Forty-six million Indians, 15 percent of the population, live in slums. The majority of slum dwellers are newly-arrived migrants from rural areas, living on the margins of society without marketable skills, access to basic services and infrastructure, languishing without opportunity for advancement. Despite this high migration number, still more than 60% of India’s population live in rural areas. Many rural areas are coping with declining livelihood options, a lack of basic facilities and access to advocacy for local rural communities.

History
Saath is a non-governmental organization, registered as a Public Charitable Trust in Ahmedabad on 28 February, 1989. In Gujarati the word saath means, “Together, Cooperation, a Collective or Support.” Since 1989 Saath has facilitated participatory processes that improve the quality of life for the urban and rural poor.
**Urban programmes**

- **Urban Resource Centers**
  - Rs. 1.13 crore
- **Community Video Unit**
  - Rs. 0.76 crore
- **Pre-School Education**
  - Rs. 1.09 crore
- **Child-Friendly Spaces**
  - Rs. 0.39 crore
- **Employability Training**
  - Rs. 1.71 crore
- **Women Health Worker**
  - Rs. 0.24 crore
- **Savings & Credit**
  - Rs. 0.76 crore
- **Microfinance Programmes**
  - Rs. 1.33 crore
- **Corpus**
  - Rs. 3.0 crore

**Integrated community development**

**Urban programmes**

- 3 Urban Resource Centers reaching a population of 100,000 in slum areas across Ahmedabad
- An Affordable Housing Program addressing the housing needs of slum-dwellers assisted 500 households (launched in 2011).
- 47 youth employability centers in 12 cities and towns across Gujarat and 8 centers in 6 towns and districts in Rajasthan have together trained 47,000 youth.
- 7 Balghars, or pre-school education centers providing nutrition and basic education to 200 children in slum areas.
- One microfinance institute (Saath Savings & Credit Co-operative Society Ltd.) with 6 branches serving over 15,000 members representing over Rs. 2.97 crore in savings.
- 3 Child-Friendly Spaces educating over 100 child laborers in slum areas.
- 5 Child-Friendly Spaces on construction sites for mobile construction worker communities (launched in 2011).
- 533 Volunteer Women in Community Health Teams, educating communities on health and hygiene issues.
- A women’s livelihood programme trained 160 homemakers who are placed at 117 clients.
- Under the slum networking project (a public-private partnership with the AMC) Saath has provided basic services and infrastructure to 3,095 households in 8 slums in Ahmedabad. Saath has provided infrastructure facilities (like electricity and water connections) to several other slum areas (closed).
- 1 Community Video Unit, a platform for media advocacy, with an average reach of 100 slum dwellers per screening. Eight video magazines were created and screened at various places, including International Films festivals (on hold).
- 5 Azaad Youth Groups mobilizing 120 young leaders from slum areas (closed).

**Rural programmes**

- **Jan Seva Krushi Kendra**
  - Rs. 2.26 crore
- **Installation of Water Purification Units**
  - Rs. 0.69 crore
- **Rural Resource Centers**
  - Rs. 0.7 crore
- **Livelihood Training Programmes**
  - Rs. 0.26 crore
- **Health**
  - Rs. 0.26 crore
- **Governance**
  - Rs. 0.7 crore
- **Corpus**
  - Rs. 3.0 crore

**A brief overview of our rural programmes**

- Child Rights for Change, a programme to spread awareness about child rights and to prevent child-labour, covering more than 1,800 villages in cotton producing areas in Gujarat.
- RWeaves, a marketing and branding platform for rural artisans in 6 villages of Surendranagar, Gujarat.
- As a part of our rural integrated development programmes, we started a Center called “Jan Seva Krushi Kendra” at Khakhrej and Ghatil villages. Farmers can purchase seeds and agricultural inputs during the sowing and harvesting seasons.
- 2 Rural Resource Centers at Maliya and another at Miyana in Surendranagar districts, these centers provide guidance to rural villagers in getting access to various government schemes and help.
- A rainwater harvesting Project at Khakhreji in association with WASMO; 150 families were benefited from the project. A water purification plant was installed at the village with a capacity of 10,000 liters.
- 72 livelihood trainings in 66 villages of Surendranagar, Rajkot, and Jamnagar on skill enhancement, in association with DRDA, WASMO, CARE, and CSPC.