

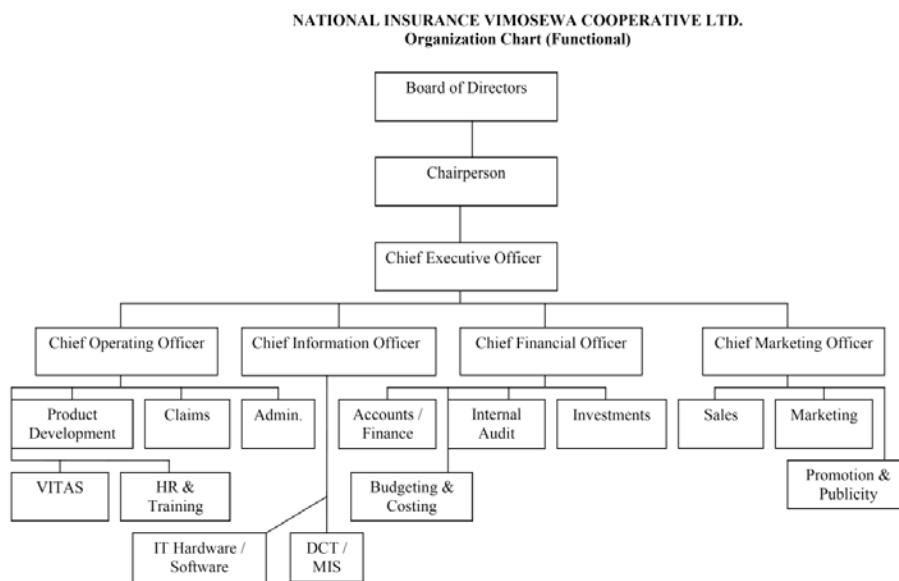
NATIONAL INSURANCE VIMOSEWA COOPERATIVE LTD

On November 23rd 2009 National Insurance VimoSEWA Cooperative LTD was launched. The cooperative emerged from the VimoSEWA, which was providing insurance services for SEWA members. The Cooperative is initially promoted by SEWA but it will seek to serve all workers of the informal economy and their organizations.

The cooperative structure will facilitate further growth and development of insurance for the workers and in a sustainable way. VimoSEWA Cooperative will promote democratic, grassroots-level leadership and management by women workers. Furthermore it wants to establish a worker-owned and controlled, membership-based organization, where the workers themselves are the users and beneficiaries of their own organization that insures them against risk. It seeks to enable collection of share capital from workers all over India, contributing towards viability.

In India, more than 400 Million people are engaged in the informal economy and more than 50% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is from the informal economy. These workers –large segment of them are women – very actively contribute to the nation’s growth and development. But despite their significant economic contribution, informal workers do not have basic social security and social protection. Laws to guarantee them basic social security are still to be passed and implemented. The lack of social security results in further poverty and vulnerability. Sustainability both in economic terms, and by way of women running their own cooperative, is the aim of this initiative.

ORGANISATION CHART



ACTIVITIES OF VIMO SEWA

A INSURANCE

1. Life Coverage – life Insurance
2. Non-Life Coverage- Accident, Health, Assets (fire, earthquake)

Vast majority of the members prefer to buy a package comprising live insurance, accident, sickness/health and assets. Only few member take only part of the insurances out of financial reason. Then mostly they buy health insurance.

B. EDUCATION ON MICROINSURANCE

C. MARKETING

D. DATA MANAGEMENT (MIS)

E. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

F. POLICY ACTION IN COOPERATION WITH MINISTRY OF FINANCE, GTZ, IRDA (INSURANCE REGULATION AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY)

ACTIVITIES IN THE HEALTH-SECTOR OF VIMOSEWA

VimoSEWA not only provides the classical insurance services to members of SEWA, but it is also providing technical assistance to other organizations in India and outside of the country.

The SEWA Health Cooperative (Lok Swasthya) Health Cooperative is a sister organization of Vimo SEWA and they are working together in the field of prevention. They provide health education and basic sanitation services among other services to their members.

COOPERATION PARTNERS OF VIMOSEWA

Non Life insurance products (health, accident, assets) are provided together with New India Assurance Company (NIA), an insurance company of the Indian public sector.

For life insurance Vimo SEWA cooperates with Life Insurance Corporation (LIC).

Earlier cooperation partners were ICICI-Lombard and Bajaj Allianz

CORE PRINCIPLES

SEWA's insurance program is based on certain core principles:

Mutual Help

The scheme is for SEWA members and their families. It is based on the principle of mutual help

and solidarity. Members of the insurance scheme contribute their premium and mutually help each other in time of calamity.

Self-Help

“Helping the members to help themselves” is the motto of SEWA Insurance. Each member contributes very low premium towards the coverage offered. Thus she is made responsible for securing her own future with the organizations assistance.

Integrated Services

Our members face multiple risks in the duration of their life. SEWA believes in providing an integrated insurance package based on the needs of the members, which provides coverage against various risks like, sickness, death, asset loss and accident.

Sound Insurance Principles

The program will run on sound insurance principles. The proposed limits of coverage (sums insured) are modest and appropriate looking to SEWA's members. Insurance products are priced with a margin for reserves and contingencies. Management monitors claims loss ratio and other key indicators on a monthly basis. All policy provisions are modeled on the basis of policies that are in longstanding use by leading Indian insurance companies.

Financial Viability

SEWA seeks to develop a long term, sustainable insurance program. Accordingly, the program has a disciplined "bottom line" approach to each line of business. Capital is called for to cover the risk exposures projected over the next five years. Reinsurance is used prudently to limit losses resulting from any unexpected claim fluctuations or catastrophic events. A chartered accounting firm audits SEWA Insurance each year and works closely with management all year round. A consulting actuary also provides ongoing services to ensure that SEWA Insurance steadily moves towards financial viability