Sustainable Development Goals and Gram Panchayats
The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a new, universal set of goals, targets and indicators that 193 countries in the world have jointly set. The Government of India has played a leadership role in defining the SDG agenda. Starting January 2016, countries are expected to frame their agendas and policies to end poverty, protect the planet, enjoy peace and ensure prosperity for all by 2030.
There are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with 169 targets. Panchayats will have a crucial role to play in achieving the SDGs. These are universal goals with local implications and intervention possibilities.

The twin objectives of the panchayati raj system as envisaged by the Indian Constitution are to ensure local economic development and social justice. Panchayats are expected to play an effective role in the planning and implementation of functions related to 29 subjects enlisted in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution. Many SDG targets are within the purview of these subjects.

Gram panchayats (GPs) across the country have begun preparing gram panchayat development plans (GPDP), presenting an opportunity for the GPs to synchronize their plans with SDGs. Resources from various centrally and state sponsored schemes can be leveraged and converged at the GP level. It is important to set GP-level targets with measurable indicators that will have vertical and horizontal linkages, convergence possibilities, resource mobilization potential and feasible action by the GPs.

This document is meant for elected GP representatives and functionaries to use as a ready reference. It provides information on the SDGs directly related to GPs and can be the priority focus in planning the actions the panchayats can take to achieve these goals, as well as the support base and resources that can be mobilized.
Sustainable Development Goals

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development
Mobilize your gram sabha, Set your panchayat-specific targets, Coordinate with government and non-government agencies, Tap resources from centrally and state sponsored schemes, ensure services reach the community

Be a leader in achieving sustainable development goals!

END POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS EVERYWHERE

What Can Gram Panchayats Do?

FACILITATE

- Access to:
  - Social protection
  - Housing
  - Water and electricity
  - Sanitation

- Resilience to extreme climate events and other environmental shocks

- Implementation of MGNREGS

- Income generation through:
  - Skills training
  - Entrepreneurship development
  - Employment

- Building of institutions like self-help groups

- Access to financial services, including microfinance
ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION IN

• Needs assessment
• Social services planning

IDENTIFY

• Poor, destitute and critically vulnerable to shocks and disasters
• Appropriate new technologies to improve productivity

People to support us

Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and their federations, literacy workers, ASHAs, teachers, National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) Community Resource Persons (CRPs), Anganwadi workers, Rozgar sevaks

Resources to look for

Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana (DAY-NRLM), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), State Poverty Eradication Missions, National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), Public Distribution System (PDS), Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana, other state and central schemes
END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

What Can Gram Panchayats Do?

ENROLL

- Families under PDS
- Children, pregnant women and adolescent girls under the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS)
- Elderly people
- Farmers, pastoralists and fishers, in particular women

ENSURE

- Growth monitoring of children under 6
- Coverage of pregnant and lactating women, adolescent girls under ICDS supplementary nutrition programme

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Be a leader in achieving sustainable development goals!
People to support us

ASHAs, SHGs, Anganwadi workers, literacy workers, Teachers, NRLM CRPs, social activists, PTA/ school management committee (SMC), health workers, doctors, local experts, agriculture-related functionaries, departments and agencies

Resources to look for

PDS, ICDS, National Health Mission (NHM), National Mission for Soil and Agriculture (NMSA), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), state-sponsored schemes and programmes on health, nutrition, agriculture, animal husbandry, horticulture and livelihoods

What Can Gram Panchayats Do?

• Take home rations for children under 3, pregnant and lactating mothers
• Quality mid-day meals
• Issues are addressed in GPDP

BUILD

• Information, education and communication (IEC) strategy for nutrition education
• System of community support for nutrition for destitutes, elderly
• Comprehensive production plan for small-scale producers
• Capacity for adaptation to climate change

PROMOTE

• Breastfeeding
• Locally available nutritious food
• Resilient agricultural practices by sensitizing farmers and small-scale food producers

People to support us

ASHAs, SHGs, Anganwadi workers, literacy workers, Teachers, NRLM CRPs, social activists, PTA/ school management committee (SMC), health workers, doctors, local experts, agriculture-related functionaries, departments and agencies

Resources to look for

PDS, ICDS, National Health Mission (NHM), National Mission for Soil and Agriculture (NMSA), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), state-sponsored schemes and programmes on health, nutrition, agriculture, animal husbandry, horticulture and livelihoods
What Can Gram Panchayats Do?

ENSURE HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTE WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES

MAINTAIN AND MONITOR

- Quality of health care services
- Overall cleanliness to combat malaria, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases

ENSURE

- Effective functioning of village health sanitation and nutrition committees and Rogi Kalyan Samiti
- Linkage to referral centre and 24x7 availability of emergency services delivery infrastructure
- Addressing of local public health issues through GPD
- Access to family planning services
- Collaboration with health department for mental health care

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FACILITATE

- Social audits of maternal deaths
- Enrolment of vulnerable in health insurance schemes
- Awareness of non-communicable diseases
- Home-based palliative care with health workers
- Prevention of vector-borne diseases

USE IEC STRATEGIES TO

- Help families care for newborns, pregnant women
- Promote immunization and breastfeeding
- Address substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol

PROMOTE

- Early diagnosis and timely treatment of diseases
- Hygiene and sanitation through seasonal campaigns
- Smokeless chulhas, improved cooking stoves, adequate ventilation
- Awareness of healthy life practices

People to support us

Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs), doctors, ASHAs, Anganwadi workers

Resources to look for

NHM, Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), Navjat Shisu Suraksha Karyakram (NSSK), ICDS, RSBY
What Can Gram Panchayats Do?

**FACILITATE**

- Transport and hostels for children in isolated areas
- Access to entitlements like scholarships, uniforms, textbooks, mid-day meals etc.
- Access for special needs children to schools
- Building of girls’ toilets to ensure retention of girls
- Evening and mobile schools, learning centres and residential camps to provide bridge courses for dropouts/out-of-school children
- Collaboration with line departments to fill vacant teacher posts

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What Can Gram Panchayats Do?

PROMOTE

• Awareness on rights of children under the Right to Education (RTE) Act
• Environment for 100 percent enrolment and retention of students in schools
• Education standing committee to oversee operationalization of RTE
• Comprehensive participatory education plan to improve basic physical school facilities/social environment/child assessment
• Plan to improve infrastructure for Anganwadis

STRENGTHEN

• Preschool Anganwadi welfare committees
• Libraries to support literacy programme
• Total Literacy Campaign (TLC) by ensuring functioning of Panchayat Lok Shiksha Committee chaired by GP president

People to support us

Teachers, SMCs, Anganwadi workers, ASHAs, literacy workers, other department officials, ICDS supervisors

Resources to look for

ICDS, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), National Skill Development Programme (NSDP), National Digital Literacy Mission, DDU-GKY, DAY-NRLM

MONITOR

• Quality of education
• Rates of and reasons for school dropouts for girls and boys
• Rates of and reasons for irregular attendance for girls and boys
**ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS**

**What Can Gram Panchayats Do?**

**PROMOTE**
- Universal birth registration
- Philosophy of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
- Awareness against gender discrimination
- School enrolment and retention of girls
- Programmes for school children against cybercrimes and substance abuse

**FACILITATE**
- Formation of Gram Samanvaya Samitis, comprising grassroots-level functionaries, and women’s representatives from the community
- Gender status studies and dissemination of findings in gram sabha
- Enrolment and attendance of all girl children in Anganwadis
- Women’s participation in economic activities under SHGs
- Poorna Shakti Kendras, the GP-level one-stop centre for services for women

*Mobilize your gram sabha, Set your panchayat-specific targets, Coordinate with government and non-government agencies, Tap resources from centrally and state sponsored schemes, ensure services reach the community*

Be a leader in achieving sustainable development goals!
People to support us

ICDS supervisors, Anganwadi workers, school teachers, health workers, ASHAs, NGOs, local police, lawyers, SHGs

Resources to look for

National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW), Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, JSY, Rashtriya Bala Swasthya Karyakram, ICDS, Sukanya Samridhi Yojana (Girl Child Prosperity Scheme), DAY-NRLM, Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (SABLA), Swachh Bharat Mission, NHM, SSA
ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL

Mobilize your gram sabha, Set your panchayat-specific targets, Coordinate with government and non-government agencies, Tap resources from centrally and state sponsored schemes, ensure services reach the community

Be a leader in achieving sustainable development goals!

What Can Gram Panchayats Do?

ENSURE

• Identification of households without toilets
• Toilet use and maintenance
• Facilities for solid and liquid waste management
• Water-use efficiency by rationalizing water use
• Inclusion of water and sanitation issues in GPDP
• Compliance with environmental safeguards of all GPDP activities

PROMOTE

• Hygiene education
• Toilets for all households and institutions
• Modern agriculture and water-use technologies
• Water-use rationalization by selecting appropriate cropping patterns
People to support us
Water supply scheme operators, masons, registrants of MGNREGS, swachhta doots, health workers, teachers, NGOs

Resources to look for
Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), Swachh Bharat Mission, Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), other relevant centrally and state sponsored programmes and schemes

ESTABLISH
• Local environmental safeguard measures
• Surveillance of water bodies
• Safeguards for water bodies and quality

FACILITATE
• Appropriate irrigation methods
• Regulation of water extraction based on demand-yield match
• Participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management

PLAN AND IMPLEMENT
• Environmental management framework
• Water supply schemes
ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL

What Can Gram Panchayats Do?

FACILITATE ELECTRICITY CONNECTIONS THROUGH APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY/AGENCY

• To households
• To public buildings like schools, health centres, Anganwadis etc.
• To commercial establishments
• To small-scale industries
• For irrigation

Mobilize your gram sabha, Set your panchayat-specific targets, Coordinate with government and non-government agencies, Tap resources from centrally and state sponsored schemes, ensure services reach the community

Be a leader in achieving sustainable development goals!
People to support us

Traditional masons and helpers, department officials, technical and academic institutions, NGOs

Resources to look for

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDU-GJY)

POPULARIZE

• Construction and use of biogas systems in households, schools and Anganwadis
• Energy efficient building designs
• Energy efficient cooking devices and habits
• Adoption of energy conservation measures (LED lamps, star-rated appliances)
• Energy efficient pumps for irrigation and drip systems

FACILITATE

• Solar energy augmentation in households and public institutions
• Installation of energy efficient chulhas
What Can Gram Panchayats Do?

MAP

- Micro, small and medium enterprises within the panchayat area
- Enterprise opportunities in the village
- Employment opportunities for different categories and degrees of disabilities

IDENTIFY AND TRACK

- Potential candidates to set up enterprises
- Skills of interested candidates

PROMOTE SUSTAINED, INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH, FULL AND PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK FOR ALL

Mobilize your gram sabha, Set your panchayat-specific targets, Coordinate with government and non-government agencies, Tap resources from centrally and state sponsored schemes, ensure services reach the community

Be a leader in achieving sustainable development goals!
People to support us

SHGs, local professionals, social workers, successful Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) entrepreneurs, successful local entrepreneurs, Anganwadi workers, literacy activists, teachers, NRLM CRPs, MGNREGS mates, youth organizations, rural development department, Department of Social Justice

Resources to look for

DAY-NRLM and other government schemes for enterprise development, MGNREGS, DDU-GKY, The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, state-sponsored schemes, other department schemes, youth welfare schemes

FACILITATE

• Prevention of child labour and create awareness on prevention of child labour
• Jobs under MGNREGS
• Availability of facilities at MGNREGS worksite
• Prevention of manual scavenging
• Rehabilitation of and cash assistance for manual scavengers through the social welfare department
• Entrepreneurial development training
• Handholding support for new enterprises
• Job creation through convergence of ongoing schemes and sponsorships

CREATE

• Awareness on equal wages for men and women for equal work
• IEC material on labour legislations, rights and entitlements
• Village-level child protection committees and promote child protection services

MAINTAIN

• Database on labour and employment
• Categorization of disabled based on nature and degree of disability
TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

INTEGRATE

• Sectoral climate change considerations into local planning

FACILITATE

• Awareness building on scale of climate change impact
• Conducting of vulnerability assessments

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Be a leader in achieving sustainable development goals!
**People to support us**

NGOs, relevant government department officials, academic and research institutions

**Resources to look for**

National Action Plan on Climate Change, Green India Mission, relevant state schemes and programmes,

**BUILD**
- Strategies to mitigate climate change risks with communities and gram sabha

**PLAN**
- To reduce dependence on climate sensitive sectors
- To address spread of vector- and water-borne diseases due to extreme events

**STRENGTHEN**
- Local-level resilience to climate events
- Ability of communities to anticipate and effectively respond to climate change
PROTECT, RESTORE AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE USE OF TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS, SUSTAINABLY MANAGE FORESTS, COMBAT DESERTIFICATION, AND HALT AND REVERSE LAND DEGRADATION AND HALT BIO DIVERSITY LOSS

What Can Gram Panchayats Do?

PROMOTE

• Conservation of micro watersheds and/or identifiable natural units
• Community-based management of sacred groves
• Planting of natural vegetation in high-slope areas, barren lands and other common lands
• Green belt development and catchment conservation
• Conservation of wetlands
• Nursery raising of local species of flora through MGNREGS

INITIATE

• Afforestation drives
• Steps to make wetland cultivation chemical-free and sustainable

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Be a leader in achieving sustainable development goals!
People to support us
Registrants of MGNREGS, traditional farmers and labourers, NGOs, relevant government department officials, academic and research institutions

Resources to look for
MGNREGS, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), IWMP, PMKSY, Green India Mission, social forestry, relevant state-sponsored schemes and programmes
Sustainable Development

PEOPLE
End poverty and hunger in all forms and ensure dignity and equality

PLANET
Protect our planet’s natural resources and climate for future generations

PARTNERSHIP
Implement the agenda through a solid global partnership

PEACE
Foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies

PROSPERITY
Ensure prosperous and fulfilling lives in harmony with nature