

A Report on **Youth Choupal** with Indigenous Youth at Nagada, Jajpur

in partnership with

Introduction



The Youth4Water Plus campaign under UNICEF conducted Youth Choupal with Y20 at Nagada Gram Panchayat of the Jajpur district in Odisha on 25th Jan 2023.

50 youth from Indigenous Community participated in the Choupal. They discussed on the issues related to water, sanitation, hygiene and climate change.

Youth20

Y20 is an official group of G20 comprising young leaders from G20 members.

Y20 acts as a platform for dialogue and negotiations among young leaders in India and around the world. All young leaders join hands to address the challenges of our generation and strive to make a positive impact on various socio-political issues.

Youth4Water Plus

Youth4Water Plus is an initiative led by UNICEF Odisha in partnership with Government of Odisha for youth mobilization on water, sanitation, hygiene and climate change issues.

The platform is linked to 5 Lakh youth across the state to work on climate action.

Youth Choupal at Nagada

Youth4Water Plus along with Y20 conducted **India's first Youth Choupal** at Nagada Gram Panchayat of Jajpur District, in Odisha. The Nagada Gram Panchayat was highlighted 4 years before. The Gram Panchayat with entire PVTG (Primitive Vulnerable Tribal Groups) population witnessed severe hunger and malnutrition few years before. The Youth earn their livelihoods by collecting non-timber forest products and shifting cultivation.



Nagada is located 250 KM away from Bhubaneswar on the hilly terrains of Eastern Ghats.

The Youth4Water plus team conducted Social Mobilization with Youth across the gender in Tala, Majhi, Upara Nagada. The Choupal was conducted around the designated theme of Y20 i.e. **Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction; Making Sustainability a Way of Life**. The event was a participatory discussion conducted in an outdoor setup in mid of the village with 50 participants. The moderators introduced the theme around SDG 6 and SDG 13 i.e., clean water and sanitation and climate change.

Youth Choupal at Nagada

The discussion was around sanitation in villages, natural resources management, common resources, property management, gender perceptive and household access to water and sanitation.

Key Recommendations

- A robust institution building for joint forest management.
- Household piped drinking water connection for hassle free access to cater to all gender.
- A comprehensive sensitisation program for attaining open defecation free status.
- Availability of alternative resources of plastic material.
- Provision of piped water connections in household toilets.
- Plan to minimise the efforts by gender to access safe and clean drinking water.
- A sensitization program on reduction of forest fires.
- Developing livelihoods around WASH and climate change and integrating it in MO WASH company, a UNICEF initiative.

Conclusion

The recommendation was recorded, interpreted their voices into program and policy discourse, developed a short video and disseminated in social media.

Now, Youth4Water Plus and PAGA 1.0 are preparing a comprehensive program as per the recommendation by Choupal to get it implemented by each partner according to their expertise.