



# THE GIFT OF GOATS

## 2026 COVENANT CAMP PROJECT: GOATS IN HAITI AND INDIA

**Animal husbandry refers to the care, breeding, and management of livestock in ways that improve food security, income, and long-term resilience for families. But animal husbandry is not simply about animals—it is also about restoring dignity, stabilizing livelihoods, and giving families tools to move beyond survival toward sustainability.**

Across our global partnerships, livestock projects provide both immediate and lasting impact. Animals provide nutrition through milk, eggs, and meat and create income through breeding, sales, and agricultural support such as manure for crops. These programs are paired with training, veterinary care, and community leadership so that the benefits continue long after the first animal is received.

In **Haiti**, **Sustainable Action International** helps families rebuild their lives amid ongoing instability. Goats are hardy, require little feed, and thrive in difficult conditions. Families use them for milk, breeding, and income generation, enabling parents to pay school fees, buy food, and recover from repeated disasters. Goat-sharing models also strengthen communities as families pass offspring on to others in need.

In **India**, **the Hindustani Covenant Church** supports women and vulnerable families through goat-rearing programs. Along with livestock, participants receive training in animal care and small-business skills, leading to improved household nutrition, stable income, and greater economic independence.

### Why Animal Husbandry?

Animal husbandry is a key area of Serve Globally's work, helping families build sustainable livelihoods, improve nutrition, and create long-term economic resilience. This ministry empowers local communities by combining livestock provision with training in animal care, small-business management, and sustainable agriculture. At its heart this work models generosity that multiplies—a "pay it forward" rhythm where today's gifts to families become tomorrow's resources for more families. Families who receive goats give newborn kids to other families, extending the project's impact across entire villages.

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Through animal husbandry projects, such as goat programs, Serve Globally ministry partners walk alongside families as they build lasting livelihoods and change entire communities one animal at a time.

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## KEY VERSES | James 2:15-16; Isaiah 58:10

“Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace; keep warm and well fed;’ but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?” (James 2:15-16).

## Why Goats?

Goat husbandry is the practice of raising, caring for, and breeding goats to provide food and income for families. Around the world, goats are hardy, affordable, and incredibly adaptable.

### GOATS ARE ONE OF THE MOST USEFUL ANIMALS FOR FAMILIES LIVING IN RURAL COMMUNITIES.

- They can live in dry, rocky, or mountainous areas where other animals struggle.
- They eat many types of plants, including grasses, leaves, and shrubs.
- They require less water than cows.
- They reproduce quickly—many goats give birth to twins!
- They provide milk, meat, and manure for fertilizer.

For families, one healthy goat can be the start of a small business.

### BUT GOATS ARE MORE THAN JUST HARDY ANIMALS.

When a family receives a goat, it creates a ripple effect that strengthens children, households, and entire communities.

- **Nutrition for Children:** Goats provide a steady supply of milk and cheese, supporting healthy growth and development.
- **Income and Education:** Families can sell goats or their offspring to generate income, often helping pay school fees and meet essential household needs.
- **Sustainable Farming:** Goat manure enriches the soil, improving crop yields and strengthening local food systems.
- **Skills and Small Business Growth:** Families gain training in animal husbandry and basic business skills, building long-term stability.
- **Women’s Empowerment:** Access to livestock often increases women’s economic participation and leadership within the household and community.
- **Multiplying Impact:** Through a “pay it forward” model, the first offspring is given to another family—spreading opportunity, strengthening relationships, and building resilient communities.

## What Do Goats Need to Stay Healthy?

- **Food:** Goats are browsers, not grazers. That means they prefer leaves, bushes, crop leftovers, or grasses.
- **Clean Water:** Like people, goats need clean water every day to stay healthy and produce milk.

**FUN FACT: A GOAT CAN DRINK UP TO FIVE GALLONS OF WATER A DAY IN HOT WEATHER.**

- **Shelter:** Goats need protection from heavy rain, cold winds, extreme heat, and predators. Simple shelters made from local materials—wood, tin, or woven grasses—are often enough.
- **Healthcare:** Healthy goats mean thriving families. Basic care includes vaccinations, parasite control, and regular checkups.

**FUN FACT: GOATS CAN RECOGNIZE THEIR CAREGIVERS AND RESPOND TO FAMILIAR VOICES!**

## Goat Breeding: How One Goat Becomes Many

One of the most powerful parts of goat husbandry is reproduction.

- Female goats (does) can give birth once or twice a year.
- Many births result in two kids at a time.
- Young goats can be sold, shared, or raised to grow the herd.

This is how one goat can multiply into several—creating ongoing opportunity instead of just one-time help.

## Goats and Faith

Caring for animals is also a way of caring for God’s creation.

- Goats help families work the land responsibly.
- Manure improves soil instead of harming it.
- Families learn stewardship—taking care of what God has provided.

**FUN FACT: GOATS APPEAR MORE THAN 170 TIMES THROUGHOUT THE BIBLE AND WERE IMPORTANT ANIMALS FOR DAILY LIFE, FOOD, AND RELIGIOUS RITUALS.**

## Interesting Facts About Our Partner Countries

Through these partnerships, animal husbandry becomes more than caring for livestock—it is a tool for sustainable development, community resilience, and lasting transformation in places like Haiti and India.

### WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HAITI?

- **First Black republic:** Haiti became the first independent Black republic in 1804 after a successful slave revolution, a historic moment in world history.
- **Vibrant culture:** Haitians celebrate with colorful art, music, and dance, including compas music and the lively Haitian Carnival.
- **Languages:** French and Haitian Creole are widely spoken, blending European and African traditions in daily life and storytelling.
- **Beautiful landscapes:** Haiti has mountains, beaches, and tropical forests that make the country unique and full of natural beauty.
- **Challenges today:** Haiti has faced political unrest, gang violence, and disruptions to daily life, making community support and programs like Serve Globally’s food and goat projects more important than ever.

### WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT INDIA?

- **Rich culture:** India is home to thousands of years of history, with festivals, music, dance, and art that vary widely across its regions.
- **Incredible wildlife:** India is home to tigers, elephants, peacocks, and rhinos, as well as unique ecosystems from mountains to tropical forests.
- **Languages:** More than 20 official languages are spoken in India, along with hundreds of dialects, making it one of the most linguistically diverse countries in the world.

- **Famous landmarks:** India has amazing landmarks like the Taj Mahal, the Himalayan mountains, and the colorful palaces and forts of Rajasthan.
- **Challenges today:** India faces ongoing issues due to poverty, natural disasters, and limited resources in some rural communities, making programs like Serve Globally’s goat and animal husbandry projects important for families’ livelihoods.

## Stories of Transformation



### FROM ZERO INCOME TO SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD THROUGH GOAT BREEDING

Across multiple rural communities in La Victoire, families who previously had no steady income received female goats along with training in animal husbandry and agroecology.

Each household began earning \$100–\$150 annually through goat breeding and sales—an enormous shift in communities where families had previously earned nothing. As goats gave birth, families not only increased their herds but began planning for microenterprises built around goat production and resale.

### DIGNITY AND STABILITY THROUGH ONE GOAT

Janaki received a goat through the Hindustani Covenant Church animal husbandry project and chose to shelter it inside her home to protect it. The goat soon gave birth, multiplying her assets. Through selling manure and planning future goat sales, Janaki moved from wage insecurity toward a stable, self-managed livelihood—demonstrating how a single goat can restore dignity and economic independence.



**FUN FACT: BABY GOATS ARE CALLED “KIDS”—JUST LIKE CAMPERS!**

**\$80 = 1 goat**

