



# ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2022



An Initiative of  
**SAHAJ FOUNDATION**  
...connecting people with their hearts

# Meet Our Fellows

*This video explains their work even better!*



Sahebrao Rathore  
Zep Samaj Vikas Sanstha  
Tribal Education



Aksabanu Vahora  
Earth Rakshak Foundation  
Solid Waste Management



Siddhesh Sakore  
AGRO RANGERS Trust  
Regenerative Farming



Amit Raj  
Feel Parmartham Foundation  
Elderly Care



Amruta Naidu  
URVEE Public Trust  
Eco-friendly Sustainable Housing



Amreen Farooq  
Each One Feed One  
Women Livelihood



Aparna Chaudhari  
SpacECE India Foundation  
Early Childhood Education



Pranali Jadhav  
Ovee Trust  
Tribal Education and Empowerment



Rameshwar Walkikar  
Technoshala Foundation  
Technology-aided Education



Kaviarasi Mariappan  
Tarunya Foundation  
Holistic Youth Development

## The Vriksh Fellowship

The fellowship offers financial support to early-stage Social Leaders who work for the benefit of economically or socially disadvantaged sections of Indian Society.

The support includes Rs 12,000 per month for personal daily sustenance for a maximum of 3 years.



# Our Impact in Numbers



**10** Fellows Supported

**11** Funders Engaged



**4000+** Humans Impacted



# Achievements of Our Fellows

List 3 of your Biggest Achievements from the last year!



- Selection in the Wipro foundation Education Program upto next 3 years
- Selection in the final round of TFlx incubation Program
- Receiving recognition and an award from UNION BANK OF INDIA



- Successfully getting admitted to 2 incubation programs and raising funds to design and pilot their organization models.
- Completing an office cum training centre for farmers to educate them about different methodologies
- Completing different aspects for training in farms like rain water harvesting system, nursery, bio-diverse forest, solar pumps and agroforestry model



# Reflection from Our Fellows

The Vriksh fellowship provided mentoring support which shaped entire organization's work. It also provided intellectual inputs on all new ideas and showed practical aspects. Above all, the financial support provided confidence to continue working on our innovative ideas.

**APARNA CHAUDHARI**



Being a married woman, running an NGO throws lots of criticism from my family and friends. Financial support from the fellowship strengthened me to avoid all these criticisms. Moreover, writing monthly reports has always been a reflective exercise for me to see my progress each month.

**KAVIARASI MARIAPPAN**

Monthly support from Vriksh not only supported my personal expenses but also our office and Gaav Bhraman activity to some extent. It also provided good network and moral support. The quarterly meetings were much required timely boosters.

**AMRUTA NAIDU**



In times when I felt low and demotivated, this fellowship gave me hope by remembering all the fellows and guidance given by the Vriksh team. The fellowship also helped me to provide space to focus on the fundraising without giving a thought to my personal expenditures, due to which I became more focused in networking and meeting more people.

**AMREEN FAROOQ**

Me and my family's existence is totally dependent on this valuable fellowship. I have never had any job or any salary so far in my life, this is the first fellowship which gave me monetary support for existence. Most important thing is it kept me mentally stable and supported me in difficult times when I was about to break down.

**AMIT RAJ**





I deeply believe that focusing on the impact of the work is essential and that is something that I try to do. Dealing with unpredicted challenges has indeed strengthened my perseverance skills. Also, mapping my limitations and Technoshala's limitations has helped me significantly in making decisions and succeeding.

**RAMESHWAR WALKIKAR**

The biggest learning for me is to know my capacity level to manage a project at multiple levels. I always thought that I will only be able to handle ground activities but I handled different type of stakeholder on-boarding, report writing, pitch preparation etc.

**AKSABANU VAHORA**



इस फेलोशिप के सफर में मेरे अंदर का विद्यार्थी जागना शुरू हो गया है। बच्चों के साथ रहते रहते मैं रोज कुछ बातें लिखने लगा हूँ। समाज में हर इंसान समूह में रहता है फिर भी एक दूसरे के लिए बदले की भावना बढ़ती जा रही है, ऐसा क्यों? आज भी कुछ गांव शहर लाखों इंसान उपेक्षित सुविधा से वंचित जिंदगी जी रहे हैं। मुझे लगता है हमें निसर्ग पेड़ पौधों की तरह जीना चाहिए। पेड़ पौधे किसी से बदले की भावना नहीं रखते, दुर्बल और व्यवस्था से दूर रहने वाले इंसान को आधार देना चाहिए।

**SAHEBRAO RATHORE**



The Vriksh is a great platform for learning. Here everyone takes care of each other, talks to each other with respect, there is no ego in the corner, cherishing everyone and always encouraging them by recognizing their skills, this is the atmosphere here which enriched my value system. Vriksh fellowship has given me confidence and I am now trying different platforms and succeeding.

**PRANALI JADHAV**



Thank you so much for making me part of The Vriksh journey. The Vriksh fellowship has been the first milestone of my life to see AGRO RANGERS today at this position. It really allowed me to raise funds without thinking of personal expenses. Vriksh support really helped me in critical time of my life and I am truly honored to say that I am a Vriksh Fellow.

**SIDDHESH SAKORE**





# Fellows' Work Through Pictures



Republic day celebrations at Zep Samaj Vikas Sanstha



Woman working at Each One Feed One's sewing center



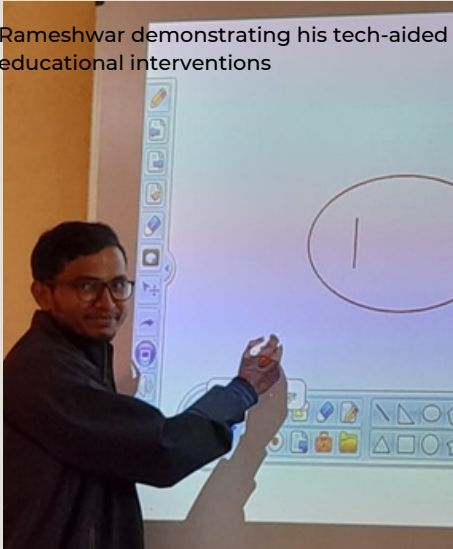
Amruta constructing an eco-friendly space



Aksabanu at her waste collection center



Resident of Feel, Parmartham's rehabilitation center



Rameshwar demonstrating his tech-aided educational interventions



Early Childhood Education experiments @ SpacECE



Youth exposure trip organized by Tarunya Foundation



# Capacity Building Sessions



Introductory Webinar on  
Fundraising and Social  
Sector Marketing by Suman  
Srivastava

[Watch on Youtube](#)

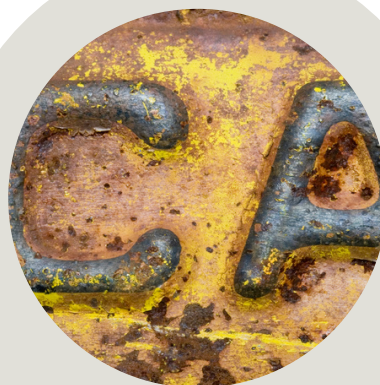
Introductory webinar on using  
Technology for Recruitment and  
Management by  
Sachin Mohite

[Watch on Youtube](#)



What is  
Corporate Social  
Responsibility  
by Sunil Chavan

[Watch on Youtube](#)



Legal Sahaayata  
Session with CA  
Kulwinder Kaur

[Watch on Youtube](#)



Building  
thriving culture  
in Youth  
Alliance by  
Shashank Kalra

[Youth Alliance of India](#)



# Reporting from the Field

In Nov-Dec, 2022, our team went on-ground to visit the fellows and witness their work first hand. Here are a series of linkedin posts that we wrote on our experiences and observations!



Amreen Farooq, Each One Feed One  
Post yet to publish

Delhi



Aksabanu Vahora  
Earth Rakshak Foundation

Khambhat, Gujarat



Rameshwar Walkikar  
Technoshala Foundation

Nandurbar, Maharashtra



Amit Raj  
Feel Parmartham

Bhilai, Chhattisgarh

Akola, Maharashtra



Sahebrao Rathore  
Zep Samaj Vikas Sanstha

Pune, Maharashtra



Amruta Naidu  
URVEE Public Trust



Siddhesh Sakore  
AGRO RANGERS, Pune



Aparna Chaudhary  
SpacECE, Pune



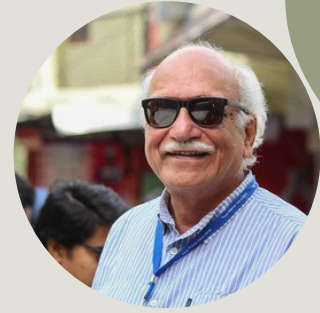
# Our Funders and Mentors



Mr Kishore Nath,  
Canada



Mr Sunil Chavan,  
Mumbai



Mr Manoj Sharma,  
Dehradun



Mr Rohit Toshniwal,  
Pune



Ms Vyjayanthi Chander,  
Canada



Mr Raju Chander,  
Canada



Ms Preetika Suri,  
Gurugram



Mr Biren Misra,  
London



Mr Vivek Radhakrishanan,  
Chennai



Mr Rohit Batra,  
Chennai



Mr Nitesh Sachan,  
Kanpur



Mr Ambesh Singh,  
Bengaluru





“

I feel completely satisfied with the fellowship selection process, administration, routine follow up, monitoring and the efforts of capacity building.

**SUNIL CHAVAN**



”

Vriksh initiative is really a wonderful one. I am happy to see so much of good work that is happening which I would not have known if I was not part of Vriksh. It is not just about intellectual discussions happening in a closed room but about taking it to the community at large which makes me very happy.

**VYJAYANTHI CHANDER**



“

I personally have a long way to go to match the positivity and the energy that I see in many of the fellows. Vriksh is doing a wonderful work by providing mentorship and financial help to the fellows working with the communities.

**ROHIT BATRA**



”

I realized that humanity still exists amidst all the chaos, hatred, corruption, etc. Seeing the Fellows gives confidence that we have our own thought process alive although the mainstream has decided to blindly follow the west!

**RAJU CHANDER**



“

Through The Vriksh Initiative, I found I could use my little saving in a trustable place. And, I learnt that I could share my thought with the team and the fellows.

**KISHOR NATH**



# Our Plans Ahead

The Vriksh is now an incubation platform for early-stage social leaders working on **Sustainability and Climate Change**.

The incubation program will support fellows for a period of 2 years with the following:



## Financial Support

Monthly support of Rs 12,000 for the leaders' personal daily sustenance



## Capacity Building

Ranging from personal development to organizational building to a deeper understanding of Sustainability as a field

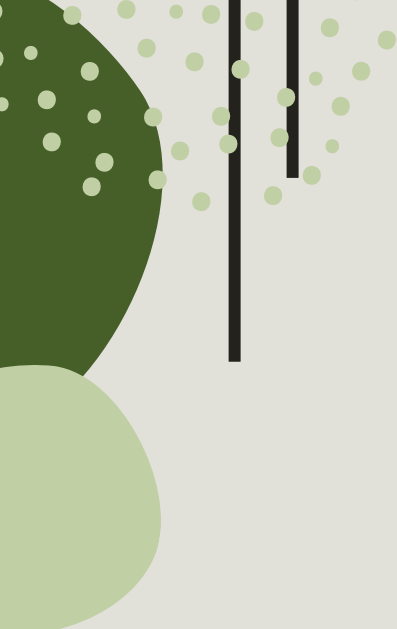
**Year 1**

Individual Growth, Organization Building & Understanding Sustainability

**Year 2**

Institutional Financial support for demo building or other relevant projects





# THANK YOU!

