



Vasudha Foundation is a not for profit organisation set up in April 2010 with the belief in the conservation of Vasudha, which in Sanskrit means the Earth, the giver of wealth and with the objective of promoting sustainable consumption of its bounties.

# Annual Report 2010-11

# About Vasudha Foundation

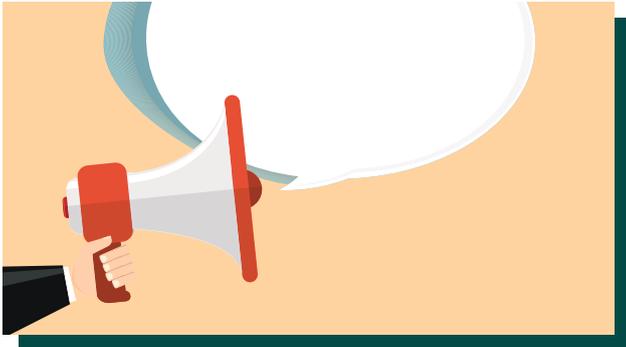
Vasudha Foundation was established in April 2010 with the objective of promoting environment-friendly, socially just, equitable and sustainable models of energy by focusing on renewable energy technologies and lifestyle solutions. We believe in the conservation of Vasudha, which in Sanskrit means the Earth, the giver of wealth and in the sustainable consumption of its bounties.

**We believe in adopting green ways for a good earth.**

## Key Objectives

- Bring about reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in the environment and ensure energy efficiency, energy security, energy independence, and sustainable development.
- Develop the demand for all modes of renewable energy (solar, wind, biomass power generation).
- Promote the concept of energy efficiency (energy efficient buildings and eco-friendly lifestyle products).
- Create awareness about the potential and benefits of alternative modes of energy generation by setting up show-case models.
- Promote the concept of 'Low Carbon Solutions' and 'Green Economies'.
- Promote environmentally sustainable products, processes, and concepts for individuals, institutions and organizations by interfacing between manufacturers, vendors and customers.
- Research, document, and prepare reports to build awareness on renewable energy issues.
- Innovate renewable energy and energy efficiency applications.
- Establish training programs and conduct capacity building activities.

# Key Program Areas



## Policy Advocacy

Vasudha Foundation endeavors to bring changes in the policy framework in order to promote environment friendly energy models, and also to ensure a large scale penetration of these models and systems in order to ensure access to energy for all.



## Climate Negotiations

Vasudha Foundation is actively involved and engaged in the climate negotiations that take place under the aegis of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and also other multilateral forums such as the G-8, G-20, Convention on Bio-Diversity to name a few. The Foundation is allied to leading networks of civil society groups such as the Climate Action Network (CAN) to promote government and individual action to limit human-induced climate change to ecologically sustainable levels.

## State Climate Action Plans

At the state level, Vasudha Foundation is actively engaged with two states in helping them formulate their State Climate Action Plan. The preparation of the State Climate Action Plan for Sikkim is complete and has been uploaded on the Ministry of Environment & Forests website, while the State Climate Action Plan for Nagaland is almost complete.



## Demystifying Renewable Energy and Demolishing Myths

In India, Vasudha Foundation works to address and clarify a number of myths surrounding renewable energy, which are often used by the policy makers to justify the slow penetration and growth of renewable energy in the country.

In "Shifting of Goal Posts" the first report of a series aimed at demolishing such prejudices, the Foundation undertook a detailed research and analysis of the current rural electrification model followed in India and highlighted the reasons for a very slow progress in rural electrification. The next report in the series, "Energy Subsidies to the Poor: Are they truly subsidized?" (released in the November 2011) looks into energy access issues of rural communities, economics of centralized grid connectivity vs. decentralized renewable energy options, and the ability and willingness to pay for electricity by the rural poor. Vasudha Foundation partners with civil society groups in using these reports as lobby tools.



## Engaging Multi-lateral Agencies

Vasudha Foundation engages with multi-lateral agencies such as the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank to get the agencies to promote social and economic justice and ecological sustainability. The Foundation in the past year has been actively lobbying with the World Bank to adopt a completely new paradigm in its forthcoming Energy Strategy, which ensures that the twin objectives of Energy Access and Low Carbon Energy Development are fully met in true spirit of the terms. The work continues in association with a number of organizations including the Bank Information Centre, Bretton Woods Project, Christian-Aid, UK and Oil Change International, Sierra/Club.



### Partnerships Developed

Vasudha Foundation networks with the government ministries/departments, international organizations, the public and private sectors, civil society groups, and academic experts to work on projects awarded to them.

Vasudha Foundation is a member of Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSA), a network of 60 NGOs in 6 countries indulging in regional cooperation from a climate change perspective.

## Decentralised Renewable Energy Showcase Projects in Partnership with Rural Communities

Vasudha Foundation works with communities to set up community owned, designed, managed and operated holistic renewable energy based mini-grids. Work of setting up one such pilot project in Lalpur Village in Madhupur Taluk of Jharkhand is already underway. This energy model, when operational is designed to address all energy needs such as heating, lighting, water pumping systems and energy for other livelihood options in the village.

This model has been designed to ensure that communities pay for the energy on usage basis and in the medium term, will evolve into a business model.

Our activities in the above areas have cross-cutting themes such as technology assessment and policy reforms.

The key activities are:



## Climate Change & Environment

### Climate Policy Mapping

Climate change has the potential to significantly influence substantial changes in the “development policies and direction” of countries by embarking on a pathway of sustainable development, while breaking out of poverty. It will influence the process by which countries achieve industrialization and present new obstacles as changing weather patterns impact key economic sectors such as infrastructure and agriculture.

Particularly for an economy in transition like India, which is characterized by an accelerated rate of urbanization and development and resultant pressure on natural resources and increasing social, economic and environmental problems, a shift to sustainable development policies becomes imperative for a climate resilient India.

Some of the sectors which are crucial in a climate change context both in terms of its vulnerability to climate change, as well potential to mitigate climate change are Urban Development and Planning, Electricity and Energy, Transportation, Industries, Water to name a few. Most of these sectors are in the administrative domain of both Central and State governments, with states having a bigger implementation role.

Vasudha Foundation with support from the Heinrich Böll Foundation prepared a compendium of climate friendly policies (with a special focus on these above mentioned sectors) in seven states of India, namely, Bihar, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

The objective of the first phase of the project was aimed to provide an in-depth understanding and a ready reckoner of all state level policies and measures, which are either in legislation stage or being implemented which have a direct and indirect impact on climate change. It would attempt to quantify the benefits of these policies with regard to the environment, socioeconomic impact on the poor with the intentions of ensuring that such policies may be replicated in other states as well. The project also aimed to stimulate a sustainable development competition between states and cities with the intention of creating a greener and sustainable India.

Climate friendly policies of these seven states were researched and compiled, and these states were ranked in terms of having the best emission reduction trajectories by developing a climate index based on these policies.

### Energy Sector Paper- Sikkim State Action Plan on Climate Change

Vasudha Foundation was engaged by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH to formulate a plan for the energy sector as part of the climate action plan for the state of Sikkim. Vasudha Foundation designed the energy components of the plan in consultation with the state Departments of Science and Technology, Transport, Irrigation and Sikkim Renewable Energy Development Agency.

### Policy Mapping of Gujarat's Transport Sector

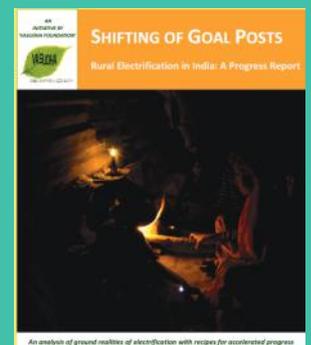
With support from Shakti Foundation, Vasudha Foundation carried out a policy mapping of the transport sector in Gujarat with a special emphasis on the possibility of enhancing the role of sustainable urban transport in major cities and towns of Gujarat. A case study on the Ahmedabad Bus Rapid Transit System was carried out as part of the project.

## Sustainable & Equitable Energy Access

45 percent of India's households do not have access to modern electricity. Only 11 percent of India's households consume more than 100 kWh of electricity per month, while 33 percent of India's population consumes less than 50 kWh of electricity per month. The per capita average annual domestic electricity consumption in India in 2009 was 96 kWh in rural areas and 288 kWh in urban areas for those with access to electricity. The world average per capita electricity consumption is 2500 kWh, while for India as whole, it is 700 kWh. The poor per capita electricity consumption is largely due to poor electricity consumption of rural India.

### Shifting of Goal Posts

Vasudha Foundation with support from Christian Aid UK, published a report titled "Shifting of Goal Posts" on the status of rural electrification in India. The report analysed the present status of electrification in India with a comparison on rural and urban levels of electrification and levels of per capita energy consumption. With an analysis of the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana, the report advocated greater inclusion of renewable energy systems within the power generation structure of the country.



### **World Bank Energy Study**

The Energy for Our Common Future project brought together responses and alternative approaches to the World Bank energy strategy. It highlights the energy needs of the poor and gives special regards to the potential for the World Bank Group to lead the private sector toward renewable energy.

### **Policy Mapping of India's Energy Sector and Renewable Energy Law Campaign Strategy**

Shakti Foundation engaged Vasudha Foundation to conduct a policy mapping of India's energy sector with a special focus on the evolution of policies in India and possibility of enhancing the role of renewable energy systems, and the future of renewable energy within the existing structure of power generation.

As a follow-up to the study, Vasudha Foundation advised Shakti Foundation on designing a campaign strategy for a renewable energy law. The broad idea behind the campaign was to establish a legislation that would make mandatory the use of renewable energy beyond the realm of decentralized systems and increase the replacement of conventional energy generation with renewable energy.

## **Action Projects**

### **Installation of Model Biogas Plants in Lalpur Village**

Two biogas plants were installed in two households of Lalpur village (Madhupur Taluka, Jharkhand) as demonstration systems for the village. Local people were trained about several aspects of using and maintaining the systems, as well as to disseminate the knowledge gained to other members of the community.

## Events/Seminars/Workshops

### Southern Civil Society Perspectives on the World Bank Energy Strategy

The four southern partners in the project carried out various activities to consult with their national civil society networks on the World Bank energy strategy review. The outcome of these meetings was a civil society position paper from each country. The outputs of these consultations were edited and published by Christian Aid as a series of papers entitled 'Energy for our common future'.

### Indian Civil Society Perspectives on the World Bank Energy Strategy

The Energy for Our Common Future project brought together responses and alternative approaches to the World Bank energy strategy. The Indian perspective distilled the position of 30 civil society organizations that came from across India to highlight energy needs of the poor and lead the private sector towards renewable energy.

### Low Carbon Options Ensuring Energy Security in India

The Delhi International Renewable Energy Conference was held between the 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at the International Exhibition Grounds, Greater Noida in the National Capital Region of Delhi.



Vasudha Foundation felt the need to have an in-depth discussion on one of the most debated topics in recent times, which is on Low Carbon Pathways particularly for developing countries. The Delhi International Renewable Energy Conference (DIREC 2010) provided an ideal platform for the discussion on Low Carbon Development as the very theme of the DIREC 2010 was "Sustainable Energy Solutions for the Future".

### Capacity Building and Awareness Generation

Several capacity building sessions were conducted in the villages of Madhupur Taluka of Jharkhand, for familiarizing people with the clean energy option of biogas. The aim was to reduce the dependence of people on firewood and make use of biogas for meeting the daily energy needs of cooking and electricity.



Vasudha Foundation and Samvad Ranchi jointly organised a two-day capacity building workshop, 'Harnessing Renewable Energy: Opportunities and Challenges' at Jagasidhpur, Jharkhand. Another workshop in association with then Paryavaran Chetna Kendra, Potka jointly organised the 2<sup>nd</sup> two-day capacity building workshop 'Harnessing Renewable Energy: Opportunities and Challenges' at Potka, East Singhbhum in Jharkhand for grassroots NGOs and development activists.

### Vasudha Foundation at UNFCCC Meetings

Vasudha Foundation in collaboration with Climate Action Network South Asia held discussions and strategy meetings with Indian and international civil society groups at COP 15 in Copenhagen, Denmark on possible low carbon strategies for India.

At COP 16 held at Cancun, Mexico, Vasudha Foundation organized a side event on vision of the National Action Plan on Climate Change and growth of the clean energy sector in India.

## Professional Activities of Members

Srinivas Krishnaswamy, Director, Vasudha Foundation represented the foundation at the following meetings-

- World Bank Energy Strategy meet at Washington D.C., USA
- Subsidiary Bodies Meeting of the UNFCCC at Bonn, Germany
- Conference of Parties (COP 15) meeting at Copenhagen, Denmark
- Conference of Parties (COP 16) meeting at Cancun, Mexico

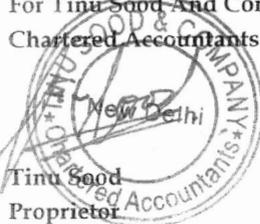
# Financial Report

## VASUDHA FOUNDATION

### RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2011

Particulars	Amount (Rs.)	Particulars	Amount (Rs.)
To Opening Balances		By Accounting Charges	45,000.00
Bank	-	By Audit Fees	15,000.00
Cash	-	By Bank Charges	70.00
To Donation	1,139,486.00	By Consultancy Expenses	13,252.00
To Interest	581.00	By Miscellaneous Expenses	227,726.00
To Loans	510,000.00	By Office Expenses	152,800.00
		By Rent	75,000.00
		By Salary	413,690.00
		By Tour and Travel	130,060.00
		By Fixed Assets	270,225.00
		By Security Deposit	1,400.00
		By <u>Closing Balances</u>	
		Bank	69,416.00
		Cash	236,428.00
	1,650,067.00		1,650,067.00

As per our Audit Report of even date  
of Income Tax Act, 1961 attached  
For Tinnu Sood And Company  
Chartered Accountants



Tinnu Sood  
Proprietor

M.No: 511444, FRN: 022090N

Dated: 25th September 2011

For Vasudha Foundation





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[www.vasudha-foundation.org](http://www.vasudha-foundation.org)