

**From Pandariaphra to Paris, France**  
**Bisto Bai Meravi**  
**2019 Women Stop Hunger Awardee**

**Stop Hunger** is a global organization committed to a hunger-free world for more than 20 years. It is situated in Paris, France. Stop Hunger designed to support women or groups of women, and the Women Stop Hunger Awards were launched to financially support innovative initiatives.

On March 12, 2019, at the Stop Hunger Donors Evening, in the presence of **700 donors and partners, volunteers and representatives of local and international associations at the Seine Musicale**, Bisto Bai Meravi was recognized for leading a true social and solidarity organization named **Deen Dayal Antyoday Mahila Bahu Uddeshiya Sahakari Samiti**, Garratola. She received the award on behalf of 150 women who are engaged in diverse income generation programmes to stop hunger and address food security issues in the Birsa Block of Balaghat District Madhya Pradesh, India. Apart from Bisto Bai Meravi, Sister Angélique Namaika from Congo, Elizabeth Nalugemwa, from Uganda and Elizabeth Frank and Gabrielle Wimer from Guatemala were also awarded. Bisto received € 19,080 in donation to support their outstanding efforts.



The amount which Bisto Bai received will be utilized for the empowerment of women, village development and addressing climate change and food security issues in the Birsa Block. Efforts will be made to expand the cooperative from 150 women to 1000 women to ensure the sustainability.



## Experience in Paris

It was a great feeling to arrive in Paris and see the city of light – a modern city with a very deep sense of history. We will never forget when we first drove through, passing the canals and seeing the monuments. It was like a huge open-air museum. It was all like love at first sight.

We stayed in Paris for 6 days and had a wonderful time. We loved everything about this romantic city and would always love to visit again if get an opportunity.

We are pleased, honored and humbled to accept this award and to join past recipients who did outstanding work for their respective communities.



We are grateful to many people who have enabled us to reach this international platform. Thanks to Sr. Sabina, Ms Theresa Symons, Mr. Satyan, Sr. Aruna, Mr. John, Mr. Nagarjun, Good Shepherd Sisters, GSIF, Members of the Women Cooperative, Garratola and most importantly Stop Hunger. This award particularly recognizes our collective effort and it also gives us more responsibilities of the furtherance of our efforts.