

Benefits

- Produces bi-products (liquid and solid) that are useful as mulch and bio-fertiliser, **conserving water** and reducing the need for inorganic fertilisers.
- Utilises land previously used for dumping residues.
- Reduces carbon footprint and mitigates climate change.
- Provides an easy-to-handle business opportunity, accessible to female farmers working from home.
- Enhances livelihood opportunities for local labourers.
- Reduces social conflicts over residue disposal.

Challenges

- The technique is new, and adoption is slow.
- Collecting banana stems from fields as many farmers are reluctant to deliver stems to collection points, even when compensated.
- Cost-benefit analyses of the practice not carried out.



Support and Implementation

Goth Sudhar Foundation supported the farmers with financial resources for machinery. Farmers acquired locally made fiber extraction machines and started purchasing banana trunks from neighboring farmers, creating employment opportunities within the community especially in delayering the trunks. Each machine can produce around 250 kg of fiber per month, effectively processing residues from 2 hectares of banana cultivation.