

Acknowledgement

We would like to thank the Department of Women and Child Development (WCD), Government of Rajasthan, the Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The transformation of the Anganwadi Centres would not have been possible without their generous support.



The Department of Women & Child Development implements innovative programmes for women and children with a view to ensuring their overall development, facilitates protection of rights provided in the Constitution and links them to the mainstream of development, establishing coordination in various schemes / programmes related to the development of women through various departments.



Children's Investment Fund Foundation is the world's largest philanthropy that focuses specifically on improving children's lives. CIFF works with a wide range of partners. Its areas of work include maternal and child health, adolescent sexual health, nutrition, education, deworming, tackling child slavery and exploitation, and supporting smart ways to slow down and stop climate change.



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What's behind the hearty, healthy smiles of these children? A project to overhaul Anganwadi Centres in four blocks of Udaipur district, Rajasthan, with wall paintings and informative posters about nutrition. This album brings to you the change in the villages and the community's response to the transformation.



Bolstering Anganwadis for Better Nutrition

One of three babies in Rajasthan have low birth weight and a majority fall into the trap of wasting. As Anganwadi Centres deliver government services and communicate key messages about health and nutrition in villages, they are vital platforms to remedy undernutrition. We sought to transform these centres with wall paintings to inculcate better nutrition practices and inspire a sense of ownership in the rural population. The posters on the walls disseminate messages about maternal nutrition and infant and young child feeding practices. They thus serve as excellent media to change behaviours and bust taboos.

Why Refurbish Anganwadis?





Earlier, the Anganwadi used to look like any other building in the village. It was plain and used to get rundown during the monsoon.

Mohini Sutar, ASHA, Kasniyavad





Information about the diet for pregnant women was earlier available only with ASHA didi. Sometimes we used to forget this information.

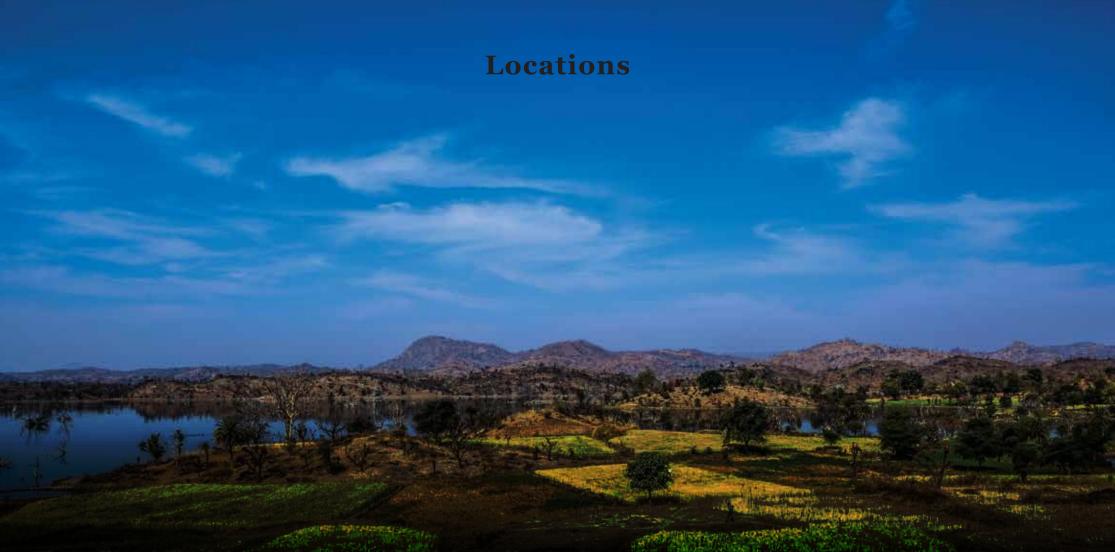
Madhu, 22 years, Pregnant Woman, Karanpur





Branding Guidelines





The rolling hills, lakes and forests of Udaipur district in southern Rajasthan are spectacular. But for the tribal communities who comprise a significant part of the district's population, life here can be challenging, especially in remote regions with limited connectivity. Thus, for many underprivileged groups, Anganwadis are often the sole platform to avail nutrition and health services.

To upgrade the Anganwadi infrastructure, we painted 706 centres in four blocks of Udaipur district: Bargaon, Bhinder, Kherwara and Sarada.

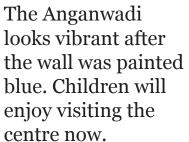


Batharda Khurd is among the hundreds of villages where we painted Anganwadis. The village has a population of of 2,100 and two Anganwadi Centres.

Kumavato Ka Guda in Bhinder block of Udaipur has a population of 484 and one Anganwadi Centre. A king of the Sisodia Dynasty is said to have settled the village 500 years ago.







Anchai, 24 years, Pregnant Woman, Kumavato Ka Guda





The anganwadi centre looks cool now. I like the painting of the boy and the girl.

> Nirbhaya Singh, 6 years, Kumavato Ka Guda







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It is easier to get people to visit the Anganwadi now. Since the building looks attractive, they come on their own.

> Rajkumari Pathidar, ASHA, Karanpur

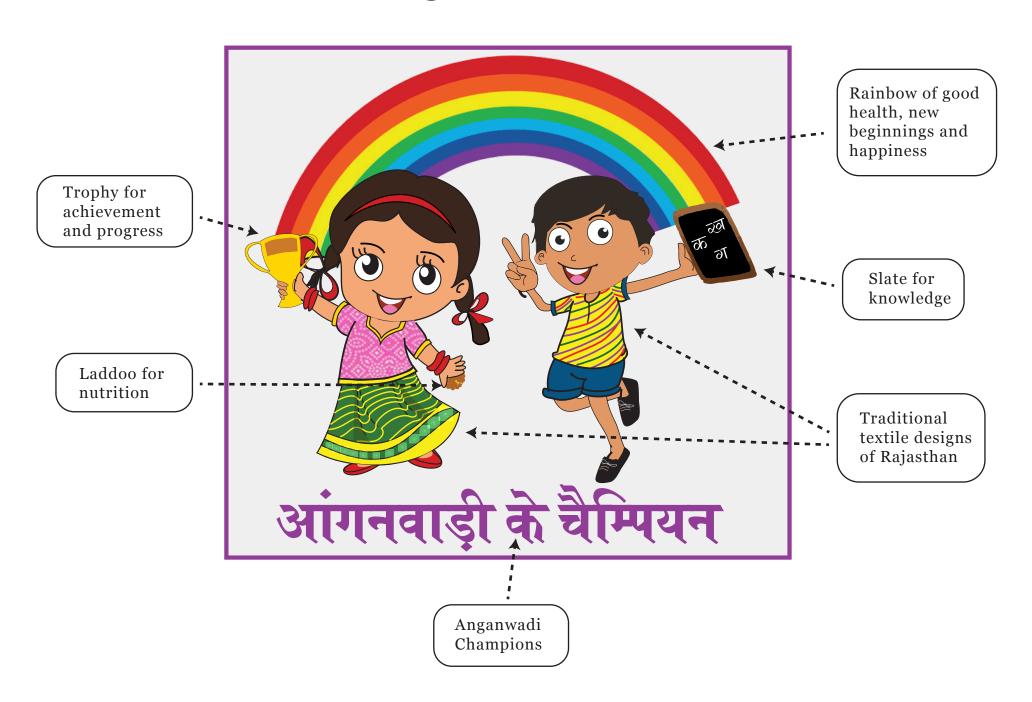
The centre looks neat and clean now. Other government buildings in the village should also be painted like this.

Bani Ram, Toos Dangiyan





Anganwadi Mascot





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The painting of well-dressed children with a slate in their hands encourages children in the village to get dressed properly and come prepared to learn at the Anganwadi.

Parvati Kunwar, Anganwadi worker, Kumavato Ka Guda





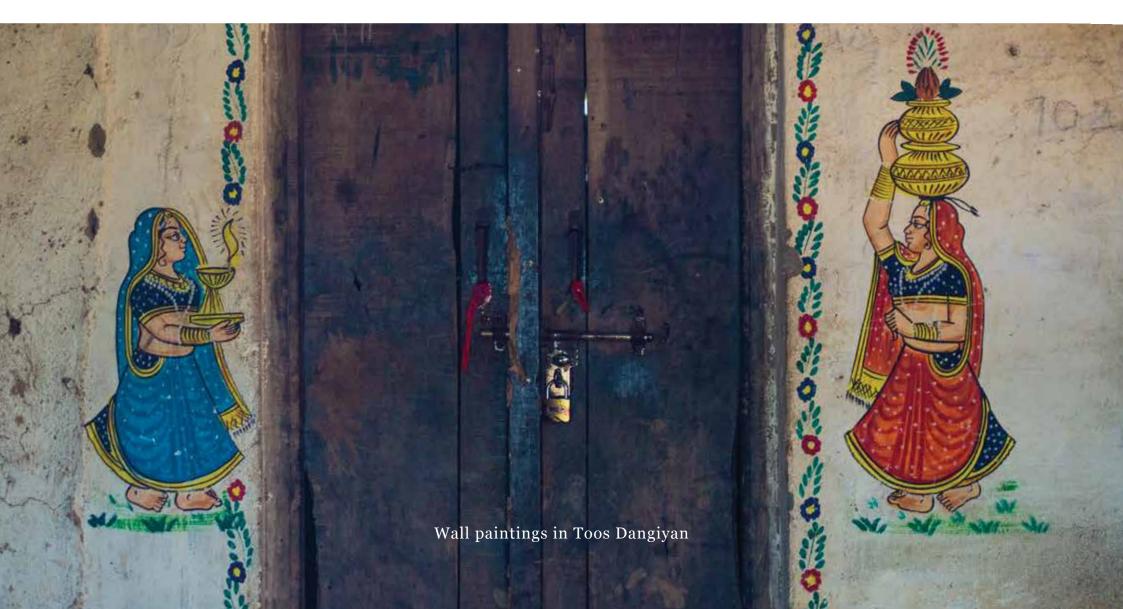
The Angawadi Centre is very important for our children. It is good that the government has made efforts to make it attractive. The centre now looks much better than before.

Madan & Payal Salvi, Karanpur



When Walls Speak

Rajasthan has a rich tradition of wall paintings, such as Mandana. We witnessed instances of this artform in the villages of Udaipur district as well. This inspired us to disseminate messages about maternal nutrition and nudge behaviours through wall paintings—a 'leave behind' communication grounded in local culture that has an impact for a longer time.











New Walls, New Beginnings

For pregnant and lactating women, the refurbished Anganwadi Centres are a source of knowledge and inspiration. The informational posters aid service providers in their work. For young children, the Anganwadi has transformed into a fun, appealing space.

Their enthusiastic feedback suggests that the initiative should be replicated across Rajasthan. Let's join hands to make Anganwadi Centres a place of pride, joy and knowledge for the entire state.





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Anganwadi

Maa bachon ka ghar angan

























