

EDUCATION  
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# PHILANTHROPY FOR IMPACT IN RAJASTHAN

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## Why this research paper series?

In a country of 1.3 billion people where problems are deep-rooted, complex and generally progress faster than solutions can catch up, individual efforts often fall short. Our greatest social problems are systemic — they are entrenched and perpetuated by a labyrinth of socio-economic and cultural issues. In order to achieve the sustainable wellbeing of communities, we have to tackle systemic problems by going together rather than going alone.

This research paper series is intended as a tool, useful aid and dialogue enabler among diverse groups of social entrepreneurs, practitioners, funders, policy makers, support organisations, government and more. Designed to be a compilation of the current landscape of trends, gaps and opportunities, best practices and recommendations around state development profiles, development themes such as gender, livelihoods as well as functional themes such as collective impact, each paper in the series aims to serve as a ready reference to further conversations towards more informed collaborations, funding and implementation.

# About the paper

Designed as a development brief on Rajasthan, this paper provides a comprehensive snapshot of the State's progress on economic, social and environmental parameters. The paper highlights Rajasthan's development performance vis-a-vis other Indian states in the following focus areas: Education, Health, Nutrition, WASH, Livelihood, Environment and Women empowerment. Apart from examining trends, gaps, assets and intra-state disparities, the paper also provides a glimpse of the solution ecosystem in the state as well as development funding flows from various quarters including government and CSR.

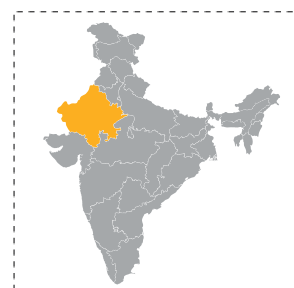
The paper aims to provide philanthropic funders an overview of Rajasthan's development, most prominent gaps across the state and districts, areas for collaboration, and models that can be emulated.











## Key Summary

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- 1 Rajasthan is one of the best performers among other low-income states such as Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Liberalisation and the discovery of oil has led to the growth of the state. Intermittent periods of slowdown are largely due to agriculture and drought.<sup>i</sup>
  - 2 The focus of the government has been on rural development, power and agriculture, with progress recorded in education and e-governance.
  - 3 The state continues to struggle with poor health and nutrition, women empowerment, water scarcity and drought.
  - 4 While the northern and eastern regions of Rajasthan have seen economic progress over the years, the southern and western parts of the state struggle to match the development of the rest of the state due to weather conditions, geography and population density.
  - 5 68.45%<sup>ii</sup> of the total government funding is directed towards the development sector, which is the main source of funding in Rajasthan. The state makes up less than 3% of total CSR spending in the country over the last three years.<sup>iii</sup>
  - 6 District wise, Jaipur got the highest funding (51.67 cr) and southern districts such as Dhaulpur (0.23 cr) received less than 1 cr.<sup>iv</sup>
  - 7 Collaboration has already been adopted in the development of the state with the first development impact bond (DIB) for girl child education being formed in Rajasthan and a recent DIB around healthcare. Different models of collaborations like these need to be leveraged for lasting change.

# Rajasthan: A snapshot

Rajasthan, with a geographical area of 3.42 lakh square kms, is the **largest** state in the country in terms of area.<sup>v</sup> For years, it has been classified as a 'BIMARU' state, referring to its poor economic conditions. However, Rajasthan's growth performance and poverty reduction record since 2005, has set the state apart from other low-income states, as is reflected in the state's performance across the paper.



 <p><b>Population</b> 68.6 million (Census 2011)</p> <p>Male: 51.86% Female: 48.14% Rural: 75.13 % Urban: 24.87 %</p>	 <p><b>Per Capita Income</b></p> <p>Rajasthan: INR 1,00,551 Growth Rate: 4.9% India: INR 1,12,764 10.83% LOWER than national average</p>	 <p><b>Human Development Index (HDI)</b></p> <p>Rajasthan: Rank: 20 of 21 larger states studied by Niti Aayog</p>	 <p><b>Ease of Doing Business (EoDB)</b></p> <p>Rank: 9 Of 29 states and 7 union territories</p>	 <p><b>Financial Access</b></p> <p>CRISIL Inclusix<sup>1</sup> for Rajasthan: Rank 24 among 28 states, 7 UTs</p>
 <p><b>Internet Access</b></p> <p>Urban: 14.29% (9.8 million) Rural: 10.64% (7.3 million)</p>	 <p><b>Net Enrolment Ratio</b></p> <p>Primary: 79.2 % vs. national average of 87.30% Secondary school: 41.14 % vs. national average of 51.26% Girl Child Enrolment: 46.23%</p>	 <p><b>Workforce Participation Rate</b></p> <p>Rajasthan: 45.6% LOWER than India average: 54% Female Participation: 188 per 1000 population</p>	 <p><b>Sex Ratio</b></p> <p>Rajasthan: 928 HIGHER than India average: 900</p>	 <p><b>Social origins</b></p> <p>Hindus: 88.49% Muslims: 9.07% Christians: 0.14% Scheduled Tribes: 13.48% Scheduled Castes: 17.83%</p>

Source: Census (2011), Socio Economic Outlook (2018), Niti Aayog (2016), Ease of Doing Business, Government (2018), CRISIL (2018), Government Data Portal (2016), Census (2011), Rajya Sabha (2016), World Bank (2013), CRISIL (2015) Government Data Source, Niti Aayog (2015), DISE 2016, Census (2011)

## Development trends and milestones

Rajasthan, the largest of the BIMARU states, has recorded growth surpassing all other low-income states. Despite these pockets of growth, drought-affected agriculture tends to bring in an element of volatility to the economy. While we see improved learning outcomes in education through the efforts of "Adarsh Schools", health and nutrition remain a challenge, with the state recording some of the worst nutritional outcomes in the country. Patriarchal mindset has slowed the progress of women across areas, though progress has been recorded in girl child education. Here's a look at the state's biggest changes over the years.



### Policies:

As per the budget for 2018-19, the focus of the government is rural development, power and agriculture. In line with this, the government has provided multiple subsidies and loan waivers up to INR 50,000 for small and marginal farmers.<sup>vi</sup> The state has immense potential for electricity generation

<sup>1</sup>CRISIL Inclusix is an index that measures the extent of financial inclusion in India across its 666 districts.

through renewable energy sources – Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Ltd has actively promoted solar energy and biomass projects. Enhancement of rural infrastructure has maintained a focus on health, education and social sector schemes such as pension and insurance. The Bhamashah Yojna was conceived as a one-stop solution for the disbursement of all government benefits to the bank account of the lady of the family. It is a precursor to the Centre’s Aadhaar-based DBT. Moving of social security schemes online in Rajasthan is being done through “Bhamashah” cards which uses the Aadhaar card database. Till September 2015, the government claims to have covered more than 90 lakh families out of a total of 95 lakh beneficiary families.<sup>vii</sup> Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan (MJSA) is another such initiative that has changed the face of Rajasthan. The scheme is providing a long-term solution for water scarcity. Till date, MJSA has been successful in making more than 7,726 villages water self-reliant.<sup>viii</sup> The state’s Startup Policy, 2015, has been formed with a focus on areas such as rural infrastructure & services, crafts, water, sanitation, renewable energy and healthcare with a goal of bringing in investments over USD 76 million to set up 500 start-ups by 2020.<sup>ix</sup>



### Technology:

Rajasthan is the only state in the country to have a self-sustainable government service delivery platform. RajNet covers 9,894 gram panchayats, 183 municipal areas along with district and block headquarters to ensure adequate connectivity across the state for effective delivery of services and benefits to citizens under various State and Central initiatives.<sup>x</sup> E-Mitra is a multi-service, single-window network for providing information and services to citizens. It is being implemented in all 33 districts of the state using a PPP model for convenience and transparency in availing various services under a single roof.<sup>xi</sup> The state has a fully implemented ePDS system with more than 3.85 lakh transactions per day through more than 25,000 ration shops.<sup>xii</sup> At present, 64 DBT schemes are being delivered in the state.<sup>xiii</sup> In 2018, the government announced a scheme for over 12 lakh farmers of the state to receive free electricity up to INR 10,000 for a year on their agricultural electricity connection, via DBT.<sup>xiv</sup> The e-Mandi system, implemented through mobile phones, helps farmers understand current rates of their commodities, and submit and receive claims under the Rajiv Gandhi Krishak Saathi Yojana.<sup>xv</sup>



### Economy:

Rajasthan has traditionally led in the exports of handicrafts, gems and jewellery, dimensional stones, agro products, and textile products. Gujarat and Rajasthan together house 40% of India’s artisans.<sup>xvi</sup> In terms of service exports, tourism and hospitality is a key segment in Rajasthan and has immense potential for earning foreign exchange revenue for the State. In 2015, about 233 lakh foreign tourists arrived in India and Rajasthan was host to about 6% of this number.<sup>xvii</sup> Growth in Rajasthan has been volatile, however. Two periods of high growth stand out: 1994-2000 and 2005-2012. In 1994, growth was driven by the manufacturing and service sectors, reflecting major investments in the chemical, petrochemical, and mining industry. These investments were the result of liberalisation and deregulation undertaken by India at that time. The second wave of industrial growth post-2005 coincided with the discovery of oil in the Thar desert, and saw further growth of investments in chemical and petrochemicals as well as food and beverages. In addition, agriculture saw broad-based growth driven by both livestock and crops, with the latter rooted mostly in yield growth and area

expansion.<sup>xviii</sup> Despite pockets of growth, the state has been unable to catch up with other states and continues to rank 22 among 29 states and 7 union territories (for which data is available).<sup>xix</sup> Rajasthan is the largest state in the country by area, yet it contributes to only 5% of the country's GSDP.<sup>xx</sup> The intervening periods of slower performance, especially from 2013-15, are associated with droughts, which adversely affected agricultural production, and a slowdown in other sectors.<sup>xxi</sup>



### Financial inclusion:

More than 90% of respondents in Rajasthan studied in the State of Aadhar Report 2017-18 had access to a bank account. Yet only 44.9% accounts are actively in use in Rajasthan and only 5.1% respondents reported using their account in the last three months.<sup>xxii</sup> Account ownership is lower for women, with only 58.2% women having a bank account in their name.<sup>xxiii</sup> Between 2013 and 2016, Rajasthan has moved from 'below average' to 'above average' on the CRISIL Inclusix ranking. Increased credit and deposits have improved the state's position.<sup>xxiv</sup> Microfinance services are provided mainly by two different models viz., SHG-bank linkage model and MFI-bank model. Out of these two models, the SHG-bank linkage model has emerged as the more dominant and widely accepted model due to its adoption by formal financial institutions namely Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks. Due to widespread rural bank branch network, the SHG-bank linkage programme is suitable to Rajasthan.<sup>xxv</sup> Despite the progress noted by microfinance, the share of MF in Rajasthan is not even 4% of the country in respect of number of SHGs and not even 2% in savings, loans disbursed and outstanding loan amount.<sup>xxvi</sup>



### Health and Nutrition:

Health and nutrition has always been a challenge for the state of Rajasthan. Rajasthan's primary healthcare infrastructure has improved since 2005-06, but is yet to deal with vacancies. As of March 2018 in Rajasthan, 15% of sanctioned posts for ANMs, 28% posts of grade-1 nurse, 11% posts of senior specialist, 37% of junior specialist, 31% of senior medical officer, and 27% of medical officer, were vacant, – a common occurrence in rural India, according to health department data shared with IndiaSpend.<sup>xxvii</sup> 9.9% of the population report being excluded from the PDS system as per the 2018 State of Aadhar report, and these leakages could also contribute to poor nutrition outcomes.<sup>xxviii</sup> Maternal and child health remains a concern in the state – maternal mortality rate (MMR) stands at 199 deaths per 100,000 live births, the third highest in the country. It also ranks fourth lowest in vaccination coverage at 54.8%.<sup>xxix</sup> Studies show that states with educated women show better health outcomes for children, and Rajasthan has the lowest female literacy rate in the country, which could be a contributing factor to poor nutrition outcomes.<sup>xxx</sup>



### Education:

Learning outcomes in Rajasthan stand far above national average. Studies show that increased awareness and access to quality education has resulted in these improvements.<sup>xxxi</sup> There is now one "Adarsh School" in each of the 9,894 Gram Panchayats in the state that serves as a role model to other schools in the vicinity.<sup>xxxii</sup> The state has also adopted Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) as a pedagogical tool to address gaps in learning. Evaluations show that merging of anganwadi and primary schools, community adoption of government schools to ensure better enrolment and less drop-outs and using smartphones

and tablets to monitor attendance of school teachers have also contributed to improved outcomes.<sup>xxxiii</sup> However, there is a huge gender gap when it comes to educational outcomes. In Rajasthan, educational indicators GPI (Gender Parity Index) is 0.83 vs national average of 1.02.<sup>xxxiv</sup> It indicates low participation of girls in secondary education especially in Jaisalmer, Jalore, Sirohi, Barmer, and Jodhpur. Drop-out rate (13.65%) is also high in Rajasthan.<sup>xxxv</sup>



### Livelihood:

Since 2005, growth in non-farm jobs in Rajasthan has been among the highest in India, led by construction.<sup>xxxvi</sup> Rajasthan's secondary sector, including manufacturing, construction and electricity, grew by 28%, and the service sector by 40%, according to 2017-18 data from Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI). Tourism has historically been one of Rajasthan's most important economic sectors. Currently, the sector accounts for approximately 9% of GSDP and directly supports an estimated 890,000 formal and informal jobs, or about 3% of total employment.<sup>xxxvii</sup> Rajasthan's creative industries generate employment opportunities, particularly for vulnerable communities, and have the potential to drive tourist inflow.<sup>xxxviii</sup> The main crafts of the state are stone carvings, leatherwares, art metalwares, handprinted textiles, tie and dye, hand-knitted woollen carpets.<sup>xxxix</sup> Yet, the pay does not live up to the importance of this industry. The State of Working India report, 2018, points out that skilled stone cutters earn significantly less (INR 250 a day) than the already low state minimum wage, for highly hazardous work in an export-oriented industry. Further, all the growth seen by the state has not been able to propel employment. Over the last eight years, Rajasthan's agriculture grew only by 9%.<sup>xl</sup> Unemployment—usually underestimated in official data—in Rajasthan increased from 1.7% in 2011-12 to 7.1% in 2015-16. In 2011-12, rural unemployment was 1.6%, rising to 7.7% in 2015-16. The unemployment rates in urban areas increased from 2% to 4.3% over the same period.<sup>xli</sup>



### Gender:

Following health and nutrition, women empowerment seems to be a clear area of struggle for Rajasthan. The state ranks 24th on the McKinsey Femdex<sup>2</sup> and the main contributing factor is the low female labour force participation.<sup>xlii</sup> The majority of women in rural Rajasthan work in farming. The handicraft industry is also employing weaker sections of the society – particularly women.<sup>xliii</sup> In urban areas, very few women work and those who do work are more likely to be engaged in casual labour.<sup>xliiv</sup> Gender inequality at work is mirrored by gender inequality in society – low literacy, financial inclusion, physical security, sex ratio and birth and high maternal mortality and child marriage. Shifts in deep-seated attitudes and beliefs are necessary to address gender inequality at work.<sup>xliv</sup> In terms of digital inclusion, the highest gap (45%) between men and women in mobile phone ownerships is found in Rajasthan, a state traditionally observed to have the most conservative attitudes. Safety of women also remains an area of concern. At 888, Rajasthan has India's fifth-worst child sex ratio<sup>3</sup>. Rajasthan is also third highest when it comes to crimes against women.<sup>xlvi</sup> One in four women in Rajasthan marries before the legal age of 18.<sup>xlvii</sup> Educating girls could be a potential solution; as studies show that education also correlates with fewer and healthier children and healthier mothers<sup>xlviii</sup>. The government has taken many initiatives to change the situation for

<sup>2</sup>McKinsey Global Institute's Female Empowerment Index (Femdex) points to where states stand on gender parity based on indicators such as labour force participation, unpaid work, maternal mortality, child marriage, etc

<sup>3</sup>Child Sex Ratio: the number of females per thousand males in the age group 0–6 years in a human population.



women in the state. The Mukhya Mantri Rajshree Yojana is initiated to financially support girl child education and create a positive environment for women. Other such initiatives are highlighted in our solution space.





#### WASH:






Rajasthan has only 1.16% of the country's surface water and 1.72% of ground water.<sup>xlix</sup> Rajasthan's water reserves are depleted from drought and overuse, which threatens the viability of current agricultural practices as well as prospects for developing water-intensive manufacturing. Moreover, the depletion of groundwater is resulting in toxic concentrations of naturally occurring minerals such as arsenic and fluoride, which is affecting the health of millions of people in the state. With 86% of water used by the agriculture sector, this situation largely reflects the structure of the agriculture sector and the continued large share of water-intensive crops, fuelled in part by agricultural subsidies.<sup>l</sup> Under-pricing of electricity and price incentives for wheat have contributed to tilting the structure of the economy towards production of water-intensive agriculture, thus adversely affecting the sustainability of water resources and narrowing fiscal space. However, remedial measures are being taken. The state has made progress in improving water management through micro- and drip-irrigation. The Mukhyamantri Jal Swavalamban Yojana, has turned into a people's movement, addressing water deficit in rural Rajasthan, and benefitting over 4.1 million people.<sup>li</sup>

## Social performance of the state

Compared to the rest of India, Rajasthan ranks in the bottom-5 in density of health personnel, IMR and MMR and wasting (nutrition). Due to long standing cultural barriers, women also lag in terms of access to resources such as mobile phones and land. The table below, gives us a greater look into thematic gaps and strengths of the state.

Under every theme, we have identified 5 indicators that align with Niti Aayog priority areas and the UN SDGs. We have then mapped the performance of the state comparative to the rest of the country on these indicators, to provide a heat map of the state's development status.

Sector	Indicator 1	Indicator 2	Indicator 3	Indicator 4	Indicator 5	Gender lens	Social minorities lens
 Education	79.2% <b>primary enrolment</b> vs. national average of 87.30% <sup>lii</sup>	Average annual secondary <b>dropout rate of 13.48%</b> lower than national average 17.06% <sup>liii</sup>	<b>68% student learning achievement levels</b> vs. 54% national average <sup>liv</sup>	With a <b>Pupil-Teacher Ratio of 19</b> the state more than meets the ideal PTR of 30-35 <sup>lv</sup>	<b>Ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in school infrastructure</b> (i.e. toilets, classrooms, buildings, etc.) <sup>lvi</sup>	52.66% female literacy rate vs. national average 65.46% <sup>lvii</sup>	58% illiterates among the Scheduled Tribes compared to 21% in general category <sup>lviii</sup>
 Health	<b>54.80% children fully immunised</b> , less than national average: 65.62% <sup>lix</sup>	<b>143 health personnel</b> per 1000 people, 4 <sup>th</sup> lowest vs. national average of 278 <sup>lx</sup>	<b>IMR of 41 per 1000 births</b> , 4 <sup>th</sup> highest vs. national average of 34 <sup>lxi</sup>	<b>Life expectancy of 67.7 years</b> vs. national average 67.9 <sup>lxii</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> highest <b>MMR of 199</b> . vs. national average of 130 <sup>lxiii</sup>	84% hospital childbirths in 2015-16, vs. 29.6% 10 years ago <sup>lxiv</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> highest shortfall in number of PHCs in tribal areas in the country <sup>lxv</sup>

Sector	Indicator 1	Indicator 2	Indicator 3	Indicator 4	Indicator 5	Gender lens	Social minorities lens
 <b>Livelihood</b>	<b>183 of 1000 workers engaged in casual labour</b> , vs. national average of 403 <sup>lxvi</sup>	<b>188 women per 1000 people participate in the labour force</b> , vs. national average of 217 <sup>lxvii</sup>	<b>Per capita income of INR 1,00,551</b> vs. national average of INR 1,12,764 <sup>lxviii</sup>	<b>Unemployment rate of 71 per 1000 workers</b> slightly more than national average of 50 per 1000 <sup>lxix</sup>	<b>93% schools implementing vocational education</b> vs. national average of 59%	48% women in Rajasthan believe that married women whose husbands earn a good living need not work outside home <sup>lxx</sup>	40% ST population below poverty line compared to 4% general category <sup>lxxi</sup>
 <b>Nutrition</b>	<b>97.76% schools offer mid-day meals</b> against national average of 96.98% <sup>lxxii</sup>	<b>39.10% Children stunted</b> vs. national average of 38.40% <sup>lxxiii</sup>	<b>36.70% children underweight</b> vs. national average of 35.70% <sup>lxxiv</sup>	<b>23.00% wasting</b> among children 2 <sup>nd</sup> highest in country vs. national average of 21% <sup>lxxv</sup>	<b>46.80% women with anaemia</b> vs. national average of 50.69% <sup>lxxvi</sup>	The number of anaemic women decreased from 61.7% to 46.6% over 10 years <sup>lxxvii</sup>	Nearly 50% children stunted in tribal districts of Dungarpur and Banswara <sup>lxxviii</sup>
 <b>WASH</b>	<b>791 of 1000 rural households</b> have access to <b>improved water</b> vs. national average of 821 <sup>lxxix</sup>	<b>923 of 1000 urban households</b> have <b>improved water</b> source, vs. national average of 943 <sup>lxxx</sup>	<b>33.12% schools with handwash facilities</b> national average 24.17% <sup>lxxxi</sup>	<b>100% Villages Open Defecation Free</b> <sup>lxxxii</sup>	<b>54.43 % dependence on ground water</b> vs. 50.1% national average <sup>lxxxiii</sup>	In Rajasthan, most women (68%) use cloth as a method of menstrual protection <sup>lxxxiv</sup>	Access to drinking water is the lowest (17%) for the Scheduled Tribes compared to other social categories in Rajasthan <sup>lxxxv</sup>
 <b>Gender</b>	<b>Crimes against women</b> stand at <b>78%</b> vs. national average of 48.2% <sup>lxxxvi</sup>	However, <b>conviction rate for crimes</b> against women stands at <b>34.5 %</b> vs. national average of 24.63% <sup>lxxxvii</sup>	<b>81.7% married women</b> participate in <b>household decision</b> vs. national average 86.3% <sup>lxxxviii</sup>	<b>58.2% women</b> have own <b>bank accounts</b> , vs. national average of 56.94% <sup>lxxxix</sup>	Only <b>41.4% women</b> have <b>phones</b> that they themselves use, 4th lowest in the country <sup>lxxx</sup>	24.1% Women own land, 6 <sup>th</sup> lowest <b>vs. national average of 38.11%</b> <sup>lxxxi</sup>	923 <sup>xcii</sup> sex ratio of scheduled caste, lower than state average of 928 <sup>xciii</sup>
 <b>Environment</b>	<b>With 4.84% of land under Forest</b> cover, lags behind national average of 36% <sup>xciv</sup>	<b>2736 MLD sewage generated</b> per day and installed capacity of 865.92 MLD <sup>xcv</sup>	<b>5247 MT/day solid waste generation</b> , vs. national average of 4210 MT/day <sup>xcvi</sup>	<b>PM10 annual average at 173 µg/m3</b> against ideal of 60 µg/m3 <sup>xcvii</sup>	<b>State wise Installed Renewable Energy of 6237.8MW</b> , 5th highest in the country <sup>xcviii</sup>	<b>Solar Saheli</b> - a programme using women as change agents for solar power in rural communities <sup>xcix</sup>	Intensifying weather-related disasters (drought in particular) result in increasing migratory movements from tribal regions <sup>c</sup>


  
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Progress   
 Challenge 

# District lens to development

The eastern parts of Rajasthan are progressing due to their proximity to more advanced, prosperous states, while the western and southern regions lag behind. Niti Aayog has identified five aspirational districts – **Baran, Jaisalmer, Dholpur, Karauli, Sirohi** which have seen some progress in terms of education and health outcomes in the last year as highlighted below.

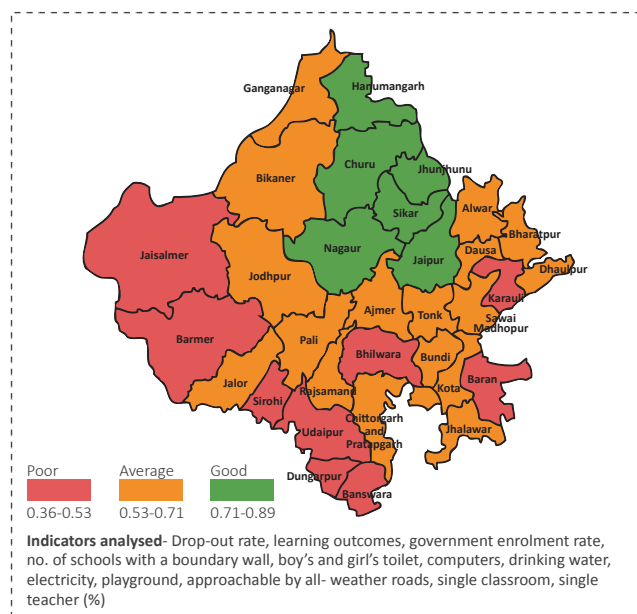


Figure 1: Education in Rajasthan  
Source: DISE (2016), NAS (2017)

## Education:

Of the Niti Aayog aspirational districts, Dhaulpur, Rajasthan is one of the districts that has seen considerable progress in school infrastructure – with respect to number of schools with drinking water, girls' toilets and electricity.<sup>ci</sup> A study of the NAS 2017 data shows that Jaipur tops learning outcomes in most subjects, while Bikaner remains at the bottom.<sup>cii</sup> Tonk, with the third highest teacher to pupil ratio, the second highest ratio of girls to boys, the sixth highest classroom to student ratio and the eighth highest number of schools per 1,000 population is the best performer in terms of education.<sup>ciii</sup>

Sri Ganganagar registered significant progress through the largest fall in dropout rate between 2006 and 2016, the third highest increase in the number of schools per 1,000 population and the fifth highest increase in the teacher to pupil ratio.

On the flip side, Jaisalmer and Barmer, where maximum land is under sand dunes, lack infrastructural facilities such as transportation, education and healthcare. Scattered settlements and low population thresholds make it difficult to provide infrastructure facilities at the village level.<sup>civ</sup>

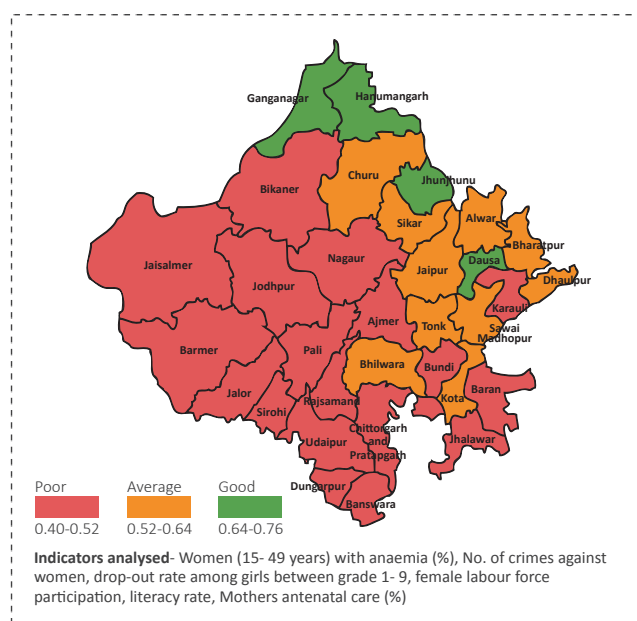


Figure 2: Gender Empowerment in Rajasthan  
Source: Census (2011), DISE (2016), NFHS4 (2016), NCRB (2016)

## Gender status:

Rajasthan's entrenched cultural norms have always impeded women's empowerment. The practice of "purdah"(veiling) re-affirms the image of women being trapped in feudal and patriarchal socio-cultural practices.<sup>cv</sup> Gender differences in development also exist within Rajasthan – western districts such as Barmer record low literacy rates and adverse sex ratios whereas in eastern Rajasthan, there is low female literacy rate and high IMR.<sup>cvi</sup> As per Census 2011, of the 33 districts in Rajasthan, the child sex ratio was the worst in Jhunjhunu and Sikar. In Jhunjhunu, 837 girls were born per 1,000 boys, while

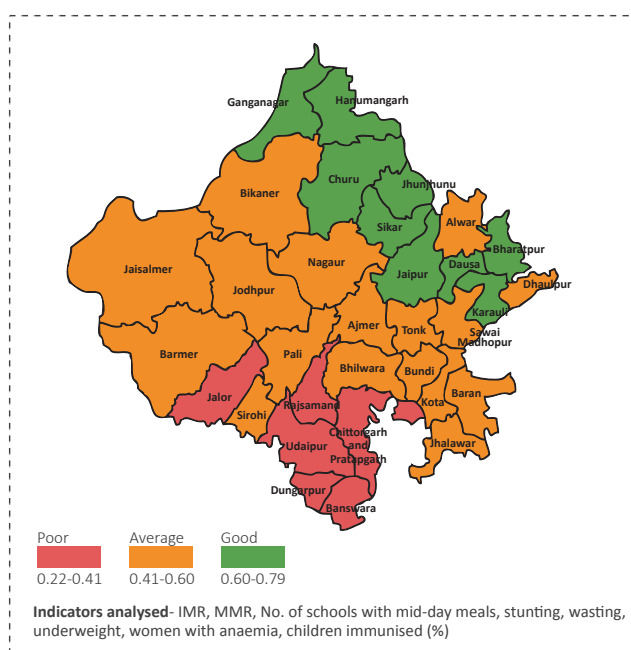
the figure stood at 848 girls per 1,000 boys in Sikar. As of March 2018, the sex ratio at birth (SRB) has increased to 949 girls per 1,000 boys in Jhunjhunu while Sikar stands at 947 per 1000 boys. Intense awareness drives by the state government, strengthening of institutional delivery and frequent monitoring has slowly resulted in a change in the attitude of families towards girl children.<sup>cvii</sup>

The lowest percentage of girl's enrolment at secondary level in India is 22.74% in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan.<sup>cviii</sup> Jalore records the lowest total literacy rate (55.58) and female literacy rate (38.73) in the state.<sup>ci</sup> However, literacy rate is seeing an upward trend due to supporting government policies.<sup>cx</sup>

The National Family Health Survey (NFHS 2015-16) shows that 33.4% of women in Bikaner district between the ages of 20-24 were married before they were 18. Maternal death between the ages of 15-19 is as high as 16.7%.<sup>cxii</sup> In Rajasthan's desert districts of Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, and Barmer, child marriages have been part of the lifestyle for centuries. Six of the 10 worst districts for girl child marriage are in Rajasthan, led by Bhilwara (55%) and Chittorgarh (54%).<sup>cxiii</sup>

In terms of women holding land titles, Rajasthan (7.1%) ranks 31st of 29 states and 7 union territories. This could be because of the custom of "*haq tyag*" or sacrifice of right. It entails a person – usually a woman – relinquishing their claim on ancestral property. While "*haq tyag*" is voluntary, women come under enormous pressure to comply and is justified on grounds that the father pays for his daughter's wedding, and therefore only the sons are entitled to a share of the family property. It is widely practised in the Indian state of Rajasthan despite a 2005 national law that gave women equal inheritance rights.<sup>cxiii</sup>

NCRB data puts Jaipur among the leading three cities with maximum number of rape cases registered in the country. With a crime rate of 9.1, Jaipur police registered over 279 rape cases, while Jodhpur recorded 152 rape cases in a year (2015), calling for stricter laws focusing on addressing gender crime.



## Health status:

Hanumangarh ranks first in use of contraception, highest percentage of children between 12 and 23 months having an immunisation card and the highest percentage of women with awareness about HIV/AIDS.<sup>cxiv</sup> 61% of households in southern Rajasthan are tribal (mainly belonging to the Bhil and Meena communities), and they account for 53% of the total tribal population of the state.<sup>cxv</sup>

The appetite among tribal populations to move to modern medicine is low, and this is an impediment to addressing healthcare delivery. With no proper roads or infrastructure in these areas, medical facilities are just rudimentary.<sup>cxvi</sup>

Nutritional habits also act as a deterrent to improvements in health. In a study of 695 children in south Rajasthan, fewer than 10% of the children reported consuming appropriate and nutritional food items such as daliya (porridge), rice, pulses and vegetables or fruits, and even those who consumed these items, did so in very small quantities. Two key reasons for poor nutrition cited in the report include lack of water and high price of nutritional food. Government schemes, both due to their design and implementation, offer limited support to these families currently. The study also highlighted that about 25% of the families surveyed did not possess a ration card at all.<sup>cxvii</sup>

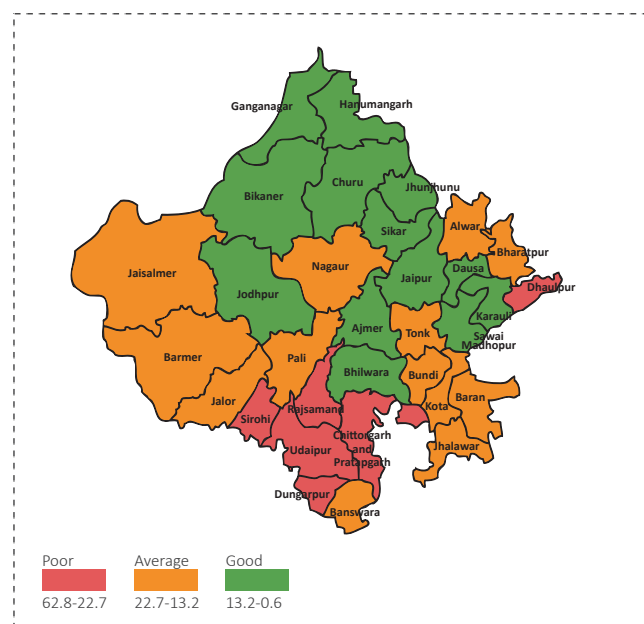


Figure 4: Poverty in Rajasthan  
Source: Tendulkar Poverty Lines (2012)

## Poverty:

The districts of Alwar (including Neemrana), Jaipur and Ajmer, bordering Delhi, are the main drivers of industrial growth. This area along the Delhi-Gurgaon-Jaipur highway has transformed into a bustling industrial zone owing to the business pact between the Rajasthan government and the Japanese External Trade Organization, bringing in substantial investments.<sup>cxviii</sup>

The Southern districts of Rajasthan tend to be the least productive locations – the districts of **Sirohi, Rajasmand, Udaipur, Dungarpur, Chittorgarh, Dhaulpur**. These districts have a majority ST population and the highest percentage of population

below poverty line.<sup>cxix</sup> The seven districts in the eastern belt, bordering Gujarat, are the most underdeveloped agriculturally. They fall under the Thar desert and are largely tribal.<sup>cxx</sup>

Slower progress in poverty reduction has been observed for Scheduled Tribes in Rajasthan as a reflection of the challenges of the districts where they live.<sup>cxxi</sup>

The western part of Rajasthan also presents formidable challenges to development such as low population density, larger share of dispersed rural population, higher ratio of population dependent upon agriculture and allied sectors, special status of pastoral animal husbandry in the rural economy, unreliable rainfall pattern, limited or no potential for irrigation, fast depleting ground water and arid conditions with frequent occurrence of drought. There are no perennial rivers, and ground water is deep and often brackish. The area is also marred by lack of finance to invest in the infrastructure required to provide water security; lack of linkages to remote areas with scattered production and high attendant marketing costs; lack of managerial skills; unwillingness/inability of the people, both because of tradition, custom and intra-village level politics, to come together to address the constraints of the environment in which they live.<sup>cxxii</sup>

# Investment landscape in Rajasthan

## Government funding

The state government supplies the bulk of funding into Rajasthan, i.e., INR 1,691,18.35<sup>xxxiii</sup> crore for 2018-19, of which 68.45% of the total funding is directed towards development sector.<sup>xxxiv</sup> The quantum of funding (2016- 17) as a percentage of GSDP is very close to national average (16.5% in 2016-17)<sup>xxxv</sup>, but lags compared to other states.

In 2016-17, Government's development expenditure as a percentage of GSDP was 16.5%, which is very close to the national average of 17.85%. The state with the highest spending was Arunachal Pradesh, with 44.1% being invested into development.<sup>xxxvii</sup> The state government has focused on education, art and culture, energy, industries and minerals, rural development, health, nutrition and agriculture, with significantly increased allocation to these sectors. However, Rajasthan's spending (2017-18) on health and agriculture is still lower compared to the average of the remaining 19 states studied (of 29 states and 7 union territories) by 0.58% and 2.44% respectively. An increase from the revised 2017-18 budget and budget expense for 2018-19 has been observed in the field of education (+1.85%), agriculture (+1.16%), and health (+0.78%), while a decline was observed in rural development (-2.61%).<sup>xxxvi</sup>

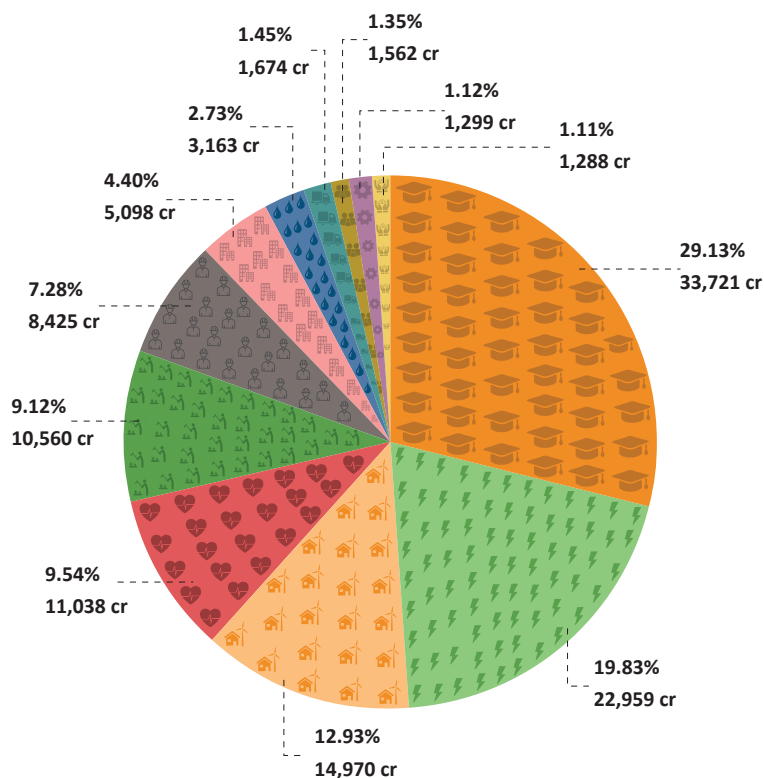


Figure 5: Government Funding across sectors in Rajasthan (2018-19)

NOTE: As a percentage of total provision in the budget towards development sector, i.e., 1,15,757.84 cr

\*Others includes funding towards science, technology, environment, special area programmes and other general economic services

- Education, Sports, Arts and Culture
- Urban Development
- Energy Industry and Minerals
- Water Supply and Sanitation
- Rural Development
- Transport and Communications
- Health and Nutrition
- Welfare of SC, ST and OBCs
- Agriculture and Allied Activities
- Others\*
- Family, Labour, Social Security & Welfare
- Disaster Relief

## CSR Funding in Rajasthan

Rajasthan exclusively saw an inflow of INR 827.071 crores of CSR funding between 2014-17, which constituted about 2.96% of the total CSR spending in these 3 years. Ranked 8th among all states in India, there was a 74.92% increase in CSR funding from 2014-15 to 2015-16.

Total quantum of CSR funds (2014-17) spent exclusively in Rajasthan: <b>INR 827.071 crores</b>	The average project cost in Rajasthan is <b>INR 0.402 crores</b>	Of the total quantum of CSR funds, 12.6% originates from PSUs.	Oil and gas production, mining, banking and financial services companies constituted top three categories of spenders	Top 3 CSR funders include Cairn India Ltd. (110.55 cr), Hindustan Zinc Ltd. (107.03 cr) and ICICI Bank Ltd. (45.09 cr).
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Source: National CSR Portal (2016)

Education, health and nutrition, rural development and livelihood sectors have been favourites of companies for CSR projects. 39.29% of the CSR projects (2014-17) in Rajasthan were implemented directly, 29.29% through implementation agencies, 12.25% through their corporate foundations, 2.99% through combined channels and for the remaining 16.155 funds, data is unavailable. <sup>cxxviii</sup>

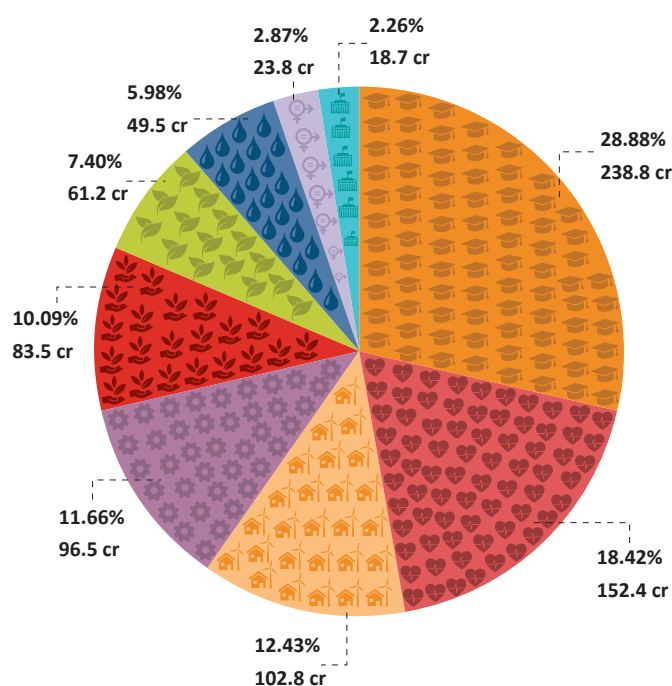


Figure 6: CSR spending across various sectors in Rajasthan (2014-2017)  
Source: National CSR Portal  
All figures in INR Crore

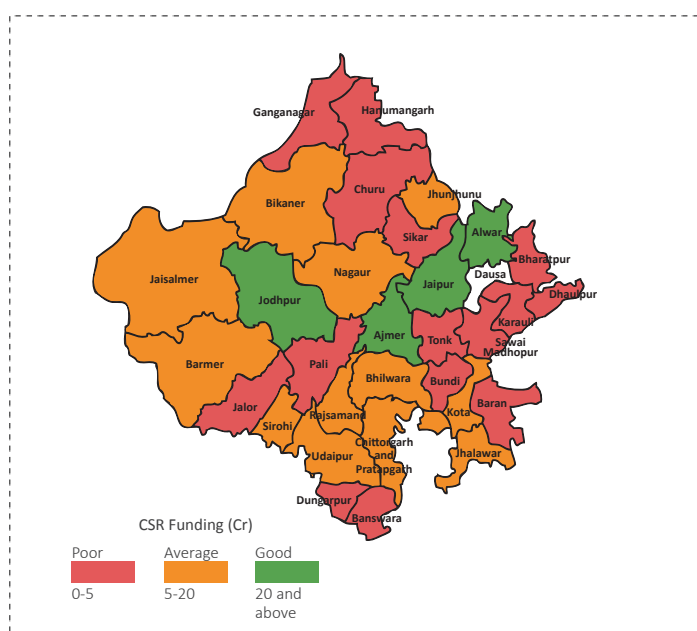
- Education, Sports, Arts and Culture
- Health, Poverty, Eradicating Hunger, Malnutrition
- Rural Development
- Others\*
- Livelihood Enhancement Projects
- Environmental Sustainability, Conservation of Natural Resources and Animal Welfare
- Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation
- Gender Equality, Women Empowerment, Socio-Economic Inequalities
- Government initiatives, Clean Ganga Fund, PM relief Fund, Swachh Bharat Kosh

From 2014-17, Hindustan Zinc Limited remained one of the top CSR spenders across all major sectors with Piramal Enterprises Limited and Shree Cement Limited leading in education, Cairn India Limited and Havells India Limited in health, NLC India Limited in rural development and Cairn India Limited and JCB India Limited in livelihood.



Hindustan Zinc Limited's signature Shiksha Sambal project is currently strengthening 59 government schools in Rajasthan in teaching Science, English & Mathematics subjects to 6,600 children from grade IX- XII.<sup>cxix</sup> ICICI Foundation has set up Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs) in Udaipur and Jodhpur, along with 15 satellite centres across Rajasthan to provide on-demand, free vocational training in locally-relevant skills, empowering 68,400+ villagers to be self-reliant.<sup>cxx</sup> Havells India Limited's mid-day meal programme covers 690 government schools in Alwar district and has also extensively constructed 2800 bio-toilets in 366 schools in the last three years.<sup>cxix</sup>

## District wise CSR Funding in Rajasthan



As can be seen in the map alongside, there is a clear supply-demand gap with many districts receiving little to no funding from CSR. District wise, Jaipur got the highest funding (51.67 cr), followed by Ajmer (43.25 cr), Jodhpur (34.77 cr), and Alwar (33.85 cr), while Ganganagar (0.0032 cr), Hanumangarh (0.02 cr), Tonk (0.218 cr), Bundi (0.22 cr) and Dhaulpur (0.23 cr) received less than 1 cr.<sup>cxixii</sup>

Figure 7: Distribution of district-wise CSR spending in Rajasthan

Source: National CSR Portal

Note: Total CSR spending analysed is 304.57 cr between FY 2014-17, of companies that specify spending in these districts exclusively.

## Philanthropic Funding in Rajasthan

**Domestic philanthropy:** Rajasthan has seen considerable interest among several HNWI's such as Azim Premji, Rohini Nilekani, Hemendra Kothari, Ashish Dhawan, Aditya Birla among others, making contributions to development efforts in the state, especially in the field of education, health, nutrition, livelihoods, community development, environment and sanitation.

<b>Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives</b>	Made grants to seven partners in districts like Udaipur, Jaipur, Ajmer, and others in Rajasthan across three focus areas – vulnerable groups, governance and nutrition. <sup>cxixiii</sup>
<b>Arghyam</b>	Set up by Rohini Nilekani, its focus areas include groundwater and sanitation with grants amounting to INR 2.06 crores towards districts of Barmer, Jaisalmer, Alwar, among others. <sup>cxixiv</sup>
<b>Wildlife Conservation Trust (WCT)</b>	Funded by Hemendra Kothari, it is currently working with USAID to further its tiger conservation objectives in Rajasthan. <sup>cxixv</sup>



<b>Central Square Foundation (CSF)</b>	Founded by Ashish Dhawan, it has partnered with Government of Rajasthan under the Adarsh Yojana programme, along with partners BCG, MSDF, UNICEF and an implementation partner. The programme, funded by CSF, ensures 1 Adarsh School in each of the 9,895 gram panchayats by 2018. <sup>cxvvi</sup>
<b>Piramal Foundation</b>	Piramal Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Piramal Group, works towards social development in Rajasthan in partnership with the state government. The resources deployed are in the areas of public education, primary healthcare, safe drinking water and women's empowerment. The Piramal Foundation for Education Leadership is popular for the work it is doing to train headmasters of government schools and improve the quality of school education in rural India <sup>cxvii</sup>
<b>Birla and Family</b>	Aditya Birla and family works actively in Rajasthan, centering their plants, where they have built a massive kitchen, that caters to 30,000 meals daily as part of their free lunch program in public schools. <sup>cxviii</sup> Under Aditya Birla Centre for Community Initiatives and Rural Development, they have successfully turned Sawa, Naadsar and Arniyapan in Rajasthan to model villages. <sup>cxix</sup>

## International Funding:

<b>World Bank</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USD 500 Million invested in the First and Second Programmatic Electricity Distribution Reform Development Policy Loan for Rajasthan to support turnaround of the electricity distribution sector.<sup>cxli</sup></li> <li>• USD 162.70 Million invested in the Rajasthan Rural Livelihoods Project to enhance economic opportunities and empowerment of the rural poor, with a focus on women and marginalised groups.<sup>cxlii</sup></li> <li>• Commitment of USD 109 Million for the Rajasthan Agricultural Competitiveness Project to establish the feasibility of sustainably increasing agricultural productivity and farmer incomes through a distinct agricultural development approach<sup>cxliii</sup></li> </ul>	<b>International Finance Corporation (IFC)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of USD 5 Million to Mahindra Solar One Pvt Ltd for a 5 MW solar power project in Rajasthan. The project will ensure further access to clean energy in rural areas and address climate change.<sup>cxliii</sup></li> <li>• IFC is expected to invest up to USD 40 Million in Aavas Financiers Ltd. The company plans to utilise the funds to support affordable housing finance for individuals in low and medium-income group in Rajasthan and neighbouring states<sup>cxliv</sup></li> </ul>
<b>United Nations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNDP has invested USD 2.6 Million in the Livelihood promotions strategies program to design innovative strategies to promote sustainable livelihoods for poor and other vulnerable groups such as women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the state of Rajasthan.<sup>cxlv</sup></li> <li>• A pilot project on Food for Human Development (FFHD), sponsored by the U.N. World Food Programme, has benefitted hundreds of villagers in the tribal-dominated Banswara, Dungarpur and Pratapgarh districts in southern Rajasthan by way of distribution of 958 metric tonnes of food grain through service delivery centres.<sup>cxlvi</sup></li> </ul>	<b>Department for International Development (DFID)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DFID has agreed to provide up to GBP 5 Million in form of technical assistance for a period of 5 years to INVENT – a platform to support inclusive innovation solutions that have a positive social and economic impact on people in the lower income segments, also known as the Bottom of the Pyramid (BoP), in low income states.<sup>cxlvii</sup></li> <li>• SunSource Energy Private Limited raised capital from DFID backed Neev Fund for the development of solar projects in eight states which have low levels of capital investment – Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Chhattisgarh.<sup>cxlviii</sup></li> </ul>

## Collective Impact and Innovative Finance Initiatives

- **Rajasthan Education Initiative (REI)** driven by the State Government and supported by the activities of the core partners, namely the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), the Global eSchools and Communities Initiative (GeSCI) and the World Economic Forum (WEF), aims at supporting the State efforts in achieving equitable access, enrolment and retention of children in schools, reducing gender disparities, addressing geographical and physical imbalances, promoting skill development and enhancing learning levels.<sup>cxlix</sup>
- **Utkrish Impact Bond** will improve the quality of maternal care in Rajasthan's private health facilities by supporting up to 440 Small Healthcare Organizations (SHCOs) to meet new government quality standards and adhere to them over the long term. It will complement existing government initiatives, with the Government of Rajasthan acting in an oversight role, with a view to becoming the outcome payer in a second phase of the impact bond.<sup>cl</sup>
- **Educate Girls Development Impact Bond:** The Educate Girls Development Impact Bond (DIB) aims to increase enrolment and improve learning outcomes for girls in Rajasthan, India, improving education for 18,000 children. It is a joint project between Educate Girls, the Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), the UBS Optimus Foundation, Instiglio, and IDinsight. The results show that 92% of all out-of-school girls identified in the program area in the Indian state of Rajasthan were enrolled in school, while the difference in learning gains between Educate Girls students and others quadrupled compared to year one.<sup>cli</sup>

# Solution Ecosystem

Having reviewed the challenges plaguing Rajasthan, we see that the state struggles greatly in health and nutrition outcomes, ranking in the bottom 5 states for MMR, IMR, and density of health personnel and wasting (*refer social performance of the state*). The state also faces limitations in women empowerment due to the cultural norms entrenched in the society.<sup>clii</sup> Livelihoods have seen mixed progress with women's participation in the labour force being a limiting factor. At the same time, the state has recorded progress in education, especially keeping in mind the above average learning outcomes that the state has recorded.<sup>cliii</sup>

In this section, we will look at what solutions are in play in the state, how they are working and where the challenges still lie for different players – NGOs, Government, Corporates and International Organizations.

## Education

According to the 2011 Census, Rajasthan had the 33rd worst literacy rate of 29 states and 7 UTs in India.<sup>cliv</sup> An evaluation undertaken by the Central Square Foundation showed that although the state had over 80,000 schools, many of them were single section (i.e. only primary or only secondary), small (i.e. less than 30 students per grade) and often multi-graded. The state had over 50% vacant teacher positions and over 60% Principal vacancies. Elementary schools suffered from lack of governance, oversight and academic support.<sup>clv</sup> With these issues in the background, the Adarsh Yojana was launched in 2015-16 with an ambitious mission to set up at least 1 school in each of the 9,895 gram panchayats (governance council for collection of villages) in Rajasthan with large-sized schools offering grade I-XII, fully-staffed schools with trained teachers and principals, high quality of education via child-centric pedagogy and improved student learning outcomes<sup>clvi</sup>. So far, 9,631 schools have been developed as "Adarsh Schools."<sup>clvii</sup> Mr Arun Poddar of Kaivalya Education Foundation provided us with additional insight into the functioning of Aadarsh schools. He mentioned that having these schools in the local vicinity makes schools more accessible for students, especially the girl child, reducing drop-out, increasing enrolment and positively influencing learning outcomes. Chambal Fertilizers has also developed a long-term sustainable model of education by adopting government educational institutions – from balwadis (pre-school) to senior secondary schools. The objective of this program is to provide quality education and motivate dropouts to go back to school. Nearly 60% of students in this school are from the surrounding rural community. The comprehensive education program has been implemented in 39 schools of 27 villages near its plants in Kota and Baran districts of Rajasthan. The target beneficiaries of this programme are around 5,000 children<sup>clviii</sup>

Despite all the progress recorded under education by the state, studies shows that participation of girls, especially at the secondary level, is restricted by several factors such as non-attendance and gender discrimination by parents and society in general; the undervaluing of girls' education; the burden of household chores and sibling care; poverty; and the practice of child marriage.<sup>clix</sup> In conservative societies such as Rajasthan, where girls face overt discrimination, the need for providing quality education for girls becomes even more imperative.<sup>clx</sup> Towards this end, UNICEF India assists in the development and implementation of life skills education (LSE) programmes to support transition to secondary education, covering leadership/decision making, problem solving/critical thinking, MHM, child marriage and gender protection issues.

In Rajasthan, more than 32,000 girls benefited, and 10,000 school principals were sensitised on issues related to adolescent girls.<sup>clxi</sup> The Centre for Unfolding Learning Potentials (CULP) is implementing the "Pehchan Project"

supported by the Jaipur District Administration to test its vision of education in a multi-grade situation for small schools with drop-outs, and first-time learners (girls) in interior villages. This program has reached over 5,000 children since 2016, of which 70% are adolescent girls.<sup>clxii</sup> Demand for girls' education has increased even among poor families due to increased returns from girls' education with the opening up of white-collar jobs, legislative and policy reform, shifting social norms and campaigns for girls' education led by the government and civil society.<sup>clxiii</sup> The table below highlights these interventions initiated by NGOs, Government, Corporates and International Organizations.


Sector	Player	Intervention Description	Impact	Organization/ Intervention Name	Lens
 Education	Government	Developing one selected Government senior Secondary/ secondary school as "Adarsh Vidyalaya" in every gram panchayat as a center of excellence	9,631 Schools developed as Utkrist Vidhyalaya (Adarsh Schools) <sup>clxiv</sup>	Utkrist Vidhyalaya Yojana	Children
	NGO	Pehchan Project to provide education in a multi-grade situation for small schools with drop-outs, and first-time learners (girls) in interior villages	5,000 children reached of which 70% are adolescent girls. <sup>clxv</sup>	Centre for Unfolding Learning Potentials (CULP)	Gender
	CSR	A long term sustainable model of education by adopting Government educational institutions - from balwadis to senior secondary and Industrial Training Institutes.	Implemented in 27 villages in Kota and Baran districts. Target beneficiaries are 5000 children <sup>clxvi</sup>	Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited	N/A
	DFI	Life skills education (LSE) programmes to support transition to secondary education (leadership/decision making, problem solving/critical thinking, MHM, child marriage and gender issues)	More than 32,000 girls benefitted and 10,000 school principals were sensitised on issues related to adolescent girls <sup>clxvii</sup>	UNICEF	Gender

Figure 8: Solution Space for Education

## Livelihoods

Under livelihoods, the state has seen mixed progress. On the plus side, 183 of 1000 workers are engaged in casual labour, vs. national average of 403. Yet, unemployment is a little over national average and women's participation in the workforce lags behind the country greatly. As seen from our district maps, southern and western Rajasthan face high poverty. Research shows that in these areas, rainfall is low and erratic, and drought is recurrent. Poor people in the area face severe water insecurity, low agricultural and livestock productivity, limited income-generating opportunities and a social system that discriminates against women and disadvantaged people.<sup>clxviii</sup> To address this, the government has initiated the MPOWER project. The project targets poor households headed by landless agricultural labourers and small and marginal farmers, owners of marginal land or wastelands, traditional artisans, women, and young people who lack the skills needed to become employed.<sup>clxix</sup> Till date, 84,000 BPL families of 1,055 villages of 215 Gram Panchayats are being directly benefitted.<sup>clxx</sup>

In partnership with the Department of Labour and Employment, Government of Rajasthan, UNDP has been working to design innovative strategies to promote sustainable livelihoods for poor and vulnerable groups. Close to 450,000 livelihoods have been supported through a range of activities including: pilots in the areas of dairy, fishery, sheep rearing in five districts, etc. According to UNDP's Evaluation Report, the program has led to policy recommendations and facilitated the establishment of the Rajasthan Council of Vocational Education and Training and the Rajasthan Institute of Security Education. The partnership has played a pivotal role in facilitating the effective convergence of 10 government schemes in five districts, benefitting 30,000 families.<sup>clxxi</sup>

The state of Rajasthan comprises of almost 72% rural population and its economy is based on agriculture, horticulture, handicraft, handloom, sericulture forests and hydro power projects.<sup>clxxii</sup> Given this context, there is a need for interventions to focus on these sectors. The handicraft industry in particular, is providing employment to those rural people who belong to the weaker section of the society and mostly to women.<sup>clxxiii</sup> Gramin Vikas Evam Chetna Sansthan (GVCS) was set up to provide dignified employment and develop self-reliant sustainable livelihoods in rural Rajasthan through capacity building for inclusive development. The organisation works towards holistic growth of their art and craft work in interior Rajasthan, by providing a platform to artisans to showcase their inherited craftsmanship in appliqué design and embroidery. The core focus area has been livelihood generation for women of the region. GVCS promotes handicrafts as a viable means of creating home-based employment which provides them with a steady source of income within the security of their home.<sup>clxxiv</sup> The “Sustainable Effort for Financial Empowerment of Rural Women Artisans” program enhances the awareness of rural artisans and empowers them for better income generating opportunities via collective action. Studies show that absence of technology, poor quality of raw material and other infrastructure and marketing are some obstacles for rural handicrafts development.<sup>clxxv</sup> This program promotes the craft community in the value chain by institutionalising them into informal SHGs which in future will be converted to Producer Collectives and Producer Companies. The project actively engages with 3000 women artisans and has been able to generate continuous employment for them through creating a market for their products.

Skill development is also a prime focus area to ensure help to the poor to build their self-confidence through community action and ultimately lead to the strengthening and socio-economic empowerment of the rural poor as well as their collective bargaining power.<sup>clxxvi</sup> Along these lines, Ambuja Cement Foundation established a functional structure called Skill & Entrepreneurship Development Institute (SEDI). SEDI had been working with youth who have been out of mainstream education and lack the necessary qualifications to be employed. Altogether, 27,000 candidates are trained by ACF-SEDI pan-India, out of which 7,150 candidates were trained in Rajasthan region. Out of the total and facilitated the establishment of the Rajasthan Council of Vocational Education and Training and the Rajasthan trained candidates of Rajasthan region, 5380 (75%) candidates are gainfully employed / self-employed.<sup>clxxvii</sup>


Sector	Player	Intervention Description	Impact	Organization/ Intervention Name	Lens
 <b>Livelihood</b>	Government	Upscaling livelihood activities to reduce poverty in the selected blocks, which are amongst the poorest in the Western Rajasthan	84,000 BPL families of 1,055 villages of 215 Gram Panchayats are being directly benefitted <sup>clxxviii</sup>	Mitigating Poverty in Western Rajasthan (MPOWER)	N/A
	NGO	Self-reliant, sustainable livelihoods through capacity building. Special focus on promoting handicrafts as a viable means of creating home-based employment for women	3000 women artisans engaged in 75 villages of Rajasthan <sup>clxxix</sup>	Gramin Vikas Evam Chetna Sansthan (GVCS)	Gender
	CSR	Livelihood promotion of youth who have been out of the main stream education and without the necessary qualification through the Skill & Entrepreneurship Development Institute (SEDI)	7150 candidates were trained in Rajasthan region of which 75% gainfully employed <sup>clxxx</sup>	Ambuja Cement Foundation	Youth
	DFI	Promote sustainable livelihoods for poor and other vulnerable groups such as women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	Close to 450,000 livelihoods have been supported through a range of activities <sup>clxxxi</sup>	UNDP	Minorities

Figure 9: Solution Space for Livelihoods

## Gender

Literature shows that human trafficking, dowry deaths, female foeticide, domestic violence and lack of participation in the power structure, political as well as domestic, have resulted in the low status of women in Rajasthan.<sup>clxxxii</sup> Crimes against women in Rajasthan stand at 78% vs. national average of 48.2%.<sup>clxxxiii</sup> To address these acts of violence, the government of Rajasthan has set up a first of its kind one-stop crisis management centre, Aparajita, to provide relief to the harassed women, through integrated and convergence efforts of different departments such as Medical & Health, Home, SLSA and WCD, covering 2301 cases in 16 districts of Rajasthan.<sup>clxxxiv</sup>

UNFPA provides technical support to the reduction of gender violence through the Chirali Scheme. The program is initiated with the objective to create an enabling environment that would supports girls and women to move freely and make use of choices, spaces and opportunities for their overall wellbeing. The Community Action Group acts as a proactive pressure group reaching out to the communities on issues related to violence and gender-based discrimination against girls and women. The scheme is implemented in 7 districts of Rajasthan covering 2071 Gram Panchayats.<sup>clxxxv</sup> UNFPA believes that violence and various forms of discrimination against women and girls is not a problem that can be solved by the judicial system alone. It is important to adopt a systematic, comprehensive, coordinated, multi-sectoral and sustained approach towards holistic development and empowerment of girls and women at various levels of the society. To have a sustained mechanism for addressing and preventing violence against girls and women, one of the main strategies is to strengthen the community-level mechanisms.<sup>clxxxvi</sup> The Rajasthan Samgrah Kalyan Sansthan works towards ensuring that the victims of violence are being rehabilitated by counselling and skill development training. The program also includes awareness messages for the eradication of violence against women which are being delivered to the male dominated society through rallies, workshops, seminars, road shows, puppet shows, signature campaign, poster-wall painting and oath taking programs.<sup>clxxxvii</sup>


Sector	Player	Intervention Description	Impact	Organization/ Intervention Name	Lens
 Gender	Government	A one-stop crisis management center for women, Aparajita provides women who have been harassed with medical, legal, counselling and police assistance	Operating in 16 districts - 2301 cases addressed (over 4 years) <sup>clxxx</sup>	Aparajita	Gender
	NGO	Rehabilitation, counselling and skill training for rural and urban victims of violence, outrage, dowry, exploitation & victimisation are provided	Over 60 awareness initiatives – with over 10000 people associated <sup>clxxxi</sup>	Rajasthan Samgrah Kalyan Sansthan	Gender
	CSR	Promoting sustainable women run grassroots institutions like Self Help Groups (SHGs) to act as vehicles for empowerment	871 SHGs involving 11,189 women set up till 2017 <sup>clxxxi</sup>	Hindustan Zinc Limited	Gender
	DFI	Constitute Community Action Groups to acts as a proactive pressure group reaching out to the communities on issues related to violence and gender-based discrimination against girls and women.	Operating in 7 districts of Rajasthan covering 2071 Gram Panchayats <sup>clxxxiii</sup>	UNFPA - Chirali (Friends Forever)	Gender

Figure 10: Solution Space for Gender

Lastly, economic development of women is also significantly important for combating violence. In fact, studies show that, economic factors are twice as effective in empowering women than members' autonomy and network, communication and political participation factors.<sup>clxxxviii</sup> SHGs are an effective strategy to provide financial services to poor women, and offer micro credit for their income generating activities, and other non-economic activities targeting improvements in their standard of living.<sup>clxxxix</sup> The Sakhi program undertaken by Hindustan Zinc Limited promotes sustainable women-run grassroots institutions like Self Help Groups (SHGs) to act as vehicles for

empowerment. The program is geared to mobilise rural women and invest in developing their capacities around leadership, skill development, savings and entrepreneurship. In 2017, 871 SHGs involving 11,189 women were set up. HZL is partnering with a leading women's federation Saheli Samiti with technical support from Manjari Foundation to achieve scale and sustainability in this program.

## Health and Nutrition

Rajasthan is known for poor health and nutritional outcomes and all players working in this state have been working to solve this problem – directly and indirectly. Yet, despite the attention given, Rajasthan has not shown the level of progress that it should have. The government has initiated the Bhamashah Swasthya Bima Yojana to provide cashless healthcare services to the poor families of Rajasthan, providing social and financial security and reducing out of pocket expenditure. It was meant to be an opportunity for poor people to approach private health institutions for health services to reduce the strain on the district and medical college hospitals and allow for an effective monitoring mechanism for the prevention of cost escalation and leakages.<sup>cxciiv</sup> Under this scheme 16.64 lakh insurance claims of INR 915.07 cr have been sanctioned.<sup>cxciiv</sup> However, the reason this scheme has not succeeded in making healthcare available to all could be the fact that the private sector is not bound to prescribe medicines according to the state essential drug list. Further research suggests that this scheme compromises the successful medicines and free diagnostics made available under the National Food Security Act.<sup>cxciiv</sup>

Studies show that the lack of basic infrastructure and incentives for doctors and other health workers are affecting the delivery of healthcare services in rural areas, limiting the progress seen by the state.<sup>cxciiv</sup> Further, villages in Rajasthan have very scattered population with poor transportation and mobility. Mobile Health Vans (MHV) made available by Cairn India Limited address this need and provides basic medical services at the doorstep of the rural community, impacting 250,000 community members (of which 55% are female).<sup>cxciiv</sup>

Studies show that the numerous underlying causes of malnutrition can only be addressed effectively using a multi-sectoral approach that mobilises and utilises resources effectively. Critical to success are processes that include reinforced knowledge-building of caregivers, a high level of field support and encouragement to the community, and constant monitoring and follow-up of cases by all staff levels.<sup>cxciix</sup> The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM), which includes community outreach for the screening of acutely malnourished children, outpatient management, provision of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF), and in-patient treatment of medical complications.<sup>cc</sup> As such, more than 9,000 children in the Indian state of Rajasthan have been successfully treated for severe malnutrition as part of community-based nutrition program by GAIN.<sup>ccii</sup> Similarly, The Rajasthan Nutrition Project (RNP) was a two-year long intensive engagement with the tribal communities of Rajasthan. The project uses a Community Score Card as a citizen-driven accountability measure for the assessment, planning, monitoring and evaluation of service delivery. The Community Score Card first helps to identify the underlying obstacles or gaps to effective service delivery, and then develop a shared strategy for their improvement.<sup>ccii</sup> The project that ended in December 2016, has brought about positive changes in the lives of about 30,000 people, who have been reached out to through 8,000 primary touch points. Under RNP, ensuring linkages with services like Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Public Distribution System (PDS), and Mid-Day Meals and their monitoring by the women's groups has ensured that these benefit-points deliver the entitlements due to the people. One of the key 'self-help' components of the RNP was to enable, educate and mobilise families to grow locally available foods in their own places for consumption through 'Poshanwadis'.<sup>cciii</sup>




Sector	Player	Intervention Description	Impact	Organization/ Intervention Name	Lens
 <b>Health And Nutrition</b>	Government	Cashless healthcare services to the poor families of Rajasthan, providing social and financial security and reducing out of pocket expenditure	Under this scheme 16.64 lakh insurance claims of INR 915.07 cr have been sanctioned <sup>cciv</sup>	Bhamashah Swasthya Bima Yojana	Health
	NGO	Rajasthan Nutrition Project (RNP) - ensuring food security by synergising linkages to government schemes, growing own food and saving food to ensure ration for tough times	30,000 people, reached out to through 8,000 primary touch points. <sup>ccv</sup>	Freedom from Hunger – India Trust	Tribal
	CSR	Mobile Health Vans (MHV) address this need and provides basic medical services at the doorstep of the rural community	250,000 community members (55% female) impacted <sup>ccvi</sup>	Cairn India Limited	Health
	DFI	Treatment for severe malnutrition as part of community-based nutrition program	234,000 children from 1,574 villages in 13 districts were screened by health professionals <sup>ccvii</sup>	GAIN - UNICEF	Health

Figure 11: Solution Space for Health and Nutrition

While much ground has been covered in strengthening the education system and creating sustainable rural livelihoods in Rajasthan, much progress is left to be made in health, nutrition and gender. Studies show that in a state like Rajasthan, while programs attempt to act on behalf of women as victims, it does not involve them in articulating the problem or designing the solution. Also, most efforts are directed to the visible elements of violence, while more hidden or unacknowledged problems of domestic violence or culturally sanctioned violence against women remain ignored.<sup>ccviii</sup> As such, including women as stakeholders is important for policy creation and program design. Research shows that while multiple schemes such as Janani Suraksha Yojana, 108 ambulance service and ASHA worker programs exist to improve maternal health, awareness about these schemes is limited, and where awareness exists, women don't know how to avail of these benefits.<sup>ccix</sup> This shows the need for awareness and sensitisation programs at a community level. This is specially the case with religious beliefs when it comes to women empowerment and participation, as we discovered through our primary interviews. UNFPA also suggests that programs can be designed using men as a stakeholder group through which skills and perspectives can be built to dismantle attitudes and beliefs that come in the way of gender equality<sup>ccx</sup>

In the case of health and nutrition, we see that while programs like the Bhamashah Swasthya Bima Yojana work to provide affordable quality healthcare to all, it is unable to achieve the level of success it aims for. The biggest problem here is that instead of addressing the root cause of these issues, the government is trying to apply quick fixes such as IT solutions, food coupons and cash transfers, which may not work in a relatively backward state like Rajasthan<sup>ccxi</sup> Another problem could be the underutilisation of budgets. ICDS budgets and NHM budgets were underutilised by 27% and 41% respectively in 2014-15. This represents a missed opportunity to reallocate funds for impactful nutrition programmes and needs to be addressed immediately.<sup>ccxii</sup> Moving forward, the 2013 Lancet series and the 2016 Global Nutrition Report specifically highlight the need for sound and timely data on the nutrition problems to be addressed, and on program implementation to better coordinate and improve program quality.<sup>ccxiii</sup> While community based management programs have achieved some success, NGO-government partnerships can revitalise existing community-based programs in urban India. Critical to success are processes that include reinforced knowledge-building of caregivers, a high level of field support and encouragement to the community, and constant monitoring and follow-up of cases by all staff levels.<sup>ccxiv</sup>



# Case Study

We delve deeper into the sectoral challenges, theories of change, best practices and collaborative outcomes across sectors like education, livelihood, health and gender through an emphasis on organisations that have greatly impacted the ecosystem they are working in. Our secondary research in these areas pointed us towards certain challenges, which we have deep-dived into in our case studies, based on our interviews with these organisations.

These case studies are meant as a tool to better understand the entrenched issues across thematic areas in the state, and how these organisations have adopted strategies that have seen considerable success. These best practices can then be scaled across regions with effective collaboration from various stakeholders in the ecosystem, aiming for sustainable and holistic solutions.

## Case Study 1: Basic Healthcare Services

### *Improving Health of Last Mile Communities*

BHS was founded in 2012, with a focus on improving the health and nutrition of last mile communities through the provision of high quality and low-cost services.<sup>[i]</sup> The organisation was started based on an observation that the overall status of health in the state seemed to be improving, but the same was not the case in remote areas.

BHS now runs six clinics in remote areas with underprivileged communities, particularly South Rajasthan, each with a reach of about 15,000 people, as well as a government PHC which reaches an additional 5000 families (i.e. 25,000 people). BHS' work has reached over 110,000 people till date.

AMRIT clinics, their flagship service, forms the hub of their services in the community. In a study conducted by BHS with support from EdelGive Foundation in remote areas with no government health services, they found alarmingly high levels of malnutrition, particularly adult malnutrition. Dr. Pavitra Mohan, founder of BHS, spoke about the challenges that made these communities more vulnerable to malnutrition.

South Rajasthan's tribal population, scattered habitat, and poor access to food and livelihoods makes it more vulnerable to different kinds of health and malnutrition issues. Further, lack of access to healthcare has compounded these vulnerabilities. High dependence on rain-fed agriculture and small landholdings have resulted in widespread out-migration of young men. This absence of men has made access to services and liquid cash difficult for women and families back home.

On the supply side, poor infrastructure and location stand in the way of delivery of services. Additionally, there is a shortage of skilled health professionals as people don't often want to live in remote areas. Rajasthan has a ratio of 143 health personnel per 1000 people, 4th lowest vs. the national average of 278.

To tackle these systemic issues, BHS provides a wide range of services through preventive and promotive practices. Their AMRIT clinics are managed by nurses who are from tribal areas themselves, a valuable medium to provide round the clock services. With additional training, they are able to manage primary as well as preventive care.

Due to the absence of men, with household and farm-based responsibilities to fulfill, women do not have enough time to look after their children. Thus, BHS have also started phulwaris, or day care centres. At the phulwaris toddlers and children are provided nutritional food, pre-school training through games and poems. Children identified as malnourished are provided special care with their weight being monitored regularly. Apart from this,

they offer ambulance services because travel is a challenge for women, and added services for young men and women recovering from chronic illnesses like tuberculosis.

BHS' theory of change exists on two levels. The first is the provision of good quality services based on community engagement, enabled by technology, and evidence which can lead to change at the local level. The second is to create larger change by demonstration, sharing and documentation, and advocating for change.

BHS along with sister organisations Aajeevika Bureau and Shram Sarathi provide community services through their Hybrid model. The organisations facilitate a range of services like providing alternate livelihoods and soft financial services during treatment and recovery period.

- Community interface – Aajeevika's family empowerment programme which works with families and women collectives has become a natural platform for health outreach and behavioural change.
- Financial arm – Shram Sarathi provides soft loans for patients of TB to ensure that they can go through the period of treatment.
- Skilling for alternative livelihoods – Patients may not be able to go back to manual labour after treatment, so Aajeevika Bureau's skilling programmes ensure that they are able to earn a livelihood.

Through the Hybrid model, and the Public Private Partnership model with the government PHC they run, BHS have already taken positive steps in the direction of collaborative initiatives. Dr. Mohan believes that the potential for collaboration is huge in Rajasthan as it has several conducive factors – a vibrant civil society in south and western Rajasthan, the government's openness to PPPs and the ability of CSRs and philanthropic organisations to function as a platform to bring civil organisations together as well as an increased ability to interface with the government than individual organisations.

EdelGive Foundation supports BHS's program to consolidate AMRIT Clinics, PHC and Phulwari services, strengthen the quality of care, deepen the connect within the communities, and build competencies of the BHS team. The project is implemented in two locations; tribal blocks of Udaipur, and urban slums in Ahmedabad.

For BHS, the way forward is paved with a few broad strategies. They aim to deepen the quality and engagement of services in areas they are currently working in, while also effectively converging different kinds of services like livelihood and education. They also plan to engage in more research, documentation and sharing to inform policy at different levels. In terms of scale, they believe collaboration is the way to increase impact. In Dr. Mohan's words, "On our own, we may not expand significantly but with others, we can leave a bigger footprint."

## **Case Study 2: Kaivalya Education Foundation**

### ***Educating Leadership to Affect Change in Education***

Kaivalya Education Foundation (KEF) is a social change organisation working in the field of education across states like Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan since 2008.<sup>CCXV</sup>

In Rajasthan, their focus areas are capacity building of Headmasters and teachers to gradually improve the capacity and quality of government officials like the DoE, education officers, etc.

For the past 11 years, their School Leadership Development Programme (SLDP) has worked on multiple processes at

the grassroots level to improve educational outcomes of children in Rajasthan. These include:

- School Processes – They have utilised simple activities like morning assemblies and functional libraries to introduce change. They also use processes like Kitchen Gardens and BALA – Building As Learning Aid, which is essentially learning through playing. Here, school premises, verandahs and walls are used to depict and introduce playful learning of science, math and other subjects.
- Classroom processes – Under classroom processes, they use tools to help headmasters and teachers understand how to improve child learning. Through workshops and demonstrations in the classroom, they have improved classroom interventions and transactions with children.

They have seen great success, both tangible and intangible in their efforts. Their impact in numbers is close to 50,000 students. Every year, they work in a mix of 500 to 700 rural and semi-urban schools across blocks in Rajasthan, reaching an average of over 45,000 students.

A big shift in the mindset of middle management towards improving the quality of education is one of their key successes. Some of the biggest challenges they have overcome include Rajasthan's struggle in maintaining a PTR of 30:1, and the involvement of teachers in more non-school work. This included election duty, administrative work and other government mandated activities that constituted at least 60% of their time. With KEF's interventions, this work has been reduced to 30%, and teachers have become more responsible in improving learning outcomes.

Girl-child learning is another area where KEF has seen great improvement. Enrolment went up to 99%, of which 50% were girls. Arun Poddar, Program Director, Mumbai Operations credits this to the Right to Education Act. Other challenges that plagued the education of the girl child, like lack of toilets, etc., has also changed over the years.

KEF's role lay in activating the community and making them understand the importance of girl child education. "Rajasthan was one state that really didn't believe in girl child education – primary education was the limit and then we'd see huge dropouts" Poddar says. This was mostly due to social reasons like a belief that girls were required to stay at home and work in the kitchen beyond a certain age. Now, he says, there is equal participation of the girl child.

KEF's theory of change is the backbone of these successful outcomes they have created in the ecosystem. This is a two-fold model which firstly looks at systematic change – their engagement is not focused on direct classroom interventions, but on Headmasters and teachers in the primary section. Designed to improve their capacity in both cognitive and non-cognitive ways, the focus is on how to improve the quality of education and inculcate an all-inclusive approach towards children in the classroom.

The second objective is involvement of community members. Through Kaivalya's processes, the community plays a great role in the transformation process wherein they support school management to improve enrolment, attendance and infrastructure.

No successful intervention model is complete without the capacity to scale impact, and KEF's models have also been undergoing a scale-up process for the past three years.

In 11 years of their SLDP work at the grassroots level, they have realised what works and what doesn't in processes like improving student learning outcomes, helping teachers stay motivated and take responsibility for children's

learning ability, etc. Now that they have seen success in their interventions, they have turned SLDP into a lab for experimentation of strategies in the first level of their 3-level scale up process.

A District Transformation Program (DTP) will target middle level education officers like facilitators, Kendra Pramukhs, etc., with processes that work. The scale of impact increases from a block of 100 schools to the entire district, which is about 3000 to 4000 schools.

At the highest level, their State Transformation Program (STP) works with the State Government and Education Department (education minister, bureaucrats, policy makers) in areas of recruitment, career planning, training processes, incentives, selection process – at policy level. At least 30,000-40,000 schools are impacted by these policy decisions.

Poddar acknowledges the importance of collaborations beyond the PPP model, when he recommends that in secondary education, the government should focus on NGOs and organisations that build skill sets to ensure job availability. They need to bring in agencies who work in higher secondary schools so that students can be taught entrepreneurship, professional skills like banking, computing, coding, etc. When it comes to CSR, identification of focus areas and specialties are important to investing in education.

The way forward for KEF is the integration of 21st century learning, social emotional learning, and digital learning in Indian schools. As an organisation that engages in regular cross-learning and conferencing with international organisations, they hope to get Indian schools PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment) ready so that students can obtain competitive ratings as per international standards.

### **Case Study 3: Educate Girls Development Impact Bond**

#### ***Collaboration to Overcome Unknown Unknowns***

While the Indian ecosystem is slowly waking up to the impact of collaboration, the tremendous success of the Educate Girls Development Impact Bond has paved the way for more innovative ways of financing, performance management, and collaboration in creating social impact.

Bringing together an investor in UBS Optimus Foundation, an implementation agency in the NGO Educate Girls, an outcome payer in Children's Investment Fund Foundation, an outcome evaluator in IDinsight, and a project manager in Instiglio, the conception of the collaboration began between 2012 and 2013, with early conversations between Instiglio and Educate Girls around the scope for improvement of services in educating girls.

The result was a unique, outcome-focused Development Impact Bond that facilitated outstanding progress in education of girls in the Bijoliya, Mandalgarh and Jahajpur blocks in Rajasthan from 2015 to 2018. Educate Girls managed to exceed expectations, reaching 116% of the enrolment target and 160% of the learning target in its final year. It helped improve education for 18,000 children, 9,000 of them girls, in 166 schools in Rajasthan.

The world's first Development Impact Bond in education functioned in a complex and innovative way. UBS Optimus Foundation invested a total of USD 267,000 in Educate Girls to cover the costs of the Educate Girls' programme over three years. The financial returns depended on the success rate of the intervention. CIFF made a single payment to the UBS Optimus Foundation for gains made by Educate Girls in both enrolment and learning. UBS shared a portion

of the outcomes payment with Educate Girls based on the success of the programme—providing Educate Girls a financial return based on the success of their programme. Meanwhile, IDinsight measured the students' performance at regular intervals to monitor Educate Girls' impact on learning outcomes.

The DIB's theory of change sets it apart from traditional funding. It lies in giving Educate Girls the operational and financial flexibility to carry out their activities, by structuring time payments and results to instead focus on the end results. "Instead of a Donor X who comes in and instructs the implementation agencies to do A, B and C and provide updates, here end payments are tied to measurable outcomes, which in this case was student enrollments. In the end, we evaluate outcomes. In the interim, we monitor and make adjustments to activities to achieve our end goals." Douglas Emeott, Senior Associate at Instiglio, explains.

Building a performance management system to monitor and assess their progress has proved to be one of the DIB's biggest successes. They saw a significant positive change through this mechanism as it incentivised and encouraged them to make real, sustainable changes to their program. It provides them the opportunity to solve problems and identify learnings in real time rather than in retrospect. Compared to traditional funding, they were not tied to certain activities and hence, had the space to innovate and change their programme in real time. For instance, in year 1 of the DIB, test results in English were lagging behind, and Educate Girls had the opportunity to find out the reason behind this. When they realised that local teachers weren't comfortable with English themselves, they were able to change teacher training modality, seeing improved results.

Collaboration in a venture this novel presented its own challenges. Transaction costs and efforts to bring stakeholders together, as well as contracting and negotiating between investors and implementers were some of these. Since this DIB was the first of its kind, all stakeholders had to deal with their fair share of "unknown unknowns".

Some of these were sectoral challenges encountered by Educate Girls, the biggest being working in a low data environment. Due to the unavailability of metrics and data from schools like previous enrolment rates, establishment of a baseline proved to be a challenge, and delayed the programme in its early stages. When data came in, it led to multiple iterations and reevaluations of pricing and metrics.

With the end of the DIB in 2018, according to Emeott, Instiglio's strategy for moving forward in their engagement depends on Educate Girls. The collaboration might have ended, but its tremendous success has reinvented the financing and funding options for NGOs, as well as the current structuring of collaborative initiatives.

## **Case Study 4: Ibtada**

### ***Reversing the Effects of Patriarchal Mindsets***

Formed in 1997, Ibtada focuses on addressing the socio-cultural and socio-economic issues of women and young girls in the Muslim community in Alwar. Their work includes enrolling girls in school, organising SHGs and Federations, building capacity through knowledge enhancement and training in income-generating activities like agriculture, and livestock rearing. Their work with SHGs also inculcates leadership development, management and engagement of women in non-traditional roles such as Krishi Sakhis (for agricultural activities) and Adhikar Sakhis (for rights and entitlement), etc.

Since its formation, Ibtada has enrolled over 8,500 girls in its Taleemshalas (primary education centres for girls) and works in 205 schools in the district. They have helped to set up 2,150 SHGs and have improved the income of over 15,000 households by promoting women-led livelihoods.

Ibtada works closely with girls in mainstream education, ensuring that they continue studying for as long as possible. To achieve this, they take care of transport of girls in senior secondary schools and colleges, and bear the cost of their college fees. They have also set up resource centres for girls who come for two hours a week, where they provide them with amenities like libraries, as well as conduct workshops on life skills and training in computer literacy.

The conservative community in which they work presents the biggest opposition to their progress. The belief that educating girls is not of importance means that they take on household responsibilities as early as when they are 7 or 8 years old. Securing education for girls beyond class 10 is a huge challenge. After this point, costs, logistics and a conservative mindset hinder their continued education. Women are not involved in decision-making and are burdened both in the house as well as on the field.

However, Ibtada's interventions have elicited a gradual shift in this patriarchal mindset. Now, according to Rajesh Singhi, Executive Director of Ibtada, 95% of students go to school till Class 5. Girls who have dropped out are involved in income-generating activities like self-employment, etc. Once Ibtada tackled more practical problems like transport, they have seen a shift in the conservative mindset.

Their theory of change, therefore, targets these very problems. It looks to build confidence and self-esteem of women to empower them. "When women get together in SHGs, collect money and lead their groups, and get exposure into the community and finance, they start changing their own mindsets" Singhi explains. This confidence has an effect on their environment as well. When they bring home money from SHGs, their value and respect at home increases.

Moving forward, Ibtada intends to leverage their most valuable asset for scalability – mobilising existing women leaders as change agents who work in new pockets and replicate their success there. Ibtada identifies aspirational regions, where these women then form SHGs and conduct training sessions. This also gives them an opportunity to introduce their work to new communities, and design new programmes to cater to the needs of each region.

Their ideas on collaboration stem from their strong behavioural approach to problem-solving. A true collaboration is when donors have a belief in the work they are doing and support the mission of the implementation agency with funds and other support whilst trying to address the institutional challenges encountered by them. Singhi leaves us with an example of what an ideal collaboration should be – "If there are some health issues in our area and we are not fully equipped to solve for these problems, we can work with another NGO who specialises in women's health, and a donor internalises this cause, and funds it. That's when we will see change happen."

## Key Takeaways

**1** Rajasthan has shown great progress in terms of growth and poverty reduction compared to all the low-income states, with agriculture contributing to interim slowdowns.

- Growth in Rajasthan has been supported by the secondary and tertiary sector and the discovery of oil in the Thar desert. Yet, this growth was slowed down by the volatility in agriculture, the biggest support to the Rajasthan economy.
- Drought is a major contributor to Rajasthan's fluctuating economy and given the dependence of the state on agriculture, this needs to be focused on actively by funders and NGOs.

**2** Health and nutrition, and women empowerment continue to remain an area of struggle for the state.

- **Health and Nutrition:** Compared to the rest of the nation, the state ranks in the bottom 5 in the density of health personnel, IMR and MMR and wasting. Moving forward, building last mile health infrastructure, especially in southern and western Rajasthan while increasing focus on women's health is a must to overcome the challenges of malnutrition.
- **Women empowerment:** In Rajasthan, the practice of "purdah" (veiling) re-affirms the image of women being trapped in feudal and patriarchal social-cultural practices. These deeply entrenched cultural barriers need to be the focus of intervention activities, with progress being recorded, using women themselves as agents of change.

**3** Progress has only been limited to the northern pockets of the state. Western and Southern Rajasthan continue to be plagued by extreme poverty and poor health and educational outcomes. An interview with Mr. Prakash Tyagi of GRAVIS revealed that the extreme climatic conditions and low population density make it very difficult for organisations to conduct programs that reach remote villages. This makes progress and improvement a challenge in rural western and southern Rajasthan.

**4** Majority of the funding in the state is by the government with 68.45% of the total government funding directed towards development sector. CSR funds supplement the government funding, but it remains in pockets with southern and western Rajasthan remaining ignored. Given the level of disparity that districts such as Jaisalmer, Barmer, Sirohi, Udaipur, Banswara and Dungarpur face, there is a need to redirect and target funds to these districts.

**5** Collaboration is important, however, there is a need to closely monitor the method and intent of collaboration. "Real collaboration would require all players, including CSR organisations and funders to internalise the cause and leverage the capacity of implementers to bring about change" said Mr. Rajesh from Ibtada. There is a need to improve linkage of government schemes to the remote and scattered villages in western and southern Rajasthan, which requires active collaboration and equal partnership between NGOs, funders and the government.

# Approach and methodology

This paper is primarily grounded in secondary research, drawing on official databases (Census 2011, Ministry of Corporate Affairs CSR spend, NFHS 2015-16, NSSO 73rd and 74th round data, DISE-2016 etc.), reports and studies to build a holistic view. Analysis of secondary datasets was undertaken where available using raw data across development indicators, obtained from official sources.



Figure 7: Methodology adopted to research the development papers

The framework used for this and further papers in the state series builds a view of development status and progress in the state using recent development trends, analysis of development gaps and review of development assets/strengths (Human, Social, Physical, Environmental and Financial capital as drawn from the DFID Livelihoods Framework). Additionally, both the solution landscape and funding flows are analysed to better understand quantum of funding, patterns of allocation, working models, and under-funded areas.

	Current landscape, status and gaps	Assets
	Policy	Industrial development
	Economic	Human Capital
	Social	Financial Capital
	Technology/Digitisation	Natural Capital
	Environmental	Social Capital
	Local government	
Sectors	Education, WASH, Health, Nutrition, Environment, Livelihood, Women empowerment	
Solutions	Community, Funders/CSR/DFIs, CSOs, Local government	
Lenses	Gender, Marginalised groups, Rural/Urban, Regional Variations	

Figure 8: Framework for the State Development Snapshot



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## Key Abbreviations




ANC	Antenatal Care
ANM	Auxiliary Nurse Midwife
ATST	At the Same Table
BIMARU	Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, And Uttar Pradesh
BOP	Bottom of The Pyramid
CBGA	Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability
CCE	Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation
CMAM	Community-Based Management Of Acute Malnutrition
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
DBT	Direct Benefit Transfer
DFI	Development Finance Institution
DFID	Department for International Development
DIB	Development Impact Bond
UDISE/DISE	Unified District Information System for Education
EoDB	Ease of Doing Business
FWPR	Female Workforce Participation Rate
GPI	Gender Parity Index
GSDP	Gross State Domestic Product
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
HNWI	High-Net-Worth Individual
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Services
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
INR	Indian Rupee
IOCL	Indian Oil Corporation Limited
IT	Information Technology
MFIs	Micro Finance Institutions
MHV	Mobile Health Vans
MJSA	Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan
MLD	Million Litres Per Day
MMR	Maternal Mortality Ratio
MOSPI	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
MSME	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MT	Metric Ton
MW	Megawatt
NAS	National Achievement Survey
NFHS	National Family Health Survey
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NSDP	Net State Domestic Product
PDS	Public Distribution System
PCI	Per Capita Income
PHCs	Primary Healthcare Centres
PPP	Public Private Partnerships
RNP	The Rajasthan Nutrition Project
RUTF	Ready-To-Use Therapeutic Food
SC/STs	Scheduled Castes And Scheduled Tribes
SHG	Self-Help Group
SPO	Social Purpose Organizations
SRB	Sex Ratio at Birth
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UT	Union Territory
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization

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EdelGive Foundation ([www.edelgive.org](http://www.edelgive.org)) is the philanthropic arm of the Edelweiss Group and was established in 2008. Since its inception, almost a decade ago, EdelGive is steadily evolving a philanthropic ecosystem in India. EdelGive works to develop a symbiotic relationship between the different members of the ecosystem viz. investors (donor corporate agencies, partner CSR agencies, and individual donors), investees (NGOs and other sub sets of the NGO sector), and collaborating partners like the government, like-minded agencies, capacity building organisations, and policy experts. EdelGive has fostered the growth of the synergies inherent to an ecosystem, to leverage gains over and beyond its investment, both financial and non-financial.

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## ABOUT SATTVA



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