

The year that was 18-19



Projects and Programmes

Partnering through Knowledge Sharing: Helping Small Livestock- holding Communities Emerge from the Shadows

This project is in its second year and we are partnering with groups in the states of Karnataka, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, and Rajasthan . The project addresses issues faced by pastoral communities such as Livestock health , Maternal and child health, nutrition in mobile and marginal communities , Access to services and markets .

Education amongst pastoral groups

The Anthra team and interns developed educational material in different languages , Gujarati , Kannada , Marathi , Hindi



ચ- ચકલી



છ- છાણ



The team travelled to different places sharing these aids which were very well received.



Pastoral women: Lives, livelihoods landscapes a 2 day workshop



Pastoral women from different states participated in a workshop held over 2 days in Pune discuss critical issues related to their health nutrition, MCH issues and their livelihoods The main objectives of the workshop were to bring together pastoral women from different states of India and to provide the space to discuss critical issues related to their health , nutrition, MCH issues and their livelihoods . It was also to provide the space to compare and contrast the services between the different states represented in the workshop i.e

Maharashtra , Karnataka, Gujarat , Rajasthan and to look for ways to address problems and fill the gaps faced by these women . Finally ,it was also seen as an opportunity to share the initiatives Anthra has undertaken thus far with women from the pastoral community.

Some of the Expected Outcomes were

A Mapping of problems faced by mobile pastoral women in different states related to MCH and livestock health

A comparison of services related to human and livestock health available , accessed by mobile pastoral women in the different states

A discussion on ways to fill the gaps and address the problems identified by the women

To identify women leaders from the communities who will take the activities ahead.

The workshop was well appreciated and on the final day the follow up activities were charted

Mapping of pastoral migration routes and PHCs along the way. A List of PHCs available on google search, and national health mission website.

Send pastoralists a list of govt benefits for women delivering in hospitals or going for Ante Natal Care at govt hospitals.

Design info graphics for these.

Design more Literacy games for women and with women

All the women very excited about the DIY (Do it yourself) kit with the unique style of their state . The women from Gujarat could embroider and the women from HP weave and knit.

Pastoral women met again in Pune and in several villages over the year to learn medicine making

This project is supported by Misereor, Germany

The Good Food journey

A Rural Urban Exchange: Connecting the rural and urban poor in a meaningful way

Location: Maharashtra, India

Collaboration: Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP), Pune; Yuva, Mumbai; and AWARD, Satara

The Good Food project unfolded as a journey with several interesting, exciting, and collaborative events between the partner organizations - SSP Pune, Yuva Mumbai and AWARD Satara. Schools in Raigad district and Pune city were also partners in the journey.

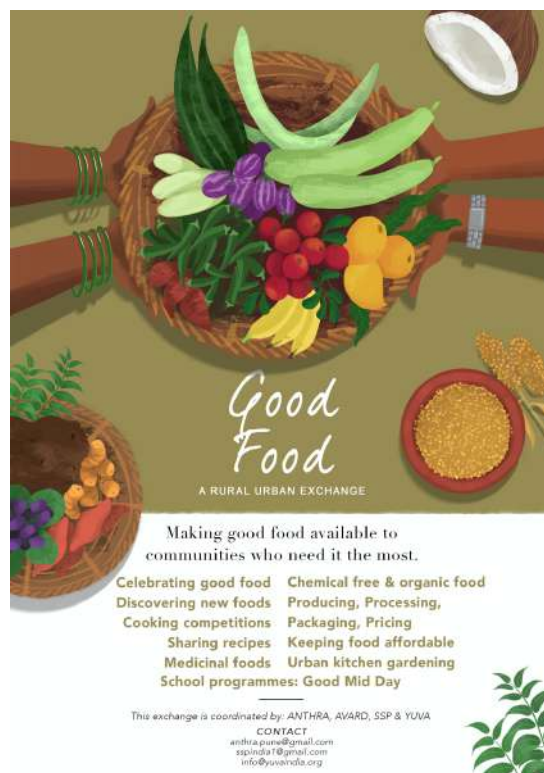
The good food journey which began one wet rainy morning in Khargarh in 2016, took a break in Pune on a hot summer day in May 2018. Travellers on this journey were representatives from different regions in Maharashtra – farmers, hawkers, women who ran canteens, consumers, concerned citizens interested in food debates and school teachers. Several summer fruits collected from fields and forests were arranged on the tables for display and consumption. The discussions and exchanges through the day were lively and reinforced the fact that there were several ways in which “good food” could be grown, sourced, processed, prepared, packed, priced and finally consumed.

Each participant received a brochure which detailed the journey along with a recipe book which had recipes collected from several regions of Maharashtra and included the use of rare and unusual vegetables and fruits.

The workshop closed on a cheerful note with the old partners promising to continue with the journey, share experiences, food and more. Several new groups also expressed an interest in the programme and want to become a part of the good food journey.

This project was supported by Misereor Germany

Pastoral Communities in India and the Adhar Card



Anthra collaborated with the Center for Pastoralism India in a larger study whose main objectives were to understand how nomadic pastoralist communities are likely to either benefit from, or be excluded by, Aadhaar. The project also made an attempt to undertake a comprehensive mapping of pastoralist communities in India and estimate population of both pastoralists and their livestock as well as to understand the various factors that influence decision-making amongst pastoralists with regard to continuing or not continuing to herd.

Anthra undertook the study in the states of Maharashtra and Karnataka. In Maharashtra a total of 392 families were interviewed from the Nanda Gawli (112), Dhangar (90), Golkar (55), Mathura Banjara (53), Kurumar (37) and Bharwad (45) communities. In Karnataka 67 families were interviewed of the Kuruba (47) and Krishna Golla (20) communities.

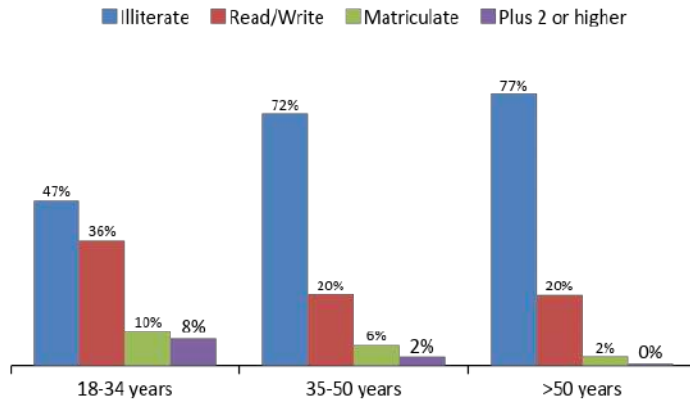
The research studies revealed the diversity of groups, communities, customs, livestock and issues which make up our rural areas. Each group has a story about their origin and why they reared the animal they were rearing. Each group has their heroes, their saints and their leaders. They also had their unique problems and challenges. Interestingly though, almost all communities had Aadhaar cards except infants, the very young, the very old.

On the decision on whether to continue herding, several of the community would like to look for viable alternatives. Several women mentioned migrating being very difficult. Education is one exit route but through our research we found that the levels of education are rather low amongst nomadic pastoralists.

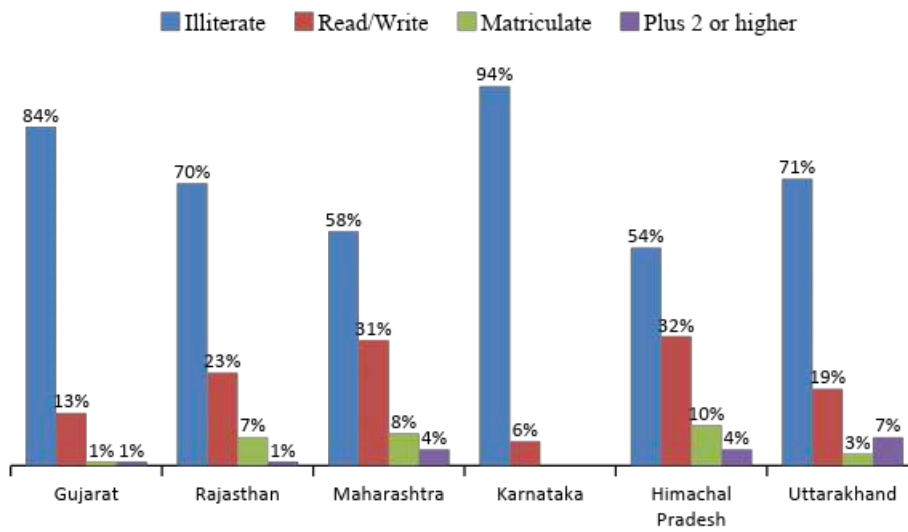
It was observed that over 69% of respondents are illiterate, 23% can read and write, and only 8% have passed their class-X exams or above. Not surprisingly, the younger generation of pastoralists has a better education level than the older generation.

Education levels are also uneven amongst sampled pastoral communities. The Fakirani Jats, Van Gujjars, Kurubas and Krishna Gollas are largely illiterate (more than 90%) with none of these respondents reporting a community member passing a class-X or higher exam. These are the most mobile communities thereby affirming the link between mobility with lower levels of education. The highest education attainment is amongst the Bhotias (29% matriculate or higher) followed by Kanets (25% matriculate or higher), Nanda Gawli (22%), Jaat and Mathura Banjara (19%), and Gaddi (18%).

Figure 4: Education level of Respondents Fig 4a: By age



By state



The HERDING research project

Sustainable development for pastoralist women in India: heritage, dignity and adaptations in times of rapid change

Anthra is collaborating with the University of Leeds and the Centre for Pastoralism in a study with and for women from Pastoral communities in India

India has a wide range of ecosystems that support mobile animal husbandry and is home to well over 30 million pastoralists. There are many challenges to pastoralists' livelihoods, including changing patterns of land use, and pressures to become settled. Many pastoralists are becoming more vulnerable to poverty, and changes are affecting men and women differently.

The HERDING project is working with four communities of Hindu and Muslim pastoralists in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh. It studies the complex transformations of women's lives, focusing on the shared heritage that links them to the land and their animals. It asks how these women use their religious and cultural heritage to sustain livelihoods of dignity, both within and outside their traditional livelihood of mobile pastoralism. The project provides an opportunity for pastoralist women to speak about the roles and importance of religion, gender, culture and nature. It aims to advance a view of sustainable development that honours pastoralists' heritage, in support of India's Sustainable Development Goal programming.

Project partners are the University of Leeds in the UK, and in India the Centre for Pastoralism and affiliated NGOs. Anthra, Kutch Mahila Vikas Sanghatna, SETU, and Baijnath Kisan Sabha who are specialists in pastoralism, land rights, and women's well-being and empowerment.

The HERDING project is funded by the British Academy's Sustainable Development research programme. The programme focuses on the importance of heritage and dignity for 'sustainable development' in support of the global pledge to 'leave no-one behind', made when the Sustainable Development Goals were launched in 2015.

Sangeeta Khapre and Nitya Ghotge are associated with this project .

As a part of the project we are talking to pastoral women about their lives , their livelihoods , their knowledge systems . The gods they worship, their beliefs and customs.

Milestones

The 100th issue of Toran has been brought out. We have been bringing this newsletter out since 1998 and covered a wide range of issues including livestock and their health to women's health , pastoralism, globalisation and climate change .

Highlights

A National Conference on “Building a Vibrant Goat Sector 2030” was held in New Delhi on 16-17 April 2018. Dr. Mamta Dhawan who is on the Board of Anthra was a co-organiser and Dr. Nitya Ghotge presented a paper on ethnoveterinary practices used in the care of goats.

Dr, Nitya Ghotge attended the Global Conference: Partnering and Investing for a PPR-Free World at Brussels on the 6th and 7th of September . Prior to that she was invited to attend the Global Gathering of the World Alliance of Mobile and Indigenous People (WAMIP) to be held in Brussels, Belgium from the 4th -5th of September, 2018.

Dr. Ghotge is a member of the Guiding Group of the GASL(Global Alliance for Sustainable Livestock) and in that capacity attended the Guiding Group Meeting in Rome in October 2018.

Events



Celebrating Childrens day ‘

Children of Standard 7 from the Pune Municipal Corporation School, Bavdhan Pune travelled to Ratnagiri on the coast to celebrate Children's day . They were accompanied by one teacher , 7 parents , mainly mothers and Sangeeta Khapre from Anthra . The excursion included a visit to fields and farms in Ratnagiri to see agricultural practices there , crops grown, local biodiversity in terms of medicinal plants . The children were served freshly cooked meals in the homes of the farmers they visited and included Bhakri (bread) made from rice , fish curry, local tubers , beans , eggplant etc. The children also made a trip to Ganpati pule which is by the sea.

For many of the children who come from urban families of low income it was the first excursion out , the first taste of rural life and livelihoods, the first exposure to new foods and tastes. It was also the first time for some of the parents. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience . They have promised to return to Ratnagiri but also volunteer at Anthra when possible

Medicine Making at Naresh wadi

This event was held at the school at Naresh wadi school in November . 60 children from the 8 th class participated . They learnt how to make oils , tinctures and powders from locally available herbs to cure common ailments such as coughs and simple fevers

Living Lightly: Pastoralism in a Changing World

The second edition of the conference took place in Pune on the 15th and 16th of February 2019. Presentations were invited from young scholars including advanced graduate student researchers , recent PhDs holders and young faculty. An important consideration was the work should have been based in India.

The conference was a collaborative effort by the Ambedkar University Delhi (<http://www.aud.ac.in/index.html>); Centre for Pastoralism Delhi (<http://pastoralism.org.in>); Institut de Recherche pour le development France (<https://en.ird.fr>); Anthra Pune (www.anthra.org) and Indian School of Business Hyderabad (<http://www.isb.edu>).

Over 15 young scholars presented their papers at the conference . There was also a roundtable session on the challenges faced by young researchers . Several of the participants stayed back on the 17th to discuss next steps including future projects and possible collaborations.

Publications

Movies

Anthra is collaborating with Access agriculture in making movies on livestock care . The movies in several languages are available on line . They deal with common diseases of livestock and how they can be cured using herbal medicines . During a workshop in Pune the movies were shared with several livestock owners who appreciated the contents .

Shevanti bai from Sondabi village saw the movie and used the information therein to cure her cow . She was very happy with the results and informed us accordingly

Interns and Volunteers

Somnath Dadas a student of TISS Mumbai interned with us several times during the year. Somnaths parents are shepherds and he himself has spent several days herding sheep . Somnath helped with the Adhar study as well as with other projects being conducted in Anthra. Somnath has recently got a job with the CSR team of Tata motors but continues to be in close touch with us

Adwitiya Prakash, Jitendra Tiwari, Anjali P and Sneha P Gawai students of TISS Tuljapur interned with us in January this year as part of their Rural immersion programme . They divided their time between Yavatmal district in Maharashtra and Gopnad in Gujarat .