

SDG 1: Bioloos: Supporting Goal 1 and Helping Uplift the Marginalized and Vulnerable

Banka Bioloo

Poverty is the biggest curse of humankind. No doubt, eradicating poverty is the number 1 Goal that we all are pursuing. Economic well-being is the premise of a peaceful and healthy society.

Absence of water and sanitation is one of the major causes of societies not prospering, or continuing in a state of poverty. Loss of workdays and productivity, absenteeism and dropouts in schools, significant expenditure on healthcare and medication are some examples that reflect the malaise of poverty, and result from non-availability of clean and safe water and sanitation. In India for instance, the practice of open defecation has been prevalent since ages. Till the advent of the Clean India Mission that began in late 2014 under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi – half of the country didn't have toilets. Research and studies, including by World Bank and WHO, have shown that absence of sanitation has led to lower GDP growth and spread of water-borne diseases; keeping many families in a perpetual state of poverty.

We, at Banka BioLoo, are working towards attaining Goal 1 by providing sustainable sanitation through bioloos that help the wage-earner go to work every day and be more productive. Our bioloos at homes keep all the members of the family healthy and disease-free, school bioloos encourage the children to go to school every day so that they complete their education, and later earn for themselves and for their families.

In the past 5 years, we have installed over 6,000 bioloos.

3,000 bioloos in schools, where children of poor families study, are ensuring that over 200,000 students are completing their education and will earn a decent livelihood.

500 bioloos at worksites make sure that over 100,000 ordinary workers at the production centers are not effectively working every day, and not falling into the poverty trap.

Fitment of 2,000 bioloos in rail coaches, and operations and maintenance of 5,000 bioloos in trains every day ensures that millions of slum-dwellers staying close to the rail tracks get a fecal-matter-free environment, don't fall sick and labour every day to free themselves from the clutches of poverty.

Not leaving out hundreds of households with bioloos, whereby thousands of family members do all their chores with positive economic outcome.

Every \$ invested in sanitation yields five-fold financial and economic return through good health, higher productivity, school attendance, lifting many families out of poverty.