Grant Thornton

Executive Summary

Ashirvad Pipes Private Limited

August 2026

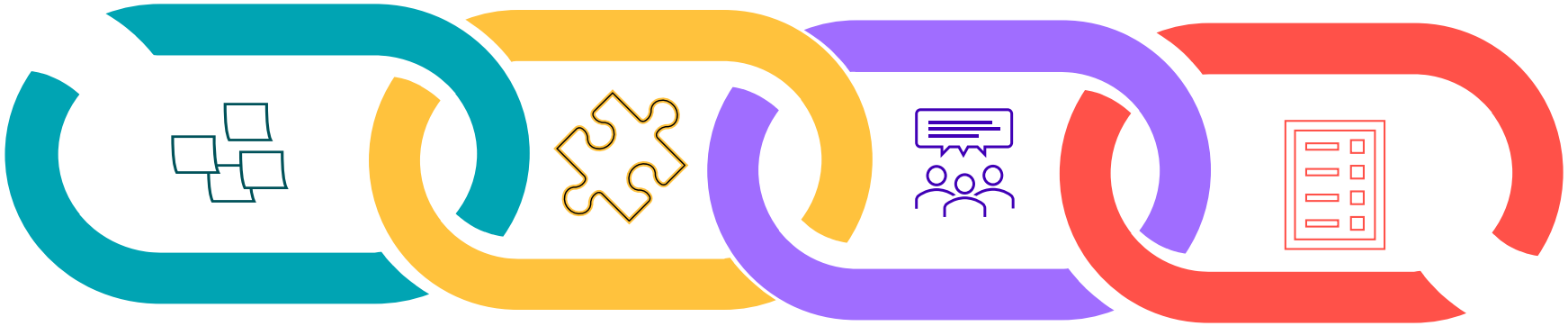
Scope of work

Grant Thornton Bharat LLP was engaged by APPL to undertake an impact assessment of the below 4 projects:

Projects assessed:

1. Integrated water resource management project
2. Increasing access to quality primary healthcare services through medical mobile unit
3. Eco-restoration through tree plantation
4. Bridge training programme for women

Objectives of the assessment



Assessment approach

For the impact assessment study, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Developments (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) framework was employed to assess the projects. In addition, the Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices (KAP) framework was used to understand stakeholders' awareness, perceptions, and adoption of behaviours related to the project interventions, thereby providing a holistic assessment of project.

Relevance

- Correlation of the project objectives with the need
- Consistency of the activities with the overall goal / objectives
- Consistency of the activities with the intended impact

Effectiveness

- Extent of the objectives achieved or to be achieved
- Major factors influencing the achievement / non-achievement of the objectives

Efficiency

- Timely achievement of objectives
- Efficiency of the implementation process as compared to alternatives

Impact

- Difference in the lives of the beneficiaries due to the activities
- Number of people affected
- Results of the support provided

Sustainability

- Extent of benefits to continue after funding ceases
- Major factors which influenced the achievement or non-achievement of sustainability of the programme or project

Coherence

- Alignment of the projects with company goals and mission
- Alignment of the project activities with national and international guidelines

Assessment methodology

For the assessment, a three – phase methodology was adopted to build a comprehensive understanding of the project, execute the required data collection, and analyse the data to identify key findings and takeaways

Phase 1

- Conducted an inception meeting with APPL team and NGO partner to gain an understanding of the project.
- Reviewed available documents and relevant reports.
- Developed study design including identification of key stakeholders and areas of enquiry in consultation with the APPL team.
- Defined sample size and detailed methodology for data collection.
- Developed tools for interactions

Phase 2

- Trained and oriented field teams on data collection to ensure efficiency and standardisation across interactions.
- Conducted interactions and surveys on the ground/ virtually using the data collection tools (both qualitative and quantitative).
- Adhered to the data collection plan and quality assurance protocols.
- Cleaned, verified and validated the data set.

Phase 3

- Analysed data to identify relevant trends and key statistics.
- Submitted the draft impact assessment report with data analysis.
- Submitted the final report incorporating comments made on the draft report by the APPL team.

Inception of the study

Data collection

Data analysis and reporting

Key findings

Integrated water resource management project

4,000+
JalTara structures

335+
groundwater recharge structures

3,600+
farmers directly benefited

800+
farmers reached through awareness

650+
youth sensitised

Project model

Scientific geological and hydrogeological studies

Water literacy and community training

Recharge structures in Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh

JalTara systems in Maharashtra and Telangana

Assessment coverage

OECD-DAC and KAP frameworks

Three-phase methodology: inception, data collection, analysis/reporting

Field interactions in Kolar and Latur with PRI members, water managers, community, government and NGO teams

Strategic fit

Addresses groundwater depletion, runoff, waterlogging and poor retention

Aligned with Jal Shakti Abhiyan, Atal Bhujal Yojana and PMKSY

Contributes to SDGs 2, 6, 13 and 15

Executive takeaway A large-scale, community-led water security intervention combining infrastructure, water literacy and local maintenance mechanisms across four states.

Integrated water resource management project

20–23%
water availability improvement in select Maharashtra locations

15–20%
drinking-water availability improvement

100%
KOF agreement on water availability and productivity

90%
KOF agreement on recharge / retention gains

80%
KOF confidence in long-term benefits

Observed outcomes

Improved groundwater recharge and well levels

Reduced runoff, waterlogging and soil erosion

Better soil moisture, irrigation access and crop conditions

Reported improvement in water quality and reduced arsenic concerns in some locations

Community and KAP

Knowledge: stronger understanding of recharge and conservation

Attitude: confidence in structures and demand for expansion

Practices: participation in upkeep and improved rainwater management

Routine maintenance supported by periodic desilting commitment

Management priorities

Scale to additional water-stressed villages

Formalise inspection, monitoring and desilting schedules

Build farmer contribution through labour or funding

Track structure functionality, groundwater levels and seasonal agricultural outcomes

Overall conclusion

The project generated positive environmental, agricultural and livelihood outcomes, with strong community acceptance. Long-term value depends on disciplined maintenance and deeper beneficiary co-ownership.

Increasing access to quality primary healthcare services through medical mobile unit

380
beneficiaries surveyed

50:50
Bengaluru and Bhiwadi sample split

54%
female respondents

100%
received consultation and medicines

92%
services met needs to high / very high extent

Doorstep service package

OPD consultation and free medicines

Point-of-care diagnostics and NCD / anaemia screening

ANC and PNC support

Referrals, follow-ups and medicine cycles

Health awareness and behaviour-change communication

Assessment design

OECD-DAC and KAP frameworks

Quantitative sample: 190 beneficiaries per location

Qualitative interactions with doctors, nurses, medical teams, mobilisers, community members, school leadership and NGO team

Strategic relevance

Addresses access, affordability and infrastructure gaps

Focuses on women, children, older people and vulnerable groups

Combines curative and preventive care

Aligned with Ayushman Bharat, NHM, Anaemia Mukt Bharat, NCD priorities and SDG 3

Executive takeaway The MMU has become a trusted primary-care access point, bringing integrated consultations, medicines, screening, awareness and referral support directly into underserved communities.

Increasing access to quality primary healthcare services through medical mobile unit

81% rated services very accessible

99% reported improved health awareness

88% very satisfied with services

91% rated staff highly respectful and compassionate

89% said family members also use MMU

Preventive and clinical outcomes

58% screened for hypertension; 39% for diabetes; 5% for anaemia

88% attended awareness sessions

84% waited less than 30 minutes

Regular follow-ups supported continuity for chronic conditions

Access, affordability and trust

All surveyed beneficiaries reported free consultations, medicines and required medicine availability

Reduced travel and out-of-pocket costs

40% use services weekly; 27% fortnightly

Referral links connect beneficiaries to higher-level care

Management priorities

Scale preventive screening and outreach

Deepen coverage of hypertension, diabetes, anaemia and maternal health

Track referral completion and outcomes

Monitor chronic-disease control, adherence and repeat utilisation

Preserve medicine availability and short waiting times

Overall conclusion

The MMU demonstrates high access, utilisation and satisfaction, with strong effects on awareness and affordability. Expanded preventive coverage and outcome tracking can strengthen evidence of health improvement.

Eco-restoration through tree plantation

15,776
saplings planted

95
native and biodiversity-supportive species

74%
reported sapling survival

~12,899
surviving saplings reported

100%
chemical-free management

Restoration model

Land preparation and weed removal

Community mobilisation and plantation drives

Native, medicinal, fruit-bearing, culturally significant and threatened species

Two-year maintenance and gap filling

Resource-efficient delivery

Drip irrigation for water efficiency

Natural farming, organic manure and biological inputs

Adaptive response to labour, weather and fire challenges

Dedicated monitoring and maintenance team

Assessment and alignment

Project-team interactions in Bengaluru

OECD-DAC and KAP frameworks

Aligned with Green India and National Biodiversity Action Plan priorities

Contributes to SDGs 13 and 15

Executive takeaway The intervention moved beyond plantation counts toward habitat restoration, biodiversity conservation and climate resilience through species diversity and sustainable site management.

Eco-restoration through tree plantation

15–20%
increase in vegetation cover

8–12%
increase in canopy cover

156
bird species supported

300+
insect species supported

7–8%
reported reduction in urban heat island effect

Ecological outcomes

- Improved vegetation density and canopy development
- Habitat creation for birds, insects and pollinators
- Improved soil health, water percolation and moisture retention
- Carbon sequestration potential and local climate regulation

Stakeholder and KAP signals

- 100% KOF awareness of objectives and environmental importance
- 100% perceived improvement in environmental conditions and green cover
- Positive attitude toward stewardship
- Participation supported through plantation and maintenance systems

Management priorities

- Establish longitudinal biodiversity monitoring for bird, insect and plant diversity
- Track survival, canopy growth and ecosystem indicators by site
- Expand native and threatened-species restoration to other degraded areas
- Maintain drip irrigation and gap filling

Overall conclusion

Early ecological results are positive and supported by a diversified species mix. Long-term biodiversity evidence and expansion into ecologically sensitive areas will deepen impact.

Bridge training programme for women

375
women targeted across three states

225
women trained in Karnataka

162
NSDC-recognised certifications

162
employment opportunities accessed

35–40
still employed

Training proposition

Youth Leadership Training Program

Communication, customer service and personality development

Spoken English, computer and digital skills

Interview preparation and placement assistance

Assessment design

OECD-DAC and KAP frameworks

Three-phase methodology

Field coverage in Dharavi and Haveri

Interactions with 15 trainees, 3 trainers and 3 NGO project-team members

Relevance and coherence

Addresses digital, confidence and employability gaps

Aligned to entry-level roles in administration, healthcare support, retail, accounting and customer service

Supports Skill India, NRLM and SDGs 4, 5 and 8

Executive takeaway The program combined employability, leadership and workplace-readiness training to improve women's access to jobs, income and community leadership opportunities.

Bridge training programme for women

77%
Beneficiaries stated that the training helped them use digital tools

77%
Beneficiaries stated that the quality of trainers were excellent

42%
Beneficiaries stated that the training was highly relevant to their current role

100%
KOF view: outreach and trainer support effective

80%
KOF confidence in long-term benefit

Capability and employment

Improved communication, computer literacy and interview readiness

Employment across healthcare, automobile dealerships, call centres, accounting and administration

Skills used in data entry, billing, reporting, email and accounting tasks

Empowerment and KAP

Greater confidence, self-presentation and leadership

Improved financial independence and household decision-making

Some beneficiaries moved into SHG and NRLM community roles

Peer success generated wider community interest

Management priorities

Extend training duration beyond 2–3 months where digital proficiency needs more practice

Create a formal trainee database and placement tracker

Build employer networks and industry linkages

Monitor retention, income progression and job quality

Overall conclusion

The intervention translated soft skills and digital exposure into tangible employment and empowerment outcomes. Stronger placement systems are required to evidence retention and long-term livelihood impact.

End