



CFI Research Grant Planning Workshop

16-18 June 2026
Jain Hills, Jalgaon

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1. Project Snapshot

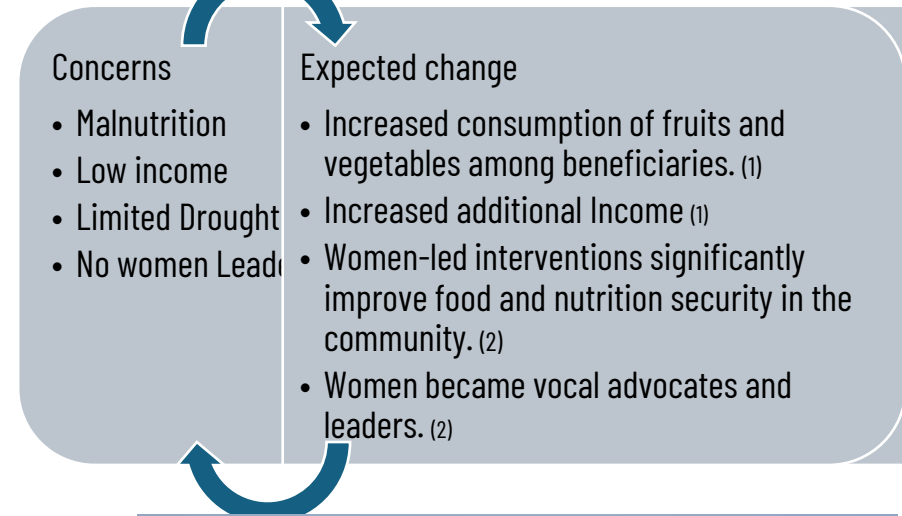


- **Project title:** Enhancing Nutrition through Women led Horticulture in Thar (ENWH)
- **Institution:** Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti (GRAVIS)
- **Principal Investigator(PI)/COPI:** Dr. Neetu Sharma/ Mr Rajendra Kumar
- **Project duration:** 36 Month
- **Budget:** INR 30,00,000/- (@10,00,000 PA)
- **Project location(s):** Sankda block of Jaisalmer District and Phalodi block of Phalodi District

2. Landscape, problem statement & target communities



- **Agroecological context:** Rural areas of Thar Desert agroecological region of Western Rajasthan. (Jaisalmer, Phalodi)
- **Key challenges being addressed :**
Farming communities in the Thar Desert face persistent drought and malnutrition and lack access to proven agroforestry models that can improve nutrition and income sustainably led by women
- **Target beneficiaries:** Individuals families, community members, vulnerable groups/families, older women, landless families, migrant communities, etc
- **Project landscape:** Semi Arid Region



3. Year-1 Implementation plan

Summarize key activities planned during Year 1, which will Include:



- **Site establishment:-** Beneficiaries and action site selection after formation of CBOs
- **Nursery development activities:-** Procurement of quality planting material from Govt. Nurseries and other private nurseries as well if needed
- **Demonstrations sites:-** 1-2 Community Orchards/Community Agroforestry Unit (CAU) site, 5 family-based demo sites and 5 schools and Anganwadi centre
- **Capacity building programme planned:-**
 - Organise trainings for beneficiaries pre, during and post planting of saplings
- **Target community engagement:-** Preparation of field. pit digging, plantation, watering, manuring, weeding and hoeing, participation in trainings and exposure visits, etc.

4. Fruit Species and production models



- **Key fruit species promoted:**
 - Lasoda (Gunda), Ziziphus, Ker, Grafted Khejri, Drumstick, Karonda, Datepalm, etc
- **Production systems to be demonstrated**(*ex. Homestead orchards, Community orchards, Agroforestry systems, WADI systems, Nutrition gardens, School gardens*)
 - *Through Nutrition garden (AHUs), Community Orchards (TF)/ Agroforestry systems, Also include Govt. Schools and Aagan Wadies*



5. Year-1 Targets and deliverables :



Key Performance Indicator	Target (Absolute number)
Villages covered	5
Households reached	500
Women beneficiaries	500
Youth beneficiaries	500
Trees planted and to be improved	1500-2000
Fruit species promoted	Lasoda (Gunda), Ziziphus, Ker, Grafted Khejri, Drumstick, Karonda, Datepalm,
Trainings planned	5
Nurseries established	Current year from existing nurseries, next year can be possible to established

6. Collaboration Opportunities (Offer and Ask)



What we can offer	Support we need
Training facilities	Quality planting materials
Community mobilization approaches	Nutrition monitoring
Knowledge products	Value addition
	Documentation support
	Market linkages

7. Baseline, MEL and Next Steps :



- **Baseline study in Q1**
- **Project monitoring will be continued process**
- **Project evaluation in 3rd and 4th quarter of last year**
- **Learning document and sharing with all stack holders**
- **Finding will be disseminated with similar area/geographies**

8. Budget summary, risk & mitigation strategy:

Total Budget INR 30,00,000 for 3 years (@10,00,000 PA)

- Lead researcher and field staff honorarium and Consultants
- Cost for setting up 1-2 CAUs and 10 other plantation activities
- Publication, dissemination
- Advocacy and policy dialogues/workshops
- Local travel
- Implementation and administration costs

Leverage from Organization and stakeholders

- Support of GRAVIS' senior team and of field staff and existing facilities
- Plants from research organizations such as AU, CIAH, CAZRI and KVKs
- Technical expertise from research agencies like CAZRI, KVKs, CIAH and Aus
- In kind/labour contribution from the local community

Risks and Mitigation

- Plant Survival: Use of local Species, ensuring GAP practices, training of community
- Unavailability of water: Using water efficient practices viz. drip/pot irrigation, moisture retaining pits, etc.
- Community Ownership related issues- Facilitating community participation in planning, setting up clear roles and capacity building



Thanks

