



Savitri

THE SAVITRI WANEY CHARITABLE TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT
2017-2019

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A MESSAGE FROM

ARJUN WANNEY



Dear Friends,

There are so many people who need our help and it is a great privilege for us to lend a helping hand. As a family charitable trust, we represent a range of interests and expertise, but the underlying mission is compassion, be it an immediate emotional response or a long-term strategic intervention. I have always been unwilling to brand the Savitri Trust or to be limited to any one cause. When I hear of suffering my heart immediately goes out to the people affected and I want to act to alleviate their pain.

Together with the Savitri team, our boards in the UK and India, as well as a dynamic network of philanthropic organisations, I believe I have found the most effective way to do this.

Through the creation of a multi-generational family trust, my wife Judy and I have taught my daughter and grandchildren how to fill up their lives through service to

others. How we care for others defines who we are. We feel blessed to facilitate such a range of philanthropic endeavours, from our tired and true efforts with cataract blindness to the angelic care of palliative nurses and doctors, and our growing work in healthy environments, the most fundamental healthcare of all.

As I get older, I increasingly feel the work I have been able to do through Savitri has been one of the greatest achievements in my life and what has nourished me most, even beyond any business achievement. That is why, although deeply touched and proud to receive an OBE this year in recognition of my restaurants, the distinction as a philanthropist is an even higher honour. I never thought that a kid like me, from the Bombay streets would see the inside of Buckingham palace! But being known to my community as a serious philanthropist is even more exciting than that.

Savitri remains an entity that is not just about giving grants—we aim to raise awareness and bring together like minded people to tackle some of the most complex problems in ways that are entrepreneurial, have wider impact and deliver direct help to people in need. My promise to all who work alongside us is that 100% of donations received are spent directly on our projects as I cover all overheads and operational costs of the Trust. The generosity of like-minded individuals and foundations these past two years has enabled Savitri to reach many more people than we could have reached on our own.

I hope you enjoy reading about some of these amazing projects in this report and I would like to thank all our friends who have joined with us to increase the impact of our work.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arjun Wanney'.

Arjun Wanney OBE
Founder and Trustee

Arun and the Waney family treat Savitri in the way they do business, pushing for success, tending to the detail and making sure customers—or in our case beneficiaries—are cared for and listened to.

We support organisations with big ambitions:

- + To **end cataract blindness** in Bihar
- + To **make palliative care accessible** to the poorest people across India
- + To **celebrate and support environmental heroes** and organisations protecting our planet

2017-19



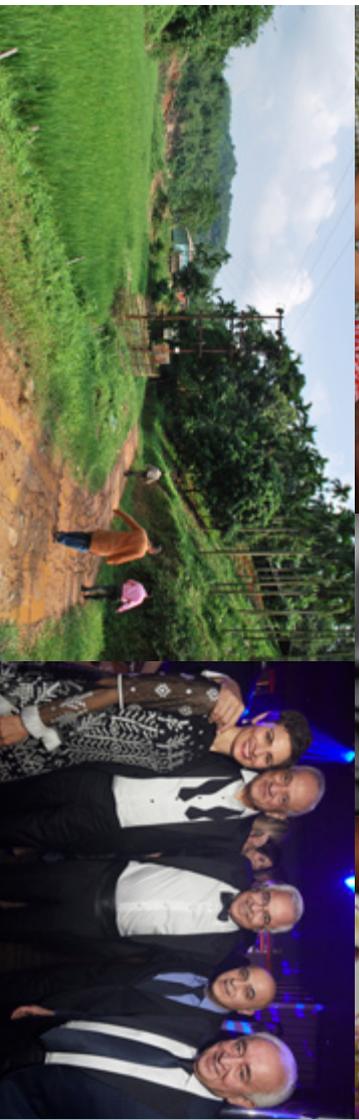
What is distinctive about Savitri is the combination of compassion, entrepreneurial spirit and an absolute focus on impact—both for individuals and through catalysing and encouraging others to join with us in making change happen. A great example of such collaborative work came in partnership with PVR Nest—an Indian organisation—which funded 200 paediatric cataract surgeries in Bihar. In turn our Trustee Sunhil Sippy made a stunning short film about the work which premiered in collaboration with PVR Cinemas in Mumbai.

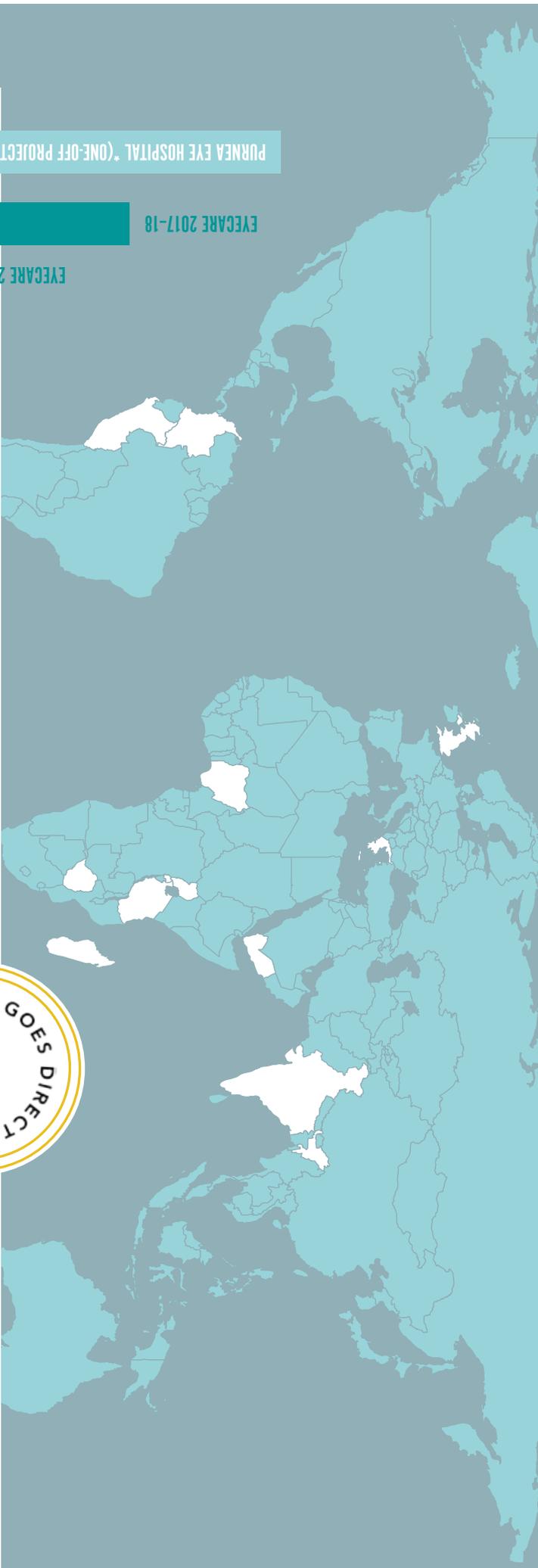
We know our work—and help organisations flourish. Over the past two years, the Savitri team has visited each of the partners we work with and was able to witness first-hand the impact your donations and support is having.

We undertook a review of our biggest eye care and palliative care partners in India as well as financial audits of our major partners which gave us a lot of learning and the confidence to continue to support such compassionate programmes. We've also been funding increasing work closer to home in the area of the environment, working with impressive UK NGOs who are working to protect our planet through law, conservation and advocacy.

The Savitri Team.

Gurudas, Maggie, Sunhil, Emily and Praveen in Mumbai





WHAT WE FUNDED IN 2017-2019



	2017-18	2018-19	TOTAL
PURNEA EYE HOSPITAL *	£634,744	-	£634,744
EYECARE	£525,859	£388,543	£914,402
ENVIRONMENT	£57,530	£113,500	£171,030
PALLIATIVE CARE	£93,181	£113,030	£206,211
EDUCATION	£46,790	£57,456	£104,246
UK AND OTHER PROJECTS	£12,000	-	£12,000
DISASTERS AND EMERGENCY FUND	£55,000	£10,000	£65,000
TOTAL	£1,425,104	£682,529	£2,107,633



NEH SAGEM, ASSAM

Neh is a widow with eleven children and many more grandchildren. She makes a living by selling produce at the market. Her main product is selling silk, produced by raising silkworms from the leaves of mulberry trees. We met her when we visited **Mission for Vision's** work in Assam. We were welcomed into her at home, where she showed us her silk worm farm, and we met members of her family—asked how she was getting on post cataract surgery she replied;

“wonderful, but I’m just too busy at market right now to get my second eye done!”



KHADAR CENTRE, DELHI

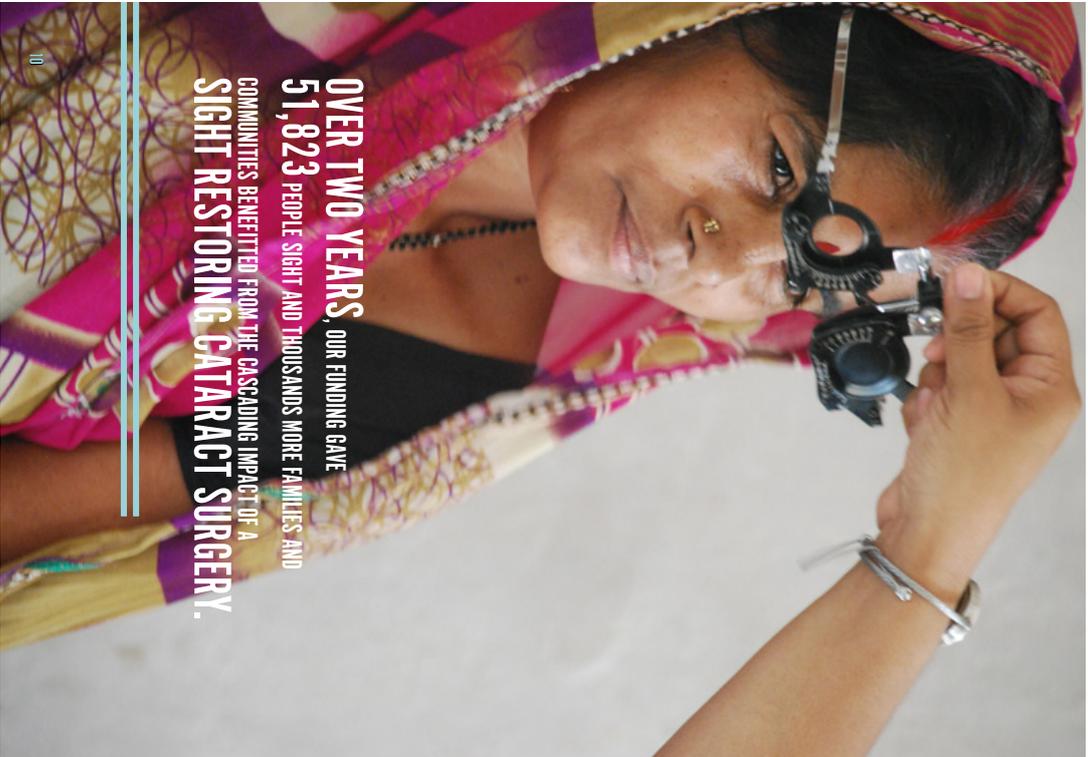
Children at **Project Why's** Khader Centre receive before and after school education. Preeti, who's been with Project Why for 5 years now says;

“I love to come to Project Why because the teachers are good, patient enough to explain the concepts in a simple way. They support and help children like me”



MOHAN LAL, FATEHPUR

When we met Mohan he was 39 years old and dying of mouth cancer. His determination to make every moment count was supported by the nurses and doctors at **Emmanuel Hospital Association**—bringing him the sweets he loved, treating his wounds, talking to his wife about the importance of touch—and finally taking Mohan and his family into the car together with all of us because his last wish was to see his friends at the hospital again.



**OVER TWO YEARS, OUR FUNDING GAVE
51,823 PEOPLE SIGHT AND THOUSANDS MORE FAMILIES AND
COMMUNITIES BENEFITTED FROM THE CASCADING IMPACT OF A
SIGHT RESTORING CATARACT SURGERY.**

Throughout 2017-19 we donated **₹1,540,146** towards **eyecare projects**, including a new eye hospital in Punea and together with the Savitri Foundation in India funded:

Partner	2017-18	2018-19	
AKHAND JYOTI EYE HOSPITAL Bihar, India	+ 41,200 Adult Surgeries + 461 Child Surgeries + 2 Financial Controller Salaries + 4 Optometry Girls' Education + 284,900 People Screened	21,000 250 1 2 168,000	20,200 211 1 2 116,900
PURNEA EYE HOSPITAL Bihar, India	Thanks to the amazing generosity of guests at our Fundraising Gala in 2016, we committed to build a new eye hospital in the district of Punea which will reach out to thousands of poor people living in remote rural locations. On completion the hospital will have the capacity to carry out an additional 5,000 cataract surgeries every year.		
MISSION FOR VISION Assam, Mizoram and Meghalaya, India	+ 9,312 Surgeries + 665 Screening Camps + 65,606 People Screened + 534 Asha Workers Trained	6,312 273 28,149 308	3,000 392 37,457 226
TUSI CHANRAI FOUNDATION Calabar, Nigeria	+ 1,650 Surgeries + 37 Screening Camps + 7,655 People Screened	850 28 5,982	800 9 1,673

CURABLE BLINDNESS

The bulk of Sawitri's support continues to deliver the miracle that is cataract surgery—for as little as ₹20 we can help restore sight to people who are blind. We funded over 23,000 surgeries per year and saw the stages of construction for a new eye hospital in Patna, a remote part of North East India which on completion in Autumn 2019, will reach +40,000 people in need of cataract surgery.

It's been especially encouraging over the past few years to see our Eyecare partners grow in reach, impact and leverage wider funding and partnerships to ensure the longevity of this important work.

In India, our long-term partner **Alband Jyoti Eye Hospital** (AJEH), is now the largest eye hospital in Bihar and is determined to eradicate curable blindness in Bihar by 2022. With support from Sawitri, AJEH has been able to significantly contribute to the reduction of cataract blindness in the State. Over 75% of surgeries conducted are free of cost to the beneficiaries, giving priority to those patients who are bilaterally blind, thereby providing accessible and affordable eye care to masses in Bihar.

Further East, our partnership with **Mission for Vision** supports eye hospitals and their teams to deliver important outreach and awareness to ensure these often isolated communities have access to important eye health care and free cataract surgeries.

Patent Gayatri having her post-op eye tests in her home, Bihar.

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“I FEEL LIKE IT’S A DREAM... BEFORE I COULDN’T SEE, COULDN’T DO ANYTHING, NOW I CAN DO EVERYTHING, IT FEELS LIKE OPENING A NEW DOOR TO THE LIGHT! BEFORE THE OPERATION I WAS AFRAID, BUT NOW—I AM VERY HAPPY!”

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MOLINDA

Molinda has very little money, she lives with her husband, youngest daughter and grandchildren. Her husband was the only one able to work (as a farmer) as her daughter had to look after her because she was blind in both eyes. Dr Jennifer remembers when she first met her at the screening camp, she was hunched over, very scared to walk anywhere on her own and appeared to be very old, in her 80s. Her husband didn't really let her go very far as he was afraid she might fall and hurt herself.

One of the hardest things was to be able to use the bathroom—she says she felt very ashamed because she had to get help from her husband for this too. We go to visit her house which is about 3km from the health centre and just off the main road. It's a small wooden hut perched on a ridge overlooking the East Jaintia Hills. Her grandchildren are playing with spiders and neighbours are drying out and sifting the rice. Her daughter explains that her mother was so keen to see us she started walking to the camp... Her daughter greets us only to explain that Molinda isn't here—she has walked to the vision camp to come and find us. We were running late and she was so afraid she might miss her, she made her own way there and we must have crossed paths on the way! Before we go find her, she explains that she has now gone back to work and her mother's sight is so good she is even able to help with winnowing (when they sift the rice for the husk to be blown away)—a good sign that the operation has been a success.

We return to the health centre to find Molinda and she seems delighted to finally meet us! Her follow up checks indicate the operations were a success and she can see well. She says she feels empowered and no longer needs help with everything.

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CURABLE BLINDNESS

VISION CAMPS IN NORTH EAST INDIA

Together with **Mission for Vision**, our support has been improving the access to affordable eye care in the difficult hilly terrains of Assam, Meghalaya and Mizoram. During the last three years of partnership the implementing partners screened about **95,000** people through **1,037** camps and conducted over **18,600** surgeries, and significantly contributed towards eradication of avoidable blindness in the region. Considering the difficult terrain of the project area, this is a big achievement.

Travelling across the West Jaintia Hills in Assam to find the outreach vision camps, we arrived at a queue of over 200 locals waiting to get their eyes tested and/or follow up from their precious cataract surgery.

THE FIRST ALL-FEMALE-LED VISION CENTRE, BIHAR

Akhand Jyoti Eye Hospital (AJEH) is more than just the largest eye hospital in Eastern India. It is staffed with over 50% of women who are encouraged to become gender equality champions in a strong patriarchal society. In Piro, we saw this when we visited the first all-female powered eye centre. From the receptionist, to optometrists, they have worked hard to get here and are recent graduates from AJEH's main hospital. These women are the embodiment of what AJEH set out to do, eliminate curable blindness and empower women to achieve this.



WINNING SILVER AT THE CHARITY FILM AWARDS

A public vote helped Savitri get shortlisted for the **Charity Film Awards Finals** and we were delighted to win a Silver Award for our film made by RAW IDN; *Ending Blindness in Bihar*.

Simon Burton, Co-Founder of the Charity Film Awards said;

“Congratulations Savitri Trust for winning Silver at this year’s Charity Film Awards. Their film, described by one of our judges as ‘incredible content’, was chosen not only by our expert panel of judges but also by the public and to have won silver is an incredible achievement!”

CHILD SURGERIES

It is estimated that 50,000 children in Bihar are affected by childhood blindness (due to cataract). If not treated, this can be more devastating and disabling than adult onset blindness because of the permanent effects on their developing eyes. Often children remain confined to their homes, isolated from society, unable to go to school or play with friends.

Last year we partnered with **PVR NEST** and **The Sandhuro Rani Foundation** who funded 200 child surgeries. We were delighted to welcome Deepa Menon and her team to AkhandJyoti Eye Hospital in Mastichhak for a celebration ceremony where they met several children whose lives had been transformed as a result of the free cataract surgery.

“In working together with Savitri and AkhandJyoti Eye Hospital we have found strong leadership, impact, making a difference in the lives of children and stories which can help others engage with our mission. I had the privilege to visit AkhandJyoti and to meet and interact with some of the children we’ve helped from our donation. The work is absolutely wonderful. We are proud to invest in the future of these children and the work of AkhandJyoti. We are proud to invest in the future of our communities.”

Deepa Menon, PVR Cinemas.



Donors 'PVR' visit to AJEH, Mastichhak



KABITA

She says:

“I wanted to do so much, but felt like I was locked behind the doors because of my blindness.”

Now after a successful cataract surgery she can see again and is excited to resume school.

SONA AND AJAY, BIHAR

Enjoying the simple pleasures, reading the daily paper together having both received cataract surgery and glasses.



“It has been a great milestone in my life that I was able to draw Savitri’s attention to the staggering plight of cancer sufferers in India and that they have taken palliative care up as one of their many causes”

Bruce Davis



Bruce with his wife Do and Devika

Bruce was a very dear friend of the Savitri Waney Charitable Trust. We will miss him.

I was deeply saddened to hear of Bruce’s passing, as were my team—he was such a huge presence in the palliative care world, and in Savitri’s life.

I admired him for many things—his passion, dedication and generosity of spirit but also his sense of adventure.

To me Bruce was a hero—something of a maverick he was also a man full of compassion and encouragement. I adored his stories of flying his children to school on a little plane which he then landed in a field, his devotion to Dodo, and his absolute love of sailing. Bruce was also a man who combined deep human compassion with a determination to make a difference.

He was a very dear friend of the Savitri Waney Charitable Trust and an inspiration for our palliative care work which he helped guide and fund for many years.

This is not easy work—to see, to fund, to engage with—there are many horrors, but Bruce was determined to bring about change. In Kerala, India, the work he funded helped transform the care of people who are dying across a whole State. While latterly his funding—via Savitri—for Pallium India has helped hundreds of people directly and brought about the start of wider change through advocacy—with greater access to morphine for people in extreme pain and increased awareness amongst the Indian government of the need for palliative care. The transformation needed is just starting but Bruce has helped catalyse a movement.

It was a joy to hear from the recent Indian Association of Palliative Care meeting that the Wilfrid Bruce Davis Award was presented at their conference.

The work he’s inspired will continue across India. We are thankful to have known him and deeply sad to say goodbye.

From Devika and the Savitri team

THROUGHOUT 2017-19 WE DONATED **£206,211** TOWARDS PAIN AND PALLIATIVE CARE PROJECTS IN INDIA

Outreach nurses Kim and Jiji with a patient on a home visit, Delhi.



Millions of people in India need decent palliative care, without it, people die in pain and families are traumatised and frequently bankrupted or pushed into poverty by the cost of treatments or loss of livelihoods. Yet only 1% of people in need receive care—and the numbers are even smaller for people who are poor and excluded.

Saviri's ambition is to contribute to the growing movement for holistic palliative care across India by helping create pro-poor and rural models which can be shared with others. We hope to encourage greater understanding of the importance of coordinated, continuity of care for people (and their families) who have a terminal illness.

Over the past two years we have built on our partnership with **Emmanuel**

Hospital Association (EHA). EHA has 20 hospitals in some of the remotest and poorest parts of India and 14 of them provide palliative care. Our partnership began by funding services at Shalom hospital in Delhi and later expanded to support three more in Lalitpur, Fatehpur and Utraula in Uttar Pradesh through the hospital outpatient, inpatient and homecare services and by adopting a community approach. Our support also aims to strengthen the human resource required for expanding the palliative care services in rural areas, by training nurse and doctors.

Support across Delhi and Uttar Pradesh	2017-18	2018-19
+ 6,825 Home visits carried out by the teams	3,334	3,491
+ 1,090 Families received home-based care	563	527
+ 22,639 People attended awareness sessions	10,654	11,985
+ 35 staff completed their Indian Association of Palliative Care training	12	23
+ 4 staff competed a National Fellowship in Palliative Medicine	2	2
+ 349 Patients received end of life care	169	180

**SAVITRI TRUSTEE,
SUNHIL SIPPY,
VISITED UTTAR PRADESH**



“When I became a trustee of the Savitri Foundation, some years ago now, I didn’t even know what Palliative Care was. When I boarded the plane back to Mumbai after this visit, it all hit me like a ton of bricks.

I reflected on each of the people I had met. I somehow felt a very slight connection to them having witnessed their pain. But what overwhelmed me and almost brought tears to my eyes was the sensitivity and genuine love and care shown to these patients by the palliative care teams. There was a consistency in their sense of compassion. Both the teams that I witnessed at work were diligent, patient, sensitive and truly connected to each of their patients.

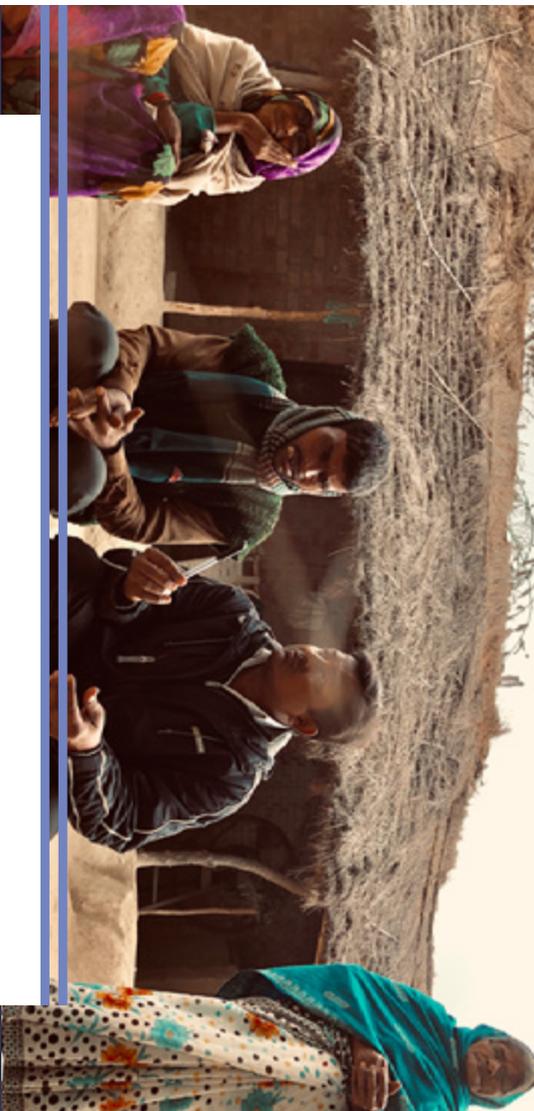
The trip gave me a glimpse into the India one can never possibly see through tourism, as well as a perspective on healthcare in her poorest and most remote villages”



Dr. Savita comforting a patient’s wife at their home, Fatehpur

**“WHAT OVERWHELMED ME WAS THE GENUINE
LOVE AND CARE SHOWN TO THESE PATIENTS BY
THE PALLIATIVE CARE TEAMS”**

Sunhil Sippy



EDUCATION

Sometimes cancer is spotted early but that won't always guarantee early treatment and cure. Rural cancer care is challenging and the journey to navigate an inner-city hospital can often be so discouraging that some patients miss their window of opportunity. Here, the team are urging Ram to try again and make the journey to the hospital for surgery and treatment before his oral cancer progresses further.

“I had gone to a hospital three times and was told to go for surgery but every time it was cancelled. I felt very discouraged. I stopped taking medicines and went to another hospital where the same thing happened. I was admitted and then discharged without anything. Right now, I am not on anything.”

Ram

“IT’S ABOUT

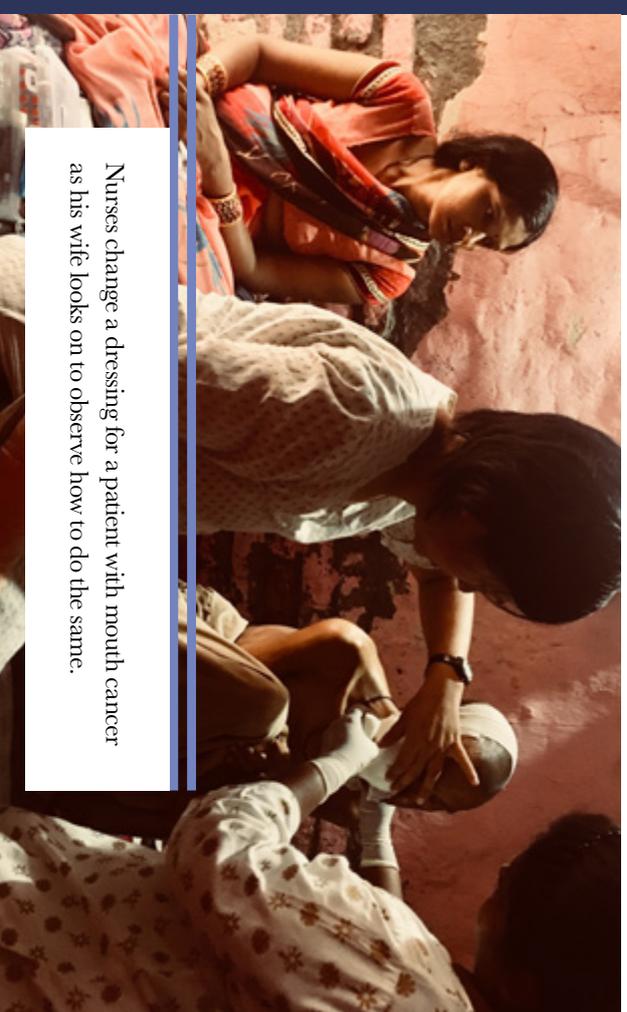
ADDING LIFE TO DAYS

RATHER THAN DAYS TO LIFE”

Palliative care as described by one of the nurses from EHA

2019 MID-TERM REVIEW WITH EMMANUEL HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

In early 2019 we spent a week with the EHA team visiting four of the Savitri funded programmes. We saw mothers losing children in their twenties and young children who without EHA support were likely to be left on the streets following the deaths of parents. We saw families struggling to manage their resources, trying to balance the financial demands of medicine alongside daily necessities of food. We met loved ones emotionally drained with little hope for the future. The alarmingly high rates of oral cancers and late diagnosis in the remote villages we visited reiterated the enormity of need for such services. We understood more than ever, the need for EHA; professionalism and compassion delivering care that seeks to match need.



Nurses change a dressing for a patient with mouth cancer as his wife looks on to observe how to do the same.



NURSE TRAINING

Over the last two years, the number of staff who've completed the Indian Association of Palliative Care Certificate Course in Essentials of Palliative Care almost doubled. Last year, 38 staff were trained on psychosocial skills and symptom management through two workshops. Two social workers were provided on the job training on palliative care management and two staff members are studying for a National Fellowship in Palliative Medicine.

“The nurses are really empowered to take the palliative care forward. They can promote it and integrate it into the current nurse duties, as it should be”

Dr Savita EHA Director

We remain hugely impressed by the work and it goes without saying, palliative care requires a team of passionate and committed individuals, of which EHA clearly have many.

AWARENESS AND OUTREACH BROADWELL HOSPITAL, FATEHPUR

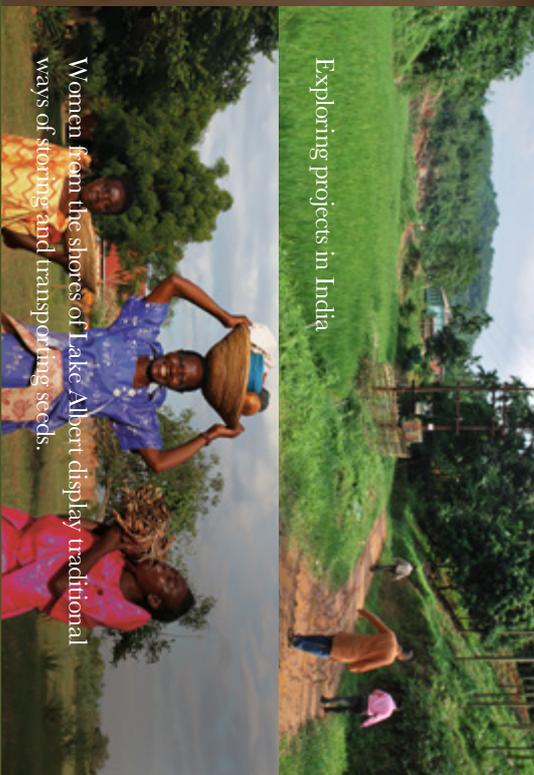
With Savitri's funding, teams have been able to explain to over 19,000 people the dangers of chewing pan and clarifying cancer myths. Equally important is explaining the importance of seeking early treatment and diagnosis, and what palliative care can and cannot offer.

Here, Dentist Praylin shows us the awareness posters she created to help communicate the severity of oral cancer and how it progresses. Oral Cancer is one of the most common cancers in North East India, due to tobacco use and chewing pan or gutka. Her poster here includes the packaging of these products to really make clear to avoid them—this is especially useful to those with poor literacy.





A Grey Crowned Crane



Exploring projects in India

Women from the shores of Lake Albert display traditional ways of storing and transporting seeds.

Over two years we donated £171,030 towards **environmental** projects which funded:

2017-18

- + A Whitley Award for conservation hero **Olivier Nsengimana's** work on protecting Grey Crowned Cranes in Rwanda.
- + **Client Earth's** work on an air pollution campaign in London.
- + An Evaluation of our work with long-term Indian partner **Action for Social Advancement**.
- + Ongoing support for the work of **The Soil Association** in the UK.

2018-19

- + A Whitley Award for **Vatosoa Rakotondratzafy's** work in Madagascar championing the rights and needs of local fishers and their important role in marine management.
- + **Client Earth's** work to have all products and materials, such as plastic, free from **harmful chemicals**.
- + A Climate, Seed and Knowledge Programme in Zimbabwe and Uganda with **The Gaia Foundation**.
- + A one-off donation to fund a piece of environmental journalism carried out by **Greenpeace**.
- + A small unrestricted grant to **The Soil Association**—the UK's leading food and farming charity working to ensure healthy soil and make good food an easy choice for all.

WHY THE ENVIRONMENT?

A NOTE FROM DEVIKA

Ultimately the health of our planet impacts on everything we do—from the quality of our lives here in the UK, to the more immediate ability of poor communities in less developed countries to have enough food and water. Protecting our environment is an issue for everyone but climate change and environmental degradation often hits poor people first and hardest.

Saviri has historically supported Environment and livelihood projects in India, working with farming communities to construct wells, diversify crops and increase their incomes whilst protecting their environment.

Last year we had a revelation as a family that the moment had come to put more of our resources and energies into the environment; degradation of land and loss of biodiversity through poor agricultural practices and deforestation being some key areas of interest. We joined the Environmental Funders Network and attended our first retreat which opened the doors to a world of information, resources and relationships that have informed our donations over the last 18 months. Most importantly we had the epiphany that it was an *all hands-on deck* moment, that we have precious little time left and a woefully underfunded sector. We have taken this advice to heart and have started to channel more funds toward our environmental programme which is intended to grow slowly but consistently.

Hope, love of beauty and the perfection of the natural world are the drivers for me, my mother has a love of soil, good food and natural balances. My father feels for the farmers in India driven to poverty and suicide by the agrochemical industry. We all have different reasons why we have embraced environmental funding. Hope is the positive outcome. What more can we claim than that?

Devika



The Whitley Awards recognise leading international conservationists whose work is not only to protect species but to inspire, educate and mentor the next generation to continue such important work.

Over the past two years we've been encouraged to see the progress from the winners and their ability to leverage further support from the knudos of a Whitley Award.



Olivier and Devika at the Whitley Awards

2018 WINNER, OLIVIER NSENGIMANA

Olivier works to protect Rwanda's Grey Crowned Crane. Globally Endangered, these birds have suffered a drastic decline over the last 45 years, and now less than 500 remain in the wild. The aim of his project is to conserve their wetland habitats by addressing the impact of poaching cranes and chicks for the pet trade, taking eggs for food, as well as habitat destruction.

Successes so far:

- + 4,000 school children participated in conservation workshops
- + 30 Conservation Volunteers recruited and trained
- + 180 field visits carried out by volunteers
- + 213 recorded sightings of Grey Crowned Cranes
- + 7 reports of illegal activities have been formally made to local leaders
- + 3 poached cranes returned to the wild.
- + A second national Grey Crowned Crane census successfully implemented



2019 WINNER,

VATOSOA RAKOTONDRAZAFY

Vatosoa's work in Madagascar coordinates the MIHARI network and champions the rights and needs of local fishers and their important role in marine management.

Connecting over 200 community associations along the country's 5,000km coastline, over the coming year she'll also be working with the government to secure legal status for Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAAs).



2017 WINNER,

XIMENA VELEZ-LIENDO

"When I started 18 years ago my first grant was \$1,500. In 2017 Whitley gave me the biggest grant I ever got. Since then I got what I call 'The Whitley Effect': We won a Darwin award, three of my students received national Geographic Awards and in total we've now raised over £750,000 for our charitable work."

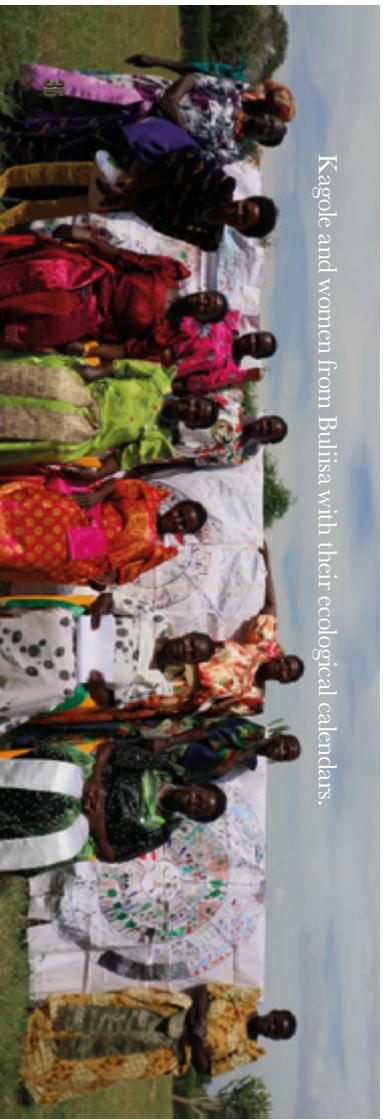
SEED REVIVAL + KNOWLEDGE

Our funding supported **The Gaia Foundation's** work in Zimbabwe and Uganda with Earthlore, their local partner. The goal of the project is to promote regenerative agriculture, supporting small farmers—especially women—to enhance their indigenous knowledge and seed diversity, and to safeguard seed and food sovereignty for generations to come.

KAGOLE'S STORY

In Uganda, the process of reviving seed knowledge begins with holding regular community dialogues with knowledgeable elders. One common challenge identified early in the dialogues by women was the loss of their traditional, indigenous seed varieties. These had been replaced by government-promoted and distributed hybrid seeds reliant on chemical fertilisers and pesticides that the women observed dried the soils and killed many benevolent insects. The women resolved to search amongst the elders to see who some of these now-rare varieties might have left. **“We have so many indigenous seeds now”,** says Kagole. **“We have cereals like endemesa, many types of beans, locally-adapted maize, local groundnuts, and many cassava varieties. We have more than four types of sweet potatoes. We have a watermelon called bivacho and also our indigenous cucumber and many other varieties.”** In Kagole's home area, Buliisa, women involved in the dialogues have founded the Tulime Hamwe Mbibo Zilikade Women's Group, making the revival of seed a collective effort. They now have a shared garden of their own where they plant, multiply, store and transfer their returning knowledge about indigenous seeds to others. **“Our purpose is to grow those indigenous crops so that we can teach the younger ones how to grow them, how to keep them and the main use of these. Because there are some who do not know this and we want those indigenous crops our grandmothers used to grow”,** says the group's chairperson, Kunihira Mildred. Together these women are building back diversity into their gardens and increasing the resilience of their food growing in the context of a changing climate.

Kagole and women from Buliisa with their ecological calendars.



Crop spraying pesticides

CLIENT EARTH

Client Earth is Europe's leading environmental law non-profit, employing expert lawyers fighting for people and the planet. Following on from a small grant in 2017-18, we spent time getting to know and better understand their breadth of work and this year funded a £30,000 grant towards their 'Harmful Chemicals' programme.

There is an increasing awareness that many chemical substances, harmful to human health and the environment, can be found everywhere, from toiletries, to toys, to the food we eat. ClientEarth's goal is to ensure there are strong laws to control the use of harmful chemicals.

Our grant helped support lawyers to achieve significant milestones in this area over the past year. The first, a culmination of a 3-year case to ensure the EU Tribunal deemed lead chromates authorisation illegal. The second was Securing legislative reform in the scientific work of The European Food Safety Agency (EFSA) meaning they will have to publish, without anyone having to ask, all the data it relies on to assess the safety notably of pesticides e.g. the risk relating to pesticides, food additives, GMOs, chemicals used in materials coming in contact with food, and other food related issues.



UK AND OTHER PROJECTS

Alongside our three main programme areas throughout 2017-19, we donated **£116,246** towards **Education** and **one-off** projects.

This support funded:

- + **Project Why**, an after school educational support and life skills for children and their families living in the slums of Delhi.
- + **Equal Community Foundation**, training boys and young men in India to become advocates and practitioners of gender equality.
- + **OK magazine for Thai Schools**
- + **Sadhu Vaswani Centre, UK**
- + **Cancer Research UK**

A further **£65,000** was donated to **emergency response** projects.

This support funded:

- + **The Peruvian Embassy** and the work of **Solutionse Practicas** in response to the Peruvian floods
- + **The Metradasi Foundation** to support the migrant crisis in Greece
- + **Mercy Corps** to provide nutrition and medical support packages to children and families affected by the ongoing crisis in Yemen.



We remain committed to ensuring **100% of any funds raised** are sent directly to our project work.

Thank you to everyone who supports Savitri—via donations, in-kind support, auction items, time and valuable discussions.

There was much success and many joys throughout the last two years—but one very recent joy, was the recognition Arjun received in the **2018 Queen's Birthday Honours**, when he was awarded an OBE. No one could have deserved it more. All of us here at Savitri, and our partners, want to join in offering our Congratulations to Mr Arjun Waney, OBE.

The **Small Change for Big Change** partnership with London restaurants Zuma, Roka, La Petite Maison and Coya continues to underpin our fundraising for cataract surgeries. With the addition of The Arts Club for World Sight Month, in the last two years an incredible **£520,989** was raised simply by adding a voluntary £1 donation to every bill. We remain ever grateful for the enthusiasm, encouragement and support of the restaurant teams—thank you to everyone who makes this possible.

The Eye Ball. We celebrated World Sight Day at Coya and heard impassioned speeches from Arjun Waney and supporter Jeremy Irons. ***“To give joy and the prize of sight to people... nothing will be better than that!”*** Jeremy Irons.

During the year Coya’s Culinary Brand Ambassador Sanjay Dwivedi travelled with Maggie Gardner to visit Akhand Jyoti Eye Hospital and meet with some of the people helped by funds raised via Small Change for Big Change.

The Savitri Gala brought together long time and new supporters as well as our Foundation Manager Praveen Kumar to reflect on our palliative care work and help us raise valuable funds for future projects. It was an honour to hear Dr Savita Duonmai share her experience of leading the work of Shalom Hospice and the broader palliative care work of Emmanuel Hospital Association.



REACH FOR THE STARS FILM

Savitri has partnered with AJEH for more than ten years now and this year, Indian Foundation PV R Nest joined us to fund 200 paediatric cataract surgeries. We sought help (again) from our talented Trustee, Sunhil Sippy, to capture just how transformative a surgery can be for a young child and set out to make a short film, **Reach for the Stars**. We headed to Samastipur where we met Bharti and her family. She was born with bilateral cataracts, meaning she had had vision and struggled to see.

She was painfully shy, not just with us, but with her friends, hanging back from the rest of the children, on the outskirts of the games. We observed her relationships and watched her struggle to read, to join in, her mother Manju explained she'd been missing school as she couldn't keep up with the lessons.

“There are hundreds of children like Bharti all over India. It's a tragedy that anyone of them should live their lives without access to this simple operation. I'm hoping that this little film can communicate to anyone, anywhere the importance of childhood, its value, and how it can be needlessly snatched away.”

Sunhil Sippy Director

Six weeks later post surgery we returned to see a whole new person. The transformation in this little girl's confidence and her approach to life was inspiring to say the least. She was skipping with her friends, showing us how she could do up her shirt buttons all by herself, reading, drawing. She was boisterous with a newfound confidence, she was like all the other children in the village, just living life.

“It was a girl like Bharti who inspired me to take this journey twelve years ago. I was visiting a local hospital and there I saw a blind farmer being turned away because there was no surgeon. I found out his sight had been deteriorating for the last 12 years and in the last few he couldn't see anything at all, and his daughter had been taken out of school to take care of him. Restoring sight has a domino effect. It is an intervention to restore the livelihood of adults, the childhood, education and milestones of children.”

Mritunjay Tiwary Project Head and Trustee AJEH



Bharti with her mum
Manju, post-surgery

2017-18



2018-19



2017-18	TOTAL INCOME	£1,353,028
	DONATIONS	£411,772
	EVENTS	£588,839
	INVESTMENT INCOME	£352,417
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£1,772,062
	CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	£1,425,104
	OVERHEADS	£216,618 *
	FUNDRAISING COSTS	£90,845 *
	INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT FEES	£39,495 *
2018-19	TOTAL INCOME	£693,188
	DONATIONS	£375,168
	INVESTMENT INCOME	£318,020
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£913,390
	CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	£682,529
	OVERHEADS	£172,728 *
	FUNDRAISING COSTS	£6,349 *
	INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT FEES	£51,784 *

*these costs are supported by investment interest, event sponsorship and the family corpus fund.

These figures are an extract from our annual report and accounts. The full audited financial statements are available on request or can be accessed via our website saviri.org.uk or the Charity Commission.

In 2019–20 we will:

- + CONSOLIDATE AND GROW OUR ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME OF WORK
- + MAINTAIN CURRENT PARTNERSHIPS WITHIN OUR EYECARE AND PALLIATIVE CARE PROGRAMMES
- + BUILD A LONGER-TERM STRATEGY FOR THE TRUST

We will do this by funding:

EYECARE

- + Cataract surgeries for rural communities in India and Nigeria

PALLIATIVE CARE

- + Palliative care work in partnership with EHA in India
- + A new palliative care project to honour the legacy of long-term palliative care champion and donor Wilfrid Bruce Davies

ENVIRONMENT

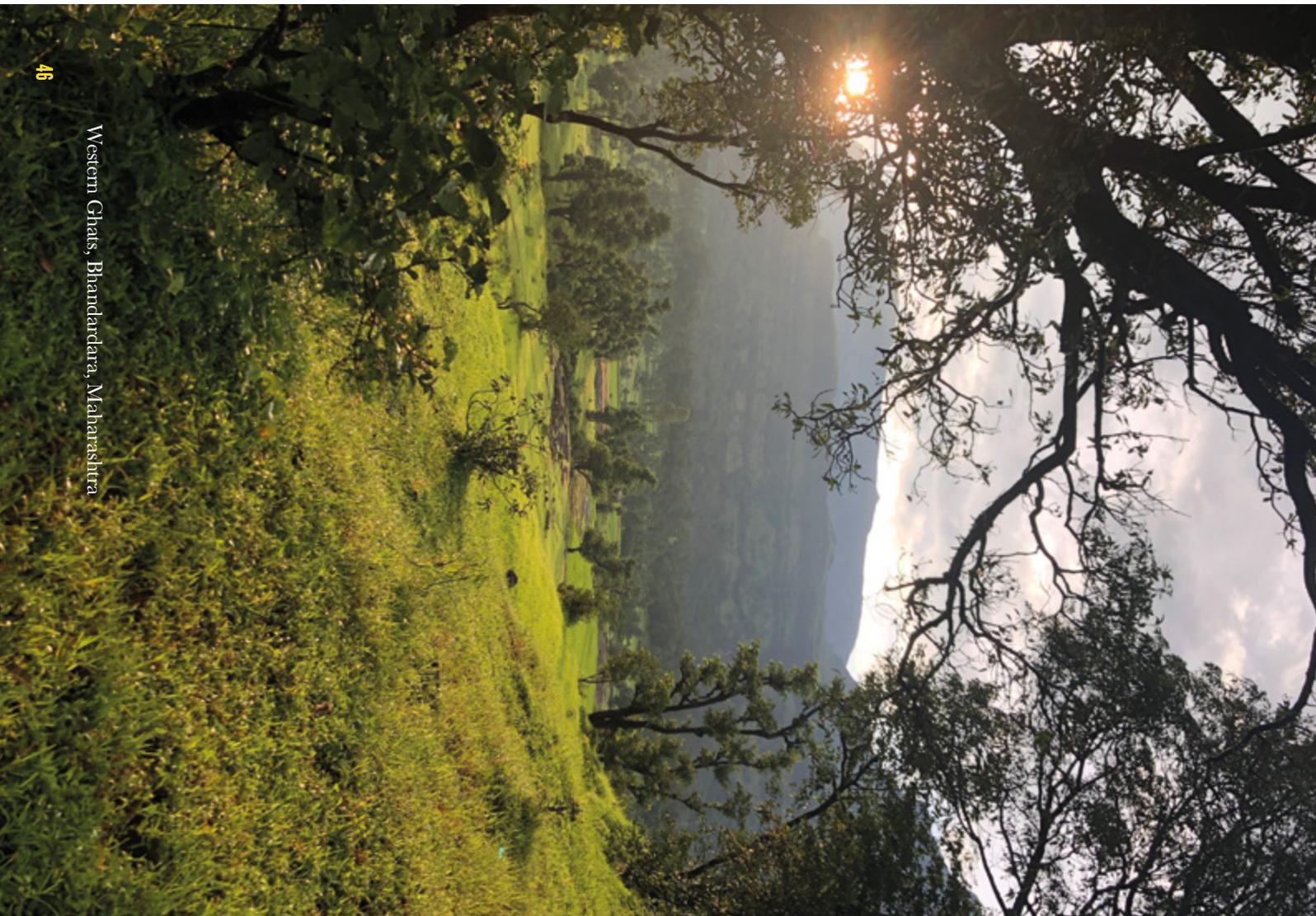
- + Continued support for our existing projects: **Gaia Foundation, ClientEarth, Soil Association, Environmental Funders Network.**
- + Several new environmental projects based on forest conservation, seed sovereignty and indigenous environmentalism, including: **Canopy Planet, Synchronicity Earth, Global Greengrants Fund, The Boa Foundation, Amazon Watch and Rainforest Alliance.**

EMERGENCY

- + An emergency response project

THE SAVITRI WANNEY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

- + The Savitri Foundation to support and monitor our work in India



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FSC Certified.



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