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FOREWORD



Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to present the Annual Report of ARAVALI for the year 2005-06. As has been in the past, the year has been full of significant initiatives and approaches in the effort towards capacity building of NGOs and enhancing collaborations in the development sector.

During the year ARAVALI has made commendable efforts in promotion of microfinance and rural livelihoods in Rajasthan. The efforts made by ARAVALI through trainings research studies and consultative dialogues have opened up greater opportunities of microfinance and livelihood in the state. ARAVALI's contribution to develop the human resource base in the partner agencies through PAVA and local microfinance cadre has been a replicable innovation in the sector. Other initiatives like action research, exposures and dissemination of relevant information through publications like ADFS, *Pahal Logon Ki*, and *Aajevika* have contributed to development of larger vision for microfinance and livelihood in the state.

ARAVALI has also been able to facilitate purposeful collaborations in the form of GO-NGO-PRI forums in Dholpur, Baran and Jhalawar districts. Through these forums we have been able to formulise a combined strategy for the Pulse Polio Campaign and ensured participation of NGOs and effective implementation of several development schemes in these three districts.

Through the flagship programmes like SAMDP, MMDP, Accounts Management training etc, ARAVALI intends to build the "appropriate capacities" of voluntary organizations so that they are in a better position to address the development needs. During the year, sustained efforts have been made towards providing comprehensive handholding support to the partner agencies.

The on-going and now long term association with the Government of Rajasthan, Government of India and the relationship that ARAVALI has with Aga Khan Foundation, Sir Ratan Tatan Trust, UNICEF, UNDP and others have all been crucial for our initiatives. I thank them all for their confidence in ARAVALI and look forward to a continued association.

I would like to mention a special word of thanks to support provided by various institutes, our resource persons and other experts who have been incredible in providing their support to our programmes. I appreciate their gesture and commitment towards the good cause.



ARAVALI has attained respectability as a support organization in the state and I would like to thank all the partner NGOs for having good faith in its capacities and look forward to their continued support in the future as well.

With the new perspective plan in hand ARAVALI has a long way to go in furthering its mandate of promoting collaboration between government and NGOs and building capacities of NGOs for improving the sector's vision, practice and credibility. I am also happy to note that ARAVALI is on a number of committees of the state government.

I also take this opportunity to congratulate the staff of ARAVALI who has untiringly worked towards building the organization as a dynamic and futuristic organization.

Kalu Lal Gujar
Chairperson ARAVALI
Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development & Panchayati Raj
Government of Rajasthan



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 About ARAVALI

The Government of Rajasthan initiated ARAVALI in 1994 after a series of discussions and dialogue within the government and the Voluntary agencies to promote innovations in development build capacities and enhance collaboration between Government and NGOs. Following the Earth Summit in *Rio de Jeniero* in 1992, the international community was looking at development initiatives afresh and especially focusing on the roles of the NGO sector in partnering with the government in implementing development initiatives. This was also the time when a large number of development projects funded by Bilateral Aid Agencies were being initiated in the state. The government on its part felt the need to involve NGOs in the development process. As it was necessary for an institutional mechanism that could facilitate the process, ARAVALI was envisioned as the interface organization, which would facilitate the relationship between the government and the NGO sector. ARAVALI was therefore conceived as an organization wherein both the government and the NGO sector would have equal stakes and ownership.

In 1996, PRADAN a New Delhi based NGO, with support from the Ford Foundation conducted a study on "Collaboration in Rajasthan". The study analysed collaboration in eleven collaborative projects in the state across sectors and attempted to understand what works and what does not work in collaboration. Following a presentation of the report to the Government of Rajasthan in October 1996, an interest in ARAVALI was regenerated and a fresh start was given to ARAVALI in February 1997. ARAVALI is registered as a society under the Rajasthan Society Act, 1958.

Mr. M. L. Mehta, the then Chief Secretary of Rajasthan was the first Chairperson of ARAVALI. ARAVALI by itself is an innovation and has consciously developed its agenda which tends to improve the overall environment within which collaboration happens in development programmes and more importantly on enhancing capacities of NGOs to link up with the government for development programmes.

Our Vision

All round and large-scale development requires a combination of capacities and efforts, which cannot be provided by any single agency or system. To ensure that the benefits of development reach the poor in particular and the people in general it is necessary the government and NGOs pool their strengths and become partners"

Within this context ARAVALI intends to ensure that there are an increased number of effective voluntary organizations working closely with marginalized communities in every district of Rajasthan and that an enabling environment is developed within which the government and these organizations can form effective partnerships.



1.2 ARAVALI's niche for Development

In its operation ARAVALI commits itself to the operational philosophy of strong belief in collaboration and thus aim to usher in an era of constructive useful and complementary relationship between government and voluntary agencies to address the problems of the poor and underprivileged in Rajasthan. It also aims to promote the principle of transparency, efficiency and accountability and strives to promote them in civil society organizations.

The unique nature and positioning of ARAVALI has been instrumental in defining the roles and priorities for ARAVALI which have evolved and have been refined depending on the understanding and assessment of the overall development scenario in the state. ARAVALI broadly visualises the following roles for itself:

- ☞ Promotion of development innovations and their up scaling
- ☞ Networking and liaisoning between and among Government, NGOs, Research bodies and private sector
- ☞ Capacity Building
- ☞ Promotion of Collaborative Initiatives
- ☞ Policy and Strategic Research

ARAVALI as an agency is committed to develop effective partnerships across the state. ARAVALI builds its programme portfolio with these following sectoral focuses:

- ☞ Human and Institutional Enhancement
- ☞ Collaboration and Support
- ☞ Research and Knowledge Dissemination



2. ARAVALI'S PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS - PROGRESS FOR THE YEAR 2005-2006

2.1 Programmes, Projects and Assignments during the year 2005-2006

2.1.1 Human and Institutional Capacity Enhancement

The state faces a shortage of personnel trained in participatory approaches and prepared for innovative thinking and actions. NGOs face a general crisis of manpower both in terms of number and professional quality. Complex demands are being placed on the personnel of Government and Non Government Organizations for performance of new and innovative roles in development projects. These require acquisition of new skills, professionalism, management styles, structures and information skills. ARAVALI plays a pro-active as well as a responsive role in this broad sphere through facilitating training of personnel in specific subject areas, building management skills in GOs and NGOs personnel, undertaking information exchange and knowledge sharing; Catalyzing cross learning through deputation and placement and providing professional support in management, action and research.

ARAVALI's mission is to enable emergence of credible voluntary agencies in every district of the State, which are accountable towards the society and to create a critical mass of voluntary agencies in every district who are capable of taking up and executing development programmes with a high degree of efficiency and effectiveness has been guiding our efforts.

Our initiatives in human and institutional capacity building are thus dedicated to the cause of empowering small voluntary agencies to take up larger roles in development in their respective areas. It also attempts to aim and focus on achieving its goals through a four-pronged strategy which involves: Information Support, COSAP, Personnel Support, Training Support, Inputs on specific issues to NGOs and continued handholding.

2.1.2 Collaboration and Support

The Collaboration and Support role, works with a mission of promoting an environment and enabling systems that facilitate effective collaboration between the government, voluntary sector, Panchayati Raj institutions, private institutions and other stakeholders for development. The basic objective is to promote a dialogue between the various agents of development and move towards institutionalization of collaborative structures including policy decisions related to collaboration.

ARAVALI's Collaboration and Support role, operates with an understanding that collaboration is essentially change oriented and calls for some transformation in outlook and attitudes of the agents and of the system that spearheads development. Achieving the above goals



will be an extended and an ongoing process as the persona of the agents change often, and changes in the system/institutions are slow moving.

Our efforts through Collaboration and Support is to increase mutual trust and acceptance, to strike effective collaborative partnerships in different development programs among the various agents of development through negotiating effective structures and processes for collaboration.

2.1.3 Research and Knowledge Dissemination

ARAVALI is frequently called upon to offer advice and inputs to Government, NGOs and donor organizations. The issues have been diverse and important and have included assessment of key development priorities in different areas and sectors, designing of new programmes, status of implementation of ongoing programmes, mechanisms to enhance GO-NGO collaboration, assessment of best practices etc. In addition to ARAVALI's own programmatic needs there is a large unmet need for providing quality research outputs to development organizations including GOs, NGOs and donors operating in Rajasthan.

ARAVALI undertakes quality research studies and proactively identifies new relevant areas that require research for policy and practice interventions. Efforts are also taken to forward the outputs and make them available and actionable by different stakeholders. These research studies enable ARAVALI to provide services like providing information and knowledge base on key priority sectors, emerging development issues, inputs to policy dialogues and practices.

Within this framework ARAVALI has implemented the following programmes and projects in the year 2005-06:

Sustainable Community-based Approaches to Livelihood Enhancement ►►

Under AKF Grant with co-funding from European Commission, ARAVALI is working as an outreach partner in Rajasthan in SCALE. This 10 years initiative, starting 2002 has a two-fold strategy-field implementation and outreach of innovative and community based practices for sustainable livelihoods. The project aims to achieve a wider impact on policies and practices relating to enhancement of sustainable livelihoods and strengthening the wider institutional structure for poor communities. ARAVALI undertake various activities of capacity building for project partners, documentation as well as dissemination of best practices of livelihood promotion, conducting action research to address challenges in livelihood enhancement and to be instrumental to lead policy dialogue with Government for sustainable management of natural resource base in Rajasthan. It also gives opportunity for cross learning between practitioners and intensive policy dialogue at various levels.



Interactive forum of GOs-NGOs-PRIs and Capacity building of NGOs in Health Sector »»

To facilitate speedy development and enhance people's participation in development process, it is important that the Government, Panchayati Raj Institutions, the voluntary organizations (VOs/NGOs) and community/people-based institutions collaborate. For facilitating and demonstrating such collaborative efforts the concept of GOs-NGOs-PRIs forum was designed and mutually accepted by the members of NGO Cell. This initiative took a formal structure with the Department of Rural Development, Government of Rajasthan. With initial one year support from UNICEF ARAVALI facilitated this joint platform of GOs-NGOs-PRIs for interaction between the change agents. The objective was to facilitate effective implementation of government programmes and to organize NGOs in an informal network, build their capacities in managing various programmes and supporting them in implementing health programmes.

Building Organizational Capacities for Advancement of Microfinance in Rajasthan »»

This initiative is directed towards strengthening the microfinance sector in Rajasthan. Sir Ratan Tata Trust is supporting this three-year initiative starting in March 2003. The strategy involves building the capacities of 20 small and medium sized NGOs both in microfinance and organization development sphere. Under the project various activities on developing human resource, building organization systems, initiating microfinance sector specific dialogues, undertaking dissemination of information and best practices on microfinance are taken up.

Social Mobilisation around Natural Resource Management for Poverty Alleviation in Ajmer District »»

The project is a three-year initiative supported by UNDP and Ministry of Rural Development. The project started in 2004. It aims at livelihood enhancement through building the capacity of women groups to develop and manage natural resources, improve access to resources and increase participation of women in government programmes and PRIs. ARAVALI's role in the project is to coordinate, facilitate strengthen and monitor the work of implementing organizations and women collectives. The project is being implemented in four Panchayat samities of Ajmer district.

Social Analysis and Management Development Program »»

SAMDP is a tailor made course designed to cater the capacity building needs of mid carrier grassroots level workers. It is a 40 days compressive residential course. The Programme is being funded by Paul Hamlyn Foundation, UK.



Further, some assignments were also taken and completed during the year 2005-2006. They are:

The On-line monitoring of Total Sanitation Campaign and Swajaldhara: The programme was carried out in Jaipur, Barmer and Bundi districts of Rajasthan with the financial support of Government of India. The objective was to highlight the key issues and constraints in the programmes.

Impact Assessment of Rural Development schemes in Jalore District: The study was carried out in four blocks of Jalore districts of Rajasthan to find out the overall impact of SGRY, IVY, SGSY, DDP, PMGSY and ARWSP rural development schemes of the Ministry of Rural Development. The study was funded by Government of India.

Supplementary Observation Mechanism: ARAVALI has been appointed as a state level institute by the Government of Rajasthan for this programme. The main objective of this programme is to track the pace and quality of watersheds development projects implemented in Rajasthan.

WASSAN Study: The study is funded by ICEF, New Delhi. The main objective is to study the process documentation of the successful watershed development programmes in eight selected watersheds implemented in Rajasthan.

Sector Reform Study: The study aims at providing a qualitative and quantitative review of the sector reform project. This study was funded by Ministry of Rural Development.

Human Development Report based Planning: The assignment was funded by United Nations Development Programme and Planning Commission, Government of India. The main objective of the assignment was to prepare a district human development report cum perspective plan on pilot basis for Tonk district of Rajasthan.

Magra Area Development: The study was funded by Government of Rajasthan to re-demarcate the Magara area in Bhilwara district and to propose the plan for development of the area.

2.2 Progress

2.2.1 Human and Institutional Capacity Building ►►

ARAVALI's endeavours in the field of human and institutional capacity enhancement are intended to strengthen an organization's ability to provide quality and effective services, while being visible as an institution. Finally, this support must help the organization understand the external environment it operates in, and to develop a relationship with it that is sufficiently stable and predictable.



The capacity building programs of ARAVALI ranges from sector related capacity building inputs to the issues of generic capacity building. ARAVALI plays a pro-active and responsive role in this broad sphere. We have continued to build human capacities of our partners around our core thematic area of microfinance and livelihood. Beside this our endeavour to create a vibrant voluntary sector continues through enhancing institutional capacities. The different activities taken up and progress made towards this direction are as follows:

Trainings and Workshops on Microfinance and Livelihood▶▶

Within BOCAM-R project, four field-based training programmes has been organized on themes related to initiation of mFI, MIS and developing a perspective for microfinance programmes. These programmes have benefited functionaries from 8 partner NGOs.



Training of Trainers on Self Help Group

One Training of Trainers (ToT) of 8 days has been organized, in two phases during the year. The purpose of the ToT was to train and place training teams for SHGs with partner organizations, so that they need not depend on external resource persons for training of groups. As a result of this ToT 12 partner NGOs have in-house training teams. These training teams have been equipped with adequate training materials.

Within the SCALE project, 6 trainings have been conducted on themes related to rainfed agriculture, horticulture, pastureland development, tank irrigation and alternative sources of livelihood. 148 participants from 23 organizations benefited from these programmes and are utilising their enhanced expertise in their respective intervention areas.

One training on promotion of para-vets has been taken up by ARAVALI. A total of 29 participants from 17 partner organizations were trained in the first phase on the basics of veterinary care and preparing them to provide similar services in the rural areas.

17 tribal youths were trained for 21 days including on the job training in Hotel Management and Catering Services. This training has been instrumental in introducing alternative sources of livelihood to tribal youth belonging to poor families having less land holding or was landless and dependent only on labour for sustaining their livelihood.

Under the Social Mobilisation project, capacity building programmes for the implementing staff of the partner organizations were organized during this year on various themes like goat rearing, agriculture (*Kharif*),



grain bank, pastureland development, SHG strengthening and federation. These capacity enhancement programmes have helped the project staff in implementing project with better understanding and focus.

Training of 267 SHGs has been conducted within Social Mobilization project in association with project partners on themes of agriculture and animal husbandry.

ARAVALI conducted three workshops on issues of migration, livestock and watershed. The objective of the workshop on migration was to review policy on migration issues and existing laws pertaining to Inter State Migrant Workmen's Act and the Contract Labour Act. The workshop on livestock provided a platform to discuss issues and experiences of livestock production especially in the context of watershed development. The workshop on exit protocol strategy for watershed deliberated on handing over the assets created in the watershed, their maintenance and also to use the watershed development fund.

Trainings and Workshops on Organizational Development▶▶

Three training programmes on subjects of Organizational Development (OD), Research Methodology and Documentation Skills were organized during the year. The training on OD covered topics like perspective building, accounting practices, documentation, monitoring and



Training on Organisation Development at Jaipur

evaluation etc which provided the participants with necessary inputs to streamline internal systems in their respective organizations. The training on Research Methodology focused on the importance of research in development, methods of data collection, qualitative and quantitative techniques, etc. which provided the participants with basic knowledge on conducting social research. The training on Documentation Skills was organized to establish the need and importance of documentation in NGOs and in turn improve the quality of documents prepared by the organizations. A total of 25 organizations benefited from these programmes



Trainings and workshops on other Programmatic Issues ►►

With financial support from UNICEF and in association with Vatsalya, two training programmes on Reproductive and Child Health issues were organized. All the participants for these trainings are members of the GO-NGO-PRI forum in the three project districts. The training was organized to enhance their capacities in the field of health, which in turn will contribute to the effective implementation of the major health programmes in the district.

Support under ARAVALI Training Support Fund ►►

15 participants from 13 partner NGOs have been sponsored to attend various training programmes on themes like management of microfinance operations, livelihood promotion, social research, planning community development programmes, entrepreneurship management training, participatory village planning, Rural marketing, MIS, Basic computer applications etc. organized by reputed agencies like IRMA, BASIX, Tata Dhan Academy, IHM Pachod, BIRD, AKRSP (I). These training programmes and workshops have helped the participants to interact with participants from other states resulting in increase of their knowledge base. Out of the state exposure have also facilitated in broadening the outlook of the participants. Beside this ARAVALI also have motivated participants to attend several national level conventions and seminars without financially supporting them.

Handholding Support ►►

ARAVALI has been extending Organizational Development support through providing special professional inputs and organizing customized training programmes on various themes. During this year the following inputs has been provided:

Handholding support as an integral component for capacity building has been continued during the year

through regular visits. Inputs were provided to all the partner NGOs as per the predefined Support Action Framework to 32 intensive partner NGOs.

Special professional inputs were provided to five partner NGOs. ARAVALI supported two partners NGOs on developing a five-year perspective plan for microfinance programme and three partners NGO has been supported for organizational accounts management and on-site inputs for compliance to tax, audit, and FCRA norms.



Training on Natural Resource Management



A training programme on computer based MIS application software has been organized for five partner NGOs. Software has been installed and successfully used by all these partner NGOs.

Support in the areas of vision building, strategy formulations, concurrent monitoring, periodic evaluations and documentation were provided as required. The mode of extending support in these areas has been informal and need based. This has been helpful in bringing the “perspective” at the center of organization’s thoughts and actions. A total number of 6 organizations were supported under this head.

ARAVALI has supported partner organizations in developing the Operational Manual. As per the requirement, of the organization the scope of this manual can be extended to Human Resources and Financial areas. This has been a facilitating process. The drafts of these manuals are ready and the process of validation and internalization of these manuals is in progress. A total of 7 organizations benefited from this initiative.

Recognizing the importance of appropriate systems in improving organizational functioning, ARAVALI is developing a standard manual for voluntary organizations. This would be used as a reference while preparing the Operational Manual. This work is being done in Hindi so that a wider use of this can be ensured. The draft of the manual is ready.

A manual on “recommended accounts practices” for voluntary organizations is also distributed to interested organizations. The manual is developed by “Account Aid” - a Delhi based agency engaged in capacity building of voluntary organizations on the issues related to accounts.

An exercise to develop a process guideline was facilitated by ARAVALI for our partner NGO. The guideline is ready and being used by the organization.

Human Resource Support ►►

ARAVALI has successfully organized the fourth SAMDP this year. The modules taught in SAMDP included Social Analysis, Gender Programming, Accounts Management, Community Organization, Project Management, Self Development, Computer Literacy, Donor’s Perspective, and Collaboration etc. A total number of 20 organizations benefited from this programme.

As in the past years, ARAVALI has continued to provide the human resource support through Professional Assistance to Voluntary Agencies and Local mF Cadre. During the year a total of 17 partner organizations have been supported. The ongoing capacity building inputs to the PAVA interns and Local mf cadre has been continued. This support has resulted in quality improvement and systematization of the microfinance programme being implemented by them in their respective organizations. However the current year being the final year



of the initiative, the greater challenge was to successfully facilitate the graduation of the interns and create a pool of human resource for the development sector. Concerted efforts helped the graduation of the interns with all of them continuing to serve in the development sector.

ARAVALI has set up a District Resource Group with two programme officers at Ajmer. The resource group has coordinated, monitored and provided support to the implementing organizations. It organized four capacity building training workshops for the implementing staff of the partner organizations. For convergence and linkages, DRG liaisons with government departments and institutions. In addition, resource persons available within ARAVALI have provided their inputs in accomplishing task of DRG.

Exposure Visits



Exposure Visit to Bhilwara

ARAVALI has organized two days exposure visit to SardarNagar, Balesariya and Meja tanks in Bhilwara district from 17th-18th October 2005 to see the successful community managed tanks for partner NGOs, Executive members of Tank Users Association and villagers. The main objective of this exposure was to create awareness among the

participants and enhance their knowledge on the best practice of community-managed tanks. Total participants were 43 who participated in the exposure visit.

A two day exposure visit on Drip Irrigation model was organized for the partner NGOs and individual farmers from 21st- 22nd December 2005 to AKRSP, Gujarat in their field unit at Gaddu. Total participants were 13 from four partner organizations. ARAVALI is planning to initiate a demonstration project on drip irrigation model with four partner NGOs in 2006.

2.2.2 Collaboration and Support

ARAVALI has been strategically placed to play the liaison and co-ordinating role and make persistent efforts in the field of collaboration to build effective partnerships within various agents of change. Our efforts in creating an enabling environment have created a platform for striking purposeful partnerships. We believe in sharing and consulting with the sector, in matters that affect its existence, and those that strengthen it.



The different initiatives taken under collaboration support are:

GO-NGO-PRI Forum

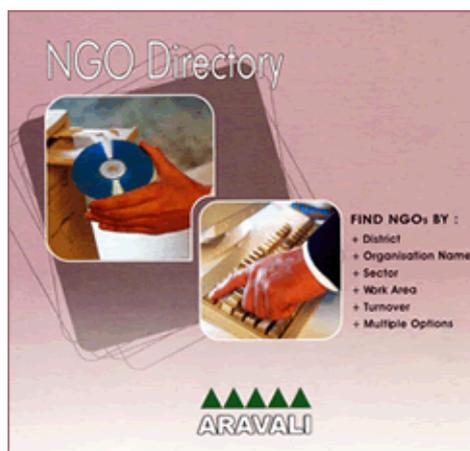
During this year we have been able to successfully facilitate the formation of GO-NGO-PRI forum in three districts. The worth quoting achievements of this forum are development of effective pulse polio campaign strategy for Dholpur district, partnership of four local NGOs in the Total Sanitation Campaign and outsourcing of ASHA training of one block to four NGOs.

NGO Databank

A database of the NGOs functioning in the three bordering districts - Dholpur, Baran and Jhalawar district has been prepared. It details out information related to their geographical spread, area of work, programmes/projects, staff, infrastructure etc. and is being updated regularly to remove the information gap. The copy of the same has been provided to various government departments, NGOs, Donors and private institutions, so as to promote collaborative initiatives in these districts.

NGO Directory 2005 Vol. 2

In absence of desired information about NGOs, it is difficult to initiate / facilitate collaboration with the government. With the basic objective of promoting easy accessibility to information on VOs a directory in the form of compact disc, containing the details of 400 organisations was prepared in 2004. The directory provides the information on the vision / mission of organizations, their areas of expertise, projects



/ programmes being implemented, turn over, geographical spread, target communities, staff availability, and sector and networks of the organization. This year ARAVALI has updated this directory with 500 organization details. The directory has been made available to various donors, government official's, non-government organisations and other stakeholders on request. ARAVALI would update this directory on regular basis.

Database of Government Schemes and its Dissemination

A number of government sponsored development schemes are being implemented. A lot of them require involvement of voluntary organizations and few others have the provision for associating with them. But due to limited awareness the required partnership is neither sought nor provided.



ARAVALI has compiled and a database of different development schemes implemented by some key departments for our partner NGOs. The primary objective behind, is to make the information about development schemes reach the NGOs working directly with the communities, so that the intended beneficiaries are able to avail the benefits.

Chapter on the Voluntary Sector for the State Annual Plan Document

ARAVALI has drafted a chapter in the State Annual Plan document on the voluntary sector detailing out the present status of involvement of VOs with various government departments, and the other initiatives that may be taken up by the government for promoting collaboration and enhancing the voluntary sector in Rajasthan.

Interface Meeting

ARAVALI has been providing a platform for informal discussion with small and upcoming NGOs. This is basically an interactive platform where ARAVALI briefs potential NGOs about all the possible areas of collaboration and the support inputs provided by ARAVALI for NGO sector development. The NGOs also share about the roles being played by them in their areas and their expectation from ARAVALI. Through this platform there is a scope of selecting intensive partners in various projects coordinated by ARAVALI. The total number of 45 participants attended the meeting.

Linkages and Convergence

Under the Social Mobilization Project effective linkages were developed with various organizations, institutions and Government Departments for convergence and support with the objective to bring about all round development of poor and marginalized community in an enabling environment of effective partnership with the government and voluntary organizations. The various departments with whom linkages were developed include horticulture, Animal husbandry, Agriculture, Rajasthan State Seed Corp, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Watershed Programme, SGSY and PHED.

ARAVALI has supported a total of four partner agencies to successfully negotiate financial assistance for supporting their microfinance programme.

Three partner NGOs have been successfully linked with insurance companies. This has been effective in providing various risk cover to beneficiaries in rural areas.



District Level Forum at Churu

ARAVALI continued to support the district level forum at Churu. This forum has been functioning as a pressure group to the district authorities and also made collaborative efforts in effectively channelising benefits under different government schemes. The process for formalisation of this forum has been initiated. A Memorandum of Association has been prepared and a bank account opened. Further steps would be taken to register this forum under relevant act.

Guidelines for NGO involvement in Government Programmes:

It was due to the continuous efforts and valuable suggestions given by ARAVALI that the '*Guidelines for involving Non Government Organizations / Voluntary organizations in Government developmental programmes*' was issued. The objective was to promote credible and capacitated NGOs in various government schemes. These guidelines provide the framework to measure the credibility and the capacity of the NGO/VO. These were circulated to all the secretaries and directors of concerned departments.

ARAVALI is in the process of finalising the '*Financial Guidelines for Government Aided Projects*' with the objective to establish the financial property and to improve the quality of the services, which will in turn, facilitate optimum utilisation of services

Meeting with the Parthasarthy Committee for Watershed Guidelines

ARAVALI has provided three sets of reports to the Technical Committee set up under the chairmanship of Shri S.Parthasarathy to draft out a new set of guidelines as suggested for replacement of the existing Hariyali Guidelines. The reports focused on issues in watershed development Programmes, draft guidelines for watershed development programme in desert areas, Issues raised from monitoring of watershed programme by district level agencies.

Colloquium on Microfinance 2005

This year's 'Colloquium on Microfinance 2005' was successfully organized with special focus on mapping outreach and quality issues of microfinance sector in Rajasthan and evolving strategies to address the same. The Colloquium experienced good participation from government, financial



Colloquium on microfinance 2005



institutions and NGOs as expected. The major outcomes were clear agenda was identified to improve microfinance sector in Rajasthan, consensus was generated for proposed Centre for Microfinance in Rajasthan and sensitization of microfinance stakeholders to support small organizations for up-scaling outreach of microfinance programme.

Project Inception Workshops

ARAVALI conducted inception workshops in Dholpur, Baran and Jhalawar districts to share the concept of the GO-NGO-PRI forum with the government, NGOs and PRIs and provide information regarding the capacity building inputs that would be provided to the NGOs working in project districts.

State Level Livestock Environment Interaction Development Action Network Workshop

This year ARAVALI has organized a workshop in association with Seva Mandir from 29th-30th December, 2005 at State Institute of Health & Family Welfare, Jaipur. The total participants were 20 from different organizations working on Livestock Development. The main issues discussed were experiences of livestock production especially in the context of watershed development- gaps and opportunities and Livestock-livelihood environment interaction in kalyanpur watershed. Some Salient features of LEAD study was presented by representatives from Seva Mandir, NGOs and Government Departments.

2.2.3 Research and Knowledge Dissemination ►►

ARAVALI has been undertaking several research projects and has been a source of knowledge for various development agencies in Rajasthan. Like the past year ARAVALI has undertaken several initiatives to contribute to the development sector. Some of the efforts are:

Promoting and Enabling Farmers of Rainfed Areas to Adopt Alternative Crops

ARAVALI has undertaken an action-research with one of our partner NGO for three villages of Jaipur and Tonk District wherein crop rotation and high value crops was introduced to increase land productivity and income. This was also the best practice model for agro-based livelihood enhancement.

The main objective of the study was to introduce alternative crops suitable to the agro-climatic zone, under crop rotation technique for increase land productivity, enhance the income of the local people by introducing high commercial value crops including medicinal and aromatic plants and develop a model of alternative cropping practice for livelihood enhancement and for further up-scaling and wider adoption.



The crops such as Guwar, Ashwagandha, Safed Musli in kharif and Barani Ajwain in rabi were introduced and the overall out come revelled that these crops gives better economic return, which is helpful in providing an alternative source of livelihood for the farmers in the area.

Action Research on Replication of Horticulture Model (WADI)

This year ARAVALI has implemented an Action-Research project with Rachna Sansthan in Rajsamand to refine, document and disseminate the existing WADI model for its wider dissemination in rain-fed regions of Rajasthan. The study also examined the sustainability and effectiveness of current package in new areas of implementation and developed a strategy for utilizing the nucleus of thus successful implementation in fresh areas for further up-scaling and wider outreach. A cost-effective support package was developed which can be provided by small NGOs to small and marginal farmers.

Knowledge Dissemination



12 issues of *Pahal Logo ki...* (The Community initiatives), a two pager monthly publication in Hindi was published on community based best practices on Natural Resource Management and livelihood enhancement. 1000 copies were disseminated to NGOs, Government Departments, MLAs, Zilla Pramukhs, PRIs and other development practitioners within the state of Rajasthan.

Information Booklet (Aajeevika Booklet)

Aajeevika booklet on the best practices identified for livelihood enhancement of the poor was published on WADI Model focusing on its social, technical and institutional aspects of Community based Natural Resource Management. The Rajasthan unit of BAIF initiated the concept of WADI on the lines of efforts done by Gujarat BAIF unit. WADI is referred to lands closer to house used for vegetable cultivation / Kitchen gardening. 300 copies of WADI Booklet have been distributed to NGOs, government departments and other agencies working within and outside the state for further replication and its wider dissemination.

ARAVALI Development Feature Service

ARAVALI has published 10 issues of ARAVALI Development Features Service. All these issues carried important and simplified information on different aspects of microfinance programme, livelihood promotion, simplified guidelines of different government schemes, organizational management standards, donor priorities and other useful information related to Community based Natural Resource Management in the state and were disseminated to voluntary organizations.



Replications

During this year, Social Mobilization project witnessed replications of various activities. Some of them were as below:

- ☞ Demand generation for insurance of livestock, improved seeds, etc.
- ☞ Partner organizations have adopted group-strengthening process (i.e. record keeping, bank linkages etc) in other groups being promoted by them.
- ☞ Adoption of Vermi-composting and improved variety seeds by other than SHG members.
- ☞ In Srinagar Block, 240 women and men have opened their personal account in banks in guidance of UBI bank and Grameen Mahila Vikas Sanstha Bubani.
- ☞ Rajasthan Mahila Kalyan Mandal an Ajmer based NGO is applying Social Mobilisation project learning's in their SHG programme.

2.2.4 Internal System Development Initiative

ARAVALI strives to establish better performance systems in voluntary agencies. ARAVALI is engaged in development and testing of such system at internal level. This year we developed a correspondence information system to streamline the internal communication and timely compliance of external queries. A Library Information System is also developed and posted on our official web server so that interested individuals, organizations and institutions can access the knowledge base of ARAVALI. Both the systems are enabling us to improve the outreach of ARAVALI activities in an effective manner. After successful trial of these systems, efforts would be made to motivate other voluntary organizations to use these systems.

2.2.5 Assignment and Studies

ARAVALI undertakes several short assignments and studies which further the objectives of our existence in the state. The initiatives taken up in this year are:

Total Sanitation and Swajaldhara

The On-line monitoring of Total Sanitation Campaign and Swajaldhara programme in Jaipur, Barmer and Bundi districts was carried out by ARAVALI for duration of three quarters starting from July 2005 to March 2006. A qualitative report was shared with both state and central government for better implementation of the programme.

Impact Assessment of Rural Development schemes in Jalore District

ARAVALI has taken up the impact assessment study commissioned by Government of India to find out the overall impact of SGRY, IWY, SGSY, DDP, PMGSY and ARWSP rural development schemes of the Ministry



of Rural Development in four blocks of the Jalore district. The findings of the study revealed that centrally sponsored rural development schemes were implemented to a large extent in true sense and spirit and helped in improving the social and economic standard of the targeted beneficiaries. Erroneous selection of beneficiaries, insufficient and delayed financial input etc were few problems and deficiencies observed during the study.

Supplementary Observation Mechanism

The Government of India launched SOM Project in the year 2003 for tracking the pace and quality of watersheds development projects implemented in India. The state government has appointed ARAVALI as the state level institute in Rajasthan to implement the SOM project. ARAVALI is providing the necessary technical inputs to DLIs and regularly reviewing the progress of the work. Till date information of 1500 micro-watersheds covering 22 districts has been furnished on the web.

WASSAN Study

ARAVALI is the nodal agency at the state level to study the process documentation of the successful watershed development programme in eight selected watersheds implemented in the Rajasthan state. This study is being commissioned at National Level by WASSAN, Hyderabad in eight States. The study is funded by ICEF, New Delhi. The main objective of the study is to strengthen the participatory processes in Watershed Development Programmes in India.

Sector Reform Study

An evaluation study on "*Concurrent Reform Projects under Rural Water Supply Programme*" by Ministry of Rural Development in Jaipur, Sikar, Alwar and Rajasmand Districts was taken up by ARAVALI this year. The study aims at providing a qualitative and quantitative review of the sector reform project in terms of community management of schemes; involvement of community in planning, execution, operation and maintenance; institutional arrangements and socio economic impact of the project.

Human Development Report based Planning

ARAVALI implemented a project on Human Development Report based planning in Rajasthan supported by United Nations Development Programme and Planning Commission, Government of India. One of the components of the project was to prepare a district humans development report cum perspective plan on pilot basis for Tonk district. The final report identifies, assesses the current situations and the level of disparity in education, health and livelihood opportunities at the Panchayat Samiti level. Further, the report also consists development index for education, health and livelihood and thereby proposes strategies and recommendations for policy interventions of the district.



Magra Area Development Project, Bhilwara

In the year 2000, Government of Rajasthan engaged ARAVALI to undertake a baseline study to demarcate the Magra Area and identify the development gaps and priority for its development. Based on the survey, the government allocated funds for the development of the area. In the year 2005, again Government of Rajasthan requested ARAVALI to prepare a proposal detailing out situational analysis and identifying appropriate solutions in terms of natural resource enhancement, infrastructure development, capacity building aspects and finally proposing a strategic plan of Bhilwara district.

Assessment of NGOs for Rajasthan State AIDS Control Society

ARAVALI adopted a detailed process of assessing the capacities of NGOs short-listed for the Targeted Intervention project of RSACS. Visit to 66 NGOs was made and out of them 22 organizations were selected by RSACS.



3. WAYS AHEAD

In reference to the Perspective Plan of ARAVALI (2005-10), ARAVALI will rapidly expand its own presence in deprived districts, both of which are now hub of large number of agencies and projects. This expansion will facilitate greater ground contact with organizations and offer more multifarious opportunities in strengthening local collaborations between government departments, projects and local NGOs.

ARAVALI will apply its core services most intensively and its sectoral work will include building NGO capacities for building new models or up scaling existing ones with a view to maximise impact and coverage. The organization will promote ground level pilot action in GO and NGO settings in new and promising areas that have not been attempted in the past and have the potential of being scaled up. ARAVALI will facilitate greater and qualitatively better GO-NGO interaction / collaboration and undertake or support research in critical sectoral areas.

ARAVALI will use a judicious combination of strategies in order to realize its mandate. While ARAVALI will not be a primary field implementation organization it will provide comprehensive technical and managerial support to programmes of Government and NGOs in the following two sectors:

- ☞ Natural Resource Management with emphasis on rain-fed farming, irrigation and drought management in underserved pockets of poverty concentration.
- ☞ Rural livelihood development with particular focus on micro finance, non-farm and services sector development and labour enhancement.

ARAVALI's sectoral support to development agencies will include a) new project formulation and planning; b) research and technical assistance; c) resource mobilization and d) networking and liaison support.

ARAVALI will strengthen its research capability and in the coming perspective plan period aim to become the facilitator of on-going quality development research and study outputs. The strategic purposes of this are several, the most significant being the need to dynamically contribute to development practice and policy in the state. The other important purpose is to provide a broader platform for dissemination of innovations, best practices and experiences across organizations. A strong research function will also help ARAVALI in identifying potential areas for intervention as well as make available valuable information to others.

ARAVALI will move towards increased institutionalization of its activities through new organizational arrangements and initiatives. This will ensure greater sustainability and specialization which otherwise is not possible in a multi-support organization like ARAVALI. In the coming years ARAVALI will be playing a key role in promotion of new organizations and structures for carrying out longer term specialized mandates especially in the area of livelihood promotion, capacity building for development practice and resource mobilization.

The above direction has been taken up from the five-perspective plan of ARAVALI. We will make all possible efforts to further the initiatives of ARAVALI in this direction.



4. FINANCIAL PROGRESS



GOVERNANCE IN ARAVALI

The General Body of ARAVALI is composed of all the members of the association. Categories of members include registered Voluntary Organizations, Trusts, Institutions, Ex-officio Representatives from the Government of Rajasthan, Individuals, Donor Members and Founder Members. The Chairman may invite any person other than a member to attend a meeting of General Body.

The overall management of ARAVALI is vested with the Governing Council. The day to day affairs of the organization area is being looked after by the Executive Committee; within the broad guidelines laid down by the Governing Council. The Chairman of the Governing Council is nominated by the Government of Rajasthan. The Chairman - Governing Council also chair the Executive Committee of ARAVALI. At every level participation from Government Departments and Voluntary Agencies is ensured. The members are:

- ☞ Hon'ble Minister, RD, Member Governing Body, Chairperson GC, Chairperson EC
- ☞ Pr. Secretary, RD, Member Governing Body, Vice Chairperson, Executive Committee and Governing Council
- ☞ Secretary, RD & PR, Member Governing Body
- ☞ Pr. Secretary, Finance, Member Governing Body and Governing Council
- ☞ Secretary, Planning, Member Governing Body, Executive Committee and Governing Council
- ☞ Pr. Secretary, Agriculture, Member Governing Council and Governing Body.
- ☞ Secretary, Forest, Member Governing Body and Governing Council
- ☞ Secretary, Social Welfare Dept, Member Governing Body, Governing Council and Executive committee
- ☞ Secretary, Primary & Secondary Education, Member Governing Body and Governing Council
- ☞ Development Commissioner, Vice Chairperson Governing Council
- ☞ SEVA Mandir, Udaipur Member, Governing Council and Governing Body
- ☞ Sahyog Sansthan, Udaipur Member Governing Body
- ☞ Lupin HWRF, Bharatpur Member Governing Body
- ☞ People Education Development Organisation, Dungarpur Member Governing Body
- ☞ Prayas Sansthan, Chittorgarh Member Governing Body, Governing Council and Executive committee



- ☞ Society to Uplift Rural Economy, Barmer Member Governing Body
- ☞ Astha Sansthan, Udaipur Member - Governing Body and Governing Council
- ☞ Urmul Trust, Bikaner Member Governing Body and Governing Council and Executive committee
- ☞ ECAT Bodhgram Member Governing Body
- ☞ Punjab National Bank Member Governing Body
- ☞ Rajasthan Mahila Kalyan Mandal, Ajmer Member Governing Body
- ☞ Shikshit Rozgar Kendra Prabandhak Samiti, Jhunjhunu Member Governing Body
- ☞ Vishakha, Jaipur Member Governing Body
- ☞ Shiv Shiksha Samiti, Tonk Member Governing Body
- ☞ Gram Vikas Navyuvak Mandal, Laporla Member Governing Body
- ☞ Lok Kalyan Sansthan Member Governing Body
- ☞ SWERA, Ajmer Member Governing Body
- ☞ Prayatn Samiti, Udaipur Member Governing Body
- ☞ Gandhi Manav Kalyan Society, Udaipur Member Governing Body
- ☞ WASCO, Ramseen, Jalore Member Governing Body
- ☞ Nav Yuvak Mandal Sansthan, Mithi Reduwali Member Governing Body
- ☞ Daang Vikas Sansthan, Karauli Member Governing Body
- ☞ Jan Chetna Sansthan, Abu Road, Sirohi Member Governing Body
- ☞ Manglam Vidhyapeeth, Jaipur Member Governing Body
- ☞ Sandesh Khadi Gramudyog Sansthan, Thanagazi, Alwar Member Governing Body
- ☞ Maharaja Ganesh pal ji Charitable Trust, Karauli Member Governing Body
- ☞ Shri Maharshi Dadhich Education Society, Keshavpura, Kota Member Governing Body
- ☞ Prayatn Sansthan, Dholpur Member Governing Body
- ☞ Student Relief Society, Jaipur Member Governing Body
- ☞ Ravindra Vidhya Mandir Samiti, Kota Member Governing Body
- ☞ Rajasthan Gramin Vikas Samiti, Ajmer Member Governing Body
- ☞ Executive Director ARAVALI, Member Secretary, Executive Committee and Governing Council
- ☞ Treasurer, ARAVALI Member Executive Committee



Annexure - B

ARAVALI STAFF
(As on 31st March 2006)

Name	Designation	Qualifications	Experience
Ambuj Kishore	Programme Officer (Re-know)	PGDRM (XIIS)	5 Years
Anil Kumar Jain	Programme Assistant	M.A. (English)	7 Years
B. K Singh	Programme Manager (Re-know)	M.Sc (Agricultural Communication and Extension)	12 years
Bhairu Lal Gujar	Administrative Assistant	8 th Pass	11 Years
Dilip Kumar Yadav	Senior Programme Officer (SMP)	B.A.	18 Years
G.D. Vyas	Executive Director	R.A.S (Accounts)	24 Years
Hitendra Singh	Programme Director and Programme Manager (HICE)	PGDRM (XIIS)	10 Years
Lokesh Gupta	Accounts Officer	B. A.	10 Years
Manish Singh	Programme Officer (HICE)	M.A. (SW) (Indore SSW)	7 Years
Namita Sharma	Programme Officer (CSG)	M Phil. (NRM) - IIFM	5 Years
Neeraj Verma	Programme Officer ((HICE)	M.A. (Economics) PGDPM	6 Years
Pradeep Khemnani	Programme Associate (Comm.)	B. Com., CAC (CIStems) Jaipur	10 Years
Satya Narayan Singh	Administrative Assistant	9 th Pass	10 Years
Seema Jain	Programme Assistant	B.Com	5 Years
Shalini Srivastava	Programme Officer (SMP)	MBA	5 years
Shweta Agarwal	Programme Officer (CSG)	M.S (Human Development) SNTD Women's University Mumbai	5 years
Sourav Roy	Programme Officer (HICE)	B.Sc (Forestry), M.A. in Social Work (TISS)	5 Years
Vijay Pal Singh Jadon	Programme Officer (SMP)	B.Tech (Agri)	4 years
Yogesh Gupta	Programme Officer (Re-know)	B.Tech (Agri)	8 Years

INFORMATION ABOUT ARAVALI

- ▶▶ **FCRA Number**
125560091

- ▶▶ **Registration Number and Date**
184/Jaipur/4-95 dated 23/7/1994

- ▶▶ **Registration under other sections**
80 G

- ▶▶ **Our Auditors**
M/s Umesh Dangayach
12, Ram Nagar Shopping Centre
Shastri Nagar, Jaipur – 302016

- ▶▶ **Our Bankers**
State Bank of India
Kelgiri Hospital Campus
Malviya Nagar
Jaipur – 302017



ABBREVIATIONS

AKF	Aga Khan Foundation
AKRSP	Aga Khan Rural Support Programme
ADFS	ARAVALI Development Feature Service
ARWSP	Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme
BIRD	Bankers' Institute for Rural Development
CSG	Collaboration and Support
COSAP	Comprehensive Support Action Plan
DDP	Desert Development Plan
DRG	District Resource Group
DLI	District Level Institute
FCRA	Foreign Contribution Regulation Act
GO	Government Organization
HDR	Human Development Report
HICE	Human & Institutional Capacity Enhancement Group
ICEF	Indo-Canadian Environment Facility
IHMR	Indian Institute of Health Management Research
IRMA	Institute for Rural Management, Anand
IVY	Indira Vikas Yojana
mF	micro-Finance
MIS	Management Information System
mFI	micro-Finance Institution
MoRD	Ministry of Rural Development
MMDP	Microfinance Management Development Programme
NFI	National Foundation for India
NGO	Non Government Organization
PRI	Panchayati Raj Institution
PAVA	Professional Assistance to Voluntary Agencies
PEDO	Peoples Education Development Organization
PRADAN	Professional Assistance for Development Action
PMGSY	Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yozana
PHED	Public Health and Engineering Department
ARWSP	Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme
Re-Know	Research and Knowledge Dissemination
RSACS	Rajasthan State AIDS Control Society
SAF	Support Action Framework
SAMDP	Social Analysis and Management Development Programme
SCALE	Sustainable Community Based Approaches to Livelihood Enhancement
SGSY	Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojna
SGRY	Sampurna Gramin Rojgar Yojana
SHG	Self Help Group
SRTT	Sir Ratan Tata Trust
SOM	Supplementary Observation Mechanism
TSC	Total Sanitation Campaign
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nation Children's fund
VO	Voluntary Organization
WASSAN	Watershed Support Services and Activities Network

