



**ReNew**  
POWER

ReNew India Initiative  
CSR Annual Report 2019-20

**BUILDING  
CLIMATE  
RESILIENT  
COMMUNITIES**



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Message from  
**THE CHAIRMAN  
 & MANAGING  
 DIRECTOR**

Sumant Sinha



The past year was a memorable one for ReNew Power as we became the first and till date the only renewable energy company in India to cross 5 GW of operational capacity. Achieving this milestone in a short span of 8 years is a testimony to our exponential growth, driven by passionate people and robust processes. As we continue to pursue our dream of being the world's best renewable energy company, we are also cognizant of the need to be a good corporate neighbour and run our operations in a socially responsible and sustainable manner. This report comes to you at a very challenging time, when the world is grappling with a global pandemic of unprecedented magnitude. If anything, the current situation has highlighted the need for more sensitive and humane business practices and shared responsibilities to support the less privileged.

At ReNew, we have always viewed CSR as an instrument for impactful transformation, and not an obligation that needs to be complied with. Over the years, we have developed a strong culture of caring and giving back to the society, which dovetails nicely with our core business of generating clean energy for a better planet. It is this spirit of aspiring to better the lives of communities around us that has propelled our CSR journey since inception – driven right from the top and imbibed by each and every member of the ReNew family.

On that note, we are delighted to present our CSR report for the year 2019-20. We spent the previous year aligning our initiatives to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and contributing towards Agenda 2030, and moved forward on the same trajectory, focusing on empowering communities keeping the larger issue of climate change in mind, and recognizing the fact that these communities are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

We continued amplifying our programmes and widening their reach, under the banner of ReNew Foundation which was launched last year. Among the Foundation's most significant activities were a series of thought leadership roundtables involving key stakeholders as part of our efforts to advance the agenda for climate action, sustainability and gender parity and chalk out an actionable road map. Moving forward, our commitment to corporate responsibility and sustainability remains stronger than ever, as the world deals with the disruption brought about by the covid-19 crisis. I am certain that we will emerge stronger, and continue to press ahead in our quest to establish a more equitable, sustainable and environment friendly future.

“We, the present generation, have the responsibility to act as a trustee of the rich natural wealth for the future generations. The issue is not merely about climate change; it is about climate justice”

- **Shri Narendra Modi**

*Honourable Prime Minister of India*



NEXT

Foreword from  
**THE CHIEF  
SUSTAINABILITY  
OFFICER**

Vaishali Nigam Sinha



It is an absolute pleasure to present the 6th edition of our Corporate Social Responsibility Report, which chronicles our diverse efforts to empower marginalized communities and make a positive difference to their lives. In this journey, the driving force has been the twin ideals of inclusiveness and sustainability, which are embedded deeply into our organizational DNA. In the past year, while continuing on the trajectory of realigning our efforts towards the UN SDGs and Agenda 2030, we focussed on the larger theme of climate change, which will disrupt the lives of everyone, with the youth and women worldwide under maximum threat.

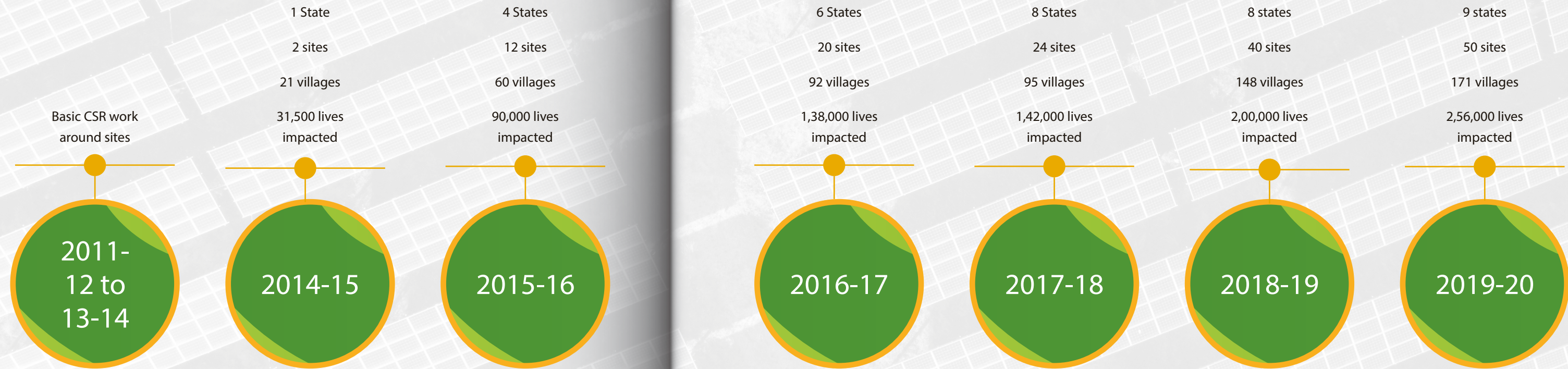
We successfully scaled up our efforts and enhanced the impact of our CSR programmes with the formation of ReNew Foundation. The Foundation delivered much needed thought-leadership through sharing of knowledge and best practices to inject momentum into our journey towards fulfilment of the SDGs.

It is indeed heart-warming to see the rapid expansion of our CSR footprint, now spanning 171 villages and covering 50 project sites across 9 states. Our interventions such as providing energy access solutions for schools for an improved academic environment, accelerating digital literacy, empowering women through entrepreneurship models for sustained livelihood, conserving water in arid and semi-arid areas and many others have seen a reinvigoration in terms of engagement and yielded tangible benefits for all to see.

The financial year has ended on a sombre note with the COVID19 pandemic taking a huge toll of human lives and inflicting a crushing blow on economies. As a responsible corporate, we have been at the forefront of the battle to restore normalcy, by ensuring uninterrupted operation of our clean power plants and committing Rs 20 crore towards relief and rehabilitation, for those affected the worst. We continue to focus on women and children, those facing the greatest degree of climate risk, as we move ahead in our CSR journey. ReNew Power remains committed to making meaningful, incremental improvements to the lives of rural communities in and around our project sites, paving the way for a better society and country where the fruits of development trickle down to the bottom of the pyramid and help create a safer and better planet for the generations to come.

# Our JOURNEY

As a responsible corporate citizen, ReNew Power has been engaging in social responsibility initiatives since its inception in 2011. Our endeavour has been to forge strong relationships with communities and give back to the society through innovative high impact social development programmes, designed basis a rigorous assessment of their most pressing needs.



# Our PRESENCE

ReNew's CSR footprint

States **9**

Sites **50**

Villages **171**



**Haryana/Delhi**  
Bhond  
Faridabad  
Gurugram  
New Delhi

**Rajasthan**  
Jaisalmer  
Jodhpur  
Devgarh  
Bikaner

**Gujarat**  
Kutch

**Maharashtra**  
Jath  
Vaspet  
Welturi  
Bhud

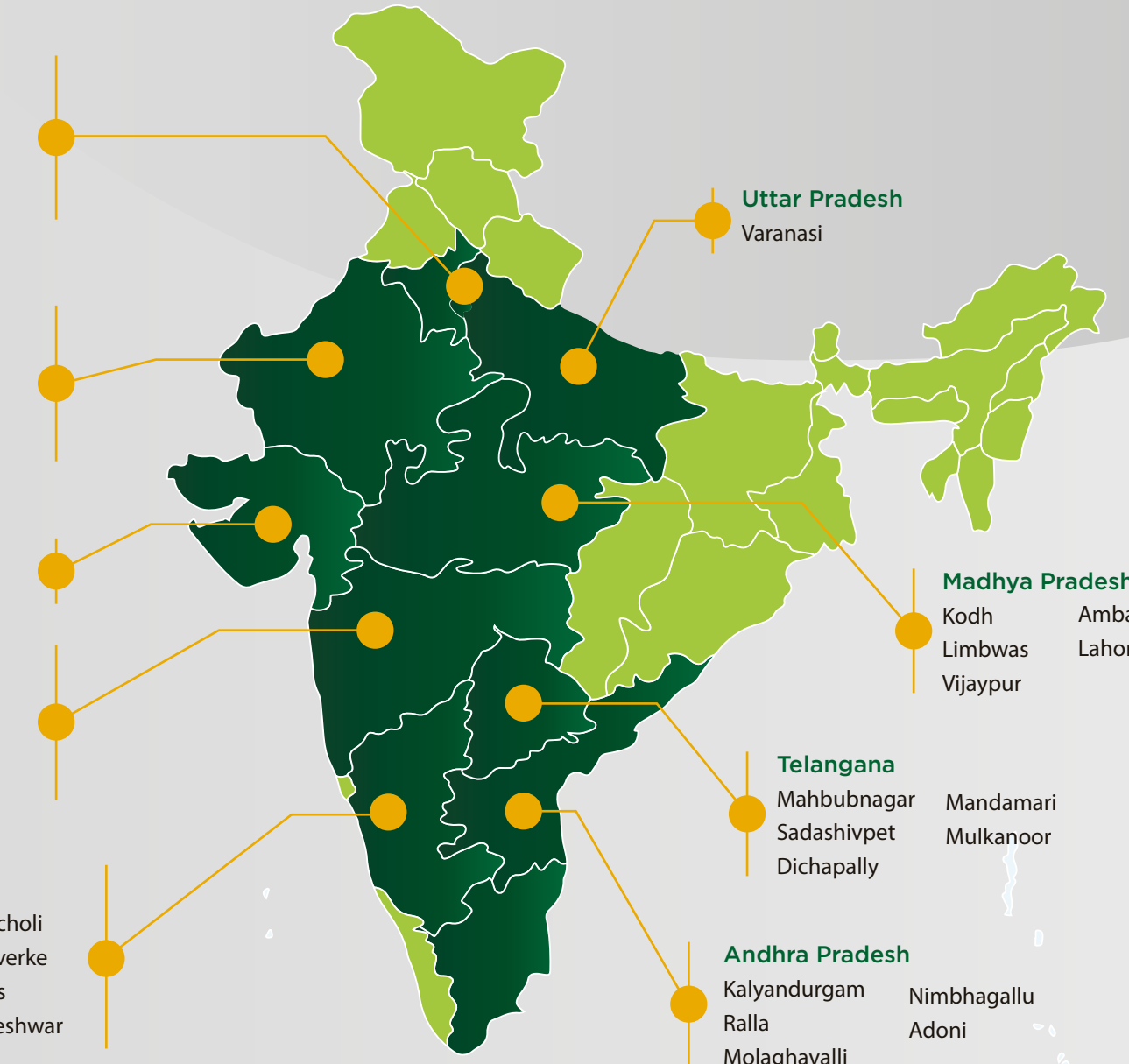
**Karnataka**  
Ittigi  
Pavagada  
Taralkatti  
Sattigiri  
Chincholi  
Turuverke  
Tadas  
Bableshtar

**Uttar Pradesh**  
Varanasi

**Madhya Pradesh**  
Kodh  
Limbwas  
Vijaypur  
Amba  
Lahori

**Telangana**  
Mahbubnagar  
Sadashivpet  
Dichapally  
Mandamari  
Mulkanoor

**Andhra Pradesh**  
Kalyandurgam  
Ralla  
Molaghavalli  
Nimbhagallu  
Adoni



\*We cover approximately 56% of our total operational sites through our CSR initiative

## ReNew INDIA INITIATIVE

“Climate change is the single greatest threat to a sustainable future but, at the same time, addressing the climate challenge presents a golden opportunity to promote prosperity, security and a brighter future for all.”

- **Ban Ki-Moon,**  
*former Secretary General,  
United Nations*



As we move closer to the 2-degree celsius threshold and rapidly use up the carbon budget, the adverse effects of climate change become more and more apparent, with anthropogenic activities exacerbating environmental degradation. The low-income communities and the marginalized face the greatest degree of climate risk, due to maximum exposure to the devastating impacts of climate change, be it on agriculture, livelihoods, health, water security, human rights, displacement and so on.

Among these communities, women and children are most vulnerable, and there is an urgent need for sustained solutions to safeguard them from these impending threats. Keeping gender parity and a brighter future for the youth in focus, building resilience against climate change within these communities becomes critical.

As a renewable energy company, our core business has positive cascading effects on various aspects of sustainable development, permeating right down to the last mile and empowering communities in rural areas where we have our operations. The preceding year saw us frame our social responsibility agenda by viewing it from the lens of climate change and its repercussions. Our overarching goal was to act as a responsible corporate and arrest the worryingly rapid pace of climate change through well planned initiatives focused on building resilient communities.

This report takes a look at our different initiatives conducted last year as we continued to expound our agenda in line with Agenda 2030, while addressing the various interlinkages between human capital development and climate change, and scaling up our efforts in building climate resilient communities. These efforts were organized under the banner of ReNew India Initiative (RII) which was launched at the advent of our CSR agenda. Under the ambit of RII, ReNew implements the following flagship programmes which are enumerated in the report:

- [Lighting Lives](#)
- [Edu-hub](#)
- [ReNew Women India Initiative](#)
- [Access to Drinking Water](#)
- [ReNew Scholarship for Exceptional Talent](#)
- [Employee Volunteerism](#)

The COVID19 pandemic, perhaps the most pressing challenge ever faced by humanity, has again underlined the necessity to cushion these communities against the havoc that climate change can wreak. Through our CSR initiatives, we aim to equip these communities with the required tools to survive the ill-effects of climate change.



## Lighting LIVES

Decarbonisation of electricity production through renewables within the next 25 years is essential for climate change mitigation and staying below the 1.5°C threshold.



As per the SDG knowledge forum of the United Nations, a sizeable population of the world still lives in darkness. As of 2019, around 800 million people in the world did not have access to electricity. Lack of electricity acts as a stumbling block in the day today lives of people in many ways. Minimal or zero access to electricity stifles the average productivity of a normal person. Children cannot study for longer hours, health care centres cannot function properly, and people cannot move freely in the dark, especially women. If we talk about schools, the students cannot access modern educational tools hence broadening the digital divide. In India, as per the District Information System for Education (DISE, 2018), 47% of the rural government schools do not have access to electricity which also means no access to computer education or the internet. In a rapidly changing world, access to modern educational tools is a pre-requisite for expanding the frontiers of knowledge and hastening socio-economic development. This can only be achieved if access to electricity is ensured. Traditional generation of electricity from coal however, is detrimental to the environment as it is one of the largest contributors to anthropogenic climate change, thanks to a high level of carbon emissions. The solution to a majority of these problems lies in production of energy through cleaner sources. Renewable energy not only addresses these issues in rural areas through decentralized systems, but also reduces the burden on environment due to zero carbon emission. To add to this, it is now also the most economical source of energy, making it affordable for the masses. The SDG 7 also calls for ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. ReNew Power, as India's largest clean energy company is committed towards contributing to the SDG 7 through both its business and social responsibility initiatives like the 'Lighting Lives'.

The Lighting Lives programme focusses on last mile electrification of schools with less than 3 hours of electricity through solar energy and transforming the delivery of education by establishing digital labs and working with students to shape up their minds for a cleaner and greener future. The aim is to ensure rural children have access to a modern, technology aided learning experience.

The main objective of the programme is to transform education through energy access and sensitize the youth towards the importance of using renewables.

### Under this programme, ReNew follows the following approach-

- Identifying schools with 0-3 hours of electricity in and around its areas of operations
- Electrifying schools through decentralized solar energy solutions
- Establishing digital labs for enhancement of digital education
- Creating green ambassadors through advocacy on energy and environment; sensitizing the youth on the need for a clean and green planet

In the year 2019-20, 37 schools with a total installation capacity of 276 kW were electrified across ReNew's areas of operations in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Rajasthan, and Delhi NCR.

As on date, ReNew Power has electrified 61 schools, directly impacting the lives of around 25000 students by the following:

- Facilitating better learning environment through access to electricity
- Enhancing digital knowledge through establishing computer labs
- Boosting learning levels and contributing towards increasing student enrolments. This is corroborated by actual data showing better academic scores and lower dropout rates in these schools.



## ReNew EDU-HUB



Creating youth advocates for climate change mitigation through education is integral, given the high degree of climate risk they face and their huge potential for climate change mitigation.

There is a growing realisation that Information Communication Technology (ICT)-based education can create opportunities for children and the youth especially in rural India. Fostering the development of an ICT-embedded learning environment helps improve the effectiveness and efficiency of education in formal and non-formal settings, and it also helps acquaint, familiarise and skill students with digital tools and environments.

ReNew Edu-Hub is an innovative rural community centre, focusing on improving education by using technology. The objective is to promote digital literacy & impart skill-training to local youth & children. As part of its efforts to promote ICT-based education in rural India, ReNew Power has established 9 Edu-Hubs in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

### **Edu-Hub, Paniyara, Uttar Pradesh**

Our Edu-hub offers basic training as well as advanced CCC courses to children and the youth, to help them get better career perspectives. The centre provides free computer training to underprivileged rural students and the youth. In 2019-20, 160 students completed their programme from the centre. Till date, 280 children have completed the course at Edu-hub.

The centre also offers training programs for farmers and members of Self Help Groups (SHGs). A series of training programmes have been organized in partnership with Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Indian Institute of Vegetable Research (IIVR) which were attended by around 400 farmers from Paniyara and surrounding villages. Along with the State Rural Livelihood Mission, basic training programs have been organized for SHG members.

### **Edu-Hub, Vijaypur, Madhya Pradesh**

The centre was established in late 2018, and it offers a basic 3-months computer certification course to the youth. In 2019-20, around 130 youth have completed this certified program from the centre.

### **Edu-Hub, Andhra Pradesh & Telangana**

In the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, Edu-Hubs have been established in local schools in partnership with local school authorities. Around 250 children have completed the basic computer training program through these centres, last year.

## ReNew WOMEN INDIA INITIATIVE

With 70% of the world's women living in poverty, women face a disproportionate burden of climate risk and are the most exposed to the devastating impacts of climate change such as extreme weather events, loss of agricultural productivity, migration and so on.



Women are particularly vulnerable to climate change because they are more prone to the adverse impacts from climate change. Their limited adaptive capacities arise from prevailing social inequalities and ascribed social and economic roles that manifest themselves in differences in property rights, access to information, lack of employment and in-equal access to resources. Efforts towards ensuring access for women to productive resources, climate-smart and labour-saving technologies and practices is crucial to enhance food security and nutrition, eradicate poverty and build resilience amongst rural households and communities.

There is a strong focus on women's empowerment in the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, in the form of a dedicated goal on Gender Equality (SDG5). One of the flagship programmes of ReNew Power is ReNew Women India Initiative (ReWIN), which is aimed at fostering economic independence for women by grooming them as entrepreneurs and enabling them to become 'change-agents' through capacity building programs and financial support. The programme also looks to instil in them requisite resilience for meeting the challenges of climate change and also gain access to the resources needed for survival.

In 2019-20, ReWIN programme was expanded to Mandsaur (Madhya Pradesh) and Paniyara (Uttar Pradesh) as part of phase 1 of the programme, while the intervention was scaled up in Jath (Maharashtra) under phase 2.

6 model women entrepreneurs were identified from Jath in phase 1. As part of phase 2 of the programme, ReNew Power worked closely with these women to mentor and handhold them to establish their entrepreneurial ventures. Key components of phase 2 included activities like

- Market survey
- Undertaking risk analysis
- Financial planning
- Finalization of business plans

Besides mentoring the beneficiaries to establish their business, ReNew Power along with its NGO partner also engaged with family members of the beneficiaries. Series of meetings were conducted with individual family members to share with them the details of the programme and their role in the journey. These women are also being recognized as "role models" in their own communities, acting as a source of inspiration for several other women of a similar profile who now believe they can emulate these trailblazers. On the occasion of International Women's day 2020, they were felicitated by their community leaders for their spirit and dedication.

In Mandsaur, the programme was rolled out in 5 villages. Local women were encouraged to form Common Interest Groups (CIG) on the basis of their area of business. 5 CIGs with a membership of 50 beneficiaries were formed in these villages. Since these women had no previous business experience, series of workshops on entrepreneurship development and financial management were organized. Mentoring sessions were held by local bank officials, who briefed them about the benefits of working as a group and how to avail benefits of various Government schemes.

Phase 1 of the programme was also rolled out in Paniyara in Uttar Pradesh in an effort to strengthen the economic & social condition of women. ReNew Power in partnership with district team of Uttar Pradesh State Rural Livelihood Mission (UPSRLM), facilitated the formation and strengthening of 52 Women Self Help Groups with a membership of 634 beneficiaries in 7 villages in and around Paniyara.

Series of capacity building programmes were organized for the SHG members in partnership with India Vegetable Research Institute (part of ICAR), local bank officials and UPSRLM to enhance income generating activities for members and help them work in groups.

Today, 52 women are involved in rudraksha garland making and are earning up to Rs. 1000 – Rs. 1500 per month by simultaneously doing their household chores. Another 48 SHG members are involved in growing vegetables - earning on an average about Rs. 4000 – Rs. 5000 per month.



## Access to DRINKING WATER

More than half of the world's population will be at risk due to water stress by 2050, with climate change exacerbating water security issues for disadvantaged communities.



Water is the primary resource, where the effects of climate change can be observed significantly. The availability of clean drinking water is becoming erratic in many places, and increased incidences of flooding threaten to destroy water points and sanitation facilities and contaminate water sources. More than 600 million Indians face “acute water shortages,” according to a report published in 2018 by NITI Aayog, while seventy percent of the nation’s water supply is contaminated, causing an estimated 200,000 deaths a year. It is estimated that approximately forty percent of the population, or more than 500 million people, will have “no access to drinking water” by 2030. As such, ensuring that everyone has access to sustainable water sources is a critical climate change mitigation strategy for the years ahead.

Improving access to clean drinking water is an important pillar of ReNew’s CSR programme in the communities around its operations especially in the state of Rajasthan. In Rajasthan, ReNew Power is working closely with the local community to construct Taankas - a traditional rainwater harvesting technique, common to the arid regions around Jaisalmer. It is meant to provide drinking water for a single or a small group of families and is an important element of water security in the region. Construction of taankas has also reduced the burden on women and adolescent girls, who traditionally were responsible for fetching water for their families and had to walk miles to the nearest water point. Till date, a total of 40 taankas have been constructed in arid regions of Rajasthan providing water to the marginalized families. ReNew has also de-silted 8 community lakes in Jaisalmer (Rajasthan) and Jath (Maharashtra) providing water to 15000 people across these two locations.

In FY2019-20, 5 water filtration units were also installed in the communities and schools in villages around our sites in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Our efforts have ensured availability of water for nearly 700 community members.

Till date, a total of 36 water RO/ filtration units have been installed, across government schools and communities, providing clean drinking water to thousands of students. The RO units range from 80 LPH to 1000 LPH, depending upon the size of the school and the community. ReNew Power through its water management committees and school management committees is maintaining the day to day operations of these units and ensuring their sustainability.

## ReNew SCHOLARSHIP FOR EXCEPTIONAL TALENT (ReSET)

“Raw talent can only take you so far. The rest is all about practice, perseverance, and perspiration.”

- Victoria Forester



India is a country with a population of 1.3 billion people and a distinct demographic dividend. Approximately 62% of our population falls under the working age group which makes the youth of our country the most important stakeholder in the journey of our economic growth. Despite this, the youth, especially at the bottom of the pyramid struggle to express and display their talents. The ReNew Scholarship for Exceptional Talent (ReSET) is a programme launched in the year 2016 focussing on identifying young and aspiring underprivileged talents across different fields and giving them an opportunity and a platform to hone their skills to help them grow and pursue their ambitions in their field of choice.

Over the past 4 years, ReNew Power has been supporting 40 young squash prodigies from rural India through a talent development programme under ReSET. The main aim of the programme is to identify talented children passionate about squash and provide them with world class training facilities so as to help them build a career as a player at both national and international level. To achieve this, ReNew has partnered with David Palmer Squash Academy, founded by the former squash world no. 1, David Palmer, who acts as a mentor to the squash trainees. The trainings are organized at Gurugram and a small village in Uttar Pradesh called Paniyara, where a total of 40 squash trainees are groomed by nationally ranked coaches.

In FY2019-20, 6 trainees participated across national level tournaments winning 5 golds, 3 silvers, and 2 bronze medals. A total of 1200 man hours of training was imparted to these trainees helping them hone their skills.

## Employee VOLUNTEERING



“Only a life lived for others is worth living.”

- Albert Einstein

ReNew as a socially responsible organization provides its employees with an opportunity to be engaged in social responsibility initiatives. Believing in the philosophy of ‘giving unconditionally gives us unconditional happiness’, ReNew has a concept of ‘Individual Social Responsibility’. In the year 2019-20, an employee volunteering policy was implemented which enabled the employees to formally take time off work and devote it across social responsibility activities that ReNew conducts. ReNew’s major employee volunteering social responsibility programmes are:

### Gift Warmth

The effects of climate change have adversely impacted human kind. Over the last few years the winters have become harsher in northern parts of India. Scores of homeless people, including women and children are exposed to dipping mercury levels and icy cold winds during the peak winter season. In January 2019, the media reported 103 deaths in Delhi NCR alone, succumbing to extreme cold – a statistic that is as embarrassing as it is painful. While the Government has arranged night shelters and other make shift arrangements, their combined capacity falls short of what is required. The gravity of the situation calls for collaborative action to complement the Government’s efforts and protect the large number of homeless from the bitter cold at the height of the winter season.

To address this, ReNew launched the “Gift Warmth” campaign in the year 2015, with the vision - “no one in India should die due to cold weather”. The Gift Warmth initiative aims to distribute blankets to the homeless and the needy around vulnerable geographies in the country. Another important objective of the campaign has been to create awareness and advocacy about the adverse effects of climate change at the community, national and global level.

In the year 2019-20, 35,000 blankets were distributed across 6 states covering 11 locations in the northern part of India. Till date, 90000 blankets have been donated through employees and concerned citizens across India, who have joined hands with us to equip the needy in their fight against extreme cold. The blanket distribution modus operandi have been diversified. One of the modes is through ReNew employees, who distribute the blankets in Delhi NCR, and in the villages in close proximity to the sites and regional offices of ReNew Power. With footprints across states, distribution drives are primarily focused on economically weaker sections. The other mode is through partnership with CSOs who identify vulnerable sections and distribute blankets directly across night shelters, hospitals, religious places etc.

The programme was acknowledged and appreciated by the office of the Honourable President of India for its ideation as well as impact. To further scale up the initiative, under the aegis of the Rashtrapati Bhawan, a consortium of likeminded partners is being formed. The Gift Warmth campaign 2020 targets to distribute over 2 lakh blankets to the needy and impact a million lives over the next 5 years.



## Rice Bucket Challenge

According to the UN's Food and Agricultural Organization, climate change is amongst the leading causes of rising global hunger. Extreme weather events, water scarcity, and land degradation have a cumulative negative impact on global hunger. As of 2019, India occupies the 102nd position on the global hunger index out of the 117 ranked countries. ReNew through its employee engagement programme, the 'Rice Bucket Challenge' in a small way tries to contribute towards ensuring people do not stay hungry on the streets. Launched in the year 2015, the Rice Bucket Challenge has been instrumental in mobilizing employees for contributing rice towards this cause. The quantity of rice donated by the employees is matched by ReNew management and the total amount is distributed amongst the vulnerable sections of our population. In the year 2019, a total of 25000 Kgs of rice was donated to the underprivileged through employee distribution drives. Till date, a total of 68,000 Kgs of rice has been donated to the needy pan India.



## Community ASSET DEVELOPMENT

Building social capital  
is integral to the holistic  
development of any  
community

Under the ambit of its CSR programme, ReNew Power is working closely with communities in and around its sites to create social capital with an objective to meet their development goals.

As part of the community asset development programme, infrastructure creation activities are undertaken in consultation with the local government and village development committee. The activities range from construction of common water structures, renovating schools and public complexes, renovating aanganwadi centres, and constructing toilet complexes.

In the year 2019, the state of Karnataka witnessed flooding and torrential rains, which led to destruction of community assets like schools, roads etc. ReNew Power in consultation with local administration undertook repair and construction of school buildings in Melavank, Chigadoli and Adibatti villages in Belgaum district.

In Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, across locations like Mahbubnagar and Dichipally, the focus was on development/renovation of government schools and construction of toilet complexes.

BACK



## Advocacy & THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Leading CSR nationally  
and partnering with the  
best globally



For us, thought-leadership and advocacy not only become critical tools to partner with leading champions of the climate change and sustainability narratives, but to also share knowledge and best practices and come up with sustainable solutions for some of the major problems the world, including India face today.

By organizing roundtables, conferences, information sessions and dialogues, ReNew Foundation has brought together a wide array of thought-leaders under its banner, and got them to exchange valuable opinions and insights which are then translated into actionable recommendations and presented to policy-makers in the form of a vision document or report. This is done to support policy makers, who are also part of these events, in designing strategic interventions at a grass-root and systemic level. Through our CSR initiatives aimed at schools and the youth, we also aim to deepen awareness and advocacy among students, to make them powerful change-agents for a sustainable future.

### RENEW FOUNDATION THOUGHT LEADERSHIP SERIES

ReNew Foundation works with leading national and multilateral institutions in sectors like energy, sustainability, social responsibility and so on, to organize thought-leadership events. We also work with educational institutes for advocacy related to these topics, and provide grass-root interventions to involve the youth in building a better, climate friendly future through awareness and education. Some of the thought leadership engagements organised under the ReNew Foundation Thought Leadership in FY2019-20 were:

#### The geopolitics of energy transition

On 10th June, 2019, David Livingston, Deputy Director - Climate and Advanced Energy Global Energy Center, Atlantic Council, accompanied by the officials from the embassy of USA, spoke to the ReNewers on the topic "The Geopolitics of Energy Transition". In the insightful session, Livingston spoke about the price dynamics which favour the clean energy transition, the shift in geopolitical power due to decentralized nature of renewable energy production (as opposed to traditional energy which is concentrated in specific geographical pockets), the rise of EVs and the impending structural changes we will see in the world dynamics as a result of the energy transition.

#### A session on energy storage

On 28th May, 2019, Professor Daniel Steingart, Co-director, Columbia Electrochemical Energy Centre, chaired a session on energy storage. He spoke about how storing energy has been a primary challenge for all of humanity and that here is a dire need to shift to cleaner and renewable sources of energy, considering the increase in demand for energy and a gradually deteriorating environment. Evidently, renewable resources have negligible harmful impact on the environment and are evergreen resources.

**Women as drivers of sustainability**

On 16th September 2019, the First Lady of New Jersey, Tammy Murphy, came to ReNew Hub for a roundtable on 'women as drivers of sustainability', with select stalwarts from the field of sustainability and gender. The First Lady was accompanied by her staff and energy advisors, and various topics exploring the intrinsic link between gender and sustainability were explored. The discussion entailed mainstreaming women in the narrative of climate change mitigation, and empowering them to expedite the achievement of global goals related to gender and sustainability, through localized interventions and policy changes.

**UNEP Innovations Summit**

ReNew Power also partnered with United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) to organize the 1st Innovations Summit at New Delhi. The Innovations Summit 2019 highlighted innovative solutions, projects and programmes implemented in India addressing the Indian sustainability needs. The platform brought in eminent national and international participants - thought leaders, opinion shapers, policy makers, business heads- and some of the most promising innovators who are defining a new normal in the way we put sustainability into practice.

As a partner, ReNew identified, supported, and showcased 5 world class innovations in the domain of clean energy and air pollution. The innovations comprised of waterless PV cleaning robots, nano-nasofilters, energy management system engines for storage, AI enabled software for energy forecasting, and an emission control device to capture air pollution. We also hosted a panel discussion on 'Fostering innovation in the clean energy sector', moderated by our Chief Sustainability Officer which saw experts sharing insights on how technology, finance, and conducive policies can together drive sustainability



## Voice of ReNewers



Last year, I had an opportunity to engage in some of the initiatives under ReNew's CSR program. Every opportunity was a hugely rewarding experience. It gives a great sense of humility, gratitude, and fulfilment when even a small effort brings a sense of joy on the faces of the lesser privileged. At Renew we value CSR with utmost sincerity and believe in involving as many of our employees and their families in this endeavour as possible. Working on programs designed to benefit the society at large is a great learning experience and helps us to become more aware citizens of the country. I look forward to my continued association across different CSR programs.

**Ajay Bhardwaj, President, New Business**



As a leading renewable energy company, we strive to excel within the highest frameworks of social responsibility. At ReNew, we believe in going beyond our business and giving back to the society by helping uplift the communities that surround us. We make sure that the communities are an integral part of our projects right from the very beginning and try to follow a very bottoms up approach while designing and implementing CSR initiatives - whether it is lighting lives or access to drinking water. The management at ReNew remains committed to the idea of nation building not just through its business but also through social responsibility.

**Sanjay Varghese, Executive Vice President, Solar**



The CSR initiatives in Madhya Pradesh have helped the team establish a firm relationship with the local communities. Being an IPP, it is extremely important for us to generate power continuously and our CSR activities not only uplift the communities but also help the business run in an efficient manner. Our teams across projects also get a sense of fulfilment through their participation across initiatives.

**Kesha Kanungo, State Head, Madhya Pradesh**



I would like to convey my special thanks to the CSR team for giving me the opportunity to participate as a volunteer and visit the Earth Savior Foundation (TESF) under the Rice Bucket Challenge Program. It was heartening to serve the vulnerable, especially senior citizens, children, and differently abled. ReNew Power is working day in and out for community welfare and I feel privileged to be associated with initiatives like these.

**Aruna Arora, CSR and Corporate Communications**



It was really a wonderful feeling when I, along with a few of my colleagues, participated in a night drive for blanket distribution under Gift Warmth. This campaign to provide the gift of warmth during the cold winters is really appreciable and thoughtful. I am so proud as a renewer and feel socially engaged through such activities. I strongly feel that CSR can help develop leaders amongst the youth who will take our country forward through nation building activities.

**Khushboo, Distributed Solar**



I have always believed in a quote by Leo Tolstoy which says, 'true lives are lived when tiny changes occur'. I got an opportunity to participate in the Gift Warmth initiative during the past winter season. The expressions on peoples' faces while receiving the blankets are something that I cannot simply forget. The joy, a blanket could bring in during a cold night is something that is small yet fulfilling. I am thankful to ReNew for giving me this opportunity.

**Yuvraj Jain, Transmission**



I have been working in ReNew Power as a CSR executive at Paniyara, Uttar Pradesh for the last two years. The way in which we are planning and executing community interventions is commendable. ReNew provides me an opportunity to work on different thematic areas like energy access, women empowerment, and development of farmers through agricultural based programmes. I feel contented and proud to be a part ReNew's CSR journey.

**Sandeep Kumar, Corporate Social Responsibility**

Individual social responsibility is engrained in the DNA of every ReNewer

## Voice of COMMUNITIES



My life was transformed by the ReWIN programme, as the initiative gave me the training needed to scale up my tailoring business for a steady income. I learnt the tricks of business and managed my finances better as a result of this, and I was ultimately awarded Rs 1 lakh as seed fund to set up and expand my garment business. With just a sewing machine to start with, I am thankful to ReNew Power for being the turning point in my life, as it has empowered me to empower other women like me.

**Sangeeta Nandikol, Jath**



As an old widow, things were difficult for me. I lived in darkness throughout my life, and on top of that with poor eyesight, I had to come home early after working as a maid in just two houses, and relying on expensive kerosene lamps at my own house. With ReNew Power bringing the community micro-grid here, I am able to work longer hours and save money spent on kerosene. I can work at more houses as well, and can support my family. I will always be grateful to ReNew Power for truly bringing light in my life

**Radha Rajbhar, Paniyara**



Despite coming from a humble background with my father being a farmer, I had big dreams. However, I was not allowed to go far away from the village to join skill development courses and actually pursue my dreams. Thanks to ReNew Power's Edu-hub, I was able to become digital-literate and I actually got access to a government certified computer course which I completed. ReNew Power has given me the wings to pursue my ambition and I will always remember the support I got for my higher education and career development

**Divya Pandey, Paniyara**



I had a very tough time supporting my family after my husband passed away. I had to walk long distances to procure water for my family and to irrigate the agricultural land we owned. This denied me the time and opportunity to have a sustained income flow. When ReNew Power constructed these taankas, my life changed completely, as now I had more time in my hand as procuring water became easier and quicker. It also helped improve the health and sanitation of my family. I am thankful to ReNew Power, the village development committee, which have provided me with the training and means to support my family."

**Bhavri Devi, Rajasthan**



Determined to be educated and successful, I was one of the girls who came forward to demand education for girls in the village. I was very grateful that these demands came to fruition as I was able to enrol in classes at the Edu-hub, and learn the basics of computer, internet, and email, word, PowerPoint and excel, and enhance my digital literacy. This 3-month course changed my life as I was able to get a job interview because of the education and learning I got, along with the computer skills, and convert the interview into an actual job in Bhopal. I am thankful to ReNew Power and the supporting NGOs who helped me achieve my ambition.

**Nikki Parmar, Hullpur**

Community development  
has been the core to our  
way of doing business

# AWARDS

2019-2020

## INDIA ENERGY GREEN AWARD

Outstanding Community based Green Project 2019 for Lighting Lives



## CSR JOURNAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

Women Empowerment Award 2019 for ReWIN



## INDIA CSR AWARD

CSR Community Initiative Award 2019 for Lighting Lives



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Yerala Projects Society



Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti



Sambhav Social Service Organization



Society for Action for Rural Poor



Society for Educational Welfare and Economic Development



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