

CHIKKABENDIGERI COMMUNITY SEED BANK

Karnataka, Haveri District



*Community Seed Bank storage facility
Photo: Sahaja Samrudha*

In 2024, 23 women farmers from the Homale Self Help Group established the Chikkabendigeri CSB with the support of the NGO Sahaja Samrudha. The CSB is located in Chikkabendigeri, Shiggaon block, Haveri district, Karnataka, India; and it serves families from 5 villages: Ramapur, Mattigatti, Niralagi, Hirebendigeri, and Hirebudihal.

The primary goals of the CSB include conserving and enhancing traditional varieties of seeds as well as improving farmers' access to good-quality seeds.

As of 2024, the CSB conserves two varieties of foxtail millet, one variety of ragi, one variety of cowpea, one variety of red gram, one variety of field bean, and one variety of amaranthus.

During its first year of activity, the CSB has participated in the seed festivals organized by Sahaja Samrudha, such as the millet festival. In addition, Sahaja Samrudha offers training to CSB members to enhance their knowledge in conserving and producing local varieties.

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