



# POWERING PROGRESS, SPREADING GROWTH

*GPDP: DEVELOPMENT THROUGH  
INTEGRATION, INCLUSION AND  
INVOLVEMENT*



## SETU

SETUs as cluster level information centers emerged immediately post the 2001 earthquake to play a bridge role in coordinating effective relief and information needs. In these 15 years, SETUs carved its own niche – facilitating local people & external agencies towards strengthening communities to decide, negotiate and monitor for the kind & the pace of development that they need and can sustain.

Over the time, SETUs realized the need to strengthen the local governance and thus reeducating the Gram Panchayats in governing their villages. Since 2004, SETUs thus focused on strengthening local governance more prominently through various innovations in urban and rural settings across 6 blocks in the district of Kutch.



**SETU Abhiyan**

*Strengthening Local Governance*

### **CONTACT US**

setuabhiyan@gmail.com  
www.setuabhiyan.org

45-B, Bankers Colony, 2nd Lane, Opp. JSV Infocom,  
Near Jubilee Ground, Bhuj – Mundra Road,  
Bhuj – Kachchh, Gujarat – 370 001.  
Ph 02832 225772

## Objective

The 73rd Constitutional Amendment mandates Gram Panchayats to create a comprehensive Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP). The GPDP is designed to address the specific needs of each Panchayat and encourages the active involvement of the local community in the planning process. Acting as a tool for integrated development, GPDP emphasizes the importance of both resource-based and no-cost interventions undertaken by Gram Panchayats. The main objective of GPDP is to promote decentralization and establish a bottom-to-top system of governance. It serves as a vital tool that outlines the needs and vision of the villages, facilitating holistic development within the respective Panchayat or Village. There are 9 themes highlighted under the GPDP planning process, namely: Poverty Free and Enhanced Livelihoods Village, Healthy Village, Child-Friendly Village, Water Sufficient Village, Clean and Green Village, Village with self-sufficient infrastructure, socially just and socially secure village, village with good governance, women friendly village.

The issue of climate change was addressed during the discussions, with SETU providing coping strategies. Following this, SETU embarked on the documentation process, analyzing the pressing issues raised and researching applicable schemes to address each concern. The finalized GPDP was presented and discussed in the Gram Sabha, receiving approval and successful implementation thereafter.



## Together, progress is faster – Lakhpatt Taluka's invigoration for GPDP

In Lakhpatt Taluka of Kutch District, one of the successful GPDP plans include the one for Dhareshi Panchayat focused on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) was organized, where residents of all ages, both men and women, actively participated. During this discussion, various issues came to light, such as concerns regarding water, health, education, and agriculture. The village's resources and infrastructure were also mapped, highlighting areas that required improvement.



## The Initiative

The SETU team plays a crucial role in facilitating and supporting the Panchayats throughout the planning process. They ensure that the discussions encompass a wide range of social and economic activities, ensuring active participation from the local communities. Once the planning is complete, the GPDP is uploaded with the inputs and suggestions collected from the discussions, making it a more inclusive and comprehensive development plan for the Panchayat. Every year, even after the making of the GPDP, SETU follows up and monitors the implemented projects and pending tasks in the village.

## Promoting community cohesion for development

- Provides insight upon areas that require improvement and development priorities.
- Holistic approach to the discussions ensuring social, economic, infrastructure, climate related issues. (water, health, education, agriculture)
- Active participation by all communities and age groups, making the GPDP more inclusive.

- Women centered, adolescent girl centered concerns are raised during the discussion and planning process.
- Reflects collaborative efforts and community requirements.
- Creates further development scope through regular meetings and discussions with the Gram Panchayat.

