

# MUTHAVA BABA GROUP

*Madya Pradesh, Khandwa District*



*Millet plantation*

*Photo: Deep Malik from Pexels*

Muthava Baba Group established a community seed bank in 2017 with the support of the NGO Caritas India. The CSB is located in the village of Devlikala, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh, India.

The seed bank aims to enhance farmers' food and nutrition security by conserving and enhancing local crop varieties. Farmers at the seed bank employ traditional conservation methods and indigenous knowledge to adapt local varieties to specific conditions and the challenges posed by climate change. The seed bank primarily focuses on the conservation of millet, especially *kodo millet, little millet, Indian barnyard millet, finger millet, foxtail millet, and pearl pillet*.

Managed by an elected committee, the seed bank serves approximately 58 households from the village and surrounding areas.

Farmers of the seed bank participate in the annual seed festivals organized by the Khandwa Diocesan Social Services organization to build networks and exchange seeds.

Farmers at the seed bank benefit from extension services provided by the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), which supports them with guidance and training to enhance their agricultural practices and improve crop yields.

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