

## **Success Story of Sheep & Wool Improvement Scheme (SWIS) Programme**

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### **1. Concept of the Scheme**

To improve the sheep breed to increase the quantity and quality of wool for better livelihood of the shepherds.

### **2. Objectives of the Scheme**

- To improve the sheep breed, quality and quantity of the wool.
- To improve the health status of the sheep and decline the death rate.
- To improve the living standard of the shepherds

### **3. Strategy for Implementation**

Implementation of all the project activities through the committee of the shepherds formed at the village level.

**Project area:** 1121 villages from 59 Gram Panchayats in Sheo and Barmer block of district Barmer in Rajasthan

**The Target Group:** 4602 Shepherds and 306033 sheep from the project area.

### **4. Main Activities of the Project**

1. Sheep Health Camps
2. Sheep treatment through Mobile health units
3. Sheep and Shepherd Insurance
4. Scholarship to the children of the insured shepherds
5. Sheep breed improvement (distribution of good quality Rams)
6. Wool grading and Marketing Support to the Shepherds
7. Sheep and Shepherds claim distribution
8. Capacity Building Trainings for the shepherds
9. Supplementary Feed distribution to the sheep
10. Support for the construction of the sheep pen

## Sheep Health Camp - Managerial Structure of the Camp

Total No. of the health teams: 8-10 teams

Total members in the Team: 5

Team Leader: 1

VHO: 1 in each team

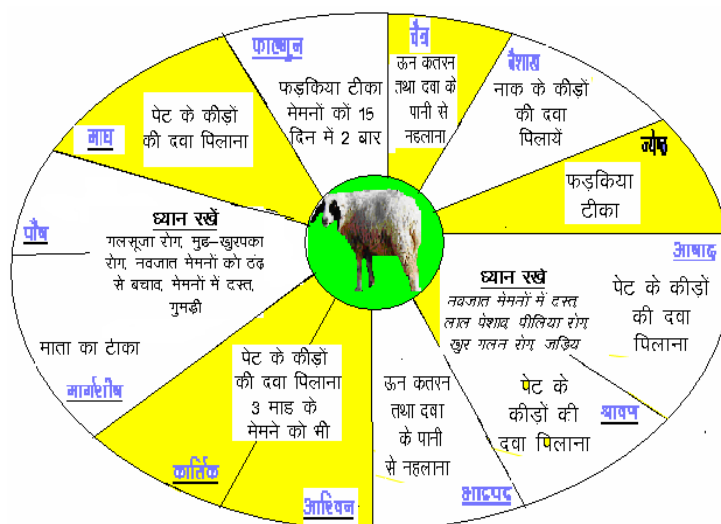
LSA: 2 in each Team

Assisting staff: 1 from organization staff and local shepherds

## Frequency of sheep health camps

- Sheep health camps were organized twice in a year
- Sheep health camps were organized at the gram panchayat level
- First round was conducted in August – September every year
- Second was conducted in March – April every year

## Annual Calendar for the Sheep Health



## 5. Sheep & Shepherds Insurance

Sheep Insurance by: Oriental Insurance Company Ltd. Jodhpur

Shepherds Insurance by: Life Insurance Cooperation of India, Jodhpur

### **Premium**

Sheep: Rs. 19 per sheep for the period of 1 year

Shepherds: Rs. 80 per shepherd for 1 year

### **Provision of the Claims**

**Sheep Claim Amount:** Rs. 1200 on death of each sheep

### **Shepherds' claim Amount**

- On Natural death: Rs. 60000
- On Accidental death: Rs. 150000
- On permanent disability (More than 40%): Rs. 75000

### **Other Benefits**

Rs. 100 per month per child scholarship to the children (Max. 2 children) of the insured shepherd studying in the IX to XII class

### **6. Sheep & Shepherd Insurance: Achievements**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Achievement</b>	<b>No. of Claims distributed</b>
1	Sheep Insurance	306033	162035	3654
2	Shepherds Insurance	4422	4422	05

### **Sheep breed Improvement (Ram distribution)**

Good quality Rams were distributed for the breed improvement among the sheep of the project area.

- Total 3000 Rams of Marwari breed were given to the shepherds at free of cost.
- The selection of the beneficiaries for the Rams was done by the village level committee of each village. Per 100 sheep one healthy and good quality Ram was given.

### **Wool Grading & Marketing**

Wool grading is done so that the shepherds could get the good value of the wool. All the shepherds of the project area were instructed for wool grading as compulsory. All the shepherds who did the grading were given Re. 1 per sheep per clip to encourage them for the wool grading and to make it the habit.

### **Marketing Support**

The organization supported the shepherds in finding the market and to get rid of the middlemen. The wool is collected after grading at the Gram Panchayat level and then sold to the nearest wool *Mandi*. All the shepherds of the project area were given Rs. 2 per sheep per clip as marketing support to them.

### **Supplementary Feed Distribution**

The area is drought prone and numbers of sheep die due to lack of supplementary feed and poor shepherds could not afford the expenses made on the supplementary feed. The organization supports for the supplementary feed to the 25% of total sheep of an individual shepherd. The supplementary feed is supplied to the pregnant and weaker sheep of the shepherds. The quantity of the supplementary feed given to per sheep is 25 Kgs.

### **Sustainability of the project**

Following 2 centres are established for the sustainability of the project:

- Common Facility Centre (CFC)
- Multipurpose Extension Centre (MPEC)

## 7. Impact of the Project

Following impacts could be clearly seen on the basis of the base line survey conducted before the commencement of the project in the area:

S. No.	Indicator	Status before the commencement of the project	Present Status
1	Death rate	10%-12%	3%-5%
2	Wool Production	400-500 gram per clip	650-750 gram per clip
3	Sheep Health Services	No service was available	The shepherds are getting good quality medicines regularly
4	Breed improvement	No breed improvement but the shepherds use their own ram	3000 good quality rams were distributed and resultantly the quality of wool and production has improved.
5	Quality of wool	35-37 Micron	30-32 Micron
6	Sheep & Shepherd Insurance	Lack of awareness and higher premium of insurance by the govt.	Proper awareness generation by the organization and comparative low premium for sheep/shepherd insurance
7	Wool grading and Marketing	Lack of awareness and facilities	All the shepherds do the wool grading and sell it directly in the wool <i>Mandi</i> /market
8	Supplementary feed	No supplementary feed was available either by govt. or any other source	The weaker and pregnant sheep are supplied supplementary feed @ 25 Kgs. per sheep
9	Construction of sheep pen	No facility and support was available	Financial assistance of Rs. 10000 to each shepherd for the construction of the sheep pen.

## 8. Observations

- Water Tanks to be constructed for sheep
- Ram Rearing Farms to be established for sustainable supply of Rams
- Grazing Fields to be developed
- Per sheep expenditure on medicine to be increased
- Overhead/administration charges to be increased due to scattered and desert area.