



SHRI

Sanitation and Health Rights in India



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OUR MISSION



SHRI fights alongside communities to eliminate open defecation as a key step in the ongoing struggle for health equity, and social and economic justice

FOUNDER'S NOTE



Anoop Jain

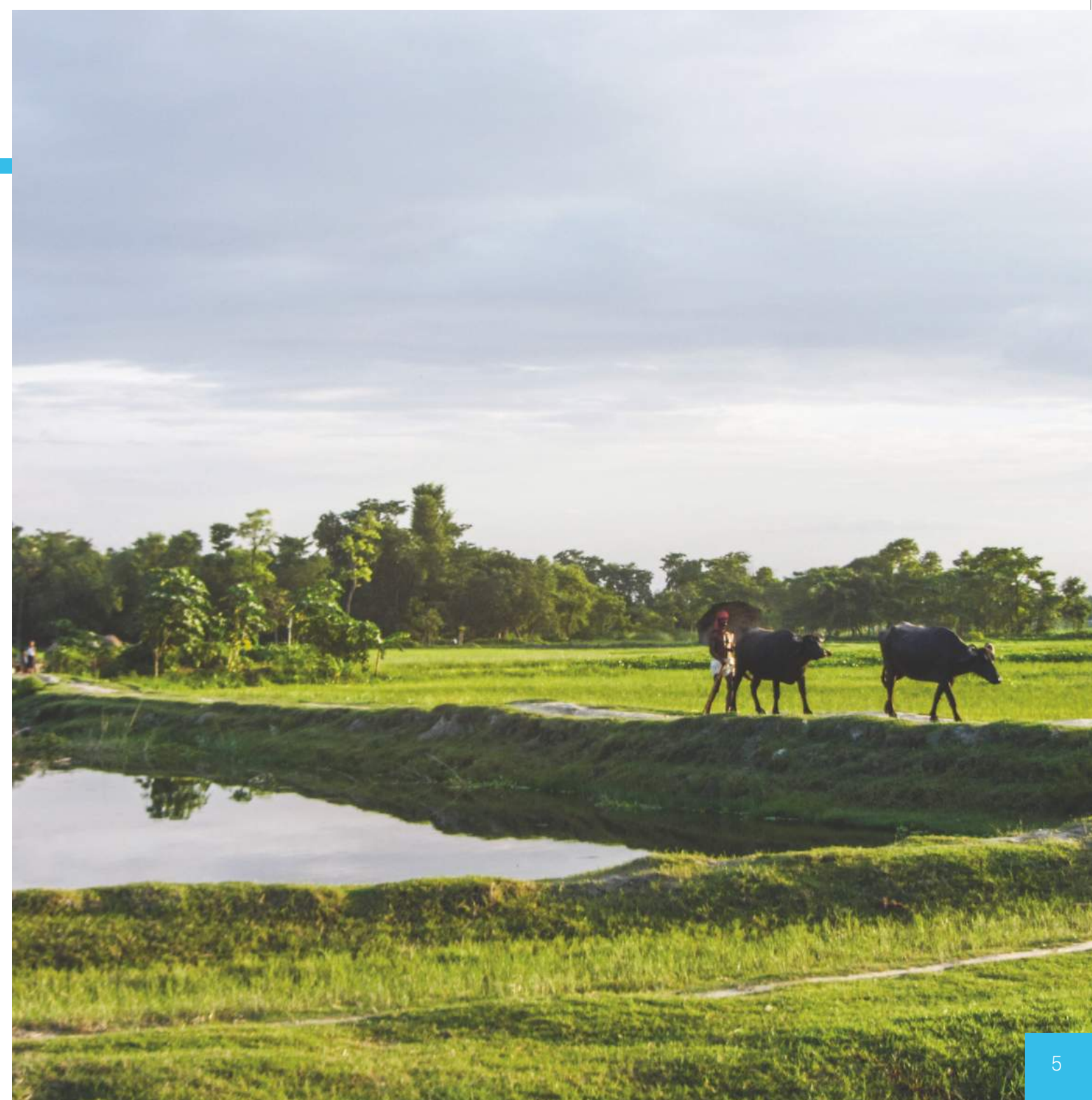
I have had the unique privilege of growing up around the world. My father's job in the oil and gas industry took my family and me from Canada, where I was born, to Syria, Scotland, and then finally New Orleans, which has been home to my family since 2000. I did most of my 'growing up' in New Orleans, including bearing witness to the destruction caused by hurricane Katrina in 2005.

This was the first time I realized that poverty and destitution are man made, not random occurrences. This lesson was reaffirmed to me when I began working on building a soup kitchen with a community of Tibetan refugees in the Indian Himalayas in the winter of 2010. I quickly learned that political strife in their homeland had forced countless women, men, and children to make the perilous trek from Tibet to India.

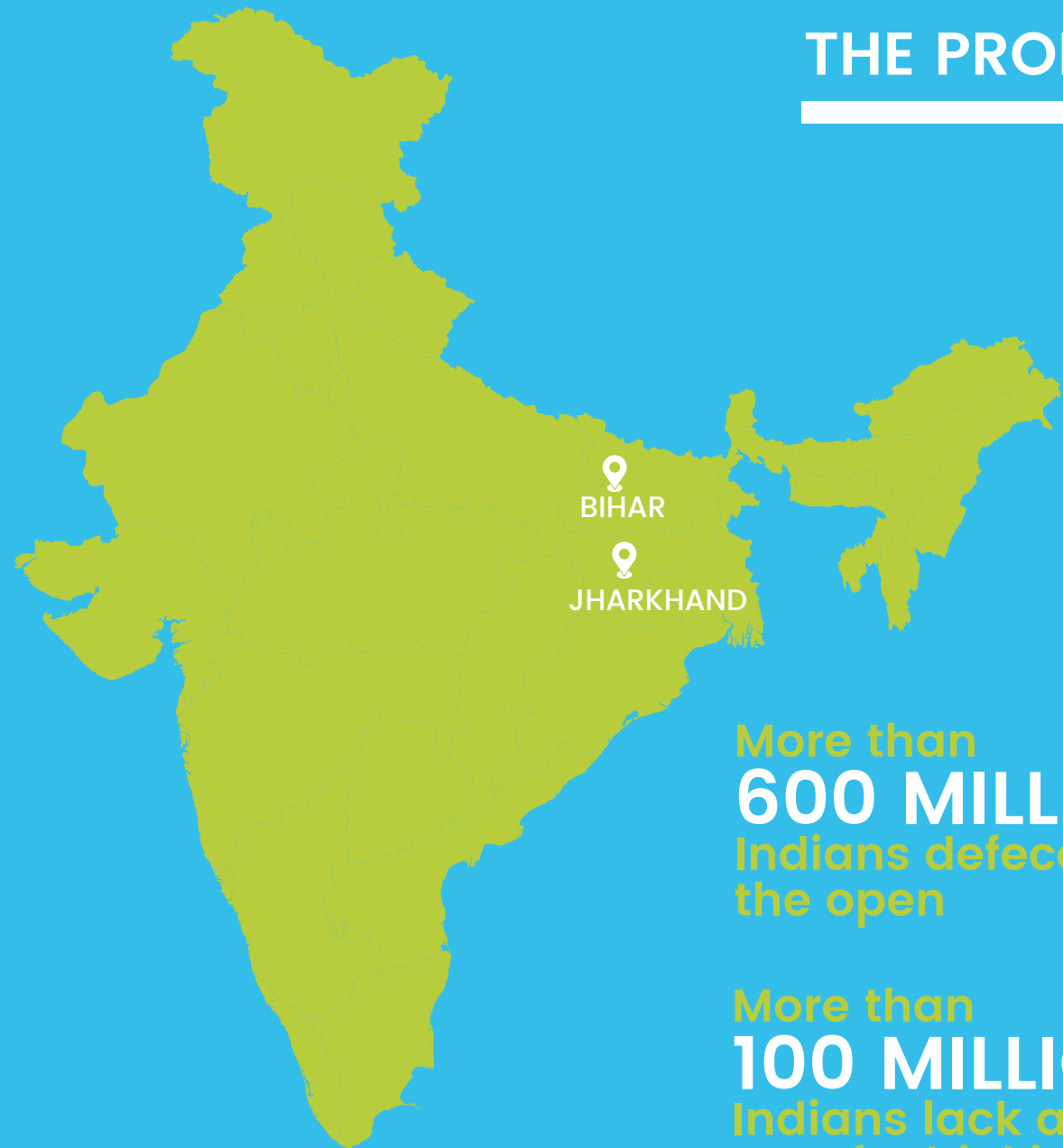
Shortly after I finished my work in the Himalayas, I began doing public health work in a rural village in Bihar, a north Indian state. One of the greatest public health challenges in Bihar is open defecation. Over 80 million of the state's 104 million residents defecate in the open. Countless conversations with community members revealed that policies, negligence, caste oppression, and extreme poverty caused inadequate access to toilets, thus forcing people to defecate in the open. Unfortunately, this tragic reality is not limited to Bihar, as hundreds of millions of people in India defecate in the open, causing deleterious health, social, and economic outcomes.

I quickly became obsessed with wanting to address this issue. Chandan Kumar and Prabin Ghimire, two local community activists, shared this conviction. So the three of us quickly decided that we wanted to focus all of our efforts and energy on preventing open defecation as a means to affect health, social, and economic justice. We started SHRI to do just that. We designed our system in 2011, received our first funding in 2012/2013, and opened our first facility in 2014. Since then we have opened four more, and have improved access to toilets for thousands of people.

Moving forward, SHRI will continue preferentially treating the poorest communities in India as they have been neglected for far too long. We look forward to sharing updates with you as we continue progressing towards this goal. In the meantime, thank you for your interest in our work as we continue the struggle to end open defecation as a key step towards health equity, and social and economic justice.



THE PROBLEM



BIHAR
JHARKHAND

More than
600 MILLION
Indians defecate in
the open

More than
100 MILLION
Indians lack access
to safe drinking water

Over 600 million people in India defecate in the open, thus causing the spread of disease-spreading fecal contamination. This has deleterious consequences on social, economic, and health outcomes. Billions of dollars are spent each year trying to treat water borne illnesses that are caused by open defecation.

Inadequate access to toilets is particularly disadvantageous for women, who experience a unique set of challenges especially while menstruating. Furthermore, chronic exposure to fecal contamination can lead to physical and cognitive developmental delays in children, thus stifling their success later in life.

SHRI currently operates in Bihar and Jharkhand, two north Indian states. These are two of the poorest states in India. Over 110 million of the 135 million people living in Bihar and Jharkhand defecate in the open, crippling health, social, and economic outcomes.



सुले में मल अनेक बिमारियाँ फैलाता है।
शौचालय में शोच जाइए।
हर जगह गन्दगी मत फैलाइए ॥



Open defecation is the root of many diseases. Please use the toilet for your needs and do not litter in the open.

PROBLEM

Social

Defecating in the open compromises the safety of women and girls. Furthermore, 40% of girls who drop out of school cite the lack of school toilets as the reason

Health

Open defecation leaves over one hundred thousand tons of untreated human waste out in the open every day. This causes the spread of diseases such as diarrhea, infectious hepatitis, and schistosomiasis. These illnesses kill over 300,000 children under the age of five each year in India, and can lead to physical and cognitive development delays

Economic

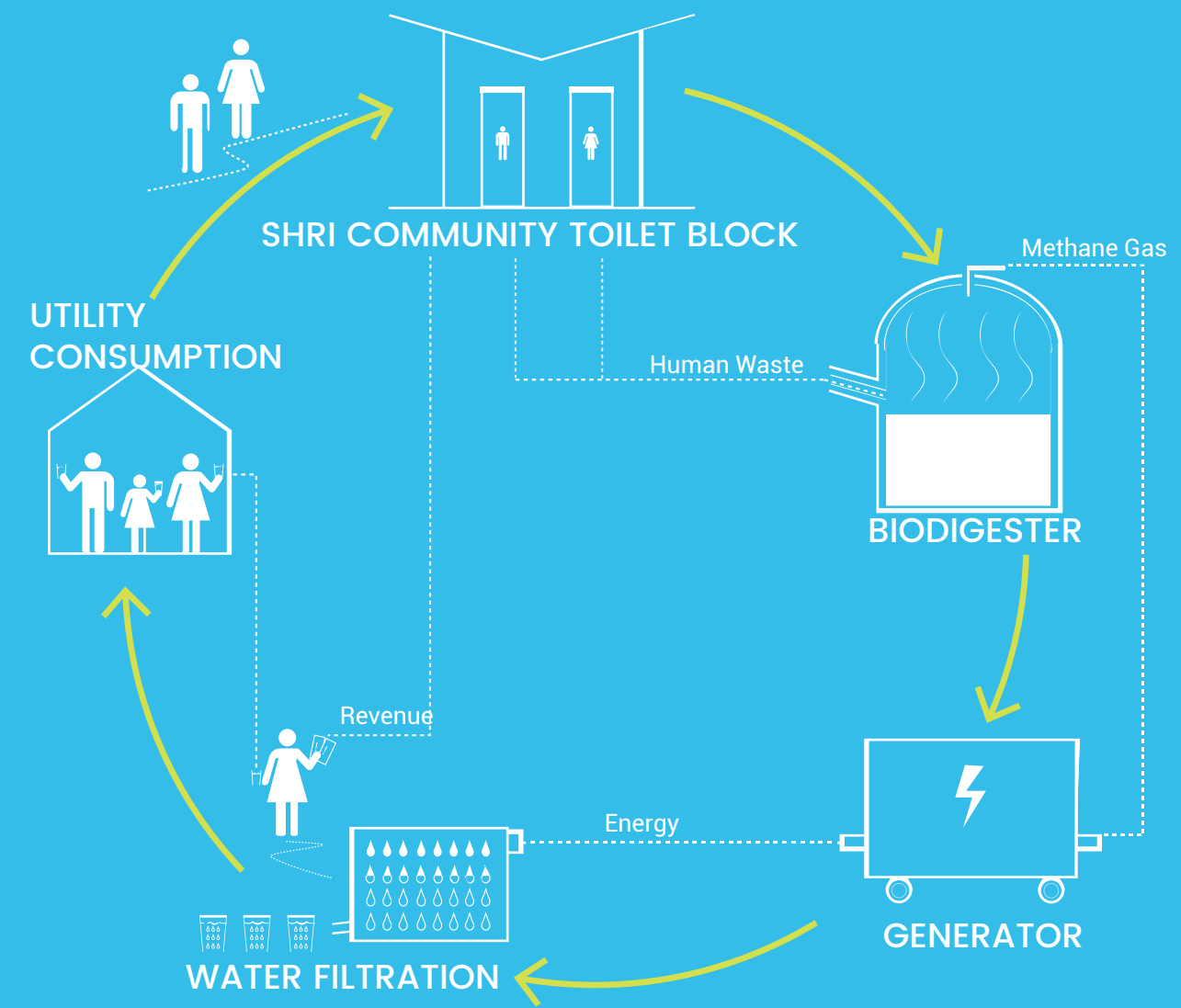
Over \$34 billion is spent each year treating the diseases spread by fecal contamination. Additionally, this morbidity causes \$10 billion in lost productivity



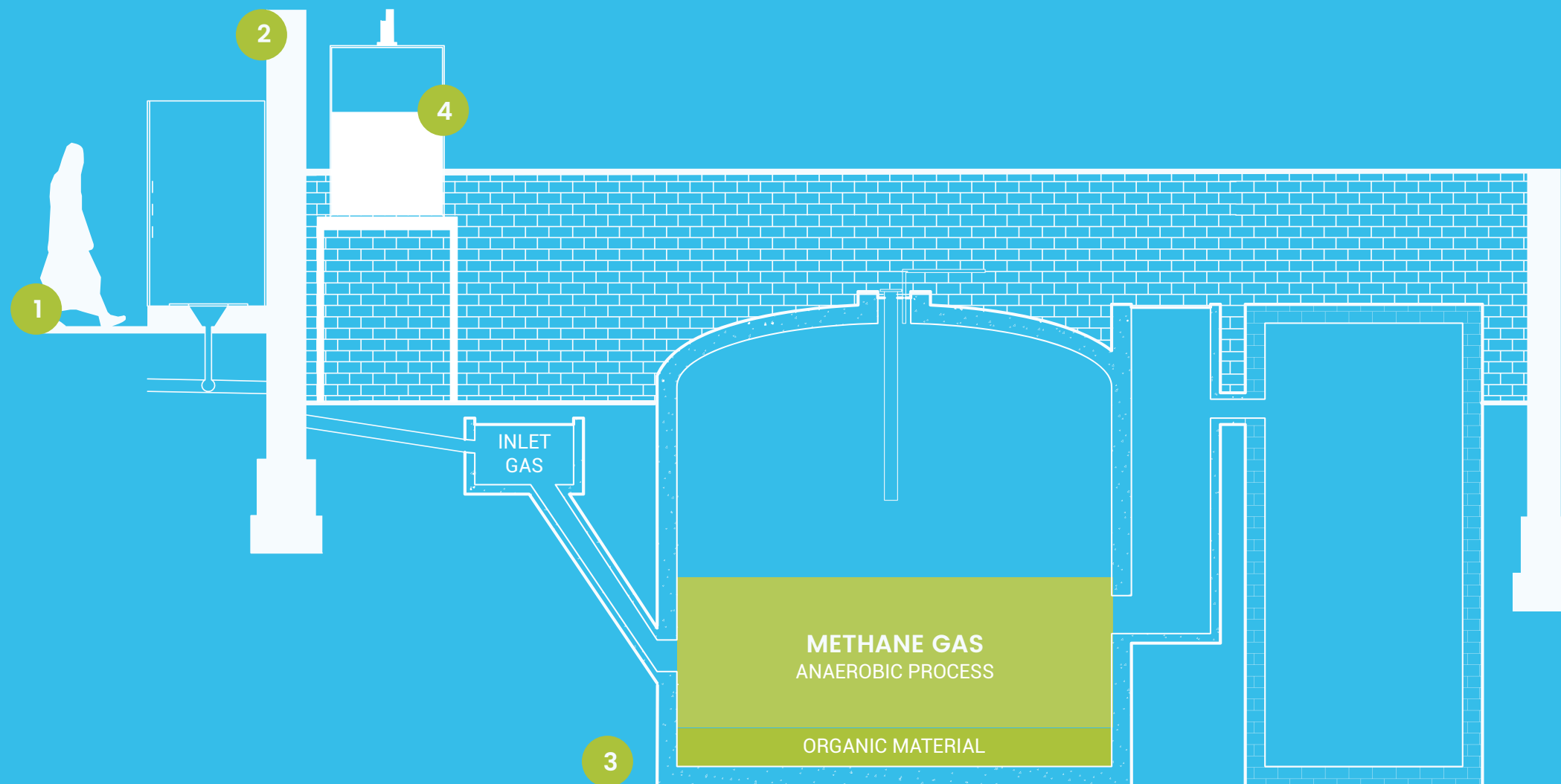
SHRI addresses open defecation and unsafe drinking water by constructing cost effective and comprehensive community sanitation and water facilities. These are built on government land and include eight toilets for women, eight for men, hand-washing stations, a water filtration plant, and a biogas digester (a large underground tank). Human waste is hygienically disposed in the digester where it decomposes to form methane gas. This energy source powers a generator that produces electricity, which in turn powers SHRI's water filtration plant. SHRI filters 1,000 liters of raw groundwater through this patented resin filter system per hour.

The resulting potable water is sold for \$0.008 per liter, less than half the current market cost, and allows SHRI to generate enough revenue to offset operating and maintenance (O&M) costs at its facilities. This ensures facility cleanliness, a key predictor of sustained toilet use.

OUR SOLUTION



OUR TOILETS



1 TOILET CONSTRUCTION

SHRI constructs toilet facilities on government land for \$30,000. This cost includes 8 toilets for men, 8 for women, 10 hand washing stations, an office, a supply room, and the biogas digester (where waste decomposes to produce methane gas).

2 FREE TO USE

The toilet facilities are always free to use in order to encourage consistent use by community members of all ages and levels of incomes.

3 WASTE COLLECTION

Human waste is disposed of hygienically. In the biogas digester, anaerobic digestion produces methane gas.

4 METHANE GAS AS ENERGY

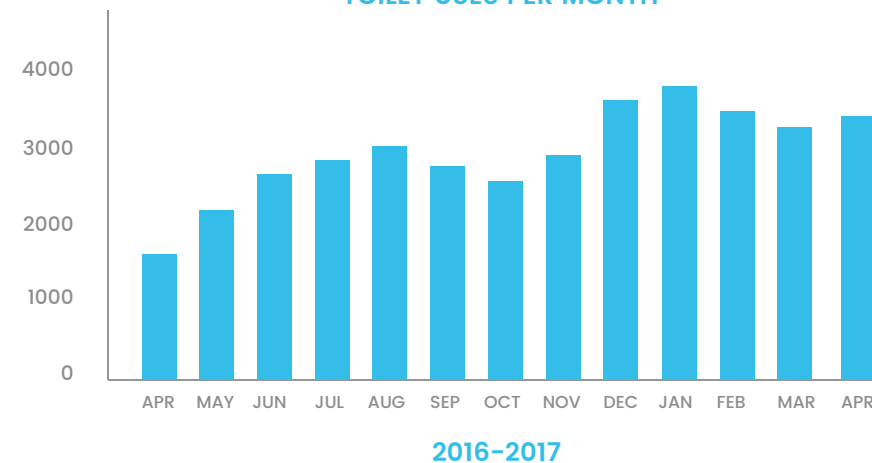
Methane gas is used as energy to run a generator which is used to power the water filtration and distribution system.

OUR TOILETS

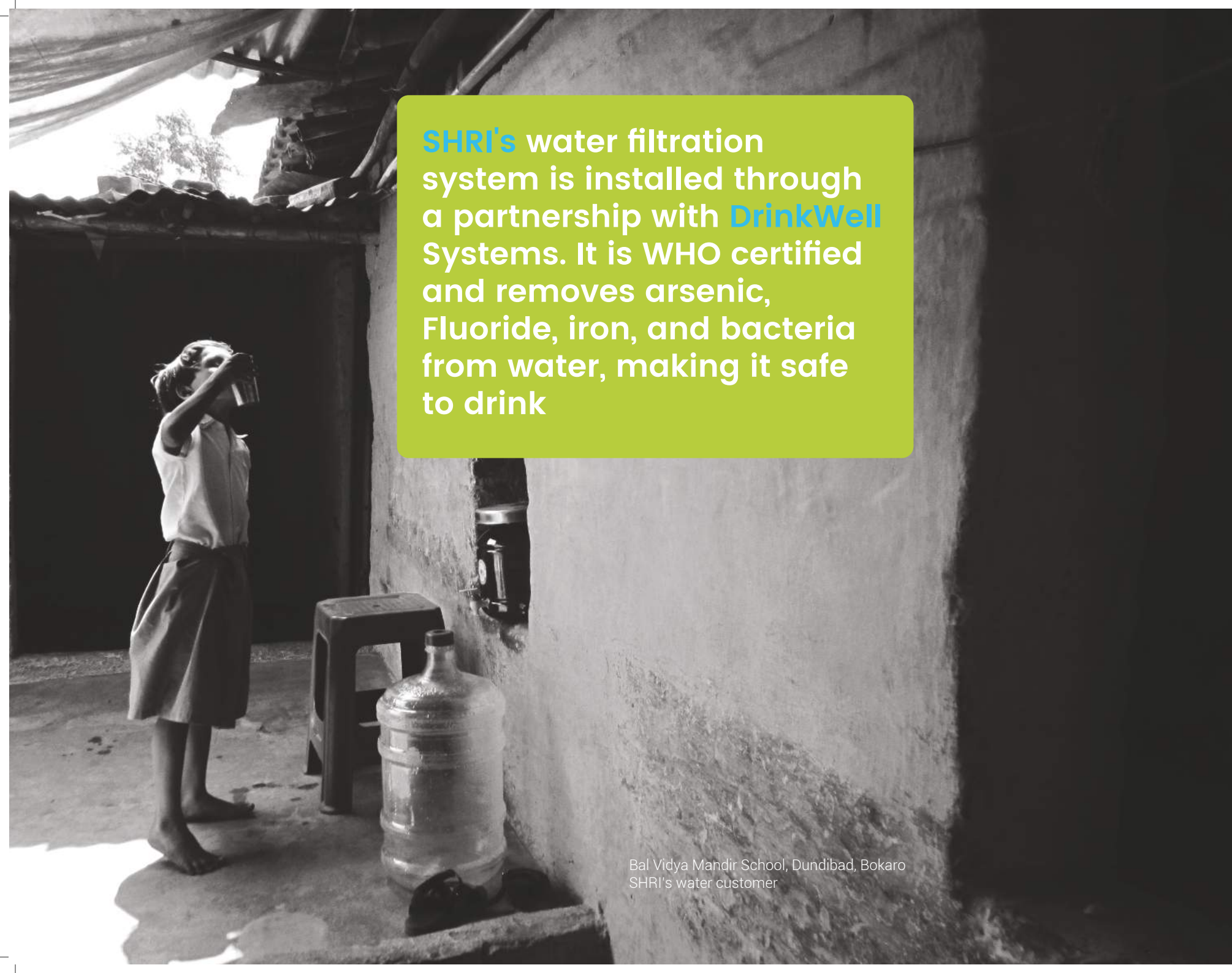
SHRI's five facilities are currently used almost 4,000 times per day

SHRI will begin tracking what percentage of each catchment area it works in is using its toilets. This will help the organization better understand the true extent to which it is eliminating open defecation in a given location.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF
TOILET USES PER MONTH



SHRI hires local laborers and uses local materials to construct its community sanitation facilities. This process takes two months. These facilities are kept open from 4am to 10pm daily, and have separate entrances for women and men. Thousands of women, men, and children use SHRI's toilets every day, thus preventing the spread of disease



SHRI's water filtration system is installed through a partnership with **DrinkWell** Systems. It is WHO certified and removes arsenic, Fluoride, iron, and bacteria from water, making it safe to drink

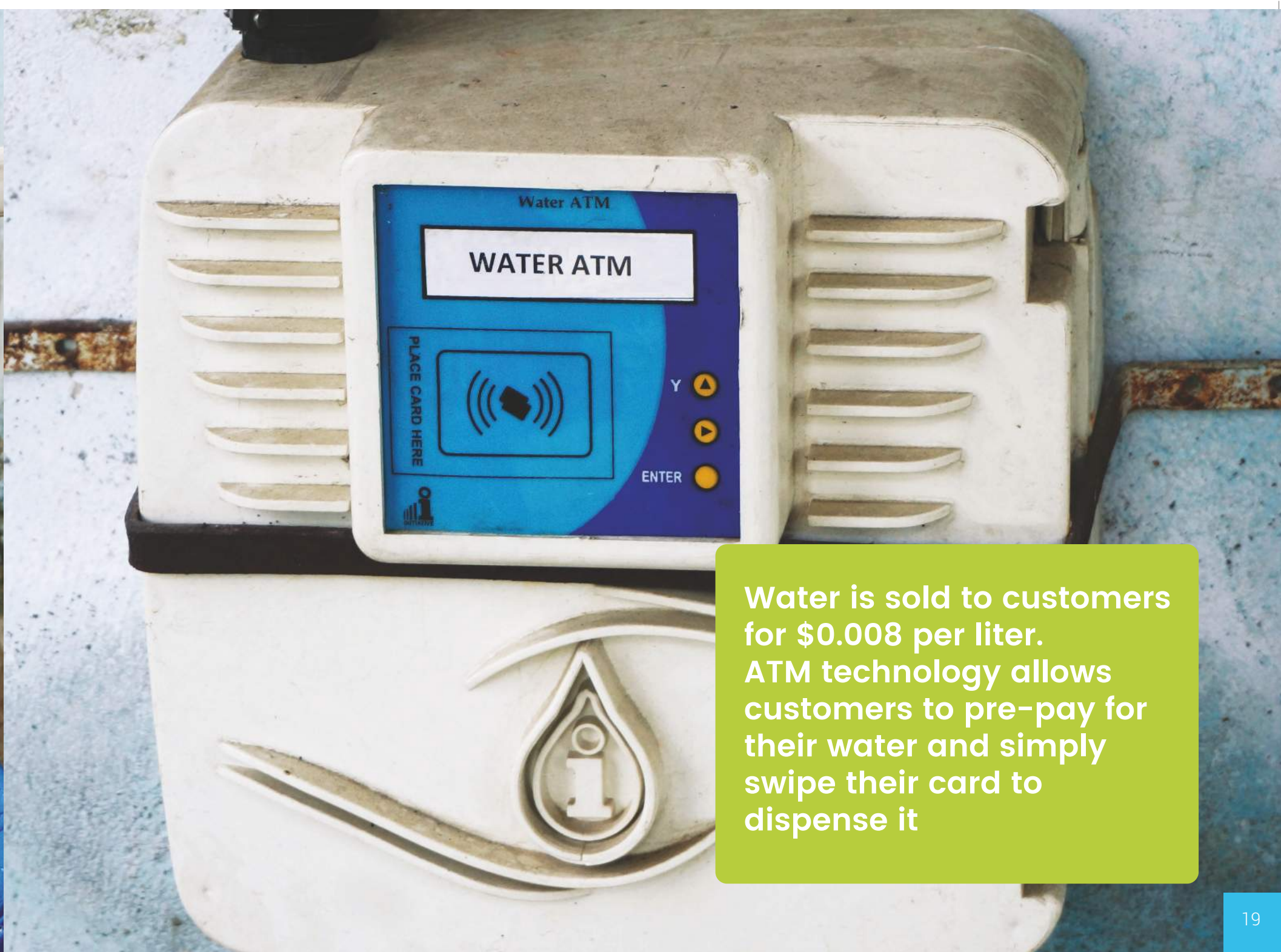
Bal Vidya Mandir School, Dundibad, Bokaro
SHRI's water customer

ACCESS TO CLEAN DRINKING WATER

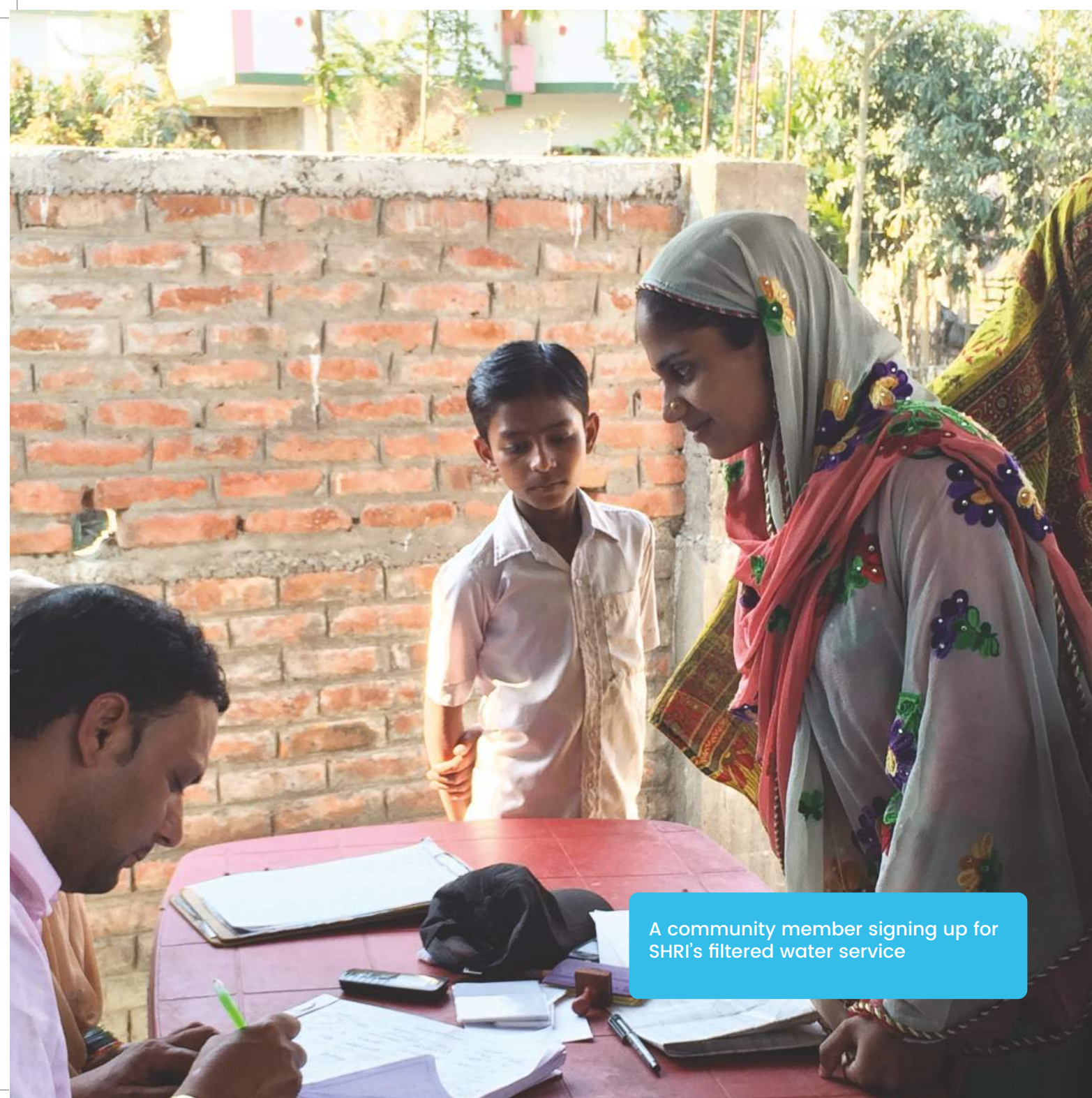
By improving access to toilets, SHRI helps prevent the spread of fecal contamination. This is a key step to improving health outcomes. However, preventing waterborne disease also depends on the provision of safe drinking water. Unfortunately, millions of Indians lack access to potable water. This is especially true in the areas where SHRI works.

SHRI uses the methane gas produced from the decomposition of human waste to generate electricity, which is used to power a water filtration plant. This WHO certified system removes arsenic, fluoride, iron, and bacterial contaminants making it safe to drink. This water is sold to the community for \$0.008 per liter.

SHRI is currently selling water to hundreds of families each day. Thus by improving access to both toilets and safe drinking water, SHRI's services will dramatically improve health outcomes by preventing the spread of waterborne illnesses.



Water is sold to customers for \$0.008 per liter. ATM technology allows customers to pre-pay for their water and simply swipe their card to dispense it



A community member signing up for SHRI's filtered water service

FACILITY MAINTENANCE

Toilet maintenance is a key predictor of consistent use. SHRI uses the revenue earned from the sale of safe drinking water to help offset the monthly operating and maintenance costs of its facilities. This ensures that SHRI is able to keep its facilities open and well maintained, which motivates thousands of people to use SHRI's toilets day after day.

Maintenance

Costs ~\$900/ month. This includes salaries for 6 staff, who track toilet attendance and ensure the facility is kept clean at all times. It also includes all cleaning supplies and extra diesel for the generator to supplement energy demands not met by the methane gas

Revenue

With approximately 250 water customers, SHRI can generate \$900 per month to cover the operations and maintenance costs at each site

Sustainability

By utilizing the revenue from water sales to offset this monthly cost, SHRI's community sanitation facilities are self-sustaining

TARGET BENEFICIARIES



SHRI currently operates in Bihar & Jharkhand, which are currently among the poorest states in India

Target Population

Per Capita Income, Annually:	Average Family Size:	Cost to build a Household Toilet:
Bihar: \$428 Jharkhand: \$655	5.3	\$200

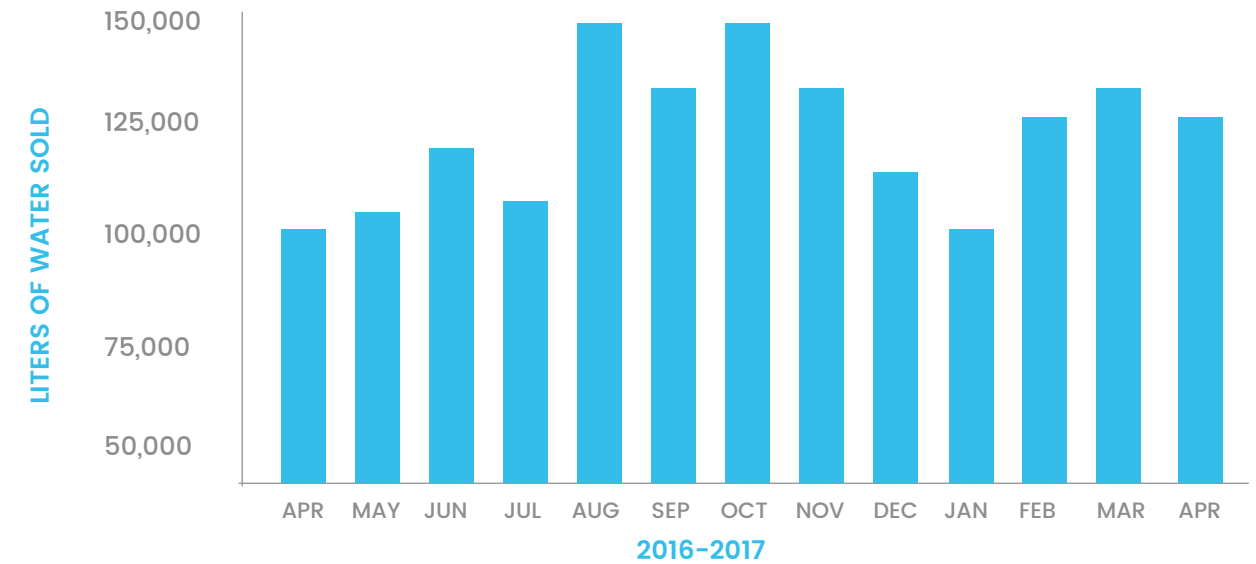
Target Beneficiaries

	Bihar	Jharkhand
Population:	>100 Million	>30 Million
% of residents who defecate in the open	>82%	>92%
% of residents identified as 'Scheduled Caste/Tribes'*	>17%	>40%

*Scheduled Caste/Tribe: The most marginalized groups of people in India

IMPACT

LITERS OF WATER SOLD PER MONTH



SHRI currently tracks three impact indicators, daily toilet users, daily water customers, and the percent of O&M offset through the sale of safe drinking water. Tracking the number of toilet users helps SHRI understand the extent to which its services are helping end open defecation. Similarly, tracking the number of daily water customers enables SHRI to understand how it is helping improve access to safe drinking water. Capturing data on the percent of O&M offset through the sale of safe drinking water demonstrates SHRI's sustainability.

O&M COST PER TOILET USE



OUR COMMUNITY

SHRI's work with rural Indians is an extremely participatory process which fosters community ownership over the sanitation facilities.

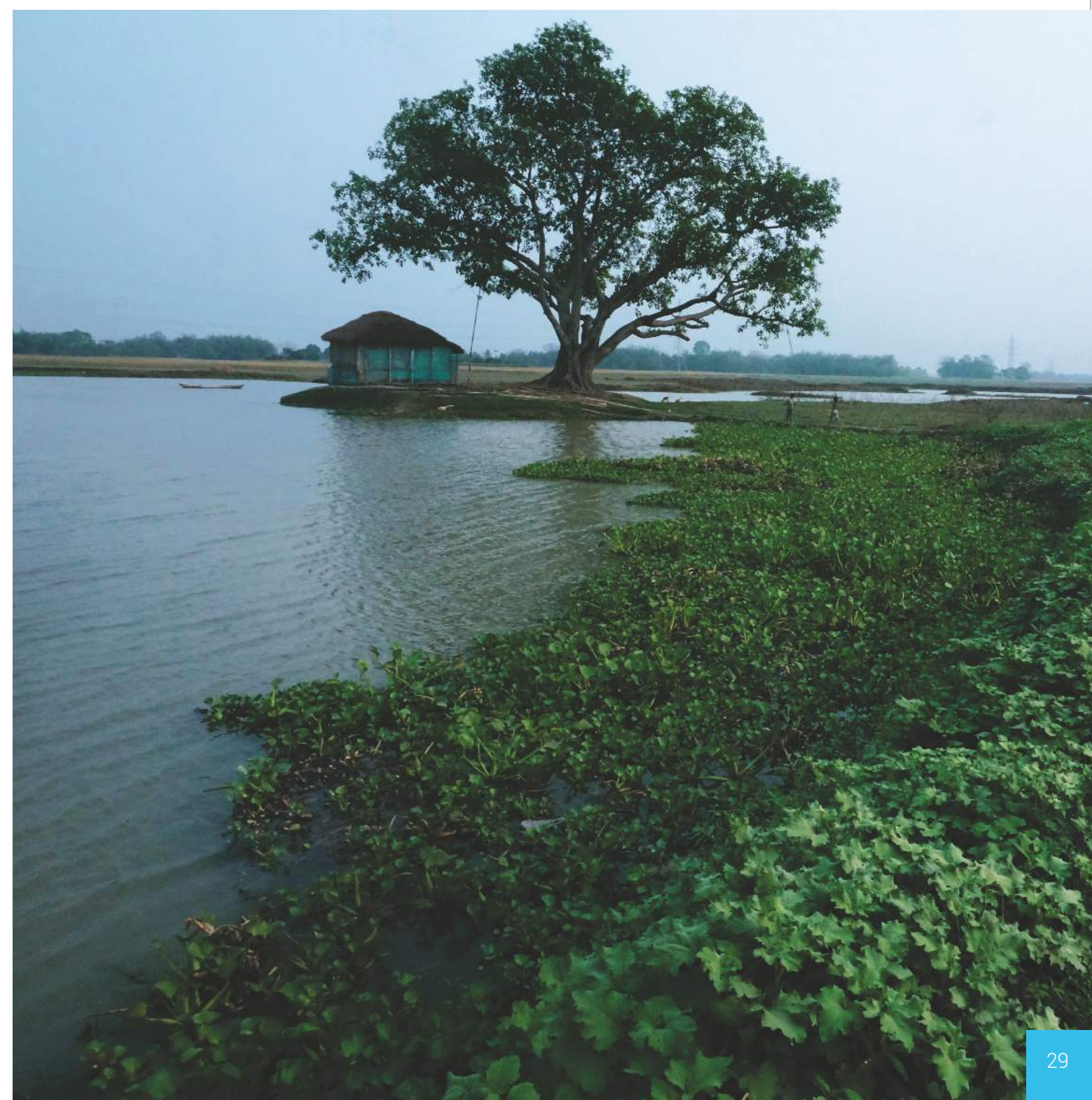
PROCESS TO IDENTIFY COMMUNITIES THAT SHRI WORKS WITH:

PHASE 1: Appraise the need – conduct visits and primary research; host community meetings

PHASE 2: Identify community leaders and champions; garner support

PHASE 3: Approach the local/state government about partnership

The local community members where SHRI works are who we consider to be our most valuable team members. Without their support and invaluable insights into how our work should be done, we will not succeed





OUR PARTNERS

BIBI SHABANA KHATUN, 35

Mukhiya, Bairo Panchayat, Supaul

Bibi Khatun, is one of the very few female mukhiyas (an elected head of community) in Bihar. She belongs to a minority community and has a high school education, which makes her achievements even more remarkable.

She was always troubled by the fact that the women of her community had to defecate in the open, which risked not only their health and modesty but also their safety. When she heard about SHRI's work, she approached SHRI to construct a facility in her community and provided all the support she could.

Today, she is a proud leader because the local government has commended her for her work and neighboring community leaders seek her recommendation for building a SHRI sanitation facility in their villages. However, Bibi is most proud of the fact that the women of her village do not have to defecate in the open anymore.

SHATRUGHAN CHOWDHARY, 77

Mukhiya, Vurahi, Basbatti panchayat

One of SHRI's earliest supporters in Supaul, Shatrughan Chowdhary has always been known for the development work he has undertaken in his village. He heard about SHRI from the office of the District Commissioner and offered his help because he believed in SHRI's cause.

He helped SHRI secure the land for the site, worked with his community to ensure everyone uses the facility on a daily basis and he continues to support SHRI in its work towards ending open defecation in Bihar. Today he is seen as a pioneer in his community and feels very happy every time someone thanks him for getting them access to toilets.



OUR SUPPORTERS

SHRI's work would not be possible without these incredible partners. We are extremely grateful for their support.



OUR TEAM



DHUKNI KHATUN,
77 YEARS, (SITE ATTENDANT, ITAHARI, BAIRO)

Unemployed all her life, Dhukni Khatun, a widowed mother of seven and several grandchildren, never thought she would have a paying job or be able to contribute to her family's very meager income. Today she finds pride in the fact that she is contributing towards making her village open defecation free.

BIBI NAZIRUN
62 YEARS (SITE ATTENDANT &
COMMUNITY LEADER, NEMUA)

SHRI's first facility in Nemua wouldn't have been possible without the tireless work and support of its community leader, Bibi Nazirun. She joined hands with SHRI when its first community sanitation facility was still an idea and has been a supporter ever since.



JEHANGIR
24 YEARS (SITE IN-CHARGE, NEMUA)

Prior to joining SHRI, Jehangir worked as day laborer, which gave him little income and kept him away from his family for more than half of the year. His dedication to the job led to his promotion from a data attendant to site in-charge in less than 3 months. He loves his work and sees himself working for SHRI for the rest of his life.



ORGANIZATION CHART



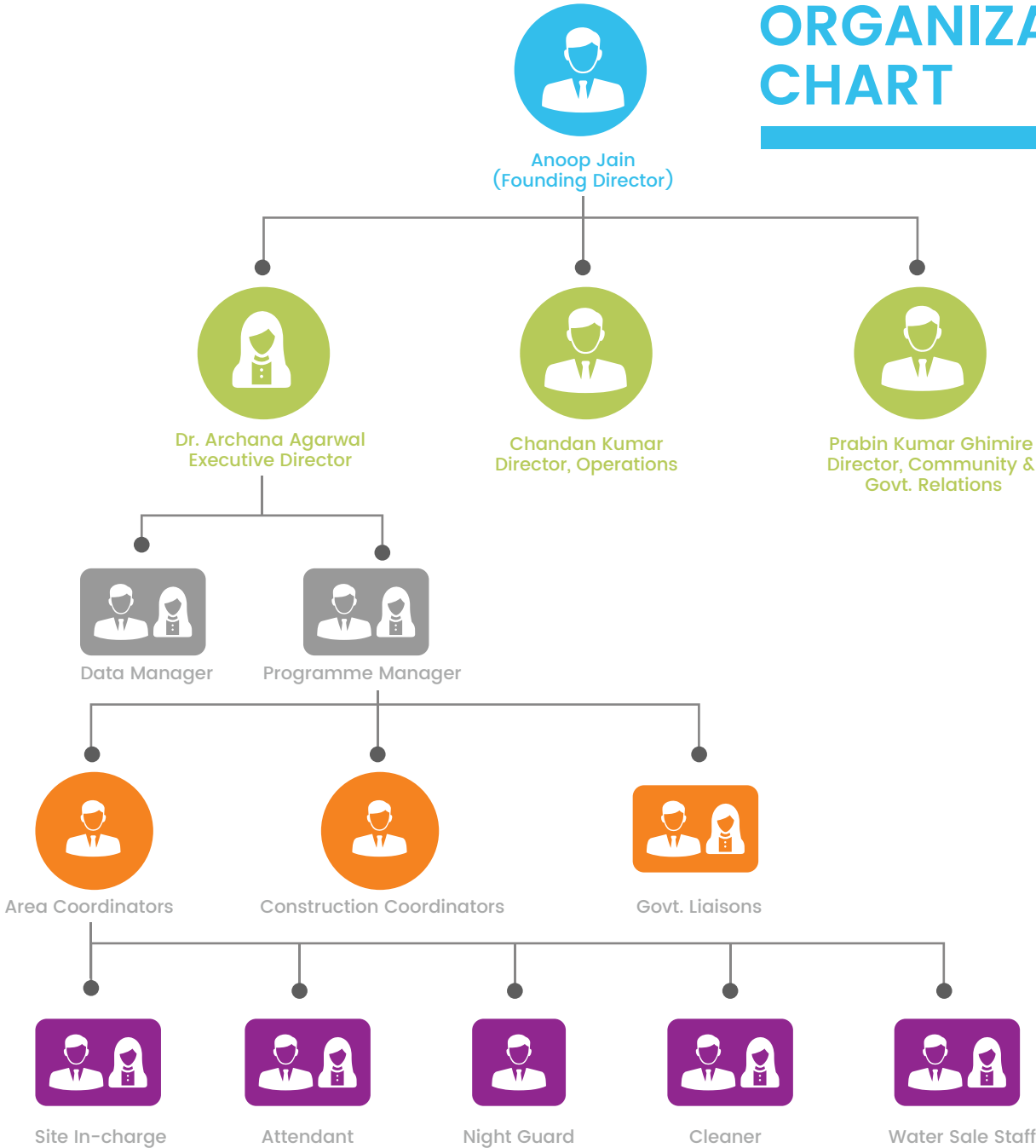
Bihar Team

Left to Right:
 Front row - Akali Devi, Dhukni Khatun, Bibi Nazirun, Bibi Jakhra, Laldaye Devi, Teatri Khatun
 Second row - Md. Taieb, Mukesh Mallik, Sudhir Kamat, Chandra Kishor Yadav, Ramchandra Mallik, Md. Jehangir, Arjun Mallik, Lalan Ram
 Third row - Ranjeet, Manoj Ram, Mahendra Mallik, Shivendra Mallik, Chandan Kumar, Chhotu



Jharkhand Team

Left to Right:
 Sohan Paswan, Amit Saw, Prabin k. Ghimire, Amar Yadav, Avilasha Thakur, Kanhaiya Barma, Pappu Paswan, Sonu Upadhyaya





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