

Reviving ecosystems, restoring futures

Inspiring stories from the NGO, Gram Vikas

“We did not wait for change—we led the change.”

This powerful sentiment, shared by many across **Odisha**, embodies the **collective spirit of resilience** that’s **rewriting the future** of these communities.

Faced with depleting water sources and degraded land, local communities are coming together—**reviving ponds, greening forests, and reclaiming hope, one determined step at a time.**

With Deloitte’s support over the past two years, traditional wisdom has been combined with grassroots action to tackle climate and water challenges and build a more sustainable tomorrow.





Junian village — Once barren, now breathing—with 20 acres of forest brought back to life, recharging groundwater and reviving the soil. “The land will speak again,” says Dilip Kumar Bagh, village leader.



Modatola village — A dried-up pond turned into a thriving livelihood—deepened, greened, and now home to fish farming with INR 30k–40k expected income. ***“We turned water into income—and hope,”*** shares Pinki Toppo, Secretary, Village Development Committee.



Bhaisamunda village — Led by 70 women and 500 days of community labour, a once-dry pond now irrigates fields and supports fisheries. ***“This water brings more than crops—it brings confidence,”*** says Janya Rai Kumara, local resident.

Through these initiatives, local communities have started their journey towards empowerment, even creating additional income through their environmental efforts.

Here’s the collective impact Gram Vikas has enabled through the communities supported (as of April 2025):

- **5,000** contour trenches dug to capture rainwater and prevent soil erosion
- **4,000** saplings planted across **9** native species to revive lost green cover
- **20+** acres of forest regenerated, breathing life back into degraded land
- **475** cubic metre pond expanded to **1,423** cubic metres, boosting water security

These aren’t just stories of water or trees. These are stories of people taking back control of their land, their livelihoods, and their future.

Together, we are restoring balance and building resilience—one drop, one tree, one dream at a time.