aimed at preventive care, sanitation initiatives through the organization of diverse medical camps, and substantial support for hospital expansion, including the provision of essential medical equipment and machinery. Polycab took proactive steps by launching various healthcare initiative in the rural areas of Gujarat, Aurangabad and Daman. Treatment was provided free of charge to individuals holding a Government Ayushman Card.

Polycab's intervention in Gujarat MMU's, organizing several health checkup camps, providing health cards, support to hospitals, construction of Blood bank centre and General ward in these rural areas. In Aurangabad, the Company identified a critical healthcare need in addressing hearing impairments. As part of its commitment, it facilitated the provision of 50 cochlear implants for children, significantly improving their auditory capabilities. In Daman, the Company distributed nutritional kits to the underprivileged community.

During the impact assessment 27% of respondents were in the age group of 21 to 30 years, another 27% were in the age group of 31 to 40 years, while the remaining belonged to various other age ranges.

Polycab in Gujrat had initiated two MMUs with all necessary equipment's for primary treatment. 259 health camps were conducted in the rural areas of Gujarat like Breast Cancer Detection Camps, medical camps for physiotherapy and especially abled, Skin and eye checkup camps. In Daman, where people faced nutrient deficiencies due to limited access to nutritious food and low income,

providing nutritional supplement kits was crucial. Thus, Polycab distributed kits in these communities.

Blood Bank Centres in Gujrat were constructed by Polycab which had received blood donations from ~ 1718 individuals. The Kailash Cancer Hospital and Research Centre was established to serve the nearby tribal community, filling a gap in healthcare services. Patient numbers, particularly for cancer and kidney issues, surged, overwhelming the limited operation theatres. To address this, Polycab stepped in, facilitating the expansion with additional operation theatres and cutting-edge medical equipment, enhancing efficiency and patient care.

These efforts showcase the Company's dedication to tackling distinct healthcare challenges within various rural areas, where communities face financial constraints that impede access to essential services. This underscores the importance of the healthcare initiatives implemented, making them more pertinent to the communities they serve.





Research Methodology



Findings of the study

- 100% of the respondents agreed that the microscopic machines provided by Polycab gave proper treatment and cured the cataracts in Tajpura Eye Hospital.
- 98% of respondents' families agreed that resources offered proper guidance and were equipped with necessary equipment.
- 100% respondents agreed on overall services provided by MMU. Out of which, between 95% to 98% respondents agreed on the satisfaction of services which included easy access to treatment at doorstep, improvement in overall healthcare situations, and detection of health issues.
- 92% respondents agreed that MMU facilities provided through Polycab has overall improved the health conditions of the community people.
- Through discussions with respondents, it was revealed that 88% of respondents reported having a family member or acquaintance struggling with malnutrition. Furthermore, all respondents confirmed that the individuals affected were identified through the Company's initiative implemented at the centre.
- 100% respondents praised the resources provided for their excellent post-operative care and rehabilitation services for the children to whom cochlear was implanted. Out of the above respondents, 90% mentioned that the training offered helped in developing new communication strategies to aid the child.
- 100% of the respondents agreed that the access to nutrition kit was easy and Out of the above, 88% respondents expressed that nutrition kits were distributed on monthly basis.
- 100% the respondents rated 4.82 out of 5 for the health card facility which gave access in getting treatment for free at various government and private healthcare facilities.

Impact created

Improved Access to Healthcare: Health camps and medical mobile units reached remote and underserved areas where access to healthcare services is limited. This helped in addressing the healthcare needs of marginalized communities who may otherwise lack access to medical facilities.

Preventive Healthcare: Health camps often include screenings for various health conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, and infectious diseases. Early detection and prevention led to better health outcomes and reduce the burden on the healthcare system.

Emergency Response: Medical mobile units serve as emergency response units during natural disasters or outbreaks, providing timely medical assistance to affected populations.

Blood Donation and Transfusion Services: Blood bank centres play a crucial role in ensuring the availability of safe blood for transfusions. By establishing blood bank centres, the project contributes to saving lives in emergencies, surgeries, and treatments for various medical conditions.

Nutritional Support: Supplying nutrition kits address malnutrition and improve the overall health of vulnerable populations, such as children, pregnant women, and the elderly. Proper nutrition is essential for growth, development, and immunity.

Positive Economic Impact: Improving the health of communities has broader economic benefits by reducing healthcare costs, increasing productivity, and contributing to overall socio-economic development.

Conclusion

The healthcare project encompassing health camps, medical mobile units, blood bank centres, and the provision of nutrition kits has significantly impacted the well-being of communities. Through the collaborative efforts of various stakeholders, including healthcare professionals, volunteers, and corporate partners, access to essential medical services has been expanded to underserved populations.

The establishment of blood bank centres has addressed critical needs during emergencies, ensuring timely access to life-saving transfusions. Additionally, the distribution of nutrition kits has helped combat malnutrition, promoting better health outcomes among vulnerable groups.

Overall, this project exemplifies the positive outcomes achievable through strategic CSR investments in healthcare, demonstrating a commitment to improving public health and fostering community resilience.



About the Project

In the rural areas of Gujarat, Aurangabad and Daman the access to healthcare resources was severely limited, forcing residents to undertake challenging journeys for medical aid.

Acknowledging this critical issue, Polycab took proactive steps by launching a various healthcare initiative aimed at alleviating these hardships and enhancing healthcare accessibility for the local community in all the 3 states.

Gujarat:

Polycab's intervention in Gujarat involved implementing a Medical Mobile Unit (MMU), organizing several health checkup camps, providing health cards, support to hospitals, construction of Blood bank centre and General ward in these rural areas.

The overall CSR Spent on Healthcare in FY 2020-21 to 22-23 for Gujarat, Daman and Aurangabad was INR 92,903,985.



Mobile medical Unit (MMU)- Halol



Health camps- Halol

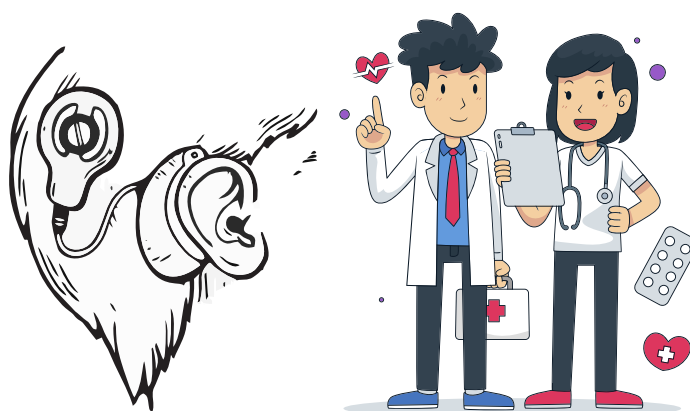


Blood Bank Centre - Halol

Aurangabad:

In Aurangabad, Company identified areas of healthcare of hearing impairments and provided 50 cochlear implants in the children and also supported in Expansion support to Hedgewar hospital.

A Cochlear Implant is a surgically implanted electronic device that is used by people who receive minimal or no benefit from a conventional hearing aid. Often referred to as bionic ear, it works using special technologies to take place of non-working parts in the ear. These devices are crucial for individuals who receive minimal benefit from traditional hearing aids.



Polycab had spent CSR of INR 16,500,000 in the FY 2021-2022 for Cochlear implants and INR 22,800,000 for Expansion support in same Financial Year at Aurangabad location.

Daman:

In Daman, Polycab identified a community grappling with nutrient deficiencies and the subsequent health challenges they posed and it took initiative and distributed nutritional kits to the underprivileged community.

This initiative was crafted with the goal of enhancing overall health outcomes and fostering well-being throughout the area. Through these targeted interventions, Polycab demonstrated its commitment to supporting rural communities in overcoming healthcare challenges and enhancing access to essential medical services.

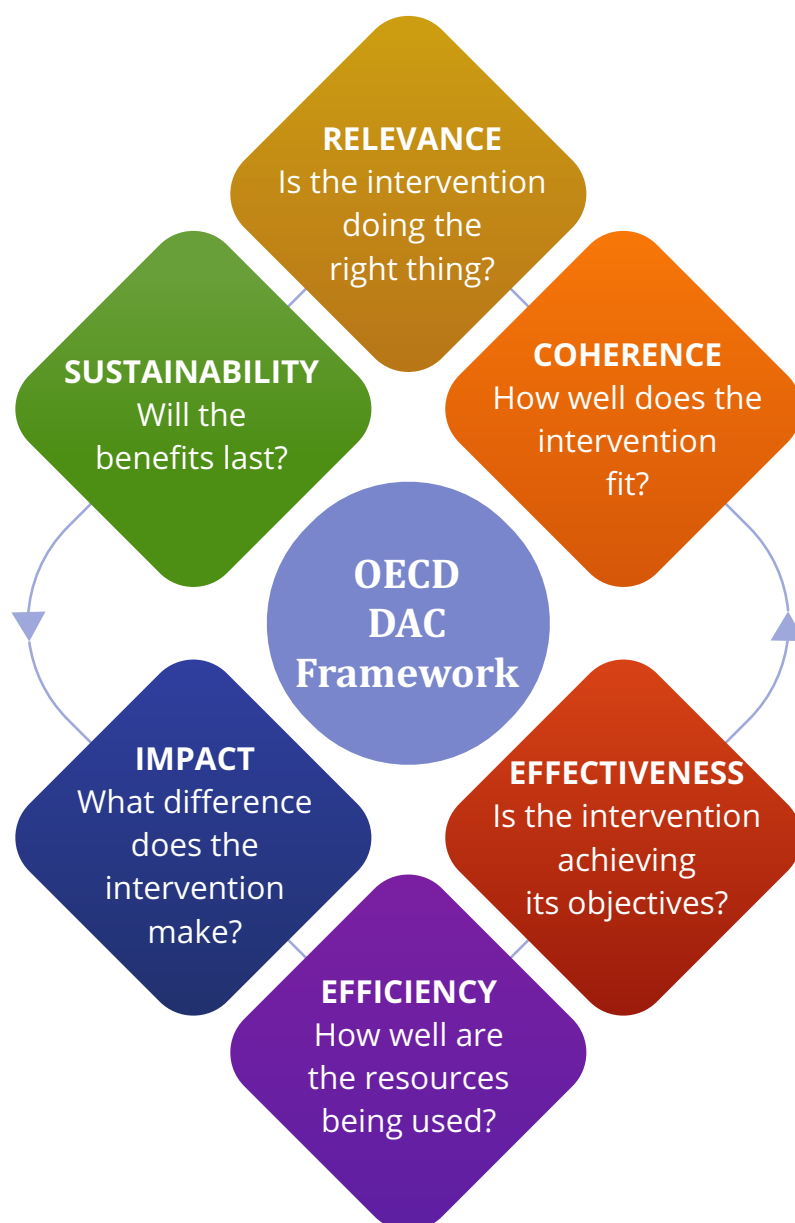


So Polycab distributed nutritional kit to 1507 beneficiaries by spending CSR of INR 3,847,194

OECD

The study used the OECD DAC framework for evaluating the impact of the CSR projects:

The OECD DAC Network on Development Evaluation (Eval Net) has outlined six evaluation criteria, namely Relevance, Coherence, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, and Sustainability, along with two guiding principles for their application. These criteria establish a standard framework for assessing the value and significance of an intervention, such as a policy strategy, program, project, or activity. They form the foundation upon which evaluation assessments are conducted to gauge the intervention's merit and effectiveness.



Purpose and objectives of the study

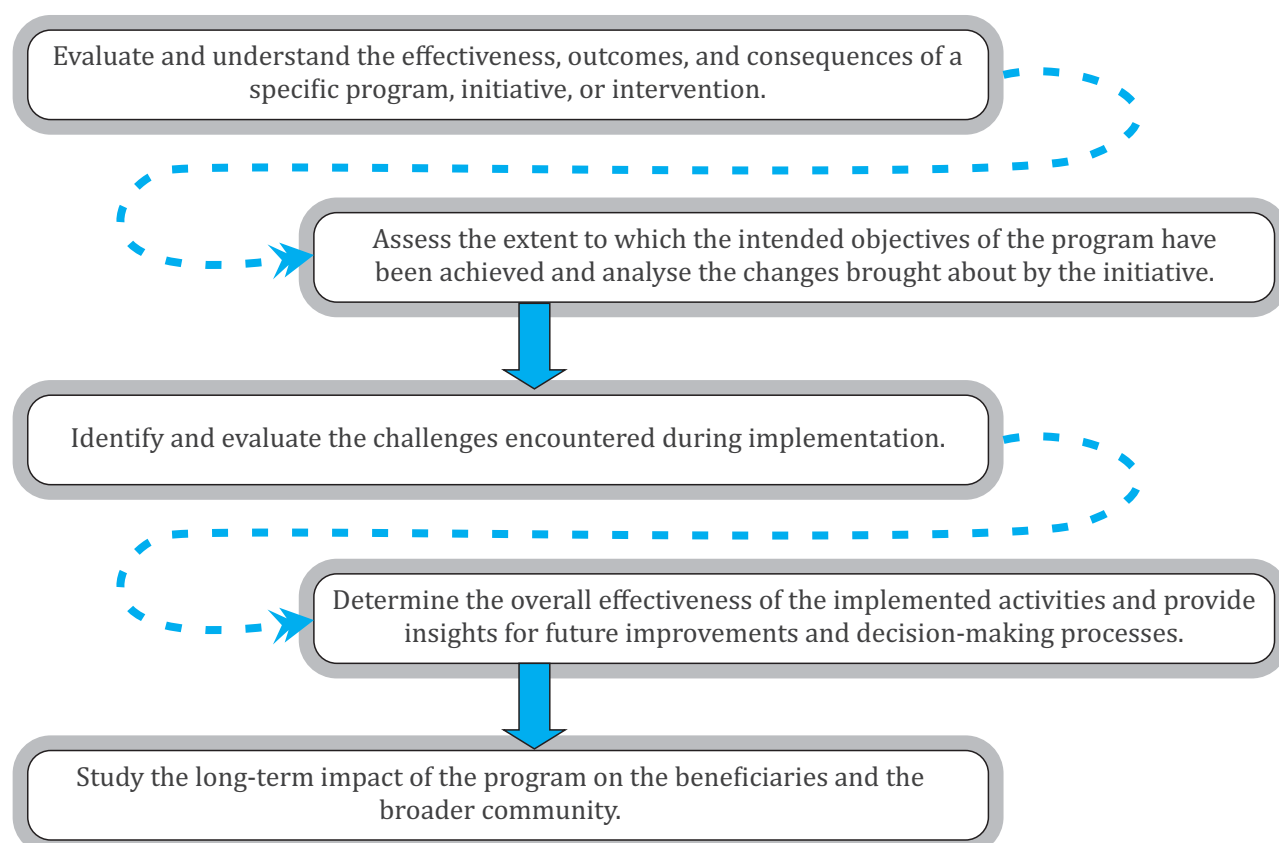
The Impact Assessment study aims to evaluate and understand the effectiveness, outcomes, and consequences of a particular program, initiative, or intervention. It seeks to assess the extent to which the intended objectives have been achieved, the changes brought about by the initiative, the challenges encountered, and the overall effectiveness of the implemented activities.

Through comprehensive analysis and evaluation, the study aims to provide insights and recommendations for future improvements and decision-making processes and study the long-term impact on the beneficiaries.

The guiding philosophy behind this study is to add value by showcasing successful initiatives and recommending possible ways to address existing challenges.

The study is expected to provide evidence-based findings which would inform the Company in making operational and strategic decisions while planning and funding its partner organizations for such programmes. The evaluation was also an opportunity to learn about the relevance of the programmes implemented and their effectiveness.

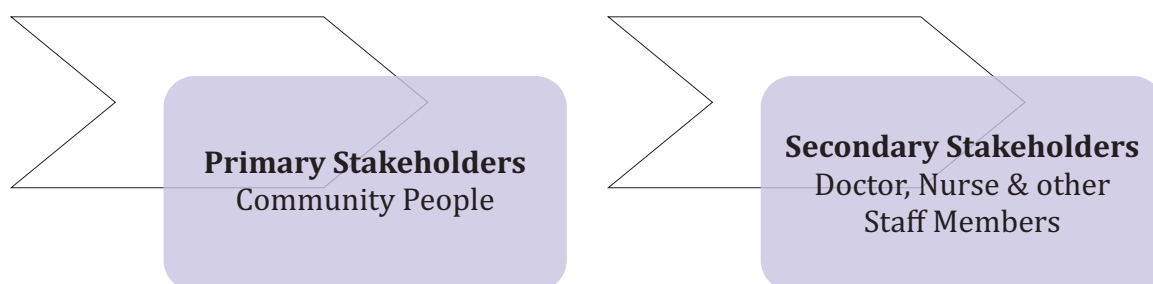
Impact Assessment



Data collection

Primary data was collected to understand the impact of the project from the direct beneficiaries i.e., community people. In addition, to understand the programme holistically, all Panchayat members, sarpanch and other relevant stakeholders were consulted to get an overview of the programme.

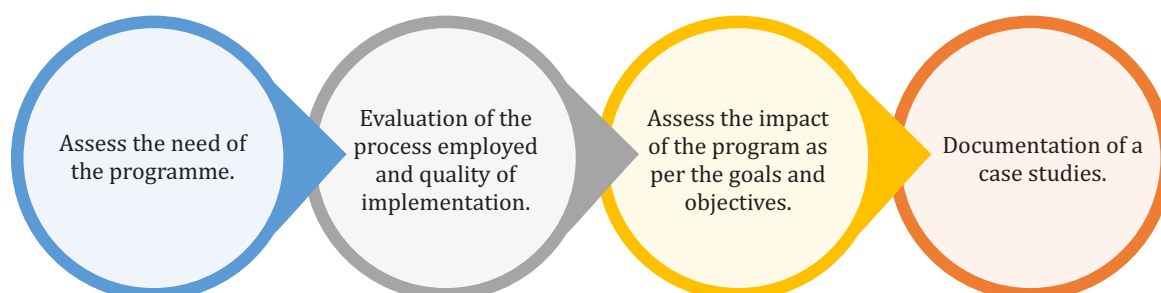
Community people for the primary data collection were selected through random sampling, to avoid biases and prejudices. The community people were surveyed with a questionnaire developed to capture the benefits they experienced in the community.



Assessment Approach & Evaluation Framework

Given the objectives of the study were to determine the inclusiveness, relevance, and outcomes, of the project, the evaluation used the OECD framework. The OECD framework has defined six evaluation criteria –Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Coherence, Impact and Sustainability. These criteria provide a normative framework which is used to determine the merit or worth of an intervention. They serve as the basis upon which evaluative judgements are made.

Impact assessment design and approach:



Approach & Methodology

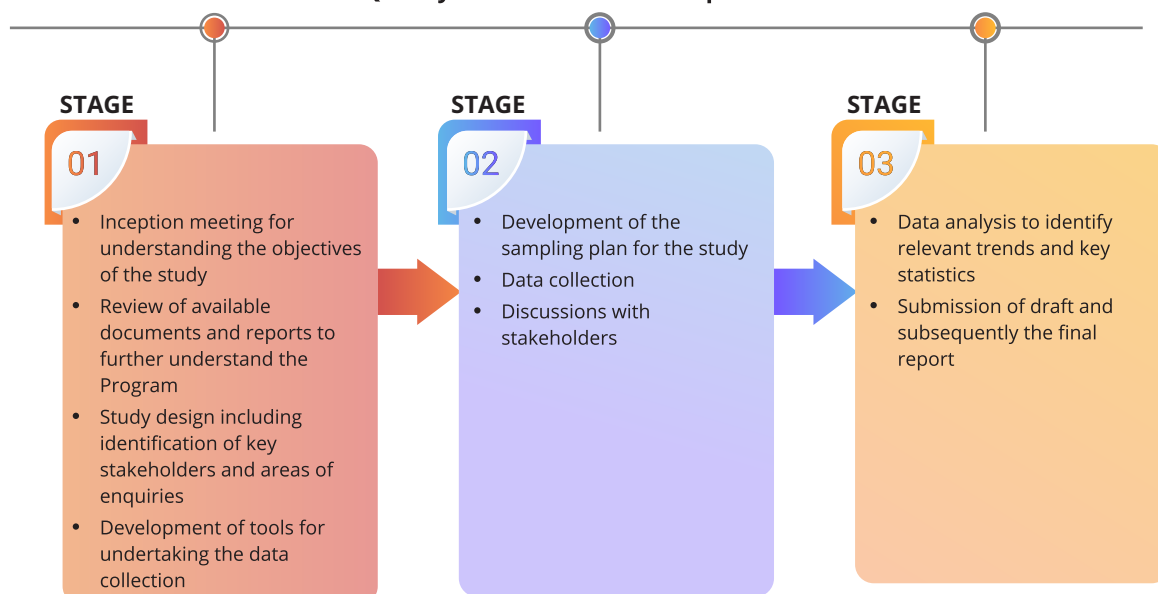
The Assessment approach utilized a mixed-method approach to gather primary and secondary data employing both qualitative and quantitative methods.

The methodology included primary data collection by conducting face-to-face individual surveys with community people and engaging in discussions with secondary stakeholders of the program, including Sarpanch, Panchayat members, Government officials, and other relevant people.

Secondary data pertaining to program-related aspects were obtained through existing program data and publicly available documents relevant to the respective domain areas.



Quality assurance across all phases



Sample size and distribution

Sampling method for qualitative data

Stage 1 – Selection of villages

Sample villages where the interventions took place were selected for the Quantitative method. During the study, 44 village samples were collected using a random sampling method from Halol, Daman and Aurangabad to ensure adequate representation from all villages. An appropriate number of samples were taken from these villages with the highest number of interventions to ensure a comprehensive analysis of all program components implemented.

Stage 2 – Selection of beneficiaries

Beneficiary selection was conducted independently for each program based on the specific domain. Beneficiaries included were community people, panchayat members, Government officials, and other relevant stakeholders. Secondary data was obtained from project completion reports, baseline surveys, and need assessment reports, among other sources.

Qualitative sampling methodology



In order to measure the effectiveness of the intervention and gain insights into its impact on beneficiaries, we conducted in-depth discussions and focus group discussions (FGDs). These sessions researched both the experiences of individual beneficiaries and household-level assessments, providing a comprehensive understanding of the intervention's short-term as well as long-term effects.

Our approach involved revisiting critical indicators at the program's outset and at regular intervals throughout its implementation. Through this method, we assessed respondents' perspectives and tracked changes over time.

Sample Size Covered During the Assessment

Location	Stakeholders	Sample size achieved	Tool	Mode of collection data
Halol, Daman & Aurangabad	Community People/ Doctors & Nurse	145(142+3)	Survey & FGD	Physical

A team of local enumerators, with requisite education and experience, was hired for data collection.

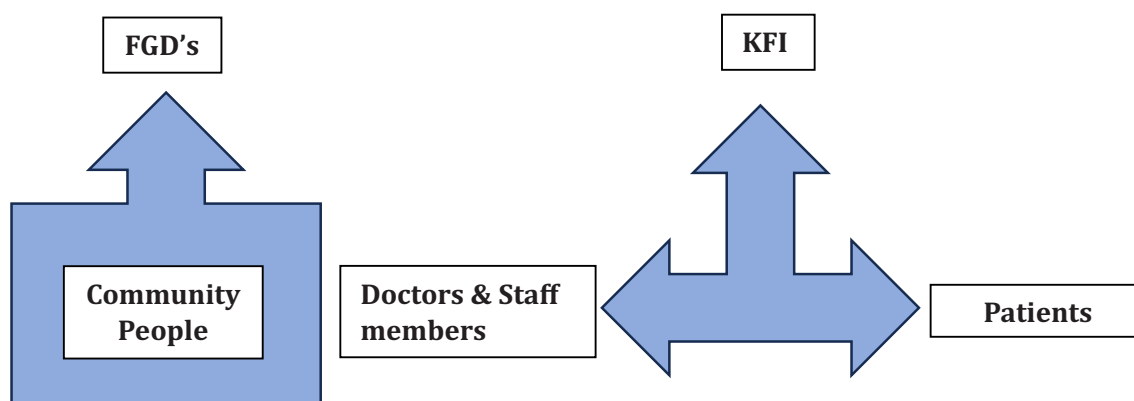
Research tools

In-depth discussions with students: The quantitative assessment involved an elicitation process conducted through in-depth discussions with individual aimed at understanding their perspective on receiving support through various interventions.

Indicators tracking the impact were categorized according to the program's objectives, including gender perception, increased community involvement at health camps, support received by Medical mobile van and other health interventions. Our team recorded individual discussions to capture insights tailored to each intervention.

Structured Interviews: Structured interviews & questionnaire were carried out with the Doctors, Nurse, Sarpanch and Government officials.

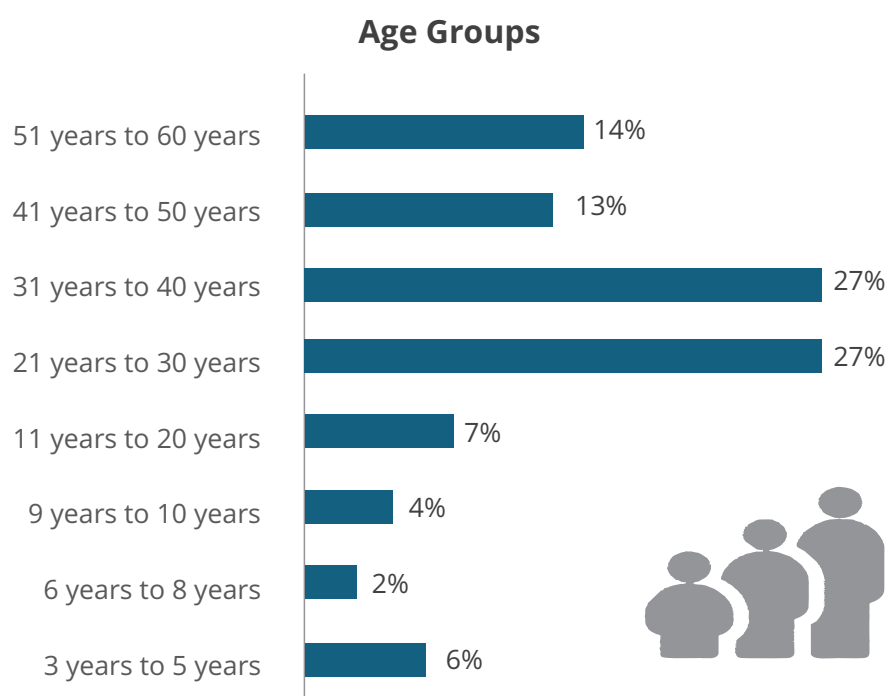
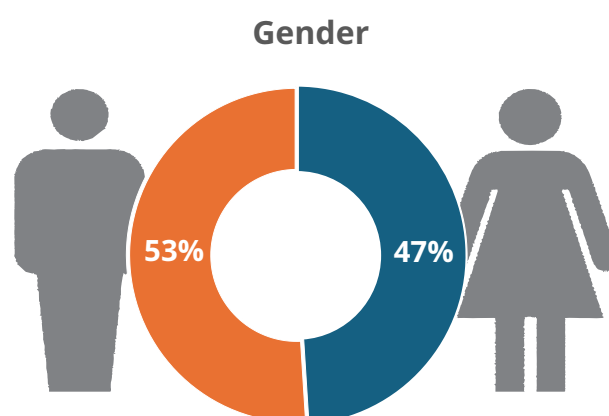
Focus Group Discussions (FGDs): Discussions were held with stakeholder groups including the intervention team from each location where the intervention was implemented like Panchayat samiti members, Group of community people and among other relevant people.



Demographic profile

The demographic profile presented below encompasses all respondents from the Gujarat, Daman, and Aurangabad areas where healthcare interventions were implemented.

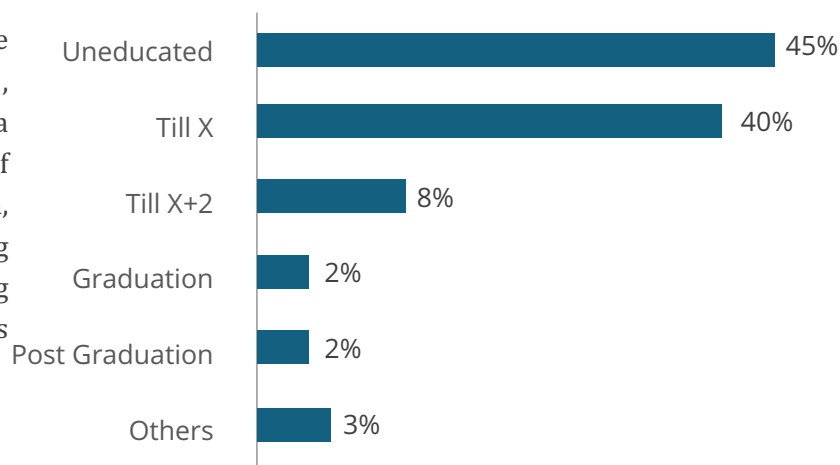
During the survey, a total of 145 respondents took part. Of these participants, 53% were male, while the remaining were female.



The survey responses captured in the healthcare interventions showcased that various age groups of beneficiaries participated in sharing their feedback. 27% of respondents were in the age group of 21 to 30 years, another 27% were in the age group of 31 to 40 years, while the remaining belonged to various other age ranges.

Education of Beneficiaries

The educational profile in the intervention areas of Gujarat, Aurangabad and Daman presents a varied demographic, where 45% of respondents lack formal education, while 40% have completed schooling up to Class 'X'. The remaining respondents have achieved various education levels.



This demographic diversity underscores the intervention's inclusive approach in catering to the healthcare needs of individuals with varying educational backgrounds.

Findings and analysis - Project wise (Relevance, Coherence, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, Sustainability):

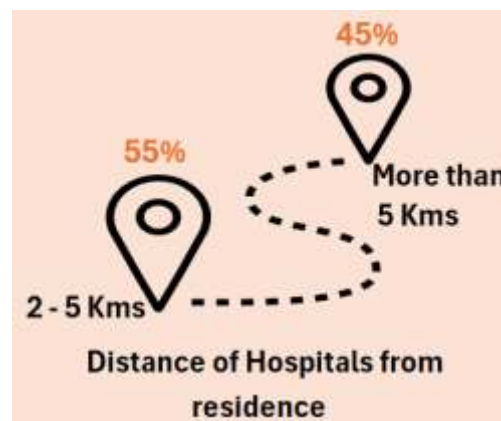
Evaluation criterion 1: Relevance

The evaluation of relevance underscores the alignment of the project with the specific needs and context of the targeted beneficiaries. The dense rural population and inadequate healthcare infrastructure in rural areas, access to affordable and timely healthcare services remains limited, thereby compromising the quality of life for rural residents.

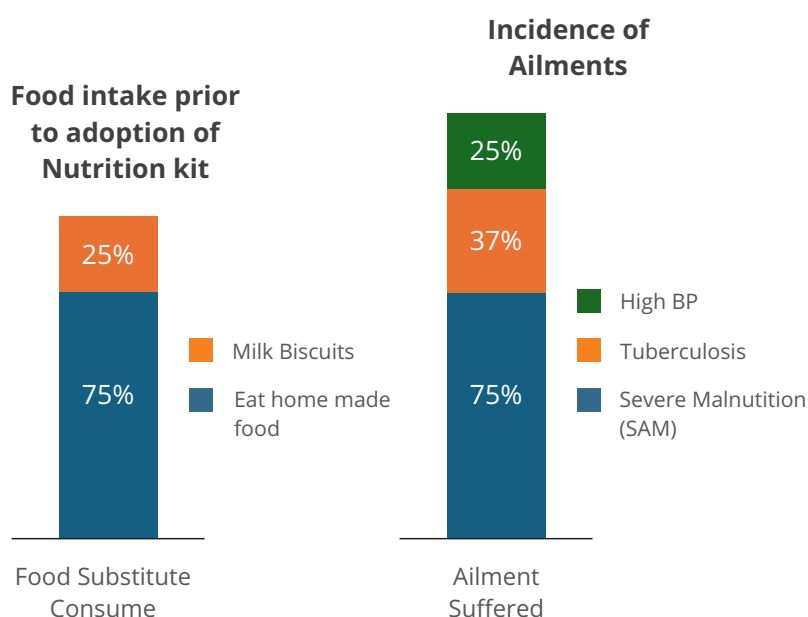
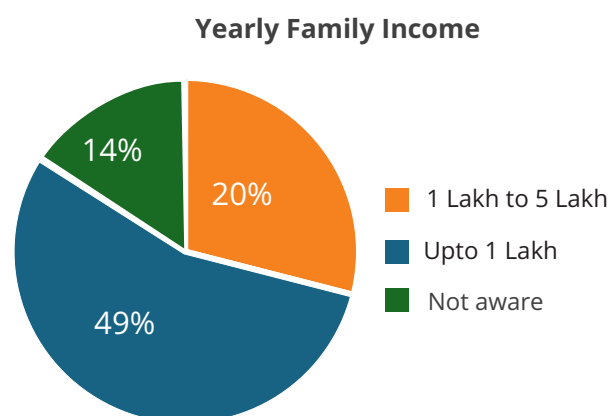
In States like Gujarat, Aurangabad and in Union Territory – Dadra and Nagar Haveli where awareness about common illnesses is lacking and health needs are often neglected due to inadequate medical facilities and distant medical assistance compounds health and sanitation challenges, especially considering that rural residents may lack the necessary education to identify and manage health issues effectively.

This indicated that the community people were not able to afford to travel to the distant medical facility and get the basic and primary treatment facilities and medicines due to low-income status of these communities.

The survey conducted in Gujarat, Aurangabad, and Daman revealed that a significant proportion of respondents faced challenges accessing healthcare services, with 55% indicating that hospitals were located 2-5 kilometres away from their villages. Additionally, a considerable portion expressed that these facilities were more than 5 kilometres away, making it unaffordable or difficult in accessing healthcare facilities for them.



In Gujarat, Aurangabad, and Daman, the team observed that most of the respondent beneficiaries are from underprivileged backgrounds. 49% of respondents reported a yearly family income of up to 1 lakh, while some had incomes above 1 lakh, and some were uncertain about their yearly income status.



In Daman, prior to the implementation of interventions, among respondents, 75% relied on a regular homemade diet that lacked adequate nutrition, while the remaining consumed milk and biscuits, which did not provide sufficient nourishment. As a result, people faced various illnesses, with 75% of respondents suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and the remaining from other associated illnesses.

The Company thus understood the reality in pressing urgent need of the healthcare facilities to be provided at Gujarat, Aurangabad and Daman.

- **Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) –**
Polycab in Gujarat had initiated with deployment of two MMUs with all necessary equipment's for primary treatment becomes imperative, especially providing with doorstep treatment to all the rural villages in Gujarat and providing free medicines through these Units.
- **Medical Health camps -**
There were various Health camps conducted in the rural areas of Gujarat like Breast Cancer Detection Camps, medical camps for physiotherapy and specially abled, Skin and eye checkup camps.

Health Camps Conducted	CSR Spent			Total number of health camps conducted
	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	
Breast Cancer detection Camps	NA	600000	2009735	186
Physiotherapy health camps	44000	NA	NA	1
Health camps for specially abled	209000	NA	NA	16
kin and Eye checkup camps	115500	NA	408090	43
Other medical camps	341130	744200	649125	13
Total camps conducted				259

- **Support to hospitals –**
There also seemed a need of providing latest medical equipment machines like Thulium Fiber Laser for Fiber Dust for kidney stone treatment in Goraj and Mammography machine to treat Breast cancer patients in Aurangabad and the cochlear implants were provided to the hospital. Tajpura Eye Hospital was provided with 5 Microscope Machine for Eye operation.

Shree Narayan Eye Hospital, Tajpura

The Shree Narayan Eye Hospital offers comprehensive eye health services. They extend their services to all communities, regardless of their socio-economic status, and provide free treatment. They received responses from Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan states. With a total of 15 centres, including 14 in Gujarat and 1 in Rajasthan, patients were identified and transported to the hospital for treatment via the hospital's bus facilities. Due to the rising number of patients requiring cataract operations, the hospital required additional Microscope Machines, essential for these procedures. Recognizing this need for improved efficiency in patient care, Polycab stepped in and provided 5 microscope machines to the hospital.

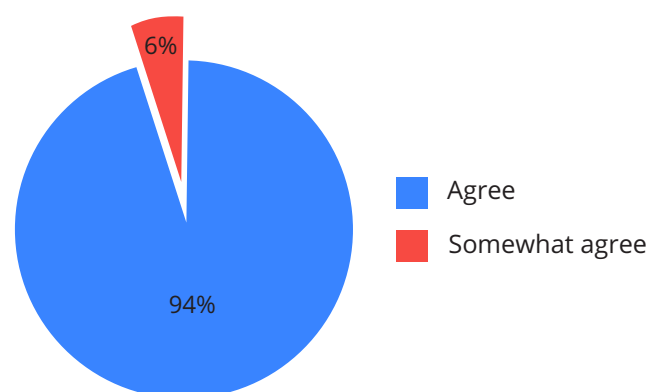
Polycab supported the hospital by providing 5 microscope Machines through a CSR expenditure of INR 4,240,000.

Prior to the intervention, the number of patients treated by the microscope machine used to take a significant amount of time for operating. However, Polycab's initiative has enabled the treatment of 125 patients daily with the provision of 5 machines and all associated facilities, including food and accommodation for patients and their relatives, free of charge. Other hospitals typically charge between INR 7000-10000 in Government hospitals and approximately INR 25000 in private hospitals, depending on the type of lens used. Additionally, the hospital conducts follow-up visits with patients every 15 days after the operation and provides spectacles if necessary.

During the visit, the team found that some underprivileged families had to go to private labs for a few eye tests that were not available at the hospital. However, this issue was later addressed and resolved during the recent visit conducted by the team.

Dr. Shrishti Joshi stated, "In the past, patients had to wait for 7-8 months before getting their treatment, but now they only wait for 2-3 months. With the help of 5 new machines, we can perform approximately 3750 operations in one month. Since April 24, a total of 69784 patients have undergone successful operations at our hospital."

Responses on Machine enabling proper treatment & cure



During the visit, 100% of the respondents agreed that the microscopic machines provided by Polycab gave proper treatment and cured the cataracts in Tajpura Eye Hospital.

During the visit to hospitals provided with support for medical equipment and expansion of Hospital, data of patients undergoing treatments and operations was collectively captured by the hospital. Therefore, it is recommended that the Company prioritize the improvement of its data management systems, particularly in maintaining comprehensive patient records pertaining to the health services rendered. This will ensure accessibility and accuracy of patient information for future reference and analysis.

- **Expansion Support –**
This encompassed the establishment of a Blood Bank Centre in Gujrat, alongside the expansion and renovation of the existing Hedgewar Hospital in Aurangabad and the Tajpura Eye Hospital in Gujarat.
- **Nutritional kits -**
In Daman, where individual was suffering from various nutrient deficiencies due to inaccessible nutritious food options and due to low-income status, the provision of nutritional supplement kits becomes crucial. So, it was necessary to provide the nutritional Kits to the people in the community.

During the visit, the team observed that some documentation and approval letters from the Government were not available. It is recommended that Polycab strengthen the documentation process to ensure compliance and transparency of the project.

These interventions demonstrate the Company's commitment to addressing specific healthcare needs in diverse rural contexts where the community can't afford the health care services due to low-income status thus enhancing the relevance of the healthcare initiatives undertaken.

Evaluation criterion 2: Coherence

Coherence in healthcare programs refers to the seamless alignment and integration of initiatives with Government programs and rural development goals. It ensures that healthcare interventions complement existing initiatives, leveraging resources and expertise to maximize impact. By harmonizing efforts, coherence fosters synergy and collaboration, ultimately leading to more effective and sustainable outcomes for rural communities.

Polycab's various initiatives such as health camps, regular mobile medical unit (MMU) check-ups, visits to malnutrition centres, blood bank facilities, and awareness programs. This level of participation underscores the coherence of the intervention with the needs and interests of the community. The provision of these facilities by the Company under the healthcare projects demonstrates significant alignment with Polycab's thematic areas and priorities, indicating a coherent approach to addressing healthcare needs.

Alignment with Government Healthcare Programs and Initiatives is a cornerstone of the coherence of the intervention at Gujarat, Aurangabad and Daman.

Through diligent observation at the visit and feedback obtained from the doctors, health issues such as hypertension, fungal infections, malnutrition, hygiene and sanitation problems, skin conditions, orthopaedic, paediatric, gynaecological, ENT-related issues, hearing impairments and deficiency of nutrients have been identified across various intervention locations.



Skin Problem



Fungal infection

Polycab's alignment with key Government programs and initiatives addressing these concerns, coupled with the implementation of various healthcare programs in rural villages in Gujarat, Aurangabad and Daman further solidifies the coherence of the intervention.

The construction of Blood Bank Centre initiative at Gujarat taken by the Polycab is aligned with the Government National Blood Transfusion Council (NBTC).

The council oversees the establishment of blood banks, mobile blood collection units, and conducts awareness drives to encourage voluntary blood donation. Additionally, it organizes blood donation camps in collaboration with various stakeholders.



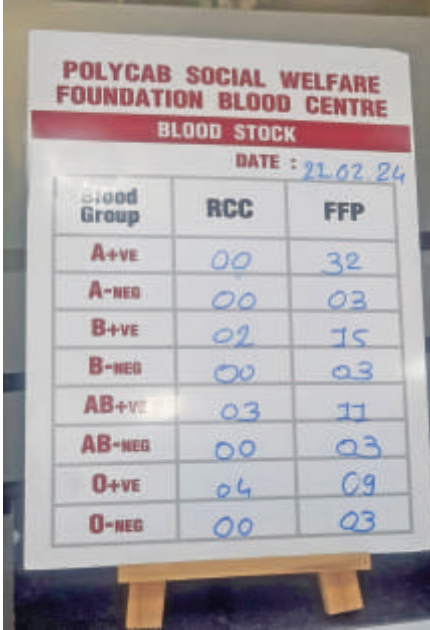
Polycab Social Welfare Foundation – Blood Bank Centre, Halol

In Halol taluka, the nearest blood bank facilities were only available in Godhra and Vadodara, which are 40 km away from Halol, making it difficult for people to access them during emergencies. In many cases, patients would pass away before their relatives could arrange blood from these two distant blood banks. Recognizing the severity of this issue, Polycab initiated the construction of a Blood Bank Centre in Halol and provided necessary blood collection and testing equipment.

Polycab has initiated the construction and support provided for creation of Blood Bank centre by spending CSR of INR 6,964,000.

The Polycab Blood Bank Centre has significantly benefited not only the villages in Halol but also nearby talukas, saving a considerable number of lives. Additionally, Polycab organizes blood bank camps. During the recent visit, the team found that the Blood Bank Centre had received blood donations from approximately 1718 individuals.

The Polycab Blood Bank Centre has provided red cell count blood samples to 3028 beneficiaries, fresh frozen plasma to 128, and whole blood to 5 beneficiaries, contributing to life-saving efforts. The blood provided to beneficiaries by the Polycab Blood Bank Centre was priced at INR 1400 without replacement and INR 1000 with replacement, significantly lower than the private blood bank centres which typically charge around INR 1900 and above.



Blood Group	RCC	FFP
A+VE	00	32
A-NEG	00	03
B+VE	02	15
B-NEG	00	03
AB+VE	03	11
AB-NEG	00	03
O+VE	04	09
O-NEG	00	03

Dr. Vijay Patel (MS Surgeon) shared, "In our hospital, we often encounter cases that urgently require blood, particularly in situations such as accidents and ectopic pregnancies where there is heavy blood loss causing death. Unfortunately, there are no blood banks nearby to cater to these urgent needs. Thanks to Polycab, they have provided a crucial solution by establishing a blood bank centre, fulfilling a vital need in the community and contributing significantly to saving lives."



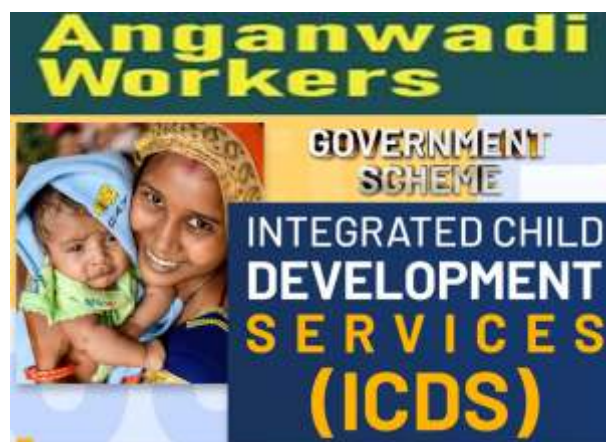
Polycab has taken significant steps to address issues in Aurangabad, where hearing deficiencies were prevalent, of 50 cochlear implants were provided which directly supports the Government's National Programme for Prevention and Control of Deafness (NPPCD), highlighting the coherence between the intervention and Governmental objectives.

The National Programme for Prevention and Control of Deafness (NPPCD) is a Government initiative in India targeting deafness and hearing impairment. It emphasizes prevention, early detection, and intervention strategies through awareness campaigns, screenings, and provision of hearing aids and rehabilitation services to enhance the quality of life for affected individuals.

In Daman, where deficiencies in nutrients, vitamins, and minerals were identified among adults and children.

The provision of nutritional supplements provided by Polycab to children aligns with Government Scheme such as the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS).

By addressing these needs through providing nutritional supplement kits, Polycab's intervention demonstrates full coherence with Government programs and initiatives aimed at improving healthcare outcomes in the focused intervention region.



Polycab interventions are aligned with various Government programmes and initiative like the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases & Stroke (NPCDCS), the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP), the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK), the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA), and the National Health Mission (NHM) through its various interventions.



By integrating its efforts with these Governmental strategies, Polycab ensures a coherent and synergistic approach to addressing healthcare challenges in the intervention areas, thus maximizing impact and effectiveness.

Evaluation criterion 3: Effectiveness

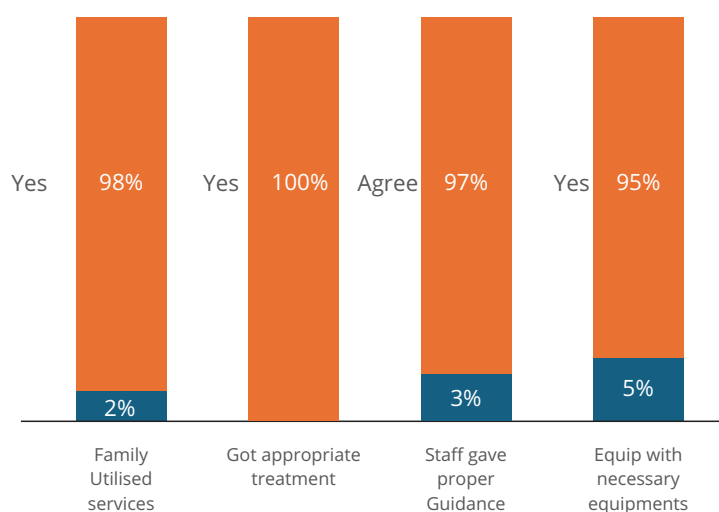
Polycab's healthcare programs are dedicated to evaluating the extent to which interventions achieve their intended goals and desired outcomes, thereby enhancing access to healthcare services and fostering better health outcomes. It evaluates the efficiency of resource use to achieve impactful results, contributing to community well-being.

Polycab, in accordance with its CSR policy, emphasizes healthcare objectives highlighted as "Promotion of Health Care & Sanitation," aiming to enhance the health and hygiene standards of economically disadvantaged individuals and families below the poverty line (BPL) in rural Gujarat, Aurangabad and Daman.

Information collected from doctors' visits has revealed a concerning reality of adequate medical assistance, highlighting the pressing need for accessible healthcare services.

One MMU is designated to serve 21 villages in Halol, while the other MMU attends 20 villages in Jambughoda and Ghoghamba. These MMU's have served 108,768 patients from FY 20-21 to FY 22-23 with 95% beneficiaries have cured their illness through these MMU's.

Service availed and Satisfaction from the Mobile Medical Units - Halol



During the visit, the team received tremendously satisfactory feedback on MMU services, indicating exceptionally high utilization of services, where 100% of respondents received appropriate treatment.

The provided resources offered proper guidance and were equipped with necessary equipment, which was utilized by 98% of respondents' families.

The recovery rate for primary illnesses is 100%, but for severe diseases or infections, the recovery rate depends on the regularity or follow up visits to MMU for treatment.

This utilization underscores the effectiveness of the intervention in delivering accessible healthcare services directly to the community, perfectly aligning with its overarching goal of fostering health and sanitation initiatives at the grassroots level.

Some of the Case story received at the time of visit are given below –



Before



After

Bhavanand Parmar suffered a first-degree burn on her right hand and sought care from the mobile medical unit facility. After receiving prompt treatment, her condition improved significantly within 3-4 days, showcasing the effectiveness of accessible healthcare in rural areas.



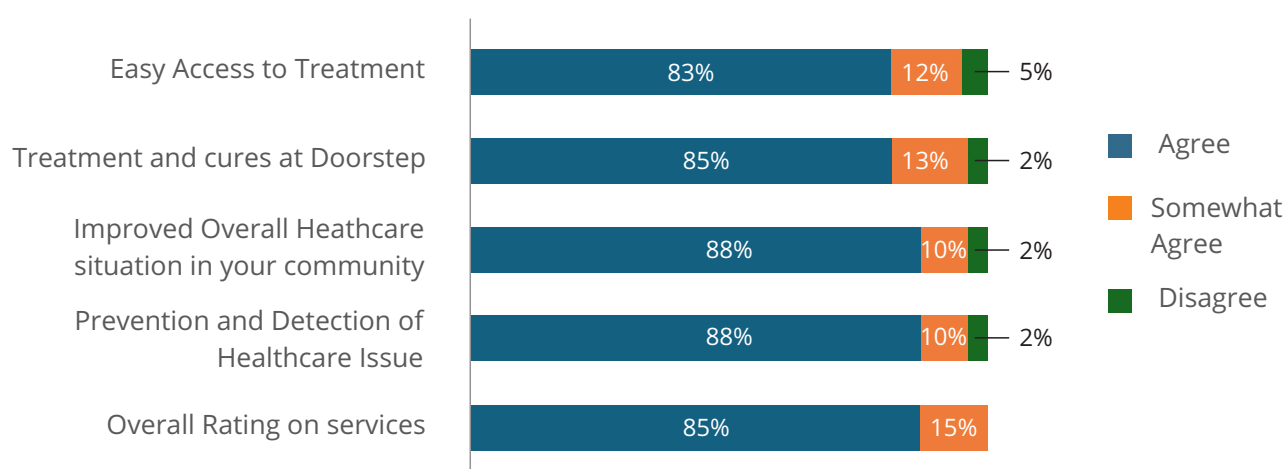
Before



After

Deepika Jadav, 21, from Chanchadiya village, Halol Taluka, had a stubborn neck skin condition. After failed attempts elsewhere, she visited a mobile medical unit. Within 10 days of treatment, her condition significantly improved, showcasing effective rural dermatological care.

Respondents Perception on MMU - Halol

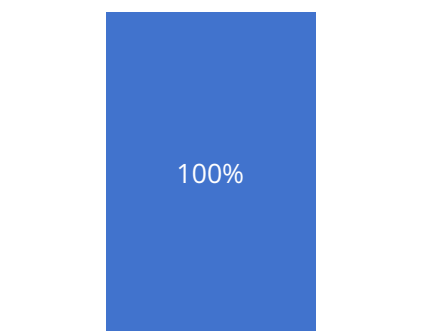


During the visit, the team observed that 100% respondents agreed on overall services provided by MMU. Out of which, between 95% to 98% respondents agreed on the satisfaction of services which included easy access to treatment at doorstep, improvement in overall healthcare situations, and detection of health issues.

Additionally, the intervention's support in acquiring health cards and associated benefits for the community members signifies its efforts in promoting proactive health management in Gujarat. The intervention's efforts in detecting and addressing malnutrition have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from respondents of Daman with all of them recognizing the Company's proactive measures in tackling nutritional deficiencies among children.

By implementing initiatives such as providing food, nutrient supplements, and promoting hygiene practices, the intervention showcases a holistic approach to addressing health issues. This confirms its effectiveness in achieving healthcare goals within the targeted communities in Daman.

Support through consistency in providing Nutrition Kit - Daman



A noteworthy all the respondents at the time of survey expressed satisfaction with the accessibility of these nutritional kits.

In Aurangabad, a considerable number of children were diagnosed with hearing impairments and treated with providing the cochlear implants. Many children had exhibited signs of improvement while they had deafness or muteness since infancy, while some children were recognized with hearing deficiency after they were 1.5 to 2 years.



A photo of a child who had a cochlear implant surgery
- Aurangabad

Polycab's healthcare initiatives have effectively improved access to services, enhanced health outcomes, and uplifted rural communities. Through strategic planning and innovative solutions, Polycab has achieved tangible results, including increased healthcare access and improved quality of life. Overall, Polycab's efforts have made a meaningful impact on the well-being of individuals in underserved areas.

Kailash Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (KCHRC), Goraj, Gujarat

The Kailash Cancer Hospital and Research Centre was established for the betterment of the tribal community people living nearby, as there was no such healthcare facility available in that locality. The people were utilizing these services and benefiting from them. The hospital was facing a challenge with an increase in the number of patients related to cancer and kidney issues. The number of patients were increasing day by day and the hospital also were lacking in number of operation theatres. The hospital was in need of the latest medical equipment technology and Operation theatres which could take less time and treat more patients. This was where Polycab took the initiative and supported in expansion by creating operation theatres and provided latest essential medical equipment.

Polycab through its CSR initiative has spent INR 5,712,000 for Expansion support and providing 1 Thulium Fiber laser (TFL) medical equipment to the hospital.

During the visit, the team observed that treatment is provided free of cost to the underprivileged community only if they possess a Government Ayushman card. The patient operated on TFL machine are covered under the Ayushman card, while for other treatments or surgeries not listed in the Ayushman card benefits, the hospital charges lower fees than private hospitals. The provided 5 machines operates 50-60 surgeries every month.

This Polycab initiative has helped in treating the patients with the latest technology machine provided for fast treatment, early recovery, and reducing the risk factors. This machine has applications which are used for non-oncological operations such as kidney stone breaking, prostate surgery, and oncological surgery/cancer-related surgery. This has not only lowered the morbidity but also helped in less bleeding of patient during operations, thereby boosting the recovery rate.

Dr. Nisarg Mehta stated, "Previously, before the intervention, cancer and kidney patients were treated with open surgery, which used to take 7-10 days. Kidney puncture procedures used to take 5 days and were even considered risky. However, with the latest technology provided by Polycab, it only takes 2 days to discharge the patient."

All the respondents during the visit gave positive feedback about the medical equipment provided by Polycab, which has significantly contributed to preventing healthcare issues among all the needy communities.

Responses on KCHRC - Goraj

100%

Testimonial - Rami ben Kamsariya - Transformative healing

"My name is Ramiben, and I'm 37 years old from Madhya Pradesh. My husband is a farmer, and our family's yearly income is around 80,000. We have a young daughter who is currently studying in school. I came to the Kailash Cancer Hospital for treatment after hearing from many people about the free healthcare services provided. After undergoing tests, it was diagnosed that my left kidney had failed. The doctors removed the left kidney and later found stones in my right kidney. I received treatment using the new machine provided to the hospital, and I am happy to say that I have successfully recovered. It has been over a year now, and I still come to the hospital for regular follow-ups. Thanks to the treatment, I am feeling much better now."



Evaluation criterion 4: Efficiency

Efficiency in healthcare interventions is crucial, particularly in optimizing the use of resources to maximize impact. The interventions undertaken by the Company as part of its CSR obligations have exemplified significant efficiency in enhancing access to affordable healthcare services. To gauge this efficiency, it's imperative to track the utilization of resources across various initiatives.

Across locations such as Gujarat, Aurangabad, and Daman, the Company has allocated resources effectively to address healthcare needs.

In their endeavour to provide efficient healthcare services, the Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) meticulously tracks every patient treated, regardless of whether they are regular follow-up visitors or first-time patients. Every individual is registered within the system, ensuring thorough documentation of their medical history and treatment. Additionally, the MMU adopts a proactive approach to medicine inventory

management, meticulously mapping and tracking each medicine to ensure adequate supply. With a commitment to uninterrupted healthcare delivery, the MMU replenishes its medicine stock twice a month, guaranteeing timely access to essential medications for all patients.

In Gujarat, Mobile Medical Units (MMUs) exemplify meticulous resource allocation. Each MMU is equipped with a team comprising one doctor, holding a BHMS qualification with six years of experience, one nurse with a DNM qualification with four years of experience, and one driver. These units extend healthcare services to 41 villages, covering an average of seven villages per day, with scheduled revisits to specific areas.



The Company's healthcare initiatives extend beyond MMU's to encompass various health camps. In the Financial year 20-21 to 22-23, a total of 259 health camps were organized, covering 41 villages and benefitting approximately 20,430 patients.

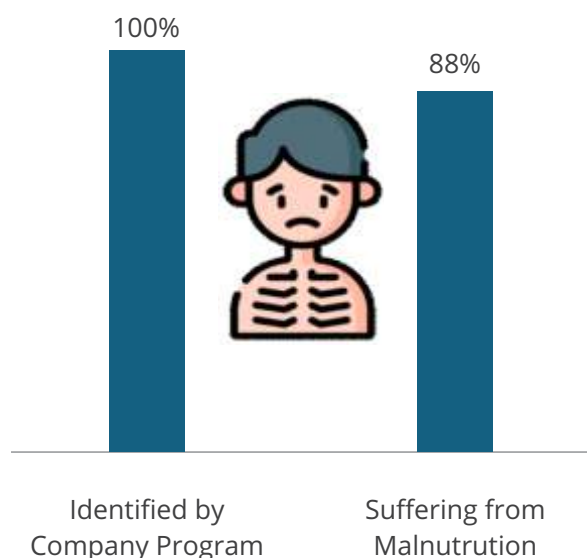
These health camps catered to diverse medical needs, ranging from breast cancer detection to physiotherapy sessions, underscoring the comprehensive approach taken to address healthcare disparities.

Trusha Bhagat, a nurse working in the Mobile Medical Unit (MMU), shared her experience, stating that in the last six months, 12-15 patients with hypertension in Vadiya village and 40 hypertension patients in Amarpura village have been identified and were receiving treatment and got cured. Additionally, the MMU has successfully cured 100% of fungal infections, which are common among villagers engaged in farming. These infections often occur due to lack of awareness and prolonged exposure to farm environments.

The Malnutrition centre where the children identified were provided with all the medical facility, care and nutritional supplement. Through interactions with respondents, it was disclosed that 88% of respondents had a family member or acquaintance grappling with malnutrition. Moreover, all respondents affirmed that the affected individuals were recognized through the Company's initiative implemented at the centre.

At the Malnutrition centre, children identified as malnourished received comprehensive medical care, including access to necessary facilities and nutritional supplements.

Respondents on Incidence of malnutrition in Halol



In Aurangabad, the allocated resources like doctors and other staff were effectively utilized by the intended recipients for the Cochlear implants.



These are a few of the specialist doctors who conducted the cochlear implants at Aurangabad for all the children.

Dr. Hedgewar Hospital, Aurangabad

Dr. Hedgewar Hospital, a well-known charitable hospital in Aurangabad, has treated more than 7 million people as of 2022 and houses 300 beds. The hospital experiences a significant influx of patients seeking treatment, resulting in a shortage of available beds. This challenge prompted the hospital to consider expanding its facilities to accommodate the growing demand, particularly among underprivileged communities.



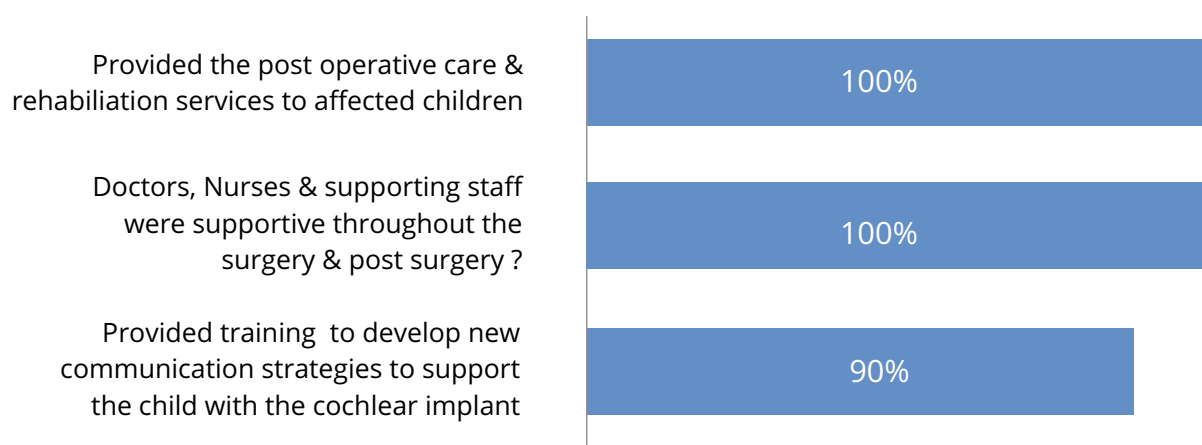
Furthermore, the hospital identified children from these communities suffering from hearing impairment, for whom cochlear implant surgery, costing INR 6,25,000, was financially out of reach. Additionally, there was a recognized need for a breast detection machine, which was unaffordable for women from underprivileged backgrounds seeking testing at private hospitals due to high costs. In response to these challenges, Polycab stepped in to support the hospital in addressing its healthcare needs.

Polycab's initiative in supporting the hospital has a CSR expenditure of INR 22,800,000 for the expansion of the general ward, INR 16,500,000 for cochlear implants, and INR 8,900,000 for providing one mammography machine for breast cancer detection.

This support provided by Polycab has helped underprivileged communities immensely. The 50 cochlear implants provided to children have had a life-changing impact, significantly improving their hearing, understanding, and communication skills.

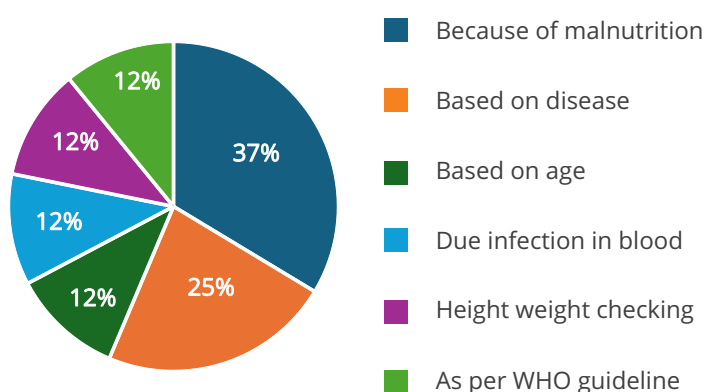
The expansion of the general ward has increased the number of beds, directly addressing the challenge of the growing number of patients. Additionally, the mammography machine has enabled underprivileged women to undergo breast cancer detection tests, which were previously costly in other private testing lab.

Hospital and Staff services satisfaction - Aurangabad



During the visit team observed that, 100% respondents praised the resources provided for their excellent post-operative care and rehabilitation services for the children to whom cochlear was implanted. Out of the above respondents, 90% mentioned that the training offered helped in developing new communication strategies to aid the child.

Basis for providing Nutrition Kits

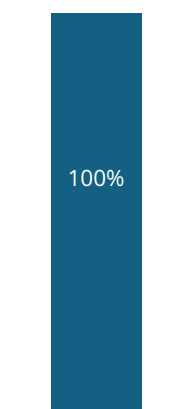


As per the respondents' feedback, the distribution of nutritional kits depended on various factors. 37% of respondents indicated that it was provided due to malnutrition in patients, 25% attributed it to disease, while the remaining respondents cited factors such as age, blood infection, height and weight ratio, and adherence to WHO guidelines.

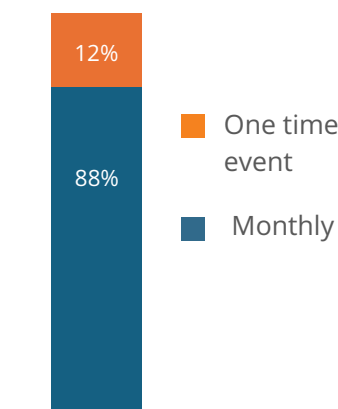
The team at the time of survey found that all respondents gave positive feedback regarding the resources, which provided excellent post-operative care and rehabilitation services to affected children. Additionally, all resources were supportive throughout the surgery and post-surgery period. Furthermore, 90% of respondents mentioned that the training provided helped in developing new communication strategies to support the child.

In Daman, all respondents experienced deficiencies in nutrients, vitamins, and minerals due to various illnesses identified, such as severe malnutrition, low haemoglobin levels, tuberculosis, infections, and others.

Responses on Nutritional kits easy access - Daman



Responses of frequency of providing nutritional kits - Daman



As per the feedback from respondents, all respondents reported consistent access to kits throughout the treatment period and the nutritional kits were distributed on monthly basis acknowledged by 88% of respondents.

The efficient allocation of resources by Polycab has facilitated improved access to healthcare facilities for beneficiaries. By optimizing resource utilization, Polycab has maximized the impact of its interventions, ensuring that healthcare services reach those in need effectively. This strategic approach has resulted in enhanced health outcomes and overall well-being within the communities served.

Evaluation criterion 5: Impact

The impact of healthcare interventions extends beyond immediate effects, encompassing long-term outcomes in the healthcare services offered.

The healthcare initiatives implemented by Polycab across rural areas in Gujarat, Aurangabad, and Daman have yielded significant impacts on the well-being of communities throughout the financial year 2020-2021 to 2022-2023.

The impact of Polycab initiatives in providing healthcare services has brought about a remarkable transformation in the communities of Gujarat, Daman, and Aurangabad. These initiatives have not only raised awareness about cleanliness, health, and hygiene but have also effectively treated various illnesses, infections, and diseases, as reported by the beneficiaries. Additionally, the support provided for the disabled has been greatly appreciated and has had a significant long-term impact on their lives.

Through such targeted interventions, individuals within the community have experienced tangible improvements in their health conditions, reflecting the impact of the healthcare initiatives undertaken by Polycab.



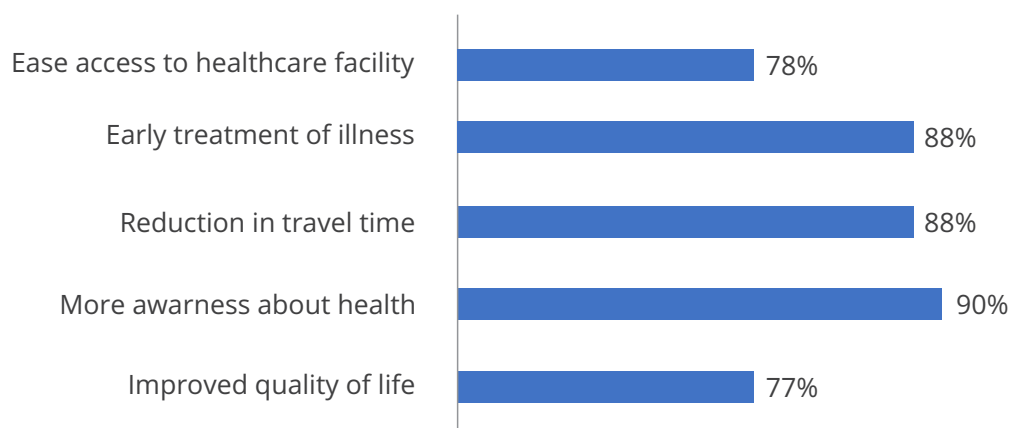
In Gujarat, among all respondents 92% have shared positive feedback on the experience of utilizing MMU facilities provided through Polycab initiatives which has overall improved the health conditions of the community people.

Impact of MMU on the Community – Gujarat



During the visit it was observed that 100% respondents expressed various improvement areas by MMU, out of which 90% of respondents got helped from the awareness created, where a good response for reduction in travelling time to nearby healthcare facility and were satisfied with early treatment. Also, the resources provided were easy to access and improved overall life of the community people.

Responses on Improvement Areas by MMU – Gujarat

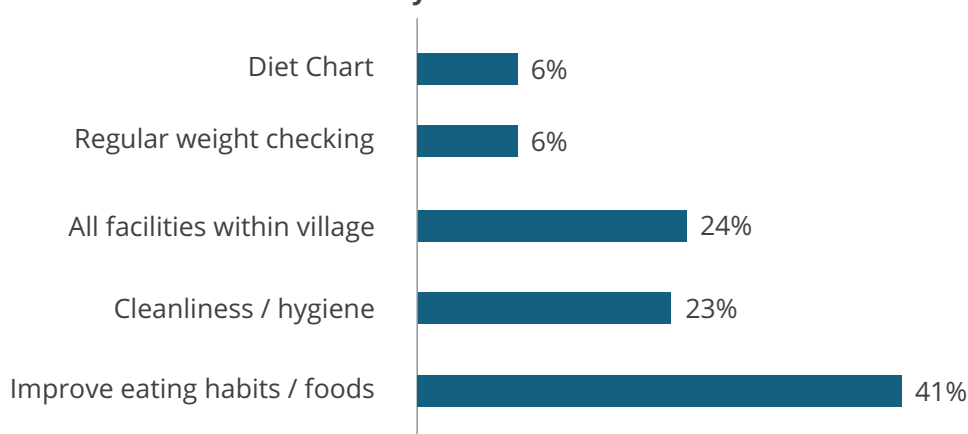


Dr. Hetal Rathva (MMU) stated, I've witnessed remarkable transformations in the health of our patients due to Polycab's interventions -

- Urvashi Gulab who, at 6 years old, was battling malnutrition. Within just two months, her weight increased from 13kg in December 23 to 14.2kg in February 24.
- Hitesh Parmar, 11 years old, also saw significant improvement, with his weight increasing from 15kg to 17.5kg in the same period.
- Prakash Rathva, 9 years old and suffering from Sickle Cell Anemia, showed remarkable progress, with his weight increasing from 16kg to 17.5kg.
- It was observed a 100% recovery in joint pains among older

These outcomes underscore the positive impact of Polycab's initiatives on the health and well-being of our community members.

**Responses on improvement areas
by Malnutrition Centre - Halol**



It was observed that during the visit, 100% respondents experienced various improvements by the Malnutrition Centre out of which, 41% of respondents mentioned that they had improved their eating habits and diet, while the respondents also gave feedback about the facility provided within the village has improved cleanliness and hygiene. It has also created awareness due to which the respondents are now creating diet chart and practicing regular weight check.

Health card - Gujarat		
	Improvement in family members' health 95%	Overall Rating on 5 Point scale 

At the survey, 95% respondents gave feedback about noticing improvement in the family members due to provided health cards and all the respondents rated 4.82 out of 5 for the health card facility which gave access in getting treatment for free at various Government and private healthcare facilities.

In Aurangabad, the provision of cochlear implants has had a profound impact on the lives of children with hearing impairments.

Impact Assessment - Aurangabad	Cochlear implant impacted improved the ability to communicate	100%
	Cochlear implant influenced the child's educational as well as living journey	100%
	Experienced changes in children on speaking, listening, understanding others and interacting with peers and family member	90%

It is observed that among the respondents, the team received feedback indicating that all respondents believed that the cochlear implant has improved their ability to hear and due to which the child is now able to communicate which has directly impacted the child's educational journey. 90% of respondents believed that their child is experiencing changes like understanding and communicating the people around him.

Impact of the cochlear implants extends beyond individual communication abilities to include broader social interactions. These enhancements have not only amplified their interaction with peers and family members but have also contributed to bolstering social inclusion and cohesion within the community.

In Daman, where nutritional deficiencies were prevalent among both adults and children, the provision of nutritional kits by Polycab has led to tangible improvements in physical well-being.

4C Health Programme- (Ayushman Bharat Health & Wellness Centre), Daman, Dadra and Nagar haveli

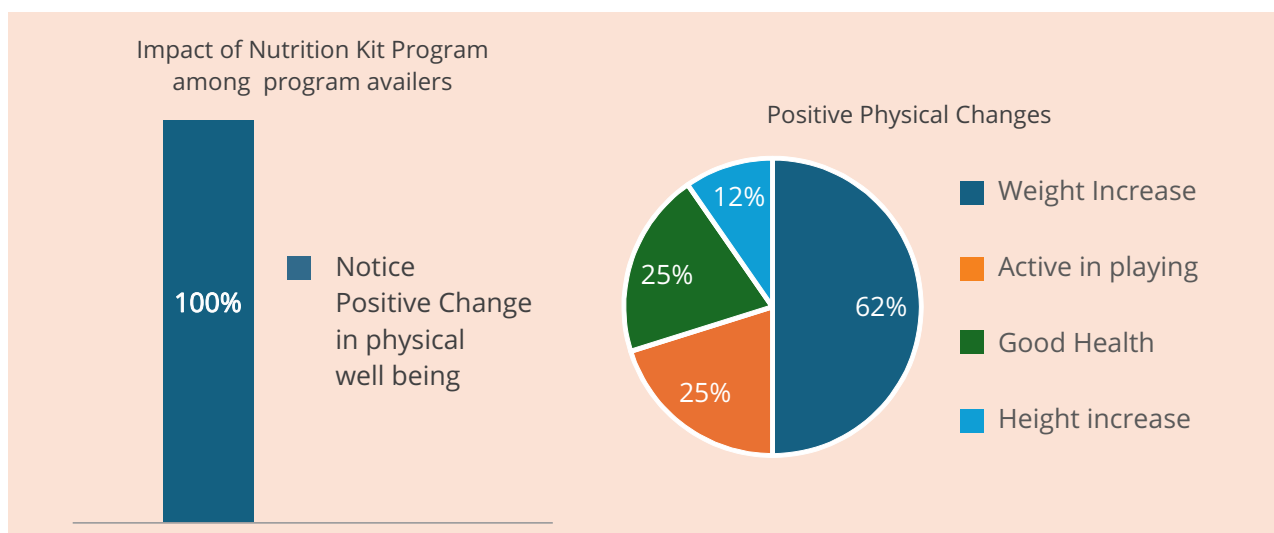
The Ayushman Bharat health and wellness centres are located in various villages. Dedicated Asha Workers appointed by the Government in every gram panchayat had initially identified some families facing Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), Tuberculosis, Anaemia, and leprosy prior to the intervention. These severe health issues were addressed by the Ayushman Wellness centres. However, the wellness centres were in need of nutritional kits to distribute to the identified beneficiaries. Thus, Polycab came forward and took the initiative to provide the nutritional kits to the beneficiaries, thereby helping to improve the health of these communities by providing healthcare services.

Polycab allocated INR 3,847,194 of its CSR funds to distribute nutritional kits in the villages of Daman

Prior to the intervention, many patients were suffering from severe illnesses as they came from underprivileged communities and could not afford nutritional food, thus leaving them starving or vulnerable to malnutrition and other diseases. The nutrition kits provided support to the identified needy individuals and helped improve their health.

The criteria of selecting the families for distribution of Nutritional kits was done by the health department, Daman. These nutrition kits contained various healthy products such as multi-grain atta, moong, chikki (loose), protein powder, lapsi, desi chana, soya vadi, moringa powder, sunflower oil, and double-fortified salt. They were provided on a monthly basis for the next six months, followed by a follow-up checkup. This not only provided nutritional support to the beneficiaries but also resulted in positive improvements such as weight gain, increased activity in children playing games, and faster recovery for individuals suffering from TB by taking medications along with nutrition kit support.

During the visit, the team observed that the authentication process for patients' information, such as identity cards, income status, and consent forms, is lacking. This could potentially lead to the misuse of provided healthcare resources/services. Therefore, it is recommended that the Company strengthens the verification process for smooth functioning.



Respondents on Nutrition Kit Program Impact – Daman

It is observed that in Daman, 100% respondents noted various positive transformation in the physical well-being of the patients. 62% of respondents experienced increase in weight while the remaining respondents experienced increase in height with improved health conditions and seen to be actively participating in physical activities.

These changes include the adoption of healthier dietary habits, improvements in physical health indicators such as weight maintenance and height increase, as well as increased engagement in physical activities, reflecting the comprehensive impact of the intervention on promoting overall health and well-being.

Overall, the interventions undertaken by Polycab in healthcare across different regions have demonstrated significant impacts on improving access to quality healthcare, enhancing health outcomes, and fostering positive transformations in the lives of individuals and communities.

Through targeted initiatives addressing specific healthcare needs, Polycab has successfully contributed to advancing the health and well-being of vulnerable populations, underscoring its commitment in impact to corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.



Evaluation criterion 6: Sustainability

Sustainability in the context of healthcare interventions entails ensuring that the impact of initiatives is enduring and capable of lasting over the long term. It involves not only addressing immediate healthcare needs but also fostering resilience and adaptability to future challenges.

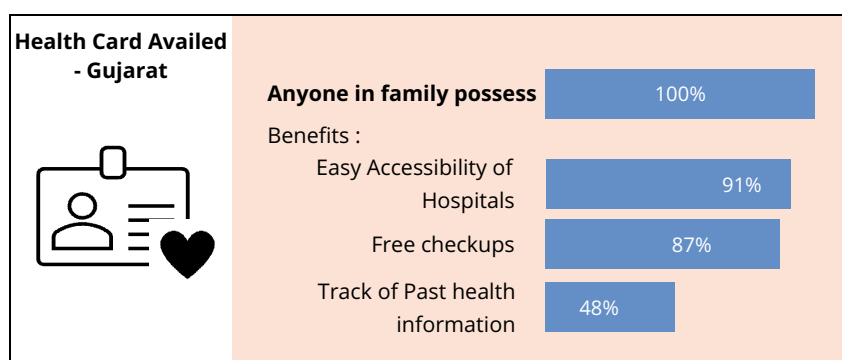
The intervention's sustainability is reflected in its ability to create lasting improvements in healthcare infrastructure, promote preventive healthcare measures, and empower communities to maintain their well-being independently.



The provision of essential equipment to hospitals represents a strategic investment in healthcare infrastructure sustainability in Aurangabad and Gujarat. By ensuring that medical equipment (machines) is adequately provided to meet evolving healthcare needs, hence, Company contributes to the resilience and adaptability of healthcare systems.

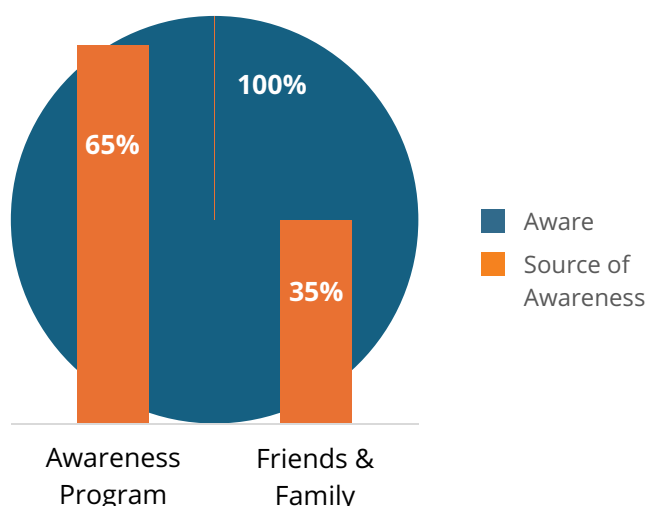
This proactive approach not only enhances immediate patient care but also lays the foundation for long-term healthcare sustainability by bolstering institutional capacity and resilience to future challenges.

The healthcare facilities and assistance provided by Polycab at all the 3 locations, namely Gujarat, Aurangabad, and Daman, have not only addressed immediate health and sanitation issues but have also contributed to overall sustainability through MMU's, awareness campaigns and various health camps, providing health cards, Cochlear implants and Nutritional kits to the underprivileged community.



In Gujarat, it was observed that all respondents possess health cards, with 91% agreeing on the easy accessibility of hospitals while the respondents also expressed that the services are free and also the helps in tracking past health information.

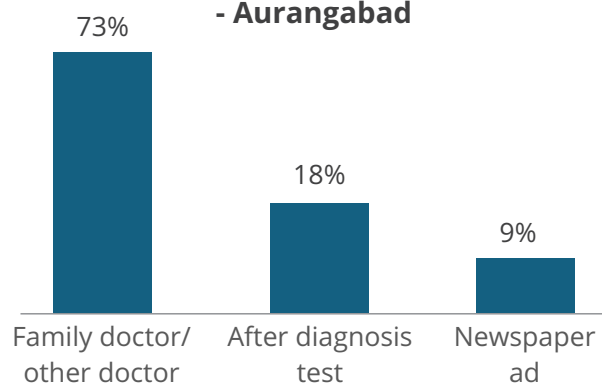
Awareness for Healthcard - Gujarat



It is observed from the graphs that among all respondents, 65% became aware of the health card through an awareness program conducted by Polycab in Gujarat, while the remaining were informed by their friends and family members.

These awareness among the community people also indicates the sustainability of creating awareness among the community for improving health, hygiene and getting appropriate treatment and the right time of illness or disease diagnosed.

Source of Awareness for Cochlear Implant - Aurangabad

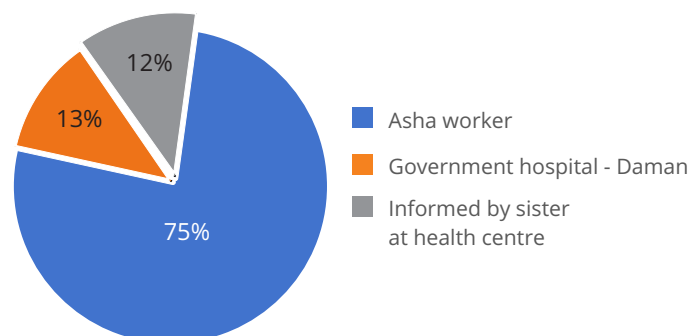


It is observed that out of 100% respondents at Aurangabad, 73% respondents' source of awareness were family doctors while the remaining were identified through diagnosis tests, and the newspaper advertisements.

The nutritional kits distributed to the Community in Daman also created awareness among the community about healthy and nutritional diet and a lot of improvements have been seen by team at the post visit in the behaviour towards health.

At the time of survey, 75% respondents' source of awareness of Nutrition kit were the Asha workers and the remaining were informed by Government Hospital of Daman and by sisters at health centre.

Source of awareness of Nutrition kit - Daman



These initiatives taken not only provide immediate relief but also empower communities with knowledge and resources to continue practicing healthy habits independently, thus ensuring sustained improvements in health outcomes.

In addition to addressing immediate healthcare needs, the interventions undertaken by Polycab also focus on building awareness and capacity within communities. By providing training sessions and educational programs on the proper use of medical interventions such as cochlear implants and nutritional supplements, the Company ensures that the benefits of these interventions are maximized over the long term. This approach fosters sustainability by empowering individuals and communities to effectively manage their health needs beyond the duration of the intervention

Gujarat cancer and research Institute:

The Gujarat cancer and research Institute is a joint venture of Government of Gujarat and Gujarat cancer society which provides the treatment for cancer patients and also conducts research on cancer. It was found that the institute diagnosed some children from underprivileged families which could not afford the cost of treatment as well as stay at the Hospital. So was the challenge faced by the institute which wanted a residential facility to be created for serving these families. They had got CSR Spent from Access life foundation but the cost of constructing and providing all the facilities and amenities for the residential place was excessing in budget. Then Polycab addresses the challenge of the Institute which was for the cause of serving the needy, and takes initiative in supporting the institute by providing the Excess pending amount for construction of the Healthcare residential facility.



The CSR expenditure by Polycab to support the construction of the healthcare residential facility was INR 5,000,000.

During the visit, the team observed that in areas where the Company has supported healthcare resources, there are few or no stakeholders to take care of our own the facility provided. Therefore, it is recommended that the Company implement security measures or a tracking system to prevent loss or misuse of the healthcare facility in the future.

Furthermore, sustainability in healthcare interventions extends beyond the provision of medical services to encompass broader socio-economic factors. By addressing underlying determinants of health such as access to education, economic opportunities, and social support networks, interventions can

create lasting improvements in health outcomes and overall well-being. Polycab's holistic approach to healthcare interventions, which includes promoting health and hygiene, cleanliness, and sanitation, reflects a commitment to addressing these underlying factors and fostering sustainable improvements in health and well-being.

Sustainability in healthcare interventions requires a multifaceted approach that addresses immediate healthcare needs while also building capacity, empowering communities, and addressing broader socio-economic determinants of health. Polycab's interventions exemplify this approach by not only providing immediate relief but also fostering resilience, knowledge, and self-reliance within communities, thus ensuring that the impact of interventions is lasting and sustainable over time.

Case Study:

Story of Rajeshwari -



In the quaint village of Surajpura resided Rajeshwari Mahesh Parmar, an 11-year-old girl whose spirit defied her physical limitations. Rajeshwari, a sixth-grade student, navigated life with remarkable resilience despite being handicapped. Every day presented its challenges as she grappled with the arduous task of moving and commuting to school due to her disability. Despite these obstacles, her determination to learn remained unwavering. Rajeshwari's passion for knowledge burned brightly within her, yet the hurdles she faced often cast shadows on her aspirations.

Following the intervention led by Polycab, Rajeshwari found herself among the physically challenged beneficiaries who received much-needed wheelchairs. In a transformative camp organized by PSWF, she was presented with a wheelchair that symbolized newfound freedom and independence. No longer confined by the limitations of her disability, Rajeshwari now navigated the paths to school with ease and grace, embracing a sense of empowerment that had long eluded her. Not only did she regain access to education, but she also immersed herself in various activities, becoming an active participant in the vibrant tapestry of school life.

Gratitude overflowed from her heart, recognizing the profound impact of the intervention on her life. Fuelled by this newfound sense of agency, Rajeshwari approached her future ambitions with unwavering optimism, ready to carve out a path filled with possibilities and promise.



Improvement Areas

- **Gender-Sensitive Staffing:** Recruit substitute for female nurses to address the needs of female patients, reducing hesitation and discomfort.
- **Enhanced Data Management:** Implement a system to record and maintain contact information of beneficiaries/Donors for effective communication and follow-up. Utilize digital platforms or databases to streamline data collection and management processes.
- **Strengthened Verification Procedures:** Develop standardized protocols for verifying patient documents before implementation of healthcare interventions. Conduct regular audits and spot checks to ensure accuracy and reliability of patient information.
- **Improved Resource Security:** Assign dedicated personnel or stakeholders to oversee the security of resources provided for healthcare services. Implement security measures such as surveillance systems, restricted access, and inventory tracking to prevent loss or misuse.
- **Strengthen Documentation Practices:** Establish clear guidelines and templates for documenting need assessments and obtaining necessary Government permissions. Provide training to staff members on proper documentation practices to ensure compliance and transparency.

Recommendations

- **Collaborate with Hospital Counsellor's:** Partner with hospital counsellors to raise awareness and promote proper utilization of healthcare services. Utilize their expertise in mental health to address patient concerns and facilitate informed decision-making.
- **Implement Telemedicine Services:** Introduce telemedicine for remote consultations and treatment planning. Use digital platforms to connect patients with healthcare providers, enhancing accessibility and continuity of care, especially in underserved areas.
- **Foster Collaborative Partnerships:** Form alliances with local healthcare institutions, nonprofits, and community leaders and find resources to address health issues, improve infrastructure, and expand access to medical resources, fostering integrated community health initiatives.

Alignment with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), commonly recognised as the Global goals, were established in the year 2015 by all United Nations members to eradicate hunger, and poverty, protect the environment, and ensure that everyone lives in peace and prosperity by 2030. India was a significant contributor to the development of the SDGs and is committed to achieving them by 2030.

SDG	Target	Sub – targets	Relevance
Goal 3 	Good health and well-being	3.8 – Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.	The programme aimed to improve access to health care services and generate awareness of key health issues in the community.
Goal 10 	Reduced inequalities	10.2 – By 2030, empower and promote social, economic and political inclusion for all, irrespective of their age, sex, race, disability, ethnicity, origin, religion, economic or other status.	The programme aimed at improving access to healthcare facilities for disadvantaged and remote communities. It also aimed at generating awareness among the communities related to various healthcare issues.

MMJC

Polycab India Limited

CSR IMPACT
ASSESSMENT REPORT

RURAL DEVELOPMENT



Executive Summary

Polycab in collaboration with Polycab Social Welfare Foundation (PSWF) undertakes various Rural Development initiatives. These encompass the establishment of Cattle sheds, alongside provisions for animal husbandry and veterinary clinics, aimed at bolstering agricultural practices and ensuring the well-being of livestock. Polycab has constructed 4 cattle sheds in Gujarat, out of which in 3 cattle shed having capacity of 92 cattle's. As a part of veterinary clinic 38 medical livestock camps were organised in a year.

They also focus on enhancing Village infrastructure, encompassing the construction of vital amenities such as toilet blocks, rainwater harvesting systems, and street lighting, all of which contribute to improved public health and safety. Access to clean and hygienic sanitation facilities is fundamental for maintaining public health. The construction of toilet blocks ensures that villagers have proper sanitation facilities, which can prevent the spread of diseases and improve overall hygiene standards. Rainwater harvesting systems help address the challenges by capturing and storing rainwater for various uses such as irrigation, household chores, and drinking water. Streetlights illuminate roads and pathways, reducing the risk of accidents and crimes but also provide a sense of security to the villagers.

Furthermore, their initiatives extend to Village construction endeavour's, including land acquisition for town halls, the creation of public libraries, and the development of sports facilities, fostering community engagement and cohesion. Community town halls are dynamic hubs, fostering unity and collaboration through gatherings, celebrations, and meetings. Libraries

serve as vital educational resources, empowering individuals with knowledge and opportunities for personal growth. The village sports CSR program extends beyond infrastructure, promoting active participation, skill development, and healthy lifestyles, uniting villagers through awareness activities.

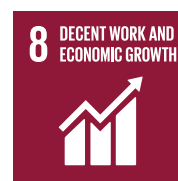
Additionally, they promote sustainable agricultural practices through initiatives like **Organic farming**, complemented by awareness sessions. They support methods of farming that are environmentally friendly and prioritize the health of the soil and surrounding ecosystem. Organic farming avoids synthetic pesticides and fertilizers, instead relying on natural techniques like crop rotation and composting. They also educate people about these practices through awareness sessions to encourage more widespread adoption and understanding.



Furthermore, their commitment to **Women's empowerment** is evident through various targeted programs. Through mentorship, skill-building workshops, and financial literacy training, women are empowered to unlock their full potential, contribute to the economy, and lead fulfilling lives.



They also undertake projects such as **Pond deepening**, which not only revitalizes natural resources but also serves as a sustainable water management solution for rural communities. By deepening these ponds, several positive outcomes are achieved. Firstly, it revitalizes natural resources by improving the quality and quantity of water available. This is particularly beneficial for rural communities that rely on these water sources for various purposes such as drinking, irrigation, and livestock watering. Secondly, pond deepening serves as a sustainable water management solution, as it helps to regulate water flow, prevent droughts, and mitigate the impact of climate change. Overall, this project not only addresses environmental concerns but also directly benefits the communities by ensuring access to clean and reliable water resources for their livelihoods.



Research Methodology



Findings of the study

- 100% respondents utilized the provided cattle sheds, out of which 86% respondents used on daily basis while the remaining on weekly basis.
- 100% respondents gave positive response regarding the positive impact on livelihood and income due to cattle shed program.
- On scale of 1 to 5, all respondents gave a rating of 4.42 in respect of the changes observed in the health and well-being of the cattles since the implementation of the cattle shed program.
- 100% respondents agreed on increase in income out of which, 65% experienced a surge in income exceeding 10,000 annually due to the cultivation of multiple crops.
- 100% respondents experienced various benefits out of which, 55% confirmed that rainwater harvesting led to an increase in borewell water levels, while the rest acknowledged its other benefits like conserving rainwater and enhancing overall water availability.
- After the establishment of the public library, 94% of respondents noted a significant increase in literacy rates or a greater enthusiasm for reading.
- Majority of respondents rated the sports facility as 4.89 on scale of 1 to 5 indicating high level of satisfaction.
- 100% respondents agreed that awareness sessions helped them access new markets and sell agricultural products at better prices. Moreover, 94% reported increased income and cost savings in farming due to awareness sessions.
- 100% directly benefited from the Mushroom farming awareness program and it has boosted their income by successfully selling mushroom crops.
- 100% respondents acquired various skills out of which, 68% of the women secured sufficient employment opportunities based on the skills they have acquired.
- 92% confirmed experiencing an increase in income due to acquiring new skills and out of those, 96% noted that their income had risen by up to Rs. 5,000 as a result of these skills.
- 100% respondents agreed on various training provided out of which, 68% confirmed that training in sewing techniques was provided as a key component of the empowerment initiative.
- Post intervention, women respondents rated their personal empowerment and socio-economic status impressively at 4.52 out of 5.
- 100% respondents agreed that pond deepening contributed to reduce the scarcity of overall water requirement. Out of these, 80% respondents agreed that pond deepening improved access to hygiene and sanitation facilities for community people and also improved the crop yield.

Impact created

Livelihood support: Providing cattle sheds support the livelihoods of farmers by offering shelter for their livestock.

Improved Milk Quality: All surveyed participants unanimously confirmed a 100% improvement in milk quality subsequent to the animal husbandry intervention.

Environmental Impact: Construction of toilet blocks can contribute to environmental conservation by preventing contamination of water sources and soil.

Improved overall health & well-being: The rainwater harvesting has proven instrumental in enhancing the overall health and well-being of communities in many ways.

Education and Literacy: Public libraries provide access to books, educational resources thereby promoting literacy and education within rural communities.

Promotion of Health and Fitness: Access to sports facilities encourages villagers to engage in physical activities, promoting better health and fitness levels among community members.

Soil Health: Organic farming practices improved soil health by promoting the use of organic matter, crop rotation, and green manures.

Healthier Food: Organic farming produces food that is free from synthetic pesticides, hormones, and genetically modified organisms (GMOs), which can contribute to better public health.

Employment Opportunities: Women empowerment programs provide training and job opportunities, leading to increased female participation in the workforce and economic growth.

Income Generation: Empowered women often have higher earning potential, which lead to increased household income and improved living standards.

Biodiversity Conservation: Deeper ponds support a more diverse range of aquatic life by providing habitats for fish, amphibians, and other aquatic organisms.

Agricultural Benefits: Deeper ponds can serve as water reservoirs for irrigation, particularly during dry seasons, thereby supporting agricultural productivity and food security in the region.

Environmental Benefits: Enhanced water storage in ponds mitigate the risk of floods by absorbing excess rainwater, thus reducing soil erosion and downstream flooding.

Conclusion

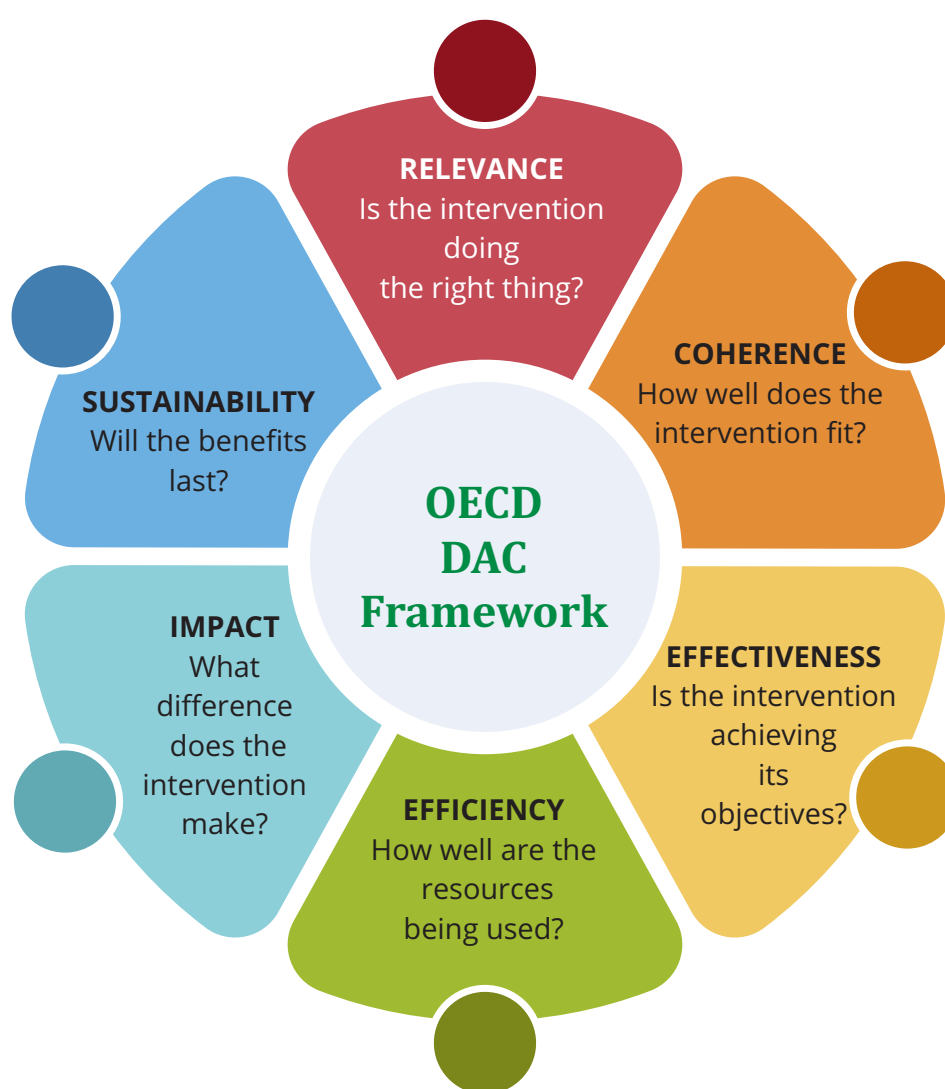
Polycab is deeply engaged in rural development initiatives, covering a spectrum of endeavours. This includes the establishment of cattle sheds and veterinary clinics to support agricultural practices and livestock welfare. Furthermore, they focus on enhancing village infrastructure by constructing essential amenities like toilet blocks, rainwater harvesting systems, and street lighting, all aimed at improving public health, safety, and overall quality of life.

In addition to infrastructure, Polycab's initiatives extend to community-building efforts such as land aquisition for town hall through PSWF, construction of public libraries, and providing sports facilities. These initiatives foster community engagement, education, and healthy lifestyles. Moreover, Polycab promotes sustainable agricultural practices through organic farming initiatives and supports women's empowerment through mentorship, skill-building, and financial literacy programs. Additionally, projects like pond deepening not only revitalize natural resources but also provide sustainable water management solutions for rural communities, ensuring access to clean and reliable water resources for livelihoods and environmental sustainability.

OECD

The study used the OECD DAC framework for evaluating the impact of the CSR projects:

The OECD DAC Network on Development Evaluation (Eval Net) has outlined six evaluation criteria, namely Relevance, Coherence, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, and Sustainability, along with two guiding principles for their application. These criteria establish a standard framework for assessing the value and significance of an intervention, such as a policy strategy, program, project, or activity. They form the foundation upon which evaluation assessments are conducted to gauge the intervention's merit and effectiveness.



Purpose and objectives of the study

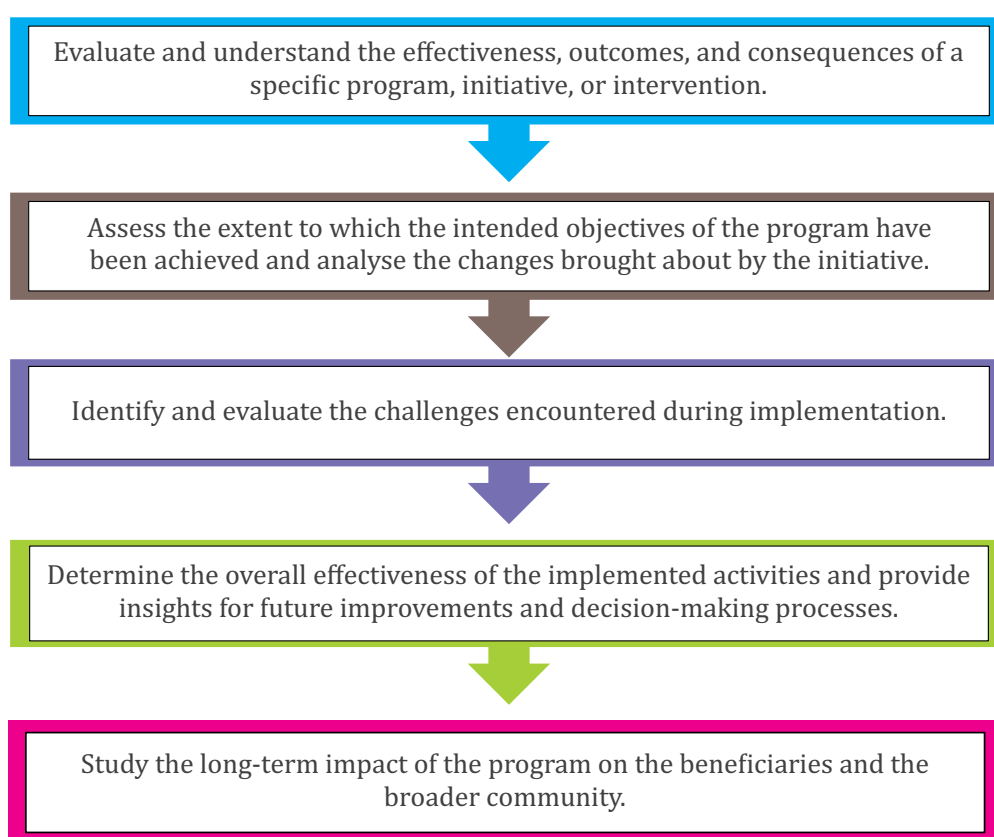
The Impact Assessment study aims to evaluate and understand the effectiveness, outcomes, and consequences of a particular program, initiative, or intervention. It seeks to assess the extent to which the intended objectives have been achieved, the changes brought about by the initiative, the challenges encountered, and the overall effectiveness of the implemented activities.

Through comprehensive analysis and evaluation, the study aims to provide insights and recommendations for future improvements and decision-making processes and study the long-term impact on the beneficiaries.

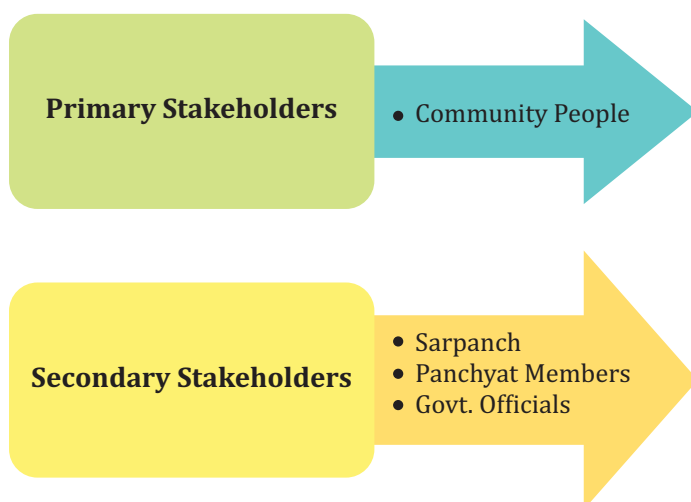
The guiding philosophy behind this study is to add value by showcasing successful initiatives and recommending possible ways to address existing challenges.

The study is expected to provide evidence-based findings which would inform the Company in making operational and strategic decisions while planning and funding its partner organizations for such programmes. The evaluation was also an opportunity to learn about the relevance of the programmes implemented and their effectiveness.

Impact Assessment



Data collection



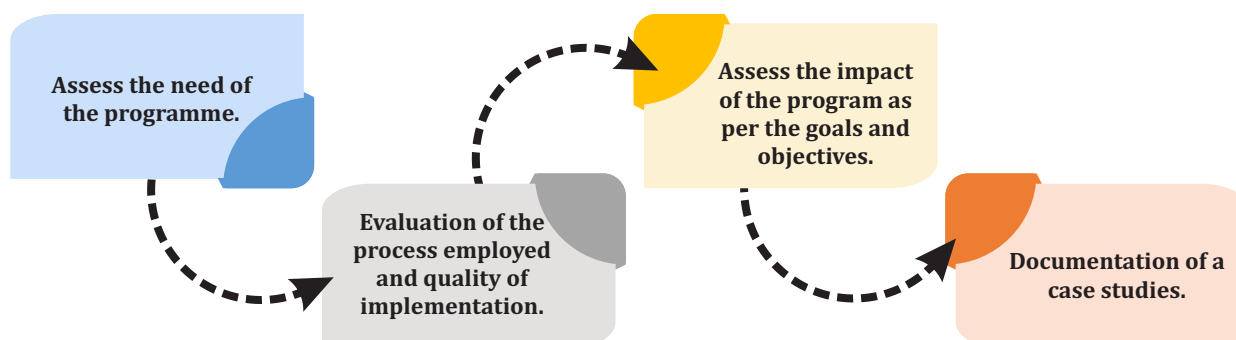
Primary data was collected to understand the impact of the project from the direct beneficiaries i.e., community people. In addition, to understand the programme holistically, all Panchayat members, sarpanch, Government officials and other relevant stakeholders were consulted to get an overview of the programme.

Community people for the primary data collection were selected through random sampling method, to avoid biases and prejudices. The community people were surveyed with a structured questionnaire developed to capture the benefits they experienced in the community.

Assessment Approach & Evaluation Framework

The study's objectives, focused on assessing inclusiveness, relevance, and outcomes of the project, guided the evaluation process, which employed the OECD framework to ensure comprehensive analysis. The OECD framework has defined six evaluation criteria –Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Coherence, Impact and Sustainability. These criteria provide a normative framework which is used to determine the merit or worth of an intervention. They serve as the basis upon which evaluative judgements are made.

Impact assessment design and approach:



Approach & Methodology

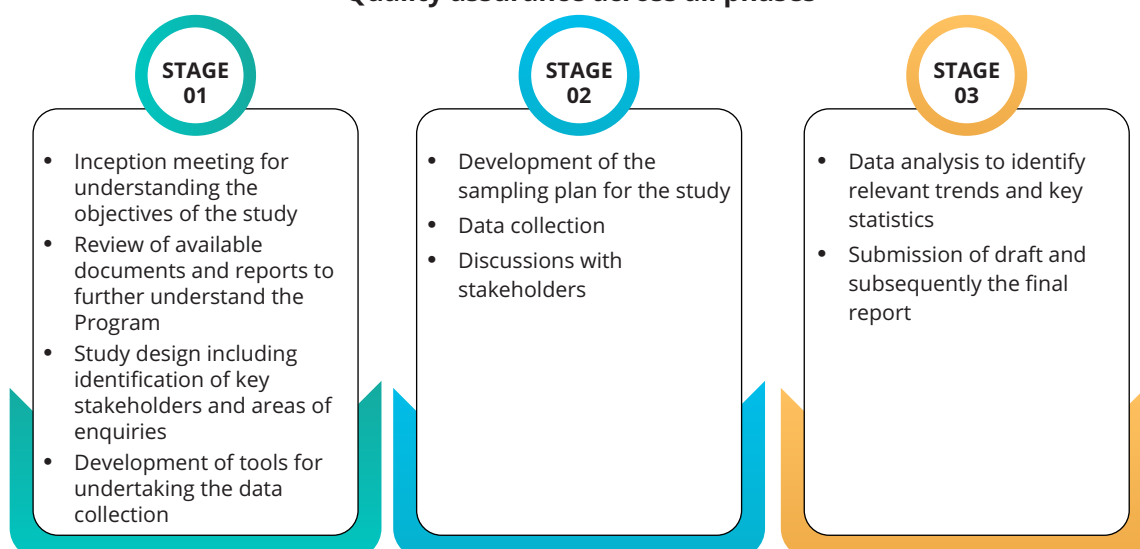
The Assessment approach utilized a mixed-method approach to gather primary and secondary data employing both qualitative and quantitative methods.

The methodology included primary data collection by conducting face-to-face individual surveys with community people and engaging in discussions with secondary stakeholders of the program, including Sarpanch, Panchayat members, overnment officials, and other relevant people.

Secondary data pertaining to program-related aspects were obtained through existing program data and publicly available documents relevant to the respective domain areas.



Quality assurance across all phases



Sample size and distribution

Sampling method for qualitative data

Stage 1 – Selection of villages

Sample villages where the interventions took place were selected for the Quantitative method. During the study, samples were collected using a random sampling method from Halol and Daman to ensure adequate representation from all villages. An appropriate number of samples were taken from villages with the highest number of interventions to ensure a comprehensive analysis of all program components implemented.

Stage 2 – Selection of beneficiaries

Beneficiary selection was conducted independently for each program based on the specific domain. Beneficiaries included were community people, panchayat members, Government officials, and other relevant stakeholders. Secondary data was obtained from project completion reports, baseline surveys, and need assessment reports, among other sources.

Qualitative sampling methodology

In order to measure the effectiveness of the intervention and gain insights into its impact on beneficiaries, we conducted in-depth discussions and focus group discussions (FGDs). These sessions researched both the experiences of individual beneficiaries and household-level assessments, providing a comprehensive understanding of the intervention's short-term as well as long-term effects.

Our approach involved revisiting critical indicators at the program's outset and at regular intervals throughout its implementation. Through this method, we assessed respondents' perspectives and tracked changes over time.

Sample Size Covered During the Assessment

Location	Stakeholders	Total Sample size achieved	Tool	Mode of collection data
Halol & Daman	Community People/Government officials/Sarpanch/Panchayat Members	144	Survey/FGD	Physical

A team of local enumerators, with requisite education and experience, was hired for data collection.

Research tools

In-depth discussions with students: The quantitative assessment involved an elicitation process conducted through in-depth discussions with individual aimed at understanding their perspective on receiving support through various interventions.

Indicators tracking the impact were categorized according to the program's objectives, including gender perception, increased community involvement at health camps, support received by Medical mobile van and other health interventions. Our team recorded individual discussions to capture insights tailored to each intervention.

Structured Interviews: Structured interviews & questionnaire were carried out with the Doctors, Nurse, Sarpanch and Government officials.

Focus Group Discussions (FGDs): Discussions were held with stakeholder groups including the intervention team from each location where the intervention was implemented like Panchayat samiti members, Group of community people and among other relevant people.

In depth Discussions

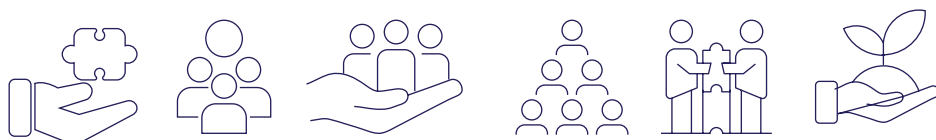
- Community People (Individually)

FGD's

- Community People (Collectively)

Structured Interviews

- Sarpanch
- Panchayat Members
- Government officials

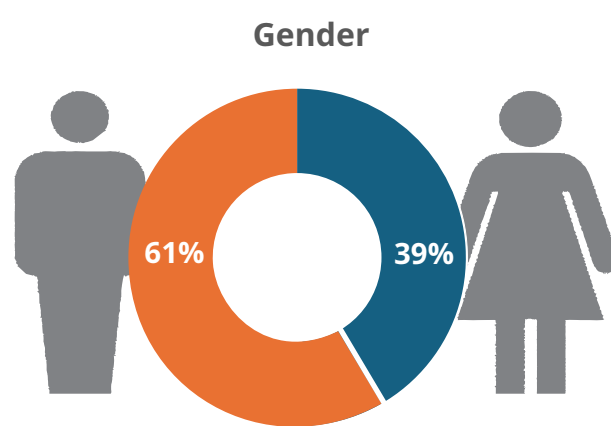


Demographic profile

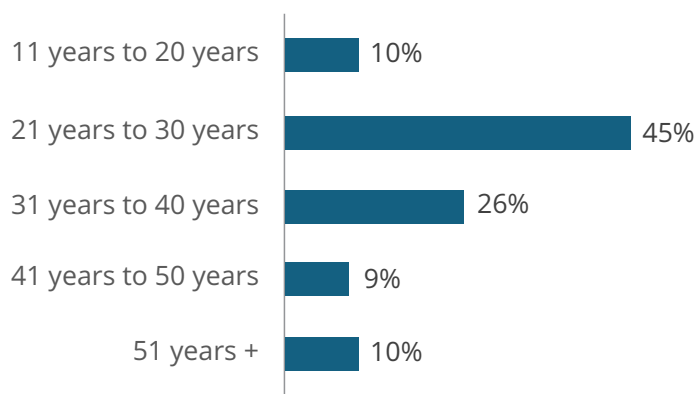
The demographic profile presented below encompasses all respondents from the Gujarat and Daman areas where rural development interventions were implemented.

The Gender representation of the responses of Halol and Gujarat are as followed:

During the visits, community people actively participated in the survey for sharing their feedback about the project, out of all beneficiary responses, 61% were male responses as compared to female responses.



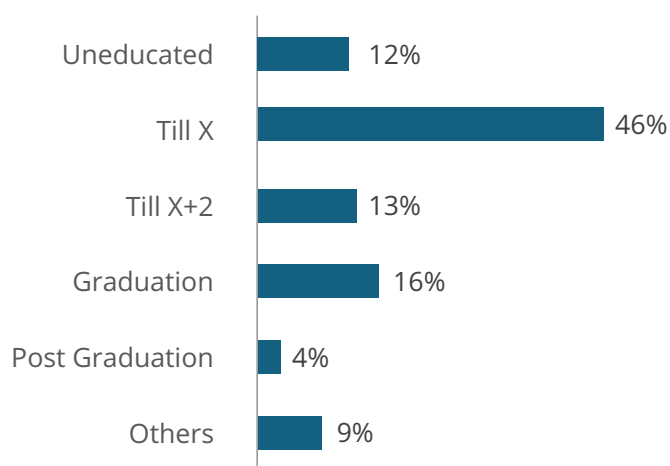
Age Groups



The survey participants comprised individuals from diverse age brackets, encompassing teenagers, senior citizens, community members, Sarpanch, Panchayat members, and Government officials. Among them, 45% of responses fell within the age group of 21 to 30 years, with the remainder spanning various other age ranges.

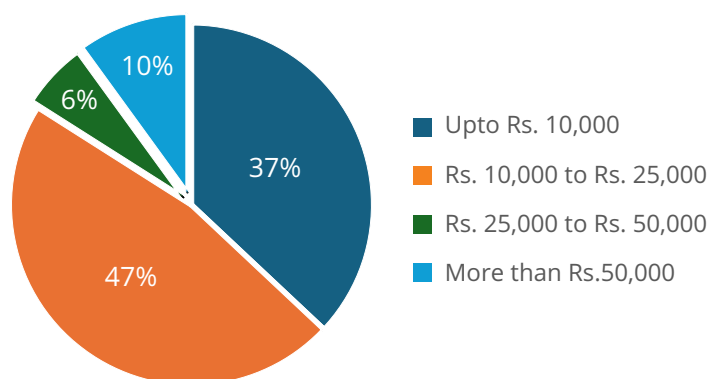
In the intervention regions of Gujarat and Daman, the educational background of respondents reflects a diverse demographic. Among them, 12% lacked formal education, while 46% completed schooling up to Class 'X'. The remaining participants attained education at various levels.

Educational Qualification



In the rural regions of Halol and Daman, most respondents primarily depend on agriculture or daily wage labour for income. Among all the respondents, 37% participants had monthly income of up to Rs. 10,000, while 47% fell within the range of Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 25,000, with the remainder earning above Rs. 25,000.

Monthly Family Income



Findings and analysis - Project wise (Relevance, Coherence, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, Sustainability):

Project A: Cattle shed including Animal husbandry drive & Veterinary Clinic

Cattle sheds in Gujarat and Daman are vital infrastructure in animal husbandry, providing a conducive environment for the well-being and productivity of livestock. As part of CSR program, initiatives focusing on improving cattle sheds and enhancing animal husbandry practices have emerged as integral components of sustainable development efforts.

In Halol and Daman, CSR expenditure totalling INR 68.63 Lakhs was dedicated to cattle sheds. Additionally, INR 68,000 was allocated for an animal husbandry drive, while INR 777,500 was designated for veterinary clinics and medical camps aimed at animal welfare.

Halol - Cattle shed	CSR Spent (in lakhs)
Bakrol Gaushala	23.67
Halol Gaushala	15.52
Apna Ghar Gaushala	10.93
Pavagadh Gaushala	10.21
Daman - Cattle shed	CSR Spent (in lakhs)
Kachigam Gaushala	8.3

Cattle shed improvement programs, often integrated within broader CSR frameworks, are designed to address various challenges faced by farmers and livestock owners, ultimately contributing to rural development and economic empowerment.

Polycab has constructed 4 cattle sheds in Gujarat, out of which in 3 cattle shed having capacity of total 92 cattle's benefiting 40 people in those villages. These were well-designed and maintained cattle sheds contributed to increase the productivity and efficiency in animal husbandry.



Whereas Animal Husbandry sessions were organized in 35 villages from which 634 people attended the sessions and 106 people were benefited from this initiative

In addition to the Veterinary clinic, 38 medical livestock camps were organized in all over 20 villages once in a year (monsoon session) has cured/partly cured 6,300 livestock in the FY 20-21 to FY 22-23 for providing better healthcare services to the livestock.

Polycab's CSR initiatives focus on introducing modern infrastructure, such as improved ventilation systems, feeding mechanisms, and sanitation facilities, to optimize productivity levels and enhance the quality of livestock products.

Cattle shed improvement initiatives contributed to overall community development by generating employment opportunities, enhancing food security, and fostering socio-economic growth in rural areas. By supporting local farmers and cooperatives, this CSR program plays a crucial role in building resilient and self-reliant communities.

Polycab's CSR program is designed to align with Company's core values of compassion, integrity, and excellence, aiming to address key societal and environmental challenges.

As a veterinary clinic deeply rooted in our community, we recognize our responsibility to give back and make a difference in the lives of animals, people, and the planet. The establishment of veterinary clinics by the Company serves to offer vital healthcare services in regions with limited access to veterinary care, including livestock camps conducted for awareness on deworming, health checkups, and treatment.

These clinics play a crucial role in administering timely treatment and preventive measures to livestock, thereby enhancing their overall well-being and productivity.

These initiatives provided training on cattle shed management and medical camps for livestock to create awareness and veterinary clinic for veterinary care. These training sessions and awareness sessions were designed to impart practical skills and knowledge, equipping farmers with the expertise needed to ensure the well-being and productivity of their livestock.

By providing these resources, farmers were better equipped to implement sustainable farming practices that not only enhance the health and productivity of their cattle but also promote environmental conservation and resilience.

Evaluation criterion 1: Relevance

Animal husbandry refers to the branch of agriculture concerned with the breeding, care, and management of domestic animals, primarily for the purpose of obtaining products such as meat, milk, eggs, wool, and other animal products.



Before the intervention, cattle might have lacked proper shelter, leading to issues such as exposure to harsh weather conditions, disease susceptibility, or theft, affecting the health and productivity of the animals. Poor animal health and inadequate nutrition have been significant concerns, impacting the overall productivity and well-being of the livestock.

In addition, during the visit to the rural communities in Gujarat and Daman, it was evident that the monthly income of the people was insufficient to

establish their own cattle sheds, highlighting the relevance for Polycab to take the initiative.

Animal husbandry, including cattle rearing, is often a significant source of livelihood for rural communities. CSR program focusing on improving cattle sheds directly impact the lives of farmers by enhancing their ability to rear and care for their livestock effectively. This led to increased income and economic stability for these communities.



Cattle shed Before – Bakrol

*We, the entire farming community of Jai Shree Ram Kedvani Mandal, Bakrol, faced challenges due to inadequate infrastructure for our 185 cattle. The existing shed was damaged, and fodder was prone to damage from weather conditions. As more cattle arrived, we struggled to accommodate them, often transferring them elsewhere. However, thanks to the Company's intervention, a new cattle shed was constructed, safeguarding fodder from the elements. The expanded capacity allows us to house more cattle comfortably, and the improved design makes cleaning and feeding more efficient. Additionally, we've found innovative uses for cow dung, such as crafting "**Diwa**" and "**Hawan samagri**," contributing to our income.*

In Gujarat and Daman's rural areas, the cattle sheds were in poor condition, posing a threat to the livestock's well-being. However, the communities couldn't afford to build new ones. Recognizing the urgency, Polycab initiative stepped in to help. Together, they rallied to construct new, sturdy cattle sheds, showcasing the strength of community solidarity in overcoming adversity for the sake of their livestock's welfare.

Cattle sheds offers refuge from harsh weather conditions such as extreme temperatures, rain, and wind. Cattle sheds help maintain the health and well-being of the animals.



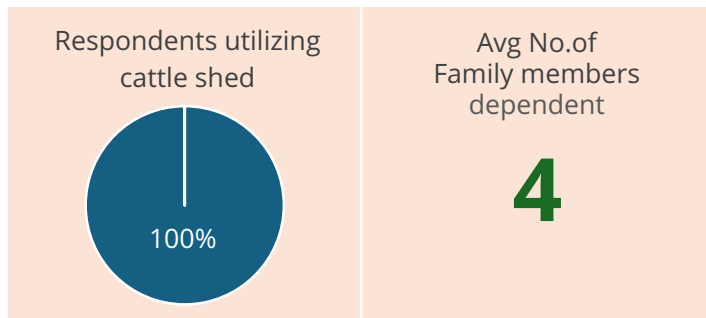
Cattle shed - Gujarat



Cattle shed - Daman

The confined space of a cattle shed allows for easier monitoring of individual animals, facilitating prompt detection of any health issues or injuries that may arise.

Presence and Reach of Cattle Shed Program - Halol



According to the feedback gathered from the respondents in Halol, 100 % of the respondents expressed utilization of cattle sheds for housing their livestock. This initiative has benefited 40 families and average of 160 people in these families.

Overall, cattle sheds serve as invaluable assets in optimizing the welfare and productivity of livestock, ultimately improving the overall management and care practices on farms. Well-designed cattle shed protect animals from harsh weather conditions, diseases, and predators, leading to healthier livestock and improved productivity.

Providing training and education on modern animal husbandry techniques or access to veterinary services with livestock medical camps empowers farmers with valuable skills and knowledge, ultimately fostering sustainable agricultural practices and community resilience.

The veterinary clinic in Panchmahal, Halol, Gujarat, was in a deteriorated state, resulting in limited functionality for the treatment of livestock in the community. However, the Company recognized this challenge and took the initiative to construct a new veterinary clinic.



Veterinary Clinic Halol – Before Photo



Veterinary Clinic Halol – After Photo

Veterinary clinics have a direct impact on animal welfare. It includes initiatives focused on providing low-cost or free services to disadvantaged animals, promoting responsible pet ownership, and supporting animal rescue organizations significantly contributes to improving animal welfare in the community.

Evaluation criterion 2: Coherence

Polycab's animal husbandry program, including the establishment of a cattle shed is evident through the program's seamless alignment with the Company's CSR objectives, particularly in supporting rural livelihoods and fostering sustainable agricultural practices. Through a commitment to sustainability, the program addresses environmental concerns, promotes responsible resource management, and contributes to long-term economic viability for the community.

By prioritizing animal welfare, measurable outcomes, and alignment with the Company's long-term CSR vision, the animal husbandry program, with its cattle shed component, emerges as a coherent and impactful initiative within the CSR framework.

The veterinary clinics program encompasses a wide range of initiatives aimed at serving the community and promoting animal welfare. Alongside providing pro bono veterinary services for underprivileged livestock owners, the program organizes awareness sessions and invites guest resource persons to educate individuals about the proper care of livestock as well as awareness on Government schemes related to animal husbandry. Moreover, the program conducts educational outreach programs on responsible livestock ownership and health, ensuring that community members are well-informed and equipped to care for their livestock. Additionally, the program emphasizes environmentally sustainable practices within clinic operations, such as waste management and energy efficiency, further demonstrating its commitment to holistic animal care and environmental stewardship.

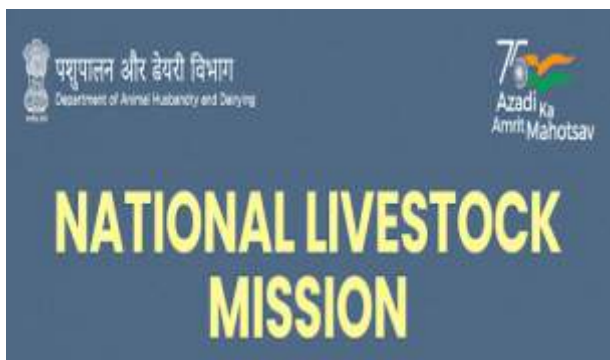
By weaving these initiatives seamlessly into its day-to-day operations and organizational culture, the clinic not only fulfils its ethical obligations but also enhances its reputation as a socially responsible entity, fostering trust and goodwill within its community.

Significantly, individuals surveyed have highlighted a notable decrease in both travel time and exertion subsequent to the adoption of these measures. This enables them to conveniently avail healthcare services for their cattle in close proximity.

Recognising the role of livestock and poultry sectors in improving farmers' incomes and diversifying off farm opportunities, the Government is supporting the sector's growth through several conducive policies. Few of those policies are - **Rashtriya Gokul Mission and National Livestock Mission (NLM).**



The Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM) is a Government initiative to conserve and improve indigenous cattle breeds in India. It aims to enhance breed quality, productivity, and genetic purity through initiatives like Gokul Grams, sustainable breeding practices and financial support and assistance are provided to farmers for the construction of modern and scientifically designed cattle sheds.



The National Livestock Mission (NLM) is a Government initiative to improve livestock farming in India. It aims to boost productivity, a provision for establishing veterinary clinics in rural areas to provide essential healthcare services for livestock and empower farmers through training and financial support. The mission also focuses on conservation of indigenous breeds and promoting market linkages for better profitability.

In conclusion, Polycab's initiatives, including the construction of cattle sheds in Gujarat and Daman, animal husbandry programs, and the establishment of veterinary clinics with the conduction of livestock medical camps in Gujarat, exhibit a high degree of coherence with Government initiatives such as the Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM) and the National Livestock Mission (NLM).

These efforts are clearly aligned with the broader goals of promoting livestock welfare and rural development outlined by the government initiatives. By complementing and supporting existing Government programs, Polycab's initiatives contribute significantly to the overall coherence and effectiveness of efforts aimed at improving the livelihoods of farmers and enhancing the well-being of livestock in the intervention region and uplifting the community in the rural areas.

Evaluation criterion 3: Effectiveness

Polycab's implementation of the Cattle Shed CSR program has led to a substantial increase in the quantity of both milk and meat production. By providing improved infrastructure, veterinary care, and training to cattle farmers, the program has enhanced the overall health and productivity of the cattle population.



This has resulted in higher milk yields per cow and improved meat quality. Moreover, through the introduction of modern farming techniques and better management practices, farmers have been able to optimize their production processes, further boosting output. As a result, communities involved in the program have experienced a significant uplift in their livelihoods, with increased incomes and improved access to nutritious food sources. The Cattle Shed CSR initiative stands as a testament to the positive impact of corporate involvement in sustainable agricultural development, fostering economic growth and food security in the region.

Moreover, throughout these engagements, many participants emphasized how enhanced cattle health has paved the way for the emergence of supplementary income channels. This fresh source of earnings empowers individuals to allocate more resources towards endeavour's associated with animal husbandry or agriculture, thereby nurturing comprehensive agricultural progress within the community.

All the respondents at the time of visit gave positive responses on experiencing the utilization of cattle shed thus providing positive changes, creating balance in the ecosystem.

Reduction in cattle **diseases** or **mortality** since using the Shed

Positive changes in the **environment** or **local ecosystem**

Polycab's initiatives for livestock in the rural communities of Gujarat and Daman have yielded significant and effective results. The Company has made a tangible effect on the well-being of livestock and the livelihoods of rural residents. As a result, Polycab's efforts have fostered resilience, improved productivity, and promoted overall rural development in Gujarat and Daman.

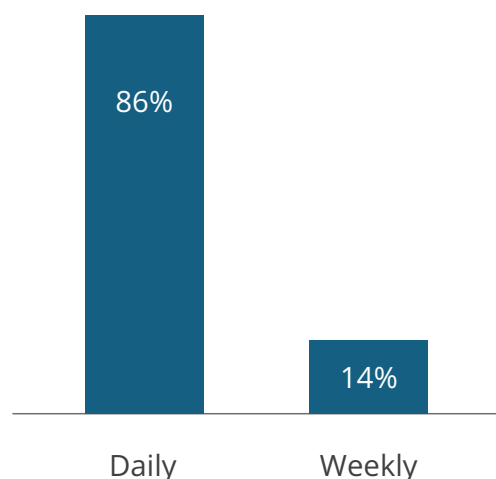


Evaluation criterion 4: Efficiency

Animal husbandry through Cattle shed as a part of CSR program successfully constructed and renovated numerous cattle sheds, thereby improving the living conditions and productivity of livestock. This infrastructure investment has not only enhanced the welfare of the animals but has also directly benefited local farmers by increasing their income streams through higher milk yields and healthier livestock.

Resources were allocated towards constructing or improving cattle sheds. This includes providing better roofing materials, ensuring proper ventilation, and creating comfortable resting areas for the animals. The cattle shed usage frequency captured is as below –

Cattle Shed usage frequency



During the visit, the team noted that 100% respondents utilized the provided cattle sheds, out of which 86% respondents used on daily basis while the remaining on weekly basis.

Ensuring access to clean water and proper sanitation facilities is essential for maintaining the health and hygiene of both animals and farmers. Resources were used to install water pumps, troughs, and sanitation infrastructure in cattle sheds. Additionally, the program's emphasis on providing veterinary services and training sessions has empowered farmers with the knowledge and skills necessary to sustainably manage their cattle.

Overall, the program's efficient implementation and tangible outcomes underscore its significant contribution to both the agricultural sector and the socioeconomic well-being of the communities it serves.

As the evaluation of the program's effectiveness progresses, its efficiency is assessed through a range of criteria. One crucial aspect is determining the allocation of the additional income generated by the boost in milk production.

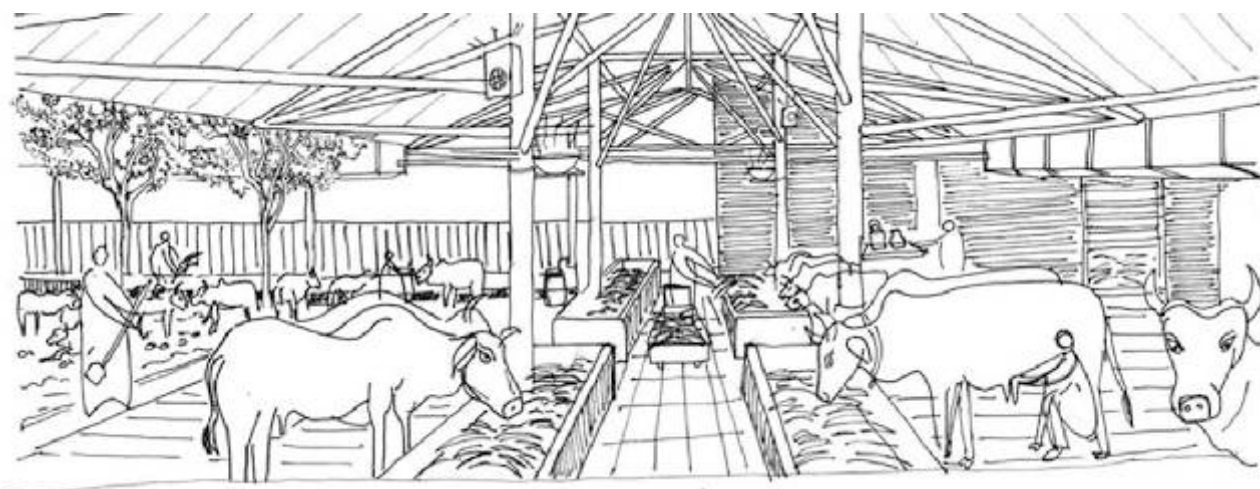
Through insightful discussions, participants affirmed that the surplus earnings resulting from improved milk productivity have been wisely invested in expanding agricultural activities.

This revelation underscores the program's ability to not only enhance income but also promote agricultural diversification, ultimately contributing to the overall sustainability and resilience of the community's livelihoods.



Evaluation criterion 5: Impact

Polycab's implementation of the cattle shed program has led to notable improvements in the lives of farmers and the welfare of their livestock. By providing shelter and proper management facilities, farmers have experienced increased productivity and income from their cattle.



Here are some key impacts of the program:

Livelihood support: Providing cattle sheds can support the livelihoods of farmers by offering shelter for their livestock, which can improve the health and productivity of the animals, leading to increased income for the owners.

Economic empowerment: By supporting cattle rearing activities, especially in rural areas, the CSR program can contribute to local economic development, generating income for individuals and communities.

Environmental benefits: Properly managed cattle sheds can help mitigate environmental degradation by reducing overgrazing and soil erosion, as well as preventing contamination of water sources by animal waste.

Social development: Improved livestock management can lead to better nutrition and food security for communities dependent on cattle for milk and meat.

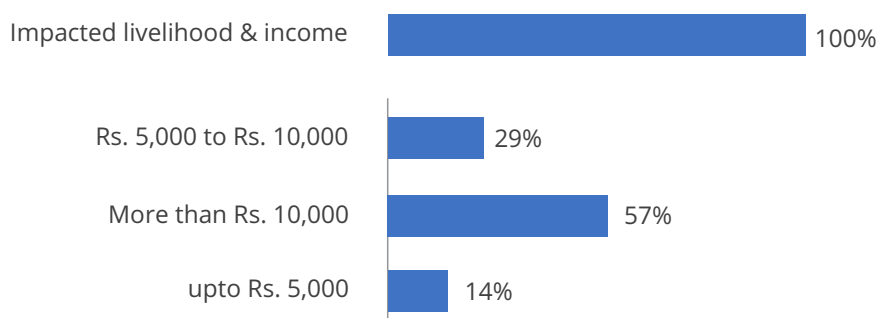
Skill development: The CSR program may include training and capacity-building initiatives for farmers and herders on sustainable livestock management practices, thus enhancing their skills and knowledge.

Improved Milk Quality: All surveyed participants unanimously confirmed a 100% improvement in milk quality subsequent to the animal husbandry intervention. This outcome underscores the program's effectiveness in elevating the standard of dairy products, a development that proves advantageous for both farmers and consumers.

The cumulative increase in yearly earnings for every recipient of the cattle shed depends on the fat content of the milk. With an average of Rs. 70 per person, extended to 634 animal caretakers, the monthly average income from the Company's supportive endeavors approximate to INR 44,380

Animal Welfare: The primary benefit is improving the welfare of animals. By providing veterinary services, the program addresses medical needs, prevent diseases, and offer treatments to animals that might not otherwise have access to healthcare.

Impact of the intervention - Daman & Gujarat



During the visit, the team observed and got positive response from among all respondents regarding the positive impact on livelihood and income. Specifically, 57% of respondents reported an increase in income exceeding INR 10,000, while the remaining also got benefited by increase in income ranging between INR 5000 to INR 10000.

Since implementing the new shed, significant improvements have been observed in the health and well-being of our cattle. The shelter provides them with essential protection from harsh weather conditions, ensuring they remain comfortable and stress-free. With ample space and proper ventilation, the shed minimizes the risk of respiratory ailments and other health issues.

Impact assessment of Cattle Shed Program - Halol and Daman		
Observed changes in the health and well-being of cattle since using the shed?	Overall Rating of Positive Changes Observed in health and well-being of cattle since using the shed?	Believe the cattle shed will continue to benefit families and the community in the future
	4.42	100 %

All respondents gave a rating of 4.42 in respect of the changes observed in the health and well-being of the cattle since the implementation of the cattle shed program on a scale of 1 to 5, reflecting positive response from the program.

The improved conditions have led to better overall hygiene, reducing the prevalence of infections among the herd. As a result, our cattle appear more energetic, their coats shinier, and their overall demeanour markedly improved.

Evaluation criterion 6: Sustainability

At the heart of Polycab's capacity-building endeavour's lies a commitment to sustainability. By equipping farmers with the necessary knowledge and skills, Polycab empowers them to embrace sustainable agricultural practices.

Through an array of initiatives including training programs, workshops, and educational campaigns, Polycab fosters a culture of self-reliance and resilience within communities. This enables farmers to effectively manage their livestock resources in a sustainable manner, thereby ensuring the long-term prosperity of both the farmers and the environment.

The cattle shed built in Gujarat has also assisted in housing stray cattle brought by the Municipal Corporation. The cow dung and urine collected from the cattle shed have been utilized in the production of various items such as diyas, fertilizers, and phenyl, thereby contributing to societal development by creating livelihood opportunities and addressing sustainability concerns.



By implementing focused strategies and continuous assistance, we have observed a notable rise in the number of cattle, leading to heightened productivity and better livelihoods for farmers. This achievement highlights the program's sustainability and demonstrates the Company's dedication to nurturing enduring prosperity in local communities.

Increase in Cattle Numbers:

The implementation of our CSR program focused on cattle sheds has led to a substantial growth in the cattle population. This increase reflects our commitment to supporting farmers and has directly contributed to productivity within the community.

Impact on Productivity and Income:

Polycab's cattle shed program has yielded significant positive effects on both productivity and income levels. Farmers involved have experienced notable enhancements in their productivity, leading to increased yields and better utilization of resources. Consequently, this surge in productivity has translated into improved income streams for participants, fostering economic stability and growth within the community.

Through strategic investments in infrastructure, capacity building, and resource management, the cattle shed program not only fosters economic resilience among local communities but also promotes environmental sustainability by implementing efficient waste management practices and minimizing ecological footprints.

Furthermore, by incorporating principles of social responsibility and inclusivity, such as fair labour practices and community engagement, the program cultivates a sense of ownership and partnership among stakeholders, ensuring its longevity and continued positive impact.

Project B: Village Infrastructure – Construction of Toilet Blocks, Rainwater Harvesting and Street lights

By investing in infrastructure development, Polycab contributes to the overall well-being and progress of rural areas. Whether it's constructing schools, building roads, installing clean water systems, or providing electricity, these initiatives empower villagers and stimulate economic growth.

Polycab's village infrastructure initiatives have significantly impacted rural areas by focusing on crucial projects such as the construction of toilet blocks, water harvesting, and providing streetlights. These endeavours play a pivotal role in addressing water scarcity issues and promoting sanitation and hygiene practices. Adequate infrastructure not only enhances the quality of life for villagers but also facilitates economic opportunities, educational access, and healthcare services.

Polycab has allocated a total of INR 812.23 lakhs of CSR funds on village infrastructure projects. This has resulted in benefiting 1,405 beneficiaries through the establishment of toilet blocks, and 2,171 beneficiaries through the implementation of rainwater harvesting processes.

Interventions	CSR Spent (in lakhs)
Toilet blocks	51.02 lakhs
Rainwater harvesting	83.51 lakhs
Streetlights	37.33 lakhs

The construction of toilet blocks in villages not only addresses the basic sanitation needs of the community but also promotes health and hygiene practices, reducing the spread of diseases. Rainwater harvesting systems, strategically installed in villages, capture and store rainwater for future use, ensuring a sustainable water supply and mitigating the effects of water scarcity. Additionally, the installation of streetlights enhances safety and security in rural areas, facilitating nighttime activities and improving overall quality of life for villagers.

The provision of toilet blocks enhances public health and dignity, mitigating the spread of diseases and promoting a cleaner environment. Polycab's commitment to such projects underscores its dedication to improving the lives of rural communities through sustainable infrastructure development.

In rural regions, where daily life closely connects with the land's cycles and seasonal changes, Polycab initiated with implementing the Water Harvesting methods thus creating availability of clean and safe drinking water for the people as well conservation of water resource for the domestic use purpose.

It serves as a fundamental determinant of public health, educational attainment, and economic prosperity through acknowledging the pressing needs of the rural areas, Polycab has embarked upon a transformative initiative aimed at mitigating water scarcity with “Water Harvesting Process”.

Polycab has also initiated the installation of streetlights in few villages of Gujarat to improve safety and accessibility for residents in the rural areas.



Roundabout - Daman

Polycab Social Welfare Foundation (PSWF) has taken the initiative to construct a roundabout for the road junction in Daman. A roundabout, also known as a roundabout or rotary, is a circular intersection where road traffic flows in one direction around a circle, with priority given to traffic already in the junction. It classifies modern roundabouts, as those incorporating design rules aimed at enhancing safety.

The expenditure on the roundabout road junction in Daman through CSR funds totaled
INR 11,20,713.

Compared to traditional intersections like stop signs or traffic signals, modern roundabouts significantly reduce the likelihood and severity of collisions by lowering traffic speeds and minimizing T-bone and head-on accidents. For pedestrians, roundabouts simplify the visual environment as traffic exits from one direction, reducing confusion and improving safety.

Additionally, roundabouts allow for U-turns within the flow of traffic, further enhancing efficiency and safety at the junction. This initiative by PSWF not only addresses traffic management but also prioritizes safety and convenience for both motorists and pedestrians in the Daman area.

Evaluation criterion 1: Relevance

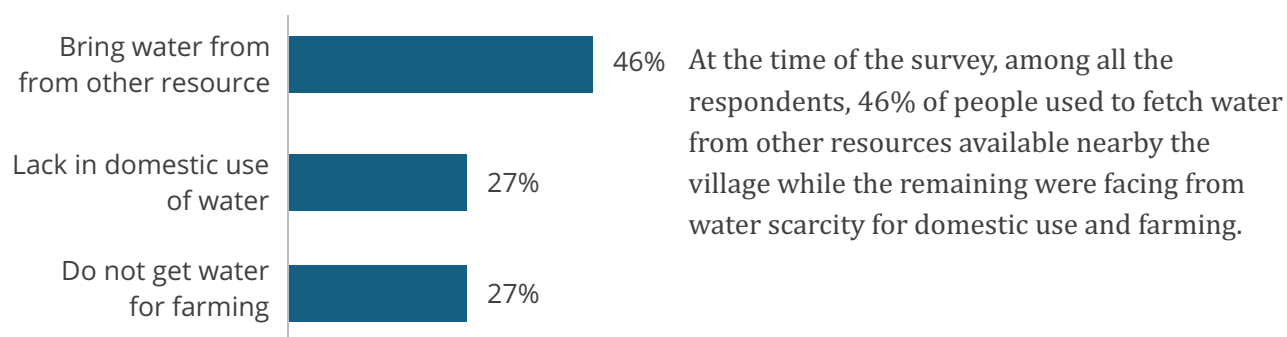
The initiative to create rainwater harvesting systems was highly relevant due to the pressing challenges faced by the villagers in Hansapura. Water scarcity was a significant issue, with villagers having to travel long distances to fetch water from distant resources. This not only posed logistical challenges but also raised concerns about the availability of water for domestic use, leading to compromised health and hygiene standards within the community. Furthermore, insufficient water for farming purposes was a critical issue for farmers, impacting crop yields and livelihoods. By implementing rainwater harvesting systems, the initiative addressed these challenges directly, providing a sustainable solution to water scarcity while enhancing community well-being and agricultural productivity.

Before the construction of toilet blocks, the village likely faced sanitation challenges such as open defecation, leading to health hazards and environmental pollution. The construction of toilet blocks ensures access to clean and hygienic sanitation facilities, reducing the risk of waterborne diseases and improving overall community health.

Community members faced considerable challenges navigating at night, often struggling to travel safely from one location to another. The absence of adequate lighting not only hindered their mobility but also raised significant safety concerns. In response to these issues, Polycab took proactive measures to address the community's needs by initiating the installation of streetlights in the villages.

The illuminating pathways and enhancing visibility, these streetlights have not only improved safety but also facilitated easier movement for residents, contributing to a greater sense of security and well-being within the community.

Challenges faced in accessing water - Halol

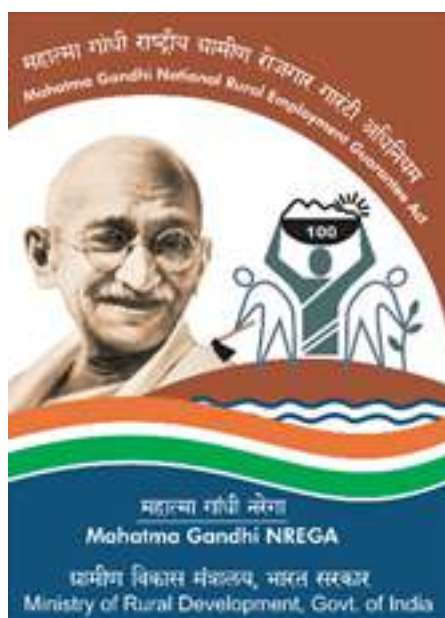


The roundabout addresses pressing traffic management needs in Daman, strategically placed to accommodate increasing vehicular flow. Its implementation aligns with urban development goals, fostering safer and more efficient transportation systems which could be a challenge in rural areas.

Evaluation criterion 2: Coherence

The Rainwater harvesting project not only provide essential water conservation measures but also serve as tools for groundwater recharge.

This initiative taken by Polycab for construction of construction of toilet blocks, rainwater harvesting and providing facilities of streetlights in rural areas is aligned with many Government programs and initiatives.



The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is a Government program aimed at enhancing livelihood security in rural areas by guaranteeing 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Under MGNREGA rainwater harvesting is often undertaken to conserve water and enhance irrigation facilities in rural areas.

The coherence of implementing rain water harvesting as a CSR initiative transcends mere philanthropy, demonstrating a strategic alignment of corporate goals with societal and environmental well-being.

The National Water Mission (NWM) is a Government initiative under the National Action Plan on Climate Change to ensure sustainable water resource management in India. It aims to conserve water, promote rainwater harvesting, and improve water use efficiency across sectors. By addressing water scarcity through innovative technologies and practices, NWM strives to ensure water security for present and future generations.

Polycab's involvement in constructing toilet blocks ensures a collaborative approach to tackling pressing societal issues, leveraging resources and expertise to create lasting impact. Such initiatives demonstrate a commitment to environmental ownership, public health, and community empowerment, reflecting a corporation's ethical responsibility beyond profit-making.





The Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)- Phase II is a flagship Government initiative focused on achieving universal sanitation coverage and making villages open defecation free (ODF). As part of this initiative, the construction of toilet blocks in villages is prioritized to promote safe and hygienic sanitation practices, thereby improving public health and hygiene standards.

The Jal Shakti Abhiyan is a water conservation campaign launched by the Government of India to address the critical issue of water scarcity and promote water conservation measures across the country. Rainwater harvesting is a key component of this initiative, aimed at capturing and storing rainwater to replenish groundwater levels and mitigate water shortages in rural areas.



The Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana is a Government scheme focused on providing continuous and reliable power supply to rural areas. Under this scheme, providing streetlights in villages is emphasized to enhance public safety and security, especially during the night, and to improve overall quality of life in rural communities.

Roundabout in Daman is designed in accordance with modern traffic engineering principles, the roundabout seamlessly integrates into the existing road network, ensuring a harmonious flow of traffic. Its layout and signage are consistent with established planning frameworks, promoting clarity and predictability for road users.

During the visit to Daman, the team observed that the construction of a roundabout cannot be classified under rural development programs as it pertains to urban areas though it has also benefited the rural community who travel by that road. It is recommended that the Company can improve its project categorization within rural development initiatives.

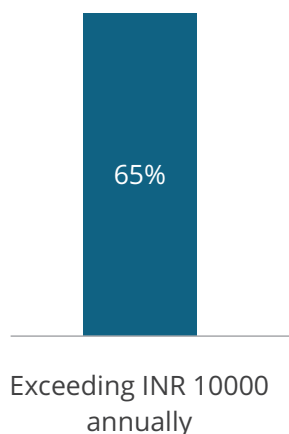
Evaluation criterion 3: Effectiveness

Rainwater harvesting has helped in conserving water by impounding runoff during rainfall. This stored water percolate into the ground, replenishing aquifers and groundwater reserves. This can be particularly beneficial in areas facing water scarcity. With better water availability and reduced soil erosion, agricultural productivity in the surrounding areas has increased. This led to improved livelihoods for local communities, contributing to sustainable development.

The improved water management, farmers have been able to cultivate crops more efficiently and sustainably, leading to higher yields and increased agricultural productivity.

It has resulted in a notable increase in the availability of water. These structures effectively regulate the flow of water, allowing for better retention and storage of rainfall runoff. As a result, there is a greater accumulation of water in the area, leading to enhanced water availability for various purposes such as irrigation, domestic use, and sustaining local ecosystems.

**Surge in income -
due to cultivation of
multiple crops - Halol**



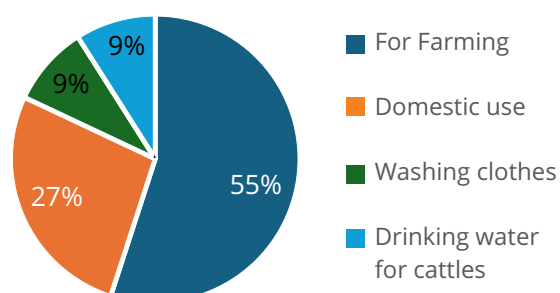
During engagements with respondents, it was observed that approximately 65% experienced a surge in income exceeding 10,000 annually due to the cultivation of multiple crops.

Farmers of Halol rely on agriculture as their main source of income, emphasizing the significant need for water to support their farming activities. The phrase suggests that without an adequate supply of water, farmers would struggle to maintain their livelihoods and meet the demand for agricultural products.

Through engagements with local inhabitants of Halol, a clear and unanimous viewpoint emerged: the existence of these rainwater harvesting has markedly increased water accessibility, resulting in noticeable enhancements in the calibre of crops. With a consistent and dependable water provision, farmers have observed a remarkable shift in their harvests, yielding crops of exceptional quality that fetch elevated prices in the market.

The rainwater harvesting has resulted in a notable rise in the water level of borewells. This increase in water level signifies a significant enhancement in groundwater availability. Consequently, there is now an ample supply of water, meeting the needs of the community or area served by these borewells.

Community benefited through rainwater harvesting – Halol



During the visit it was observed by team that 100% respondents benefited out of which, 55% of respondents benefited through rainwater harvesting for farming, and the remaining benefited the water for domestic use, washing clothes and drinking water availability for cattle's.

This positive outcome underscores the effectiveness of implementing water harvesting techniques as a means to conserve water resources and ensure sufficient water supply for various purposes.

The roundabout demonstrates its effectiveness by significantly reducing the occurrence of accidents and traffic congestion in the area. Its well-engineered design facilitates smooth traffic movement and minimizes the risk of collisions, enhancing overall road safety and efficiency.

Evaluation criterion 4: Efficiency

Rainwater harvesting serves as a vital structure for water conservation, particularly in regions prone to droughts or erratic rainfall patterns. Polycab mitigates water scarcity issues, enhance groundwater recharge, and bolster agricultural productivity. This engagement fosters a sense of ownership among community members, ensuring the sustainability and upkeep.

Furthermore, the ripple effects of improved water availability positively impact various sectors, including agriculture, livestock rearing, and overall community well-being. Thus, the CSR initiative's efficiency in water harvesting not only tackles pressing environmental challenges but also fosters socio-economic development in the targeted regions.

Effective resource allocation holds paramount importance, particularly in endeavours of such magnitude, where the stakes are high and the potential benefits significant. The achievement of rainwater harvesting stands as a testament to the Company's strategic vision and meticulous planning.

Access to proper sanitation facilities by construction of Toilet blocks leads to improved health outcomes, reduced incidence of diseases, and increased productivity, contributing to the overall well-being of the community.

Moreover, by addressing a fundamental aspect of public health and infrastructure, such projects lay the foundation for broader community development initiatives, fostering social cohesion, economic growth, and enhancing the quality of life for residents in the long run.



Utilizing resources effectively, the roundabout optimizes traffic flow and minimizes delays, thereby enhancing the efficiency of transportation systems in Daman. Its streamlined design and strategic placement contribute to reduced travel times and improved accessibility for commuters.

Evaluation criterion 5: Impact

The construction of toilet blocks, water harvesting and provided streetlights have several positive impacts on the environment, communities, and the economy. Here are some points outlining their impacts:

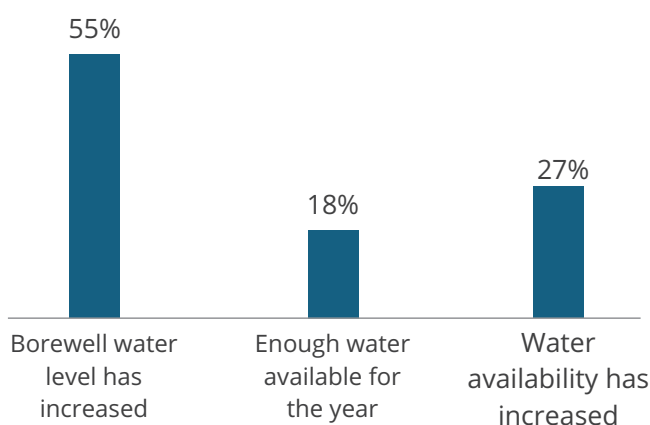
Improvement in water quality: The rainwater harvesting facilitates the settling of suspended solids and pollutants carried by runoff water. As a result, it helps in improving the quality of water in rivers, streams, and reservoirs downstream, benefiting both humans and aquatic ecosystems.

Socio-economic Development: The availability of water for irrigation and domestic use due to rainwater harvesting enhances agricultural productivity and provides livelihood opportunities for local communities. Additionally, improved water access can lead to better health outcomes and increased resilience to droughts.

Improved hygiene & sanitation: The availability of clean water promotes better hygiene practices, reducing the incidence of waterborne diseases and improving public health. Access to toilet facilities reduces open defecation, which is not only unhygienic but also a leading cause of various diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera, and typhoid.

Improved overall health & well-being: The rainwater harvesting has proven instrumental in enhancing the overall health and well-being of communities in many ways. Better sanitation leads to improved public health outcomes. Reduced incidences of waterborne diseases mean fewer medical expenses and less time lost due to illness. Moreover, the provision of streetlights ensures safer environments during nighttime, further contributing to the well-being of residents.

Environmental Impact: Construction of toilet blocks can contribute to environmental conservation by preventing contamination of water sources and soil.



After engaging with respondents, 100% respondents experienced various benefits out of which, 55% confirmed an increase in borewell water levels through rainwater harvesting. Whereas the remaining expressed that the rainwater harvesting have conserved rainwater and also supported in water availability has increased.

Farmer living nearby Kherap Anganwadi stated, "Before the installation of rainwater harvesting system at the Kherap Anganwadi, we faced a severe water scarcity issue during the summer months. The water level in our borewell would drop significantly, forcing us to lower the motor to access water at deeper levels. However, since the implementation of the rainwater harvesting system, we have noticed a remarkable improvement. Even during the dry season, the water level in the borewell remains stable, providing ample water not only for the Anganwadi but also for nearby villagers. We are grateful for this sustainable solution, which has eased our water woes and improved the overall quality of life in our community."

The roundabout's positive impact on road safety and traffic management is evident through reduced accident rates and smoother traffic flow. It enhances the overall quality of transportation infrastructure in Daman, benefiting both residents of the nearby villagers and visitors alike.

Evaluation criterion 6: Sustainability

Water stands as a cornerstone of sustainable agriculture, serving as the lifeblood for crop growth and productivity. Through the strategic implementation of rainwater harvesting, Polycab has significantly bolstered water availability, thereby fostering sustainable agricultural practices. This concerted effort underscores the Company's decade-long commitment to community development.

These recent endeavours epitomize the Company's dedication to crafting a brighter future. By water harvesting systems, the Company amplifies access to water, thus fortifying sustainable agricultural practices essential for regional economic prosperity.

Embracing sustainable agricultural techniques directed towards water conservation and management remains pivotal for safeguarding long-term food security and water availability.

Regular monitoring and evaluation were done by Polycab to ensure that the people are able to get the benefits from rainwater harvesting, construction of toilets and providing streetlights. It is essential to assess the performance and impact of projects over time. This includes tracking changes in water availability, agricultural productivity, and socio-economic indicators to ensure that the project goals are being achieved and to identify areas for improvement.

Benefeciaries Perceptions on Program	% Agree
More crops due to increased water availability	100%
Positive impact due to an increase in income	94%
Water scarcity in village reduced to a large extent	100%
Increase in water level and open wells / Bore wells have been recharged	100%
Overall cleanliness of village has increased due to the availability of water	94%
Newly constructed toilets improved sanitation and hygiene practices in the village	91%
Reductions in the incidence of waterborne diseases or improved overall health	100%

The program's sustainability is evident from the responses collected during the visit. All the respondents agreed on increase in crop cultivation, Water availability which has recharged the ground water resources and improved overall health. Whereas 94% respondents agreed on experiencing positive impact due to increased income and helped in improving cleanliness in village. Also, respondents expressed improved sanitation and hygiene due to toilet block constructions.

Assessing the cost-effectiveness and economic viability of water harvesting projects is crucial for long-term sustainability. This includes considering the benefits derived from water conservation, increased agricultural productivity.

Implementing proper waste management systems by availability of water further enhances sustainability by ensuring the responsible for cleanliness of disposal and treatment of sewage lines.

Education initiatives on hygiene practices and sanitation further have contributed to the sustainable use of these facilities. Through these concerted efforts of Polycab, construction of toilet blocks not only addressed immediate sanitation needs but also promoted enduring environmental ownership and community development in rural villages.

Designed for long-term viability, the roundabout promotes sustainable transportation practices by minimizing fuel consumption and vehicle emissions. Its efficient traffic management capabilities contribute to a greener environment by reducing idling and congestion-related pollution.

Project C: Village construction – Land Acquisition for town hall, Construction of libraries & Village Sports



Library – Godhra, Gujarat

In human civilization, villages maintain distinct and enduring significance. Characterized by close-knit communities, traditional practices, and a connection to the land, villages represent the essence of cultural heritage and communal life.

Village construction and development play pivotal roles in shaping the socio-economic landscape of rural areas. Moreover, well-planned construction projects contribute to environmental sustainability by incorporating eco-friendly practices and preserving natural resources. Thus, Polycab has undertaken the construction of public libraries as part of its rural development CSR initiative.

Polycab allocated INR 881.07 lakhs for Village construction projects

Community town halls serve as versatile spaces for gatherings, celebrations, and meetings, fostering a sense of unity and collaboration among villagers. Simultaneously, libraries offer invaluable resources for education and personal growth, empowering individuals with knowledge and opportunities for skill enhancement. Through these endeavours, Polycab has only supported by funding for Land acquisition of Town Hall.



Land acquisition done for Town Hall - Halol

Libraries offer valuable resources for education and personal growth, empowering individuals with knowledge and opportunities for skill enhancement. Through these endeavours, Polycab not only fulfil their ethical obligations but also catalyse sustainable progress by nurturing vibrant and empowered rural communities.

In recent years, there has been a growing recognition of the importance of sports for community development and well-being. Polycab, as part of their CSR initiatives is increasingly focusing on promoting sports in rural areas through targeted programs aimed at building sports infrastructure and nurturing talent at the grassroots level.



Sports Facility for Community Engagement - Halol

A village sports CSR program goes beyond merely constructing playgrounds or providing equipment; it encompasses comprehensive interventions that encourage active participation, skill development, and the promotion of healthy lifestyles and bringing all the villagers together for an activity creating awareness on unity.

Polycab Social Welfare Foundation (PSWF) has undertaken a commendable initiative in Daman to level the Laxmi ground. With an investment of ₹1,50,000, PSWF has contributed towards the soil work required for this project.

Additionally, the foundation has generously donated a ton mini rider roller to the Daman District Cricket Association to support the construction of the cricket ground. This initiative reflects PSWF's commitment to promoting sports and recreational activities within the community, providing a well-equipped and conducive environment for athletes and enthusiasts alike to pursue their passion for cricket.

By leveraging the power of sports, these programs not only foster physical fitness but also instil values of teamwork, discipline, and perseverance, thereby contributing to holistic community development.

Evaluation criterion 1: Relevance

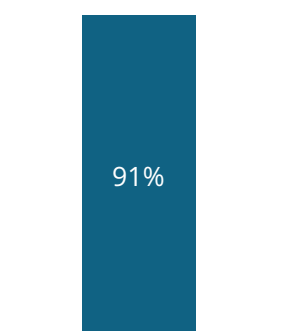
Polycab has initiated CSR funds for land acquisition with the overarching aim of fostering rural development. By acquiring land for the construction of a multipurpose hall, Polycab intends to conduct a diverse range of free sessions aimed at benefiting tribal and BPL communities.

These sessions encompass crucial areas such as agriculture awareness programs, farming techniques, educational workshops, women empowerment initiatives, and skill development programs. Furthermore, the multipurpose hall will serve as a venue for SHG sessions and can be made available to underprivileged individuals and communities for functions or ceremonies at no cost. This initiative underscores Polycab's commitment to empowering rural communities and facilitating their holistic development through accessible and impactful interventions.

Investing in land acquisition for Community Hall and Public libraries, along with fostering sports activities within these communities, is a vital aspect of Polycab's CSR programs. Village construction projects contribute directly to improving the quality of life for rural populations by providing access to essential amenities such as clean water, sanitation facilities, healthcare centres, and educational institutions.

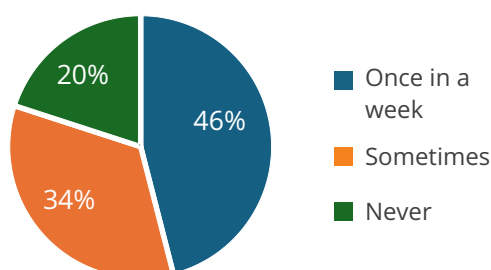
As part of the village construction CSR program, significant efforts have been directed towards the establishment of libraries, fostering a sense of unity and intellectual growth within the community. The construction of these facilities not only provides essential infrastructure but also symbolizes a commitment to the overall development and empowerment of the village populace.

Responses on Benefits of libraries – Godhra and Daman



An overwhelming majority of Halol and Daman, accounting for approximately 91% of the respondents surveyed, have actively engaged with and utilized the community halls, libraries and sport facility.

Responses for Frequency of usage –
Libraries – Godhra and Daman



During an engagement with respondents in Godhra and Daman it emerged that the library has been useful for the community as 100% Respondents were utilizing the libraries out of which, around 46% of them utilize the libraries on a weekly basis to spend their time on readings to gain knowledge, forward their thinking while remaining utilized according to their free time availability.

Incorporating sports facilities into CSR initiatives not only promotes physical well-being but also fosters community cohesion and social integration. By supporting village sports, corporations encourage active lifestyles, youth development, and the spirit of teamwork among residents, ultimately contributing to the holistic development of rural communities and fulfilling their social obligations.

Evaluation criterion 2: Coherence



Land Acquisition of Community halls and construction of libraries in villages as part of CSR programs embodies a profound commitment to holistic community development. These multifunctional spaces serve as vital hubs for education, cultural enrichment, and social cohesion. By providing access to knowledge, resources, and communal gathering spaces, they foster a sense of belonging and empowerment among villagers.

The symbiotic relationship between halls and libraries underscores their complementary roles in facilitating diverse activities, from educational workshops to community meetings and cultural events. Such initiatives not only enhance the quality of life within rural communities but also underscore the significance of corporate engagement in fostering sustainable social progress.

Through the integration of these facilities, CSR initiatives contribute significantly to the collective well-being and resilience of village populations, enriching lives and fostering a spirit of unity and progress.

Sports facilities serve as catalysts for physical activity, health promotion, and social cohesion, fostering a culture of fitness and teamwork among villagers. By providing access to well-equipped sports grounds and facilities, Polycab's CSR initiatives not only promote physical health but also instil values of discipline, and fair play among participants.

Through the integration of sports facilities, CSR programs contribute significantly to the overall development and resilience of rural communities, enriching lives and fostering a spirit of unity and progress.

In recent times, the Government of India and State Government have taken multiple initiatives to groom athletes for professional sports. Sports have to be a part of a child's growing up.



The National Education Policy 2020 offers a window of opportunity to integrate sports as a non-alienable part of the curriculum in schools and colleges. The network of schools and colleges makes a perfect platform to scale sports to reach each household. The essay argues that with an initiative like One State One Sport, both – scale and future champions can be created.

The Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) supports the construction of public amenities like town halls and sports facilities, aligning with CSR spending aimed at enhancing community infrastructure in villages.



Initiatives under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) contribute to land acquisition projects for public libraries, reinforcing CSR investments focused on promoting education and community development in rural areas.

Evaluation criterion 3: Effectiveness

The village construction program integrating Land acquisition for community halls and libraries as a component of Polycab's CSR initiatives has proven profoundly effective in fostering community development and empowerment.

The Land acquisition for community halls would facilitate gatherings for various events, meetings, and cultural activities, promoting social cohesion and collective decision-making processes. Simultaneously, libraries offer access to knowledge resources, fostering literacy, lifelong learning, and intellectual growth among villagers.

These initiatives often contribute to local economic development by providing platforms for vocational training and entrepreneurship workshops. By addressing diverse community needs and fostering sustainable development, the integration of community halls and libraries in CSR programs significantly enhances the overall well-being and resilience of rural populations.

By offering these amenities, Polycab demonstrated a commitment to enhancing the quality of life and fostering community development through their CSR efforts, thereby positively impacting the lives.

The libraries constructed by Polycab as part of their CSR initiatives were equipped with essential amenities to ensure functionality and comfort for users. These facilities included tables, and chairs providing spaces for reading.

The library has significantly contributed to fostering education and knowledge-sharing within the community by offering a diverse collection of educational literature. This provision not only cultivates a heightened interest in academic pursuits but also facilitates group discussions and study sessions, thereby enriching the learning experience. The calm environment of the library promotes focused reading, allowing individuals to delve into their studies and research endeavours with enhanced concentration and serenity.

**Increase in literacy or
interest in reading among
community members -
Halol and Daman**

94%

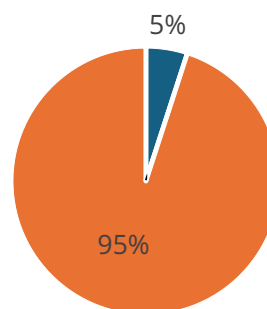
During an engagement session in Godhra and Daman, nearly 94% of the respondents reported a notable surge in literacy rates or a heightened enthusiasm for reading within the community subsequent to the establishment of the libraries.



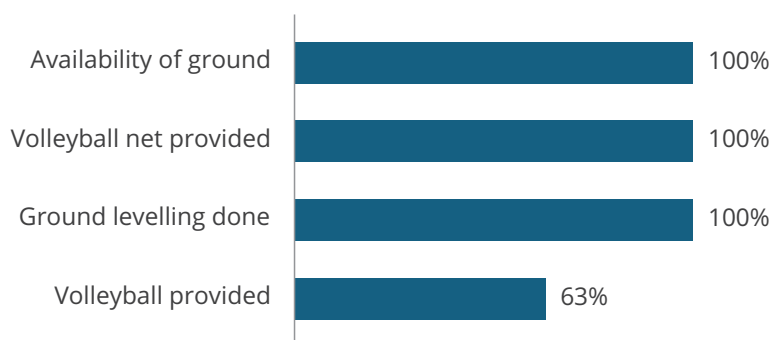
During an interaction with respondents in Godhra it was revealed that, in addition to the construction of public libraries in Godhra, separate reading rooms were established for male and female students, each initially accommodating around 100 students. PSWF further augmented the infrastructure by constructing the library's second floor, substantially expanding the reading room's capacity to accommodate over 250 students. Additionally, PSWF furnished the space with 47 fixed chairs to facilitate a conducive learning environment for students.

At the time of visit, respondents included that the Company has provided sports facilities in the village, out of all the respondents, 95% expressed the ground was utilized for volleyball while the remaining said they used it for playing cricket.

Responses on Sport Facility Provided - Halol



Sports Elements provided for sports activity - Halol



During an interaction with respondents, 100% of them agreed that Polycab ensured about the appropriate ground levelling done, ground was made available with the sport equipment needed.

Evaluation criterion 4: Efficiency

Community libraries act as accessible repositories of knowledge, offering resources for lifelong learning and intellectual growth.

Their efficiency lies not only in providing physical infrastructure but also in catalysing social capital, empowering individuals, and promoting community development. Through these initiatives, Polycab not only fulfils its ethical obligations but also contribute significantly to the sustainable development of society.

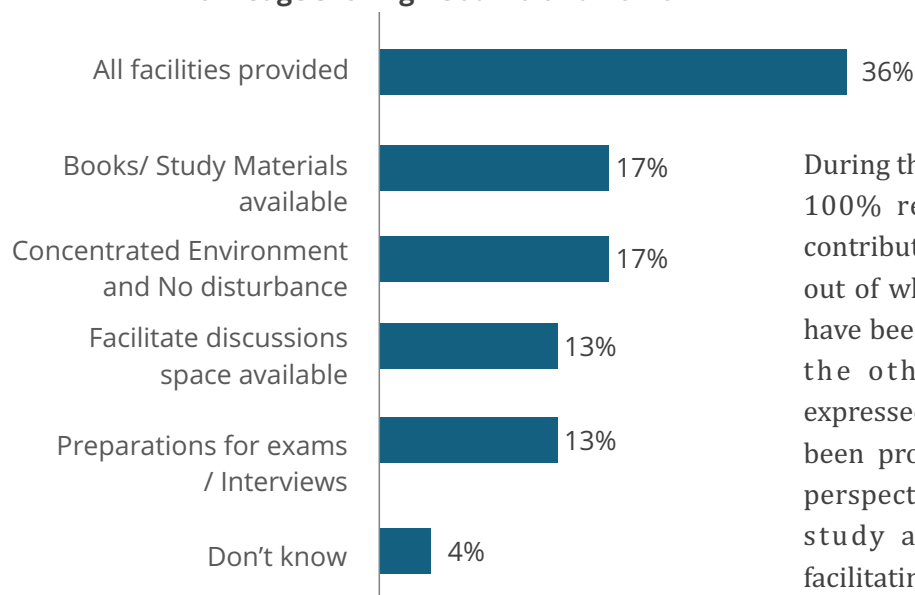
Responses on libraries utilization - Godhra & Daman

91%

On interacting with respondents, approx. 91% agreed regarding the utilization of libraries for educational programs, workshops, or tutoring sessions aimed at students.

The establishment of the library has significantly enriched educational opportunities and knowledge exchange, offering essential resources such as study materials, fostering interactive discussions, bolstering concentration levels, and providing invaluable support for exam preparation.

Responses on contribution of new libraries to Education and knowledge sharing - Godhra and Daman



During the visit, team observed that all the 100% respondents expressed various contribution by new constructed libraries, out of which 36% expressed the libraries have been provided all the facilities, while the other remaining respondents expressed that the reading material has been provided which is useful for exam perspective with silent environment to study and also the space helps in facilitating various fruitful discussions.

Sports facilities transcend mere physical structures, becoming vibrant hubs of health, recreation, and social cohesion. By providing accessible spaces for sports and physical activities, such initiatives promoted individual well-being, combatting sedentary lifestyles and fostering a culture of fitness.

Beyond the realm of sports, these facilities become focal points for community engagement, hosting events, tournaments, and outreach programs that bring people together across diverse backgrounds. Thus, the efficiency of CSR-driven sports facilities lies not only in their provision of infrastructure but also in their profound impact on individual health, community bonding, and societal resilience.

Evaluation criterion 5: Impact

Education and Literacy: Public libraries provide access to books, educational resources thereby promoting literacy and education within rural communities.

Cultural Preservation and Promotion: Libraries stock literature and resources that preserve and have promoted local culture, traditions, and history.

Promotion of Health and Fitness: Access to sports facilities encourages villagers to engage in physical activities, promoting better health and fitness levels among community members. Regular exercise through sports help prevent diseases like obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular issues.

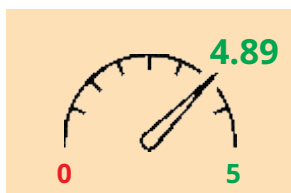
Talent Development: Access to sports facilities uncover and nurture talent within the village community. Identifying promising athletes at a grassroots level lead to opportunities for further training and participation in competitive sports, potentially opening doors to scholarships or professional careers.



Responses on Quality of libraries – Godhra and Daman



Respondents have rated the quality of libraries, available facilities, and the condition of books on a scale of 1 to 5, with most responses falling between 4 and 5. These ratings denote a high level of satisfaction with the provided amenities.



Responses on ratings for the quality of sports facility provided – Halol

During an interaction with respondents of Halol, a substantial majority rated the sports facility as 4.89 on scale of 1 to 5 indicating high level of satisfaction.

Evaluation criterion 6: Sustainability

Sustainability is achieved through careful planning and design considerations, including the use of environmentally friendly materials, energy-efficient systems, and incorporation of renewable energy sources such as solar panels. Moreover, these libraries often facilitate educational programs on sustainable practices, encouraging villagers to adopt eco-friendly lifestyles. By enhancing social infrastructure and promoting sustainable living practices, these libraries in Godhra and Daman contributed significantly to the long-term well-being and resilience of rural communities.



Public libraries constructed as part of CSR programs in rural areas not only provide access to knowledge but also contribute to the sustainability of the communities they serve. These libraries become hubs for learning, information dissemination, and cultural exchange, fostering literacy and education among residents. Sustainability is embedded in their design and operations, with considerations for energy efficiency, eco-friendly construction materials, and accessibility features.

Additionally, these libraries often offer programs promoting environmental awareness and sustainable practices, such as workshops on conservation, recycling initiatives, and community gardening projects. By nurturing a culture of learning and environmental stewardship, these public libraries play a crucial role in building resilient and sustainable rural communities for generations to come.



Village sports facilities not only promote physical fitness among villagers but also serve as catalysts for social cohesion and economic empowerment. By providing access to sporting facilities, equipment, and training, CSR-driven village sports initiatives empower individuals, especially youth, to harness their potential and develop skills beyond the playing field.

These programs often integrate environmental stewardship principles, fostering a deeper connection to nature and promoting eco-friendly practices within the community. Through continuous support, engagement, and capacity-building efforts, such initiatives have the potential to create lasting positive impacts, driving sustainable development in rural areas for generations to come.

Project D: Organic Farming including Awareness Sessions



Embracing organic farming initiatives aligns with the growing global emphasis on sustainability, biodiversity conservation, and the promotion of healthier food choices. By integrating organic farming into CSR strategies, Company contributes positively to local communities, enhance environmental ownership, and foster economic resilience.

Traditional farming, heavily dependent on chemical inputs and intensive methods, has taken a toll on both the soil and the farmers. Issues like soil degradation, water pollution, and rising input costs have threatened the very essence of farming livelihoods.

Polycab's CSR spending on organic farming and farming awareness sessions totaled INR 5,13,256 from FY 2020-21 to 2022-23. Additionally, CSR spending on mushroom cultivation awareness sessions totaled INR 2,26,000 over the same period.

In this challenging environment, Polycab embarked on a mission to transform the narrative of rural farming communities. By promoting organic farming initiatives, the Company aimed to rejuvenate the land and inspire the farmers who worked on it.



Vermicompost Bed - Halol

The era of depending on synthetic fertilizers and pesticides was replaced by practices like vermicomposting, crop rotation, and natural pest control. This shift to organic farming sparked a revival in agricultural methods, fostering a balanced relationship between people and the land.

Beyond merely supporting sustainable agriculture, organizations are now conducting awareness sessions to educate stakeholders about the benefits of organic farming. These sessions serve as platforms to foster understanding, inspire action, and encourage consumer support for organic products. By championing organic farming and raising awareness through targeted sessions, companies not only contribute to a healthier environment but also cultivate informed and empowered communities.

Evaluation criterion 1: Relevance

In rural areas most of the villages follow the traditional practices of farming resulting in poor crop yield. Incorporating organic farming into CSR projects allows Companies to promote environmentally friendly agricultural practices that prioritize soil health, water conservation, and biodiversity preservation.

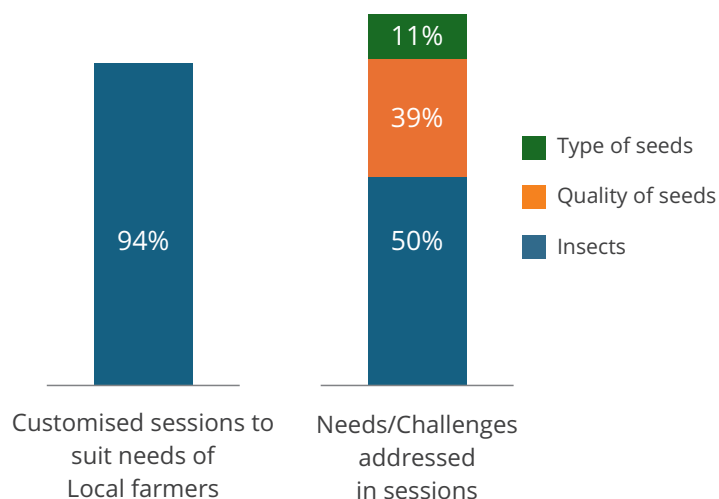
“Jivamrut” – TankBy supporting organic farming, Polycab contributes to reducing the use of synthetic chemicals, minimizing environmental pollution, and mitigating climate change impacts. Furthermore, organic farming promotes the production of healthier and chemical-free food, benefiting consumer health and well-being. The Natural liquid fertilizer which was created by the farmer after knowing about the organic farming was named as 'Jivamrut'.



Additionally, investing in organic farming can empower local communities, enhance rural livelihoods, and foster economic development by creating sustainable employment opportunities. Therefore, integrating organic farming into CSR projects enables Company to demonstrate their commitment to environmental ownership, social responsibility, and sustainable development.

Awareness sessions equip individuals, especially farmers and rural communities, with knowledge and skills to adopt environmentally friendly and economically viable farming practices. By providing training on organic farming techniques, resource conservation, and integrated pest management, Companies help enhance agricultural productivity while minimizing environmental impact.

Need for Awareness Session -Halol



Upon engaging with the respondents of Halol, a significant 94% confirmed that the awareness sessions were tailored to meet the specific needs of local farmers. Additionally, 50% of the participants acknowledged that these sessions effectively addressed insect-related challenges in farming and remaining on type and quality of seeds.

Additionally, educating communities about mushroom cultivation offers a valuable alternative source of income and nutrition. Mushroom cultivation is a low-cost, high-yield agricultural activity that can be practiced even in limited spaces, making it accessible to small-scale farmers and households. Awareness sessions on mushroom growing can empower individuals to diversify their agricultural activities, improve food security, and generate additional income, thereby enhancing their livelihoods.

Sessions on Organic Farming - Halol



During an engagement with respondents in Halol, a remarkable 94% acknowledged the ongoing awareness sessions on organic farming, with all respondents actively participating in these informative farming sessions.

Evaluation criterion 2: Coherence

Polycab's CSR initiatives, particularly focused on rural development and agriculture, align perfectly with its comprehensive CSR strategy. These efforts are also well-integrated with key Government policies and programs in India, enhancing their impact and outreach.

An example of this collaboration is the Company's alignment with the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), a leading initiative that promotes cluster-based organic farming supported by the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification. This joint effort encourages organic farming within community clusters, promoting sustainable agricultural methods while equipping farmers with training, certification, and marketing opportunities.



Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY), initiated by the Indian Government, aims to boost agricultural development nationwide. It incentivizes states to invest more in agriculture and allied activities, offering flexible funds based on performance. By promoting innovation, technology adoption, and extension services, RKVY aims to uplift farmers, raise incomes, and drive rural economic growth.

The National Horticulture Mission aims to bolster horticulture production, improve nutritional security, and elevate farmer incomes. It emphasizes technology adoption, sustainable practices, and resource efficiency to enhance productivity and quality. Through infrastructure development, capacity building, and market linkages, NHM drives transformation in horticulture, fostering food security and rural employment.



"A farmer named Samatsingh Parmar stated, 'We used to face numerous challenges in our agricultural endeavors. Lack of access to proper farming information and reliance on household seeds resulted in poor crop yields and increased susceptibility to diseases. This forced us to resort to expensive pesticides, further straining our finances. Additionally, we were unaware of Government agricultural schemes that could have helped us. However, with the guidance of Polycab Social Welfare Foundation, we gained valuable insights into better farming practices. Now, by using Organic farming methods, we've seen a remarkable improvement in our crop yields and overall livelihood.'"

In summary, Polycab's CSR activities reflect its commitment to responsible corporate citizenship and act as catalysts for positive change. By collaborating effectively with Government policies and leveraging collective resources and expertise, these initiatives drive sustainable development, benefiting both people and the environment.

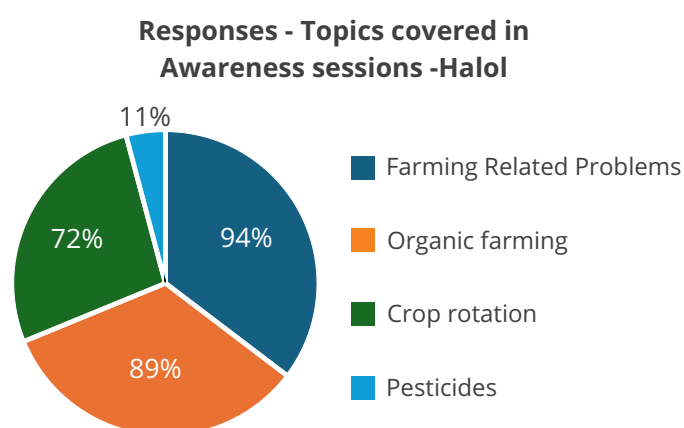
Evaluation criterion 3: Effectiveness

Organic farming practices focus on maintaining soil fertility through natural methods like crop rotation, composting, and green manure. This enhances soil structure, water retention, and reduces erosion. Organic farms often harbour a greater diversity of plant and animal species, contributing to ecosystem health and resilience. By avoiding synthetic pesticides and fertilizers, organic farming reduces the risk of chemical runoff contaminating waterways.

Organic foods are produced without synthetic pesticides, herbicides, or genetically modified organisms (GMOs), potentially reducing health risks associated with chemical residues. With increasing consumer awareness about health and environmental issues, there is a growing demand for organic products, offering farmers a premium price for their produce. While initial transition to organic farming may require investment, over time, reduced reliance on purchased inputs like synthetic fertilizers and pesticides lead to cost savings.

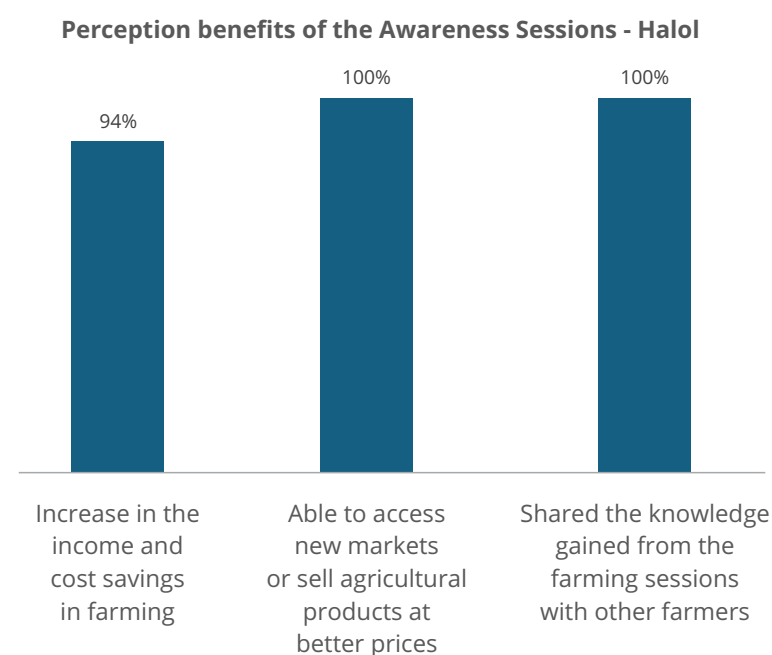
During the visit to Halol, the team observed that organic farming initiatives are limited to respondents who have farms but do not have cattle, as cow dung and urine play an important role in organic farming. Therefore, it is recommended that the Company expands support mechanisms to address the challenge of limited program implementation. By providing alternative forms of assistance and resources to beneficiaries, the Company can thus increase the scope of impact of the initiative taken.

Awareness sessions educate farmers and communities about the principles and practices of organic farming, promoting sustainable agricultural techniques. Workshops and training sessions equip participants with practical skills, enhancing their ability to adopt organic farming methods effectively. Involving local communities, farmers, and other stakeholders in awareness programs fosters collaboration, shared learning, and community ownership of sustainable practices.



During interactions with the respondents in Halol, 100% respondents expressed various topics covered in Farming awareness sessions out of which, it was found that 94% acknowledged that the awareness sessions addressed farming-related issues. Additionally, 89% confirmed that the sessions covered organic farming while, remaining expressed knowledge gained on pesticides and crop rotation methods.

Moreover, these awareness sessions foster community engagement, collaboration, and knowledge-sharing among participants. They create a platform for farmers, experts, and organizations to exchange ideas, experiences, and best practices, leading to continuous learning and innovation in agriculture. Overall, integrating awareness sessions on farming and mushroom growing into CSR projects aligns with sustainable development goals by promoting environmental ownership, economic growth, and social inclusion within communities.



In discussions with the respondents of Halol, all respondents agreed on awareness sessions aided them in accessing new markets and selling agricultural products at improved prices and shared insights gained from these sessions with their peers. Additionally, 94% noted an increase in income status and cost savings through farming.

Evaluation criterion 4: Efficiency

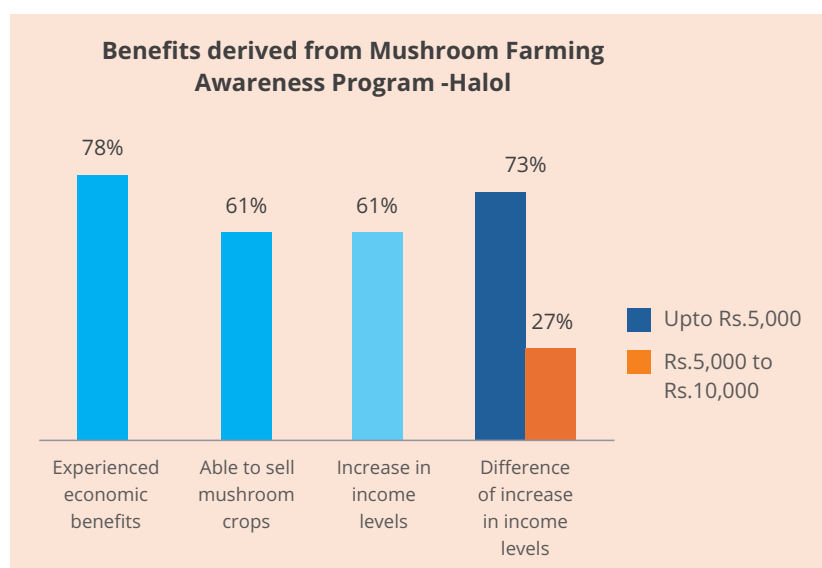
Organic farming stands out as a sustainable agricultural practice that prioritizes soil health, biodiversity, and environmental conservation. Its efficiency lies in its ability to produce nutritious crops without relying on synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, or genetically modified organisms.

Instead, organic farming employs natural methods like crop rotation, composting, and biological pest control to maintain soil fertility and balance ecosystems. To amplify the benefits of organic farming and foster a deeper understanding of its importance, awareness sessions are crucial. These sessions, often conducted as part of CSR programs, educate farmers and communities about the principles and practices of organic agriculture.

By raising awareness and providing training, CSR-driven initiatives empower individuals to make informed choices that support sustainable food systems, protect the environment, and promote public health. Thus, the synergy between organic farming and awareness sessions not only enhances agricultural productivity but also cultivates a more environmentally conscious and resilient society.

Mushroom growing awareness session aimed to empower local communities with knowledge and skills to cultivate mushrooms as a viable source of income and nutrition. Through hands-on demonstrations, educational presentations, and interactive discussions, participants learned about the basics of mushroom cultivation, from preparation to harvesting techniques.

By promoting such eco-friendly and economically beneficial practices, Polycab strive to foster self-reliance, enhance food security, and contribute to the overall well-being of the communities they serve. This session not only highlighted the importance of sustainable agriculture but also inspired individuals to explore new avenues for livelihood improvement while respecting the environment.



Upon engaging with the respondents for mushroom farming awareness program, team found compelling evidence of its positive impact. A significant 78% reported experiencing economic benefits directly attributed to the Mushroom farming awareness program, while remaining experienced successfully selling mushrooms crops to augment their income, underscoring the program's effectiveness in enhancing livelihood opportunities and financial stability within the community.

Evaluation criterion 5: Impact

The effects of organic farming have demonstrated the following enhancements -

Soil Health: Organic farming practices improved soil health by promoting the use of organic matter, crop rotation, and green manures. This leads to better soil structure, increased water retention, and reduced erosion.

Water Quality: Organic farming reduces the use of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers that leach into water bodies, thereby improving water quality and reducing pollution.

Biodiversity: Organic farms tend to support higher levels of biodiversity compared to conventional farms. They provide habitats for various species of plants, animals, and microorganisms.

Climate Change: Organic farming practices such as agroforestry and conservation tillage can help hide carbon in the soil, contributing to climate change mitigation.

Healthier Food: Organic farming produces food that is free from synthetic pesticides, hormones, and genetically modified organisms (GMOs), which can contribute to better public health.

Market Demand: As consumer awareness about the benefits of organic food grows, there is an increasing demand for organic products. This creates new market opportunities for farmers and businesses involved in organic production.

Cost Savings: While transitioning to organic farming may require an initial investment, in the long run, farmers save costs on synthetic inputs, reduce dependence on expensive external inputs, and potentially achieve higher selling prices for organic produce.



Impact of the Farming Awareness Sessions - Halol

Improvement in Knowledge and understanding of agriculture



During interactions with the respondents in Halol, it was found that all the respondents responses acknowledged that the farming awareness sessions were very helpful for understanding farming practices.

Improvement areas - Halol



This improvement areas according to the responses received by team, all the respondents were evident in their daily farming practices, resulting in increased crop productivity. Additionally, 94% of the respondents believed that adopting these farming methods had led to improved outcomes in their agricultural endeavours.

Evaluation criterion 6: Sustainability

The Company's dedication to organic farming has been pivotal in offering crucial support to farmers. Adopting organic farming methods has empowered farmers to boost their yields without expanding their landholdings. This sustainable approach is set to continue in the future.

By employing practices like vermicomposting and organic cultivation, soil fertility has significantly improved. This is attributed to the reduced use of pesticides and chemicals, ensuring the long-term viability of the soil.

Furthermore, the Company's training and awareness programs have played a key role in enhancing farmers' knowledge and awareness. With this improved understanding, farmers are effectively applying their new insights to achieve better outcomes on their farms.



Vermicomposting - Halol

A few benefits of adopting organic farming practices for farmers include:

Boosted Soil Health: Organic farming enhances soil fertility, leading to sustained soil health.

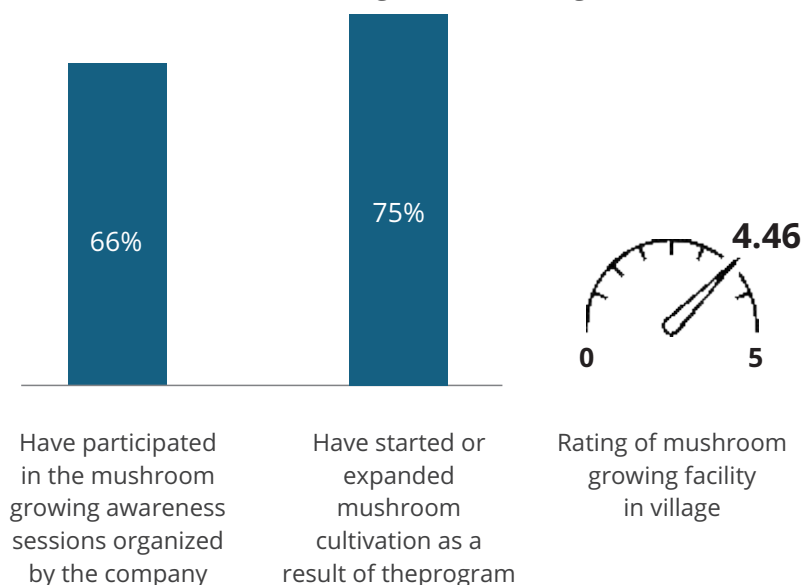
Cost Savings: Organic practices reduce the need for costly chemical inputs, helping farmers cut down on expenses.

Superior Crop Attributes: Organic crops often offer better taste, nutritional content, and longevity, resulting in increased market worth.

Eco-friendly Approach: Organic farming minimizes harm to ecosystems and biodiversity, promoting environmental well-being.

Market Opportunities: As demand for organic goods rises, farmers can access specialized markets and charge higher prices for their products.

Reach of Mushroom farming Awareness Program -Halol



In conversations with the respondents from Halol, it came to light that 66% of them attended the mushroom cultivation awareness programs conducted by Polycab. Furthermore, these respondents began to expand their mushroom farming following the program's implementation.

Case Study:

Transforming Farming Practices: A Farmer's Journey through Organic Farming

I am Nagin Rathva from Amrapura village, where I manage a 10-acre farm. In the past, I relied on chemical fertilizers and pesticides for farming, which initially seemed beneficial but soon led to soil degradation and reduced crop quality. The excessive cost of these chemicals and their adverse effects on both my health and the environment compelled me to seek alternative farming methods.



Fortunately, Polycab Social Welfare Foundation intervened in our village, providing valuable guidance on sustainable agricultural practices. With their assistance, I transitioned to using certified seeds purchased from authorized outlets, resulting in improved crop yields. Additionally, I learned about vermicompost and received training on its preparation and usage, allowing me to produce 700 kilograms of organic fertilizer every 60 days.

Moreover, I acquired knowledge on creating 'jeevamrit,' a natural solution made from cow urine, buttermilk, pulses flour, and water. This concoction serves as a safe and effective alternative to chemical pesticides, preserving both crop health and environmental integrity.

Implementing these natural farming techniques not only reduced my expenses but also enhanced the quality of my crops. This year, I cultivated chilies and maize using vermicompost, witnessing a significant increase in production. For instance, my chili crop yield surged from 22 to 40 mann in half a vigha land, while maize production increased from 135 to 150 mann across three vighas of land.

The success of these methods has not only bolstered my income but also allowed me to prioritize investing in my child's education. Additionally, by utilizing less water in farming practices, I am contributing to environmental conservation while securing sustainable agricultural practices for future generations.

My income has increased, from Rs. 300 per 20kg with traditional methods to Rs. 450 per 20kg with organic farming.

I have efficiently learned organic farming methods through vermicomposting, enabling me to create my own affordable natural fertilizer and achieve good crop yields.

I am thankful to Polycab for introducing me to this farming technique, and the awareness sessions conducted have helped me increase my income level.



Project E: Women Empowerment

In the expansive landscapes of rural India, where age-old traditions intersect with contemporary life, lies a demographic that remains often sidelined but is integral to the social fabric: women. Despite significant strides in India's overall progress, women in rural areas face persistent systemic challenges that hinder their socio-economic growth.



The total amount spent by Polycab on Women Empowerment through CSR initiatives amounted to INR 1,287,901.

Recognizing the importance of gender equality and the pivotal role women play in society, companies are increasingly integrating initiatives that empower women into their CSR strategies. These initiatives aim to uplift women by providing opportunities for education, skills training, leadership development, and economic empowerment.

By prioritizing women's empowerment, businesses not only contribute to social progress but also drive positive change within their organizations and the broader community. This commitment to gender equality demonstrates a Company's dedication to creating a more inclusive and equitable world, where every individual has the chance to realize their full potential.

Limited access to essential infrastructure and educational opportunities confines them within a cycle of socio-economic constraints. The combination of insufficient educational facilities and societal norms emphasizing domestic roles over personal growth perpetuates illiteracy and dependency among women. Consequently, many women lack the skills needed for economic independence, relegating them to society's periphery, where their voices are silenced, and ambitions curtailed.

Amidst this landscape of challenges and disparities, Polycab has taken proactive steps to instigate change and uplift rural women. By harnessing its resources and fulfilling its CSR commitments, the Company aims to dismantle the systemic barriers obstructing women's progress in these underserved regions.

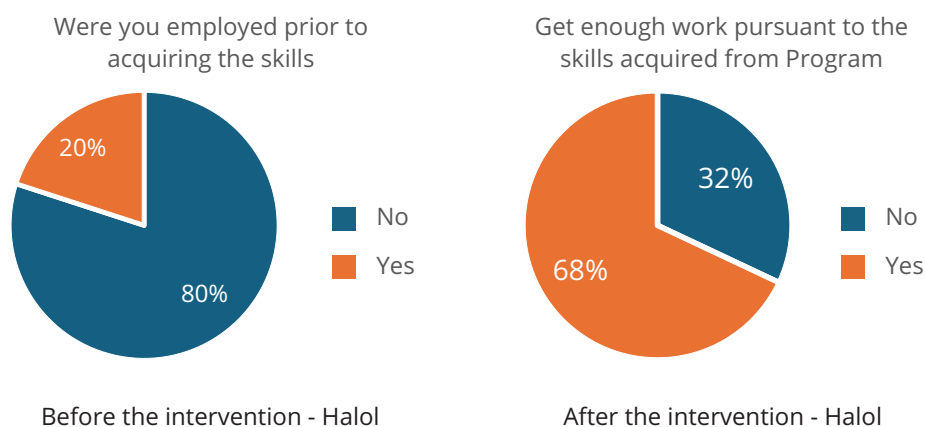
Through focused initiatives centered on skill development and awareness-raising, Polycab strives to liberate women from the confines of socio-economic deprivation and chart a course toward a more inclusive and equitable future.

Evaluation criterion 1: Relevance

In rural areas, numerous women either face unemployment or are predominantly involved in agricultural work or domestic responsibilities to sustain their families. Frequently, they encounter barriers to acquiring new skills or accessing opportunities for independent ventures due to cultural constraints limiting their employment options outside the household. Consequently, a considerable portion of rural women grapple with unemployment, hindering their ability to financially support themselves and their families.

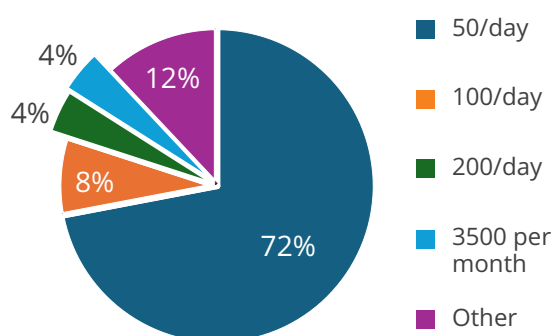
By investing in initiatives that enhance women's education, skills training, and economic opportunities, Polycab contributes to reducing gender disparities and promoting equal rights. This not only aligns with the global agenda of achieving gender equality but also positively impacts business performance. Gender-diverse workplaces often exhibit enhanced creativity, innovation, and financial success.

Thus, integrating women empowerment programs into CSR strategies not only drives positive social change but also yields long-term benefits for businesses and communities.



Prior to the intervention, 80% of the respondents identified themselves solely as homemakers, without any form of employment outside their households. For these women, the opportunity to engage in productive work represents a significant breakthrough. However, following the intervention, 100% respondents acquired various skills out of which, 68% of these women secured sufficient employment opportunities based on the skills they had acquired through Polycab's initiative.

Earning with the skills acquired



Feedback from participants in Halol showcased positive results. 100% respondents reported that they had started generating income from the training they received. With their newly acquired skills, they have enhanced their earning potential. Specifically, about 72% of the women now earn around Rs. 50 per day while the remaining responses also admitted of earning in various ranges.

Providing these women with opportunities to earn a living not only boosts their financial autonomy but also enhances their societal status within their communities. By securing meaningful employment, they play an active role in improving their families' economic stability, consequently enhancing their overall well-being.

Additionally, by promoting self-reliance and entrepreneurial spirit, this initiative builds confidence and resilience in these women, empowering them to better face the challenges of rural life. Essentially, it fosters comprehensive empowerment by providing women with the resources and chances needed to pave their way towards prosperity and fulfilment.

Evaluation criterion 2: Coherence



By investing in women's empowerment, companies not only contribute to gender equality but also foster economic growth, enhance workplace diversity, and drive sustainable development. Such programs often focus on education, skill development, and entrepreneurial opportunities for women, equipping them with the tools to become financially independent and active contributors to their communities.

Geetaben stated, "As the sewing class instructor, I had the pleasure of witnessing countless women from Halol learn invaluable skills. From operating sewing machines to mastering hand sewing techniques, reading patterns, and creating intricate embroidery, these women have honed their craft in various garment designs such as blouses, dresses, chaniya cholis, pants, and shirts. Seeing them not only develop their skills but also use them to earn income and support their families fills me with immense pride. It's truly rewarding to witness the positive impact these sewing classes have on their lives, empowering them to become self-sufficient and contributing members of their households."



This alignment with broader societal goals enhances a Company's reputation, strengthens stakeholder relationships, and can lead to long-term business success by creating a more inclusive and resilient society. Thus, a coherent and well-executed women empowerment program not only serves societal needs but also aligns with a Company's strategic objectives, creating a win-win situation for all stakeholders involved.

The Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) is an initiative launched by the Government of India to empower women through skill development and employment opportunities. The primary objective of the STEP scheme is to provide vocational training to women, especially those from marginalized and disadvantaged backgrounds, to enhance their employability and income-generating capabilities.



The "**Lakhpati Didi Scheme**" is an initiative introduced by various State Government in India to promote women's entrepreneurship and financial inclusion. Under the Lakhpati Didi Scheme, women are encouraged to start their own businesses or enterprises by providing them with financial support, training, and resources. The scheme offers financial assistance in the form of loans, grants, or subsidies to eligible women entrepreneurs to help them establish or expand their businesses.



Evaluation criterion 3: Effectiveness

Women are often key agents of change within their communities. Empowering women through education, skills training, and entrepreneurship lead to improved community development outcomes, such as better health, education, and living standards.

CSR initiatives focused on women empowerment enhances a Company's brand reputation as a socially responsible and forward-thinking organization. This can help attract customers, investors, and partners who prioritize sustainability and social impact.

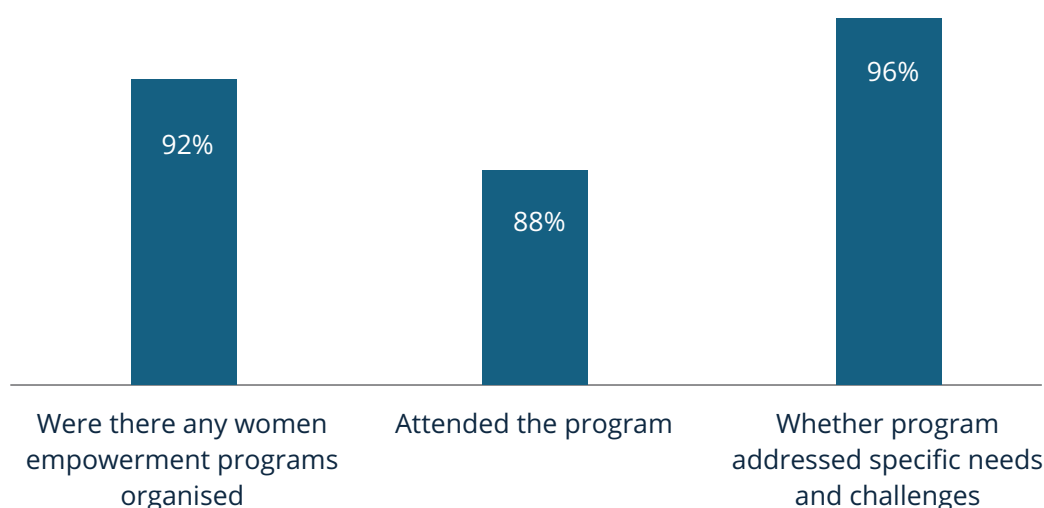
The Company has played a vital role in supporting women through sewing in various ways, manufacturing of 100% biodegradable sanitary napkins, Bharat Natyam, Martial Arts, Computer and Beautician making a significant difference. Understanding the value of resources, the Company has not only provided training but also made it easier for women to get sewing machines.



At times, the Company has given sewing machines, computers and material for napkins directly to the participants, ensuring they have the necessary equipment to use their new skills. For those who couldn't afford sewing machines, the Company has offered financial assistance, allowing them to buy their own tools.

This all-encompassing approach boosts the impact of the program by making sure all participants, no matter their starting point, have what they need to succeed. By removing obstacles to access, the Company helps women from different backgrounds fully engage in the training and use it to enhance their lives.

Responses of Women Empowerment Program - Halol



In a recent interaction with participants of the women's empowerment program, it was found that 92% respondents were aware of the women empowerment programs organised by Polycab while, 88% agreed on attending the program and 96% respondents experienced that the needs and challenges have been addressed by the program.

During interactions with women respondents in Halol, 92% confirmed experiencing an increase in income due to acquiring new skills. Additionally, approximately 96% noted that their income had risen by up to Rs. 5,000 as a result of these skills.

Evaluation criterion 4: Efficiency

By providing women with access to education, skill development, and entrepreneurial opportunities, CSR-driven empowerment initiatives enable them to become economically independent and active contributors to their families and societies.

Furthermore, these programs often lead to improved health outcomes, reduced poverty, and increased gender equality, creating a ripple effect that benefits entire communities. Companies that invest in women empowerment as part of their CSR demonstrate a commitment to social justice, diversity, and long-term sustainable development, ultimately leading to a more equitable and prosperous society.

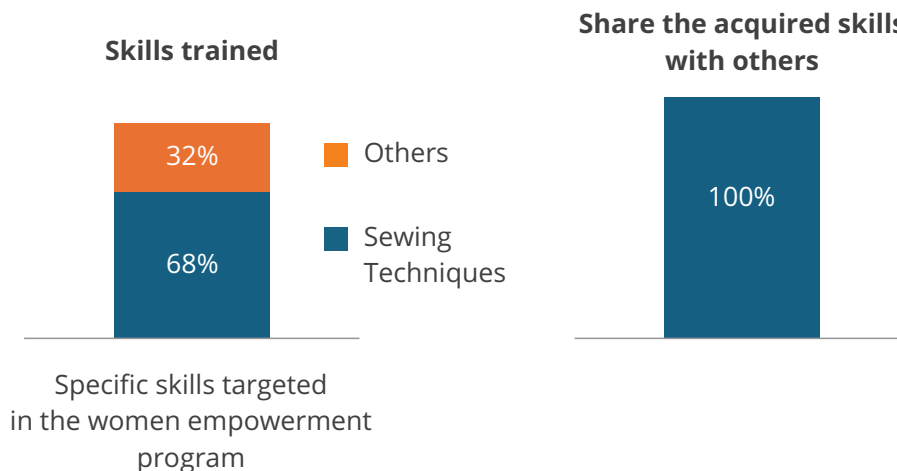
The Sanitary Napkin Project in Hansapura aims to empower women by providing income-generating opportunities and addressing hygiene-related challenges. Led by the Sarpanch Mr. Ashok Bhai Chauhan's request and the village women's need for employment after 12 pm, the project seeks to fight with the cultural beliefs surrounding menstruation and provide affordable hygiene products. With a population of 1800, including 777 females, training sessions will be conducted to enhance women's skills in napkin production. A small-scale production unit will be established within the community, supported by a self-help group for mutual support and market connections, ensuring the sustainability of the project's income-generating activities.



The Girls' Sewing Class, a central component of the initiative, efficiently equips participants with essential life skills while fostering community support for girls' empowerment. By challenging traditional gender roles and providing a platform for skill development, the program maximizes its impact on participants' holistic development, effectively utilizing resources to achieve its objectives.



Resources for Sewing Techniques – Halol



In Halol, our women empowerment program targeted a range of valuable skills to uplift participants. During interactions with the program's participants, 100% respondents agreed on various training provided out of which, 68% confirmed that training in sewing techniques was provided as a key component of the empowerment initiative. 100% of the participants shared the acquired skills with others.

Evaluation criterion 5: Impact

Polycab's CSR programs have significantly improved the lives of disadvantaged groups, especially women, demonstrating its dedication to social responsibility and community upliftment.

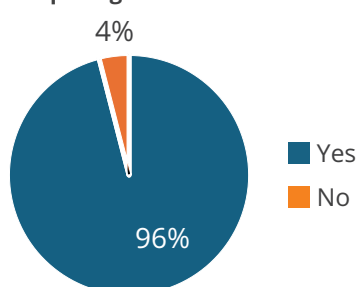
On-site visits allowed the team to witness the enthusiastic response and appreciation from those benefiting from the Company's initiatives. These firsthand accounts highlight the real and impactful transformations initiated by the Company's efforts.



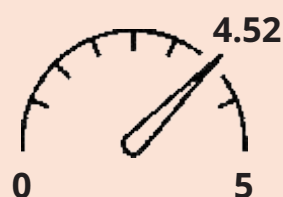
Women empowerment programs as a part of CSR have a multifaceted impact on society, the economy, and businesses themselves. Here are some key impacts:

- **Education:** Women empowerment programs often focus on education and skill development, leading to increased literacy rates among women. This breaks the cycle of poverty and improve the overall quality of life.

Responses on improvements seen in lives as a result of acquiring skills - Halol



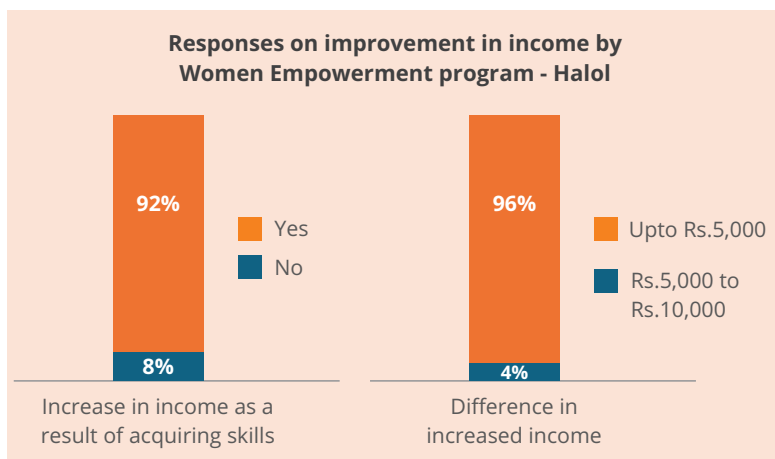
Responses on ratings given for program - Halol (for personal empowerment & improving socio-economic status)



During a session with participants of a women's empowerment program, 96% acknowledged seeing improvements in their lives after acquiring new skills. They rated their personal empowerment and socio-economic status post-intervention at an impressive 4.52 out of 5.

- **Health:** Access to healthcare services and information through these programs lead to better health outcomes for women and their families.
- **Employment Opportunities:** Women empowerment programs provide training and job opportunities, leading to increased female participation in the workforce and economic growth.
- **Income Generation:** Empowered women often have higher earning potential, which lead to increased household income and improved living standards.





At the time of visit team observed that the program has helped women in getting empowered due to acquiring skills through Polycab's initiative and they have started earning while also experienced increase in the income level of minimum INR 5000 to more than INR 10000.

Jaydip Singh stated, "I am the facilitator of the Sewing program, and I am deeply grateful for the transformative impact that Polycab's initiative had on our students' lives. Witnessing success stories like those of Bhatiya Swikiben and Meghwal Sumitraben fills me with immense pride. Bhatiya Swikiben secured a job at a local tailoring shop, now earning a commendable monthly income of 15,000 rupees, while Meghwal Sumitraben, empowered by the skills learned, embarked on her entrepreneurial journey, running her own tailoring business and generating a monthly income of 20,000 rupees. These achievements exemplify the profound difference Polycab's initiative has made in empowering individuals like them to pursue meaningful livelihoods and contribute to their families' economic well-being."

Evaluation criterion 6: Sustainability

The program aims for comprehensive empowerment across economic, social, and environmental dimensions. Economically, it equips respondents with skills in sewing, computer skills, self-protection skills, business management, and market access to foster self-sufficiency and independent income generation.

Socially, it cultivates an environment that promotes gender equality, women's rights, and community engagement, going beyond mere economic advancement.

Environmentally, the program emphasizes eco-friendly practices, utilizing sustainable materials and reducing waste in production. Collaborations with local organizations bolster sustainability, ensuring continued support and relevance.



By providing women with sewing machines, the program not only offers a means of income but also encourages independence and skill enhancement. Ongoing support through training, market access, and technical assistance sustains this empowerment.

As women achieve financial stability, they reinvest in their families and communities, sparking a positive cycle of empowerment. Targeting gender inequality, the program contributes to broader societal and economic progress.

Strengthened by sustainable partnerships with local stakeholders, the program promises lasting success in empowering women and cultivating resilient communities.

Project F: Pond Deepening



As CSR initiatives gain prominence in today's business landscape, organizations are increasingly recognizing the importance of aligning their activities with the broader interests of society and the environment. Beyond mere profitability, Companies are embracing their role as stakeholders in the communities they serve, acknowledging the interconnectedness between their operations and the well-being of local ecosystems and inhabitants.

One such exemplary endeavour embodying this ethos is the Pond Deepening Project in Hansapura and Abhrampura location. Through this initiative, Polycab invest in enhancing the ecological health and sustainability of local ponds, reservoirs, and water bodies. By deepening ponds, these projects aim to improve water quality, enhance biodiversity, and bolster ecosystem resilience. Through such interventions, the Pond Deepening Project endeavours to restore and preserve critical aquatic habitats, fostering the resurgence of native flora and fauna while simultaneously enhancing overall biodiversity.

The total amount spent by Polycab on Pond Deepening through CSR initiatives amounted to INR 6,882,844.

Moreover, the Pond Deepening Project serves as a platform for collaboration between businesses, local Government, environmental organizations, and community members, fostering partnerships that yield lasting social and environmental benefits.

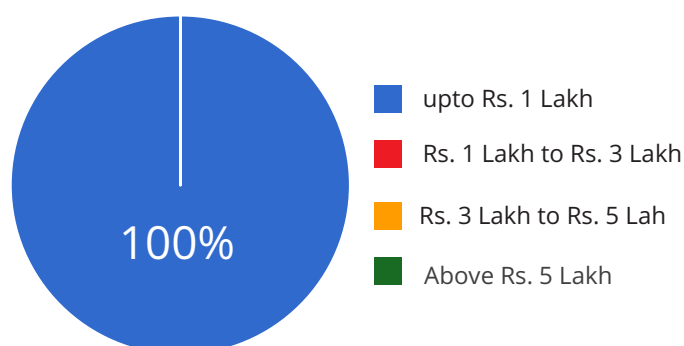
As we delve deeper into the intricacies of this endeavour, its multifaceted impacts on both nature and society become increasingly apparent, underscoring the pivotal role of CSR in fostering holistic progress and sustainable development.

Evaluation criterion 1: Relevance

Pond deepening projects as a part of CSR initiatives hold significant relevance in both environmental conservation and community development. The significance of such projects lies in their pivotal role in the restoration and preservation of vital water bodies. These ponds serve as lifelines for diverse ecosystems and local populations alike.

Before the intervention, the water level was critically low, resulting in a year-long scarcity of water, and the reserves of groundwater were depleted. Following the intervention, the water level rose significantly.

By investing in their deepening, corporations actively contribute to bolstering water storage capacity, a crucial asset in combating the adverse effects of droughts. This endeavour ensures a sustainable water supply essential for irrigation, drinking water, and supporting livestock, thereby fortifying the resilience of communities against water scarcity.



During the visit, the team discovered that all respondents from the villages were from underprivileged communities, with their income status not exceeding 1 lakh.

Furthermore, the augmentation of water availability resulting from pond deepening endeavours yields substantial agricultural dividends. Improved access to water resources translates into enhanced agricultural productivity, underpinning food security initiatives and facilitating poverty alleviation efforts.

Evaluation criterion 2: Coherence

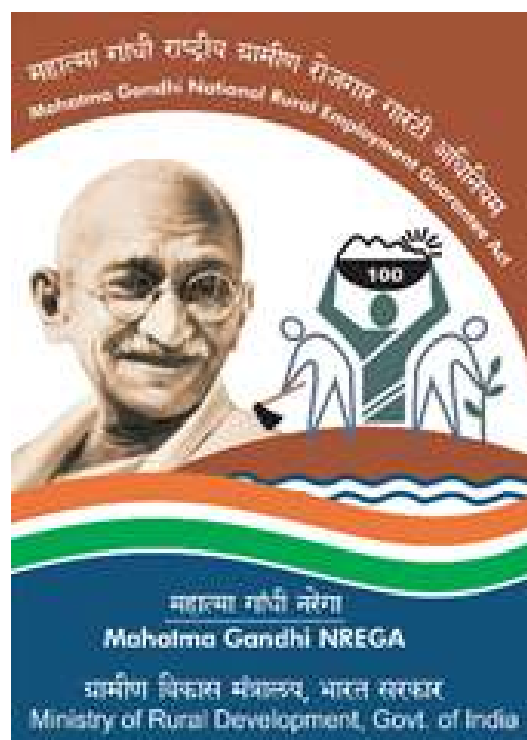
Deepening ponds improves water storage capacity, aiding in flood control and mitigating water scarcity during dry seasons, thereby bolstering agricultural productivity and ensuring a sustainable water supply for communities. It fosters biodiversity by creating habitats for aquatic life, contributing to ecological balance and preserving natural resources. Such initiatives often involve community engagement, empowering locals through employment opportunities, skill development, and education on sustainable water management practices.

Thus, the coherence of pond deepening projects under CSR initiatives reflects a holistic approach towards addressing community needs while promoting environmental ownership and fostering long-term socio-economic development.

One Government initiative aligned with pond deepening in rural development is the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). MGNREGA aims to enhance the livelihood security of people in rural areas by guaranteeing at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Pond deepening projects under MGNREGA provide employment opportunities to rural households while simultaneously improving water conservation and management. These projects contribute to sustainable rural development by increasing water availability for agriculture, livestock, and domestic use, thereby boosting agricultural productivity and improving livelihoods in rural communities.

The pond deepening in Hansapura and Abhrampura for rural development stands as a testament to the commitment towards holistic progress in rural areas. By enhancing water conservation and management through pond deepening initiatives, communities are not only provided with vital resources for agriculture, livestock, and domestic use but also with sustainable employment opportunities.

This coherence fosters a cycle of growth, where improved water availability leads to increased agricultural productivity, better livelihoods, and ultimately, enhanced resilience against environmental challenges. Through concerted efforts and strategic interventions like pond deepening, rural communities are empowered to thrive, paving the way for a more sustainable and prosperous future.



Evaluation criterion 3: Effectiveness

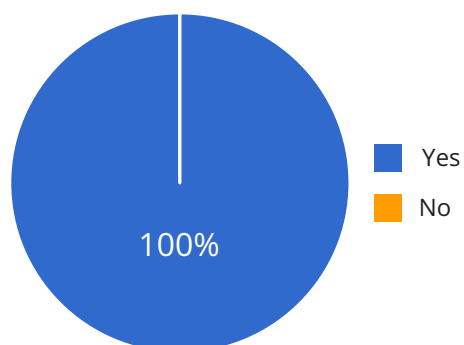
The effectiveness of the pond deepening initiative undertaken by Polycab is evident in the significant improvement it has brought to the water availability in the nearby villages. Prior to the project, the lake failed to retain water for the entire year, resulting in severe water scarcity issues for the surrounding communities.

Villagers encountered numerous challenges, ranging from insufficient water for agricultural activities to limited access for domestic and drinking purposes. However, with Polycab's intervention, the conservation and capacity of the pond have been substantially enhanced. As a result, the pond now retains water throughout the year, effectively addressing the longstanding problem of water scarcity in the area.

This transformative change has positively impacted the lives of the villagers, ensuring consistent access to water for various needs and contributing to the overall development and well-being of the community.



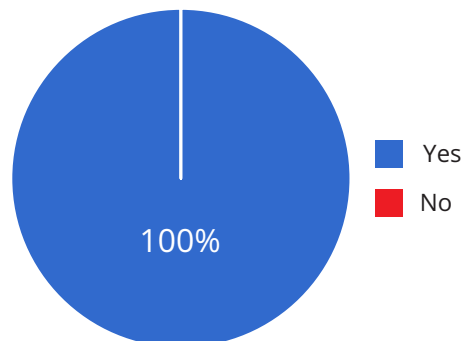
Pond deepening improved community health and provided better water access - Hansapura and Abhrampura



Following discussions with the respondents of Hansapura and Abhrampura, it was unanimously agreed by all participants that the project focusing on the deepening of ponds has not only significantly enhanced the overall health conditions within the community but has also notably augmented accessibility to clean and reliable water sources.

Responses – Benefited from Pond Deepening - Hansapura and Abhrampura

During the visit team observed that all the respondents agreed with benefitting due to pond deepening.



The initiative to deepen ponds has proven highly effective in addressing water scarcity issues in the surrounding villages. Previously, communities faced significant challenges due to insufficient water reserves, impacting agricultural activities, domestic needs, and drinking water supply.

However, through the concerted efforts of Polycab, the deepening of ponds has substantially increased water conservation and availability, ensuring a year-round water supply. This transformative intervention has successfully resolved the longstanding problem of water scarcity, significantly improving the livelihoods and overall well-being of the local communities.

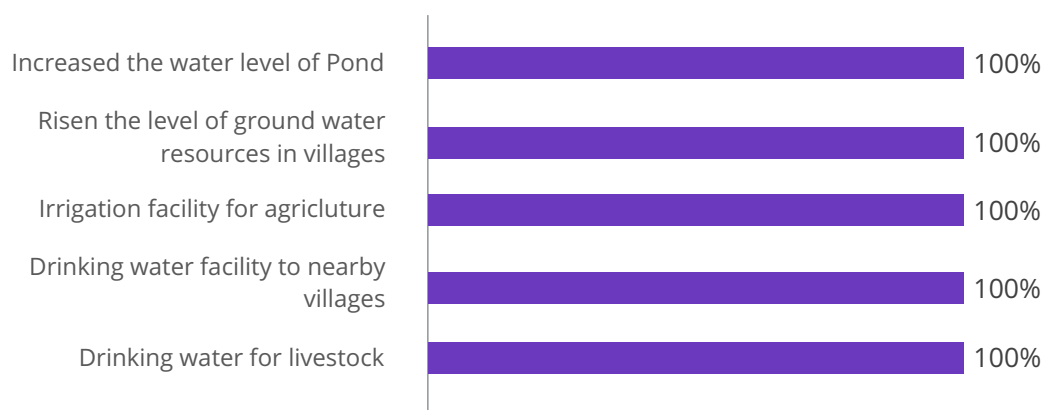
Evaluation criterion 4: Efficiency

The efficiency of Polycab's pond deepening initiative is evident in the optimal utilization of resources and the tangible benefits realized by the communities. Through meticulous planning and execution, the resources allocated to the project have been effectively utilized to maximize the impact on water conservation and availability.

Additionally, the project adhered to sustainable practices, ensuring minimal environmental impact while maximizing the long-term benefits of increased water storage capacity.

The enhanced water availability resulting from the pond deepening initiative has enabled communities to meet their diverse water needs throughout the year, thereby improving agricultural productivity, supporting livelihoods, and enhancing overall socio-economic development in the region.

Responses – Various Benefits from Pond Deepening - Hansapura and Abhrampura



During the visit it was observed by team that all the respondents agreed on experiencing rise in pond and other ground water resources thus benefitting in agricultural, domestic and drinking purposes.

By harnessing the provided resources efficiently, the community has not only addressed immediate water scarcity challenges but also laid the groundwork for long-term resilience and prosperity.

Through this collaborative effort, Polycab has not only contributed to enhancing livelihoods but also empowered communities to thrive in harmony with their natural surroundings, showcasing the transformative potential of conscientious resource allocation and community engagement.

In conclusion, Polycab's pond deepening initiative stands as a testament to effective resource management and community-driven development. The judicious utilization of resources, coupled with the active participation of community members, has yielded remarkable results in improving water availability and fostering sustainable development.

Evaluation criterion 5: Impact

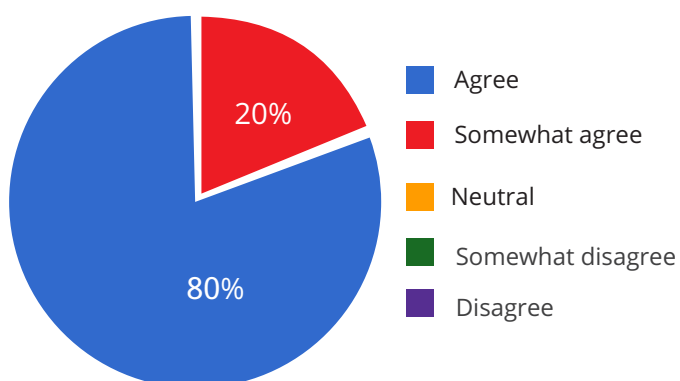
The impact of pond deepening has been profound, significantly improving water availability and transforming the lives of respondents. By ensuring a consistent water supply throughout the year, the initiative has directly contributed to enhancing agricultural productivity.

Farmers can now cultivate their lands more effectively, leading to increased crop yields and food security for the community. Moreover, the availability of clean drinking and domestic water has alleviated the burden on villagers, ensuring better health outcomes and improved quality of life.

The project's influence extends to livestock as well, with animals now having access to water for hydration and sustenance. Furthermore, the recharge of groundwater resulting from the deepened pond has bolstered the local ecosystem, providing long-term benefits for water sustainability.



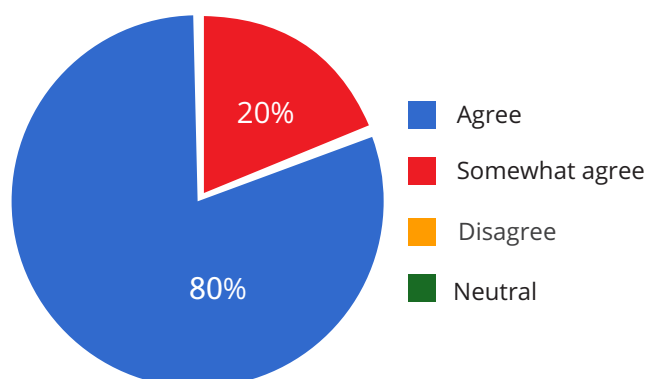
Responses – Improvement in hygiene and sanitation facilities by Pond Deepening - Hansapura and Abhrampura



Ultimately, these improvements have had a tangible impact on livelihoods, with farmers experiencing higher incomes and greater economic stability, thus underscoring the positive ripple effects of effective water management initiatives like pond deepening.

During the visit, the team noted that 80% of respondents acknowledged an improvement in hygiene and sanitation facilities attributed to water conservation resulting from pond deepening, while the remaining respondents "somewhat agreed."

Responses- Improved crop yields – Hansapura and Abhrampura



During the conversation with the respondents at the visit, among all the beneficiary respondents, 80% agreed that agriculture has benefited due to high crop yields, while the remaining "somewhat agreed."

The pond deepening initiative undertaken by Polycab in Hansapura and Abhrampura has had a profound impact on the surrounding villages. By ensuring improved water availability throughout the year, the initiative has not only addressed the longstanding issue of water scarcity but has also significantly enhanced the livelihoods of local communities. Increased crop yields, access to clean drinking and domestic water, and recharged groundwater levels have directly contributed to the upliftment of the respondents, leading to a tangible improvement in their overall quality of life.

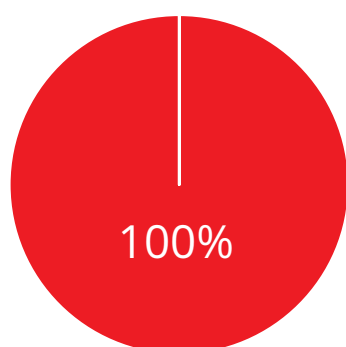
Evaluation criterion 6: Sustainability

The pond deepening initiative has not only addressed immediate water scarcity issues but has also laid the foundation for long-term sustainability in the beneficiary communities. By increasing water availability and recharge of groundwater, the project ensures that the benefits extend well beyond the immediate future.

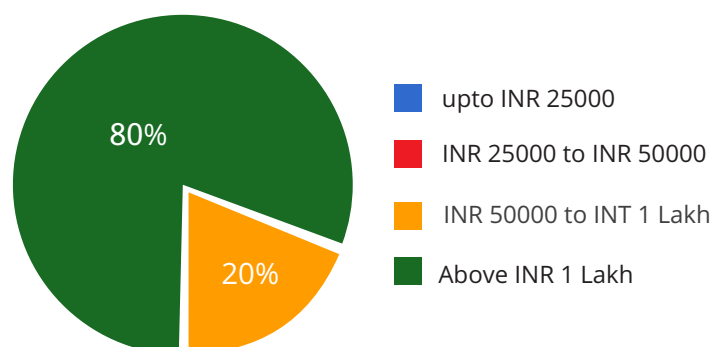
Improved access to water for irrigation purposes ensures higher agricultural productivity, leading to enhanced food security and increased incomes for farmers. Additionally, the availability of clean drinking water promotes better health and sanitation practices, thereby reducing the prevalence of waterborne diseases.

Overall, the sustainability of the pond deepening project lies in its ability to provide lasting benefits that positively impact the lives of the beneficiaries for years.

Responses – Yearly income of farmers before Pond deepening – Hansapura and Abhrampura



Responses – Yearly income of farmers after Pond deepening – Hansapura and Abhrampura



In the graphical representation above, the team observed during the visit that before the Polycab initiative, the yearly income ranged between INR 25,000 to INR 50,000. However, after the pond deepening initiative, 80% of farmers benefited with yearly incomes exceeding INR 1 lakh, while the remaining also experienced an increase in income levels.

The rise in income levels among respondents reflects the sustainable impact of the project, promising continued growth and stability in the region. Overall, Polycab's pond deepening initiative exemplifies a holistic approach to sustainability, addressing immediate needs while laying a foundation for enduring prosperity.

Case study:

Story of Ranjanben – Enhanced Skill development



My name is Ranjanben Jaidip Jadav, and I am a housewife living in the village of Chachdiya.

After finishing my daily chores, I found myself feeling to do something more, something that would fill my time with purpose. That's when I discovered the beauty parlour course offered by Polycab Company. Out of curiosity, I decided to enrol in this one-month training program.

Under the guidance of our dedicated instructor, Jayeshree ben Parmar, I received comprehensive and enthusiastic training. Upon completing the course, I felt a sense of accomplishment and was inspired to embark on a new journey by starting my own beauty parlour business.

I began offering a variety of services, including bridal makeup, hairstyling, mehndi application, and more, at various events and weddings in our community.

During the beauty parlour training, I acquired a diverse set of skills that not only enriched my personal development but also opened doors to exciting career opportunities. Some of the key skills I mastered during the training include makeup artistry, hairstyling techniques, skincare principles, nail care, customer service, product knowledge, and hygiene practices.

Today, I am making the most of my free hours, working as a skilled beautician, and not only earning income but also contributing to my family's financial stability. This transformation in my life is all thanks to the opportunity provided by Polycab.



Improvement Areas

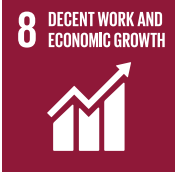
- **Improving Project Categorization:** Create clear rules for deciding what type of projects to do in rural areas. This will help us spend money better on things that are good for the community and match our goals.
- **Strengthening Documentation and Assessment Practices:** Enhance documentation procedures by implementing cost and quotation document comparisons for transparency, accuracy, and accountability in project evaluation processes.
- **Enhance Support Mechanisms:** Expand support mechanisms to address the challenge of limited program implementation by providing alternative forms of assistance and resources to beneficiaries to increase the impact of program.

Recommendations

- **Implementing Community-Based Management:** Establish community-based management where the villagers will take the leadership and create an ownership of the project for overseeing the utilization of natural resources, actively participate in decision-making processes and ensuring that resource utilization aligns with community needs.
- **Establishing Partnerships:** Creating partnerships with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other relevant stakeholders to improve support mechanisms for rural development programs where the support is needed, to improve their expertise, resources, and boost existing efforts and maximise impact in underserved communities.
- **Sessions on eradicating Traditional Beliefs on women empowerment:** Conduct awareness campaigns, advocating for women's equal participation in both household and professional spheres. Engage community leaders to promote gender equality and empower women to pursue education and employment.
- **Expand Livelihood Opportunities:** Support to collaborate with local businesses to create flexible work arrangements and entrepreneurship initiatives and facilitate various job opportunities for women through skill-based training and entrepreneurship programs connected to their needs and interests.
- **Promote Active Participation:** Foster community engagement through targeted outreach activities like mobilization campaigns and door-to-door awareness drives. Also, company can Partner with local leaders to facilitate conversation and gather feedback, ensuring community involvement which will increase the planning, implementation and impact of the program.

Alignment with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

SDGs	SDG Targets	Alignment with the SDGs
	2.1: End hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular, the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food all year round.	By improving animal husbandry practices and providing veterinary services, these initiatives contribute to food security and sustainable agriculture.
	3.2: End preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births.	Access to clean water through water conservation, which is essential for rural communities for Good Health and Well-being.
	5.1: End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.	Empowering women through various initiatives such as skill development, education, and economic opportunities aligns with the goal of achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls.
	6.1: Achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.	Building toilet blocks and implementing rainwater harvesting systems contribute to improving access to clean water and sanitation facilities in rural areas.
	8.5: By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.	Enhancing animal husbandry practices can create employment opportunities and boost economic growth in rural areas.
	10.1: By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 percent of the population at a rate higher than the national average.	Women empowerment initiatives contribute to reducing inequalities within communities by promoting equal access to resources and opportunities.

MMJC

Polycab India Limited

CSR IMPACT
ASSESSMENT REPORT

Environment



Executive Summary

Polycab in collaboration with Polycab Social Welfare Foundation (PSWF) undertakes various Environmental initiatives. These initiatives encompass Water conservation efforts such as the construction and renovation of check dams, Waste management projects and Forest restoration.

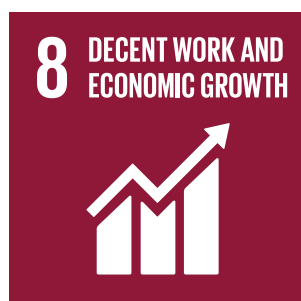
Check dams serve as vital infrastructural assets, effectively managing water resources and mitigating soil erosion in regions prone to drought and flooding. Such initiatives not only enhance the resilience of ecosystems but also empower local populations by providing access to clean water for drinking and irrigation, thereby promoting socio-economic growth and environmental sustainability. Before the implementation of the intervention, the community encountered numerous challenges in accessing adequate water facilities. Post the intervention, check dams have contributed to flood control, reducing the risk of devastating floods during the monsoon season.

Investing in waste management infrastructure, such as recycling facilities and waste treatment plants, Companies contribute to the reduction of pollution and the promotion of cleaner, healthier communities. These CSR programs not only help in addressing environmental challenges but also create positive social impact by generating employment opportunities, improving public health, and raising awareness about waste management and sanitation practices. Additionally, active involvement in the Swachh Bharat mission aligns with national efforts to improve sanitation and hygiene standards across India.

Forests play an indispensable role in maintaining ecological balance, mitigating climate change,

conserving biodiversity, and providing essential ecosystem services such as clean air, water, and soil fertility. Forest restoration involves activities aimed at restoring degraded or deforested areas to their original or healthier state. This may include tree planting programs, erosion control measures, removal of invasive species, and habitat restoration efforts. Polycab has planted over 10,000 trees, including fruit-bearing and flowering plants, to enrich the biodiversity of the area.





Research Methodology



Findings of the study

- Prior to the intervention, 82% of respondents primarily used a nearby lake for water, despite its distance. Others collected rainwater or limited their usage due to concerns about water scarcity.
- 100% of the respondents agreed regarding the positive impact of check dam construction on augmenting water availability.
- 91% of respondents acknowledged an enhancement in access to hygiene and sanitation facilities within the community due to construction of check dams.
- 99% of respondents noted improvements in both the quality and quantity of water available for drinking, cooking, and sanitation purposes.
- 100% of respondents acknowledged the positive impact of the newly constructed check dams on the community out of which 55% of the respondents reported utilizing the check dams for agricultural purposes, while the remaining stated using them for domestic water needs for laundry purposes, and for providing drinking water to cattle's.
- 100% of the respondents agreed that waste management program benefited the community with various sanitation facilities and improved the access to clean drinking water.
- 87% of the respondents confirmed that they had received awareness campaigns focused on hygiene and sanitation.
- Respondents rated their satisfaction with the waste management program at 3.4 out of 5, citing improvements in community health and hygiene as key factors.

- 100% respondents agreed on improvement in health and well-being, out of which 73% of the beneficiaries agreed that the waste management program contributed to the overall improvement in public health and well-being in the community and the remaining somewhat agreed.
- 100% respondents experienced various improvements due to Waste Management program, out of which, 90% respondents noticed improvements in air quality, while the remaining also noticed improvement in water quality, greenery and reduced pollution.
- 100% of the respondents rated the usefulness of the forest restoration program between 4 and 5 on a scale of 5.
- 100% of the respondents agreed that forest restoration program benefited the community by enhancing cattle grazing areas, increasing income generation, and improving access to drinking water for livestock.
- 100% of the respondents rated the quality of trees post-intervention, ongoing support during the forest restoration program, and assistance with irrigation activities as Excellent to Very Good.

Impact created

Improvement in water quality: Check dams constructed to settle suspended solids and pollutants in runoff water significantly improve water quality downstream in rivers, streams, and reservoirs, benefiting both humans and aquatic ecosystems.

Mitigation of soil erosion: Check dams control soil erosion by reducing the velocity of water runoff, which prevents the loss of fertile topsoil. This helps in maintaining soil fertility and agricultural productivity in the surrounding areas.

Reduced Landfill Waste: Proper waste management practices reduced the amount of waste sent to landfills, thereby conserving valuable landfill space and reducing environmental pollution.

Cost Savings: Efficient waste management practices lead to significant cost savings by reducing waste disposal fees, purchasing of new materials, and energy consumption.

Improved Sanitation Facilities: Polycab's efforts in rural areas have enhanced sanitation facilities, resulting in decreased open defecation and better hygiene practices, thereby improving public health.

Biodiversity: Restoring forests help preserve and enhance biodiversity by providing habitats for various species of plants, animals, and microorganisms.

Air and Water Quality: Trees play a vital role in purifying the air by absorbing pollutants and releasing oxygen. They also filter and regulate water quality by reducing runoff and improving groundwater recharge.

Conclusion

Polycab's undertaking various environmental initiatives reflects a commendable commitment to sustainable development. Through the construction and renovation of check dams, the Company has effectively managed water resources and reduced soil erosion. The provision of clean water for drinking and irrigation has not only addressed longstanding challenges but also contributed to flood control, significantly reducing the risk of devastating floods during the monsoon season.

Moreover, Polycab's investments in waste management infrastructure and forest restoration have yielded multifaceted benefits, including pollution reduction, creation of employment opportunities, and conservation of biodiversity.

By actively participating in the Swachh Bharat mission, the Company has demonstrated its alignment with national priorities while fostering social, cultural, and economic development.

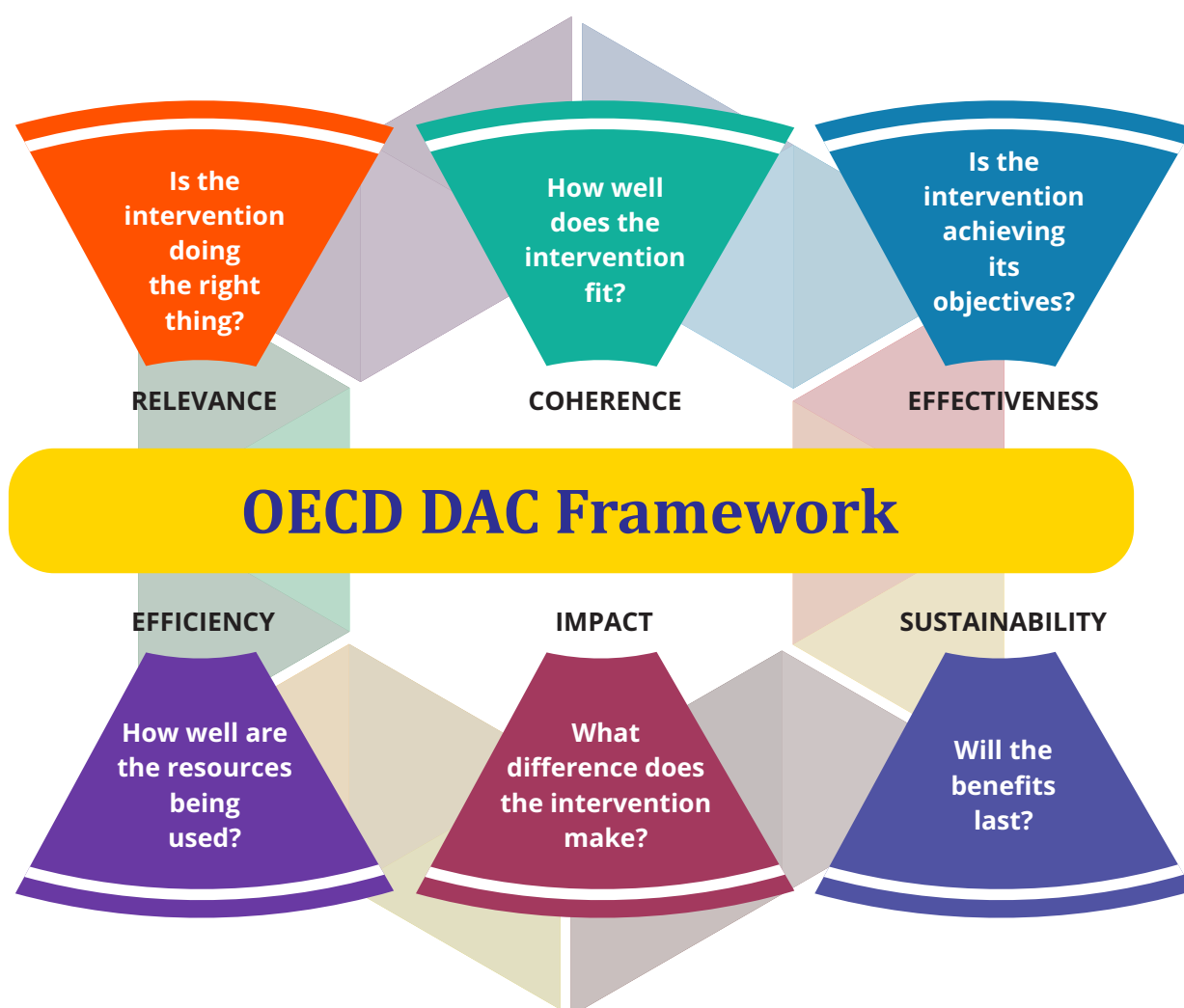
These initiatives underscore Polycab's proactive role in promoting environmental and enhancing community well-being for future generations.



OECD

The study used the OECD DAC framework for evaluating the impact of the CSR projects:

The OECD DAC Network on Development Evaluation (Eval Net) has outlined six evaluation criteria, namely Relevance, Coherence, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, and Sustainability, along with two guiding principles for their application. These criteria establish a standard framework for assessing the value and significance of an intervention, such as a policy strategy, program, project, or activity. They form the foundation upon which evaluation assessments are conducted to gauge the intervention's merit and effectiveness.



Purpose and objectives of the study

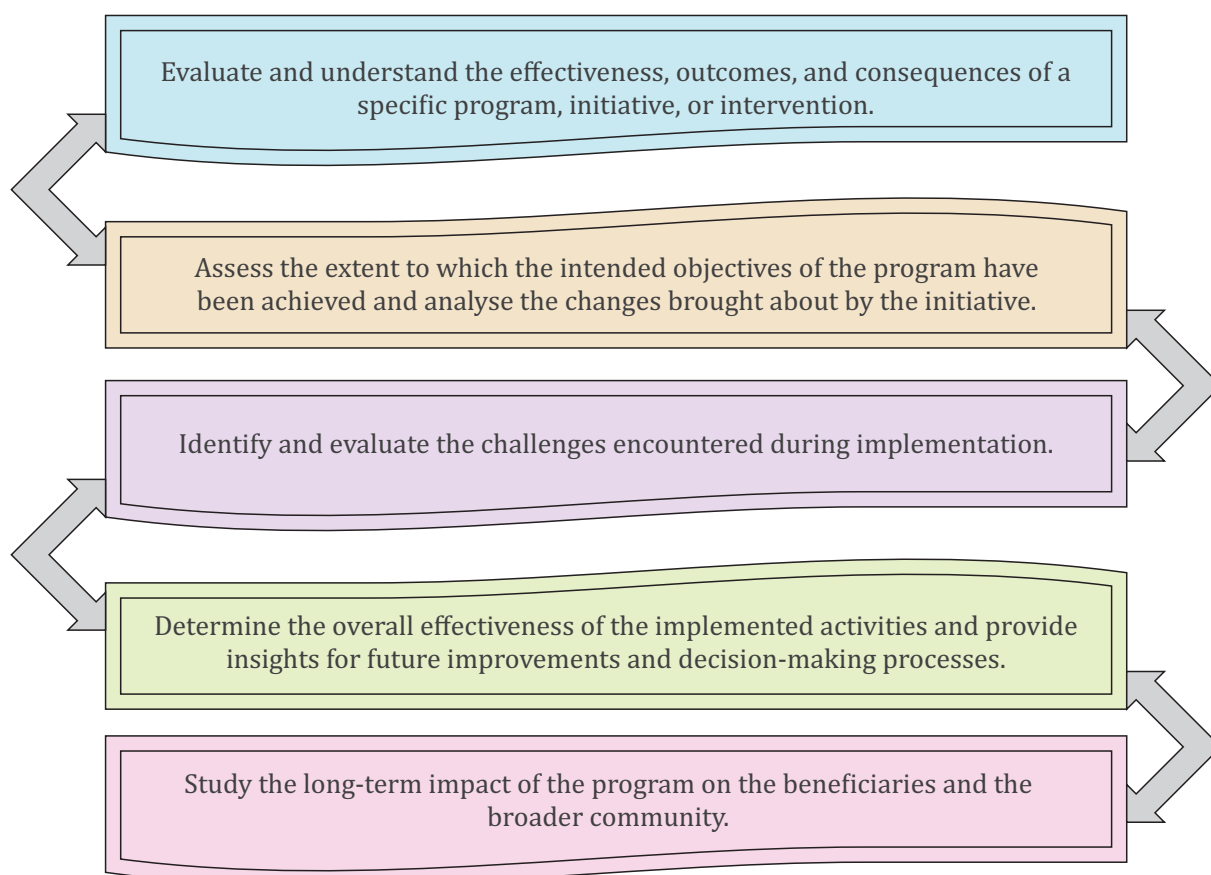
The Impact Assessment study aims to evaluate and understand the effectiveness, outcomes, and consequences of a particular program, initiative, or intervention. It seeks to assess the extent to which the intended objectives have been achieved, the changes brought about by the initiative, the challenges encountered, and the overall effectiveness of the implemented activities.

Through comprehensive analysis and evaluation, the study aims to provide insights and recommendations for future improvements and decision-making processes and study the long-term impact on the beneficiaries.

The guiding philosophy behind this study is to add value by showcasing successful initiatives and recommending possible ways to address existing challenges.

The study is expected to provide evidence-based findings which would inform the Company in making operational and strategic decisions while planning and funding its partner organizations for such programmes. The evaluation was also an opportunity to learn about the relevance of the programmes implemented and their effectiveness.

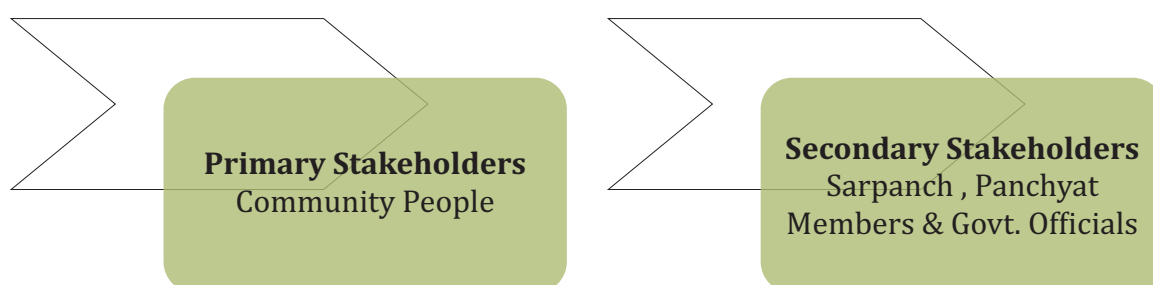
Impact Assessment



Data collection

Primary data was collected to understand the impact of the project from the direct beneficiaries i.e., community people. In addition, to understand the programme holistically, all Panchayat members, sarpanch, Government officials and other relevant stakeholders were consulted to get an overview of the programme.

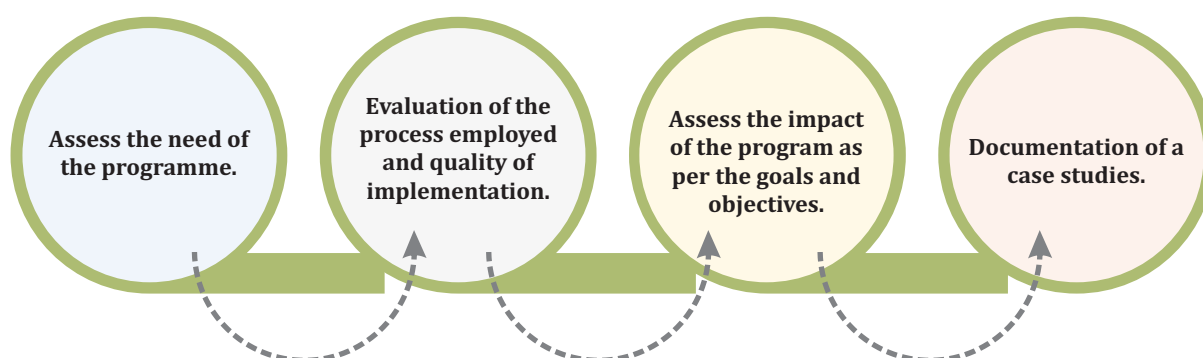
Community people for the primary data collection were selected through random sampling method, to avoid biases and prejudices. The community people were surveyed with a structured questionnaire developed to capture the benefits they experienced in the community.



Assessment Approach & Evaluation Framework

Given the objectives of the study were to determine the inclusiveness, relevance, and outcomes, of the project, the evaluation used the OECD framework. The OECD framework has defined six evaluation criteria –Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Coherence, Impact and Sustainability. These criteria provide a normative framework which is used to determine the merit or worth of an intervention. They serve as the basis upon which evaluative judgements are made.

Impact assessment design and approach:



Approach & Methodology

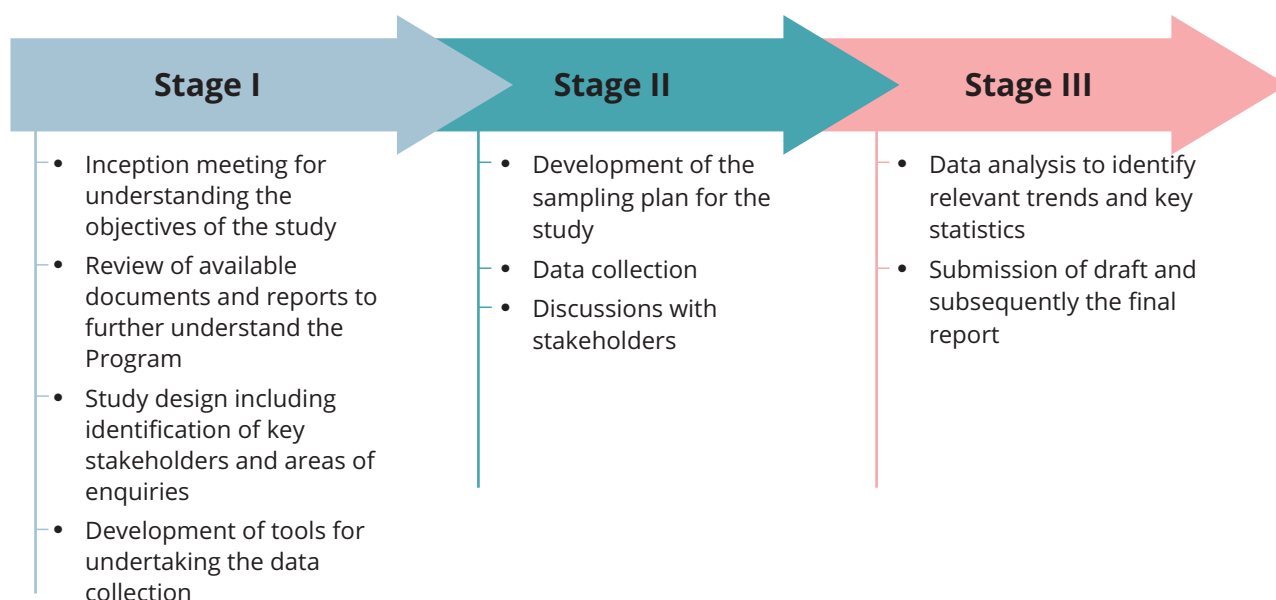
The Assessment approach utilized a mixed-method approach to gather primary and secondary data employing both qualitative and quantitative methods.

The methodology included primary data collection by conducting face-to-face individual surveys with community people and engaging in discussions with secondary stakeholders of the program, including Sarpanch, Panchayat members, overnment officials, and other relevant people.

Secondary data pertaining to program-related aspects were obtained through existing program data and publicly available documents relevant to the respective domain areas.



Quality assurance across all phases



Sample size and distribution

Sampling method for qualitative data

Stage 1 – Selection of villages

Sample villages where the interventions took place were selected for the Quantitative method. During the study, samples were collected using a random sampling method from Halol to ensure adequate representation from all villages. An appropriate number of samples were taken from villages with the highest number of interventions to ensure a comprehensive analysis of all program components implemented.

Stage 2 – Selection of beneficiaries

Beneficiary selection was conducted independently for each program based on the specific domain. Beneficiaries included were community people, panchayat members, Government officials, and other relevant stakeholders. Secondary data was obtained from project completion reports, baseline surveys, and need assessment reports, among other sources.

Qualitative sampling methodology

In order to measure the effectiveness of the intervention and gain insights into its impact on beneficiaries, we conducted in-depth discussions and focus group discussions (FGDs). These sessions researched both the experiences of individual beneficiaries and household-level assessments, providing a comprehensive understanding of the intervention's short-term as well as long-term effects.

Our approach involved revisiting critical indicators at the program's outset and at regular intervals throughout its implementation. Through this method, we assessed respondents' perspectives and tracked changes over time.

Sample Size Covered During the Assessment

Location	Stakeholders	Total Sample size achieved	Tool	Mode of collection data
Halol	Community People/Government officials/Sarpanch/Panchayat Members	48	Survey/FGD	Physical

A team of local enumerators, with requisite education and experience, was hired for data collection.

Research tools

In-depth discussions with students: The quantitative assessment involved an elicitation process conducted through in-depth discussions with individual aimed at understanding their perspective on receiving support through various interventions.

Indicators tracking the impact were categorized according to the program's objectives, including gender perception, increased community involvement at health camps, support received by Medical mobile van and other health interventions. Our team recorded individual discussions to capture insights tailored to each intervention.

Structured Interviews: Structured interviews & questionnaire were carried out with the Doctors, Nurse, Sarpanch and Government officials.

Focus Group Discussions (FGDs): Discussions were held with stakeholder groups including the intervention team from each location where the intervention was implemented like Panchayat samiti members, Group of community people and among other relevant people.

In depth Discussions

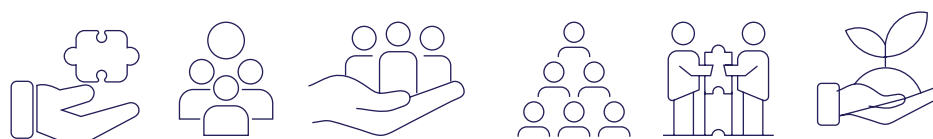
- Community People (Individually)

FGD's

- Community People (Collectively)

Structured Interviews

- Sarpanch
- Panchayat Members
- Government officials

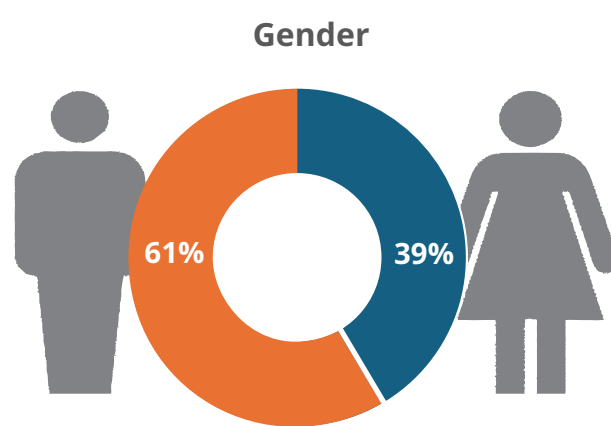


Demographic profile

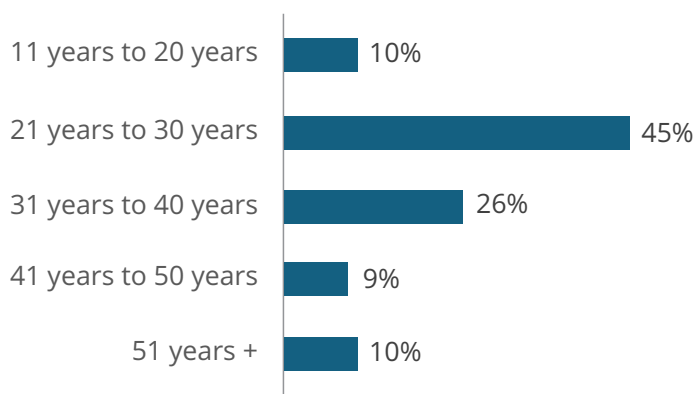
The demographic profile presented below encompasses all respondents from the Gujarat areas where rural development interventions were implemented.

The Gender representation of the responses of Halol are as followed:

During the visits, community people actively participated in the survey for sharing their feedback about the project, out of all respondents, 61% were male responses as compared to female responses.



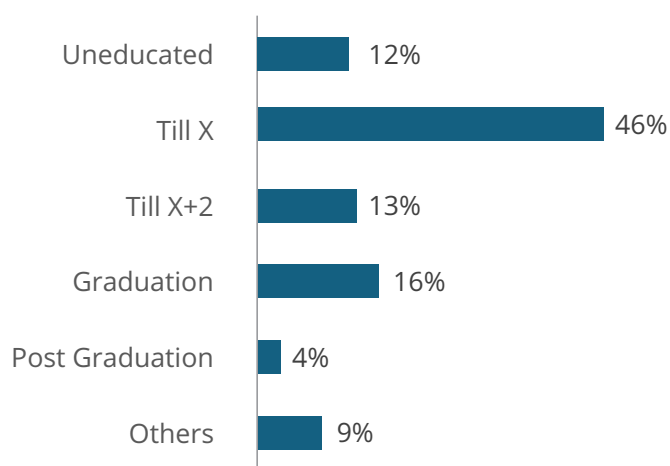
Age Groups



The survey participants comprised individuals from diverse age brackets, encompassing teenagers, senior citizens, community members, Sarpanch, Panchayat members, and Government officials. Among them, 45% of responses fell within the age group of 21 to 30 years, with the remainder spanning various other age ranges.

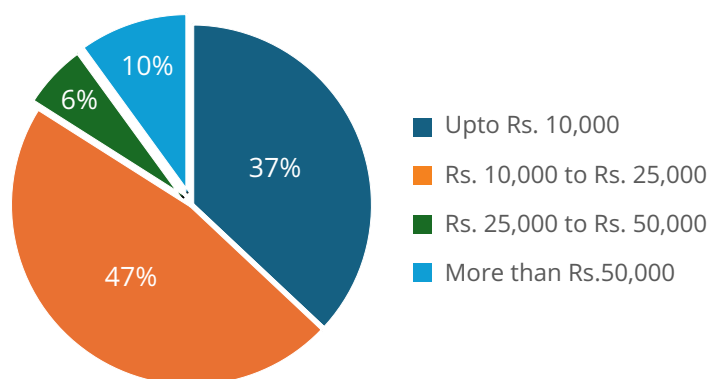
In the intervention regions of Gujarat, the educational background of respondents reflects a diverse demographic. Among them, 12% lacked formal education, while 46% completed schooling up to Class 'X'. The remaining participants attained education at various levels.

Educational Qualification



Monthly Family Income

In the rural regions of Halol, most respondents primarily depend on agriculture or daily wage labour for income. Among all the respondents, 37% participants had monthly income of up to Rs. 10,000, while 47% fell within the range of Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 25,000, with the remainder earning above Rs. 25,000.



Findings and analysis - Project wise (Relevance, Coherence, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, Sustainability):

Project A: Water conservation – Construction and Renovation of Check Dams

By investing in infrastructure development, Polycab contributes to the overall well-being and progress of rural areas. Whether it's constructing schools, installing toilets or clean water systems, these initiatives empower villagers and stimulate economic growth.

Polycab, through its village infrastructure initiatives, has significantly impacted rural areas by focusing on crucial projects like the construction of check dams. These endeavours play a pivotal role in addressing water scarcity issues and promoting sanitation and hygiene practices. Adequate infrastructure not only enhances the quality of life for villagers but also facilitates economic opportunities, educational access, and healthcare services.

Polycab has allocated a total of INR 423.46 lakhs in CSR funds. This initiative has directly impacted 10,914 beneficiaries through the construction and renovation of check dams, enhancing water management and livelihoods in the region.



Check dams, as integral components of CSR programs, serve as vital tools for sustainable water management in communities. These structures, typically constructed across small streams or rivulets, help in slowing down the flow of water, allowing sedimentation and groundwater recharge. By preventing soil erosion and retaining water, they mitigate the impacts of drought and flooding, fostering agricultural productivity and safeguarding livelihoods.

The construction of check dams facilitates water conservation, aiding in irrigation and groundwater recharge, thus boosting agricultural productivity and ensuring water security for villagers.



Check dams contribute to the conservation of ecosystems and biodiversity by creating habitats for aquatic life. Through their implementation, CSR initiatives not only address water scarcity challenges but also promote environmental stewardship and enhance the resilience of communities to climate change impacts.

Evaluation criterion 1: Relevance

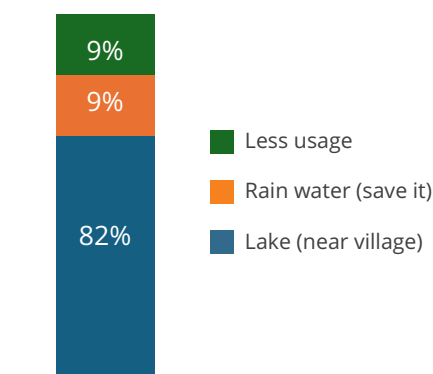
Check dams as a CSR project hold immense relevance in various contexts. Primarily, they serve as effective tools for water conservation and management, particularly in regions prone to water scarcity or erratic rainfall patterns. By constructing check dams, Polycab contributed significantly towards sustainable development goals by ensuring water availability for agricultural, industrial, and domestic purposes. Moreover, these dams aid in groundwater recharge, thus bolstering the resilience of local ecosystems and mitigating the impact of droughts.

Additionally, check dams often facilitate the development of micro-irrigation systems and promote agricultural productivity, ultimately uplifting rural livelihoods. Beyond the immediate environmental benefits, such initiatives also enhance corporate reputation and foster positive relationships with communities, thereby fulfilling social responsibility objectives. In essence, investing in check dams as part of CSR initiatives underscores a commitment to environmental ownership, community empowerment, and long-term sustainability.

Before the implementation of the intervention, the community encountered numerous challenges in accessing adequate water facilities. These obstacles included the need to procure water from alternative sources, the inability to secure sufficient water for agricultural purposes, and limited availability of water for domestic use. The main source of water prior to the construction of dam was lake but it was too difficult to fetch water everyday going to lake and still resulting in water scarcity.



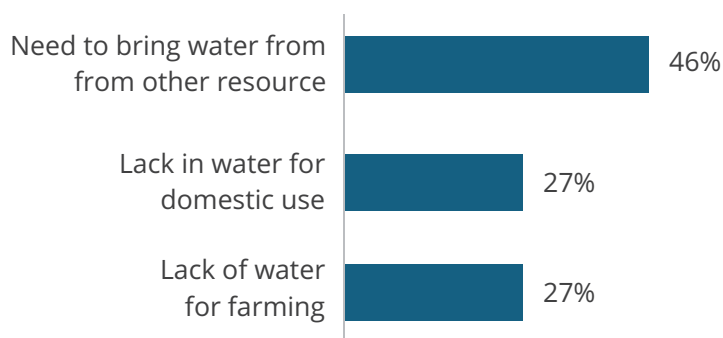
Source of Water prior to construction of Dam -Halol



During the visit, the team observed that 82% of respondents relied on a nearby lake as their primary water source, which is at a distance from the village, while the remaining use to collect and saved rainwater or would limit or lower their usage due to concerns about water scarcity.

At the time of the survey, 100% respondents expressed challenge in accessing water, out of which 46% of people used to fetch water from other resources available nearby the village while the remaining were facing from water scarcity for domestic use and farming.

Challenges faced in accessing water - Halol



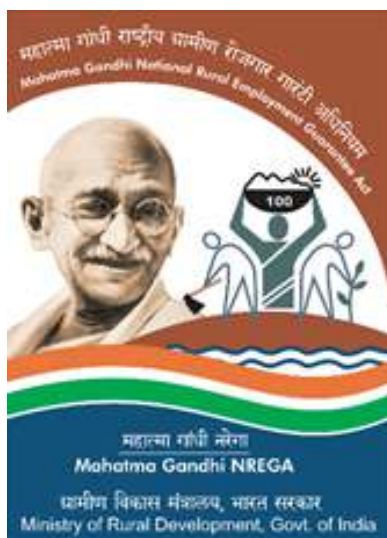
Post the intervention, check dams have contributed to flood control, reducing the risk of devastating floods during the monsoon season. Beyond environmental advantages, these structures also foster socio-economic development by providing opportunities for recreation, such as fishing or boating, and supporting the growth of biodiversity, which can in turn boost tourism.

Construction of check dams often leads to the creation of micro-habitats, supporting various flora and fauna. Overall, it yields a range of positive outcomes, enhancing both the ecological resilience and the livelihoods of local communities.

Evaluation criterion 2: Coherence

Check dams as a part of CSR projects has multifaceted benefits that address various socio-economic and environmental challenges. This project not only provide essential water conservation measures but also serve as tools for flood control, groundwater recharge, and soil erosion prevention.

This initiative taken by Polycab for construction of check dams in rural areas is aligned with many government programs and initiatives.



The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is a government program aimed at enhancing livelihood security in rural areas by guaranteeing 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Under MGNREGA, construction of check dams is often undertaken to conserve water and enhance irrigation facilities in rural areas.

The coherence of implementing rain water harvesting as a CSR initiative transcends mere philanthropy, demonstrating a strategic alignment of corporate goals with societal and environmental well-being.

The Jal Shakti Abhiyan is a water conservation campaign launched by the Government of India to address the critical issue of water scarcity and promote water conservation measures across the country. Construction of dams is a key component of this initiative, aimed at capturing and storing rainwater to replenish groundwater levels and mitigate water shortages in rural areas.



The National Water Mission (NWM) is a government initiative under the National Action Plan on Climate Change to ensure sustainable water resource management in India. It aims to conserve water, promote rainwater harvesting, and improve water use efficiency across sectors. By addressing water scarcity through innovative technologies and practices, NWM strives to ensure water security for present and future generations.

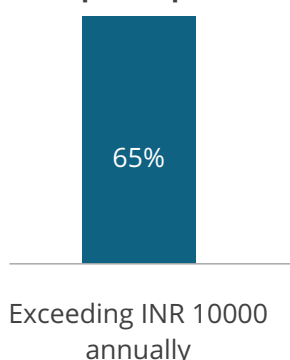
Evaluation criterion 3: Effectiveness

Construction of Check dams has helped in conserving water by impounding runoff during rainfall. This stored water percolate into the ground, replenishing aquifers and groundwater reserves. This can be particularly beneficial in areas facing water scarcity. With better water availability and reduced soil erosion, agricultural productivity in the surrounding areas has increased. This led to improved livelihoods for local communities, contributing to sustainable development.

These check dams play a pivotal role in regulating water flow, effectively harnessing and conserving rainwater for irrigation purposes. With improved water management, farmers have been able to cultivate crops more efficiently and sustainably, leading to higher yields and increased agricultural productivity.

It has resulted in a notable increase in the availability of water. These structures effectively regulate the flow of water, allowing for better retention and storage of rainfall runoff. As a result, there is a greater accumulation of water in the area, leading to enhanced water availability for various purposes such as irrigation, domestic use, and sustaining local ecosystems.

Surge in income - due to cultivation of multiple crops - Halol



During engagements with respondents, it was observed that 100% respondents experienced increase in income status out of which 65% experienced a surge in income exceeding 10,000 annually due to the cultivation of multiple crops due to water availability through check dams.

Farmers of Halol rely on agriculture as their main source of income, emphasizing the significant need for water to support their farming activities. The phrase suggests that without an adequate supply of water, farmers would struggle to maintain their livelihoods and meet the demand for agricultural products.

Key Benefits of Check dam Program - Halol

Availability	Hygiene & Sanitation Facilities	Quantity & Quality
There has been changes in Water availability since the introduction of check dams program	The construction of check dams improved access to hygiene and sanitation facilities for community people	Improvements in the quality and quantity of water for drinking, cooking, and sanitation purposes
Agree: 100%	Agree : 91%	Agree : 99%

Based on the feedback received from respondents, a unanimous 100% agreement was reached regarding the positive impact of check dam construction on augmenting water availability. Furthermore, 91% of respondents acknowledged an enhancement in access to hygiene and sanitation facilities within the community due to these constructions. Additionally, an overwhelming 99% of respondents noted improvements in both the quality and quantity of water available for drinking, cooking, and sanitation purposes.

Through engagements with local inhabitants of Halol, a clear and unanimous viewpoint emerged: Existence of these check dams has markedly increased water accessibility, resulting in noticeable enhancements in the calibre of crops. With a consistent and dependable water provision, farmers have observed a remarkable shift in their harvests, yielding crops of exceptional quality that fetch elevated prices in the market.



Check dams – Before - Halol



Check dams – After - Halol

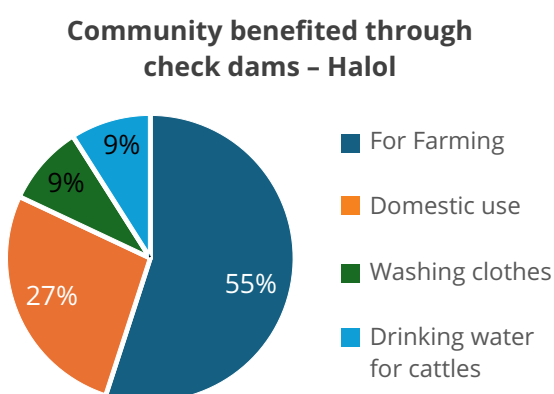
The construction of check dams has resulted in a notable rise in the water level of borewells. This increase in water level signifies a significant enhancement in groundwater availability. Consequently, there is now an ample supply of water, meeting the needs of the community or area served by these borewells.

This positive outcome underscores the effectiveness of implementing check dams as a means to conserve water resources and ensure sufficient water supply for various purposes.

Evaluation criterion 4: Efficiency

Check dams serve as a vital structure for water conservation, particularly in regions prone to droughts or erratic rainfall patterns. By strategically placing these dams, Polycab mitigates water scarcity issues, enhances groundwater recharge, and bolsters agricultural productivity. This engagement fosters a sense of ownership among community members, ensuring the sustainability and upkeep of these structures.

Furthermore, the ripple effects of improved water availability positively impact various sectors, including agriculture, livestock rearing, and overall community well-being. Thus, the CSR initiative's efficiency in constructing check dams not only tackles pressing environmental challenges but also fosters socio-economic development in the targeted regions.



During a survey conducted among the respondents, it was found that 100% of them acknowledged the positive impact of the newly constructed check dams on the community. Specifically, 55% of the respondents reported utilizing the check dams for agricultural purposes, while the remaining stated using them for domestic water needs for laundry purposes, and for providing drinking water to cattle.

Effective resource allocation holds paramount importance, particularly in endeavours of such magnitude, where the stakes are high and the potential benefits significant. The achievement of these dams stands as a testament to the Company's strategic vision and meticulous planning.

Moreover, by addressing a fundamental aspect of public health and infrastructure, such projects lay the foundation for broader community development initiatives, fostering social cohesion, economic growth, and enhancing the quality of life for residents in the long run.

Evaluation criterion 5: Impact

The construction of check dams has several positive impacts on the environment, communities, and the economy. Here are some points outlining their impacts:

- **Improvement in water quality:** The construction of check dams facilitates the settling of suspended solids and pollutants carried by runoff water. As a result, it helps in improving the quality of water in rivers, streams, and reservoirs downstream, benefiting both humans and aquatic ecosystems.
- **Socio-economic Development:** The availability of water for irrigation and domestic use due to check dams enhances agricultural productivity and provides livelihood opportunities for local communities.

Additionally, improved water access can lead to better health outcomes and increased resilience to droughts.

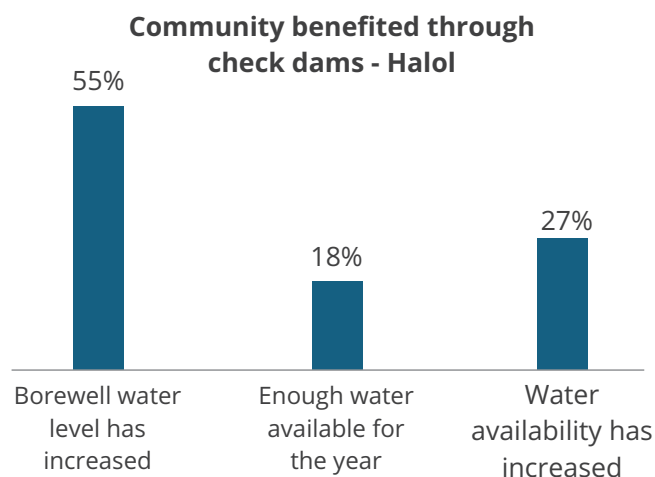
- **Enhancement of biodiversity:** Check dams create small water reservoirs or ponds, which serve as habitats for various aquatic species, including fish and amphibians. They also support the growth of vegetation along their banks, attracting diverse flora and fauna and promoting ecological balance.
- **Mitigation of soil erosion:** Check dams control soil erosion by reducing the velocity of water runoff, which prevents the loss of fertile topsoil. This helps in maintaining soil fertility and agricultural productivity in the surrounding areas.
- **Improved hygiene & sanitation:** The availability of clean water promotes better hygiene practices, improving public health.
- **Improved overall health & well-being:** The construction of check dams has proven instrumental in enhancing the overall health and well-being of communities in myriad ways. Better sanitation leads to improved public health outcomes. Reduced incidences of waterborne diseases mean fewer medical expenses and less time lost due to illness.



Check dams contributed to overall health and well being of the community to provide good water source
- Halol



During the visit, 100% respondents provided positive feedback about the check dams, citing their significant impact on improving the health and well-being of the entire community. With the implementation of check dams, access to clean water has increased, reducing waterborne diseases and improving overall health outcomes.



After engaging with respondents, beneficiaries, 100% respondents experienced benefits from check dams out of which, 55% confirmed an increase in borewell water levels. Whereas, the remaining expressed that the check dams have conserved rain water and also supported in water availability has increased.

Evaluation criterion 6: Sustainability

Water stands as a cornerstone of sustainable agriculture, serving as the lifeblood for crop growth and productivity. Through the strategic implementation of rainwater harvesting, Polycab has significantly bolstered water availability, thereby fostering sustainable agricultural practices. This concerted effort underscores the Company's decade-long commitment to community development, manifested in various initiatives that have engendered livelihood opportunities for local villagers.

These recent endeavours epitomize the Company's dedication to crafting a brighter future. By water harvesting systems, the Company amplifies access to water, thus fortifying sustainable agricultural practices essential for regional economic prosperity.

Embracing sustainable agricultural techniques directed towards water conservation and management remains pivotal for safeguarding long-term food security and bolstering rural livelihoods.

Regular monitoring and evaluation were done by Polycab to ensure that the people are able to get the benefits from rainwater harvesting, construction of toilets and providing streetlights. It is essential to assess the performance and impact of projects over time. This includes tracking changes in water availability, agricultural productivity, and socio-economic indicators to ensure that the project goals are being achieved and to identify areas for improvement.



Beneficiaries Perceptions on Program	% Agree
Water availability has increased due to check Dams	97%
More crops due to increased water availability	100%
Positive impact due to an increase in income	94%
Water scarcity in village reduced to a large extent	100%
Increase in water level and open wells / Bore wells have been recharged	100%
Overall cleanliness of village has increased due to the availability of water	94%
Newly constructed toilets improved sanitation and hygiene practices in the village	91%
Reductions in the incidence of waterborne diseases or improved overall health	100%

The program's sustainability is evident from the responses collected during the visit. 100% respondents agreed on increase in number of crops cultivated and improvement in overall health of community people. 97% agreed on the water availability due to construction of dams and remaining expresses how the support has impacted on the life of community people.

Assessing the cost-effectiveness and economic viability of check dam and water harvesting projects is crucial for long-term sustainability.

This includes considering the benefits derived from water conservation, increased agricultural productivity, and other ecosystem services provided by check dams compared to the initial investment and ongoing maintenance costs.

Implementing proper waste management systems by availability of water further enhances sustainability by ensuring the responsible for cleanliness of disposal and treatment of sewage lines.



Project B: Waste Management and Swachh Bharat

Waste management is the systematic handling, treatment, and disposal of waste materials, aiming to minimize adverse impacts on human health and the environment. As businesses continue to expand their operations globally, the volume of waste generated has also increased, posing significant environmental challenges. Hence, effective waste management practices have become essential not only for environmental conservation but also for enhancing a Company's reputation, reducing operational costs, and fostering community goodwill.



The CSR amount spent on the Waste Management through Swachh Bharat initiative amounted to INR 3,724,924.

Many businesses in India are integrating waste management projects into their CSR initiatives to contribute to environmental sustainability and community development. These CSR programs not only help in addressing environmental challenges but also create positive social impact by generating employment opportunities, improving public health, and raising awareness about waste management and sanitation practices.

It demonstrates a commitment to reducing its ecological footprint, promoting resource efficiency, and contributing to a circular economy where waste is minimized, reused, recycled, or converted into energy. By implementing robust waste management strategies, Polycab mitigates environmental risks, comply with regulatory standards, and create shared value for stakeholders.

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, or Clean India Mission, is a notable initiative by the Government of India aimed at addressing sanitation and waste management issues across the country. Launched in 2014, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan aims to eliminate open defecation, promote cleanliness, and manage waste effectively to create a clean and healthy environment for all citizens.

Evaluation criterion 1: Relevance

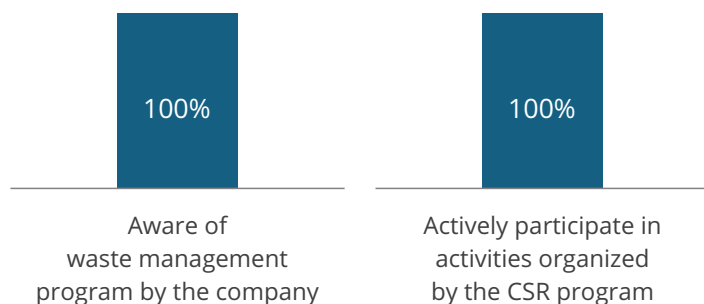
As organizations strive to operate sustainably and minimize their environmental footprint, effective waste management plays a pivotal role in achieving these goals. Implementing robust waste management practices demonstrates Polycab's commitment to environmental ownership, resource conservation, and community well-being. By investing in waste reduction, recycling, and responsible disposal strategies, businesses mitigate environmental pollution, conserve natural resources, and promote a circular economy.

Furthermore, such initiatives contribute to community engagement, employee awareness, and stakeholder trust, enhancing the overall social impact of CSR programs. In essence, integrating waste management into CSR not only aligns with global sustainability goals but also reinforces a company's ethical values and commitment to creating a greener, more inclusive future.



Polycab took an initiative to create awareness on Waste Management to understand the scenario of the nearby villages to understand the relevance of the Program in these villages.

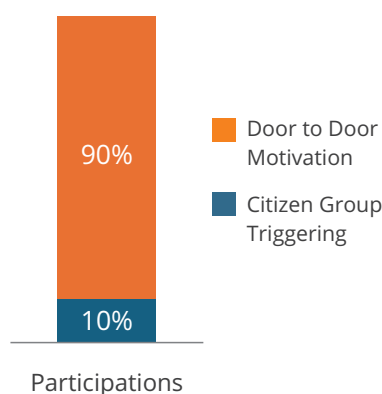
Waste management Program participants - Halol



During an engagement with respondents in Halol, it was evident that all the respondents attended the waste management program and had actively engaged in the activities organized under this CSR initiative.

During an interaction with respondents, it was revealed that 90% of the participants were inspired by the door-to-door outreach efforts taken by Polycab and remaining by Group triggering.

Responses on participation approach - Halol



The Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, India's nationwide cleanliness campaign, serves as a prime example of a comprehensive waste management program that aligns seamlessly with CSR objectives. By supporting initiatives under Swachh Bharat, businesses not only contribute to the nation's cleanliness drive but also promote sustainable practices, public health improvement, and community development. Such engagements not only enhance corporate reputation but also foster partnerships between businesses, government, and communities to create a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future for all.



Evaluation criterion 2: Coherence

A well-structured waste management program aligns with a Company's overall sustainability goals and demonstrates a commitment to environmental ownership. By implementing comprehensive waste reduction, recycling, and disposal practices, organizations not only minimize their environmental footprint but also contribute positively to the communities they operate in.

Waste management strategies ensure that resources are utilized efficiently, waste is minimized at the source, and appropriate measures are taken to handle and dispose of waste responsibly. This holistic approach not only benefits the environment but also enhances the Company's reputation, fosters stakeholder trust, and creates long-term value for both the business and society at large.

India has implemented several government schemes and policies to address waste management issues, promote sustainable practices, and encourage recycling and waste reduction. Polycab through its initiative is aligned with the government programs and initiatives. Here are some key initiatives:



Swachh Bharat Mission (Clean India Mission) - India

Launched by the Government of India, this mission aims to eradicate open defecation and promote cleanliness and sanitation, including solid waste management. It focuses on waste segregation at the source, collection, transportation, and processing of solid waste.

Clean India Green India Initiative

This initiative aims to create awareness about environmental conservation and sustainable waste management practices among citizens. It includes tree plantation drives, cleanliness campaigns, and public awareness programs on waste segregation and recycling.





Solid Waste Management Rules (2016)

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified the Solid Waste Management Rules in 2016 to address the issue of solid waste management comprehensively. The rules emphasize source segregation of waste, setting up waste processing facilities, and promoting recycling and reuse.

Evaluation criterion 3: Effectiveness

A well-executed waste management program significantly reduces a Company's carbon footprint by minimizing waste generation, promoting recycling and composting, and implementing energy-efficient practices. This not only helps in conserving natural resources but also reduces pollution and mitigates environmental degradation.

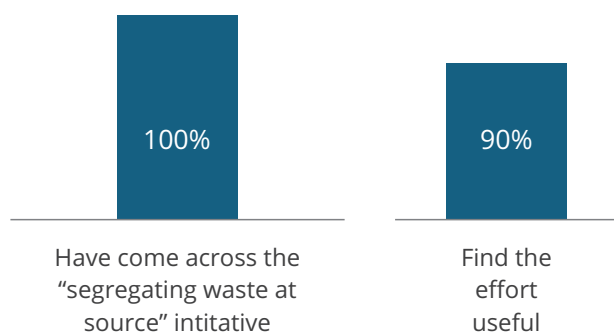
Furthermore, effective waste management programs often engage local communities through education and awareness campaigns, fostering a culture of sustainability and responsible consumption. By involving stakeholders in the process, companies build stronger relationships and gain valuable insights that help improve the program over time.

Additionally, from an economic perspective, efficient waste management lead to cost savings through reduced waste disposal fees, increased recycling revenue, and operational efficiencies. Companies reinvest these savings into other sustainability initiatives or community development projects, further amplifying the positive impact of their CSR efforts.



Waste Collection Shed - Halol

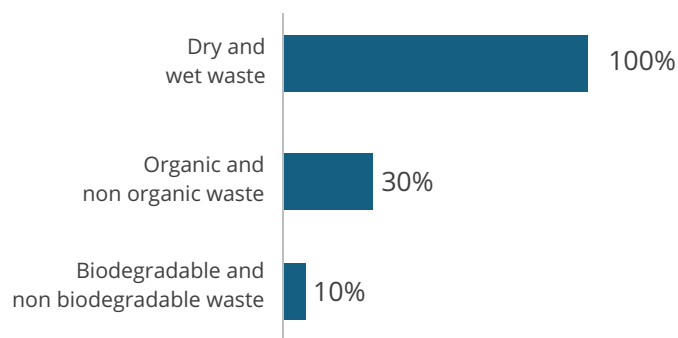
Responses on Segregating waste at source initiative - Halol



Upon interacting with respondents in Halol, it was discovered that all the respondents were familiar with the waste segregation at source initiative, and an impressive 90% found these efforts to be beneficial.

During the visit, team observed discussions with the respondents, it was revealed that 100% respondents from the community are successfully segregated dry and wet waste. However, the respondents also have initiated the segregation for organic and non-organic as well as biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste.

Responses on types of waste commonly segregated in community - Halol



The waste management program in Halol was focusing on the sustainable management of plastic waste. This initiative aimed to address the environmental challenges posed by plastic waste by collecting and recycling it effectively.

In this program, plastic waste is collected from nearby villages in Halol. The collection process involves reaching out to the local communities, raising awareness about the importance of proper waste disposal, and encouraging them to segregate plastic waste from other types of waste.

Once collected, the plastic waste undergoes a rigorous segregation process. Different types of plastics are separated based on their composition and quality to ensure efficient recycling. This segregation helps in maximizing the recycling potential of the collected plastic waste.

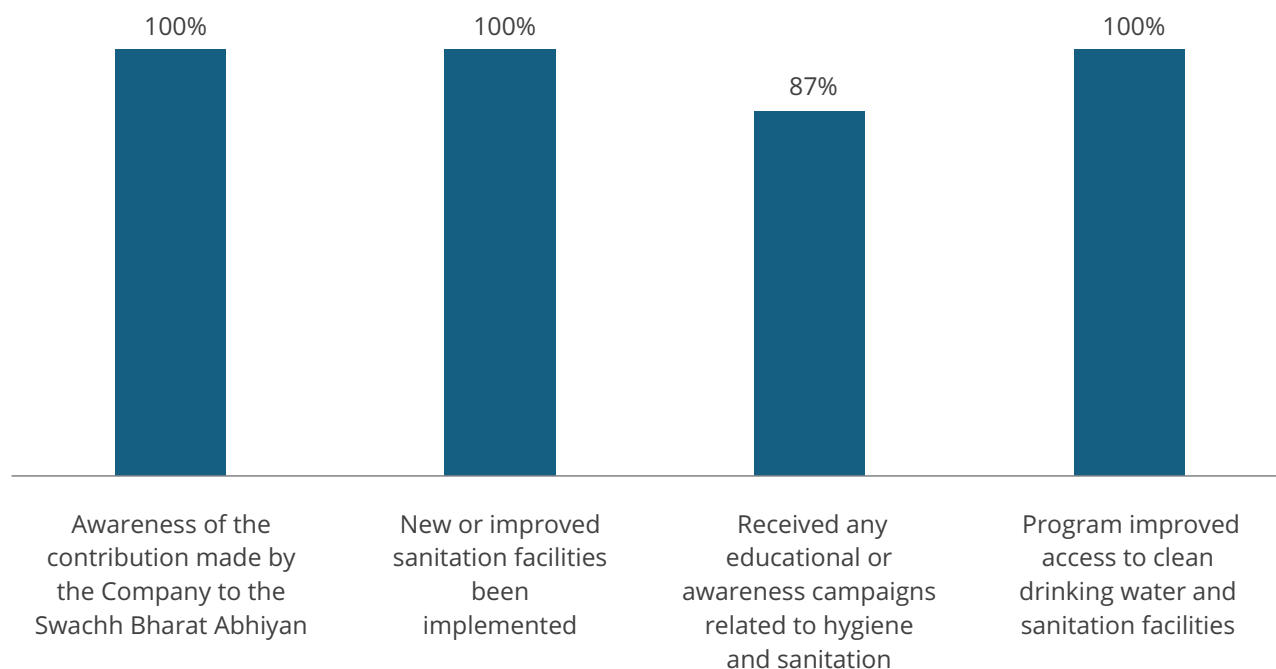


Waste Management Compost Pit - Halol

During the visit to the waste management project, the team noted the absence of periodic performance review reports as per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), as well as the lack of a need assessment report for the project. It is recommended that the Company ensures timely acquisition of all backup documents and approval letters for verification and compliance purposes. Additionally, conducting need assessments before initiating projects will help ensure alignment with community needs and project objectives.

Waste Management had positive socio-economic impacts, contributing to health improvements, reducing waterborne diseases, and boosting tourism due to cleaner surroundings. While challenges remain, the effectiveness of the Program in driving positive change towards a cleaner and healthier India is undeniable

Knowledge of contribution through Waste Management Program -Halol



During team's interactions with the respondents in Halol, it was discovered that all the respondents were aware of Polycab's contributions to the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, benefited the community with various sanitation facilities and improved the access to clean drinking water. Additionally, 87% of the respondents confirmed that they had received awareness campaigns focused on hygiene and sanitation.

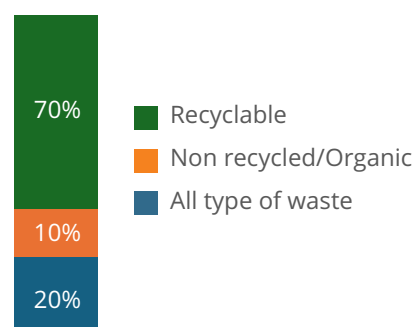
Evaluation criterion 4: Efficiency

Efficient waste management helps reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions and pollution. This aligns with environmental sustainability goals, a key aspect of CSR. Recycling and reusing materials help conserve natural resources such as water, minerals, and energy. This demonstrates a commitment to responsible resource management and sustainability.

Effective waste management lead to cost savings by reducing waste disposal fees and identifying opportunities for revenue generation through recycling and reuse. This contributes to the company's profitability while demonstrating responsible financial management as part of CSR.

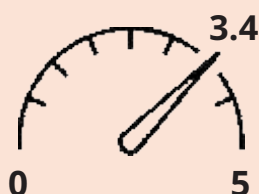


Type of Waste Materials collected - Halol



Upon surveying the respondents in Halol, team found that 70% of the waste collected through the program was recyclable while the remaining were non recycled, organic and mix waste.

Responses on overall satisfaction rating toward efforts undertaken for collection of waste - Halol

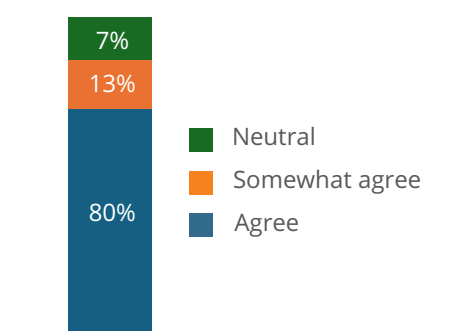


An overall rating of 3.4 was provided by respondents for the satisfaction due to initiating this program and expereincing improvement in the health and hygiene of the community people.

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, launched as a nationwide cleanliness drive by the Indian Government, has significantly contributed to improving sanitation and hygiene across the country. As a part CSR, Polycab has actively participated and supported this initiative, amplifying its impact. Their involvement has not only infused financial resources but also mobilized communities, raising awareness and fostering a culture of cleanliness.

This synergy between the government and corporate sectors has led to the enhanced waste management practices, positively impacting the health and well-being of millions of people. The efficiency of program is aligned to Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, by CSR contributions, underscores the transformative power of collective action in addressing societal challenges.

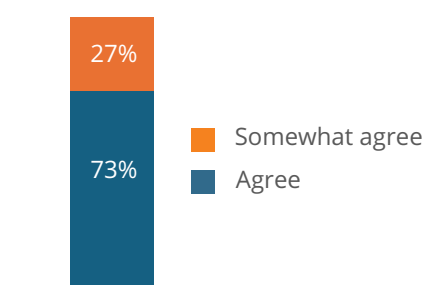
Responses on the Improved quality of life through Waste Management - Halol



On discussion with respondents of Halol, team observed 80 % of the respondents agreed on improvement in the quality of life whereas remaining somewhat agreed while some had balanced reaction.

During the visit 100% respondents experienced improvement in overall health and well-being, out of which, 73% of the respondents agreed while the remaining responses somewhat agreed.

Responses on improvement in health & well-being - Halol



Evaluation criterion 5: Impact

There are some impact areas experienced due to the Water Management Program initiated by Polycab -

- **Reduced Landfill Waste:** Proper waste management practices reduced the amount of waste sent to landfills, thereby conserving valuable landfill space and reducing environmental pollution.
- **Resource Conservation:** Recycling and reusing materials conserves natural resources such as water, minerals, and timber, reducing the need for extraction and production of new materials.

- **Reduced Pollution:** Effective waste management minimize air, water, and soil pollution by reducing the release of harmful substances into the environment.
- **Cost Savings:** Efficient waste management practices lead to significant cost savings by reducing waste disposal fees, purchasing of new materials, and energy consumption.
- **Public Health:** Proper waste disposal and recycling reduces health risks associated with exposure to hazardous waste materials.



Impact assessment of Waste Management Program - Halol			
Program improved sanitation facilities	Changes in community behavior regarding environmental conservation, sanitation, or waste reduction	Program led to better waste management practices or recycling initiatives	Changes in community behaviour regarding cleanliness and sanitation
			

- **Improved Sanitation Facilities:** Polycab has contributed to building and improving sanitation facilities in rural and urban areas. This has led to a reduction in open defecation and improved hygiene practices, leading to better public health outcomes.
- **Economic Benefits:** Improved sanitation and cleanliness have led to economic benefits such as increased tourism, improved property values, and reduced healthcare costs due to better public health outcomes.

Various impact on Community by Waste Management - Halol

Program directly impact positively 100% 	Reduction in waterborne diseases 100% 	Contributed to waste management and cleanliness 93% 	Noticed changes in community behaviour regarding cleanliness and sanitation 100% 
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During a visit, interaction with the respondents of Halol, it was revealed that all the respondents believed that the program had a positive impact on the lives of the community people by impacting in reducing the diseases rate and also experienced changes in health and hygiene practices followed by the community. Furthermore, 93% of the respondents acknowledged that the program was essential and it has contributed in providing waste management methods leading to hygienic improvements.

Evaluation criterion 6: Sustainability

A sustainable waste management program aims to minimize the environmental impact of business operations by reducing waste generation, promoting recycling and reuse, and adopting environmentally friendly disposal methods. By prioritizing sustainability in waste management, Companies contributed to resource conservation, reduced landfill waste.

Additionally, a sustainable waste management program led to cost savings through improved efficiency and waste reduction, thereby benefiting the community at large. By integrating sustainability into their waste management practices, has created commitment to creating a more sustainable future and fulfilled their lives.



Responses on Improvement areas - Halol



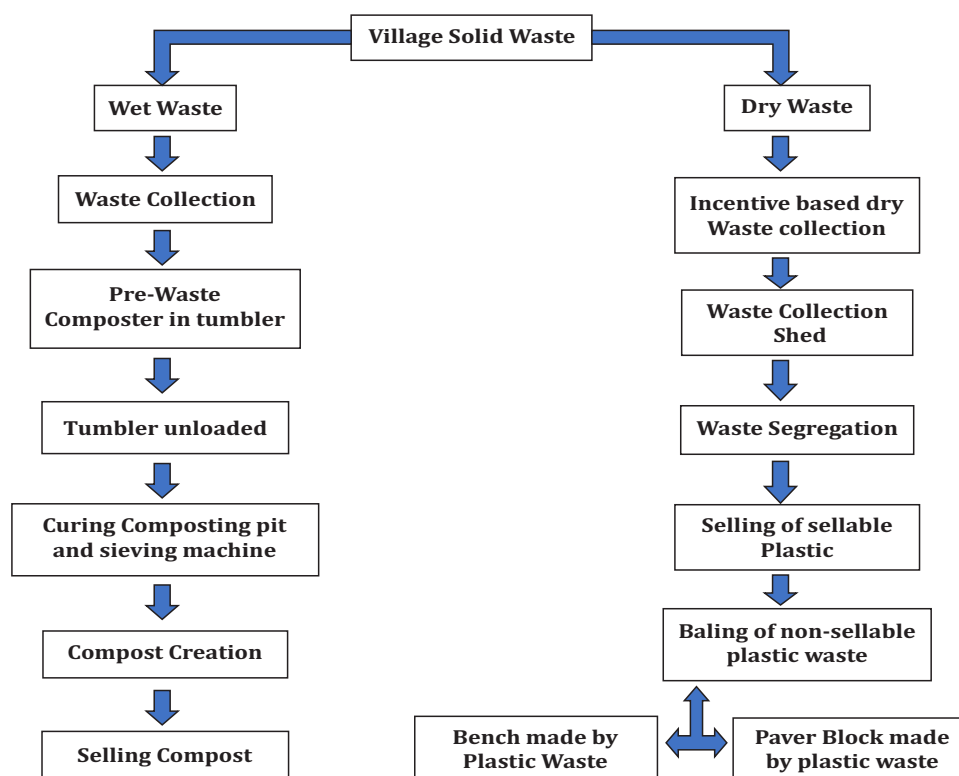
During an engagement with the respondents in Halol, it was found that all respondents reported a positive change in environmental conditions.

Improvement areas due to Waste Management Program - Halol



Team observed that 100% respondents experienced various improvements due to Waste Management program, out of which, 90% respondents noticed improvements in air quality, while the remaining also noticed improvement in water quality, greenery and reduced pollution.

Decentralised Waste Management System - Halol



Project C: Forest Restoration and Tree Plantation

Forest restoration as a part of CSR is a pivotal initiative that addresses environmental sustainability while fulfilling corporate obligations towards society. Forests play an indispensable role in maintaining ecological balance, mitigating climate change, conserving biodiversity, and providing essential ecosystem services such as clean air, water, and soil fertility.

The expenditure allocated to the Waste Management Program under CSR amounted to INR 24,494,108, whereas the CSR expenditure for tree plantation totalled INR 30,301.



Corporate entities integrating forest restoration and tree plantation in various villages into their CSR strategies demonstrate a commitment to environmental ownership, community engagement, and long-term sustainability. Such initiatives not only contribute to the conservation and regeneration of forest ecosystems but also foster socio-economic development in surrounding communities.

Through forest restoration projects, Polycab engage in activities like reforestation, afforestation, and sustainable forest management. These efforts not only help in sequestering carbon dioxide, thereby mitigating the impacts of climate change, but also create opportunities for local communities in terms of employment, education, and capacity building. The project aims not only to promote reforestation but also to establish a thriving habitat for various wildlife species.

It aligns business operations with global sustainability goals, such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 15, which focuses on protecting, restoring, and promoting sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems.

Evaluation criterion 1: Relevance

Forest restoration and tree plantation projects play a pivotal role in CSR initiatives, addressing environmental, social, and economic challenges simultaneously. These projects contribute to mitigating climate change by sequestering carbon dioxide and enhancing biodiversity, which is crucial for ecosystem stability and resilience.

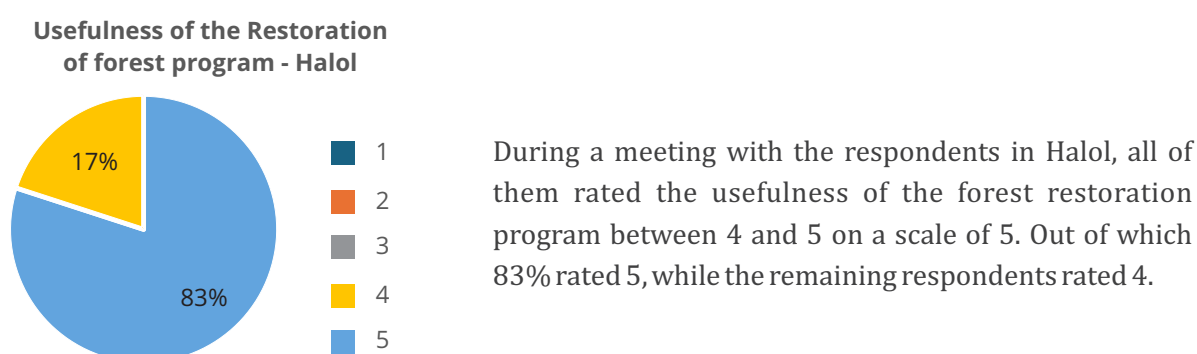
Furthermore, they support local communities by creating employment opportunities and promoting sustainable livelihoods. As natural habitats are restored and expanded, they provide essential ecosystem services, such as clean air and water, benefiting both people and wildlife.

Additionally, these initiatives foster a culture of environmental stewardship among employees and stakeholders, driving positive change beyond the boundaries of the organization.

Forest restoration and tree plantation projects contribute to carbon sequestration, helping to mitigate the impacts of global warming. Forests are home to a diverse range of plant and animal species. By restoring forests and planting trees, companies can contribute to preserving biodiversity, which is essential for the health and resilience of ecosystems.



Thus, integrating forest restoration and tree plantation projects into CSR programs not only fulfils environmental obligations but also fosters holistic development and community engagement. Forest restoration and tree plantation projects contribute to the long-term sustainability of natural resources, ensuring that future generations will have access to clean air, water, and biodiversity.



The restoration of the forest in Jepura was crucial due to the previous landscape dominated by unproductive babool trees and thorny shrubs. This transformation not only enhanced the ecological value of the land but also addressed the pressing need for grazing areas for nearby villagers' cattle.

Polycab has played an instrumental role in supporting civil and infrastructure construction projects within the forest area, particularly at Jepura. This contribution encompasses a wide range of activities aimed at enhancing the environment and infrastructure of the forest region. These activities include landscape development work, which involves planning and designing the natural and built elements of the area to create a harmonious and aesthetically pleasing environment.

Additionally, the Company has been involved in the implementation of irrigation systems, which are crucial for maintaining the health and vitality of the forest ecosystem. These irrigation systems help in ensuring that the forest receives adequate water supply, which is essential for the growth and survival of the vegetation.

Furthermore, the Company has undertaken plantation work, which involves the planting of trees and other vegetation to increase the forest's green cover and biodiversity. This initiative not only contributes to environmental conservation but also helps in mitigating the effects of deforestation and climate change.

In Gujarat, tree plantation program has played a significant role on the local environment and communities. A total of 1,856 trees of various species, including Mango, Guava, Gooseberry, Jambu, Neem, Saag, and Bamboo, have been planted across 21 villages in Gujarat. These trees not only contribute to

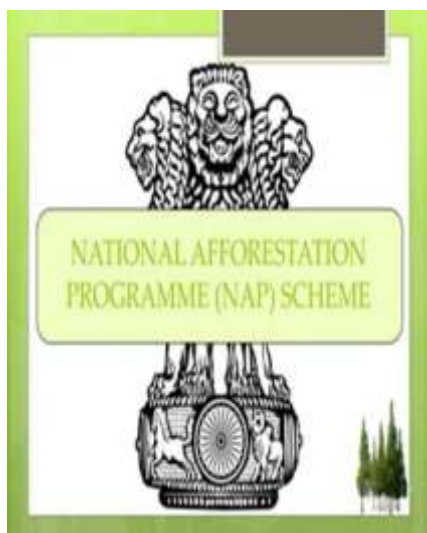
environmental conservation but also provide valuable resources and benefits to the communities they serve. In Rayankhand, near the check dam, several trees have been planted, enhancing the natural ecosystem and promoting water conservation efforts. Additionally, in Sudhra village, 45 trees have been strategically planted, enriching the landscape and offering shade and sustenance to the inhabitants. Through this initiative, Polycab aim to foster a greener, more sustainable future for both the environment and the people of these villages.

Evaluation criterion 2: Coherence

By investing in forest restoration, Polycab not only contribute to global efforts to combat environmental degradation but also create long-term value for communities by providing ecosystem services such as clean air, water, and soil.

Furthermore, these initiatives often involve local communities in the restoration process, fostering a sense of ownership and promoting sustainable land management practices. Thus, forest restoration projects serve as a coherent and impactful strategy for companies to align their business operations with environmental stewardship and social responsibility, ultimately contributing to a more sustainable and resilient future.

The Gauchar program, a government initiative, aims to enhance rural development by revitalizing grazing lands. It focuses on sustainable management, preventing encroachment, and preserving these lands' ecological and socio-economic significance for local communities.



The National Afforestation Programme (NAP) is a vital initiative undertaken by governments to combat deforestation, conserve biodiversity, and enhance the ecological balance of the nation. NAP aims to increase the forest cover, mitigate climate change impacts, and provide economic benefits to local communities through job creation and resource utilization. By fostering a culture of environmental stewardship and community participation, the National Afforestation Programme plays a pivotal role in ensuring a greener, healthier future for generations to come.

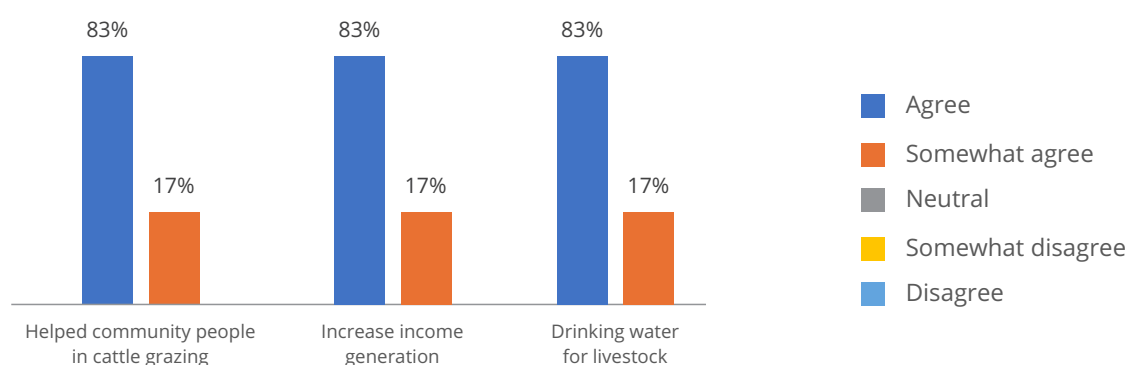
Evaluation criterion 3: Effectiveness

Forest Restoration and tree plantation programs play a crucial role in mitigating climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide, a major greenhouse gas, from the atmosphere. Trees act as carbon sinks, capturing and storing carbon, thereby helping to reduce the overall concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

Moreover, forest restoration and tree plantation programs contribute significantly to biodiversity conservation by providing habitats for various species of flora and fauna. They help in maintaining ecological balance and preserving the natural heritage of an area. Healthy forests also play a vital role in regulating water cycles, preventing soil erosion, and improving water quality, which are essential for sustaining life on Earth.

From a socio-economic perspective, these programs offer numerous benefits to local communities. They create employment opportunities, promote sustainable land management practices, and enhance the resilience of ecosystems to climate change and other environmental challenges.

Farmer's Responses on Restoration of Forest - Halol



During discussions with the farmers in Halol, 100% of them agreed (including 17% somewhat agree) that the forest restoration program aided the community by improving cattle grazing areas, boosting income generation, and enhancing the availability of drinking water for livestock.



Pond deepening at forest restoration site and system of cement pipelines – Jepura

The project of Jepura, aims not only to promote forestation but also to establish a thriving habitat for various animal species and foster rural development. Previously, the land was dominated by babool trees and horn shrubs. To enhance the environment, Polycab has designated areas for cattle grazing, deepened existing ponds, and implemented a system of cement pipelines. These pipelines channel water from nearby waterfalls and mountainsides to fill the ponds, while an excess water pipeline has been constructed to prevent overflow.

Additionally, Polycab has planted over 10,000 trees, including fruit-bearing and flowering plants, to enrich the biodiversity of the area. Land levelling has been completed to ensure optimal use of the terrain, and a compound wall has been erected around the perimeter.

Furthermore, the Company has set up a security cabin and a toilet at the entrance to facilitate monitoring and maintenance of the site.



Land levelling – Before photo - Jepura

During the visit, the team observed that the site had been demolished following a report already submitted, indicating it was a "Pakka Bandhkaam" on "Gauchar" government land by a government official. Due to two different political interferences, the Taluka Development Officer (TDO) demolished the security cabin, toilet, and sitting area. The fruit and flowering plants, planted through tree plantation, have been taken away by local people as the land was demolished. The irrigation facility was also in non-operational condition. It is recommended that the Company promptly address the legal concerns and take necessary actions to rectify the situation to prevent any further disruptions to the project.

Evaluation criterion 4: Efficiency

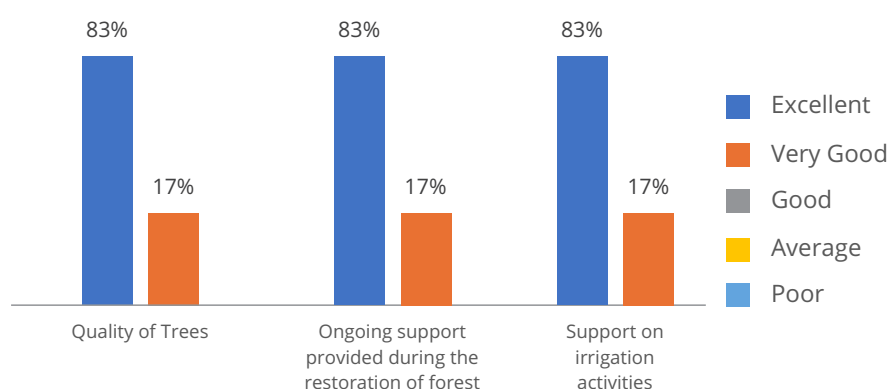
Tree planting initiatives can raise awareness about environmental issues and promote environmental education among community members, especially children and youth. Forests and green spaces have been linked to improved mental and physical health outcomes, providing recreational opportunities and stress-relief benefits for urban dwellers. Trees act as natural filters, improving air quality by absorbing pollutants and releasing oxygen. They also help in purifying water by reducing sediment runoff and filtering contaminants.

Polycab has also prioritized the comfort and needs of the villagers by creating a dedicated sitting area for them. To ensure the health and growth of the newly planted trees and plants, Company installed an irrigation system with an electricity connection for uninterrupted water supply.

Additionally, two borewells have been dug to provide a sustainable water source for the area. In our proposal, Polycab has committed to maintaining the project for the next 20 years and eventually handing over the land to Jepura Panchayat. To facilitate accessibility and future maintenance, a road has been constructed on the site.

The land, originally allocated by Jepura Panchayat for "Gauchar" or cattle grazing, has the potential to be developed further in line with Government initiatives for Gauchar. Furthermore, the "Van Kawach" Government initiative, aimed at forest protection, has been launched in several other villages nearby Jepura on the land designated for Gauchar, enhancing the ecological value of the area.

Responses on Support provided for forest restoration - Jepura



On interacting with the respondents in Halol, 100% of them rated the quality of trees post-intervention, ongoing support during the forest restoration program, and assistance with irrigation activities as "Excellent" and "Very Good".

During the site visit, the team noted the absence of a completion certificate, which is essential for verifying compliance with project requirements. It is advisable for the Company to conduct regular reviews to ensure adherence to project specifications.

Evaluation criterion 5: Impact

Forest restoration and tree plantation projects as part of CSR initiatives have several positive impacts on the environment, society, and the economy. Here are some of the key impacts:

- **Carbon Sequestration:** Trees absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and store it, helping to mitigate climate change by reducing greenhouse gas concentrations.
- **Biodiversity:** Restoring forests help preserve and enhance biodiversity by providing habitats for various species of plants, animals, and microorganisms.
- **Soil Conservation:** Trees help prevent soil erosion, improve soil fertility, and regulate water cycles, contributing to better land quality and resilience against natural disasters like floods and droughts.
- **Air and Water Quality:** Trees play a vital role in purifying the air by absorbing pollutants and releasing oxygen. They also filter and regulate water quality by reducing runoff and improving groundwater recharge.
- **Ecosystem Services:** Forests provide essential ecosystem services like pollination, water purification, and climate regulation, which have economic value.
- **Sustainable Resource Management:** Sustainable forest management practices ensure the long-term availability of timber, non-timber forest products, and other ecosystem services, supporting industries like forestry, agriculture, and tourism.

Evaluation criterion 6: Sustainability

One of the key aspects of the sustainability of forest restoration and tree plantation projects is their long-term impact on the environment. Trees act as natural carbon sinks, absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it as biomass. This helps in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and combating climate change.

Moreover, forests play a crucial role in regulating water cycles, preventing soil erosion, and providing habitats for numerous species. Therefore, by restoring and planting trees, companies can help maintain ecological balance and preserve biodiversity for future generations.

These projects often have positive socio-economic benefits for local communities. Tree planting initiatives create employment opportunities, improve soil fertility, and provide communities with sustainable sources of food, fuel, and medicine.

Additionally, by involving local communities in project planning and implementation, Polycab ensures that the initiatives are culturally sensitive, socially equitable, and economically viable. This fosters community ownership and participation, leading to the long-term success and sustainability of the projects.

But due to some political parties interference the Restoration of forest Project did not work well at Jepura. But still the villagers are hoping that this project will be retained and the villagers would get their own grazing land.

X Sarpanch Jepura stated, "I am the X Sarpanch of Jepura village under whom this project was initiated. In our village, Polycab initiated a project for the restoration of forests, utilizing CSR funds. However, we faced challenges, Kanjuri Gram Panchayat where Restoration of forest is done through another company CSR funds - (creating question on 1 tehsil 2 different rules) raising questions about consistency within the same tehsil. Despite these hurdles, we persevered, knowing the importance of preserving our natural resources. The 'Van Kawach' Government initiative, aimed at safeguarding forests, was also introduced in many other villages, highlighting the need for proper permissions from concerned collector officials to continue such programs. Despite the obstacles, some villagers from Jepura still bring their cattle and goats to graze in the area earmarked for restoration. However, the desire to resume the program remains strong among the villagers, as I continue to advocate for the restoration program to be reinstated, ensuring the sustainable future of our forests and community."



Improvement Areas

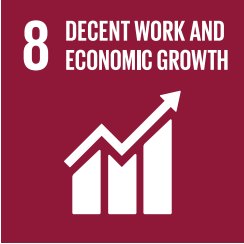
- **Enhance Documentation:** Ensure all approvals and backup documents are obtained and maintained systematically to facilitate verification and compliance.
- **Improve Transparency in Procurement:** Implement a strong quotation comparison process to enhance transparency and accountability in procurement activities.
- **Enhance Legal Compliance:** Address any legal issues promptly and take necessary actions to resolve them to avoid project disruptions.
- **Conduct Comprehensive Need Assessment:** Perform a thorough need assessment before initiating projects to ensure alignment with community needs and project objectives.
- **Communication with Stakeholders:** Establish effective communication channels with relevant authorities and stakeholders to address any issues promptly and prevent project delays.

Recommendations

- **Regular Project Audits:** Conduct regular audits of ongoing projects to assess compliance with documentation requirements, procurement processes, and other legal documents. Audits can help identify gaps and areas for improvement proactively.
- **Community Engagement Initiatives:** Implement community engagement initiatives to involve local stakeholders in project planning and decision-making processes. This will ensure that projects are designed to meet the specific needs and priorities of the community, enhancing their effectiveness and sustainability by taking ownership.
- **Continuous Monitoring and Evaluation:** Establish a strong monitoring and evaluation system to track project progress, outcomes, and impacts systematically. Regular monitoring will enable timely identification of issues and challenges from planned objectives, facilitating corrective actions as needed.
- **Conduct Educational Sessions:** Organize training sessions to educate community members on proper waste segregation techniques, emphasizing the separation of organic and non-organic waste, as well as biodegradable and non-biodegradable materials. Provide practical demonstrations and hands-on activities to reinforce learning.
- **Raise Awareness on Waste Management:** Conduct awareness programs focused on the benefits of effective waste management, such as improved water quality, enhanced greenery, and reduced pollution. Utilize multimedia presentations, informative workshops, and community events to engage participants and promote sustainable practices.

Alignment with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

SDGs	SDG Targets	Alignment with the SDGs
	6.1: Achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.	Construction of check dams contributes to sustainable water management (SDG 6), enhancing water availability for irrigation and drinking purposes in rural communities.
	8.5: By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.	Waste management initiatives foster sustainable economic growth by reducing pollution and creating jobs in recycling. Forest restoration drives sustainable tourism by preserving cultural heritage, drawing visitors, and boosting local economies.
	15.1: By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements.	Forest restoration projects support life on land (SDG 15) by preserving and enhancing biodiversity, protecting habitats, and promoting sustainable land use practices.



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