

# Quarter 1 Review Report - FY 2021- 22



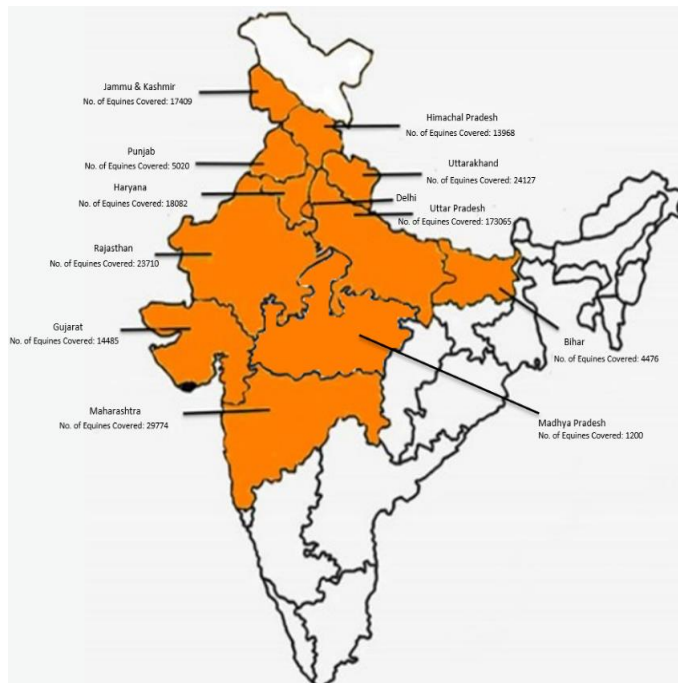
## Brooke India



## Brooke India

Brooke India (BI) continues to pursue the mandate of 'Ensuring equine welfare activities by improving availability, accessibility, acceptability, affordability, and quality (4AQ) of services and enhancing the knowledge and animal husbandry practices of the equine owning communities'.

The FY 2021-22, marks as Strategy year for BI. We are taking a stock of our achievements and detailed planning for next project cycle 2022-25.



There are 5.44 lakh (0.54 million) equines in India as per provisional livestock census 2019. BI will reach out to **3.26 lakh (0.326 million)** equines by 2022. In Q1 of FY 21-22, BI we have operating through 36 Equine Welfare Projects (EWP) covering 10 States and Union Territories of India (Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, and Bihar).

The new areas of operations will be covered by six new EWPs, thereby increasing coverage by 30,000 Equids in 5 of these States. Viz. EWP's – Bharuch, Solapur, Mau, Rohtas, Pithoragarh and Uttarkashi

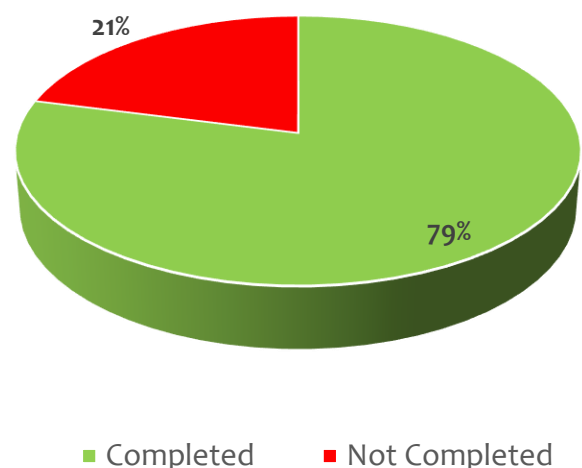
In this FY we have merged two areas of operations. Viz. Rudrapur with Dehradun and Beed with Ahmednagar to ensure benefit to the equines of respective units.

The beginning of FY 2021-22 proved to be quite challenging for BI as it was enveloped by the resurgent and dreadful second wave of the COVID 19 pandemic. In spite of many BI staff themselves contracting the disease and being unable to work till they recovered, their efforts in assisting the community and ailing equids continued unabated, despite the additional challenges caused by the lockdown conditions imposed by the Govt.

In spite of these hardships, 79% of the activities targeted for the quarter ending June 2021 were completed. Most of the activities which could not be completed were activities like large workshops and trainings, which were not possible to be held due to COVID 19 restrictions.

Qualitative data collected by BI, as case studies, highlights the examples of sustained equine welfare even in this difficult period, largely due to the efforts of the BI teams in reassuring and supporting the community.

### Overall Activities



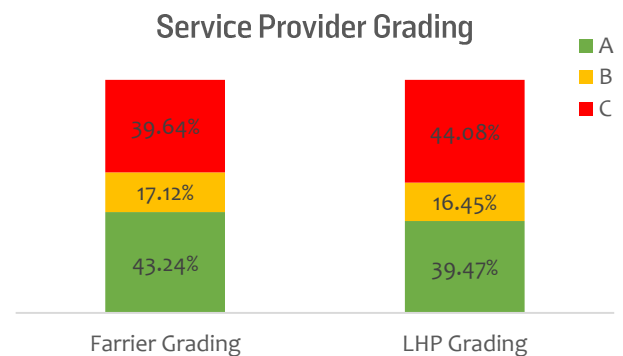
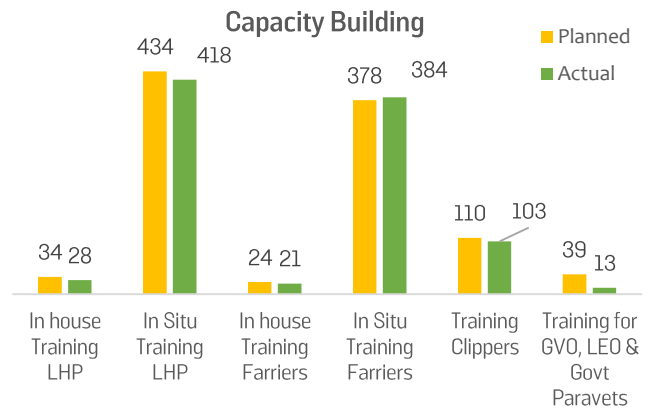
## Brooke India

### Capacity building

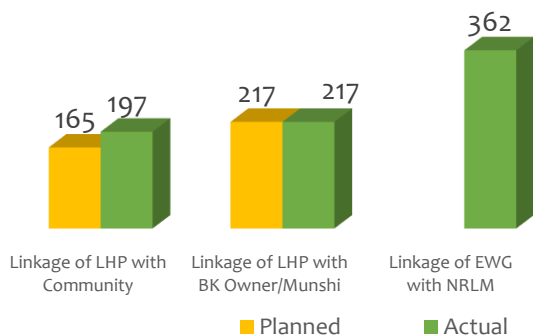
As COVID 19 restrictions didn't permit for large gathering BI increased the number of trainings with smaller groups to ensure that all the Local Health Provider (LHP) get trained on equine welfare practices. To build their capacity in equine handling and quality first aid and equine health care. BI organized 28 such in-house trainings and 418 in situ (hands-on training) for LHPs & 13 trainings for Govt. Vets and Paravets.

To ensure quality farriery BI organized 384 in situ and 21 in-house trainings. 103 Trainings for Clippers were also completed in this quarter.

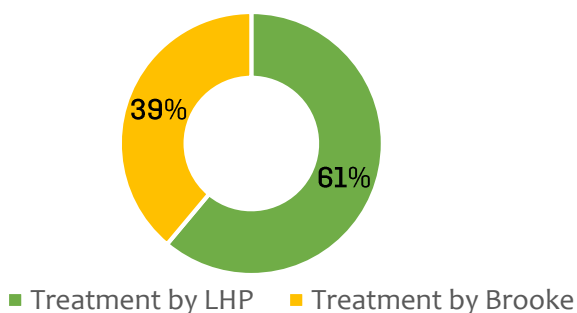
2358 orientations for equine owners, women members including Ashwamitras/Ashwasakhis continues to play an effective role in the formation of EWGs in sites and the adjoining villages. This FY we have limited the number of Exposure visits within the city due to travelling restriction.



### Linkage



### Treatment



### Developing the Linkages

Developing the long term linkages between Equine Welfare Groups (EWG) and various Government schemes is the key to make the sustainable changes in Equines health improve resilience of Equine Owners.

This quarter BI facilitated the formation of **57 Female EWGs & 50 Male EWGs** totaling **107 new EWGs**. As a next step **362 BI facilitated EWGs** were linked with the National Rural/Urban Livelihood Mission (NRLM/NULM).

BI trained Local Service Providers (LSP) like LHPs and Local Street Farriers (LSF) linked to the equine owning communities ensure long term sustainability of quality service provision. LHPs provided 1325 treatments and Brooke staff provided 844 emergency treatments. There was a percentile increase in BI intervention which is attributed to the movement restrictions imposed on LHPs, calling for such intervention in emergencies.



## Brooke India

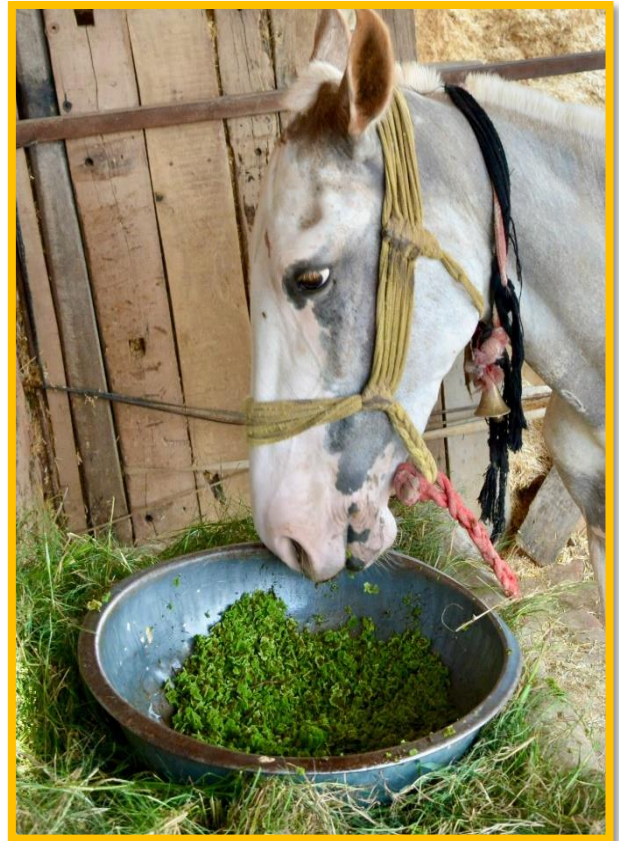
### COVID 19 Emergency Intervention Fund (EIF)

BI also set up an EIF of INR 10 Million to provide support to the neediest amongst the equine working community hugely hit by a livelihoods crisis triggered by the COVID 19 pandemic, to ensure that the welfare of equines was not compromised during this crisis period.

The support was provided by need based subsidies on support required by the community which was routed through Community Based Organizations (CBO). The support is estimated to reach 67,000 equines and 40,000 Equine Owners in this FY.

Since EIF support was initiated late in this quarter, the benefit reach was only to 2453 Equine Owners and 4085 Equines.

- 9273.4 Kg of subsidized balanced feed was produced and distributed by EWGs.
- 4675 Kg of subsidized dry fodder was distributed
- 210 First Aid Kits were distributed at subsidized price
- 73 Azolla pits were constructed for the cultivation of Azolla (Mosquito fern which is high protein nutritional supplement).
- 2050 Napier saplings were planted to ensure regular and healthy nutrition for equines



### Innovation for Equine Welfare



Wooden Cart Replaced with Light Weight  
Iron Carts in Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh



Promotion of Welfare Friendly Hobble  
Rings at BK in Vadodara, Gujarat

## Brooke India



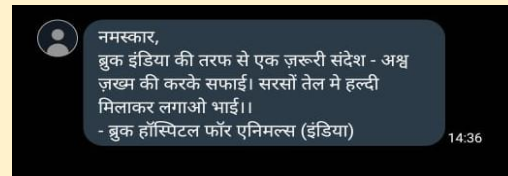
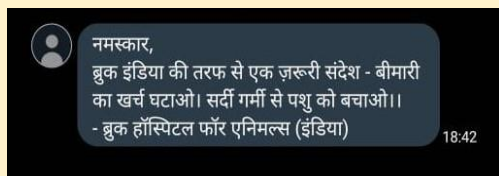
### Annual Review 2021-22

BI conducted its Annual Review Exercise to assess Animal Health, Owners Knowledge/ Perception in the intervention areas. The review covered 442 sites under 30 Equine Welfare Projects running in 10 states of the country. The MEAL team, with the support of the regional and zonal team, has collected data that will be analysed to draw learnings for the team to improve programmatic interventions.

- Total sample size: 2070 Equids, 2070 Owners
- 32 EWGs

### Social Media and IT

BI disseminated equine welfare practice SMSs, once in week, to approximately 2000 beneficiaries, GVOs, Traders, LSPs and Paravets spread across all the operational areas.



In Q1, traction on BI Social Media Handles increased due to creation of visually appealing content, photos & videos.



Facebook : 800+ followers

Instagram: 250+ followers

Twitter: 200+ followers

Youtube: 198 subscribers



## Brooke India

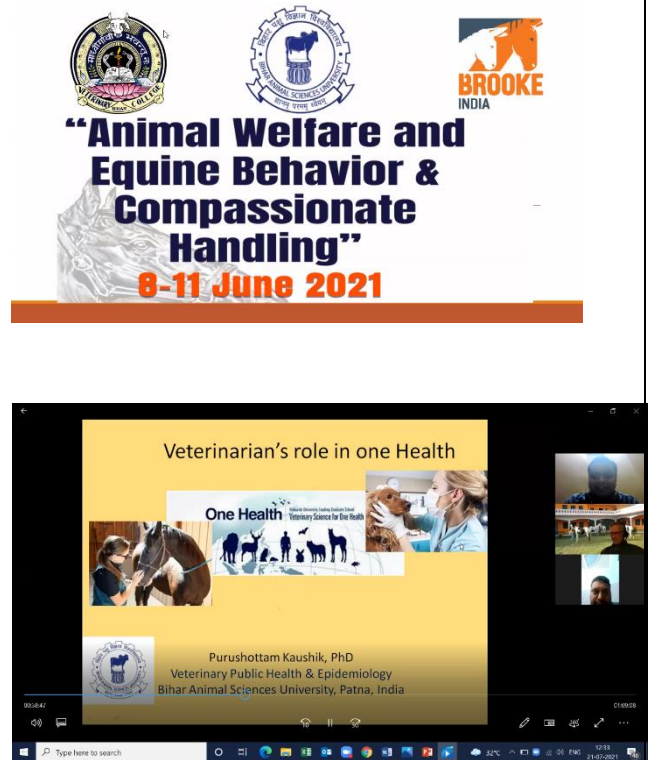
### Knowledge Partnership

BI has conducted 4-5 days online training on Animal Welfare, Equine Behaviour, Compassionate Handling, Welfare issues of Working Equines in the 4 Vet Universities/Colleges.

347 Vet students and faculty members participated in these trainings.

- GADVASU -70
- ANDUAT -120
- BASU- 55
- COVAS, Parbhani-102

Brooke India Organised a National webinar to highlight the 'Role of Veterinarians in Equine Farriery & One Health' on the occasion of World Veterinary Day.



### Highlights for this Quarter

- The Govt. amended the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act and promulgated it on 29 Sept 2020. This forced BI to terminate all partnership grants as on 31 Oct 2020, as it was no longer legal to provide them grants. BI showed great resilience to change and agility to seamlessly change the programme implementation model from the existing a Partnership one through Partner Equine Welfare Units (PEWU) to a direct model, through Equine Welfare Projects (EWP). All staff required for the same were recruited afresh in a new vertical called the BI Project Implementation Staff
- BI was an active member of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Civil Society Organisation working group.
- **BI has collaborated with Sphere India for:**
  - Coordinating with other animal protection organisations in formulating the additional section on Animal Protection in Sphere India's Hand book on protection.
  - Initiate LEGS chapter in India
  - Capacity Building of equine owners and families on disaster preparedness and contingency planning



## Brooke India

### Annex 1

Brooke India has also started our own blog on (link: <https://brookeindia.medium.com/>)

Links for the content shared on Social Media

S.N o	Title	Category	YouTube Link
1.	Proper Techniques for Performing Farriery on Working Equines	Video Film	<a href="https://youtu.be/nX1UTK-WB28">https://youtu.be/nX1UTK-WB28</a>
2.	Celebrating 20 Years of Equine Health and Welfare	Video Film	<a href="https://youtu.be/9krZRsYRdtI">https://youtu.be/9krZRsYRdtI</a>

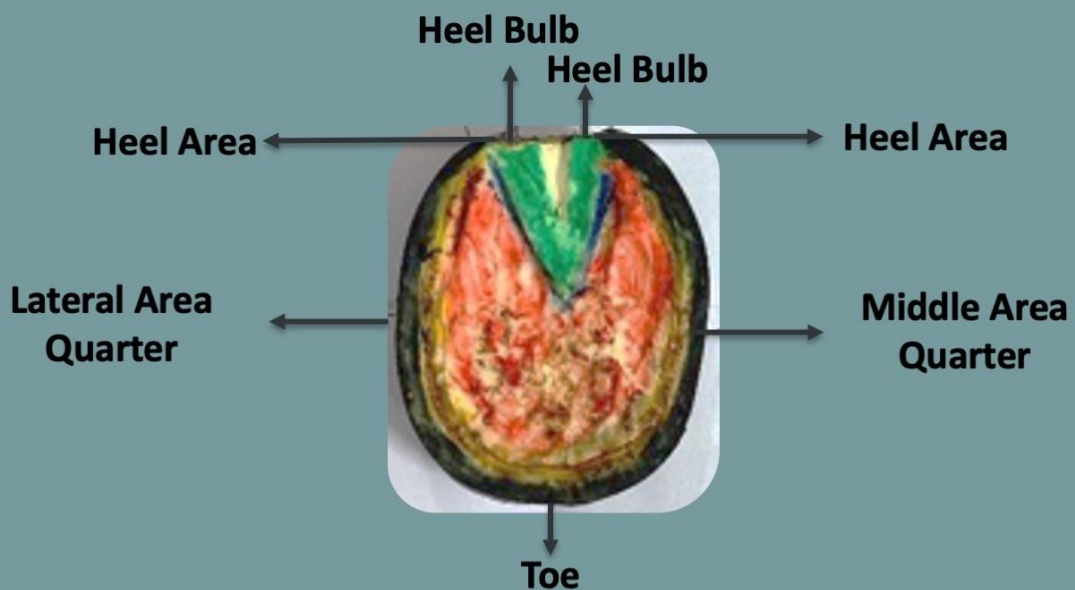
## **Brooke India**



# Hoof Model Using Brinjal (Round)



- ❖ Black Color Denotes Hoof Wall
- ❖ Green Color Denotes Frog
- ❖ Yellow Color Denotes White Line
- ❖ Red Color Denotes Sole of Hoof
- ❖ Purple Color Denotes Collateral Grooves



## Benefits

- ❖ Easy to prepare and inexpensive
- ❖ To replicate cadaver hoof model
- ❖ To visualize the solar anatomy of the hoof
- ❖ To demonstrate hoof imbalance
- ❖ Farrier can use it for practicing trimming
- ❖ Correct shoeing/ nail placement
- ❖ It is made up of cross sectional cut of Brinjal vegetable (Egg Plant)



## CASE STUDY

### Qalandar Community Get Access to Veterinary Services During Pandemic

BI had exited from Qalandar sites after intensively working with the communities since 2015. BI's holistic approach of community engagement and mentoring of LSPs such as LHPs and GVOs has shown positive results in ensuring sustainable equine welfare. The local communities and service providers are linked and empowered enough to effectively oversee the welfare of their animals as well as themselves.

GVO, Dr Kapil Tyagi is posted at the veterinary dispensary at Parikshitgarh in Meerut. He has been providing his veterinary treatment services in the Qalandar sites. He is has undergone several capacity building sessions with BI and is now well versed with the equine health and welfare domain.

Talking about his work with Qalandars, he said that he provides free of cost dewormers and mineral mixture to needy equines and conducts awareness camps on zoonotic disease like Glanders. He discourages the irrational use of un-prescribed injectable medication by LHPs for treating sick animals. He also regularly mentors local LHPs operating in the Qalandar sites and organises animal health awareness camps that focus on basic husbandry practices such as stable hygiene, foot/hoof care, grooming, humane handling, the importance of maintaining FAKs and tips to identify the signs, symptoms and causes of fatal equine disease like Trypanosomiasis (Surra) & Tetanus.

Three BI trained LHPs Gulfam, Dinesh and Jaiveer are providing their services in these sites. It is heartening to learn that one of the LHP's Jaiveer has previously worked with BI as Veterinary Assistant. Besides, providing veterinary first aid these LHPs also maintain regular contact with Dr Kapil while dealing with veterinary emergencies and treating animals.

The BI team contacted LHP Gulfam to check the current situation and he shared that COVID 19 has severely impacted the Qalandar community, as their income has dwindled due to restrictions on equine fairs.

When asked about medicine availability, he shared that due to prior networking with local medical shopkeepers, equine medicines are readily available. He further added that sick mares are treated in coordination with GVO and he receives adequate mentoring support from Dr Tyagi thus ensuring sustainable equine welfare at Qalandar sites.



LHP Gulfam diagnosing equids at one of the Qalandar site, archival photo



Open grazing pasture Qalandar sites, Archival photo



## CASE STUDY

### BI Acts as a Catalyst to Nurture Women EWG in Budhasi Village

Meet the empowered women of Budhasi Village. These women are part of "KGN Women EWG," a form of self-help group facilitated by BI's Equine Welfare Project (EWP) Team in Kashipur.

When BI's team met these women and their families, they were caught in the vicious cycle of poverty and limited source of livelihood. They were solely dependant on their equines as their only significant source of livelihood. However, these women were determined to change their circumstances. With support and guidance from Nand Kishor, BI's Field Assistant (FA), these women explored alternate income Generating Activities as opportunities even during the challenging times of COVID 19. Some of which are –

**Take-Home Ration Program:** Under the Take Home Ration (THR) programme, food is distributed once a month for the mother to take home and use. The programme stipulates that THR should meet 50% of the daily recommended dietary allowance per beneficiary. This intervention is unique in its reach and scale as it is well resourced with budget and reaches hundreds of millions of beneficiaries. During the COVID 19 lockdowns, the BI team suggested the Women EWG be part of this programme as a volunteer and earn an extra income during the tough times. As a volunteer, the women helped in easy distribution of the ration to the fellow needy families and earned up to Rs 4000 per month.

**Labour Cards:** The BI team also helped EWG members receive INR 1000 aid provided by the government to those community members having labour cards.

Once the financial benefits started accruing, more women from the community began approaching Kishor for help in organising themselves into self help groups, leading to the formation of another Women EWG, "Peer Baba Ashwa Kalyan Samooh", in Bhudasi village.

**Stitching facemasks:** During the lockdown, these groups ventured into sewing cloth facemasks and sold them at a nominal rate to their community members. Thus, contributing to the fight against COVID 19.

**Balanced Feed preparation:** The group also prepared and distributed subsidised balanced feed as part of BI's Emergency Intervention (EI). The income earned from these activities helped them tide over the financial crisis.

In future, the group members are planning to form a women Equine Welfare Association (EWA). This will help them get access to block development schemes.



## CASE STUDY

### Breaking the Stereotype Around Learning amongst Rural Women: BI team Organised Training on the Use of First Aid Kits (FAKs) for Women Equid Owners

BI teams have observed that the working equine's injuries at BKs were often left unattended. The equine owners did not know much about tending to these wounds. They were also hesitant to call veterinarians or Local Health Providers (LHP) so as to avoid what they felt was an unwanted expense for them, which ultimately led to either the animal being rendered incapacitated or lost. As an immediate solution, the BI team planned training for women equine owners on maintaining and utilising FAKs. However, the women declined to learn anything regarding first aid.



Bindu Devi from Gai Ghat village in Ballia

Quoting Bindu Devi from Gai Ghat village in Ballia –

"It is not possible for us to understand anything about medicine and care. We have also grown old and the information that you are trying to give will not make sense to us. You should talk to men working at BK."

Such a misconstrued belief was a common hurdle for BI teams in spreading awareness regarding equine health maintenance, diseases and even encouraging women to start any initiative for themselves through self help groups/ Equine Welfare Groups (EWGs). The primary cause of this malaise is the roots of the patriarchy which run deep in villages. It's not just confined to women being refrained from performing or specific tasks or achieving certain goals, normally done by men. The environs they grow in, dictated by their economic and social environs, also stunt the girl child's thought processes.

The lack of encouragement to adopt emerging changes in social behaviour also make a young girl child's mind into believing that any form of learning outside the household work is not for them. As they grow, the situation they have unconsciously adopted and accepted seems to them as normal. To overcome the hurdle, BI team organised multiple one-on-one meetings with the women in the Gai ghat village. Initially, the team managed to convince them for meeting as a group once a week for an hour to discuss each other's views of equine management. Once they got comfortable, discussions on equine health issues were introduced. Then, BI's field team made all the arrangements and prepared a lesson plan on first aid for the meeting. The team knew that the use of scientific

jargon would only scare the women from learning. Further, considering their extremely low literacy levels, the Team designed Information Education Communication (IEC) material in simple language, for engaging with the participants. Posters and flipbooks on equine first aid and diseases were utilised. The visuals helped the women recognise various equine disease's symptoms. Further, to help the women understand the type and dosage for a particular first aid medicine, the team drew a chart containing the name of the medicine in the local language and drew dots in front of them indicating the dosage rate. The women were quickly able to grasp the information, which simultaneously helped boost their confidence to use them when necessary.

A group has been formed in Gai ghat village now, known as the "Jai Maa Kali" EWG. The women members named it after the Goddess Kali, a symbol of courage and strength. All the females in the group are now well trained in basic first aid and, through exposure visits facilitated by the BI team, help women in other villages as well.





## CASE STUDY

### The Increasing Adoption of Azolla – A Nutritious Form of Green Feed for Donkeys

Maharashtra and Gujarat have a semi-arid climate with maximum temperatures reaching up to 45°C to 49°C. Considering these extreme weather conditions, working at Brick Kilns (BKs), sand mining locations, carrying the load for long distances becomes exhausting for even the region's well-adapted donkeys and mules. Some visible effects of this harsh environment are recurrent cases of Colic, Heat Stress and Dehydration.

Brooke India's (BI) team in Maharashtra and Gujarat conducted several awareness sessions for the donkey owners on keeping the animals hydrated, and most importantly, feeding them with green fodder (contains 80–90% water and rest is roughage and minerals). The motivated equine owners started purchasing green fodder from the farmers. However, their fluctuating income created uncertainty on the regular supply of green fodder for their animals. Looking at the complexities of the situation, BI's team planned to introduce Azolla (Mosquito fern, duckweed fern, fairy moss, water fern), which is a proven green source of vitamins and trace minerals to the community members in Gujarat and Maharashtra.

To convince the community, the team laid out examples of the successful adoption of Azolla in BI's other interventional areas and explained its long term benefits to them. Some community members displayed an immediate interest and BI's team assisted such owners in procuring the Azolla seeds at a subsidised rate and preparing a pit for its cultivation.

Once cultivated, the expansion of Azolla is effortless. One only needs to form more pits and drop a small portion of already grown Azolla into it, which grows and spreads on the water's surface. Thus, making the future cost of growing Azolla in the backyard negligible.

Observing its success and beneficial effects more owners joined the venture and currently, about 43 owners rearing 271 donkeys have adopted the sustainable option for growing green feed at four Equine Welfare Project areas i.e. Satara, Sangli, in Maharashtra and Ahmednagar and Vadodara in Gujarat.

*"With the availability of Azolla for our donkeys, we can avoid the expense incurred for purchasing green fodder from the farmers. Currently, our donkey's health and our savings at home are improving."* – Popat Gayekwad, Donkey Owner from Maharashtra



## CASE STUDY

### Emergency Funds Helped Equine Owners in Kashipur Keep Their Equines Healthy

The impact of COVID 19 continues to unfold. Amongst the two waves of COVID 19 in India, the second one was the most severe. The two waves made the rural communities lose their livelihood and, in some cases, even their source of livelihood, i.e. their equines. They were unable to take proper care of them, and often, the only option they found for survival was to sell the animal. Without the equines, it was hard for them to get back to their previous way of earning a livelihood. Nasreen Begum, from village Kuraiya, has a family of eight to feed, including her husband and six children. During the first wave of COVID 19 and lockdowns, restriction on movement took away her husband's livelihood at brick kilns and her horse, Sultan. Nasreen had to sell him because they were unable to feed him. Explaining her financial and mental state, she says,

*"We were barely allowed to move out of our village to even get the ration for our families. Arranging fodder too seemed like an impossible task and we had already lost our livelihood at Brick Kilns. The first thought that came to our mind was to let loose our equine or sell them for helping us to survive."*

For Nasreen, Sultan was like one of her children. While talking about Sultan, she described their fond memories, especially how she used to take care of his daily needs.

*"Sultan used to be the first person in my family to greet me, invariably waking up with me. He knew exactly when I would come and feed him. On some days, when I had to go out somewhere, he used to get upset and when I came back, he would express his disappointment by neighing and nudging me."*



**Nasreen Begum, one of the Beneficiaries of Emergency Intervention support provided by Brooke India**

Selling Sultan was one of the difficult decisions that Nasreen and her husband had to make.

During the second wave of COVID 19, a complete lockdown was imposed throughout the country. Brooke India's (BI) team observed a similar situation coming back again for the community members of Kuraiya village. The solution for stopping what happened with Nasreen and many other equine owners last time was making timely provision of feed to ensure the sustenance of their animals. This time the team was well equipped to help them in the form of Emergency Intervention (EI) funds. The BI field team worked with the community's "Lakshmi" Equine Welfare Group (EWG). The EWG prepared 500 kgs of balanced feed which was supplied at subsidized rates. 50% of the cost of the ingredients required for balanced feed was borne by the equine owners, and the remainder was provided as a subsidy from the BI's EI funds.

Nasreen too actively participated in this preparation of balanced feed. She says,

*"I had lost my horse last year, but I don't wish for others to go through the same."*

About 28 equines in Kuraiya village were provided with subsidized nutritious balanced feed until the situation became stable thereby assisting distressed equine owners in rearing their equids during these challenging times.



**Members of Lakshmi Women Equine Welfare Group preparing and packing Balanced Feed through subsidy support provided by Brooke India**