

## Project Proposal

<b>Project Name</b>	Women's Empowerment through Women's Organization.
<b>Project Location (s)</b>	Manora, Mangrulpir & Karanja-lad blocks of Washim District of Vidarbha Region , Maharashtra state- India
<b>Project Objectives</b>	<p>1. To create a gender-sensitive community in selected villages of 3 blocks of Washim district of Vidarbha, Maharashtra state facilitating positive strategic changes leading to gender equity and Women's political empowerment.</p> <p>2. Develop an institutional support mechanism for the change process wherein a number of marginalized women and girls in the project area live their lives free from discrimination and violence.</p> <p>3. Strengthening and Consolidation of Institution building process of women's organization in the project area</p>
<b>Primary Sectors</b>	Gender Equality: Empowering Women and Girls
<b>Type of Intervention</b>	Women's Socio-economic & Political Empowerment
<b>Project Beneficiaries (Direct/Indirect)</b>	Rural Poor Women, SC, ST women, Single women
<b>Main Implementing Organisation</b>	Yuva Rural Organisation, Nagpur, Maharashtra
<b>Project Period</b>	3 Years
<b>Submitted to</b>	CSRBOX
<b>Submitted by</b>	Yuva Rural Association- Nagpur
<b>Date of Concept Note</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> August 2022
<b>Primary Contacts</b>	Ms. Jyoti Frederick – jyoti@yra.gmail.com

- 1. NAME OF ORGANIZATION** – Yuva Rural Association, Nagpur, Maharashtra- India
- 2. TITLE OF PROPOSED PROJECT** – Women's Empowerment through Women's Organization.
- 3. CONTEXT OF PROJECT** – We need to continue our efforts of women empowerment as we all know that the patriarchy in our society is deeply rooted. Mental blocks have very strongly developed. Daily practices have become our routine. Very few people- both men and women think differently and all others follow what is observed and taught since childhood. Our syllabus, curriculums, languages, home environment, public spaces, development policies, processes and political structures are men dominated. . If we talk of rural communities. The very concepts of being farmers itself is visualized as men as farmers Many efforts are going on but we must be aware that this has been happening since ages together and to make the changes in our mindsets and practices, a lot has to be changed and for that, a lot of sincere efforts still need to be put in.

While continuing further we need to focus more on the political empowerment of women as the Women Reservation Bill has been passed but as of today women in politics are still underrepresented. Till today politics and women very often seem to be understood as two concepts opposing each other. Women also argue that politics and power carry the same meaning and that power politics is a concept they don't want to be associated with. In this regards the power should not be seen as something negative for the women. Power, in fact, gives one the resources, the possibilities to pursue the values and aims one believes in and it should be especially the women of our societies who should be setting values and pursuing aims. Therefore women should not exclude themselves from politics. Through our interventions, we plan to promote women's participation through transformative leadership in politics, increase women's capacities to participate in decision-making processes and lastly promote their accessibility to power. This can be achieved by implementation of activities like leadership training of women to play a catalytic and decision making role in institutions of local self-governance, training women's groups and their elected representatives (including men) with tools for accountability to demand quality public services and also to make them aware of the different government schemes that need to reach the beneficiaries, establishing networks and providing hand-holding support to elected women representatives to enable to influence local development decisions through a collective forum and lastly legal awareness of elected women representatives and women leaders and establishment of district / block level forums for grievance redress.

Another non-negotiable issue we need to address is Violence against women. The nature and the magnitude of this problem are increasing day by day leading to the declining rate of sex ratio. The primary goal and the objective would be to reduce social acceptance of violence against women among the people. This will be achieved by having the interventions like creating a fundamental shift in social attitudes and beliefs that support violence against women; providing counselling services; take a collective and visible stand on legal literacy and women rights- through advocacy, campaigns and mass awareness generation (both at grass-root and state levels); develop a popular movement; and bring together a range of local, block and district level alliances that work on issue. Through these interventions, the mindset of the people will be changed. The overall impact will be seen through people starting to spread the messages like equal relations are violence free and violence against women is not acceptable.

4. **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT** - The specific issues that the project plans to address through this include:
  1. **Women's Political Empowerment:** The reservation for women in the PRI has been increased to 50%. The Maharashtra cabinet approved 50% reservation for women in the local self-government bodies from March 2011. Therefore, we feel that there is a need to make women aware of the opportunities available in the present political system and to increase their involvement and participation. There is a need to improve their capacity building and leadership qualities to understand the political scenario so that they are able to perform their roles and responsibilities effectively and efficiently. The project will work towards the following:
    - a. More active participation of women in Gram Sabhas

- b. More women standing for the PRI elections whenever Panchayat (GP) elections are due in Washim district.
  - c. Capacity building of the women to build their analytical, political and leadership qualities
  - d. Formation of the network and involvement of the Women Leaders ( Mahila Vikas Parishad members) at the ZP level
  - e. Improving relationships with various departments of the Government at the local, block and district levels
- II. **Violence against Women:** The project will work towards making the people in the areas of intervention aware regarding violence against women. Advocacy regarding the PWDVA, PCPNDT, POSCO, Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace would be done with the participation and involvement of the various stakeholders. The project will work towards the following:
- a. Counselling of women in distress
  - b. Providing legal aid and referral and recommendation services to women
  - c. Advocacy regarding social issues such as sex determination and sex-selective abortions, VAW, harassment of women, Child sexual abuse etc.
  - d. Advocacy regarding the various acts such as the PCPNDT, PWDVA, POSCO etc.
- III. **Gender Equity & Equality:** Under this issue, the project will focus on the following:
- a. Gender Sensitization of the Government officials, police personnel, judiciary, PRI members etc.
  - b. Promotion of Gender Model Villages and replication of this model in many more villages of intervention.
  - c. More focused efforts on the attitude development of the society starting with the family as a unit of intervention.
- IV. **Sustainability of the empowerment process:** Considering sustainability through this project, it is important to address the self-sustainability of the empowerment process of women leaders after the withdrawal of the implementing organization. The activities that can be undertaken are as follows:
- a. Feasibility study and development of a Women's Cooperative at the cluster level
  - b. Formation of a cooperative with 750 women members at the District level
  - c. Focus on the economic empowerment of women through this cooperative
  - d. This cooperative will also work towards undertaking the current women's empowerment activities and processes

## V. Project Goals, Objectives & Outcomes –

### Goals:

- ✓ Strengthening and Institutional building of women in Washim district as a Women's Organization with political visibility.
- ✓ Political empowerment of women members.
- ✓ Promotion of policies, practices, ideas and beliefs that create gender equality.
- ✓ Reduction of gender-based discrimination and violence in all forms.

## Objectives:

1. To create a gender sensitive community in 3 blocks of Washim district of Vidarbha in Maharashtra state facilitating positive strategic changes leading to gender equity and women's political empowerment.
2. Develop institutional support mechanism for the change process wherein number of marginalized women and girls in 3 blocks of Washim district of Vidarbha in Maharashtra state live their lives free from discrimination and violence.
3. Strengthening and Consolidation of Institution building process of women's organization in the project area.

## Outcomes:

**A Core group of 450 active women from 3 blocks of Washim district would emerge as leaders taking the empowerment processes forward and create second level leadership at the village levels.**

## Outcome level indicators

- The selected/ nominated women members on different committees will play important and critical roles in their respective block level committees, especially in addressing the gender issues
- The selected/ nominated women will motivate and train new members to take leadership roles.
- Women members and core leaders will take lead in conducting women's gram sabha at village level and take up all women's issues on this platform.
- Increased practice of Gender Equality within existing institutions such as family, marriage, Cooperative societies, Gram Panchayat, Village School, PHC, block Panchayat, Zilla Parishad and other political institutions too.
- Women members will politicize incidents of violence against women within their working area and do advocacy for justice.
- The core group members/ leaders will hold important positions like Sarpanch, Sabhapati, and Service Provider under PWDVA, Conflict resolution committee, Member of Coordination and monitoring committee under PWDVA, Women's security committee etc.
- Women's organization will be recognised as women's collective by political, social and economic institutions around them.

**5000 men and 15000 women will become sensitive on gender roles, gender equity, acceptance and promotion of women's political empowerment in 3 blocks of Washim district of Vidarbha by 450 block level and 750 village level core group members taking the lead role**

## **Outcome level indicators**

- Increasing the number of village-level groups of men and women recognised as forums for discussing and taking on issues of all forms of violence against women in 750 villages.
- Practice of Un-equal wages to men and women to be reduced in 225 villages.
- Incidents of all forms of VAW to be reduced comparatively in 225 villages.
- Increasing in number of families demonstrating gender sensitive attitudes and behaviours within and outside their homes
- Core members of women organization identify and monitor how women contribution to family decision making increased comparatively.
- The core groups meetings identify and discuss the increasing acceptance of women's new roles having increased comparatively.

## **Increased and effective representation of women in decision making forums in governance institutions in 3 blocks of Washim district of Vidharba region by the end of this project.**

### **Outcome level Indicators for third year:**

- Political manifesto is developed and mandated by women's organization.
- Maximum participation of women at village level Gramsabha representing their agenda.
- Increase in the number of Core group and other members contesting elections in their respective constituencies.
- Increase in number of women leaders and members playing an active role with regards to gender issues and VAW.
- 100 women members to be elected at Gram Panchayat, Taluka Panchayat and Zilla Parishad level to play an active role with regards to gender issues and VAW.
- 750 elected male members in three-tier system play gender sensitive role in the PRI system.

## **Functional supportive mechanism for the victimized women established in 3 blocks of Washim district of Vidarbha region**

### **Outcome level indicators**

- A Strengthened Legal and formal support mechanism at district, taluka and village level under PWDVA
- Informal justice systems including all forums of local governance like village conflict resolution committee become increasingly gender sensitive in addressing all instances of violence against women
- Increasing number of cases under DV Act are dealt through the formal mechanism in a gender-sensitive manner

- Advocacy efforts on the basis of the findings of two studies will be initiated by women leaders and get increasing recognition from other relevant stakeholders.
- Coordination and monitoring committees under the DV act are functional with increasing qualitative representation of issues pertaining to implementation of the Act.
- District Women Resource centres will play important roles and collaborate with the district-level mechanism of Protection Officers and Service Providers.

## 5. PROJECT DELIVERABLES & LIST OF PROPOSED PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Outputs	Activities	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
A Core group of 450 active members in 3 blocks of Washim district would emerge as leaders who would take women empowerment processes forward and create second level leadership at taluka level	Regular Meetings												
	1. Taluka Level												
	2. District Level												
	3. Regional Level												
	Efficiency & Effectivity Training												
	Political Engagement												
Process Evaluation													
5000 men and 15000 women sensitized on gender roles, gender equity and acceptance and promotion of women's political empowerment in 3 blocks of Washim district of Vidarbha by 450 block level and 750 village level core group members taking the lead role	Village Mahila Samitis												
	Model Gender Sensitive Village												
	Strengthening Women's Gramsabhas												
	Training on Gender Equality for Youth Groups												
Increased and effective representation of women in decision making forums in governance institutions in 3 blocks of Washim district of	District level orientations on PRI to Women Leaders												

Vidharba region by the end of project.														
The functional supportive mechanism for the victimized women established in 3 blocks of Washim district of Vidarbha region	Monthly Project Team Meeting													
	Training on DV Act													
	External Support Mechanisms													
	Policy Advocacy													
	Women's Resource Centre													

## 6. ACTIVITIES

### i. Regular meetings

The frequency of the regular meetings of women leaders at District, Block and village level will need to be increased since this collective will become much active and vibrant by the third year. In place of capacity building events, full-day meetings at district level once in six months, every three months one block level meeting and every month one meeting at village level will be arranged to discuss plan actions and review the work done from all angles. These meetings will be again two-fold. One is of developing within (perspective, values, understanding, organizational bondage, cohesiveness, internal structure/mechanism, systems, leadership, etc.) and another fold of addressing issues and actions as collective. These meetings will be consciously facilitated. (The budgeted meetings will be done on a quarterly basis.)

### ii. Efficiency and Effectivity Training

Many of the core group members and even second level leadership will be holding important positions as mentioned in the indicators. To make them play their roles efficiently and effectively, need-based training will be provided for them at district level. For example members occupying positions in PRI will be given training suiting their need and roles. In third month 5 such two-day residential trainings will be arranged for 30 selected members each. The themes and content will be to understand different institutions, their functioning, and mandate and how they could be better used for women empowerment, addressing women's issues and promote women's participation. The other thrust area would be different schemes and programs related to women's development, protection and participation.

### iii. Political engagement

All the core group members at district level and second leadership at Block level will continue the process of engaging politically with different departments, political, social and economic institutions. This efforts will be made to make the process self-sustainable through collecting core members own fund or member's own costs. Withdrawal of YUVA Rural support could be initiated in third year

strategically. But the block facilitators and project coordinator and other staff of YUVA Rural will support the women leader's efforts by being physically available with them, providing them guidance in their actions and moves and legal support if required some time.

#### **Iv. Village Women's Committee**

The process of involving interested and motivated youth women and men in a form of village Mahila Samiti will be continued. 225 Village Core Group members will be providing their inputs on regular basis and each member will look after two villages voluntarily. Case stories of successful VMS will be documented and published as special document, may be captured in video clippings and given in press media or video media for wider publicity.

#### **v Model gender sensitive village**

Selected 10 villages will be developed as model gender sensitive villages. Inputs from District and Taluka Core Group will be continued. In the beginning of the year assessment of this process will be done internally and on the basis of findings next process will be planned for the entire year.

#### **vi. Women's Gramsabha**

Women's Gramsabha will be continued in 225 villages. Based on the successful experience the same exercise will be extended in another 225 villages in third year. The same process will be followed as in the second year. Provision for travel expenses under this activity will be done.

#### **vii. Trainings on gender equity for Youth groups:**

Trainings will be arranged so as to inculcate the concept of gender equity amongst the youth groups in the project area. These trainings will be arranged by core group members. The youth groups will be identified and trained on the issues of gender issues. This is aimed at letting the masses know about aspects of domestic violence and how small acts can change the atmosphere within the family and the community. These trainings will be organized with the special organizations like Men against Violence and Forum Engaging Men who are working with male communities of the society. Along with the men participants the core group members will also participate in these workshops to build their capacities to work with men in future. Collaboration Nehru Yuva Kendra also will be explored. The contents of the training would be the concept of violence, concept of sexuality and masculinity, concept of gender and various aspects of bringing attitudinal and behavioural change in male counterparts of the society. 5 such trainings will be held at block level with 30 selected participants.

#### **viii. District level orientations on PRI to Women Leaders**

For building the political identity of any collective their own understanding and well-articulated political stands are very important. Bringing those stands and positions openly in public is a critical process. It is proposed that district-level orientation on three-tier systems to the potential women political leaders.

It is proposed to conduct one-day in-depth orientation at the district level for these leaders on the political processes in governance. These inputs will be helpful in facilitating the effective and efficient participation of MVP members in local governance. Minimum 10 leaders of each tier at district levels will be oriented. For new potential members, it is expected that these will be crucial inputs to be prepared to enter into the local governance successfully.

#### **ix. Monthly Project Team meeting**

Monthly Project Team meetings will be arranged on regular basis. Budget provision in the project has been done.

#### **x. Training on DV Act**

Protecting Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005 is very powerful tool to respond to the violence against women. But this tool is not being used effectively. The reasons are quite clear. One is there is no adequate budget provision, no proper implementation mechanism and there is no awareness among people in general and women in specific. To make maximum use of this tool it is proposed to conduct one day training for women Core Group members at block level. It is expected that these members of in collaboration with representative of different government departments will make maximum use of their resources. This also will support the advocacy efforts in getting adequate funds, mechanism and government will to implement the DV Act. Five such block level trainings of stakeholders on Domestic Violence Act, 2005 will be arranged. No. of participants per training will be 30. Training module will be prepared. This program will be taken in collaboration with Women and Child Development Dept. This will help most of the women getting justice and speedy disposal of cases. Once they are trained on the implementation of the DV Act, these core members will keep the track of cases and their proceedings in the block level courts, negotiate with judiciary for the proper justice to the women, monitor the roles played by the district level protection officers and service providers and finally create awareness among the women.

#### **xi. External Support Mechanisms**

The external Support Mechanism will be continued in the third year too. Budgetary provisions made in the project.

#### **xii. Policy advocacy**

Through the women's collective advocacy efforts will be continued in the year also. The advocacy strategies would be grass root level as well as media level strategy. The advocacy will be continued on the issues of PWDVA, PC & PNDT Act, 498 A, Bigamy, issues of rationing, MREGA , PRI, Gramsabha, joint household etc.

### xiii. Women’s Resource Centers

At block and district level there will be a space for Core Group Members to come and work, discuss, learn together. This is called as DWRC. The core group members will operate from DWRC. Convergence of all women development schemes and programs, analysis of major issues with regards to women’s political empowerment and violence against women and articulation of the same is the main role of the WRC. WRC will take up the facilitation at Taluka and villages level processes described in the project. Facilitation of district-level processes and External Support Mechanism is another main role. WRC headed by Block Core Group and managed by block Facilitator (field staff of YVA) will provide all possible facilitation proposed in the project. Every month minimum 50 core members will be visiting each center for various purpose like meetings, dealing with the cases, planning, writing reports, to make the use of the library and lastly to gain the information. This will also be the ongoing activity. DWRC at the district level will be the contact point for Forum for politicizing women’s issues. The budget is required for the overall facilitation charges of 5 block facilitators, their travel cost and other administrative expenses of the centres.

## 7. TIMELINE

The project duration is for a period of 3 year starting from the year 2022 to the year 2025, with a provision of yearly agreements. The thematic area that the project focussed on was Gender Equity and Women Empowerment. The geographical coverage was 225 villages in 3 blocks of one district namely Washim in the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state in India.

## 8. ANTICIPATED/ EXPECTED RESULTS

No.	Outcomes/Outputs	Expected Results
1	A core group of 450 active members in 3 blocks in Washim district would emerge as leaders who would take Women Empowerment processes forward and create second level leadership at the village level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In each of the blocks, 30 active members will be the part of the core group for this project. These core group members will meet in their respective block level every 2 months and these members will take a review of the activities undertaken so far and the further action planning will be undertaken. The organization agenda of women’s organization, values, awareness etc. will be also discussed and accordingly actions would be undertaken.</li> <li>• These core group members will become empowered and their capacities will be built with regards to gender equality, violence against women, women empowerment, promoting women’s participation in the gram sabhas and the PRI system etc.</li> <li>• They will have clarity on their roles and responsibilities and show capable leadership qualities in their dealings with Government officials and will establish relationships with the PRI members, WCD officials, ICDS and PHC officials, ZP</li> </ul>

		<p>members, police patils and other police personnel in their respective areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Almost all of these core group members will be nominated/selected to various positions in committees such as Conflict Resolution Committees, Dakshata Committees, and Women Empowerment Committees etc. These members will be playing critical roles especially in addressing the gender issues.</li> <li>• These core group members will also be successful in forming a second-in-line leadership of 10 members each at the village level (all 3 blocks total 750 leaders).</li> </ul>
2	<p>5000 men and 15000 women sensitized on gender roles, gender equity and acceptance and promotion of women's political empowerment in 3 blocks of Washim district of Vidarbha by 450 Block level and 750 Village level core group members taking the lead role</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approximately 5000 women members will be the part of the women empowerment process.</li> <li>• In 225 villages, the Village Mahila Samitis (comprising of youth, men and women) will be formed and are actively working and taking a lead role in addressing VAW issues.</li> <li>• 10 Gender Model Villages (2 in each block) will be formed. The social environment in these villages will be conducive to the growth and empowerment of women – more girls in education, improving sex ratio, decline in cases of violence, more land and property entitlements for women, more women in the PRI system and other government committees.</li> <li>• The core women members will be undertaking serious and conscious efforts to promote these GMVs as role models in the other villages of intervention.</li> <li>• The thought process in the communities and the families will be more gender progressive and the societies are demonstrating much better attitudes towards women.</li> <li>• In 225 villages, women will start taking an initiative in organizing and participating in women's gram sabhas. More issues related to women will be discussed at the village level in these gram sabhas and resolutions will be taken for further actions by the Gram Panchayats.</li> </ul>
3	<p>Increased and effective representation of women in decision-making forums in governance institutions in 3 blocks of Washim district of Vidharba region.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to 50% reservations for women in the PRI, more scope will be available to the core members to involve women in the political process. Women leaders will encourage women in the villages and these women and some of the core members themselves will participate in the Gram Panchayat and Panchayat Samiti level elections.</li> <li>• 350 women will contest the elections and get elected to various positions in the PRI system</li> <li>• 450 core members will hold important positions at the Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad level.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These core members will be involved in strengthening the empowerment process and provide their support wherever required.</li> <li>• 225 pressure groups will be formed at the village level. These groups will be involved with negotiations while handling cases related to women’s issues. They will be involved in the advocacy of the DV Act at the village levels.</li> </ul>
3.1	The functional supportive mechanism for the victimized women established in 3 blocks of Washim district of Vidarbha region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 225 barefoot counsellor centres will be working at the village and Block level. Almost 250 barefoot counsellors will be providing services to women. They will be handling all cases of violence against women.</li> <li>• Almost 50 % of the cases will be filed under the DV Act in the year.</li> <li>• On an average, 2-3 women in distress will approach each counselling centre in a day in all the 225 centres. Referral and recommendation services will be provided wherever required.</li> <li>• At each block level, External Support Group (ESG) of 5-6 members will be formed. These members will include people from the judiciary, police force, health care personnel, WCD officials, representatives from short stay homes etc. These ESGs will provide legal aid and other expert services needed by the women in distress.</li> </ul>

The means of verification would be Plan of action, implementation mechanism, quarterly, six monthly and annual reports, review reports, Membership forms, membership funds, District & Block & village Structure, Signboards, Beneficiary Registers, Appeal letter, Document of Roles & responsibilities, Various concept notes, Trainings modules, leadership module , capacity building training reports. Awareness material, Training material, Concept note of violence against women & gender discrimination Field visits, Reports, case stories, paper clippings, photos.

## 9. INNOVATION –

In the year 2013-14 YRA had planned very consciously to facilitate the organizational development of the women’s network called “Mahila Vikas Parishad” (Women’s Development Council) and efforts from village to the district and regional level were initiated.

But still apart from the efforts at various level such as Government, NGOs, women’s organizations etc we still see that women are invisible in decision-making processes, low participation in governance and political processes, the increasing atrocities on women, exploitation of the vulnerable groups, excessive exploitation at various levels, and the problem of women enjoying a lower rung in the society.

Earning women also do not enjoy their economic rights, women are not provided with good health facilities, food nutrition and education even today. There is DV Act in existence but it is not being implemented for want of mechanism and budget from the Government.

Another non-negotiable issue we need to address is Violence against women. The nature and the magnitude of this problem are increasing day by day leading to the declining rate of sex ratio. The primary goal and the objective would be to reduce social acceptance of violence against women among the people. This will be achieved through interventions like creating a fundamental shift in social attitudes and beliefs that support violence against women; providing counselling services; take a collective and visible stand on legal literacy and women rights- through advocacy, campaigns and mass awareness generation (both at grass-root and state levels); develop a popular movement; and bring together a range of local, block and district level alliances that work on issue. These interventions will bring about a change in the mindset of the people. The overall impact will be seen when people start to spread the message that equal relations are violence free and violence against women is not acceptable.

We would like to concentrate and focus our efforts on the same issues for another two years so that it can be developed as a model which could be replicated further.

For this to happen, there would also be a need to focus on developing second line leadership of women's collectives who can take this agenda forward.

## 10. SUSTAINABILITY –

- The capacity building programs are so designed to empower the communities to take the process further even if YRA withdraws.
- Multiple collaboration of the organization with various government departments including police and judiciary will be beneficial in developing the identity of the members to work without further assistance from any other at a later stage.
- Women's organization members would have a membership fund with a sizeable deposit but funds from other sources are always appreciated to give momentum to the process and at the same time develop the confidence level of the members.
- Strong Grass root level interventions.
- Excellent team of Barefoot Counselors and paralegals will take the process ahead.
- Women leader's as women's organization may take on advocacy and lobbying efforts on their own.
- Widespread and effective Campaign coverage
- Feasibility study and development of a Women's Cooperative at the cluster level
- Formation of a cooperative with 750 women members at the District level
- Focus on the economic empowerment of women through this cooperative
- This cooperative will also work towards undertaking the current women's empowerment activities and processes

*The programme itself is based on capacity building and leadership development of poor rural women basically focusing on political empowerment and gender equality. And it is really reflecting on the serious understanding of political dynamics and games which women at Panchayat Raj Institution, Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad level and the modules of the training will also be prepared that way. The women also would be given political exposure so that they themselves will observe, share and take up some leanings from the various political processes. It also relates to YRA's strategy as the gender equality and women empowerment are the priorities area and also one of the important agenda of all Government programmes. Once the women get empowered and come into the leadership role, automatically their voice will get strengthen and they will be able to raise their voice against their exploitation, demands their rights through advocacy and work towards the policies and laws related to violence against women, food security, MREGA, sexual harassment at work place, 33 % reservation etc.*

## **11. Brief about the Organization:**

**”. Vision: A better human society with equal opportunities and participation towards sustainability of the Planet.**

**Mission: YRA is committed to supporting and facilitating the needy, poor, and marginalized people to make them harness equal opportunities and participate equally, aiming for “No one Leave Behind**

Since the existing strategic plan of YRA had included thematic interventions in the areas of ‘Gender and social equity’, Discrimination on the basis of gender, caste, creed, religion, ethnicity, economic strata, education, language, geography is the critical issue in our society. Exploitation in all spheres, less space in open competition, low education opportunities, low employment opportunities due to social discriminations are the main hurdles in the development of such communities. They are in majority amongst the Poor. Social acceptance of these discriminations backed with incapability of this section promotes more vulnerability among them that affects the quality of their life. They are unable to contribute to the overall development and thus the vicious circle forces them towards unsustainable acts—socially, culturally, environmentally and even politically actions. The Break-through in this circle has to be introduced to make the change that will benefit not only this sector but overall human society. Hence gender and social discrimination have been underlined and non-negotiable theme of intervention while focusing the main thematic area.

## 12. Budget

<b>Women Empowerment Project Budget</b>				
Project Title	Women's Empowerment Through Women's Organization			
<b>Project Expenses</b>				<b>Funder</b>
	Units	Cost per unit	Total	Amount Requested
<b>1. Consolidation of Institutional Building Process of Women's Organization</b>				
A. Block level Efficiency and Effectivity Training	1	10000	6	60000
B. Regular Meetings - District level Meetings ( Twice )	1	8000	6	48000
C. Block level Women's Core Group Meetings	1	3000	30	90000
D. Process Evaluation (Mid term & Final)	1	20000	2	40000
<b>2. Create Village / Block level Coordination/AdvocacyProject Cost</b>				
A. Model Gender Sensitive Village	1	10000	30	300000
B. Organize Women's Gramsabha	1	5000	30	150000
C. Training on Gender Equity for Youth Groups	1	10000	9	90000
D. Block level Orientations on PRI to Women Leaders	1	10000	9	90000
<b>3. Develop Institutional Support Mechanism for the Change Process</b>				
A. Monthly project team Meetings	36	2000	36	72000
B. Strengthening External Support Group	15	5000	15	75000
C. Block level women's Resource centre	3	15000	3	45000
D. Cluster level facilitator Honorarium (9)	6	8000	36	1728000
E. Travel of Block Facilitator (5)	6	1000	36	216000
<b>4. Salaries, Fees etc</b>				
A. Direction Cost	1	15000	36	540000
B. Program coordinator Cost	1	12000	36	432000
C. Project coordinator salary	1	30000	36	1080000
D. Admin & Accounts salary	1	6000	36	216000
<b>5. Administration</b>				
10% of overall cost for Rent, Communication, Xeroxing, travel etc.	1	13294.4	36	478600
<b>Total Cost</b>				<b>5264600</b>
<b>Total Cost Share</b>				
<b>Total Amount Requested</b>				<b>5264600</b>
<b>Total Project Cost</b>			<b>5264600</b>	

### 13. Who from the organisation will be implementing this project?

This project would be headed by Ms Jyoti Frederick, Gender Expert and Activist, a senior level staff of YRA. Her CV has been attached to the proposal.

### 14. Organizational references

- Mr Mohan Surve, Director, Vikas Sahayog Pratishthan, Mumbai. Mob. No.- 9869250410
- Mr Harsh Jaitly, CEO, VANI (Voluntary Association Network of India), Mob. No. – 9717473474.
- Dr Prasad, AME Foundation, Delhi. - Mob. No. - 09481485172.

### 15. Best contact details

**Name – Ms Jyoti Frederick**

**Mail ID – [jyoti.yra@gmail.com](mailto:jyoti.yra@gmail.com)**

**Mobile Number – 9373108468.**