



IND-MUS-EMP-P01, Northern India
Reporting Period: July 2107 – June 2018

Village life improvement project

Budget: \$15,100 fully funded.

Update: The main aim in starting this project was to provide empowerment to as many women as possible in this poor rural area. The hill women of Uttarakhand work 16 hours a day and bear the brunt of looking after the fields, the household and the children. However, they are usually unable to earn an income and contribute to the family finances. Throughout the year, 20 composting latrines were built in 2 different villages, 4 rain catchment tanks were installed and 4 green houses were built.

As a result of the greenhouses, sanitation and nutrition has improved and women have been able to generate an income for themselves by selling vegetables in the market place. The 20 composting toilets have reduced the cost of buying chemical fertilizers for crops but more importantly have had a positive impact on people's health, safety and dignity. Finally, as part of the Water Catchment Project, 55 families have benefitted from stored water for crops and household use.



The cost of transporting the materials to the village increased throughout the year due to the rising cost of fuel. The villagers compensated for this by providing more and more volunteers to do the work required in building the latrines, green houses and catchment tanks. The community buy-in and commitment to the project has strengthened relationships and motivated many families to work together to increase their yield.

There are 20 Self Help Groups for women in 20 different villages. These women meet on a monthly basis to share issues and encourage each other. Awareness campaigns in the areas of nutrition, hygiene and empowerment were run and demonstration classes regarding the green houses and water catchment systems were set up to educate the women and their families.

Thank you for standing with these communities, especially the women, in this remote, northern part of India. Our partners are working together with the local village people to improve sanitation, nutrition and quality of life in very harsh conditions.

