



# Letter from the CEO

#### Dear Friends & Partners,

As we welcome the new year, I want to reflect on our incredible journey at Action Against Hunger India. Your unwavering support and generous contributions have been the foundation of our mission, empowering us to bring hope and nourishment to thousands of hard-to-reach communities across India.

This past year, your compassion and commitment have fueled transformative progress, helping us promote maternal and child health and create brighter futures for countless families. Your belief in our work continues to inspire us to push boundaries and reach even more lives in need.

As we step into 2025, we invite you to continue this journey with us. Your partnership remains the cornerstone of our efforts to build a healthier India. Together, we can achieve even greater impact and ensure that no child goes to bed hungry.

On behalf of the entire team at Action Against Hunger, I want to thank you so much for standing with us. We wish you and your loved ones a prosperous and fulfilling New Year.

Warm regards,

Vinay Iyer Chief Executive Officer Action Against Hunger India

# **QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

October - December 2024

Project Vruddhi: District-Level Workshop for Impactful Change in Gujarat



Project Vruddhi organized a District-Level Dissemination Workshop in Himmatnagar, Gujarat an initiative by Action Against Hunger, highlighting how collaboration with the Government serves as a sustainable development model, and celebrated collective achievements. Together, we also identified the gaps that need to be addressed to realize our shared vision: ensuring a healthier foundation for every child!

The workshop witnessed the presence of esteemed government dignitaries, taluka health officers from Sabarkantha and the team from Action Against Hunger.

Nurturing Nutrition: Drumstick Nurseries for Health and Sustainability in Dharni, Maharashtra



At Action Against Hunger with support from NAOS, we are fostering a sustainable future through drumstick nurseries in Titamba and Rajpur, Dharni. By integrating drumstick plants into kitchen gardens, we're empowering 115 families with a consistent source of vital vitamins, minerals, and amino acids. Known for their immunity-boosting and healthenhancing properties, drumsticks play a key role in combating oxidative stress and improving overall well-being.

This initiative not only strengthens food security but also supports the livelihoods of these families, ensuring year-round access to essential nutrients and a sustainable pathway to better health.



Project Vruddhi, an initiative by Action Against Hunger, developed a Social and Behavior Change (SBC) package featuring jingles and videos, which was scaled up by Gujarat's Women and Child Development Department (WCD) to raise breastfeeding awareness. Furthermore, the WCD adopted Action Against Hunger's digital training program on Maternal, Infant, and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN), placing a strong emphasis on breastfeeding education.



## Celebrating Global Handwashing Day & World Food Day



In October, we celebrated Global Handwashing Day and World Food Day in Dharni, Sanand, and Andheri. At Anganwadi Centres, our Community Mobilizers conducted interactive sessions on disease prevention, proper handwashing techniques, and the importance of incorporating five out of ten food groups into daily diets. Together, we are building healthier communities, one step at a time!

Building Healthier Communities through Poshan Chaupal in Sabarkantha, Gujarat



In Sabarkantha district, Gujarat, we are bringing communities together to foster a healthier future. Through *Poshan Chaupals*, we spread awareness about vital health practices such as anemia prevention, breastfeeding, complementary feeding, and hand hygiene. With the active involvement of local leaders and families, we are making sustainable strides in improving maternal and child health outcomes.

Strengthening Capacity: Internal Training for ICDS & Andheri Staff



We recently conducted a three-day internal training session for Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) & Andheri staff to address nutrition challenges among children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM), and Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW).

The training featured in-depth discussions on field insights, the importance of the critical 1,000-day window, and the Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (C-MAM) strategy. Participants also gained hands-on experience with anthropometric measurements, ensuring accurate screening and effective program delivery.

**Empowering Mothers: Interactive Sessions on Infant Care in Sanand, Gujarat** 



As part of our unwavering commitment to maternal and child health, we organized 12 interactive sessions in Sanand district, Gujarat. These sessions focused on essential infant care practices such as breastfeeding and Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC). Mothers actively participated in hands-on demonstrations, gaining valuable skills to improve their infants' well-being while fostering deeper connections.

Action Against Hunger Leads Nutrition & Feeding Sessions for Adani Foundation in Ahmedabad



Action Against Hunger India facilitated an interactive session on complementary feeding and nutrition for Adani Foundations' Suposhan officers, during their SuPoshan Annual Meet 2024. The session addressed the practical challenges faced by the workers and explored potential solutions collaboratively. When one development agency shares its co-learnings with another, it fosters collaboration to collectively address challenges and work towards improved health and nutrition outcomes, building a strong foundation for every child's wellbeing.

### Celebrating Newborn Care Week: Blog on Guide to Essential Newborn Care



In our latest blog, Dr. Bhavesh D Rathod shares essential insights on ensuring a healthy start for every baby. From Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) to breastfeeding, timely vaccinations, and regular checkups, these key practices lay the foundation for a thriving future. Every baby deserves the best beginning, and with the right care, we can make it happen.



Follow us to discover how we're making a lasting impact:



At Action Against Hunger, we drive change from the ground up, aiming to cultivate a healthier world.

Since inception in 1979, our work has impacted the lives of 21 Million individuals through a network of 9,000 humanitarian professionals across 59 countries. In India, our operations from the grassroots upwards, are focused on taking decisive action to create a healthier nation.

In India, we are one of the few NGOs focusing specifically on maternal and child health with various nutritionsensitive and nutrition-specific interventions. Our teams engage with communities in remote and hard-to-reach areas, identifying and addressing nutritional challenges in children. We empower mothers and families with knowledge and awareness so they can see their children grow up strong and for whole communities to prosper.

We operate in 1,312 villages in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Gujarat.

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