

# *agilis innovare*



CSR Annual Report 2020-21



# Mr. Rajnikant D. Shroff, Chairman and Managing Director of UPL Ltd. conferred Padma Bhushan

**Mumbai, January 27th, 2021:** On the eve of the 72nd Republic Day of India, Mr. Rajnikant Devidasbhai Shroff, the founder of UPL Ltd. a global provider of sustainable agriculture products & solutions, was conferred one of the India's highest civilian award, the Padma Bhushan, for his contribution to the field of trade and industry.

This year the President has approved conferment of 119 Padma Awards and Mr. Shroff is the only industrialist to receive Padma Bhushan.

The scientist turned entrepreneur and equal opportunity crusader, Mr. Shroff, CMD, UPL Ltd. said, I have always been a strong nationalist at heart and I am eternally grateful for all the opportunities I had to be a part of the growth of this great nation, and its backbone, which is the agricultural sector. It is truly a humbling experience to be bestowed with such a prestigious award, and it brings immense joy and pride to the UPL Ltd. Group."

He added, "I began working in this industry over 50 years ago, and it has truly been a remarkable experience for me. I am extremely proud to see what the company has achieved over these years, each milestone a feather in the cap of every one of the 14000 employees of UPL Ltd. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Government of India for bestowing upon me this great honor, and I would also like to congratulate my fellow awardees and thank them for their respective contributions to our country." With a professional career that spans over more than 50 years, Mr. Shroff has received several other accolades and honors for his contribution to the field of agricultural technology. His dedication to his profession and the causes he supports is unwavering and the many awards he has won are a mere testimony to his abilities. Under his watchful eye, UPL Ltd., which began as a small-scale chemical unit in 1969 at Vapi (Gujarat) involving complex chemical processes to manufacture Red Phosphorus, with a seed capital of just Rupees 4 Lakhs, has grown into India's only multi-national and multi-cultural agrochemical company, employing over 14000 people, worldwide, with a turnover of US\$ 5 billion. Mr. Shroff has been spearheading a larger purpose that is, to expand industrialization of agrochemical sector in India, saving foreign exchange for the country by manufacturing standard quality products at affordable prices for the Indian farmer. He believes that the purpose of science and technology is only achieved if the products are affordable to be adopted by small holding farmers.

Mr. Shroff has always been an ardent believer in giving back to society and helms various Human Welfare Trusts and Organizations. Under Mr. Shroff's leadership, UPL Ltd. has worked towards taking several socially beneficial steps including creating Institutions of Excellence, organizing Sustainable Livelihood Programmes for neighboring farmers, as well as instilling nature conservation practices in their processes.

Needless to say, the honor is truly befitting this man who has such an extraordinary record in the industry, and who has given so much back to his nation, all while creating value for all the stakeholders of his corporation.





# *agilis innovare*

*agilis* is a latin adjective that means the ability to move easily or quickly, while *innovare* in latin connotes change and innovation. When combined, the two words emphasize promptness in responding to a situation innovatively. This phrase thus aptly summarizes UPL's modus operandi in designing and implementing CSR initiatives.

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# Message from Mrs. Sandra Shroff

*(Chairperson of UPL CSR Committee upto August 31, 2020)*

UPL has now completed 51 years. You must be aware that we started as a small scale unit. We always innovated and worked hard at R&D. And that is how we have progressed. We went through ups and downs and today have reached a very good position. We had many challenges, but we have never ever backed down. Fighting until we actually overcame whatever challenge that we faced.

I am proud to say that UPL was the 1<sup>st</sup> company in India to convert its all Nitrogen plant to Oxygen plant. It took us less than 72 hours to pioneer the conversion of Nitrogen plants to Oxygen plants with our team of engineers and scientists, when the 2<sup>nd</sup> wave stuck. (Even before IIT Mumbai published its article on the same subject). Hundred plus industry players, government and private institutions were inspired and trained through knowledge sharing forums / webinars on Nitrogen PSA plant to Oxygen plant conversion. In the 1<sup>st</sup> wave, it took UPL just 24 hours from drawing board to dispatching WHO recommended hand sanitizers to different cities.

**50,000 liters of sanitizers were provided free of cost across the globe.**

Every person and institution can do much more than they think. UPL and group companies are going out of the way providing disinfectants, safety clothes, food in areas where immigrant labourers are suffering and we are trying to help everyone.

**Our farmers are feeding India, the second largest country in the world. We produce USD 481bn worth food and India is No. 2 in production of Agri products. Just behind China at No. 1 with USD 1127bn of agricultural production.**

We are dedicated to serving the farmers and working by the farmers' side so that India's farmers prosper, and they take their deserved place in the global market.

**Our fundamental belief is simple - nothing is impossible. An independent mind and a confidence that says "yes, we can do that".**

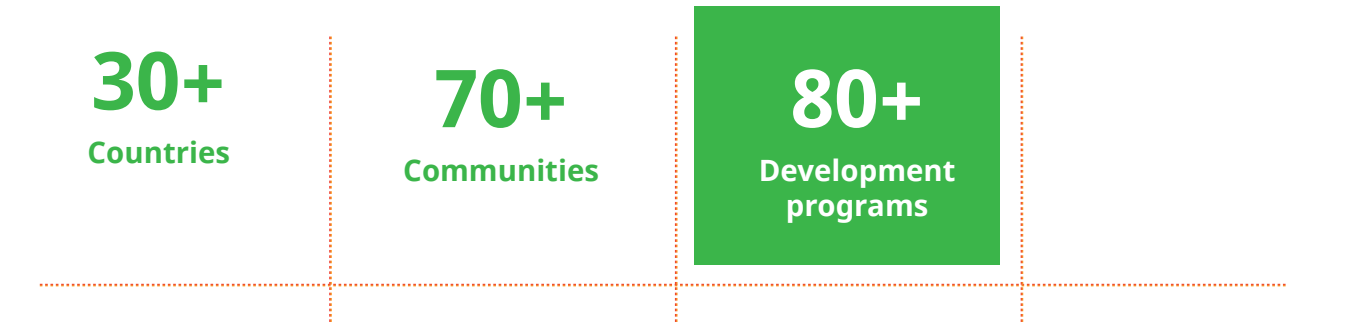




UPL Limited- a global leader in biosolutions for sustainable agriculture



0.5 Million lives impacted globally through CSR initiatives in-



# Our CSR approach

To be a catalyst for a more equitable and inclusive society by supporting long term sustainable transformation and social integration.

**Vision**

**We will achieve our vision by-**

- Implementing need based projects through participatory approach
- Focusing on building capacity to make the community self- reliant
  - Developing Partnerships
  - Transferring Knowledge

**Mission**

- Care
- Excellence
- Sustainability

**Values**



## Focus area

- › Institutions of Excellence
- › Sustainable Livelihoods
- › Nature Conservation
- › National and Local Needs

## Priority Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



- › Goal 1: No poverty
- › Goal 2: Zero hunger
- › Goal 3: Good health and well- being
- › Goal 4: Quality education
- › Goal 5: Gender equality
- › Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation
- › Goal 15: Life on Land

# Recent Mega Initiatives of 2021

## “The Gigaton Challenge” – Reducing atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> by 1 Gigaton and creating a new carbon market for agriculture Sao Paulo, 11th October, 2021

UPL Ltd. has announced the launch of a new series of initiatives to be deployed globally which will leverage sustainable methods to reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide equivalent 1 Gigaton by 2040. At an event in Sao Paulo, hosted by Jai Shroff (CEO, UPL Ltd.), Mauricio Macri (Executive Chairman, FIFA Foundation), and attended by Youri Djorkaeff (CEO, FIFA Foundation), UPL has launched ‘The Gigaton Challenge’, uniting sustainable food production and education. The Gigaton Challenge will create a new carbon credit to incentivise and support farmers for adopting sustainable and regenerative practices. 1 Gigaton represents approximately two years of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for a country such as Brazil. UPL will work with reliable and recognized carbon certification organisations enabling farming ecosystems to create, implement, and validate carbon emission and carbon capture protocols that will generate carbon credits that the farmers will directly benefit from.



This initiative has the potential to generate billions of dollars of additional income for farmers worldwide. Between 2021 to 2024, the Gigaton Challenge will initially follow a pilot phase in Brazil, Argentina India, USA and some European countries, which will be followed by a scaling-up phase from 2025 to 2040 worldwide. In its first phase, the project will aggregate 1 Million hectares. While in the scaling-up phase, The Gigaton Challenge will end up impacting more than 100 million hectares around the world, which is equivalent to 100 million soccer fields. Speaking at the launch of the Gigaton Challenge, Yuri Djorkaeff, CEO, FIFA Foundation, said: "It is great to see UPL using its power to effect positive social change in the areas of community building, education, health, equality and inclusion, dialogue and peace. As part of our Memorandum of Understanding, together we will aim to bring strengths and networks that can transform sustainable development across the world and help us reach this shared goal of a greener, fairer future." Jai Shroff, Global CEO, UPL Ltd., said: "The future of agriculture must be climate positive, and re-carbonisation of global soils not only brings immediate environmental benefits, but offers a new income source for farmers. UPL's OpenAg™ purpose places collaboration at the heart of progress, and if there is one thing we can learn from football is the power of team spirit to inspire extraordinary change and reach extraordinary goals."





# Inaugural OpenAg Symposium at University of Oxford outlines a climate- positive relationship between agriculture, climate change, and food security

Oxford, 17th September, 2021: The inaugural OpenAg Symposium, hosted by the Oxford India Centre for Sustainable Development, Somerville College, and UPL Ltd., has outlined a series of policy positions, technological interventions, and collaboration opportunities that can contribute to global efforts to reshape the role of food systems in the face of climate change.

On 3rd September 2021 – ahead of the UN Food Systems Summit and COP26 – the inaugural ‘Food Future in a Changing Climate’ OpenAg Symposium took place at the University of Oxford. The event united a select group of leading academics, policymakers, technology investors, industry pioneers, and NGO innovators from across the globe to address the social and environmental trade-offs and challenges posed by climate change in the area of agriculture.

The OpenAg Symposium opened with an introduction by Jan Royall, Baroness Royall of Blaisdon and Somerville’s Principal, and by Her Excellency the High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom, Gaitri Issar Kumar. The keynote was led by Sir Charles Godfray, Director of the Oxford Martin School and former Chair of the Science Advisory Council to the UK. The conference brought together four panels, covering the topics of: ‘The Role of Agriculture in Combatting Climate Change’; ‘Priorities for Policymakers in Land Use and Biodiversity’; ‘Technologies to Transform the Agrifood Chain’; and ‘The Future of India’s Agricultural Sector.’

In a hybrid format, speakers from Brazil, India, the Netherlands, and Kenya, joined a live audience and a wide range of in-person expert speakers, which included: Dr Agnes Kalibata, UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy to the 2021 Food Systems Summit; Berry Marttin, Member of the Managing Board, Rabobank; Dr Helen Harwatt, Chatham House; Adam Anders, Managing Partner, Anterra Capital; Emiko Terazono, Commodities Correspondent, Financial Times; Dhruv Sawhney, COO, nurture.farm; and Professor Radhika Khosla, Research Director, Oxford India Centre for Sustainable Development. A full list of speakers and panel topics is included in the notes at the end of this release. Concluding the OpenAg Symposium, Baroness Royall, said:

“The inaugural OpenAg Symposium has been a resounding success. What we have heard and seen today is just the beginning of an exciting role that food systems must play in the fight against climate change. As an institution, Oxford has an extraordinary power to convene and shape the coalitions that lead to the transformation of some of humanity’s most urgent needs. We are excited to see where the OpenAg Symposium, and the discussions it has inspired, go from here.”

Jai Shroff, Global CEO of UPL Ltd., said:

“Agriculture is one of the only systems on the planet that has the ability to reshape and reverse the effects of climate change. At UPL, we take a wholly optimistic view of the opportunity that exists for farms and farmers to nourish the planet, while feeding the population. This transformation will not be easy, but the discussions we have heard at this inaugural OpenAg Symposium show that the will and the means exist to meet this challenge if we continue to work together.”



# UPL joins The Heart Fund's One Billion Hearts Platform to provide cardiovascular health for 1 billion people by 2030.

Davos, 26th January, 2020: During the World Economic Forum 2020, UPL Ltd. announced a new partnership with global healthcare non-profit organization, The Heart Fund, by joining the One Billion Hearts Platform. The partnership platform supports the organization's mission of improving cardiovascular health in Africa by enabling public-private partnerships and private sector investment over the next 10 years.

UPL's contribution to The Heart Fund will provide vital funds for achieving the organization's vision of providing universal access to cardiovascular health for 1 billion people by 2030. The partnership will focus efforts on building greater local medical and health capabilities to increase the efficacy and access of public health services to traditionally underserved rural farming communities. UPL is one of the largest agricultural inputs and bio-solutions providers for farmers across Côte d'Ivoire. Many small growers are affected by the large disparity between the medical care available to wealthy urban households and rural farming families.

With UPL's support, rural communities will be able to access advanced cardiovascular services and screenings for the first time through the expansion of the geographical reach of The Heart Fund's mobile cardiology clinic. Jai Shroff, Global CEO of UPL Limited, said: "Improving the lives of the growers, their families and other individuals in the communities where we work has always been a central focus for us, and a part of our vision for a sustainable future for agriculture. We are delighted to partner with The Heart Fund to accelerate progress in improving healthcare services and uplifting communities in Côte d'Ivoire."

Dr David Luu, Founder & President of The Heart Fund, said: "We are proud to launch the One Billion Hearts Platform with UPL. We strongly believe we could improve cardiovascular health of the rural farming communities through cardiovascular screening, preventive activities and health education in remote locations. We will leverage multi-stakeholders partnerships the latest innovations in digital health and last mile care delivery to detect and prevent cardiovascular disease. In Côte d'Ivoire there are thousands of people living with cardiovascular challenges, and with UPL's support and assistance, we hope to revolutionize access to cardiac care in the region as part of our vision to provide universal access to cardiovascular health for 1 billion people by 2030."

This partnership is in line with UPL's OpenAg model which seeks to encourage sustainable growth for all and create a deeper impact on society to enable farmers to grow and prosper. The partnership is also in line with national and global commitments made by countries and other stakeholders – such as the Sustainable Development Goals – to work collectively to improve health and tackle non-communicable diseases.







# Together with humanity- Our global community initiatives during the COVID-19 pandemic

UPL's core value of being "Always Human" extends to our global stakeholders and to communities which sustain them. During these unprecedented times, UPL as a globally responsible and committed company, faced the pandemic challenges head on, reaching out to all our stakeholders, worldwide, with our focused initiatives. As the world was battling the COVID-19 pandemic last year in March 2020, UPL's COVID response team went into overdrive worldwide immediately.

Within 24 hours, our plants were producing sanitizers to be distributed free of cost to government bodies, local authorities and hospitals.

## In India,



UPL also began country specific initiatives such as a 24 hour telephone support for all families and young people to guide and create awareness on staying at home and sanitization, and distribution of Vitamin D to families and young people through a partnership with the Equaliv laboratory in Brazil.

Protective gears and safety equipment were provided in Cuba, Colombia, Indonesia, across Europe and North America. Other initiatives like awareness drives were held in Vietnam and Ivory Coast. Food supplies were donated to the underprivileged in Costa Rica, Cambodia and Cuba.

In Colombia, UPL focused on marginalized people, the elderly and mothers to provide help and food supplies. In Costa Rica and Canada, UPL purchased farmers' produce which was then in turn donated to the needy.

Our seed company, Advanta Seeds (known as Pacific Seeds in Thailand) donated 100,000 Thai Bath to Phraphutthabat Hospital for medical equipment and supplies. In India, Advanta Seeds helped thousands of farmers to survive during the pandemic crisis by connecting 7,150 farmers with 2,500 local traders and supplied about 2,500 tons of vegetables from farmers to consumers.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> wave of COVID-19 impacted several states and our people like a storm. UPL responded to the current need of saving human lives using its strength in innovation and CSR driven contributions.

**Swift innovation to convert nitrogen plants to oxygen plants and transferring them next to hospitals making them oxygen reliant:** UPL was the first in India to convert its nitrogen plants to oxygen plants. Thanks to its innovative team, 5 hospitals in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and New Delhi achieved self- sufficiency in oxygen.

100+ industry players, government and private institutions trained, through knowledge sharing forums / webinars on conversion of nitrogen PSA plant to oxygen plant.

**Covid care medicine kits:** UPL distributed more than 15,000 Covid medicine kits in Uttar Pradesh under the prescription of Department of Health for asymptomatic and mild symptomatic patients which were advised for home isolation.





**Ventilators and oxygen concentrators to hospitals:** We also provided jumbo oxygen cylinders, oxygen concentrators and ventilators to Gujarat and Maharashtra. 4 new oxygen plants were ordered which would take care of 1600+ beds in the near future.

**Covid care centers:** We set up Covid-19 centers at Jhagadia, Netrang, Ankleshwar and Mandva catering to 300 beds, including oxygen Supply.

**Sanitizer spraying services:** UPL deployed modern spraying machines through its Adarsh Farm Services wing in rural and urban areas of Haryana, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan to disinfect and sanitize public areas to contain the spread of Covid-19.

UPL has always been committed to sustainability and upliftment of communities. It has worked in tandem with governments and other agencies to use all the resources at its disposal to provide support in difficult times. We have taken special care of employees and ensured that they feel safe and secure.

True to our vision, we have used technology, growth and innovation to develop resilience and change the sustainability game across the world.





# DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES ACROSS GLOBE

## A. Institutions of Excellence in India

A nation's foundation stone is laid in its educational institutes. Apart from developing cognitive and mental faculties, institutes must nurture childrens' inherent talents and provide opportunities to hone them. Life skills, knowledge about our culture, sports, music and other forms of art must be encouraged. To ensure that children in the surrounding region are nurtured to become responsible and compassionate citizens of the country, UPL has established Gnyan Dham Vapi Charitable Trust which is a voluntary organization managing multiple educational institutes characterized by:

- 1) Conducive learning space and environment
- 2) Strong focus on culture and values
- 3) All round development of students
- 4) Regular evaluation of progress

**The institutes established/managed by us include:**



## A1. Smt. Sandraben Shroff Gnyan Dham School, Vapi

Sandra Shroff Gnyan Dham School established more than 5 decades ago has been working relentlessly to facilitate all round development of children in the early stages of life. The school is one of the 1st english medium CBSE schools of the region, catering to educational needs of the local population.

**With an intake capacity of more than 1,700 children, the school provides education from nursery to grade 12 and is affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education (C.B.S.E.), New Delhi.**

The mission of the school is to encourage, guide and support all students to reach their highest potential and become life-long learners contributing to the growth of the society. We believe that all students must become effective communicators, inspired learners, productive workers, responsible citizens and resourceful thinkers.

To achieve the above mission, the school works relentlessly on academics, co-curriculars, sports and life skills.

In the current COVID-19 pandemic, our school was closed as per government orders and we were the 1st school in Vapi to conduct online classes. Our school was well prepared as all our teachers were equipped with laptops and could conduct classes from home. Evaluation of the students' progress was also done online. Extra-curricular activities and festival celebrations were conducted virtually too.

**1,700+**  
students get quality  
education every year

Our students have been receiving  
**Merit**  
Certificate from CBSE every year

We are the only school in  
Vapi to consistently score  
**100%**  
results in the Board Exams  
since 1987

Our alumni study in the best Indian  
institutes like IITs, NITs and renowned  
**foreign**  
universities and contribute to  
the growth of humanity



## A2. Shroff S Rotary Institute of Chemical Technology (SRICT), Vataria, Ankleshwar

A symbol of academic excellence and integrated development, SRICT stands tall in South Gujarat as a leader in providing technical education. Established and managed by UPL, the institute has been instrumental in providing quality manpower to the growing industries in the region. It is the 1<sup>st</sup> 5S certified and QCFI (Quality Circle Forum of India) approved institute of India.

**At present, the intake of the institute is:**

**Graduate program  
(Chemical Engineering,  
Mechanical Engineering,  
Electrical Engineering  
and Environmental Science  
and Technology)**

**210**  
students

**Post graduate program  
(Chemical Engineering,  
Mechanical Engineering and  
Environment Management)**

**36**  
students

**Master of Science  
in Organic Chemistry**

**40**  
students

Some recent developments include setting up the “Envisage Incubation Center” (a start-up cell) in July, 2019 to transform innovative ideas into reality. Students and faculty are encouraged and supported to cultivate new ideas. The institute has been awarded patent rights on Nanoparticles and Nano size pigment for 20 years.

At SRICT, a lot of focus is on giving sustainable solutions to society. Our Techno-Social Project has worked on converting household waste to compost at Jitali village since 2015. Rain water harvesting, solar street lights, bio-gas plant using kitchen-waste of canteen, benches made from used drums, chemical lab waste sent to effluent treatment plant and RO water plant reject, backwash, and seepage sent for plantation; are some initiatives undertaken at the institute towards environmental sustainability.

SRICT has established a Center of Excellence in Safety, thus helping the industries in the region attain highest standards of safety. A lot of research and development work is also carried out in association with industries in the region for recycling of industrial waste.



## A3. Sandra Shroff ROFEL College of Nursing, Vapi (SSRCN)

Mrs. Sandra Shroff laid the foundation stone of SSRCN in 2003, to prepare professionally competent nurses who can deliver zero deficit nursing care to patients. The institute believes that nurses should be partners with physicians and other health professionals in redesigning health care at the local, national and global level.

SSRCN is the 1<sup>st</sup> nursing college in south Gujarat and 1<sup>st</sup> self- financed nursing college in Gujarat. In 2010, our Academic Center for Excellence launched post graduation course in speciality field like Medical and Surgical, Child Health Care and Obstetrical and Gynaecological Nursing and added newer dimensions to its scholastic domain. 181 women are currently studying in various courses that the institute offers and more than 500 women have graduated from the institute and are doing commendable work in healthcare sector.

Recently the institute launched two government programmes - National Service Scheme (NSS) and Bridge Course Certificate in Community Health which was completed by 40 students, thus supporting the government in its efforts to take primary health to the remotest corners of the country.

During the pandemic the institute undertook many initiatives like starting “Continuous Personal and Professional Development programme” for SSRCN faculty and students and organized state, national and international level webinars for the benefit of the medical fraternity. Around 15 such webinars were organized during the year.

The students and faculty also contributed towards medical knowledge by writing journals on various topics like “Effect of Covid-19 on elderly peoples’ attitude”, “Depression and anxiety amongst adolescents” etc.

**Other highpoints of the institute include:**

**Encouragement and support  
to students coming from  
humble backgrounds ( around**

**80%**

**of our students belong to this group)**

**100%**

**placement offers for  
our Masters and Graduate students**

**SSRCN**

**is recognized as  
“Swachhta Action Plan Institution”**





## A4. Gnyan Dham Eklavya Model Residential School, Ahwa

Gnyan Dham Eklavya Model Residential School, Ahwa is situated in Dang District. It is funded by the Gujarat State Tribal Education Institutions Society under the Tribal Ministry of India. In 2011, Gyan Dham Vapi Charitable Trust, Vapi took over the school under Public Private Partnership and has been managing the affairs of the school since then. More than 450 tribal children from Dang and neighboring districts receive quality education in this residential school.

UPL has made marked improvement in the infrastructure facilities of the school and hostel building ( installation of bio- gas system, public address system , residential quarters for teaching staff, smart classes and many more).The management has also worked on improving the health of the students by providing more nourishing meals.The school recently got a Mini Science Center installed which helped in conducting virtual classes during these times.

**Some highpoints of the institute are:**

In the last 5 years,  
the school has achieved

**100%**

results in 10<sup>th</sup> board exams,  
97% results in 12<sup>th</sup> science  
stream and 96% in 12<sup>th</sup>  
commerce stream

Our alumni are  
pursuing professional

**courses**

like MBBS, BE, Nursing,  
B.Sc Agriculture and more

Students have  
continuously excelled  
in academic and non-  
academic events at the  
district, state and national  
level and won many

**awards**





## UPL Center for Agriculture Excellence (U-CAE), Nahuli

UPL has not only been a pioneer in developing agricultural practices but has also worked towards disseminating the same to the farming community. A step in this direction is the UPL Center for Agriculture Excellence inaugurated on 30th April, 2017 in Nahuli. The center organizes residential training programs (free of charges) for farmers and agriculture students from across India ensuring that the latest in farming practices is made available to the remotely located and marginal farmers at appropriate times. The institute has reached even the remotest corners of the region through its satellite center. This year around 300 farmers got trained in innovative agriculture practices through the center.





The training programs are hands- on and focus on promoting sustainable agriculture practices like SRI method for paddy cultivation, crop improvement techniques, water management through drip irrigation etc. The institute has become an influential center for learning and development in agricultural initiatives in the region.

**17,200+**

farmers trained till date

**1,000+**

farmers trained through  
the satellite center till date



## B. Sustainable Livelihoods

### B1. Agriculture Development

For a majority of the farmers in underdeveloped and developing countries, agriculture remains the prime source of food, livelihood and income. Agriculture goes beyond farming and includes forestry, fruit cultivation, poultry, bee keeping and related industries like food processing, marketing, distribution of crops and livestock products etc. Since agriculture provides for food, fodder and raw material for many industries it becomes a significant contributor to the national income for most developing countries. Hence any sustainable improvement in agriculture leads to a direct and significant improvement in the quality of life of people on this planet.

**UPL's efforts towards sustainable agricultural development is focussed in 4 areas:**

- Enhancing food security
- Increasing access to agricultural inputs and technology
- Capacity building (both human and institutional)
- Improving market access for farm produce

**Our key initiatives in this domain across the globe are:**

#### B1.1 Integrated Projects in West and Central Africa

UPL has been active across the African continent for over 30 years and is currently the largest distributor of bio-solutions and integrated offers adapted to African cropping conditions. UPL maintains an extensive footprint in Africa and has offices in 14 countries: Egypt, Senegal, Mali, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Nigeria, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, and South Africa. The key features of the African agricultural ecosystem that define our programs are:

The continent is home to  
**25%**  
of the world's agricultural land,  
yet it produces just 10%  
of the world's food.

**874**  
Million hectare land is cultivated  
in Africa, 79% of which is by smallholders  
on farms smaller than 2 hectare.

Africa's smallholders live on less than  
**\$2**  
per day, keeping them below  
the poverty line.



In the given scenario, the key to Africa's food security lies with the smallholder farmer who either has very low access to innovative technologies or perceives them as too risky. To break this risk aversion cycle, UPL has taken up an integrated approach comprising of both products and services at the rural level, which include the following:

**Products-** Crop protection, Biostimulants, Seeds, Irrigation, Equipment and Fertilizers

**Services-** Demo plots, Intensification programmes, Inputs distribution, Diversification Programmes, Trainings and Inputs credit.

The efforts to catalyse introduction of sustainable technologies and impact more farmers has led to a win-win situation for all the stakeholders specifically the farmers who have benefitted through-

- Income diversification
- Food security improvement
- Decreased vulnerability to economic shocks (e.g. currency devaluation) or logistics disruption (export quotas, shipping/trucking issues)

**Through the various initiatives, the integrated approach has brought the following impact:**

**16,000**  
hectare of land brought  
under the program

**5K+**  
farmers benefitted



## Applique Bien

**It is our free training program to promote good agricultural practices through autonomous, fully equipped mobile units.** The training is consistent with our corporate responsibility and our leading position in West and Central Africa where the risk of contamination is much higher than in developed countries. A mobile training unit equipped with training material for trainers, specific materials for each topic etc. provides training to farmers and technicians on Cocoa and Cotton, industrial plantation and food crops.

These trainings not only strengthen the link with end users but also improve farmers' productivity and guarantee farmers' incomes.



**8,800+**

farmers trained in 2020

**86,000+**

farmers trained  
under the initiative till date

## Cocoa and Forests Initiative (CFI)

The Governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana and the world's leading cocoa and chocolate companies signed landmark agreements in November 2017 to end deforestation and promote forest restoration and protection in the cocoa supply chain. This public-private partnership is called the Cocoa and Forests Initiative (CFI). CFI activities proceed from three priorities namely forest protection, sustainable production and farmers' livelihoods and community engagement and social inclusion.

### UPL'S integrated approach acts on Pillar 2: Sustainable production and farmers' livelihoods

UPL's work with cocoa communities is delivered through a unique 'Farmer centric model'. This integrated approach allows UPL to provide smallholder farmers with sustainable and high-quality inputs, access to modern technologies and biological tools. Farmers also receive training in good agricultural practices, health and safety, and demonstration plots. This integrated model is designed to improve yield, improve living income and improve farmer resilience.

**Training:** Our primary CFI goals are to train 16,500 farmers in Good Agricultural Practices in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire and to facilitate access to financial products for 67,700 farmers in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire by 2022. Despite the range of challenges 2020 brought, we are pleased to report that we have been able to reach more farmers than targeted and deepen our impact.

**Crop diversification:** Our work in promoting farm-level crop diversification is aimed at creating greater economic resilience for small growers so that increased profitability doesn't rely solely on more cocoa hectares under cultivation.

**Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA):** VSLA's can play an important role in bringing last-mile financial services and products to rural areas in developing countries, where access to formal financial services is often very limited.

**Financial inclusion:** In the last 12 months, one of our most successful programmes addressing Sustainable Production and Farmers' Livelihoods has been to promote greater financial education and resilience through farmer savings accounts.

**Our impact under the CFI is highlighted below:**

	No. of farmers trained	No. of farmers applying crop diversification	No. of farmers under VSLA	No. of farmers receiving financial products
<b>Ghana</b>	7,968	7,968	2,688	NA
<b>Cote d' Ivoire</b>	8,528	2,128	600	36,858

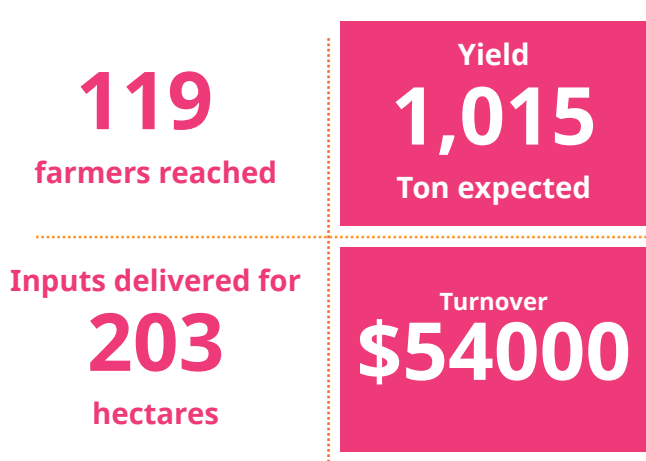
## Integrated Maize Program (IMP) in Mali

In Mali, access to finance for quality inputs is a big issue for small farmers. Not all crops benefit from an input subsidy and agricultural credit is only available to large farms. In order to facilitate access to quality inputs and secure market for farmers and a money back guarantee, IMP was initiated. A tripartite partnership connecting Mali Protection des Cultures (MPC) , producers and buyers of corn has been established. MPC makes the inputs available to growers and trains them on their proper use. Growers repay the credit in an equivalent quantity of corn. The expected yield improvement is from a dismal 2 ton/hectare to a minimum of 5 ton/hectare.

The benefits from the program are manifold. For MPC, it leads to business extension and demand creation. For farmers, the initiative provides easy acces to quality inputs, empowerment on best practices,yield enhancement and market access. And for consumers i.e the companies purchasing corn, it establishes a secured supply channel, provides good quality corn and possible traceability of the products.

**Location:** Sikasso, Bougouni (south of Mali) and Kita (south-west of Mali)

**The program has had the following impact till date :**





## B1.2 Ensuring stable income for farmers in Kenya

We partnered with buyers in Kenya to provide sustainable income for smallholder farmers. This relationship has benefited local farmers for the past few years, offering them regular and guaranteed profit.

We offer training and field demonstrations where farmers can learn how to grow sorghum and maximize crop productivity. Farmers who participate in the scheme receive a farming contract from the buyers with guaranteed prices for the grain, providing them with a stable income.



## B1.3 Building smallholders' resilience in Mexico

"Dos Tortillas" is our program for smallholder farmers in Mexico. The objective is to introduce new corn technologies to smallholders to increase yield, improve productivity and self-sufficiency. The farmers are provided with corn seeds, fertilizers and protective equipment, and training in agronomy. In return, they bring symbolic two tortillas, which are part of the shared meal at the end of the event. The program improves smallholder farmers' productivity and introduces new technologies to marginal farmers in Mexico.

## B1.4 Empowering women farmers in Indonesia

We developed a marketing program for empowering women farmers during the pandemic crisis in Indonesia. The program aims to target women directly to invite them on a priority basis to Advanta's crop and technology demonstrations.

At the events, Advanta Seeds provides designated health and safety checks and seating areas for women only. Additionally, all women received safety kits. As a result of this targeted marketing campaign, women's participation increased by 30%. This successful action inspires a new goal for Advanta Seeds to increase women participation to 75%.

## B1.5 Building economic and climate change resilience of women and smallholder farmers in Tanzania

Advanta partnered with UN Women and Farm Africa to empower women with hybrid sunflower seeds in a joint program titled "Realizing Gender Equality through Empowering Women and Adolescent Girls." The objective is to empower economically and improve the social status of women and female youth farmers. Each farmer received agronomy training and one kilogram of hybrid sunflower seed. Over 300 farmers participated.

In another initiative called "Climate Smart Africa," we partnered with FAO and Farm Africa to introduce the farmers to sorghum crops more productive in drought and more resilient to heat than traditionally grown corn. We showcased the sorghum benefits in 180 field demos across 64 villages in Tanzania.





## B1.6 Empowering livestock keepers with nutrition in Tanzania

Advanta collaborates with Agricultural Research Institute TARI to test Advanta fodder crops for silage. The objective is to enhance farmers' income in Tanzania. TARI has been testing six Advanta varieties with excellent results. The crop is full of nutrients, high in sugar and protein, which improves milk production by at least 25%. This collaboration allows enhancing nutrition and farmers' income in Tanzania.

## B1.7 Agriculture development (UPL KhedutPragati) in India

In India, our goal for agriculture development is to “enhance food security and improve the socio-economic conditions of 25,000 small and medium farmers.” We follow an integrated approach to achieve this goal which includes formation of farmer groups, trainings, demonstration of cropping practices and establishment of market linkages. The initiatives are undertaken in clusters namely- Ankleshwar, Dang, Jhagadia, Vadodara, Vandri and Valsad in the state of Gujarat. The results achieved have been summarized ahead.

### Enhanced food security and nutrition

UPL has been promoting system of crop/root intensification for crops like rice, finger millet etc. leading to an improvement in yield by 35-40% in the region. The Package of Practices provided to the farmers has helped them in selection of the seed variety, seed treatment, type of soil, seed rate, method of sowing etc. leading to a further increase in productivity. Enhancement in productivity ensures that enough food is available to the farmer families round the year.

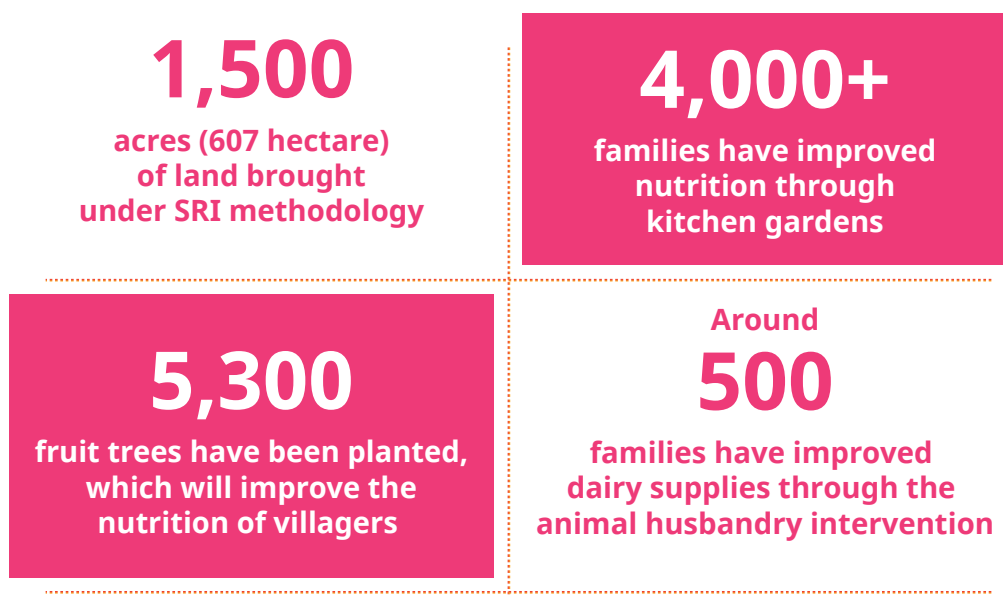




UPL has been promoting plantation of vegetable kitchen gardens for more than 6 years now. Kitchen gardens are very easy to install and hence adaptability has been high among farmers. As a result the nutritional value of meals has improved in the region.

Another initiative towards supplementing nutrition has been planting orchard gardens. Availability of multiple fruits in the vicinity of one's home will have a positive impact on the health of the local populace.

#### Highpoints of the impact include:



### Increased access to technology

The farmers have been following the traditional method of rain fed agriculture since ages in the region which makes them vulnerable. The uneven terrain also restricts the production patterns in areas like Dang. Hence the team initiated technology driven interventions.

Trainings, exposure visits and demonstration farms emphasizing the benefits of drip irrigation have been successful in convincing many farmers to switch to drip irrigation.

The team has also motivated and provided necessary support to farmers to install the system for growing creeper and climber crops. This system has provided bountiful vegetables to the farmers without occupying much valuable farming land.

A common feature of agriculture extension interventions is development of demonstration plots in the villages. Farmers in the region have been transferring these techniques to their fields and experiencing increased productivity and a reduction in input costs.



**430+**

acres (170+ hectare  
of land brought under  
drip irrigation)

**100+**

acres (40+ hectare)  
of land brought under  
creeper system

**200+**

demonstration plots have  
been developed,  
covering around 250 acres  
(100+ hectare) land

## Capacity building (both human and institutional)

Farmers' participation is essential for sustainable development and hence an extension approach that aims at increasing farmer's involvement in the decision making structure was needed. UPL initiated the **Farmers' Group approach** in clusters to ease out the process of reaching out to large number of farmers. The farmers not only work together in groups but have developed significant skills like technical capabilities , group management, resource mobilization, economic cooperative and grassroots democracy.



Agriculturists get trained round the year (free of charges) by our team. Issues central to practicing sustainable agriculture are taken care of during the on -farm and off- farm training programs like climate change adaptations, good agricultural practices on soil, water and crop management etc. Farmers have successfully transferred the acquired skills to their farms.

**The highpoints of the impact include:**

**87**

**farmer groups  
formed till date**

**3,880**

**members mobilized**

**More than**

**1,200**

**farmers trained in 2020-21**



## Farmer Producer Companies

A large number of farmers in the region are small and marginal. Fragmented land holdings do not allow economies of scale in production. Hence, the formation of Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs) in the clusters has provided the members with economies of scale in purchase of inputs, processing and marketing of the produce. The FPCs are also helping farmers in getting timely and adequate credit and has improved their access to market. Today farmers are realizing better returns on their produce by selling the produce through the FPCs.



**6**

**Farmer Producer  
Companies formed**

**1,500+**

**farmers enrolled**

**INR**

**13,65,000**

**equity generated**



## Improved market access for fresh farm produce

In yet another initiative called **Fresh Veg to You**, a good number of vegetable growers have enrolled. This initiative allows the farmers to sell their vegetables directly to consumers through a mobile van, operated by one of the farmers. This also ensures low wastage of vegetables and good returns for the farmers.



Gross turnover of around INR

**50**

lacs through sale of  
vegetables achieved

**75**

farmers who have enrolled  
themselves in the program  
have improved earnings

## B2. Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

### B2.1 UPL Niyojaniy – Skilling school drop-out youth for sustainable and incremental livelihood in India

The initiative is a joint partnership between Center for Entrepreneurship Development (CED), the Gujarat Industries Development Corporation (GIDC) and S.R Shroff Aajivika Trust (promoted and managed by UPL for imparting employable skills to the youth). 4 skill development centers (known as UPL Niyojaniy Kendra) are operational in Ankleshwar, Dahej, Halol and Vapi. These centers focus on providing industry specific skills to youth to undertake fabrication, chemical, electrical etc. work at factory floors. Thus, this program meets the twin objective of making youth employable and meeting the growing demand for skilled manpower in the region. The holistic curriculum ensures that participants not only grow professionally, but are also equipped with the finer skills to lead better lives. This year we trained 261 youth, out of which 203 have already taken up responsible positions in various industries

To support the initiative, a satellite training center has been started which helps in reaching youth and women in the remotest corners of the region. Under the initiative trainings programs covered various aspects like safety, financial management, availability of different government schemes and more.



**1,969**  
youth trained till date

**1,273**  
working in industries  
as of date

**818**  
participants were  
trained online in 2020-21

## **B2.2 UPL Udyamita- Ensuring sustainable livelihood for women in India**

Formation and strengthening of Self Help Groups (SHG) has led to financial, socio- cultural and economic empowerment of women across the region. This initiative named Udyamita, has reached women in the remotest corners of Ankleshwar, Jhagadia, Vapi and Dahej. Through information dissemination drives, training programs, exposure visits and mentoring, the team has been successful in inculcating the spirit of entrepreneurship amongst women. 6 micro- enterprises have been formed as a result and women members are successfully operating the same and getting gainful employment, even during difficult times of the pandemic.



# 151

SHGs are successfully operating in the region

# 1,800+

women are empowered through SHG membership

# 100+

groups have started income generation activities

# 1,600+

women skilled in agripreneurship

# 172

women skilled to run an enterprise

## A summary of the micro-enterprises operated and managed under Udyamita:

**Nagli processing unit, Dang :** The SHG members are successfully managing a Nagli Processing Unit established with support from UPL. The unit is currently producing various millet (nagli) based products like bread, toast, papad, laddoo etc. Around 10 households have improved their incomes through this initiative.





**Cashew processing unit, Kaprada, Valsad:** UPL partnered with District Rural Development Agency, Gujarat to operate a cashew processing unit at Kaprada in Valsad. Women were provided with adequate training to enhance their productivity and were also given a safe environment to work in groups during the pandemic. The unit has generated a revenue of more than INR 8 lacs since its commencement. To support the initiative cashew plantation is also done at the premises.

➤ **25 women got gainfully employed during the pandemic**

**Honey processing unit, Valsad :** We supported the Dhruvi Self Help Group (SHG) to set-up a trading business of Honey at Chival Village, Valsad. The aim was to provide an alternative livelihood and make them self-reliant through financial independence. Also, under the convergence an outlet was allocated at Amraban, Kaparada by The Department of Social Forestry, Valsad for sale of the produce.

**Bamboo craft unit, Chival, Valsad :** Around 50 women are productively self- employed in the prodction of bamboo based products and selling it through various channels like retail shop, exhibitions, etc.

**Artificial jewelry unit, Paria, Valsad:** More than 60 women are gainfully engaged in production of fancy ornaments made from metal, beads, stone etc. which have a demand in the market. The women sell their products in exhibitions and local fairs.

The bamboo products and artificial jewelry are sold under the brand name **“Pragati Shilp”** promoted by UPL for marketing the products made under Udyamita.

**Stitching and tailoring:** Under Udyamita, SHG members were trained for making garments. Today around 75 women from different villages are producing fine garments and selling the same in local markets, thus making themselves financially independent.







## Women Credit Saving Cooperative @ Valsad

With the support and encouragement from the UPL team, SHGs from Valsad have registered a Cooperative Society called “Shakhi Mahila Savings and Credit Cooperative Society Ltd, Valsad in 2019-20. A skill training on operational management of the same has also been conducted. With this initiative rural women are more empowered through easy access to credit to finance small enterprises and other income-generation activities. The project also provides capacity building through education, leadership development and micro-enterprise training.





**500+**

women have improved access to credit

**INR 6**

lacs available for fruitful activities

## C. Nature Conservation

Conservation of nature is the 1st step towards promoting a healthy and balanced ecosystem; vital for all living entities- plants, animals and humans. UPL along with its neighboring communities across the globe has initiated multiple programs in this domain and has achieved several milestones. Our key initiatives towards nature conservation are listed below.

### C1. 2 R's - Recycle and Reforest in Sao Paulo, Brazil

This program began with the objective of making the itinerant collection of agricultural solutions packaging, with a focus on small producers, who have difficulty transporting these materials to recycling centers. Since 2012, the company has supported this recycling and reforestation program in the State of São Paulo. In eight years, the project "2R's – Recycle and Reforest", by the Cooperative of Sugarcane Planters of the State of São Paulo (Coplacana) and financial support from UPL, has already collected 200 tons of containers. For each delivery of empty packages, producers receive a native or fruit tree seedling which helps in reforestation in the local area. On an average, we have distributed one sapling for every 125 kilos of plastic collected.

Because of the pandemic, we stopped the collection. However, we intend to restore it as soon as the situation normalizes.

**200**

tons of containers  
collected

**2,200**

farmers served  
till date across 13 cities

**16,000**

plants distributed





## C2. Saving the Amazon in Colombia

At UPL, we are committed to our goal to conserve the environment, support the indigenous communities to enhance food security and support for effective social productivity to save the Amazon and its people. UPL Colombia joined an initiative “Saving the Amazon”, where we donated trees to all our stakeholders in Colombia and Ecuador. We initiated to conserve the Amazon by planting trees with the help of the indigenous people from the Huitora community. Through the donation of trees, we are supporting the Saving the Amazon Foundation to restore the Amazon, which will be the most important ecological altar on the planet. Further, it will contribute to their food security and the transformation of their socioeconomic conditions, through green microenterprise from the trees planted.

## C3. Urban Plants Project (Barranquilla, Colombia)

In 2019, thanks to this project, school gardens were installed in two schools neighboring the plant. In 2020, through this project, we taught children and their families to plant gardens inside their houses; so 40 children, together with their families, through the learning experience of planting vegetables and aromatics, connected with nature and lived our OpenAg purpose.

Urban Plant today is recognized by the district mayor of the city and the district secretary of education and by 2021, in alliance with these institutions, it will continue to expand the urban agriculture network in the sector neighboring the Barranquilla plant.

## C4. Wildlife Conservation in Kenya

In Kenya, we are working with Mr. Patrick Kilonzo Mwalua on conservation of wildlife at **Tsavo West National Park (Kenya)**. Mr. Patrick Mwalua Kilonzo is known to many as the “Waterman of Tsavo”. Through the initiative, we work on minimizing man-animal conflict by promoting Sunflower farming (agri based conservation) in the region. This program not only reduces the conflict but also empowers people to grow food in a sustainable and ecologically responsible way. For this we worked towards community gardens in areas of vacant land within the community that community members collaboratively farmed. Using water from the rock catchment to ensure enough crop yield and having the farms near the village meant the community was able to monitor that land and deter animal activity. It was a demonstration cum farming facility of sunflower. Elephants do not eat sunflower and its easy to grow them in arable/ semi arable conditions. Being a source of high-quality edible vegetable oil, it has a regular market with better returns. Thus it will also supplement farmers income. Sunflower also attracts bees, thereby deterring the elephants from entering the farms.

Last year the pilot project did very well and lots of farmers from the area have started planting sunflower this season after seeing last year’s demonstration project. While implementing the project we realized that labour for harvesting, winnowing and transportation is very expensive and the market for the produce is around 500 Kilometers away. The solution suggested by the team is:

- Installing sunflower pressing machines in the community – This would help the farmers to harvest the oil in their farms itself, thereby saving on the transportation cost. The residue can be used to feed their animals. UPL is sponsoring the machine and also planning to get contribution from community to make the project sustainable.
- Installation of winnowing or sheller machine at the farms to improve the efficiency of farmers.



## C5. Promoting conservation farming in Tanzania

Conservation farming is essential to preserve natural biodiversity. It means farming in harmony with nature and preserving the organic matter and species such as earthworms, beetles and other small animals. In Tanzania, Advanta Seeds has collaborated with Farm for the Future, ACE and Bytrade Tanzania Ltd. to promote conservation agriculture. In the launching event 200 farmers from 16 villages participated and learned about the benefits and attended training and field demonstration.





## C6. UPL Vasudha in India

The nature conservation program is known as UPL Vasudha in India. The key initiatives and their impact are highlighted.

### C6.1 Sarus Conservation

UPL has been relentlessly working towards conservation of this species which is categorized as vulnerable on the IUCN's (International Union for Conservation of Nature) Red List. Sarus crane (*Grus antigone antigone*) is a resident species and is known to use wetlands and agriculture fields. Since the bird is totally dependent on human approach for its survival and coexistence, we have been following a participatory mechanism involving farmers and other stakeholders for their conservation in Kheda district of Gujarat.

**Our focus is mainly directed towards:**

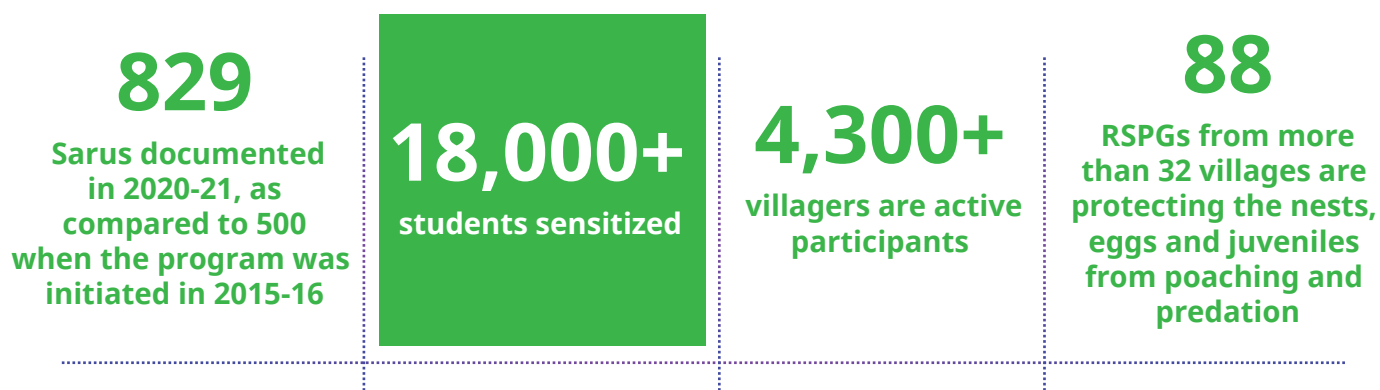
**Creating awareness** amongst school children and the farming community- This year 29 awareness programmes including lectures, movie screenings, competitions, exposure visits, cleanliness drives etc. were conducted , following all safety protocols and reached 1,663 stakeholders. 17 outreach programs were conducted in 24 villages which saw participation and commitment from 620 farmers. The farmers reported 20 nests in their agricultural fields which led to successful fledging of 31 juveniles.





Making the rural community an active participant in the efforts- **Rural Sarus Protection Groups (RSPGs)** have been formed comprising of farmers and youth who have voluntarily decided to contribute towards Sarus conservation. They provide information on Sarus sightings from agriculture fields, marshlands and wetlands, nesting of Sarus, summer and winter congregation, injured and dead Sarus and anthropogenic activities from their surrounding areas. As an extended support to community, the team planted community vegetable gardens to meet the nutritional requirements of people.

**Documentation** of Sarus crane population along with their nesting and breeding information is an important aspect of the initiative.







## C6.2 Deer and Ungulate breeding project

UPL has partnered with Nature Club Surat and forest department to preserve the wildlife of Dang forest and avoid man- animal conflict in the region, which was on a rise since the last couple of years. The forest which was inhabited by many herbivores and carnivores saw a sharp decline in its animal life. The few remaining Leopards often attack the human population and their domesticated animals for their survival. To avoid such incidents the project has started to breed Deers and Ungulates for soft release in the wild forests. UPL is playing a key role to ensure viability and sustainability of the project in the long run.

There are

**62**

spotted Deer and 12 Four-Horned  
Antelopes in the park as of  
31<sup>st</sup> March, 2021

**19**

spotted Deer were released  
into the wild forest

## C6.3 Social Forestry

The UPL social forestry program which was started more than 5 years ago has brought the local community together, who have become joint owners of forests along with UPL team and work in their upkeep. UPL has been working with the local community members in tree plantation, ensuring regular water supply, upkeep of the forest, protecting the trees through tree guards and more. Many volunteers participate in tree plantation drives along with students and community members. Our efforts have shown results and we now have flourishing forests in the region.

**1.3 lakh+**

tree saplings planted till date

**300+**

acres of land converted into social forests





**Mangrove Plantation:** Gujarat has the second largest mangrove cover in the country and it has been steadily increasing in recent decades, thanks to efforts made by government and corporates like UPL. UPL has been steadily working towards mangrove cultivation in the coastal areas of Vagra block, thus reclaiming coastal land and helping in preventing soil erosion and flooding.

**3,00,000**

Mangroves planted till date

**150**

acres of land in coastal belt  
reclaimed so far

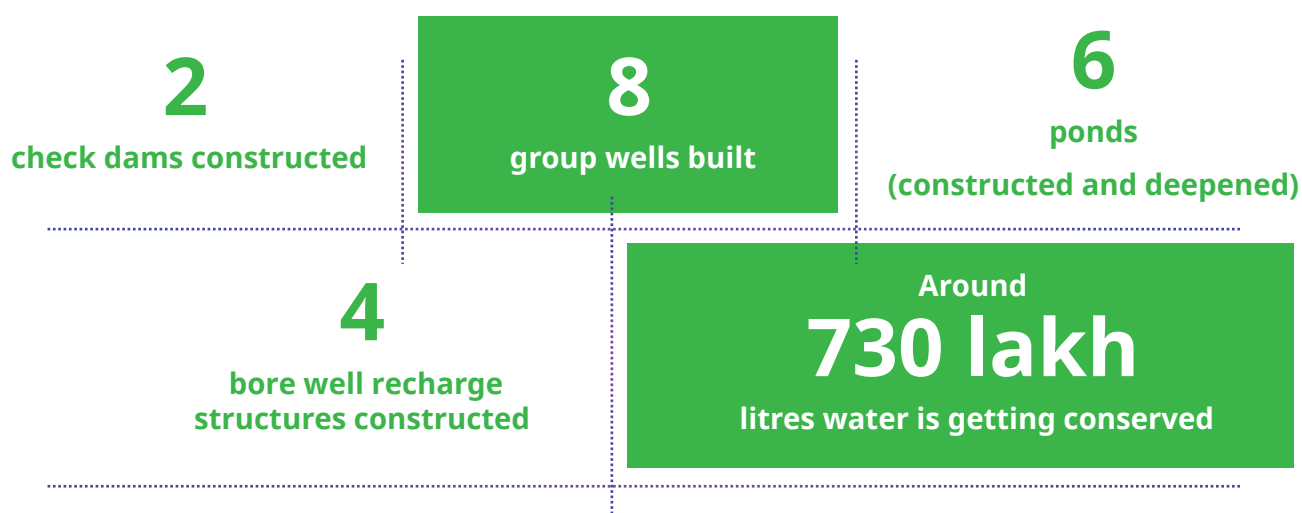
### Planting fruit trees and promoting clean environment

Planting trees has been a regular activity of UPL and Advanta Seeds. Last year Advanta Seeds in India planted over 3000 fruit trees. The fruit trees offset environmental impacts, provide nutrition and a healthy, clean environment for the community to enjoy. The team also ensured seedling survival by erecting tree guards and carefully nurturing them until the sapling matures into a tree. The aim is to create awareness about nutrition and environmental care at farms, schools, and communal places throughout rural India.



## C6.4 Water Conservation

Our efforts in this direction are localised and depend on topography and need of the region. In our social forestry sites, we have been capturing and storing rainfall to irrigate the newly planted tree saplings. The water ecosystem created includes robust water structures (check dam, group well, construction and deepening of ponds ) and recharging the existing structures like farm ponds, bore wells etc. These systems are created at multiple sites with active involvement of the community. These efforts would ensure fresh water availability for future generations too as we reduce withdrawal of fresh water from the existing water ecosystem. In the long run, it would also help to preserve fresh water habitats for local wildlife.



## C6.5 Eco Club

Eco club is an initiative to inculcate values and skills needed by our children to become future torch bearers of nature conservation. All the initiatives undertaken by the clubs are jointly driven by school students, teachers, village community and UPL team. The efforts are mainly focused at imparting information and knowledge about the working of the ecosystem and the need to preserve it. The stakeholders are also encouraged and supported to actively undertake nature conservation activities like promotion of biodiversity through tree plantation.

Programs like essay writing, poster making, elocution, drama etc. are conducted throughout the year to improve childrens' conceptual understanding. They are also taken on exposure visits to experience natural heritage which in turn develops a sense of respect for it. This year we conducted 8 virtual awareness sessions and sensitized more than 1,000 students on different aspects of nature conservation.

The students also grew medicinal plants, fruit trees, vegetable gardens, ornamental plants and various types of trees in their school premises, homes and community spaces. They are also responsible for the upkeep of these plants.



**117**

eco clubs are functional  
in the region

**4,400+**

children are active  
participants

**16,000+**

children are sensitized  
towards environment

This year our students planted

**17,350**

saplings towards a greener tomorrow

**70,000+**

saplings have been planted  
till date by the students





## D1. National Development Needs

UPL is cognizant of the fact that development of a nation requires much larger efforts and the need to move beyond one's neighborhood. We have been looking at the larger development goals of the nation through undertaking programs in the remotest corners of the country, by supporting initiatives in various capacities to reach a wider audience and through relief and rehabilitation efforts in times of natural calamities. Our involvement in such initiatives is channelized through -

- Monetary aid
- Management support
- Mentoring and guidance
- Extending skills

Our key initiatives addressing national development needs across the globe are summarized below.

### D1.1 The One Billion Hearts Initiative in Africa

The Heart Fund curated the One Billion Hearts Initiative in 2020 in a public- private partnership mode. UPL pledged its support to the initiative for providing universal access to cardiovascular health for 1 billion people in Africa by 2030. The initiative is focussing on building greater local medical and health capabilities to improve access of health services to the traditionally underserved rural communities. The goal is to have 1 cardiac center per 33 million people in Africa and 27million in Côte d'Ivoire.

The program to improve cardiovascular health in rural Côte d'Ivoire started its 6-month pilot phase at the end of February, 2021. The efforts of the team till date are mentioned below.



A cardiac mobile clinic

**100%**

dedicated to the program is functional

**1,236**

cardiac consultations have been performed, the majority having never consulted a cardiologist before

**31**

health professionals have been mobilised

**15**

local health workers have been trained to screen heart diseases



## D1.2 The Life Association in Brazil

For quite some time now, UPL Brazil has been focussing on fostering a generation which is more sensitive, conscious and responsive towards themselves and society, thus contributing towards a brighter future for Brazil. The Life Association is one such initiative where we are actively engaged and participate to work with youth in situations of psychological vulnerability located in neighboring areas. The youth who are a part of the program lead more informed lives and contribute towards the growth of the economy. They are also more participative in social causes and live with values of empathy, solidarity and compassion. More than 170 young people have been impacted positively through the program. Around 30% of our pupil have received scholarships and are pursuing their education in private schools and 60% have entered universities of their choice.



**In 2020-21, the pandemic reshaped our priorities and the following impact was achieved through Life Association:**

- 1,400 food baskets were distributed to the families of young people enrolled in the Campinas-SP and Sorriso-MT program
- Nutritional supplement (Vitamin C and D) was given for 7 months, to all young people and their families of the Life Association
- Face protection masks were given to each of the subscribers, both at the Campinas-SP Unit and at the Sorriso-MT unit
- Life Association provided moments of joy and love by giving young people clothing, shoes, treats and hygiene materials during the christmas campaign

## D1.3 Promoting sustainable agriculture and education through FIFA Foundation in Brazil

UPL and the FIFA Foundation will work together to support sustainable development objectives and environmental protection efforts through a ten-year program that will enable the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions and reward small holder farmers in emerging countries for adopting sustainable agricultural practices. UPL will also invest in public-private science partnerships to continue to study the impact of sustainable farming practices on carbon sequestration under diverse agronomic realities.

Additionally, UPL will collaborate with the FIFA Foundation's 'Football for Schools' program designed to engage underprivileged children in interactive sessions focused on developing life skills and promoting values through football. UPL will coordinate access to the FIFA Football for Schools program for up to 30 schools in rural areas of Brazil, in conjunction with industry partners and engaging local authorities in key countries. The FIFA Foundation will provide leadership, program material and football expertise.

Our CEO, Jai Shroff and COO, Diego Lopez Casanello participated in a high-level signing ceremony at the FIFA Museum in Zurich.

## D1.4 Oxford India Centre for Sustainable Development (OICSD), UK

UPL has been extending its support to the centre for the past one year which continues to serve as a hub for knowledge exchange and solution-oriented discussions around sustainable development challenges in India. In the past year, OICSD has hosted over 20 seminars and events, which saw high attendance from researchers and students from UK, India and the rest of the world. Some of its prominent events dealt with India's COVID response, environmental politics in India, race and climate injustices, India's agrarian economy, the demand for cooling and more. OICSD's India and climate change reading group held several sessions featuring high-level academic presentations from India's leading institutions. OICSD has formally partnered with the India Climate Collaborative, which seeks to direct funding and visibility to climate action in India, and the India Cooling Coalition, a multistakeholder group engaged extensively in sustainable cooling research and application.

<b>20</b> online events held	<b>2,000+</b> attendees globally
<b>11</b> collaborators across countries	<b>27</b> academic publications
<b>16</b> current scholars	<b>18</b> alumni scholars



## D1.5 United Bharat

The programs addressing national development needs are collectively known as "United Bharat" in India. The key initiatives and their impact are highlighted below.

### United against child labour (UACL)

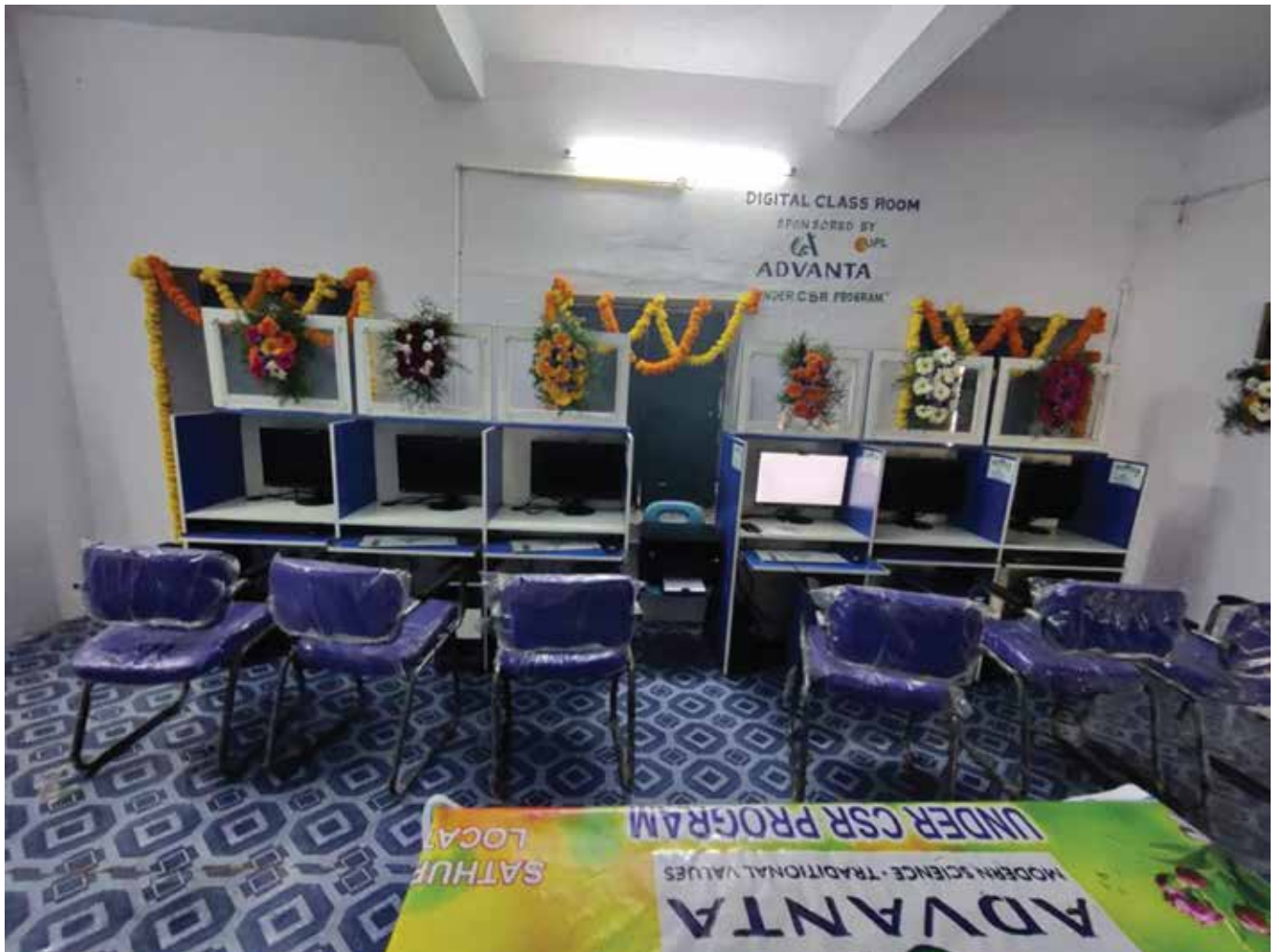
#### "Children shouldn't work in fields, but on Dreams"

Child labour can be defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and dignity. Millions of children are forced into child labour due to poverty and illiteracy. This is a cultural issue that needs to be addressed in a holistic manner. Considering the magnitude and extent of the problem, Advanta team is working to support and help reintegrate children into mainstream education through our holistic project "United Against Child Labour" (UACL). The key objective is to eliminate all forms of child labour in seed supplier farms and to ensure education for children.



## Initiatives under Project UACL:

- **Child labour policy** - UPL has a clause in the workplace code of conduct which clearly conveys UPL's position on ZERO tolerance of child labour and forced labour engagement.
- **No child labour clause in growers/ farmers and third party contracts** - In grower seed production agreement, we have incorporated "No child labour" clause in workplace code of conduct with an aim to achieve decent and humane working conditions. The code's standards are based on International Labour Organization standard and internationally accepted good labour practices
- **Awareness programs**- UACL is implementing awareness programs to focus on two main areas - general public awareness and self awareness.
- **Advocacy at national level** - Advocacy is done with an aim to influence decisions within political, economic and social systems and institutions. We are a member of ECHO- Enabling Child and Human Rights with Seed Organizations which is a multi-stakeholder forum established as a joint initiative of the seed industry and Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs). The key objective of ECHO is to identify issues and promote ethical seed production supply chain and enable decent workplace in hybrid seed industry.
- **Third party audits** - UPL Advanta has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Global Research and Consultancy Services (GRCS) for third party audits.
- **SOP on child labour monitoring** – We have developed an SOP on child labour monitoring which provides a detailed procedure to identify, monitor and work towards the elimination of child labour engagement in the activities of supply chain. It contains RASCI matrix for clear responsibilities and accountability of everyone in the organization.  
We have incorporated a module for child labour monitoring in ABS system itself. The field team is provided with a smart tablet to upload online the incidence and capture photograph during their visits. Both production team as well as quality team monitor child labour.
- **Rewards and recognition**- Like every year, this year too we recognized about 50 farmers in the four events who produced high-quality crops without the use of child labour in the annual year.
- To target child labour issue at its root, we support schools to encourage childrens' education. We developed a sanitation and cleanliness awareness program, constructed eight mobile toilets in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and constructed twenty-six RO plants in multiple schools in Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. We also sponsored school equipment and smart technologies to enhance the learning environment in rural schools.



## Nutri-gardens for local schools and community- Anganwadi, Telangana, India

As the world faces a food crisis with COVID-19 disturbing the food supply, more children are affected by hunger and malnutrition. So the local government initiated a program to encourage schools and Anganwadi (a child care center in rural India) to provide nutritious food to children. This idea started the nutri-garden initiative, where seed companies were invited to donate seeds. Advanta Seeds was the first seeds company to contribute and provided 500 kits (Rainbow Kits with 12 different vegetable seeds). We also helped to grow the crop, and as a result, many children enjoyed nutritional meals.



## Unnati (Capacity building of Community Based Organizations)

Through Unnati, UPL has cultivated and nurtured the management skills of 12 community based organizations (CBOs) in the last 6 years. These CBOs are today functioning with greater efficiency and efficacy and are successfully creating sustainable impact in their development domains. Rigorous sessions conducted by experts in various domains (leadership development, communication, information systems, project management, financial management etc.) have helped the CBOs in making their annual planning, personnel management, preparation of budgets and reporting etc. much more productive. Many CBOs have achieved desired results and their efforts have been recognized on larger platforms too.

12

CBOs are working more efficiently today

11

lakh people positively impacted by these CBOs

## My Super Ward (India's 1<sup>st</sup> citizen- centric application)

UPL launched an e-platform known as My Super Ward to help citizens and local government collaborate in the development process of their ward. This area specific model integrates knowledge with decision making and enhances the quality of impact. Over the last 3 years, around 1,000 residents from 2 wards of MCGM (Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai) have used the application to contact civil authorities , raise complaints, give feedback on development work in progress, make suggestions for new projects and more.

1<sup>st</sup>

of its kind citizen- centric application in India

666

complaints received till date

338

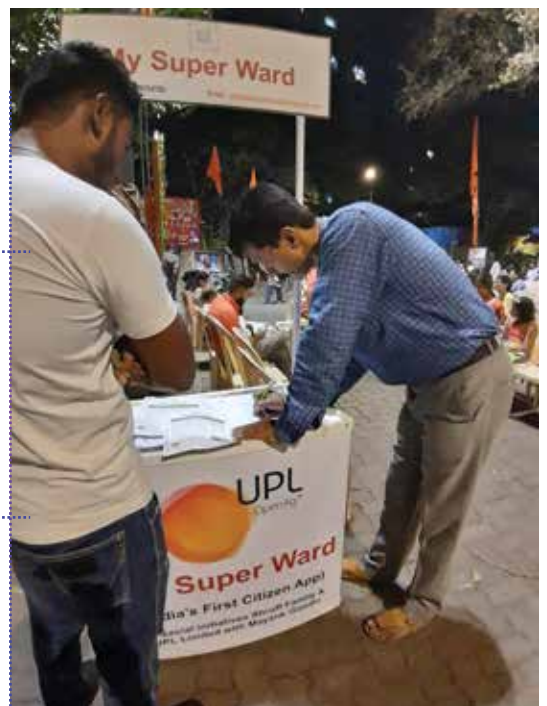
complaints successfully redressed

2,200+

people made aware

1,900+

installations made till date



## Narmada development

Narmada district which falls in the southern part of Gujarat in India, has been chosen as an “Aspirational District” by the government to first catch-up with the best district within the state, and subsequently aspire to become one of the best in the country. UPL has joined hands with the government machinery in achieving this target. A holistic development approach is being followed with focus on making agriculture self - sustainable and profitable. In the last 5 years, UPL developed various water resources like check dams (2), Borewells (8) and also facilitated a lift irrigation system directly impacting and benefitting 233 farmers and irrigating 245 acres of farmland. Along with water resource development, UPL motivated farmers to practice multi-cropping and this year 75 farmers took second crop due to availability of water. Around 300 farmers participated in agricultural training on orchard farming out of which 115 have already started the same. UPL also facilitated the formation of a Farmer Producer Company to provide better marketing linkage for the produce. The program aims at working on developing sustainable “Value Chains” in agriculture sector in the district in the coming 3 years.

We are targeting about 10,000 farmers/women in more than 100 villages of four blocks(taluka) that are Sagbara, Dediapada, Nandod and Garudeshwar of Narmada district.

The project will be implemented in “Integrated Approach” by involving village-based institutions/organizations for forward and backward linkages for “consolidating base” of the value chain. Strong market linkages will be developed and bulk buyers, wholesalers, exporters, and retail chains will be identified for the sale of the products.

**500+**

farmer families  
have been positively  
impacted by the program



## UPL Ekatrika Bhavishya, Vidharbha, Maharashtra

In the absence of knowledge and technical capabilities and a stretched financial condition, farm widows in India struggle to survive in difficult circumstances. However, with help from government, voluntary organizations and companies like UPL, they are recovering from their losses and starting to manage their lives. Women are trained and supported to form Self Help Groups, to contribute towards a mutual fund to meet emergency needs and loan requirements. Going ahead, UPL organizes training programs under “Abha Project Sewing Class Training Center, Pandharkavada” for members for developing entrepreneurial skills. Apparel making is taught to a group of women and tailoring machines are also provided to take up work from day 1. UPL also plans to establish market linkages for garments made by these women to make the initiative financially viable and sustainable.



**500+**

women trained till date

**100+**

sewing machines  
provided

**24**

widows gainfully  
employed through  
the initiative

## Global Parli (A mission to transform India through rural economic transformation)

Global Parli initiated its ambitious program to transform India starting with Parli in Marathwada district of Maharashtra. In the 1st stage, the program focused on a 360 degree approach to participative development in areas like water management, livelihood, human development, social reforms and gram swaraj. Having achieved its objectives in the 1st stage, the program moved on to second stage where the focus is on transformation through water management, orchard plantation and transformation of rural economy. Going ahead, the team is now looking at replicating the model in other states as well, starting with Raisen in Madhya Pradesh.

Farmer outreach is at the core of Global Parli operations, across all regions in Marathwada, Palghar and Raisen. The key strategy includes plantation, training and guidance, backward and forward linking, logistical support and data management.

Collaboration with agriculture universities, exposure visits, online training webinars, team training etc. are undertaken round the year. The team also launched a farmer training application (available on Google Play Store) which provides customized, bite sized learning content which aims at empowering farmers and ultimately increase their income.



**100+**

villages positively impacted  
in the last 4 years

**20**

lakh+ fruit trees planted  
in 2020

**42.5**

lakh+ fruit trees planted  
till date

## Support to Friends of Tribal Society to run “One Teacher School”

UPL is supporting Friends of Tribal Society to run and manage “One Teacher Schools” (OTS) popularly called “Ekal Vidyalayan” an institution established at the village level to provide holistic learning opportunities to tribal and rural children. These centers of learning are established with the support of the Gram Samiti and are managed by them to enhance self-reliability at the local level. This program ensures continuous learning even in the remotest location.

**454**  
One Teacher  
Schools supported

**13,000+**  
students in Umaria and Shahdol  
region, Madhya Pradesh  
are getting educated

## Support to Save the Children India (SCI)

Save the Children India or Bal Raksha Bharat has been working for more than 2 decades now to improve the lives of marginalized children in India. The organization has impacted the lives of more than 10 million children through its sustainable, community-driven projects in education and healthcare, protection from harm and abuse and life-saving aid during emergencies to children.

UPL has been extending its support to SCI for the last 3 years now, helping special needs children to become a part of mainstream education and lead a life of self- respect and independence. The focus is on increasing academic knowledge, develop physical and creative abilities and enhance social and communication skills which will go a long way in enhancing the self- esteem of these children. Through the efforts, a more inclusive society will emerge, which will be more welcoming to the children.

In 2020-21, the CSR team undertook several initiatives around the country to meet development needs of diverse communities. Key initiatives are summarized below.

**Project Pace** at Pratapgarh and Sultanpur: UPL is supporting “TYCIA Foundation” for providing better education in the area. In this initiative, along with development of basic infrastructure, 100 student’s education will be supported by UPL.

Support to install **solar lights** at different locations in India: UPL is working on installing solar lights in various locations of India as a community development initiative. We have installed 120 solar lights in Barmer- Rajasthan and 95 solar lights in Singhbara and Morena in Madhya Pradesh.

Establishing **Gandhian village** in Palitana, Bhavnagar, India: UPL is supporting the “Gandhian village Project” in Palitana of Bhavnagar district, India where a multi-purpose community hall was built for the use of villagers.



Construction of **community center** at Channahalli, Bangalore: UPL is supporting SadaSmitha Foundation to construct a community center in Channahalli village, Bangalore to undertake development programs.

**Sports development** initiative, Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh, India: We are identifying new talent across various sports through organizing various sporting events and providing/supporting basic training infrastructure for the sportspersons.

**Project “Asptal”-** A mobile medical unit has been providing primary medical services at the doorstep of the villagers in 5 districts of Himachal Pradesh since 2019-20. The unit has travelled more than 2.5 lakh kms covering 5 districts. More than 3 lakh OPDs have been conducted so far.



## D2. Local Area Development Needs

### D2.1 Supporting seasonal workers community in Argentina

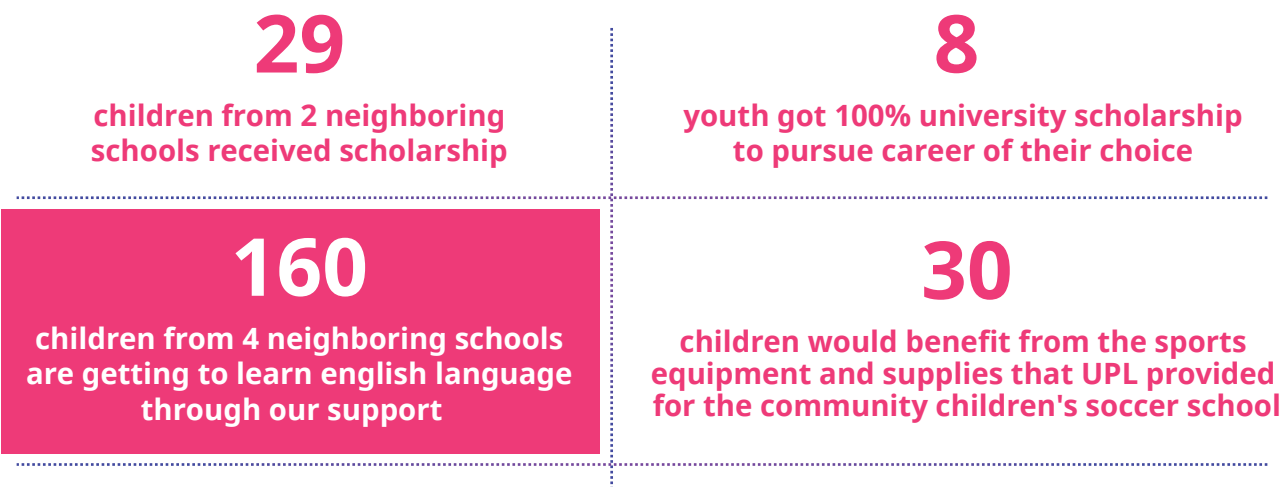
Our team in Argentina supports the seasonal workers' community in Santiago del Estero. Many members of this community work for Advanta during the harvest season, but they struggle to get permanent jobs and improve their living conditions. Advanta team arranged a collection of food, clothes, school supplies and furniture to donate. Every person from the Advanta team offered donations to support this community. In addition, we helped to build a 600 Mt deep well to provide water for the community. It supplies essential drinking water, irrigation for the vegetables and water for the livestock.

### D2.2 Supporting the neighborhood farmers in Brazil

UPL together with its partner agricultural cooperatives conducted a year-end joint solidarity action through Cooper UP, its relationship program with cooperatives. Through this initiative, UPL is delivering 900 basic-needs grocery packages to entities supporting children and elders on behalf of each participating cooperative. Part of such packages was acquired in the supermarkets held by the cooperatives themselves, thus increasing this virtuous circle and favoring even more people. Apart from the above, the Brazil team also held a dialogue on environmental awareness accompanied by tree plantation in Ituverava / SDP.

### D2.3 Supporting education in neighborhoods - San Salvador, Siape and Tres Ave Maria (UPL Colombia, Barranquilla Plant)

The plant redefined it's social responsibility strategy called "Growing Together", to adapt to the limitations and demands of the new reality generated by the pandemic. Our efforts this year on children and youth achieved the given impact:



A virtual leadership workshop (El Camino Del Lider) was conducted by a professional and educational coach where tools were provided to guide the community towards better coexistence and social development. 39 leaders from the community participated and benefitted from the event.



Apart from the above, support was also extended to the less-privileged neighborhood through the following:

**185**

grandparents were provided with monthly ration. To continue this support for the next 5 months, an alliance has been formed too

**100**

mothers of families (enrolled in child development centers) were given monthly ration for 2 months

**150**

families from the vulnerable community were provided with monthly ration too

An isolation stretcher was donated for transfer of aero patients carried in humanitarian work of the Aeronaval del Caribe group



Internally we also adjust our strategies for employees and their families, which include financial relief such as payment of medical programs, support for cancellation of public services, and internet. Through a 24-hour psychological care line and a wellness program called Equilibrium, spaces were created where different activities were promoted to achieve physical, emotional and psychological well-being. 133 men and women together with their families were covered by the psychological care line. An equal number of families were connected (closer than ever), with knowledge and with physical and emotional tools to better face the adversities associated with the pandemic crisis. 120 contractor employees got financial support for the acquisition of equipment and implementation of bio-safety protocols required to work safely.

## D2.4 Development at Madrid site, Andean subregion, Colombia

The effort of the team here was focused towards meeting the local area needs of the community, thus facilitating the following efforts.

- › Delivered fire protection equipment to fire fighters of the municipality.
- › Delivered more than 100 christmas gifts to children living near the facilities of our plant in Madrid.
- › Provided school kits to more than 100 under privileged children.
- › Installed new play equipment and provided maintenance to the playground in the area.

## D2.5 Support to flood affected farmers in Cambodia

UPL Cambodia provided food and water supplies to 100 rice farmers affected by floods in Borvel district, Battambang province and Monkul Borei district, Banteay Meanchey province. The Provincial Department of Agriculture Head, Commune Head, local dealer and the local youth community supported us in these events. We are one of the few companies who reached out to the farmers in desperate need.

## D2.6 Integrated development in Mexico and Cuba

Our commitment is to benefit the vulnerable community that surrounds us, that is why we join efforts with strategic alliances to increase our social impact. With the combined efforts we have been able to positively impact the lives of **5,00,000 people** in the region which includes elderly, children, agriculturists and vulnerable population. Through donations alone we have been able to achieve the below mentioned impact.







Apart from above, the team has also contributed through the following programs:

**“Donating from the heart”** - 5,000+ families’ economic stability was affected due to the pandemic. They benefited with food packages that provided at least one month of food to each family, in addition to sanitizer, preventive supplies, medicines and respiratory ventilators.

**Together we are useful-** Students from 2 schools were provided with tablets and internet connectivity in order to continue their online education in the time of the pandemic.

**“Arropando Vidas”** - 600+ families were provided with food packages that provided at least one month of food to each family, in addition to their blanket that allowed them to face the winter season.





## D2.7 Boosting nutrition for school children in Thailand

We engaged with the local government and community leaders to launch a nutrition program in Nong-Kae Sub-district, Thailand.

The opening event was held at Wat Tan Sian School with vegetable planting demonstrations and sports activities for children. About 30 teachers and over 200 children participated in the event. The project aims to create awareness on nutrition and teach children how to grow vegetables. We provided seeds and helped plant tomatoes, baby corn, okra and chilly in the school backyard. Our team monitored the crop growth and provided agronomy support from planting to harvest. After the harvest, the vegetables were used for the childrens' meals and shared with their community.





## D2.8 Empowering youth in remote areas of Thailand

In Thailand we support the fund for development of children and youth in the remote areas under the patronage of Kanittha Thiraj Krom Somdej Phra Thep Rattanarat Suda King. This initiative began in 2011 and it has been continued since then. We invite all distributors and farmers to join this initiative where for each 1kg of corn seeds sold we donate 1 Thai Bhat to the fund.

## D2.9 UPL GramPragati in India

Support to ensure a healthy and prosperous neighborhood is known as UPL GramPragati in India. Key initiatives undertaken in the neighborhoods and their impact are highlighted.

### Health and Sanitation

With the advent of the “Swachh Bharat Mission” many organizations including government agencies, voluntary institutes and public- private collaborators are actively working towards improving access to toilets, improving drainage facilities and creating awareness through awareness campaigns. Schools have an important role to play in this effort as they provide an opportunity for children and parents to learn about healthy hygiene practices. UPL’s efforts in the sanitation domain are focussed at improving school sanitation in rural areas along with public places like railway stations. Apart from constructing quality toilets, the team also conducts awareness programs with the students round the year. A student-teacher sanitation committee is formed which takes ownership of the sanitation initiative at school level. Trainings are provided on toilet hygiene, sanitation etiquettes and the need to maintain conducive health and hygiene environment. Participative approach in the awareness drives ensures that awareness brings about a positive behavioural change amongst the students and their family members.

**57**

**sanitation blocks built  
till date**

**14,500+**

**students have a better hygiene  
environment at school**

**3,000+**

**commuters are availing the  
public toilet facility everyday**







## Safety Trainings

UPL has been conducting interactive training sessions to enable a safe and healthy environment for the masses through educating women, industrial workers, drivers and others in respective domains. Through this initiative our focus is on:

**Girl safety:** Self defense for women has become imperative in the wake of growing cases of violence against women today. Our trainings focus on making women aware, cautious, and equipped in times of need to potentially reduce the number of crimes against them.

**Home safety:** The program relays to women the importance of home safety, helps them in identifying hazards at home, eliminate or minimize them and thus keep homes and families safe and secure.

**Industrial safety:** The program is mostly conducted with ITI students to equip them with safety practices related to workplace to avoid injury, illness or death due to negligence.

**Road safety:** To make roads safer for everyone and reduce vehicular accidents, we have been conducting these programs emphasizing on road safety rules, changing driver attitude and behavior and disseminating information related to importance of safe driving and compliance.

➤ 42,000+ people are more aware of safety protocols today

# Initiatives driven by WAU (We Are United) volunteers

Employee volunteering in development initiatives has been an integral part of our CSR ethos. Driven by an innate passion for contributing to the growth of society, our employees come forward and employ their knowledge, talent and skills. The CSR team ably guides the employees and provides ample opportunities to either contribute to an ongoing program or take up a new initiative. In the reporting year, most of our volunteer efforts across the globe have been directed towards COVID-19 relief work in and around plant locations and corporate offices. However, the volunteers also took up other initiatives as mentioned below.

- Contributing to the Gujarat Government's Poshan Abhiyan, 23 volunteers adopted acute malnourished children and pledged to be their guardians, thus helping them grow better.
- Volunteers celebrated various National and International Days with the community through the virtual platform to spread knowledge and encourage participation in development programs.
- In Argentina, our volunteers look after "Corazón animal" which is a temporary shelter for abandoned dogs. Recycled pallets were donated to build new doghouses.





- The volunteer team also worked on the park Florentino Ameghino's restoration and painting in Abbott, as a first step of our project. We worked together with members of the community, volunteer fire fighters and UPL team's families. A donation was given to C.A.E.M. (Chamber of Economic Activities of Monte) towards painting and tools for the restoration of the central office.
- WAU-B volunteers from the health and human resources area (Baranquilla Plant) developed a virtual conference on "Myths and Realities of COVID-19 Vaccine" in order to promote vaccination as a strategy to protect ourselves and other people. 180 parents participated in the event. The volunteers also helped in the improvement of infrastructure of childrens' homes by contributing through their salaries towards the cause. Upon returning to school, around 200 children will have a better kitchen and a new reading room. WAU-B volunteers from the environmental committee developed and conducted environmental educational workshops (virtual) to teach 100 children in the sector about proper management of waste, bio-safety material and plastic.

## A summary of WAU volunteers participation in 2020-21 (India) is tabled below:

Unit name	No. of volunteers	Volunteering hours
Mumbai – Corporate Office, AFS, Advanta	15	648
Unit 0- Vapi	39	897
Unit 1- Ankleshwar	15	960
Unit 2 - Ankleshwar	12	480
Unit 3 - Ankleshwar	18	576
Unit 12 and 13- Dahej	15	840
Unit 4- Halol	10	660
Unit 5- Jhagadia	22	1760
Unit 8- Samba, Jammu	13	702
Unit 51- Kalol	8	480
Unit 10- Tarapur	15	630
<b>Total</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>8633</b>

# Volunteers Speak

## **Juan Sebastian Cervantes** **LATAM SCM Head, Barranquilla - Colombia**

"Since the first day I joined UPL in our Barranquilla plant I was able to experience the great commitment of UCPL plant with the stakeholders in the surrounding community of San Salvador neighborhood in different programs impacting positively the quality of life for them from the pregnant moms to the senior adults with educational programs, supporting sports practice or developing entrepreneurial projects. In the past 5 years, I have been involved in different programs at our Barranquilla site. First a group of employees donate part of our salary to cover tuition fees in a kindergarten of the community, helping low income families. We keep bringing more employees to this program to cover 200 kids of this kindergarten. Secondly, following the India volunteer program, we created our local volunteering program (WAU-B - We are United Barranquilla) in 2018, since then we have completed more than 1000 hours of volunteering distributed in trees plant campaign, developing community risk management plan, taking kids to the movies, environmental education, breastfeeding campaigns."



## **Prateek Shah** **Officer (Field Specialist), UPL Unit -1,** **Ankleshwar- India**

"UPL's CSR initiatives have given me a platform to give back to society which I always dreamt of. In the last 8+ years, I have been involved in different community development programs. I have taken technical classes for the drop-out youth in our skill upgradation center. I use my expertise and knowledge to motivate them to enhance their standard of living. I feel proud to be a part of the WAU team and always grateful to UPL for providing opportunity without compromising with my official work."



## **Lady Jaramillo Villanueva** **Head Safety & Health - Colombia**

"What I like the most about UPL's CSR initiative is the positive impact these initiatives leave on the people benefited, as well as the company collaborators involved in this kind of project. In the beneficiaries, because they feel hope that everything can be better for them, and for us as UPL collaborators in the satisfaction to know that from our position, no matter what this is, we can contribute to that hope. I feel great satisfaction on a personal level because I am convinced that we are all here to serve others and especially those who need it, and we can do this from our position and condition no matter what; and on a professional level, for being part of a company aligned with my conviction, such as UPL."







### **Ndavi Muia**

#### **Regional Head – Africa & Middle East, Advanta Seeds International, Based in Nairobi – Kenya**

“I admire the fact that UPL’s CSR initiative/commitment is focused on benefiting communities and especially small holder farmers in geographies where we work and the initiatives are in sync with a lot of the global goals that aim to reduce the impact of organizations on the environment. Promoting Sustainable Livelihood through the cultivation of Sunflower (Hysun 33) in communities around Tsavo West National Park in Kenya thus minimizing man-animal conflict through promotion of livelihood in a sustainable, ecologically responsible way.”



### **Fernanda Delgado Arizmendi**

#### **HR Ops Manager LATAM & HRBP CA & C, Location Mexico city**

“Since I joined UPL in 2013, I was rightly assigned in the CSR project. I was involved in this project since the beginning and now we are also part of this project in Costa Rica. Any CSR project started in the same place, with a lot of good intentions trying to transcend, for us as UPL we are materializing the actions and making the difference engaging our teams and families in this great ambition. I’m part of the LATAM initiatives, as well as volunteer of many of the actions we are doing, working with orphanages, nursing houses, donations, campaigns and many more actions that are transforming the way we used to see the business, realize this is really important on the integral growth of the company and in the creations a sustainable world.”



### **Le Thi Y Nhi**

#### **Plant Commercial Manager, SCM Manufacturing – Bien Hoa - UPLVN**

“I like to work in an organization which has many CSR initiatives and can help me cultivate the seeds of my own soul CSR activities. Every year, we often donated to the fund of disaster and flood prevention fund. When waves of Covid-19 started, we also started the idea of producing UPL hand sanitizer and just for donation and charity. We had sent many UPL hand sanitizer bottles to customers. I coordinated with government organizations to understand where they need help and sent hand sanitizer, masks and Oxygen Concentrators to many hospitals and isolation area.”

**Florent Clair**  
**Head of Partnerships 4 Sustainability, West & Central Africa**

"Sustainability has always been at the heart of UPL's mission in West & Central Africa, led by our commitment to improving the livelihoods of smallholder farmers through our integrated offer of agricultural inputs and services. We don't see CSR as a philanthropic activity, but rather as a way of offering sustainable growth for all by aligning farmer practices to the needs of local food value chains while introducing innovative sustainable technologies. The recent creation of the P4S (Partnership 4 Sustainability) initiative allows us to engage with new stakeholders with shared goals – from governments to development institutions, as well as research and NGO partners, it is a genuine win-win collaboration as they help us to catalyze change while reaching out to more farmers."



**Nayelli Tapia**  
**CSR & Administration Officer- México & Cuba**

"Being part of UPL has been a boost in my professional development, today I have the honor of contributing in the Responsibility Project at UPL México & Cuba. I'm in charge of coordinating the social campaigns that, as every year I carry out in different vulnerable communities, working with strategic alliances to achieve a better impact on society. I love my job because as well as the growth of the business, our project has been consolidating and generating a greater impact on society and in the organization the sensitivity for our social actions and make them contribute with donations or volunteering. Every year we analyze our results and actions through the certification as a Responsible Social Company."



**Helena Rincon**  
**HR Business Partner South Pacific (Chile – Perú)**

"Being part of an organization like UPL that takes Social Responsibility seriously is a great pride. When I learned about the strong programs that UPL has for community development in India through its CSR initiatives, I was curious to know how it had been maintained for so long, and I realized that the success of the established social programs, have been conceived on the mind of our Vice President, Sandra Shroff, who has said: "Taking enough care is the commitment to "improve things", not only for the business but for the world in general. We carry out multiple initiatives to strengthen communities". For me, these are not only nice words, they are accompanied by actions that inspired me to believe that from any position in the organization we can be part of the solution and join the different initiatives that the company leads in terms of social responsibility and causes such as education, conservation of the nature and the satisfaction of local needs, among others."







**Maria da Conceição Guimarães**  
**HR Head – Brazil**

"Here in Brazil we have Associado Vida, which has the purpose of changing the lives of needy young people through education. I have the honor of collaborating on this project since its foundation, leading it together with Luciane Gôngora , as well as, with the support of all employees. We are clearly making a difference to the lives of several youngsters and their families. We believe that education transforms lives, and we are fortunate to notice that we have been changing the lives of many young people in the last 15 years, since our founding. As I see all this, my heart warms."



**Janeth Quintero Navarro**  
**Specialist in Social Responsibility and Communications, UPL**  
**Barranquilla Plant- Colombia**

"I fully identify with UPL's CSR commitment, since with a clear vision, it gives us all the opportunity to contribute, from our knowledge and from our experience, to the transformation of a more equitable and sustainable society. Aligned with this vision, I consider that today the business units of UPL located in the different geographies, can be witnesses of these transformations and feel proud of this. After 25 years working in the area of social responsibility, I feel that through the Growing Together strategy, I have the opportunity to be an agent of change and touch the lives of many people. This keeps me motivated every day and allows me to understand that there is no big or small action, the important thing is to be aware of our participation in this change that humanity demands today more than ever."



**Richard Atchade**  
**HR Business Partner, West & Central Africa – Côte**  
**d'Ivoire (Abidjan)**

"I like this desire at UPL to be a corporate citizen and to have a tangible impact on the life of rural populations. After this successful pilot phase, we plan to extend the "The Heart Mobile" program to the whole of the region of the Ivory Coast. I had the privilege of overseeing the creation of the "The Heart Mobile" project in Côte d'Ivoire. I was able to participate on several occasions in screening campaigns during the pilot phase of the project. Humanly, there is nothing more rewarding than bringing comfort and fellowship to those in need. This initiative led by our CEO Jai Shroff positions us as a pioneer in the management of cardiovascular diseases in Côte d'Ivoire. Always Human and Win, Win initiative."

**Leslie Vidaurreta Mata**  
**Commercial operations coordinator for Advanta Seeds MX**

"In Advanta Seeds Mexico we have a campaign along UPL called "Dos Tortillas" which focuses donating seed, bio nutrients and supplies to small growers in marginal communities to grow 1 hectare of corn and by this we want to contribute to self-sufficiency in corn through small growers. It is extremely satisfying when we get the results of farmers crops, we know that giving them the seeds and supplies is an amazing start— the right start — to creating meaningful change."



**Vanesa Córdoba**  
**Production Head, Abbott Plant- Argentina**

"The hard work the company has done over the years in different places has inspired me to improve day by day. I believe that participating actively on these projects is the best way to generate a change, by having a commitment to do things better. I feel very proud of my role as the leader of the Abbott plant team, working highly motivated and encouraging other workers to become volunteers like me, willing to give support to vulnerable groups providing training, meeting specific needs they have, and creating awareness on sustainability, carrying out multiple initiatives to strengthen the relationship with the community."





## Award and recognition

We are humbled to receive the following recognition from various stakeholders during the year:

### The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Global CSR Summit and Awards 2021

#### Best Community Programme Award, Platinum (For Sustainable Livelihood) - UPL Limited

Global CSR Summit and Awards <sup>™</sup> is Asia's most prestigious recognition awards programme for Corporate Social Responsibility and Corporate Governance. The programme recognizes and honors companies for outstanding, innovative and world-class products, services, projects and programmes implemented in the past or present. UPL is conferred with the Platinum Award under Best Community Programme (Sustainable Livelihood) for companies with market capitalization of more than USD 1 billion.

**Sandra Shroff ROFEL College of Nursing, Vapi (SSRCN)** was recognized as the **"Best Health Care Training Institution, Nursing"** selected by a panel of Jury members. General Bipin Rawat (A Four Star General of the Indian Army and the First and Current Chief of Defence Staff, India) presented the award to Mrs. Sandra Shroff on 26<sup>th</sup> December, 2021.

On the occasion of **International Day of Forest -2021**, UPL was awarded for its support for creating social forestry site namely **"Pulwama Sahid Vann" – a living memorial for the Martyrs of Pulwama**. 2000 + trees were planted adopting Miyawaki methodology at Kalai Gam, Umbergaon, Gujarat.

The award was presented by Shri Ramanlal Patkar, Minister for Forest and Tribal Development, Gujarat.

### Certification as a Socially Responsible Company in Mexico

For the eighth consecutive year, UPL México was certified by the Mexican Center for Philanthropy, as a Socially Responsible Company. The said certification is totally voluntary and allows our organization to have a continuous improvement in its actions and to continue its commitment to social responsibility. In compliance with the audit carried out, UPL Mexico continues to be committed to maintaining respect for people, ethical values, the community and the environment, thus contributing to the construction of the common good.

### Finalist of UN Women 2020 Asia-Pacific WEPs Awards

Advanta Seeds Indonesia is one of the few finalists in the UN Women 2020 Asia-Pacific WEPs Awards. Over 400 applications from 17 countries were submitted for the award. Advanta Indonesia made it to the final by impressing the judges with a marketing program for empowering women farmers during the pandemic crisis.

## Community sentiments

"I was very pleased to receive training from UPL on how to plant gumbo (okra) this year. After the training session for gumbo, we were invited to a meeting and given some more training around how to care for and fertilize the crop using manure. All this knowledge and training about planting and harvesting gumbo was given to us for free. We have learned so much and haven't had to pay for anything."

**Koffi Adjoua Josee, Participant,  
Diversification Program, Cote d'Ivoire**

"I have observed an extraordinary growth in my strawberry farm. I am very happy with the reduced input costs and increased productivity and farm income. I thank UPL for their training and support for establishing market linkages."

**Bhudyabhai Barubhi Pawar,  
Dang, India**

"UPL's infrastructure support to "Apna Bakery" revived the unit and has been a sustainable source of income for the whole group. Today we are recognized in the society because of our work at the unit."

**Kalpanaben Amritbhai Gaikwad,  
Dang, India**

"It was a pleasure and a great learning experience for the VNC's team while collaborating with UPL's sarus conservation project. The committed team led by Dr. Jatinder Kaur has done an excellent job of creating harmony between humans and Sarus cranes."

**Anirudh Vasava - Research Coordinator,  
Voluntary Nature Conservancy, India**

"The farmer community is very pleased with the FPO intervention as it will create backward and forward linkages for their produce enhancing their incomes."

**Lallubhai Bhikhubhai Patel, Director- FPO,  
Valsad, India**



S.No		PRIORITY SDG						
		"Goal 1: No poverty"	"Goal 2: Zero hunger"	"Goal 3: Good health & well- being"	"Goal 4: Quality education"	"Goal 5: Gender equality"	"Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation"	"Goal 15: Life on Land"
<b>A.</b>	<b>Institutions of Excellence</b>							
A1	Sandra Shroff Gnyan Dham School, G.I.D.C, Vapi							
A2	Shroff S Rotary Institute of Chemical Technology (SRICT), Vataria, Ankleshwar							
A3	Gnyan Dham Eklavya Model Residential School, Ahwa							
A4	UPL Center for Agriculture Excellence (CAE), Nahuli							
A5	UPL Center for Agriculture Excellence (CAE), Nahuli							
<b>B.</b>	<b>Sustainable livelihoods</b>							
B1	Integrated Projects in West and Central Africa							
B2	Collaboration with buyers in Kenya							
B3	Building smallholders' resilience in Mexico							
B4	Empowering women farmers in Indonesia							
B5	Building economic and climate change resilience of women and smallholder farmers in Tanzania							
B6	Empowering livestock keepers with nutrition in Tanzania							
B7	Agriculture development (UPL Khedut Pragati) in India							
B8	Skill and entrepreneurship development in India							
<b>C.</b>	<b>Nature Conservation</b>							
C1	Recycle and Reforest in Sao Paulo, Brazil							
C2	Saving the Amazon in Colombia							
C3	Urban Plants Project in Barranquilla , Colombia							
C4	Wildlife Conservation in Kenya							
C5	Promoting conservation agriculture in Tanzania							
C6	UPL Vasudha in India							
<b>D1.</b>	<b>National Development Needs</b>							
D1.1	The One Billion Hearts Initiative in Africa							
D1.2	The Life Association in Brazil							
D1.3	Oxford India Centre for Sustainable Development (OICSD), UK							
D1.4	United Bharat in India							
<b>D2.</b>	<b>Local Area Development Needs</b>							
D2.1	Initiatives in Argentina, Brazil, Cambodia, Colombia, Mexico and Cuba, Thailand							
D2.2	Gram Pragati in India							

## Our global partners

We are thankful to all our partners for their continuous support and guidance in our journey. A representative list of the same is given below.



## Our partners in India





# The road ahead

By 2050, there will be approx. 9.6 billion people on earth, who will need food, education, skill, healthcare facilities, robust infrastructure and a well-balanced ecosystem. The existing structures and methods won't be able to sustain this population, so we will have to change. Our answer to this is "Agilis innovare" (agile innovation) in every aspect of our being. Led by this core fundamental, the UPL team is excited to work with partners across the globe to rapidly onboard new ideas and technologies to achieve a more healthy, prosperous and an equitable planet for a better tomorrow.

Philanthropy has been the DNA of the Shroff family. At UPL, we believe in timely interventions through innovation and speed for positively impacting human lives and the community at large. Delivering new solutions as fast as possible to diverse development needs is both a challenge and an opportunity and my team is geared to take on the responsibility with much enthusiasm.

50 years back, when my parents set up our very 1<sup>st</sup> unit at Vapi, Gujarat they were quick to see that a good school would be required to attract talent in the region. My mother took the onus of setting up a school from her own personal funds and the result is for everyone to see. I feel proud to carry that legacy today.

When the whole world was grappling under the severity of the pandemic, UPL responded with an alarming speed. During the first Covid-19 wave in 2020, UPL had contributed towards various healthcare initiatives for fighting the pandemic in countries like India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ivory Coast, Cuba, USA, Canada, France, England, among others. The company even invested in makeshift production lines to produce sanitisers as per WHO standards- from drawing board to supplying at multiple locations in 24 hours! We converted our agri- input sprayers into sanitizer spraying units and disinfected more than 700 villages in India. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> Covid wave in India, we pioneered the conversion of Nitrogen Plants to Oxygen Plants through our team of engineers & scientists within 72 hours.

UPL has stood with humanity in all its capacity; be it donating INR 150+crores towards Covid relief or helping the less privileged in Africa have better cardiovascular health. We firmly believe that if change has to be meaningful and impactful, it has to happen at the right moment.

**There is tremendous dignity in doing the right things at the right time!**

## Mr. Vikram Shroff

*(Member and re-designated as Chairman of UPL CSR Committee w.e.f. October 1, 2020)*





## CONTACT

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