

## Plan India Impact Awards 2022

### Category Specific Guide

#### Women's Self Help Group

**Women Self-help groups** are informal **groups** of 8-10 women who come together to address their everyday problems. While **self-help** might imply a focus on the individual, one crucial characteristic of **self-help groups** is the idea of mutual support - people **helping** each other. Women's Self Help groups meet weekly or monthly, collect money from their members, connect them to banks, and loan them money at low-interest rates for their needs.

#### Roles and Responsibilities of Women's Self Help Groups

Women in rural areas face multiple problems related to their social security. It is often seen that girls are married off at an early age, drop out of school, become victims of domestic violence, etc. With the help of SHGs, they are explained the basic fundamental rights and empowered to become active decision-makers rather than passive speakers. These groups instill confidence in women and help them realize their capabilities. Through these groups, women are made aware of nutrition, birth control methods, etc.

Women Self Help Groups are mainly concerned with the enlistment of women in society through social and economic aspects. Self Help Groups mobilize micro finance and provide micro credit to members in need. Their role also includes self-employment training, awareness programmes, and promoting leadership qualities

By providing access to financial services and informing the **women** members about the various welfare programmes primarily targeted at **women** and children, The **Women SHGs**, truly empower **women** by making them partners in bringing about the needed social and economic transformation.

#### Indicators

**Impact:** How did the Women SHG (nominee) create lasting impacts on individuals or groups under challenging and adverse circumstances? How did the Women Self Help Group (nominee) demonstrate an exemplary implementation process to bring about change in individuals or groups in the last year from **01<sup>st</sup> January 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**, especially during the COVID-19 period?

##### Key Indicators:

- No. of women in need supported to augment the means of their livelihoods. ?
- No. of Government schemes availed by the SHG
- Amount of loan mobilized from Government schemes
- No. of women and their families in need supported during COVID times
- No. of women supported in dealing with violence against women and children
- No. of child protection cases addressed
- No. of child marriages stopped
- No. of other social issues raised and addressed
- Type/kind of support provided in organizing Village Health Sanitation ,Nutrition Day and other Government initiatives.
- Key challenges that the SHG faced to overcome during COVID

- What sustainable changes (social or economic) the Women SHG has been able to bring in the lives of their group members, such as social and economic.
- How Women SHG has encouraged women, especially from marginalized sections, to become Self Help Group members?
- How Women SHG has influenced financial institutions to avail various benefits including loan and subsidies for the purpose of the SHG.
- How has the Women SHG influenced various Government departments such as agriculture, animal husbandry, horticulture, health, ICDS, etc., to benefit the group?
- How has the Women SHG influenced its members to start income generation activities?
- How has the Women SHG influenced their villagers to prevent violence against women and children, child marriages etc.?
- How and what measures did SHG take to engage men in the process?
- How the women SHG has secured the Government/ non-Government assistance for their members during COVID.
- Any support provided on COVID vaccination

**Innovation:** Innovative technique used by the Women SHG (nominee) to find possible and feasible solutions?

**Key Indicators**

- Specific innovations including the use of technology in maintaining their records to everyone's satisfaction.
- Utilizing SHG's mandate and experience to build partnerships with Government departments and NGOs to strengthen the group and access various benefits provided
- Any specific strategy adopted to prevent the spread of COVID in their respective communities

**Story of Success**

- What is the out-of-the-box initiative/idea (service or product), and how effective has it delivered the impact?
- How has the stakeholders' involvement in achieving a better outcome and strategies been undertaken?
- COVID-19 Alignment: Denotes the project sustainability in the pandemic. Evaluating the alignment/re-alignment of the work/initiative to overcome the challenges faced due to lockdown/pandemic.
- Sustainability and Exit Strategy: measures are taken to ensure the outcomes' sustainability after the intervention's completion and how well the exit strategy is planned (if applicable).

**Mandatory evidence:** Please attach evidence to support your story. Evidence can be newspaper clippings, photos, video clippings that can be verified independently, letters of appreciation, or any award received for

the achievement mentioned.

**Note:**

- **This guidance indicator sheet is for reference purposes only. The nominator must justify the exemplary performance of the nominee beyond their regular role, demonstrating an excellent course of action under each parameter. Please use quantifiable numbers or percentages in the Impact section.**