

JEEVAN SATHEE COMMUNITY SEED BANK

Maharashtra, Sindhudurg District



Peeling beans

Photo: Semi Kukcu from Pexels

The Community Seed Bank (CSB) was established in 2023 with the support of Caritas India. It is located in the village of Amarai Sarmale in Sindhudurg District in Maharashtra, India.

The CSB is managed by a Self-Help Group (SHG) of 10 to 15 women and has benefited 10 more families from the village in its first year.

The main aim of the CSB is to improve food and nutrition security in the area by conserving local varieties as those varieties are adapted to local conditions and more resistant to climate change.

Seeds are stored in one of the members' homes and traditional methods of seed selection and conservation are used. The seeds are stored in mud and glass pots and in PET bottles.

The CSB has a 2-acre diversity block for seed multiplication and demonstrations for fellow farmers.

Currently, the CSB conserves single varieties of several crops, including sorghum, beans, black gram, and green gram. In addition, conserves a tuber called Karande.

Caritas India supports the CSB through capacity-building programs. Members of the CSB cover the CSB operational costs with their resources.

Contact:

Sushanti Suresh Gawade

Phone number: +91 92265 56881