

ANNUAL REPORT (2020 – 2021)



M A U N A
D H W A N I

MAUNA DHWANI FOUNDATION

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Mauna Dhvani Foundation is a not-for-profit social enterprise registered in Bengaluru, India. It aims to facilitate the revival and resurgence of personal and community identities by enabling the disenfranchised sections of society find their powerful voice and therefore their rightful place. The Foundation's efforts are primarily focused on empowering women and marginalized communities, the goal being to enable their integration into mainstream society through a holistic three-pronged methodology that includes:

- Self Empowerment
- Skill Enhancement
- Sustainable Livelihood

*The essence of Mauna Dhvani Foundation is in the role it envisages for itself: the role of facilitating the transformational journey from lack of identity, lack of a voice and the silence of exclusion '**Mauna**', to the liberating assertive and inclusive voices of individuals and communities, the '**Dhwani**'.*



Note from the Executive Director...

The challenges that the year 2020-21 unfolded has been unprecedented in more ways than one. As I write, the pandemic continues to deepen its grip on India throwing public health, economy and development interventions into disarray. In the pages that follow we are pleased to present to you Mauna Dhvani Foundations Annual Report 2020-21, that will illustrate our journey in the last one year, the progress made and the steps we took to expand our outreach despite the enormous challenges faced by us in recent months.

We began the year 2020 with the goal of reviving two weaving clusters by creating fully equipped community centers at Chuliaposi and at Sunapal (that was being partly funded under a government scheme). However, within six months into 2020 when we found ourselves in the midst of the pandemic, a cyclone, and the deluge of returning migrants, there was a need for rapidly revamping our strategy.

The change in strategy was geared towards rapid response and scale with the first focus areas being sustainable livelihood for tribal and Dalit women, returning migrants and the skilled-unemployed existing weavers. The acute shortage of food due to the lack of access during the pandemic highlighted the impending issues of severe malnutrition and health, thereby leading to our next two strategic interventions of health plans and community kitchen. The vision of Mauna Dhvani has always been community development and therefore when we realized that the biggest casualty of the last one year was the loss of access to education, since

children in the villages did not move to an online mode. Thereby leading us to add another strategic intervention which was the after-school program for children between 7-16 years of age.

With the four strategic priorities in mind, we went across expanding our operations to three more clusters located at Astia, Atanati and Chandanpur, partnering with the ADT to revive and renew handloom weaving and natural dyeing. We hope to continue extending our support to three more clusters in the coming years and impact close to 200 weaver families by the end of 2022.

Our biggest success in scaling our operations has been our intensive connections with the community that allowed us to establish trust and work together as one united team. For this I want to acknowledge the extraordinary efforts made by each one of our staff members who with their resourcefulness, resilience flexibility and engagement have brought us to the place we are standing now on.

Finally, during the last one year we were privileged to witness the sacrifice, generosity, commitment, creativity and love of inspirational people who gave us the courage to dream larger than we ever have. To all our donors and supporters, a big thank you for walking this journey with us. As we close a year of scale and impact, we look forward to usher in a year of innovation, sustainability and connections. After 3 years of being founded we end with the thought that we have always echoed: Enabling 'the sound of silence' through resilience and love.

Bindu Vinodhan

- **Overview of programs**
- **Revival Traditional Handloom & Natural dyeing**

We are reviving the third century tribal motifs and old age practice of natural dyeing. In our weaving center women are being trained in handloom weaving and Natural dyeing. Currently we have providing training on handloom weaving and Natural dyeing at our Chuliaposi centre, in Mayurbhanj district.

This year COVID-19 despite the lockdown our dedicated weaver and dyer women of the village continued to be engaged in learning and creating amazing intricate tribal motif sample sarees and gamchas.

We conducted awareness session about Covid-19 and maintained the social distancing while at work, also followed all safety guidelines issued by authorities.





Our weavers have produced their first batch of production, these carefully handcrafted sarees will these women a dignified livelihood.



Highlights

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- Skill Upgrading of weavers and dyers

2

- Distribution of ration to Weavers, Dyers and Needy Families

3

- Health Screening Camp

4

- Construction of Common Facility Centre construction at Sunapal supported by MSME

- **Skill Upgrading of weavers and dyers – Weaving and dyeing Center**



- **One Week Training Program on Natural Dyeing**

A week-long training program on Natural Dyeing was organized by Mauna Dhvani Foundation at Atanati under the SFURTI project for Udala Weaving Cluster. The training began on 4th January and ended on the 10th of January 2021. Total 27 number of artisans participated in this training conducted by Mr. Hrudananda Das. This was the second batch of artisans who underwent this training. The first batch was conducted in January 2020 where 35 artisans from each village (including the cluster) participated.

The objective of this training is to train the local women in the communities of Chuliaposi and other neighbouring villages to create a craft cluster and build a fully functional production center for natural dyeing







- **Distribution of ration to Weavers, Dyers and Needy Families:**

In this critical time of COVID19 pandemic we could provide ration and hygiene kits to our weavers and villagers in our operational villages. We have provided essential support to our communities including awareness, ration and hygiene kits and psychosocial support.



- **Health Awareness & Screening Camp Organized at Sunapal, Chuliaposi & Atanati villages.**

Our communities were facing various health issues and we decided to address them in camp mode. We have organized various health camps in our operational villages to address the health issues.



Latitude: 21.67073
Longitude: 86.617295
Elevation: 102.77 m
Accuracy: 6.2 m
Azimuth: 214° (SW)
Pitch: -3.4° (S1°)
Time: 04-03-2021 10:46
Note: Atanati health camp

Latitude: 21.67077
Longitude: 86.617127
Elevation: 111.17 m
Accuracy: 4.0 m
Azimuth: 248° (SW)
Pitch: -10.6° (2.5°)
Time: 04-03-2021 10:57
Note: Atanati health camp

- **Construction of Common Facility Centre construction at Sunapal supported by MSME**

This is one of the basic and important requirements of handloom sector so that the high-quality products are not damaged during pre-weaving, weaving and post weaving time in a typical Indian village. With support of Ministry of MSME. Government of India under the SFURTI project we have constructed the community weaving and dyeing unit at Sunapal village of Udala block of Mayurbhanj. The total area of construction is about 4000 sq ft. in this centre total 25 looms are installed. This community weaving and dyeing centre is fully equipped with all modern facilities of weaving and dyeing. This centre will cater thousands of women in coming years.





- Governance

- Governing Body

Mauna Dhvani Foundation is registered under as a not-for-profit company and is registered at Registrar of Companies, Bangalore. The Governing Board of Mauna Dhvani Foundation consists of 4 members.

1. Bindu Vinodhan
2. M M Vinodhan
3. T Prakash Babu
4. Gobinda Dalai