

TRIVENI–GRF Integration Roadmap

Strengthening GRF's Applied Research Presence through Collaborative Learning And Field Engagement

The TRIVENI initiative offers an opportunity to bring greater coherence, depth, and visibility to GRF's ongoing contributions — with villages around Jalgaon, through the Gandhi Teerth Museum, and among youth who engage with Gandhian ideas. The aim is simple: to ensure that the ideas we research are continuously tested and enriched through lived experience.

This roadmap outlines how the TRIVENI Research Associate, together with the mentor(s) (and its 3 Consultants) will, in the near future, work closely with GRF programme teams, enabling field-based learning and making GRF's applied research thrust more prominent.

1. Deepening the Village Connection

GRF's longstanding rural work can serve as a living context for TRIVENI's research on self-reliance, decentralisation, and community knowledge.

Initial directions

- Regular field immersions where researchers learn *from* villagers, not only *about* them (important: focus will be on girls & women).
- Joint micro-projects (e.g., indigenous farming techniques, water stewardship, and crafts value chains) that pair research with community benefit.
- A growing archive of local knowledge — oral histories, governance practices, ecological wisdom — preserved in respectful collaboration with communities.
- A quarterly **Village–Researchers Forum** for shared reflection and local problem-solving.

Expected outcome

Villages become co-creators of knowledge; GRF's rural engagement gains a stronger research profile and clearer pathways for scale.

2. Making the Museum a Space of Dialogue and Discovery

The Gandhi Teerth Museum already introduces thousands to Gandhian thought. TRIVENI can help extend that experience into contemporary questions.

Proposed initiatives

- Small interpretive modules that connect TRIVENI (with its 3 streams: Gandhi, Dharampal, and Indian Knowledge Systems) with the GRF's own experiments in sustainability and social harmony.
- Interactive activity corners for youth: practical demonstrations of village technologies, participatory governance, and nonviolent problem-solving.
- A **Research Corner** to showcase ongoing insights — inviting visitors, especially young people, to join or respond.
- Integrating exemplary Archival material in the framework of informal workshops.

Expected outcome

The Museum evolves into an active knowledge hub, demonstrating how Gandhian values continue to guide practice today.

3. Youth as Partners in Transformation

Youth engagement is central — both for the future of our society and the future of the TRIVENI initiative.

Proposed initiatives

- **Gandhian Action Labs** in collaboration with local schools and colleges, tied to TRIVENI research themes.
- ‘Youth Research Ambassadors’ documenting local innovations through short films, photo essays, and podcasts.
- Short learning capsules and workshops, including content on constructive community engagement as a nonviolent alternative to alienation and radicalisation.

Expected outcome

Young people become contributors to change — with GRF recognised as a resource and mentor in their journey.

4. Communicating Impact Clearly

To strengthen GRF’s standing as a centre for applied Gandhian research, evidence of impact must be accessible and compelling.

Key steps

- Policy briefs and case studies emerging from field experiences.
- An annual **Applied Research Exhibition** featuring village initiatives, museum-based activities, and youth innovations.
- A digital ‘story-bank’ — short multilingual content documenting community transformations and local leadership.

Expected outcome

A clearer institutional voice that reaches possible partners, policymakers, and wider audiences.

5. Institutional Coordination for Long-Term Success

To ensure these efforts remain aligned with GRF’s mission:

- A small **joint steering group** (TRIVENI + GRF programme heads/leads)
- A shared annual calendar of visits, workshops, and outreach events
- Periodic reflection notes and impact indicators co-developed with field teams
- Capacity-building for GRF staff based on evolving TRIVENI insights

Conclusion

TRIVENI is not an additional programme sitting beside GRF’s work. It is a chance to knit together what GRF already does — research, education, outreach, community empowerment — into a clearer, more visible tapestry. By grounding inquiry in practice and bringing field realities into research, GRF’s contribution to constructive social change will be better recognised and better understood.

(By Gita Dharampal on behalf of the TRIVENI Initiative)