

How to adapt strategies? Samarthan Experience

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Strategic objectives

- **Poor families get 100 days of employment**
- **Establish Social Audit as people centered accountability mechanism**

Impacts

- **Public audit of Rs. 924.25 million in 1000 villages**
- **Arrears of Rs.1 million distributed in Panna**
- **CSOs prepared social audit manual for Govt.**
- **Electronic Fund Management System introduced**

Challenges in Pilot experiment

- **Local elites against any accountability**
- **Poor wage earners unwilling to ask questions**
- **Administrative machinery indifferent**
- **Documents not provided to the workers**

Adaptive strategies

- **Initially taken less threatening issues**
- **Developed social watch group**
- **Negotiated solutions in favour of workers**
- **Organised wage earners in workers' unions**

Challenges of scale up

- **Expansion without Government support-risky**
- **Limited information reduced power of audits**
- **Cost and sustenance of initiative on large scale**
- **No action by Government on issues emerged**

Adaptive strategies

- Reached in 1000 villages in different regions
- Downloaded information from the website
- Identified two educated youth in each village
- Presented a formal report to senior officials

What triggered adaptation

- **Structured review meetings with field team**
- **Regular feedback from Government officials**
- **Incidences of threats to the field staff**

New agenda for action

- **Highlight shortcomings of the E- MIS**
- **Monitoring of the Government led social audits**
- **Establish norms and procedures of social audit**



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