



# CFI Research Grant Planning Workshop

16-18 June 2026  
Jain Hills, Jalgaon



Pavan Wasnik  
Gram Chetna Kendra  
16-06-2026

# 1. Project Snapshot



- Project title: Unconventional Modes of Growing Fruit Trees for Nutritional Resilience in Saline and Wasteland Ecosystems
- Institution: Gram Chetna Kendra
- Principal Investigator: Om Prakash Sharma
- Project duration: 3 Years
- Budget: Rs. 30,00,000 (USD 32,967)
- Project location(s): Ramsar Wetland Site, Sambhar Region, Jaipur Rajasthan



# 3. Year-1 Implementation Plan



*Summarize key activities planned during Year 1 (April 2026 – March 2027):*



## Site Establishment

Select 4 core villages in Sambhar region. Map saline/wasteland parcels for plantation. Secure land consent & geo-tag sites. Link with SKRAU for technical guidance.



## Nursery Development

Establish community fruit nurseries with ber, amla, lemon, pomegranate & moringa saplings. Train 210 women farmers in sapling care, orchard management & vermicompost preparation.



## Demonstration Sites

Plant  $\geq 1250$  saplings (50/household, 5 Vermi Compost, 30 kitchen gardens. Set up mulching, basin prep & organic soil management demonstration plots.



## Capacity Building Programme

Conduct 6 training sessions on nutrition awareness, fruit cultivation, kitchen gardening, natural farming & post-harvest handling, value chain creation. Target SC, ST & nomadic Bawaria women.



## Target Community Engagement

Conduct VDC and SHGs meeting to mobilise beneficiaries. Directly worked with 210 women from marginalized communities. Adopting fruit consumption habits, sustainable agriculture practices.

## 4. Fruit Species and Production Models



- Key fruit species promoted: The project will promote **lemon, ber, amla, pomegranate, and moringa**, selected for their high nutritional value, suitability to the semi-arid climate, and local acceptance. These climate-resilient species require less water, improve household nutrition, provide additional income opportunities, and can be grown on field bunds, kitchen gardens, and unused land, contributing to ecological restoration and year-round fruit availability
- Production systems to be demonstrated: The project will establish 50 Poshan Vatikas (nutrition gardens) and 100 small-scale nurseries managed by women farmers to improve household nutrition, ensure the availability of quality saplings, and promote climate-resilient livelihoods.

## 5. Year-1 Targets and Deliverables :



| Key Performance Indicator       | Target (Absolute number) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Villages covered                | 3                        |
| Households reached              | 210                      |
| Women beneficiaries             | 840                      |
| Youth beneficiaries             | 200                      |
| Trees planted                   | 1250                     |
| Fruit species promoted          | 5                        |
| Trainings planned               | 6                        |
| Nurseries established           | 50                       |
| Kitchen Gardening Establishment | 30                       |

## 6. Collaboration Opportunities (Offer and Ask)



| What we can offer                          | Support we need                              |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Community Mobilization                     | Technical Guidance                           |
| Liaisoning with Government Department      | Species Identification                       |
| Convergence with government welfare scheme | Quality Planting Material                    |
| Project Monitoring and Evaluation          | Nutritional Monitoring                       |
| Documentation and IEC Material Development | Soil Health Testing                          |
| Social Media Visibility and Networking     | Expert Training on Climate Resilient Farming |

# 7. Baseline, MEL and Next Steps :



A baseline survey will establish benchmarks on nutrition, fruit consumption, and farming practices.

A midline assessment in Year 2 will review plantation survival, adoption of Poshan Vatikas, and changes in household fruit consumption.

An endline evaluation in Year 3 will measure improvements in dietary diversity, nutrition, fruit availability, income generation, and adoption of climate-resilient farming practices.

| Level   | Indicator                                         | Baseline                | Target         |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Outcome | Households consuming fruits 3–4 times per week    | Low                     | 70% households |
| Outcome | Improved Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) | Limited diversity       | 60% households |
| Output  | Survival rate of fruit saplings                   | No organized plantation | 85% survival   |
| Output  | Adoption of organic soil management practices     | Low                     | 50% households |
| Output  | Adoption of water conservation practices          | Limited                 | 60% households |
| Outcome | Households accessing fruits from own plantations  | Low                     | 70% households |
| Outcome | Households earning income from surplus fruits     | Low                     | 40% households |

The project will ensure long-term impact through women-led 50 nurseries, 30 Poshan Vatikas, and 2500 fruit plantations, 15 Vermi Compost, enabling communities to sustain improved nutrition, livelihoods, and environmental benefits beyond the project period.

# 8.Budget Summary



| Category                                  | YEAR 1    | YEAR 2   | YEAR 3   | TOTAL     |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Personnel                                 | 3,60,000  | 396000   | 420000   | 11,76,000 |
| Planting material and field trials        | 500000    | 300000   | 200000   | 1000000   |
| Infrastructure (if justified)             | 22500     | 22500    | 22500    | 67500     |
| Capacity building and awareness workshops | 77000     | 59000    | 59000    | 195000    |
| Travel (only project related)             | 26400     | 28200    | 29400    | 84000     |
| Monitoring, documentation and publication | 8000      | 31000    | 91000    | 130000    |
| Field days                                | 50000     | 25000    | 0        | 75000     |
| Administration (10%)                      | 104390    | 86170    | 82190    | 272750    |
| Total (INR)                               | 11,48,290 | 9,47,870 | 9,04,090 | 30,00,250 |

# Risk & Mitigation Strategy:



| Risk                                                                                  | Possible Impact                                              | Mitigation Strategy                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Low survival of fruit saplings due to drought or low rainfall</b>                  | Reduced plantation success and delayed nutrition benefits    | Selection of drought-resistant species (ber, amla, moringa, lemon), mulching, basin preparation, and use of farm ponds or limited irrigation support       |
| <b>Limited community interest in fruit consumption due to traditional food habits</b> | Slow improvement in dietary diversity and nutrition outcomes | Regular nutrition awareness sessions, kitchen garden demonstrations, and promoting fruit use in daily diets for women and children                         |
| <b>Pest or disease attack on plants</b>                                               | Damage to saplings and reduced fruit production              | Training farmers on natural pest management, neem-based solutions, and regular field monitoring                                                            |
| <b>Water scarcity in summer months</b>                                                | Stress on young plants and lower survival rate               | Use of rainwater harvesting, mulching, soil moisture conservation, and promotion of sprinkler or drip irrigation where possible                            |
| <b>Ecological sensitivity around Sambhar wetland area</b>                             | Risk of disturbance to biodiversity or bird habitats         | Plantation only on private farmland and village land outside the wetland core zone; coordination with local authorities and promotion of low pesticide use |
| <b>Migration or limited participation of beneficiaries</b>                            | Reduced maintenance of fruit plants                          | Selection of committed women farmers, regular follow-up visits, and community-level monitoring through village groups                                      |



# Thanks