

2.2 OBJECTIVES:

- Objective 1: Strengthening People's Movement
- Objective 2: Enhancing Human Capabilities and Assets to have Access and Control over Life and Livelihood
- Objective 3: Ensuring Congregation in Solidarity with the Poor
- Objective 4: Mainstreaming Gender in Programmes and Policy
- Objective 5: Enhancing Integrity of Creation
- Objective 6: SBSS: Learning Movement for Building Movement

Objective 1: Strengthening People's Movements

To influence policies and practices of government and key stake holders whose decisions affects and perpetuate poverty and inequality

Rationale

With more liberalized and globalized economy affecting every aspect of our life, the state is curtailing its role and responsibility towards the citizen. This inevitable disconnect between the state and the citizen impacts every one, be it the policy maker or the people, every one falls prey of the faulty diagnosis and wrong course of actions prescribed for social maladies. To counter these situations, SBSS has developed a decade long perspective – 'Towards Building Communities of Resistance and Hope (TBCRH). Hence envisaging for 'alternative communities' or 'creating a new heaven and new earth' on biblical note, SBSS strives to ensure life and livelihood by acquiring equal partnership over the rights through campaigns and movement building which is expressed in Hindi as "Abhiyaan se Andolan aur phir Adhikar mein Hissedari". Thereby forming issue based People's Organizations¹ from the existing Community-based Organizations² and further transforming them into People's Movement³ towards building alternative political force⁴.

Whether it is the issue of livelihood and food security in Amritsar or land rights in Marathwada the underlying issue is the politics and unjust power structure, disconnect of the people from the policy making process, it forces certain communities to live a life of deprivation. SBSS has been putting efforts to defend democracy by empowering the people and their political rights by strengthening the GramSabha making it more functional. Thus, strengthening of the Panchayati Raj Institute insures people's say in the decision making process where they can assert their rights.

SBSS at present is focusing on building communities at the grass-roots. Today we are working with 18 DBSS partners covering sixteen states. We engage with the struggles of more than 1512 villages comprising of 242 CBOs consisting 1813 SHGs, numerous farmers' committees, *Mabila Mandals*, People's Committees, 8 cooperatives and 11 People's Organizations at the national level. Towards political autonomy, 959 candidates contested in the Panchayat elections out of which 112 women and 438 men won the elections. These elected leaders evolved from the PO are advocating on behalf of their communities. Through these organizations we have responded issues of human rights violations, imperialists and capitalist policies of the developed countries, issues of accountability of the state for the proper implementations of the food security and social security schemes and issues of land entitlements.

The external evaluation⁵ findings of our interventions in previous project phase – 'Let Justice Roll' (LJR) implicates that the POs are facing difficulties to move forward like in Kolhapur though the Dalits and the poor have acquired land nothing has been done further to strengthen their conditions so as to make best use of the land received, if job-cards were given in Patna further action to scale up the issue is missing. Thus there is a danger of people getting demotivated due to lack of initiatives and these issues need to be addressed on regular basis through dialogues and meetings with people. This is an important prerogative to regain the impetus of the PO and move towards movement building. Furthermore DBSS staffs need to gain more clarity on the concepts of PO/CBO and movements and also need to consolidate the SHGs, Panchayat associations or CBOs to PO and movements.

1. In defence of Democracy

Building PO is SBSS' key strategy for movement building and thereby defending democracy. From the LJR it was clear that POs are in different stages of evolution, as some are in CBO stages which need to move towards PO, few are in PO stage which needs to be strengthened and move further towards building movement and alternative political forces. Effort would be made in transforming the existing organizations and move towards the next level. SBSS would initiate the process of converting problem into an issue and then linking it with the movement. In this process, POs would be equipped to the micro issues at the grassroots level while macro issues at the national and global level. Presently SBSS has 11 POs; initiatives would be taken to evolve at least

¹ PO: SBSS defines People's Organization as an organization that has moved beyond geographical boundaries, with a strong political agenda, collective leadership, multiple stakeholder ship with a strong sense of identity and unity

² CBO: SBSS defines community-based organization as a localized unit with single stakeholders focusing on economic entrepreneurship

³ PM: People's Movement moves beyond boundaries, impacts policies and influence the structural issues to find alternatives.

⁴ APF: Alternative Political Force consists of the pressure groups formed aiming towards policy change focusing more on people's politics rather than party politics.

⁵ External Evaluation of SBSS was carried out in 2008 reviewing the LJR phase.

one PO in each of the 18 DBSS. For the existing POs viz. Dalit Samaj Vikas Parishad (DSVP), Manav Adhikhar Sangharsh Samiti (MASS), UTTHAN, MESKAS, PNJSS, SWARAJ and Bisnupur Nagarik Manch interventions shall be made to involve the members of the PO in the grassroots politics and to evolve as pressure group/ alternative political force to voice their dissent. For influencing the policies the PO would link with the ongoing campaigns at the state and national level and build alliance with the state and national commissions, forums like FCFC, INSAF and NCCI

1.1. a. Transforming the existing Organizations to become strong POs & PMs for defending democracy

Process: The existing group (CBO, SHGs, People's Committees) would be made aware, mobilized and given support to develop issue-based People's Organization. Thrust on leadership development - women leadership would be given special emphasis. Efforts will be taken in building negotiating and bargaining capacities. Special attention would be given in developing an inclusive structure of the PO. Multi-stake holder membership will be developed with strong ideological base. The PO shall develop a political agenda that will move beyond the local boundaries of the village.

Campaign theme: 'In defence of Democracy'

Instruments: Awareness building, Capacity building, Exposures, *Karyashaala*

Approach	Activities	Output	Outcome
Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of Pos (to figure out the stages they are in CBO/PO/PM) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indexing & profiling existing organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DBSS realizes their status in the process of CBO-PO-PM
Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizational restructuring/ Re-organizing of existing CBOs, SHGs Capacity building on proper functioning of CBOs Workshop on Gender Sensitivity for PRI and PO members Leadership Development in PO Exposure visit Karyashaala 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing POs will strengthen with equal representation from existing CBOs (Area-wise and representation wise) Understanding of leaders on PO will enhance and proper functioning of PO will be ensured PO members will be equipped to analyse the role of gender in power equation New leadership identifies both female and male 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership increased PO moves beyond the geographical boundaries Collective mobilization of people for active involvement in the proper functioning of the People's organization.
Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting of POs (for strategizing and forming agenda) Issue based Networking with like minded organization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indirect Expansion of operational area Increase in membership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More like-minded organizations joining ongoing struggle
Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formation of apex body in PO (governance) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The units at different levels (village, cluster, area level) will be well-defined and properly linked. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constituency model of PO will be developed with proper representation and linkage.

1.1.b From Periphery to Centre

Process:

The already evolved People's Organizations would be empower enough to exhibit political authority by contesting in the PRI election, through this they would a part of the decision making process. The constituency would be analyzed and developed as per the assembly; the identified leaders would be prepared to contest for the village *Panchayat*, *Panchayat Samiti* and *Zilla Parishad* elections. Subsequently the community would be prepared to create public opinion through Voter's *Jagriti Manch* and support the elected candidates. Therefore developing the constituency at the grass root level and claiming rights through political action would be a strongly taken through political empowerment.

Campaign theme: *Hamara Vote Hamara Faisla* (Our vote and our decision)

Instruments: Constituency development, Voter Jagriti Manch, people-centred advocacy, capacity building

Approach	Activities	Output	Outcome
Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constituency development (mapping the constituency PRI, MLA and MP) Identification of power structure and involvement of leaders from the reference community in the grassroots' politics Sharing analysis with communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name, population of the constituency, the voter list are updated Power structure and Leadership pattern will be revealed Nos. of leaders from reference community will be mapped out. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy for productive involvement of leaders from the reference community in the present context will be developed
Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need based capacity building of existing and identified leaders (special reference to women) for productive involvement and contribution in grassroots' politics Awareness and capacity building of people for effective participation in GramSabha Awareness meeting for Voters Jagriti Manch Awareness meeting for Mahila Adhikar Manch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified leaders will be imparted with the knowledge of grassroots' politics and their involvement Reference community will understand the importance of GramSabha Formation of Mahila Adhikar Manch Voters Jagriti Manch developed constituency wise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The identified leaders will be actively involved in the decision making processes Participation and involvement in GramSabha specially in decision making Voter Jagriti Manch functions as a pressure group
Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Campaigning for election (by mobilizing the support of the civil society through pamphlets, posters, street plays, documentaries) Preparing Charter of Demands for further negotiation Promoting RTI cells at every Panchayat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Charter of Demand will be developed by the PO addressing the needs and problems of the community. Propaganda for electing pro-poor leaders in PRI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-phase with the political leaders by presenting the Charter of Demand and elect pro-poor leaders for taking decision in favour of people's benefits.
Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoted leaders contesting elections in the PRI systems. (special emphasis would be given to women candidate to contest) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The identified leaders supported by PO will contest the election with the strength 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representation of the reference community in the decision-making body at the PRI systems taking active part in the decision making process that will be essentially pro-poor.

1.1.c Influencing Policy Formulation.

Process:

The issue-based POs would voice their concerns through intensive use of RTI, tools and techniques of advocacy like JanSunwai, social audits and signature campaigns to express their dissent. PO would act as pressure group and vigilance cell to voice their concerns actively participating and monitoring the GramSabha and GramSansad meeting as well as see proper implementation of the government schemes

Instruments: Accompaniment, Right to Information Act, capacity building, people-centred and policy-centred advocacy, Mahila Adhikar Manch and Voters Jagriti Manch

Approach	Activities	Output	Outcome
Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status report of the Common Minimum programme and MDG.(its implementation status and policies) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trends, patterns and the gaps in policies identified and analyzed Information highlighting discrepancies in govt programmes, like CMP, MDG highlighted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy will be developed to address the issues and for effective implementation of schemes and facilities
Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building of leaders on problem identification and tools and techniques of advocacy Capacity building of PO to function as vigilance group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaders will be well equipped with tools and techniques of advocacy like RTI, submission of memorandum, etc. PO will identify members and assign responsibilities as a vigilance group. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raising their voice through intensive use of RTI and other tools and technique of advocacy Monitoring of Govt. schemes, effective implementation will be ensured by PO
Advocacy	<p>People-centred advocacy for effective implementation of schemes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media Advocacy, press conference and electronic media Bureaucratic advocacy Legislative advocacy <p>Policy-centred advocacy to bring changes at the policy level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The existing malpractices in the implementation will be highlighted through media advocacy, bureaucratic advocacy and legislative advocacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People express their dissent against these discrepancies and demand corrective measures.
Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social audit JanSunwai signature campaign memorandum submission Yaatras Dharnas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People get platform to express their dissent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dissent communicated at the bureaucratic, legislative level. Government schemes will be properly allocated Representatives of the PO would be actively involved in village planning committees PO members functions as a vigilance cell

1.1.d Networking and Alliance building

Process:

Issue-based networking would be developed on identified themes of Land, Livelihood and Food Security. Partnership would be strengthened with different forums like FCFC, INSAF and other Social Action Groups like Janadesh and CNI related institutions. This networking and alliance building would be used for influencing policy-makers. CNI-SBSS' unit on policy and campaign would be strengthened; this unit would be instrumental in developing and strengthening the alliances with CNI intuitions and other forums. This unit would also commission studies and research for strengthening the network.

Instruments Policy advocacy, RTI, networking and alliance building

Approach	Activities	Output	Outcome
Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrading information on the different networks and campaigns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State-wise data base on different networks and alliances would be developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The learning of the different campaigns integrated in organizational culture
Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation with the larger network of EED like FCFC and CA networks Yearly meetings with CNI-Social institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collective sharing of resources, ideology and values see in action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizations and agencies joins in the collective struggle for influencing policy and social change
Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborating with larger campaigns and networks through exposures and Karyashaala 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening of network and strengthening of the negotiating and bargaining skills Other agencies joins the collective struggle for policy change National visibility of the organization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies and practices change in favour of the poor
Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active involvement in National campaigns on trade justice, climate change, NAPM, SEZ, Dalits Atrocities Developing the policy campaign unit in SBSS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SBSS' capacity to manage national level campaign gets enhanced Churches' participation in the Campaign 	

1.2 Campaigns for sustaining Social Movement ⁶

Process:

Social movement are not eternal they have a life cycle: they are created they grow, they achieve successes or failure and eventually they dissolve and cease to exist. To sustain the impetus of a social movement it is very important undertake various actions. A campaign is one of such sustained organized activities which helps to sustain a movement. The peoples organization who are motivated for this social movement needs to be kept mobilized and sustained, therefore it is important to be in constant touch with the People's Organization through dialogues, meetings and discussions. Staff would be capacitated on how to manage campaigns. Efforts would also be taken for the PO to come together and share their achievements and failures through meetings twice a year and frequent exposure visits. We would also document our own campaigns, study the ongoing campaigns and try to integrate the learning's in to the organization

Approach	Activities	Output	Outcome
Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study existing campaigns and review it Document the process of SBSS/DBSS campaign Evolve strategies out of the study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The trends and strategies of different campaigns analysed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The studies integrated into the organizational culture
Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building of the DBSS staff for campaign management Follow up of the campaigns through continuous dialogues and meeting with people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DBSS staff learns the art of managing campaigns Continuous meetings and dialogues are organized in the PO for keeping the impetus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proper tools and systems are used for campaigns Future strategies and follow up activities are developed to sustain the PO for new initiatives
Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership with congregations Forming regional forums for dialogues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional forums formed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership strengthens between the church and the PO

⁶ A social movement is often created when large number of people realizes that they are often sharing the same value and desire for a particular social change. One of the main difficulties the emerging social movement is spreading the very knowledge that it exists. Secondly is overcoming the free rider problem – convincing the people to join it.

Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extending support to the RCSA for state level policy advocacy • Bi-annual meetings of the PO • Exposures to other campaigns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RCSA take up campaign for state level advocacy • RCSA would initiate state Level PO forum • PO would learn from each other, this will strengthen the POs vision and perspective 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campaign strengthen the POs
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1.3 Community Study Centre for Learning and Advocacy (CBCLA)

The Community Study Centre for Learning and Advocacy is spread out in 8 DBSS with 54 centres. It acts as a change agent to enable children to realize their potentials and develop a just human society. It carries out through non-formal informative education and interaction process which go beyond the four walls. CBCLA will be used as a platform to built and enrich the perspective, ideology of the children for contributing in future movement building. It would also enable to develop child advocate for social concerns

Process: All the 54 CBCLA centres would work as an epicentre for imparting awareness on the right to education to the children. Re-visiting and retrospection the present education system, structure, values and ethic would be a part of the process. Informal knowledge on the issues of Dalits atrocities, tribal issues, gender, Land rights food crisis, integrity of creation would be imparted to strengthen the perspective, ideological base and values of the children. Each CBCLA activities would be monitories and reviewed by strong Village Education Committee (VEC), the VEC would also be involved in wider community issues and voice their dissent on issues related to ICDS and MDM. Ultimately these centres would be converted or linked with the existing People's Movement

Approach	Activities	Output	Outcome
Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection and analysis on children's issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collected on children's issues like child abuse, child drop outs, illiteracy, trafficking developed • Case of violation of child rights are identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steps taken to curb the violation of rights of the children, decrease of drop-out rate of the children's in school
Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perspective and Vision building for CBCLA students on contemporary issues • Refresher course for the CBCLA teachers • Capacity building of the Village Education Committees (VEC) on the issues on the community as well as child rights issues • Meeting of the VEC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children aware about the contemporary issues • Retrospection of the present education system. • Staffs and animators are trained to deal with contemporary issues • Long term and short term strategies are formulated. Systematic follow up action formulated • Systematic follow up action framed • Village based education committee meets regularly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value base and ideology of the children is strengthened • Nutritious food provided in school • Children actively involved in taking care of the village environment, lead a healthy life. • Improvement in the health status of the children
Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizing Children's Forum and Children's Assembly • Advocacy on child atrocities and child trafficking issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's forum formed in all the 8 DBSS • Community taking part in the children's assembly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People's organization is strengthened and becomes more inclusive
Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rallies on child atrocities and child rights, proper implementation of social security schemes • Establishing the CBCLA Centres as multipurpose centres for community • Children's Day celebrated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's concern is placed in front of the authority • Children's concern highlighted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pressure group demands proper facilities for the children • Non-formal education, informative interaction process starts within the community