

Case Studies

Mrs. Vanita Sahebrao More is 60 and received her LMV driving license last year. Why? She wants to transport her farm grown crops from Nanded to various parts of Maharashtra. Her zeal and passion for agriculture is infectious. Starting off with half an acre she now manages 3.5 acres of land using 100% organic inputs. Let us revisit her inspiring journey.



AT A GLANCE

7 Acres Total Land

2012 Adoption Year

3.5 Acres Transformed

Pre-1 Acre Model

INR **13900** worth self-consumable
crop grown in 7 acres

Post 1 Acre Model

INR **17900** worth self-
consumable crop grown in 3.5 acres

1 Diversified Livelihood Option post transition

Life Before Implementing One Acre Model

Vanita is an experienced farmer from Telki village of Nanded, Maharashtra. Her children – 3 sons live in Mumbai with their families. As her husband worked in a sugarcane factory she used to manage the farm activities in entirety. She used to grow majorly Soyabean, Jawar and Cotton in her 7 acre of land along with some pulses and vegetables. The reliance was solely on chemical inputs and seeds purchased from the market shelling out an annual expense of around Rs. 40,000. Moreover growing cotton in 2 acres of land underutilised the farming capacity as the crop blocks the area for a year. In addition to that the family did not have an alternate livelihood which would have made them financially secure during adverse climate and market scenarios.

85%

Land Utilisation
to grow Cash
Crops

The Transformation Story

Vanita had a huge hands-on experience in agriculture but she seldom took decisions related to crop and farm input selection. In 2012, she came in contact with Swayam Shikshan Prayog and educated herself about the one acre model. After discussing with her husband she implemented the model in 0.5 acres of land in the first year.



“After being trained by SSP I began farming on half an acre of land in 2012 but elated with the incredible results my husband gave me legal land rights for 3.5 acres of land”

Vanita Sahebrao More

30%

*Farm input
share on Net
Earnings*

After being successful the next year she expanded in 3 acres of land growing vegetables, wheat, pulses and turmeric. The results were incredible and Vanita's husband gave her the legal land rights of half of the total land they owned. Unlike the traditional approach followed earlier Vanita now focusses on growing food crops to consume and send their children staying outstation. The marketable surplus worth INR 45,000 is now a regular source of continuous cash flow. The livestock integration has now helped the family eliminate farm input costs which earlier was almost 30% of the net earnings. Moreover, milk from the livestock is part of the regular diet as well as a diversified source of income.

Key takeaways from the transformation story

Livestock Integration



**INR 23,200
selling Milk**

Water Conservation



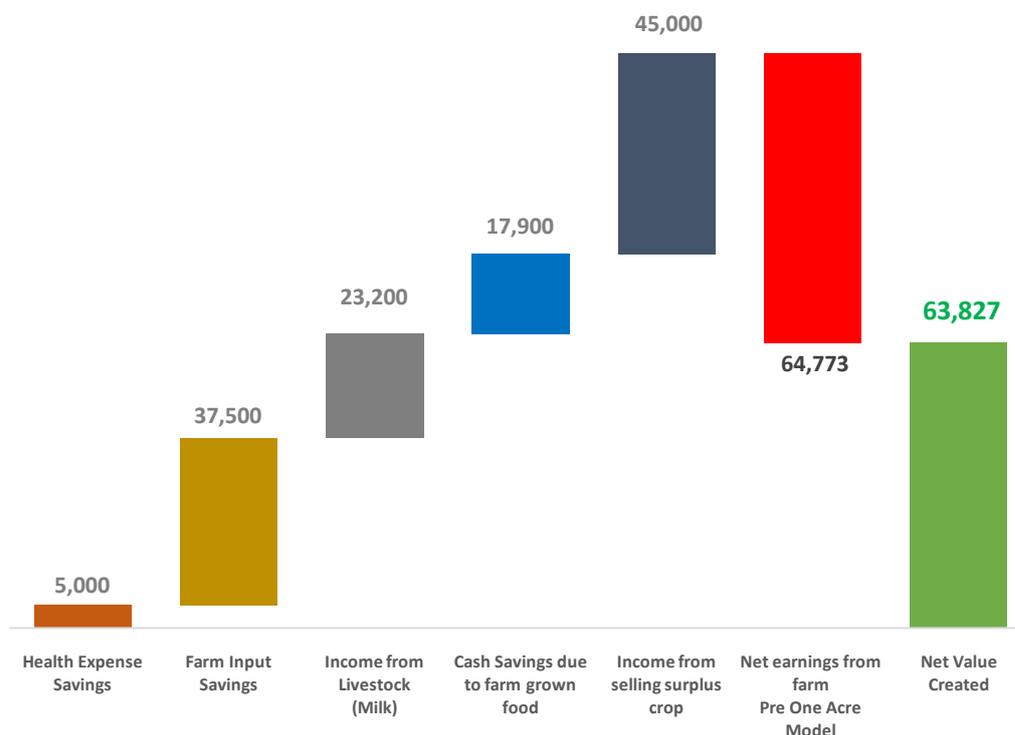
Canal to Drip Irrigation

100% Spill Over



**Entire 7 acres
Organic Farming**

Net Value Creation Through One Acre Model



What?

How?

Increased Food Security, Health and Nutrition

- 30% more (in terms of value) farm grown crops consumed
- Due to livestock integration cow milk forms part of a regular diet now
- Organic farming eliminating consumption of chemical infused food grown in farmland pre one acre model

Enhanced Economic Stability

- End of the season lumpy cash inflows replaced with continuous income by reducing cash crop cultivation
- Net value creation of INR 63,827 through savings from farm inputs, farm grown consumables & health expenses and through income from selling milk and marketable surplus

Preservation of land quality

- Bio inputs now help to retain the soil fertility and arresting erosions thereby preserving the land quality
- With a spill over of 100% of organic farming the total owned land of 7acres now enjoys the ecological benefit

Women Empowerment

- Vanita now enjoys legal land ownership which empowers her to take key decisions
- She is now a model farmer and trains other women farmers positively enhancing social perspectives around her

Women led Climate Resilient Farming

Making farming viable for small and marginal farming households

Empowerment



Grassroots women farmers and entrepreneurs taking up new roles as change makers

Food Security



Shift from cash crops to diversified food crops, now women and households have food from their own farms

Livelihoods



Enhanced income security by diversifying into livestock and agri allied enterprises

Natural Resources



Protection of soil, water & land through bio farming, water harvesting and afforestation

SWAYAM SHIKSHAN PRAYOG

Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP) empowers grassroots women's collectives to move from "Margin to Mainstream". Over two decades, we have built robust partnership eco-systems that enables women's entrepreneurship and leadership in sustainable development. Our work, by choice, is centred around low income climate threatened communities.

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