

Gift of Change



While making continuous improvements in the core project, we realized that there are a lot of things that we can still do to give better returns to the PMs. This resulted in the idea of making products out of the waste they collect. We started developing some basic products from waste bottles such as flower vases, night



lamps, pen stands, etc. The feedback received for the demo products was very encouraging. So, we formally started this as a sub-project of the core Paryavaran Mitra project with name '**Gift of Change**'.

We are currently training 20 sisters from the same slum community to develop these products. This could be a very good source of income for them as the market value of these products is quite high. So, once prepared properly while taking design and quality into consideration, these products are envisioned to provide immensely better economic returns to the PMs.



Going forward, we are determined to keep learning and finding new ways to innovate to bring meaningful changes in the lives of these Paryavaran Mitras.

Please feel free to ask questions or suggest ideas and ways to make this program more successful. This will enable us to empower our mothers and sisters faster and also create a model that can be replicated for empowering millions more.

Auto-Biography of a Roadside Water Bottle

Dear Friends,

Hello, my name is Water Bottle, and I am here to share with you my elating journey from being just another bottle thrown at the roadside to an aesthetically beautiful product ready to live in your home, if you will let me.

Until a week ago, I was useless trash waiting to get dumped on a waste site and remaining there, a decaying mass, for rest of my life. But fortuitously, I was picked up by Kamlaben, one of the incredible 40,000 Paryavaran Mitra (PM) living in Ahmedabad.

My life's course then changed forever. Kamlaben sold me and my other privileged Water Bottle friends to the PM waste collection center. At the waste collection center, my friends and I were sorted to a finer level, and being a young and good-looking bottle, I was lucky enough to make it into the Arts& Crafts section. I was about to have the makeover of a lifetime!

At the Arts& Crafts center I was treated like royalty. I was first cleaned properly to ensure that I looked immaculate. Then, I was transformed into an aesthetically gorgeous product (using a well-established 3-step process from the delicate hands of experienced art lovers).

Instead of slowly decaying for my life, I am now supporting a plant within myself. I don't have words to express my gratitude to the 'Paryavaran Mitra' project.

Love,
Water Bottle

PROCESS FLOW OF MAKING FLOWER POTS



Rag-picking Sister returning home after waste collection



Cleaning of Bottles



Background Coloring



Design Creation



Finishing Touches



Planting Seeds