For A Sustainable Development And Future Together
Himshikha Development Project

• HDP is a private non-denominational and non-profit development foundation promoted by Bio Coton India and Euro Nat Group, France with a mission to build an ecologically, economically and socially sustainable society by advocating for and popularizing organic farming, ecological balance, natural resource management, biodiversity conservation and protection of environment.

• HDP focuses on sustainable development, health, education, culture, and rural development.

• The NGO was established in 2007 under the section 25 of the Companies Act of India.
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• Objectives

– Improving the standards of living of the people engaged in sustainable businesses such as organic farming, green and renewable energy in its broadest sense

– establishing and conducting community welfare projects for the rural community especially the farmers and their families

– establishing and conducting health support facilities and programs for the rural community

– establishing and conducting subsidized micro credit programs for input materials promotion and marketing support to the farmers engaged in sustainable businesses

– establishing and promoting fair trade standards among the people.
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• Our Focus

  – Sustainable Development

  – Farmers’ Welfare

  – Health

  – Education

  – Technical Assistance and Capacity Building
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Sustainable Development

Himshikha has been working for a sustainable development of rural India by advocating for and popularizing organic agriculture, a sustainable & environmental friendly management system, by

- raising levels of awareness about the adverse effects of the indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.
- working with the farmers on developing organic culture on their farm to meet the sustainable fair trade requirements.
- provide expert advices, guide them and train them on better farming practices, waste management, preparing natural fertilizers, human and animal health care and pest management.
## Himshikha Development Project

### Advantages of cultivating cotton organically

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<th>Conventional Cotton</th>
<th>Organic Cotton</th>
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| **Environment**      | • Pesticides kill beneficial insects  
• Pollution of soil and water  
• Resistance of pests            | • Increased bio-diversity  
• Eco-balance between pests and beneficial insects  
• No pollution               |
| **Health**           | • Accidents with pesticides  
• Chronic diseases (cancer, infertility, weakness) | • No health risks from pesticides  
• Healthy organic food crops                                          |
| **Soil fertility**   | • Risk of declining soil fertility due to use of chemical fertilizers and poor crop rotation | • Soil fertility is maintained or improved by organic manures and crop rotation |
| **Market**           | • Open market with no loyalty of the buyer to the farmer  
• Dependency on general market rates  
• Usually individual farmers     | • Closer relationship with the market partner.  
• Option to sell products as ‘organic’ at higher price  
• Farmers usually organized in groups |
| **Economy**          | • High production costs  
• High financial risk  
• High yields only in good years | • Lower costs for inputs  
• Lower financial risk  
• Satisfying yields once soil fertility has improved |

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Farmers’ Welfare

Himshikha aspires to improve the standard of living of rural farmers by raising their income through organic farming. Organic farming provides

- **Yield benefits**
  Lakhan, one of our farmers in Balapat Village says, “Before I used to get only 3 to 4 quintals per acre from the field. After conversion to organic methods, now I get 6 to 7 quintals per acre. Other farmers who have irrigation facility have obtained even upto 8 quintals per acre.”

- **Better price**
  We purchase fibre from the farmers at the prevailing market price of conventional fibre with a guaranteed minimum floor price of Rs. 20 per kg.

- **Organic Premium**
  We also pay a premium of 10% over the price of conventional fibre.
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– Lower Cost of Production
  Cheaper and even free of charge organic manures like compost and cattle dung and organic sprays such Neem spray replace costly chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

– Lower financial risk
  We have entered into a three year agreement with our farmers to purchase their fibre.

– Better fields
  Farmers report that their fields have improved after conversion to organic farming and used of organic manure.

– Fair Trade premium
  Himshikha is also providing a fair trade premium equal to 1% of the total purchase value of the organic fibre purchased from the farmers which goes directly to the bank accounts of the Farmers Committees, viz, Balapat Kishan Vikas Samiti and Dawali Kishan Vikas Samiti. This amount is being democratically used by the farmers for their own welfare and development.

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• With the fair trade premium provided to the farmers for the produce of the season 2006-07, the farmers of the Dawali village bought spray pumps. This helped them get rid of the high rental charges this year which helped them cut costs of production.

With the same premium, farmers of Balapat, another village, bought kitchen utensils to be used during social gatherings in the village. The villagers used to incur heavy costs and face a lot of problem in arranging kitchen utensils during their social gathering and festivals.

This year they have already made a lot of savings by using the utensils in about 10 social events and more to come as wedding season is on.
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Health

HDP organized and sponsored a free medical camp for the farmers of Dawali and Balapat villages on 26th and 27th September, 2007 respectively.

A total of 130 patients benefited from the camp at Dawali and 112 patients at the Balapat Medical camp. HDP also provided medicines to them for free.

Farmers Response:
Manish Jaisawal, a farmer in Balapat says," This is the first time that such a camp has been organized in our village. It is very beneficial for we poor people who can not afford to pay doctors fees and medicines."
Himshikha is a firm believer in ‘Education is a fundamental human right.’ Himshikha, therefore, is committed to making continuous efforts to spread the light of education among rural communities by strengthening and supporting village schools, providing financial assistance to the poor families for fees and study materials and imparting training to teachers. It intends to support schools with educational programs that provide quality pre-school, primary, secondary, and higher secondary education services to students in the rural India.
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Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

HDP has been continuously engaged in building the competence of farmers engaged in organic farming by working closely with them on developing organic culture on their farm to meet the sustainable fair trade requirements. HDP has deputed a team of dedicated workmen led by a qualified and experienced consultant on Organic Farming to provide the farmers expert advices, guide them and train them on better farming practices, waste management, preparing natural fertilizers, human and animal health care and pest management.
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Partnerships

Himshikha would work closely with International Companies like EURO NAT, BAO, BIOTEXTILES, LA FIBRE VERTE, JRH, other various civil society organizations, NGOs, non profit organizations, research institutes like agriculture universities and concerned govt. departments in addition to the targeted community.
Himshikha Development Project

Organizational Chart

Board of Directors

President
(Nikesh Sanghai)

Field Manager
(Birendra Patidar)

Project Coordinator
(Rakesh Sanghai)

Field Coordinator
(Mohan Patidar)

Field Workers

President (Balapat Kisan Vikas Samiti)

Field Workers

President (Dawali Kisan Vikas Samiti)
Contact Info

Himshikha Development Project
Studio Complex, Nr. Gota Cross Roads,
Gota, S.G. Highway, Ahmedabad,
India - 382481
Ph : 0091-2717-242684/85/86
website:  www.himshikha.org
email : info@himshikha.org