



# Weaving adolescent empowerment into GRAM PANCHAYAT DEVELOPMENT PLANNING (GPDP)

## Background

*Aapni Yojana, Aapno Vikas* [Gram Panchayat Development Planning (GPDP)] is a Government of India (GoI) initiative being implemented by Government of Rajasthan (GoR) with partnership by UNICEF towards the realisation of Article 243 G of the Indian Constitution. Crucial to strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in their local self-governance role, Article 243 G mandates the preparation of plans for economic development and social justice/social development by Panchayats.

## SCENARIO in Rajasthan

Rajasthan, which is also a pioneer state to accept and initiate the three tier Panchayati Raj system, will get **INR 13,633.64 crores** from GoI for transfer into its GP accounts, to strengthen participation and planning in decentralised local governance.

Within the strengthening of the GPDP process, adolescent empowerment has been taken up as a significant theme.

GPs are financially supported and backed by



- Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC)
- State Finance Commission (SFC)
- Schemes like the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)

- National and state flagship programmes
- Organisational social responsibility (OSR) projects
- Corporate social responsibility (CSR) projects



## GPDP PILOT IN TONK DISTRICT

Process followed, learnings and advantages

(September 2017 to March 2018)

### Strategic approach

**Focus area 1**  
Environment building for a model GPDP

**Focus area 2**  
Cascade mentorship strategy to support GPDP process

**Focus area 3**  
Strengthening governance structures

### Implementation

Acting on the advice of ACS Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, UNICEF supported a joint pilot initiative in Tonk district in collaboration with the district administration and the District Resource and Coordination Unit (DRCU) for model GPs. The project covered **230 GPs across six Panchayat Samitis** (blocks).

### Process adopted to strengthen Model Gram Panchayats and GPDP

- Public** launch of GPDP
- Orientation** programmes for district and block level functionaries
- Advocacy** for Government Orders
- Special** Gram Sabhas
- Situation** analysis of each GP
- Cascade** training of a cadre of District Master Trainers (DMTs), who in turn trained Cluster Resource Teams (CRTs) who then assisted and handheld Gram Sabhas to draft their GPDPs.
- Coordination** strengthened between Gram Panchayat Coordination Committees (GPCCs) at community level and District Resource and Coordination Units (DRCUs) at district level.

### Remarkable impact with potential for scale-up

- Model GPDPs created and adolescent empowerment seen in all 230 GPs across six Samitis in Tonk
- Extended mentorship process with quality trainers to strengthen government plans of developing cadre of volunteers
- Integrated inputs on adolescent issues in GPDP plans and made available online into PlanPlus
- Ensured every GP meeting has at least one agenda point related to adolescent issues and child labour
- Brought out-of-school students back by tracking drop outs and monitoring school/Anganwadi Centre registers
- Galvanised regular advocacy by GP members against child marriage.

### Positive results

- Developed TSGs to assist **230 GPCCs** in all six blocks in their GPDP preparation.
- Mentored members of all **230 GPCCs**
- Trained **30 DMTs, six BRGs and 45 Cluster Resource Teams (CRTs)**, and strengthened **230 Gram Sabhas**
- Trained **230 Sarpanchs** and approximately **2,500 GP members** on the GPDP process
- Helped localise **SDGs through GPDPs** as the planning process was SDG informed and could be monitored through indicators to track progress and expenditure
- In collaboration with **Indira Gandhi Panchayati Raj and Gramin Vikas Sansthan (IGPR & GVS)**, a training module on child rights has been developed and integrated into the GPDP plan process.

