

**Project Report**

**“Accessibility, Visibility and Mobility through CBR” for the people with  
Disabilities live in the Baytu block of Barmer District, Rajasthan.**

**Supported by**

**CAIRN INDIA LTD, BARMER, RAJASTHAN**

**Implemented by**

**Blind People’s Association, Ahmedabad**

**&**

**Shared Vision Foundation Jodhpur**

## **Background**

It is believed that people with disabilities are highly dependent on others, they cannot participate in the education, livelihood, religious and social functions. People in the society believe that their participation in the all sphere of life is very limited due to their disabilities. But these are myths related to people with disabilities in the society. The reason behind their limited participation is something different than what people in the society firmly believes. It has been found that PWDs have limited access to the services because these services are not accessible to them. They cannot access the services because their mobility is very limited or there is no mobility. For example, a child having polio wants study in the school. The school is in the village, the teachers are there, but he cannot get education not because of his/her disability, because he does not have proper assistive devices such as wheel chair or tricycle to facilitate him to access education in the school. Moreover, it has been proven that assistive devices would help PWDs visibility and mobility in the society also increase their functional abilities.

On other hand, poverty prevents many people with disabilities from acquiring the assistive devices which would enable them to be mobile and participate in programmes for their economic and social well-being. Furthermore, there is an acute shortage of low-cost assistive devices, which are suited to the life-style of users.

To overcome from this issue, CAIRN INDIA has initiated a CBR Program named “Accessibility, Visibility and Mobility through CBR” for the people with Disabilities live in the Baytu block of Barmer District, Rajasthan. To implement a CBR Program, CAIRN India has selected Blind People’s Association for implementation of the project. These two organizations have set an objective for the project which is matched with CSR activities of CAIRN India.

## **Overall Objective**

To promote high quality and culturally appropriate assistive devices, as a means of facilitating the participation of people with disabilities in economic and social activities.

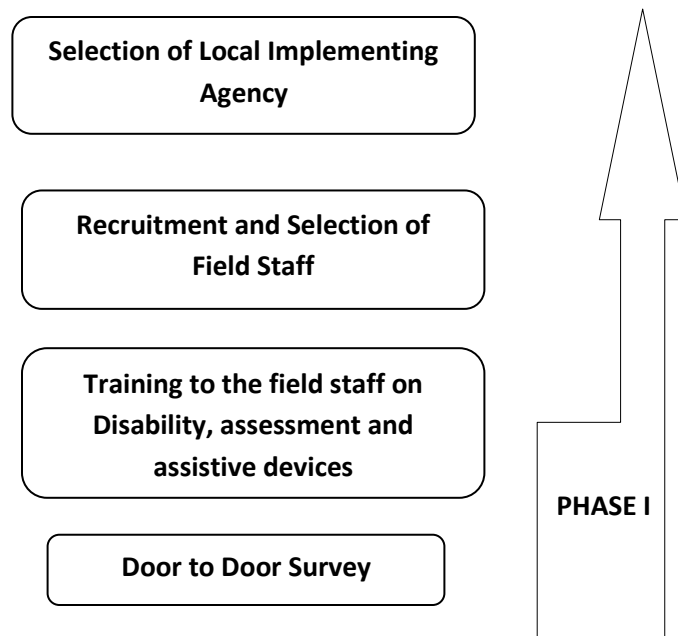
## **Project Location**

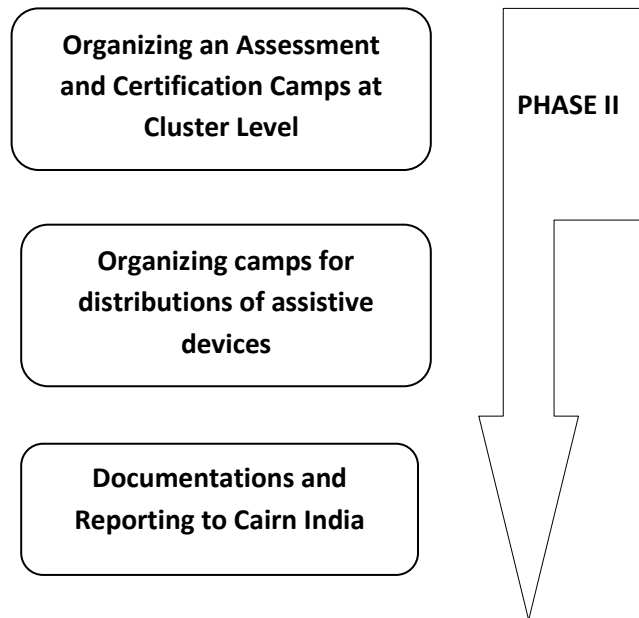
Baytu is a Tehsil in Barmer District of Rajasthan State, India. It belongs to Jodhpur Division. It is located 49 KM towards East from District head quarter Barmer. It is about 148 Km from Jodhpur and 490 KM from State capital Jaipur towards East. The project was implemented in selected villages of Bayatu Tehsil.

## **Project Strategy**

The success of each project depends on well designed and defined strategy. Considering the project objective and activities, BPA has developed a project strategy, which would be helpful to project staff in executing project activities. The project strategy was divided for two phases. The first phase was about selection and training of implementing agency and field staff, the second phase was emphasizing on reaching out to the people and extending services to them. The defined strategy is shown in following diagram.

## **Implementation Strategy**





## 1. Selection of Local Implementing Agency

BPA has a branch in Jodhpur named **Shared Vision Foundation (SVF)**, which has required infrastructure and facilities to implement the project. Shared Vision Foundation has been working in Jodhpur district for prevention of disabilities and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities in partnership with government and voluntary agencies for many years. SVF has successfully conducted **Mobile Refraction Clinic (MRC)** camps throughout Jodhpur division. Till 2012-13, SVF has conducted more than 97 camps in which 48,249 eye glasses were distributed and 1649 cataract surgeries were performed. Further the Foundation has been running **Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR)** programme in 86 villages of Bhopalgarh block (Jodhpur) since 2009 in which already 3,843 persons with disabilities are identified. The Foundation has also extended its services to areas like getting certification, bus pass, rail pass, pension, aids and appliances, employment, education and other support services. In **Low Vision Centre and Outreach Support (LVCOS)**, The SVF deals with low vision care, where clinical assessment of 334 people and functional assessment of 128 people has been done till now. Further, 49 needy people have been provided with Optical /Non optical devices and 54 have been benefited with assistive technology & computer training. In a recent development, **Rehabilitation Home for Mentally Retarded People (MR Home)** was started at Jodhpur under the aegis of Directorate for People with Special Abilities, Dept. of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of Rajasthan. The home is having more than 90 mentally retarded and multiple disabled persons. It has been

serving them with food, medical support, rehabilitation, dormitory facilities, and education with vocational training with a measure focus on improving their Independent living.

## **2. Recruitment of Project Staff**

It was decided in a first consultation meeting that the staff would be recruited from the Skill Development Center of CAIRN India (which provides different skills like Computer, Spoken English to the youth of Barmer District). Hence, these trained youth would get an employment opportunity through this project. Keeping in mind this, BPA had organized interviews at the skill development centers. The details of potential candidates had been shared in advance by the Skill Development Center CAIRN India. These candidates were called for an interview. The 14 candidates were remained presence and 8 (6 male and 2 female) had been selected for the project.

## **3. Training of Project Staff on CBR**

The Training Program for selected staff was organized from 4<sup>th</sup> February 2013 to 12<sup>th</sup> February 2013 at Shared Vision Foundation, Jodhpur. The faculties from Shared Vision Foundation and Blind People's Association had delivered intensive trainings to the project staff. Besides, there were some visiting experts from different field including medical and education. The Training Manual had covered following areas.

- Understanding of Disability
- Community Resource Mapping and Resource Mobilization
- Door to Door Survey
- Community Awareness.

The participants were also exposed to the field level work.



Training of staff at training center at SVF



Training of staff at field and School for blind

At the end of the training, the trainees were asked to conduct a sample survey in two villages. Based on the sample survey and written test, 5 candidates were selected, who performed well in both the activities.

#### 4. Door to Door Survey

The CAIRN India, Barmer has shared village details of Baytu Block. There were 76 villages from North and 86 villages from south side of Baytu Block. It was difficult to cover all villages in the survey within given time frame. It was decided to cover 15 villages from North and 15 Villages from South Side for door to door survey. The field staff was given a survey form which was in Hindi language and easy to understand to fill it up. The copy of survey form is attached as annexure.

The field staff was given designated villages for survey. The field staff travelled and visited door to door to collect the information about people with disabilities. The entire field was divided in to 6 clusters comprising of certain nearby villages. At the end of the survey, the data was compiled and tabled as follows -

S. No	Cluster Name	VI		HI		MR		OH		MI		CP		MD		Total	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	kavas	15	15	30	19	7	1	50	11	3	3	14	20	6	10	125	79
2	Jhakh	22	27	14	13	8	2	25	8	10	5	12	6	8	11	99	72
3	Rateu	53	23	36	14	9	5	36	16	18	10	9	9	13	9	174	86
4	khip sar	11	7	13	7	4	2	14	3	9	9	7	6	4	2	62	36
5	Lunada	7	5	9	6	4	1	16	4	2	4	5	2	4	2	47	24
6	Shingodiya	5	7	13	10	10	3	24	7	4	1	10	1	9	2	75	31
	<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>328</b>

S. No	Village Name	Total		Grand Total
		M	F	
1	kavas	129	81	210
2	Jhakh	99	72	171
3	Rateu	174	86	260
4	khip sar	62	36	98
5	Lunada	51	24	75
6	Shingodiya	75	31	106
	<b>Total</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>920</b>

## 5. Assessment and Screening Camp

After having detailed door to door survey in the selected villages, it was decided to hold a screening camp in the area so that identified people could be assessed and selected for appropriate aids and appliances. After due consultation, the camp was organized in a centrally well connected village Batadu on May 5, 2013. Before the camp date, lots of publicity was done to inform all the people from the area as well as surveyed people. It was planned that a team of experts in different disability areas

will be available on the camp site and will assess all the people coming from the selected villages for assessment and other support.

Total 477 people from different villages were registered and got assessed by different experts under various disability categories, out of which more than 60% population belongs to very low economic background or BPL (Below Poverty Line). Total 173 eye glasses, 3 white canes for blind and 27 hearing aids were distributed during the camp. For cataract patients, 11 eye surgeries were performed in Paliwal Eye Hospital, Balotara. Many patients were selected for artificial limbs, tricycles, wheelchairs, walkers, crutches etc. some very young children with Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and multiple handicap were referred to BPA, Ahmedabad for advance support (Please refer to Annexure -1 for detailed report and photographs). Cairn representative Ms Veronica George together with Mr. Suman Talukdar arrived in the camp and interacted with the people arrived for the assessment.

Note: All the people arrived for the camp were informed that the aids distribution camp would also be arranged at the same place on June 9, 2013.

## **6. Distribution of Aids and Appliances to the People with Disabilities**

The Aids and Appliances Distribution function was organized on 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2013 at Batadu Village of Baytu Block. The people who were assessed on May 5<sup>th</sup> and had requirement for an assistive device were invited to receive assistive devices. A team of experts and support staff was arrived 2 days in advance at the camp site for fitting and other arrangements. On camp day, the team was ready with different assistive devices including –

1. Tricycles
2. Wheel chairs
3. Hearing Aids
4. Crutches
5. Walkers
6. White Canes
7. Sticks



8. Artificial upper and lower limbs
9. Calipers
10. Knee caps etc.

More than 200 people from different villages were assisted during the camp. Ms. Veronica George from CAIRN India attended the function and distributed assistive devices to the beneficiaries. She further interacted with the beneficiaries to collect their first impression after getting assistive devices (Please refer to Annexure -2 for detailed report and photographs).

The special attraction of the camp was a school boy of standard IX who lost his both lower limbs. He used to go to school by putting thick clothes on his lower limbs. When he arrived in assessment camp on May 5, 2013, he was not sure as he could get anything suits to his needs. After assessment and measurement, he was selected for both artificial lower limbs and asked to come again on June 9<sup>th</sup> in aids distribution camp. He arrived on June 9<sup>th</sup> in the morning thinking of he would get something. When he fitted with both the limbs, he could see himself standing tall in the crowd with other people. It was a great surprise for him to regain both his legs (though artificial) and walking along his peers.



## **Conclusion**

This was the first ever assessment and aids distribution camp in the Baytu Block of Barmer district, where people with disabilities were assessed and received assistive devices free of cost. People with Disabilities were really happy with such support and services provided by the staff of BPA/ SVF and ultimately thankful to CAIRN India for supporting this initiative to empower the entire disabled community. The Community Leaders and local people acknowledged excellent work done by CAIRN India with the help of Blind People's Association and Shared Vision Foundation. As this was the first pilot project; the success and responses demand that similar project needs to be implemented in other villages of the Baytu Block and in entire Barmer district.

## **Annexure**

1. Detailed report of Screening camp held on May 5, 2013
2. Detailed report of Aids Distribution camp held on June 9, 2013
3. Some case studies from the project