

ESSAR OIL LIMITED

• Background

Essar Oil Ltd. is a fully international integrated oil and gas company. Essar Group Foundation is the CSR arm of Essar conglomerate. The company has been actively involved in transforming lives in the areas of its operation with Essar Foundation. The company has identified six distinct areas. They are healthcare, women's empowerment, education, sanitation, livelihood assistance and sustainability.

The passage of CSR provision under Companies Act 2013 in the year 2014 has added momentum to the social commitment of various corporates in India. Essar foundation has also joined hands with Swachh Bharat Abhiyan for benefitting the society.

• Location, Date

Gujarat; Chhattisgarh and Odisha, 2016

• Areas

Rural

• Stage/Scale

Pilot

• Objective of the assignment

Main objectives of the program are as follows:

- Eradication of malnutrition, preventive healthcare and sanitation contribution to national drive of cleanliness.
- Introduction and assimilation of complete sanitation habit in lives of people.
- Implementation of planned initiatives in planned manner for better reach to society.
- Promote diseases-prevention measures, especially among women and children. It is aimed to achieve through health camps and school education.

• What was done

- The foundation in 2016, has constructed toilets for students at Government school in Mithoi village, Gujarat.
- Constructed a sanitary block in an educational school in Dihen village, Surat District, Gujarat
- In Kirandul village, Chhattisgarh, the foundation has also constructed a water storage cum bathing complex for the residents.
- In Odisha, the foundation has launched 'Clean Hands Campaign ' on 26, November, 2016. It provided complete knowledge about sanitation from using toilets to hand wash.

• Impact

- Imbibing the essence of the Ten Principles of United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and undertaking interventions in the line with UN Millennium Development Goals, it has impacted more than a million lives, upto 500 villages in 8 states.

- Their initiative has a multipronged outreach in bringing a behavioural change among students, teachers and parents.

• **Challenges and Issues**

- Over 600 million Indians do not have access to toilets. The proportion is worse in rural India, where 68% household don't have their own toilets. Deciding the location in household for construction of toilets was a challenge in itself.
- Constructing a sanitary unit and encouraging people to use it in daily life was also a difficult task.

• **Innovation**

- The foundation is working towards not only providing adequate sanitation units, but also knowledge for using them.
- The foundation with its campaign and planned project is involving young children for below up reach and positive behavioural changes.

• **Lessons learnt**

- With the villages situated at a significant distance from common facilities, provision of primary services becomes more crucial.
- Sanitation goes hand in hand with preventive health care, as it plays a major role in averting a large number of health issues especially in rural areas.

• **Financials**

- Before the commencement of each financial year, an Annual Business Plan for the CSR projects, both new and on-going along with expenditure for the same is recommended.
- Essar Foundation collaborates with key stakeholders, especially the local administration and institutions to facilities changes and development.

• **Economic sustainability/Revenue Model**

The surplus arising out of the CSR activities is not considered as a part of business profits of the company.

• **Implementer Contact Persons**

Not Available

• **Sources and References**

- http://www.essar.com/section_level1.aspx?cont_id=cBd+pT8Ha/0=
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