



## PROJECT BRIEF

Improving essential health and nutrition practices in the community and providing technical support towards strengthening service delivery to tackle the problem of childhood malnutrition and maternal and child anemia in Bhavnagar and Sabarkantha districts of Gujarat. In this regard, a non-financial MOU has been signed with Health and Family Welfare Department & Women and Child Development Department, Government of Gujarat.

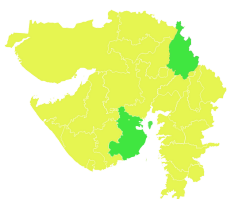
## Project Vruddhi: A consortium of CARE and Action Against Hunger

**Introduction:** Sabarkantha and Bhavnagar continue to perform below the Gujarat average in several key determinants of nutrition such as: the timely initiation of breastfeeding, Antenatal Care (ANC) coverage, consumption of Iron and Folic Acid (IFA) supplements, and children 6 - 23 months receiving an adequate diet. The coverage of health and nutrition interventions also remains poor.

- Prevalence of stunting is 32.6% in Bhavnagar and 37 % in Sabarkantha
- Prevalence of wasting is 29.6% in Bhavnagar and 33.1 % in Sabarkantha
- Sabarkantha's severe wasting rate has more than doubled over a period of five years making it a high burden district, ranking the fourth highest in this regard

\* (As per NFHS 5, 2022)

## Geography:



## Key Interventions:



**Promotion of Breastfeeding:**  
Timely initiation, Exclusive and Continued Breastfeeding



**Promotion of Complementary Feeding:**  
Quantity, Dietary Diversity and Feeding During and After Illness



**Maternal and Childhood Anemia:**  
IFA – Supply Chain, Distribution, Consumption Compliances



**Common Childhood Illness Management**



**Handwashing Promotion**

It is estimated that over a five-year period, the project will be able to address malnutrition by reaching 22,294 pregnant women; 60,093 mothers of children under 3 years and 120,186 children under 3 years of age.