

Best Practices Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022



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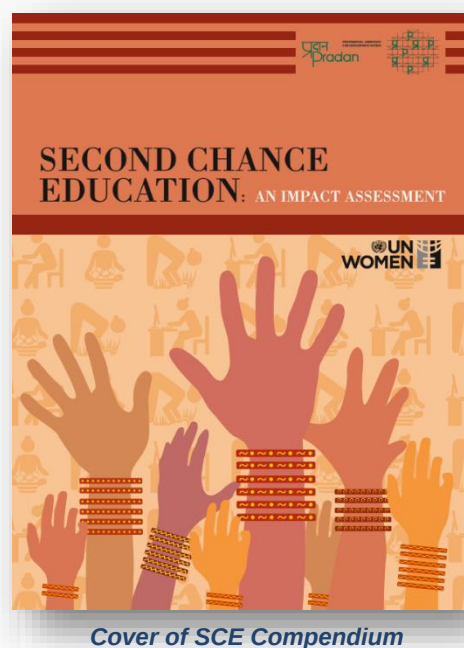


SECOND CHANCE EDUCATION – AN IMPACT ASSESSMENT | UN WOMEN/PRADAN | 15 APRIL 2021-30 JUNE 2021

In 2019, the women's workforce participation rate in India plummeted to a dismal 20.3% (World Bank, 2021), indicating the need for pathways to enhance livelihoods for women. The Second Chance Education (SCE) programme, funded by UN Women in Bihar, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Rajasthan was both unique and ambitious in its approach. Best Practices Foundation (BPF) conducted a qualitative impact assessment of SCE, its strategies and outcomes, using a feminist lens in 2021, covering 198 participants across the four states.

The SCE programme was able to provide a wide repertoire of livelihood pathways through education, employment and enterprise initiatives for 51,517 women and girls with varying aspirations and needs, at different stages of their life cycles. A multi-sector consortium headed by PRADAN, with partners such as PRAN, Chaitanya Foundation, Aaina, Shristi, and Manjari Foundation implemented it. ANANDI, B-ABLE, Development Alternatives, Transforming Rural India Foundation (TRIF) and Pratham provided expertise in gender, skilling, enterprise and education.

Gender training addressed cultural factors that shaped family attitudes, such as women's safety and mobility and was conducted on scale for women. To create an enabling environment at the community level to empower women, it was recommended to expand the design to include sensitising other stakeholders, especially men and include a basic campaign on behavioural change.



A FEMINIST COLLECTIVE RESPONSE TO ADDRESS GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN PUBLIC SPACES | FORD FOUNDATION | NOVEMBER 2017 TO DECEMBER 2022

A series of national and state-level workshops built the capacities of a national alliance of grassroots organisations that addressed the practical and strategic needs of their members. Envisioning workshops assessed the need and way forward, and regular monthly virtual meetings built momentum thereafter. A national workshop held in October 2021 in Bangalore with federations from five states defined the processes of state and national alliance building.

23,000 sangha members in Bihar received provisions and accessed entitlements under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana and other schemes announced by the Bihar government. Federations in partnership with local administration and panchayats motivated and escorted another 13,000 sangha women to 11 vaccination camps. 12 block level federations built three district federations. In Karnataka, intergenerational dialogues with adolescent girls (*kishoris*) and sangha women addressed issues like school dropouts and early marriage. Work on Gender Based Violence (GBV), legal awareness and the formation of legal committees followed at state and local levels. 1,200 sangha women in Telangana were surveyed on services and entitlements. 42 villages of Siddipet and Karimnagar districts conducted GBV campaigns. Raised awareness of COVID-19 specific schemes, accessing them and relevant court orders to GSM CBOs in Telangana and Karnataka. We translated collated, verified information on COVID-19 and shared it with 943 GSM and FSW members.



BPF conducted studies on the impact of the pandemic in 2020 from which two outputs emerged in 2021. The first was a peer-reviewed article authored by Preethi Krishnan, Payten R Kleinhenz, Priya Pillai and Suchitra Venkatachalam, called *“It’s Power, Not Pandemic: How Identifying Power Structures Enables Emotional Resilience During Crisis Care-giving.”* The second was a report by Jennifer Parker and Neelanjana Parker Talwar from University of Pennsylvania called *“COVID-19 Pandemic Crushes Women’s Livelihoods in Rural India while Needed Services are Inaccessible”*.

FEDERATIONS MOBILISE ADOLESCENT GIRLS COLLECTIVES (YEAR III & IV) | AMERICAN JEWISH WORLD SERVICE (AJWS) | AUGUST 2018 TO DECEMBER 2022



Capacity Building of MAS federation, Telangana

The goals of institutional strengthening of sanghas and federations, and empowerment of adolescent girls to become change agents were continued with zest across this multi-year project in the four states of Assam, Bihar, Karnataka and Telangana, despite the hindrances of COVID-19.

Institutional Strengthening

In Assam, federation members were trained in setting up systems and institutional mechanisms for better statutory compliances (80G, 12A, etc.).

In Bihar, federations applied for and obtained statutory compliance documents and the latest audited statements.

In Karnataka, strengthening included roles and responsibilities of Executive Committee (EC) members, regularizing EC meetings, maintaining minutes of meetings, and conducting General Body meetings. Audits were conducted and authorized signatories were updated in the federation accounts. PAN card was applied for and received by Periyapatna federation.

In Telangana, Issue Committees (Health, Education, Panchayati Raj, Natural Resource Management & Asset Building and Sustainability) were revived and strengthened to understand their roles and to conduct monthly meetings on fixed dates. By the end of this period, 30 sanghas that were not part of the project were revived.



IGD with girls from Bijapur and Bagewadi, Karnataka

Co-Creating innovations with Adolescent Girls

A survey of over 600 girls enrolled in government schools between classes 9 and 12 found that they did not have access to digital connectivity. Bihar’s greatest achievement was starting alternative learning centres for 595 kishoris from the poorest families in 24 learning centres. In Telangana, leadership training was provided to 30 adolescents of 2 federations on the qualities of a leader, the concept of leadership and the support systems available for women. A module on Gender, Sexuality and Substance Abuse was developed. 14 sangha women, who are sensitive towards the issues of the adolescents and youth members, were identified and trained on the module in order to cascade this training further.





Digital Literacy Training of kishoris, Bijapur, Karnataka

Feminist Digital Literacy

Training and dissemination of knowledge on use of smart/mobile phones, and social media platforms for adapting to new ways of working during the lockdown took place. In Karnataka mobile training and computer training was given to adolescent girls on basic computer skills, WhatsApp, Zoom, accessing schemes online, etc. In Bihar the training on digital connectivity helped Nirantar and their federations stay connected even during the

lockdown. The coordination, monitoring and reporting on activities did not get affected much due to curbs on mobility. Survivors of domestic violence could be reached because federation leaders were digitally connected through social media platforms. Information sharing, skills and knowledge building could be taken up in a routine way.

In Telangana training of trainers (ToTs) on digital technology took place and they in turn trained the sangha women and the youth. Training for community resource persons and EC members helped them understand digital technology and usage of devices such as tabs. In all states, digital training through smartphones helped in bringing awareness about the world outside their villages. Connectivity, and thus learning amongst themselves, improved and access to internet helped in increasing their knowledge.

Intergenerational Dialogues (IGD):

Initially, an intergenerational model was piloted first in Karnataka with 40 women and girls, which was then tested in Assam and finally replicated in all Karnataka federations. It helped to bridge the gap between parents and adolescents for better understanding and had a major impact on the parents as well as the adolescents.

Discussions on early/ child marriage paved the way for

conversations on other

relevant issues and bring

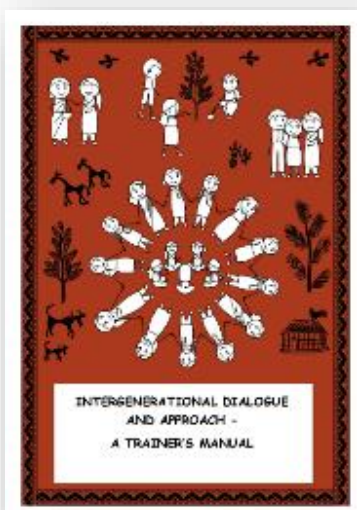
about a change in the mindset of both generations. Four batches of young girls and women were trained on IGD across four federations in Karnataka. The intergenerational dialogue manual was also shared with members of the larger alliance, to be tailored according to the issues in their area and replicated in Assam, Bihar and Telangana states.

VAWG Response

In Assam, interface meetings with the DLSA/CWC were organised and capacities of 120 sangha members (10 per block in 12 blocks) were built for monitoring and supporting GBV victims and helping them keep in constant touch with the sanghas and federations. In Bihar, training was provided about entitlements and ways to access them. GBV training was cascaded to all four federations which was a huge success.



IGD with Kishoris in Ballari



Cover of IGD Manual



This resulted in a phenomenal increase in the number of VAW cases reported to Nari Adalats (NA) along with a qualitative improvement in decisions and actions that were taken by NA members. The presence of women advocates has boosted the confidence of NA members in dealing with other stakeholders. In Karnataka due to GBV training, women had more awareness on the rights and wrongs of GBV. Many misconceptions were cleared and women learnt more about how they could protect themselves. Additionally, GBV training was also given to adolescent boys and girls across all four federations in Karnataka and three districts in Assam.



Shanti's Kitchen Garden in Periyapatna

Economic Resilience

After the resounding success of the first batch in 2020, a second batch of women started kitchen gardens in Periyapatna, Ballari and Bijapur in Karnataka. The kitchen gardens helped 120 women attain self-sufficiency in nutrition, provide green leafy and other nutritious vegetables to their families and other needy people especially during the pandemic lockdowns. In Assam, three federations started group level economic activities like kitchen gardens and sericulture farms. Around 74 women were supported with one-time financial assistance to meet the immediate need for revival of their livelihoods after lockdown.

Response to the pandemic

In Assam, interactions with a mental health expert helped more than 120 people understand their anxieties and receive advice on how to cope with stressful situations. Information was also shared on the government support system for mental health. In Bihar, training and information dissemination on COVID-19 protection, benefits and provisions announced by the government, documentation for claiming entitlements and compensations were carried out. In Karnataka, training on COVID-19 precautions, information on and effects of the corona virus, and counselling for Mental Health was arranged for all 4 federations.

PROVIDING ESSENTIAL RATION KITS, PROTECTIVE CARE KITS, WASH ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES TO SAFEGUARD VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES AMIDST THE GLOBAL OUTBREAK OF COVID-19 | ALTRAN TECHNOLOGIES INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED | JANUARY - DECEMBER 2021

Against a target of 2,000 people, the information on novel corona virus awareness was cascaded to around 32,080 individuals to improve their health and safety thus enabling them to continue sustaining themselves and their families in subsequent COVID waves. It was critical to protect Front Line Workers (FLWs) who played an active role in the distribution of ration and PPE kits, dissemination of awareness material as well as cascading training to their community and family members. A total of 450 PPE kits were distributed to FLWs including volunteers, police personnel, sanitisation workers, ambulance staff, and federation women leaders, adolescent girl leaders of Kishori groups, and health committee members of the various collectives. Public health workers (ASHAs and ANMs), who had been at the forefront of the fight against the spreading of the pandemic, were also protected. In New Delhi-NCR, 'Preventive Health Care Solutions' of sanitizers, cotton masks, gloves, and head covers were distributed. In Telangana, the protective gear included masks, sanitizers and savlon solution





Distribution of ration kits, Dhemaji, Assam

while in Bihar, the high filtration triple-layer medical N-95 Face Masks, sanitisers, and hand gloves were provided.

Altran's grant further enabled the distribution of 4,447 ration kits that helped approximately 22,015 individuals, to combat the impact of COVID-19. Each ration kit consisted of 10-15 essential household requirements along with a COVID-19 awareness pamphlet at an average cost of approximately INR 975/-. The kits were customized to suit regional food variations from district to district, and comprised of cereal (rice/wheat/jowar/ragi), lentils (green

gram/Bengal gram/tur dal), oils, jaggery/sugar, tea, biscuits, spices (haldi/chilli/coriander), soap, washing powder, toothpaste, reusable masks and sanitizer. Additionally, 300 nutrition kits for the undernourished were distributed in the New Delhi NCR region.

COVID-19 RELIEF EFFORT FOR MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES AND OTHER AFFECTED POPULATIONS IN NEED OF ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES, HEALTH KITS AND APPROPRIATE COMMUNICATION ABOUT THE NOVEL CORONA VIRUS | ARICENT TECHNOLOGIES (HOLDINGS) LIMITED | JULY - SEPTEMBER 2021

The target was vulnerable and marginalized populations who could not access their entitlements. These included single women, Adivasi, Dalit, OBC, Muslim, returning migrants, women headed families, LGBTIAQ+, people living with HIV/AIDS, people with disabilities, aged people with no support from their children or family members, homeless people, persons who lost livelihoods due to the pandemic, female sex workers, gender and sexual minorities, people in slums and people below the poverty line. With the help of around 245 leaders of community-based organizations (CBOs) and federations of self-help groups, communities in 516 villages/areas in Karnataka and Assam were provided COVID awareness training, rations and protective kits.



Food kit distribution in June 2021, Periyapatna, Karnataka

5449 ration kits provided much needed sustenance to around 19,862 individuals while 1203 nutrition kits were supplied to severely malnourished people. PPE kits protected 314 public health workers and 327 sangha and federation leaders. BPF developed highly visual training material on COVID awareness, prevention, testing, and vaccination in English. These were then translated into other languages and adapted for different groups across partner states. Updated material on COVID entitlements and mental health were translated into Kannada and Assamese. Community members from the health committees of federations and volunteers were identified as trainers to cascade the training on COVID-19 to the ground level. Virtual TOTs took place through a Master trainer who trained teams of trainers online in batches. 190 trainers further trained 20 persons from their villages/areas who were, in turn, asked to provide awareness to at least 5 more people. In this way, more than 40,000 people became aware of COVID protocols, myths, and self-care required.



LIVELIHOODS FOR FEMALE SEX WORKERS | SOLIDARITY FOUNDATION | JUNE 2021- MAY 2022



Our trained entrepreneur running their business in Bangalore

UNAIDS issued the Solidarity Fund in May 2021 to support key populations to become entrepreneurs. Different partners were chosen to work with sexual minority community members across five countries, India, Brazil, Ghana, Madagascar, and Uganda. As an expert in this field, Solidarity Foundation was chosen as one of the Indian organisations and partnered with Best Practices Foundation (for our award-winning patented livelihood MOVE model) and Navajeevana Sanghatane, a community-based organisation of female sex workers to implement the project in Bommanahalli, Bangalore. Out of 30

trained, 12 businesses impacted by COVID-19 were revived and five new businesses were established. In addition, six SHGs have been connected with banks. Talks continue to be held with banks to access credit for these groups.

LIVELIHOODS FOR GSM | SANGAMA SUPPORTED BY AZIM PREMJI FOUNDATION | JULY 21 TO JUNE 23

Though trans-community members are mobilised into CBOs, they are not organised into credit-worthy self-help groups (SHGs). By forming such SHGs, members with savings can work towards becoming credit-worthy. Again, trans members often find it difficult to access bank credit and other entitlements (such as ration cards), because of inadequate identification documents. Only when this is in place, can livelihoods be enhanced through provision of credit, an essential requirement for every business. Implemented in three districts of Karnataka (Raichur, Hassan, and Bidar) the project aims at creating a robust system for entrepreneurship and self-employment, among 90 impoverished and asset-less trans persons.

Participants were mobilised, trained in SHG formation and savings, resulting in the formation of credit-worthy SHGs. Livelihood training, modelled on proven and result-oriented MOVE processes, along with skills training was carried out for 60 participants interested in business in Raichur and Hassan. A total of 20 businesses have been established and some with existing businesses have been upgraded. Average annual incomes increased from INR 9,000 in 2021 to INR 14,750 in 2022. Overall increase in average incomes in both districts was approximately 63%.

PROJECT ON BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE: HUAIROU COMMISSION | JULY - DECEMBER 21

The concept of kitchen gardens for nutritional resilience was mooted amongst the federations. Interested grassroots women were given training on the benefits of a kitchen garden, how to create a small kitchen garden, details of types of seeds, seasons to plant, etc. Around 120 grassroots women in various districts were able to provide their families with a variety of vegetables and almost on a daily basis, green leafy vegetables. The women also shared vegetables and green leafy vegetables with a few handicapped people, malnourished children and old people. They were also able to contribute small amounts to strengthen their federations.



Kitchen garden, Periyapatna





Training and counselling on mental health were given during the COVID lockdown. Sharing their issues was a big help as most of the women were mentally depressed and unable to voice their concerns due to which anxieties and suicidal tendencies had increased. ToT sessions were organized in four districts, and cascaded further to at least 1,124 women.

COVID RELIEF | AZIM PREMJI FOUNDATION | MAY 2021 TO JANUARY 2022

During the lockdown, 5500 households benefitted from food kits distributed in various districts of Karnataka (2500) and Assam (3000). It was a boon for these families as both young and old members were in miserable straits due to loss of jobs and the resulting lack of money and food. These food kits helped for almost a month depending on the number of family members.

STRENGTHENING CBOs | AZIM PREMJI FOUNDATION | JULY 2021- ONGOING



Envisioning Workshop with federation, Bangalore

The institutional strengthening began with an Envisioning and Strategic Planning workshop with the CBO members to plan work on the four pillars of Institutional Strengthening, Gender Based Violence (GBV), Entitlements, and Alliance Building. Modules including visual ones have been developed on a range of subjects including GBV, entitlements, legal training, compliance, M&E systems, and financial management of CBOs, amongst others. BPF led the monitoring process by developing baseline surveys and training all CBOs to collect sample data and six CBO reports were created and given to the CBOs. Each partner conducted compliance and

documentation training across all federations and CBOs.

Sustainability, legal and governance committees of 15 women each were formed and training across all federations in Karnataka and in the other project areas is being conducted as well. Legal Committees were trained and later cascaded to about 1,450 grassroots women. The module was simplified to make it easy for the women to understand the various issues and laws pertaining to them. ToTs were also carried out in Periyapatna and Huvinahadagalli for basic computer training and baseline survey for MOVE.

STRENGTHENING INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE LEADERSHIP AMONG WORKING CLASS SEX WORKERS AND SEXUAL MINORITIES | AMERICAN JEWISH WORLD SERVICE (AJWS) | APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2023

A two-day meeting reviewed the previous year's work of the sex workers (SW) and gender and sexual minorities (GSM) collectives. They were asked to build an action plan for the next six months. The leaders shared the successes and challenges of providing relief during lockdowns. Training on managing their finances during this meeting helped strengthen the leaders' capacity to handle accounts. They had conducted COVID-19 prevention and care workshops with other community members. They also shared their



Training CBO leaders on managing



plans of conducting more awareness sessions with various stakeholders to raise awareness about the communities' problems and seek support.

After the lockdown, awareness of COVID-19 vaccination, handling co-morbidities, specific social entitlements, and crisis intervention support for persons affected by COVID-19 were provided. Sensitization sessions on sex workers' challenges and needs were conducted for various stakeholders like the police, media and government officers. Government sponsored skill development workshops for socio-economically marginalized women were provided through periodic local meetings. Events around International Women's Day and Sex Workers' Day with local sex workers and GSM community members were organised. Local awareness workshops further built their capacity on physical, sexual and mental health.



COVID-19 prevention and care workshop

Around 25 GSM and sex worker community members from Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana were trained on mobile phone usage, safety and legal awareness, and crisis intervention. This resulted in seven GSM and SW collectives and three GSM and SW community leaders being able to plan their activities better, prepare budgets and coordinate complex projects and formalise their operations.

A PEOPLE STRONGER; SUPPORTING COLLECTIVES WORKING WITH SEXUAL MINORITY COMMUNITIES, AND SEX WORKERS INCLUDING GROUPS OF TRANSWOMEN AND MALE SEX WORKERS, IN RURAL AREAS AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF GENDER, CLASS AND CASTE TOWARDS GREATER VOICE AND PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL DECISION-MAKING | FORD FOUNDATION | NOVEMBER 2017 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Two meetings were conducted with CBOs and sexual minority collectives in Bangalore and Hyderabad to review the work done on institution building, accessing social entitlements, handling GBV and alliance building. Four CBOs in Karnataka and five CBOs in Telangana built their action plan for the next six months.

Meetings on GBV were conducted with Karnataka Vikalachetanara Sanghatane (KVS), Chikaballapura district (6 taluks) and the KVS Bangalore with 30-50 community members. These findings informed a two-day training in Bangalore conducted in September 2021 for 30 KVS women and GSM leaders.

To build evidence on the impact of COVID-19 on marginalised GSM, a publication documenting the experiences of intersex persons, transgender men, *Jogappas* (indigenous transgender persons in northern Karnataka) and *Shivashakthis* (indigenous transgender persons in Telangana) was conceptualised. It will highlight the impact of COVID-19 on livelihoods, health, access to services, on GSM communities.

Research was conducted on mental health needs and services with 28 GSM community members in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu especially during the pandemic. To build capacities of seven CBOs in (Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh), enable connectivity and gain access to information they were trained on and supported with basic infrastructures (internet connectivity, computers, UPS).



TO SUPPORT ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING FOR GENDER/SEXUAL MINORITIES | NI | 2021 TO 2023

This two-year project supported by NI in Bagalkote and Shivamoga aimed at creating a robust system for credit, entrepreneurship and self-employment among GSM community members.

At a planning meeting on 24th September 2021 the project plan was discussed with the community and they were oriented on MOVE to build livelihoods, increase income and improve their quality of life as a pilot for future replicability.

Seven SHGs (3 in Bagalkote district and 4 in Shivamogga district with total 82 members) started in six months. All SHGs formed were registered officially under their district's Women and Child Development department. Maintenance of proper documentation caused District Government to sanction a loan of INR 150,000 for one Bagalkote SHG. He also sanctioned INR 20,000 for SHG members in Bagalkote District. One community leader was trained on coordinating with bank and government bodies.



Planning meeting for entrepreneur training

STRENGTHENING ORGANISATIONS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS | GLOBAL FUND FOR COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS | JULY 2021-DECEMBER 2021

This project specially focussed on supporting distressed GSM and SW community members (including grassroots leaders) after the second wave of COVID-19. The team also assessed the pandemic's prolonged impact. Strategies on strengthening of community collectives and prioritizing integrated health rights, were developed. The GSM and SW collectives resumed addressing gender based violence and accessing services and social entitlements. They also undertook team building exercises in order to become stronger as organisations. With support, GSM and SW collectives resumed negotiating for their entitlements with the government.

Over 1000 persons received basic social entitlements (e.g.: identification documentation, ration cards, etc.) over the last six months. Efforts by leaders to address gender-based violence meant that people from marginalised and stigmatised communities have greater access to support.

SUPPORT FOR COVID19 RELIEF AND GENERAL SUPPORT FOR MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES | LUSH FOUNDATION | JUNE 2021- MAY 2022

In Chikkaballapur and Bangalore, a total of 450 extremely needy, socio-economically disadvantaged people with disabilities were provided with kits containing dry food rations, sanitary pads, and masks during the COVID-19 lockdown.

Around 85 trans men and their partners in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana were assisted with temporary shelter and peer/professional counselling. A legal awareness workshop in Shivamogga district was conducted in Karnataka for gender and sexual minorities. Around 30 participants learnt about the implementation status of the Supreme Court's NALSA judgement under the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019.



ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS | INFLOW TECHNOLOGIES | OCTOBER 2021- SEPTEMBER 2022

Around 40 marginalised tribal women were trained in MOVE, to ensure that they would be able to survive the mayhem caused by COVID-19. As a result, four SHGs were formed and five women started the business out of a target of 12 (mainly agro based and animal husbandry based livelihoods). A batch of 30 female sex workers in urban Bangalore were also trained on MOVE and they started 10 businesses.

Janakkama, a 65-year-old tribal woman, who lives in Periyapatna, purchased a cow and started dairy business. Though most of the milk sustains her family, she still manages to sell around INR 6,000 monthly. Inspired by her success, Janakkama's daughter also brought a cow and plans to sell milk and earn some money. 10 additional new businesses are expected in the next phase.



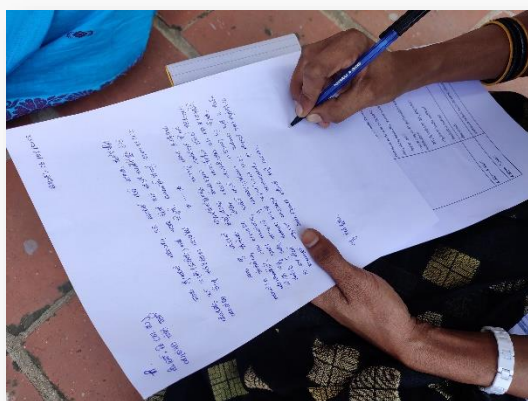
Janakkama, dairy business, Periyapatna

TO SUPPORT THE EMERGENCY NEEDS OF LGBT+ PEOPLE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC | ALL OUT ACTION FUND | JUNE - DECEMBER 2021.

100 LGBTIAQ+ persons, some of whom are PLHIV, in Bangalore were provided with dry rations, nutritional supplements and other essentials, like soap and sanitary pads. This resulted in the reduction of health vulnerabilities in HIV+ and LGBTIAQ+ persons from the pandemic.

TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO ADDRESS VULNERABILITIES OF SEXUAL AND GENDER MINORITIES | CREATING RESOURCES FOR EMPOWERMENT AND ACTION INC. | JULY 2021- MARCH 2022

Training material was developed on socio-legal issues including domestic violence, abuse, criminal



learning how to draft a complaint letter in the legal awareness training in Bangalore

procedures, and fundamental rights. Legal awareness trainings were conducted in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Telangana. The sessions were designed to fill gaps in existing knowledge, enhance grass-roots knowledge and build resilience. The crisis intervention documentation format was improved, translated into local languages and shared with the crisis intervention committees. The aim is to improve documentation of violence to increase visibility and build evidence

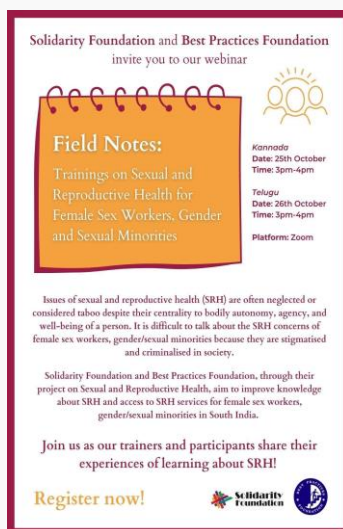
This resulted in increased understanding about constitutional protections to each and every individual, irrespective of their gender identity, means of livelihood, caste/class, or other

characteristics. The importance of evidence gathering and dissemination through the crisis intervention documentation format was discussed, wherein the community leaders underlined the lack of data about these communities. Documentation of crisis situations addressed by CBOs will enable their leaders to push for redressal with the concerned authorities. Diverse stakeholders were identified to advocate the importance of having multiple strategies to address violations.



RIGHT FOCUS: SEX WORKERS' AND GENDER/SEXUAL MINORITIES' TOGETHER LEADING AN INITIATIVE TO INCREASE ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE SRH SERVICES INCLUDING STIGMA-FREE ABORTION AND SRS IN 3 DISTRICTS OF SOUTH INDIA | MANNION DANIELS LIMITED – AMPLIFY CHANGE | 11 MARCH 2020 - 10 SEPTEMBER 2021

The Right Focus project designed for women in sex work and GSM persons aimed to improve knowledge about sexual and reproductive health (SRH), and increased access to SRH services in 3 districts of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana. The advent of the second wave of COVID-19 India had disastrous consequences on the marginalised communities. 3 online meetings with 5 of the project CBOs on the impact of COVID-19 on their lives, and especially their SRH, helped understand the support needed by the communities.



E-invite to SRH trainings

Meetings on the SRH situation including challenges and recommendations in accessing SRH services were conducted in August and September 2021. Diverse stakeholders including healthcare professionals, police, government officials, and community leaders from minority movements and groups including Dalits, farmers, Muslims, etc, were invited for these meetings, to garner support for the communities' SRH needs and concerns.

The project's focus on knowledge and evidence building on SRH of the communities in regional languages, initiated the production of 8 audio clips in Kannada and Telugu on the various topics of SRH including abortion, contraception, and gender-affirmative procedures and care. These were disseminated to increase knowledge about SRH amongst project communities. A training manual was designed and translated in English, Kannada and Telugu to train project communities on SRH. This was done to bridge existing knowledge gaps on SRH amongst the marginalised, across geographies.

Two webinars disseminated information about the SRH trainings wherein community participants and trainers shared their experiences of piloting this project and impact of trainings. A final evaluation of the project was done to understand the intervention in detail - its utility, gaps, and possibilities for modelling it in future.

“TRANS(FORMING) LIVES PROGRAMME” | ARICENT TECHNOLOGIES HOLDINGS LIMITED | AUGUST 2018 - OCTOBER 2021

The Arise Trans(forming) Lives project aimed to enhance the livelihood options and overall well-being of the LGBTIAQ+ community in some districts of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. It provided skilling, placements, career enhancement, and mental health support services. With an outreach effort of around 600, 250 people were placed.

Foundation Courses were conducted on Basics of Communication & Office Etiquette (17 participants), and Digital Literacy (30 participants) in Kolar. A training session on Orientation to



Entrepreneurship Training for LGBTIAQ+ persons



Entrepreneurship introduced 94 participants to simple business concepts, market analysis, budgeting, and ideating business plans in Bidar, Chikkamagluru, and Chennai. Nine candidates were connected for upskilling in Counselling Skills Training, Introduction to Tally, Advanced MS Excel, Competitive Exam Coaching, and Spoken English. Placement, career counselling and entrepreneurship support was provided to 75 candidates. Some companies that hired included Microsoft (Housekeeping staff); Big Basket (Warehouse Associate); Sangama (Healthcare worker); CBRE (Housekeeping staff).

Sensitisation sessions introduced the concepts of sex identity, gender and sexuality to over 1000+ individuals from the corporate sector, including Confederation of Indian Industry with the Indian Women Network (CII-IWN), The Banyan Academy of Leadership in Mental Health by TISS (TISS BALM), Silver Oak, Zinnov, CBRE and H&M.

SUPPORTING COVID & FLOOD RELIEF | IIT-IIT | APRIL 2021 –SEPTEMBER 2021

IIT-IIT leveraged its networks and partners to facilitate and deliver COVID and disaster relief. Funds of INR 3.5 lakhs were raised towards overall relief efforts for COVID-19 and Cyclone Amphan survivors of more than a dozen rural artisan communities, representing more than 30,000 artisans and their families, in West Bengal and Rajasthan via our partner Banglanatakdotcom.



“PRINCIPAL PARTNER” PROJECT FOR “RESTORING PROMISE OF WATER” | IIT-IIT | APRIL 2021 – MARCH 2024

Donations worth INR 1.2 Crores funded the desilting and rejuvenation of 60 Water Bodies from April - July 2021 in Kolar and Chikkaballapur in Karnataka. IIT-IIT kicked off the 3-year project to create national capabilities for scaling the program (Product/Process/Structure). Under this project, agreements between Gram Panchayats and Community NGOs in two districts in Karnataka (Kolar & Chikkaballapur) were finalised. IIT-IIT also engaged with district NGO anchors & 28 IITians to start the project. Delays due to COVID-19 wave & severe unseasonal rains in Karnataka were an issue. Finally,





19 Water Bodies were desilted resulting in the removal of 120,000 cubic cms of silt in Season 1. Rotary International District 3190 was finalised as the state partner for Karnataka.

RPOW - SEASON 2: PREPARATION | IIT-IIT | AUGUST 2021- MARCH 2022

In the second round of RPOW, desilting 100 water bodies and expansion to different states was planned. Events were held in December 2021 to engage IITians, Rotary Bangalore, corporate donors and technology partners. RPOW Champions visited Kolar district and identification of district water anchors in other states was initiated. Under this project, the seven states of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Punjab and Haryana were targeted. District water anchors were engaged in the ten districts of Kolar, Chikkaballapur, Tumkur, Bangalore Rural, Mandya, Mysore, Anantapur, Rayagada, Nirmal, Krishnagiri. IIT IIT engaged with Corporate Anchors for Karnataka (like Asian Paints and HDFC) and started conversations with Niti Ayog for aspirational district.

PRINCIPAL PARTNER PROJECT FOR “ARRESTING GROWTH OF BLINDNESS” | IIT-IIT | APRIL 2021 - ONGOING

A project to create national capabilities for scaling the program was started. A total of 10 Charitable Networks were identified. Three Rotary Districts (3131; 3190 & 3011) were engaged with to support three selected Hospitals - HV Desai in Pune, Dr Shroff's in Delhi, and Globe Eye Foundation in Bangalore. Key capabilities and outcomes for these three partner hospitals were defined and a MoU was signed with the three Rotary Districts.

MoU Signing with 3 Rotary District Governors



RID 3011 DELHI/NCR



RID 3131 PUNE



RID 3190/RABF BNGLR

A commitment was made to Sankar Eye Foundation (SEF) to deliver 2,00,000 additional free surgeries via tier one and tier two cities, anchored by a network of charitable hospitals. This resulted in Suresh Advani, IIT-IIT Champion working closely with the HV Desai leadership team to build their strategic growth plan for 2022-2030 (75,000 additional free surgeries per year by 2030). The HV Desai strategic growth plan was presented to SEF in Dec 2021 and after which SEF started due diligence in January 2022 and donated INR 10 Lakhs for 500 free surgeries as a pilot.



PRINCIPAL PARTNER PROJECT FOR “SUSTAINABLE RURAL MICRO ENTERPRISES” | IIT-IIT | APRIL 2021 - ONGOING



The Focus in this project was on finding suitable artisan products to export and identifying suitable importers in US and Europe. A New York based importer, Vivid & Co., who is creating a platform to build brands for Artisan Products from India was identified for the project. Negotiations with Vivid & Co. were carried out to evaluate hand-made products of BNC artisans, such as Dokra, Patachitra, etc. Dokra as an artform was selected to begin with. Sample products from the United States of America were provided to Dokra Artisans to be made as Dokra products.

PROPOSALS DEVELOPED

Agastya Foundation, Apollo Tyres, Amazon Digital Financial Literacy, APF, APU, Capgemini, Co-Impact, DAP Australia, Edelgive Grow Fund, EU, Ford Foundation, Goodera, HC, Inflow Technologies, Mission Parivartan-AOL, PRADAN, Pan Asia, Paul Hamlyn, Sangama, Share & Care, UN Trust, UNW GEWE, among others.

AWARDS

Best Practices Foundation was inspired and encouraged by the presentation of a Bronze Livelihood Award in the NGO sector by the CSR Times Awards for our project funded by Aricent Technologies, Project Arise Trans(forming) Lives at the 8th National CSR Summit in Dec 2021. ***“It enhanced the livelihood options and well-being of one of the most stigmatised and excluded groups – the LGBTIAQ+ community – in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and reduced the gap between them and mainstream society. The project has successfully provided upskilling for 645 LGBTIAQ+ persons. Building livelihood opportunities for LGBTIAQ+ persons – via placement, career counselling or entrepreneurship support, 257 people provided counselling services for 2460 LGBTIAQ+ individuals.”***





SHIVA PRASAD AND CO., CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Independent Auditors' Report

To

The Members of
Best Practices Foundation,
Flat 3C/2C, Santosh Apartments, Palmgrove Road, Victoria Layout, Bengaluru-47.

Opinion

We have audited accompanying financial statements of M/s. Best Practices Foundation ("the Society") - Consolidated, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31st March 2022, the Income and Expenditure Account and the Receipts and Payments Account ("collectively referred to as the financial statements") for the year ended, being submitted by the Society.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in India of the financial position of the entity as at 31st March 2022 and of its excess of Expenditure over Income in Local Contribution and excess of Income over Expenditure in Foreign Contribution for the year ended of that date.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing (SAs) issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India ("the ICAI"). Our responsibilities under those SAs are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of a report. We are independent of the society in accordance with the Code of Ethics issued by the ICAI and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Board Members Responsibility for The Financial Statements

The Board Members are responsible for the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of financial position and financial performance of the Society in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in India, including the Accounting Standards, to the extent applicable, issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India including the relevant provisions of the Act and Rules. This responsibility also includes maintenance of adequate accounting records for safeguarding the assets of the Society and for preventing and detecting frauds and other irregularities; selection and application of appropriate accounting policies; making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal controls that were operating effectively for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.





In preparing the financial statements, the Board Members are responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the board member either intends to liquidate the Society or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board Members are also responsible for overseeing the Society's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the Annual Financial Statements.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial statement.

As part of an audit in accordance with SAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also;

- Identify and assess the risks material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for an opinion. the risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve, collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedure that are appropriate in the circumstances but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on whether such internal controls are operating effectively. Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosure made by board members.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosure in the financial statement made by the Board Members.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of board member's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to the events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to date of our auditor's reports. However further events or conditions may cause the Society's to cease to continue as a going concern.



- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statement, including the disclosures and whether the financial statement represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence and to communicate with them all relationship and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence and where applicable related safeguards.

Bengaluru
24-09-2022

For Shiva Prasad and Co.,
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg.No.014378S



Shiva Prasad S
Proprietor
MRN: 232414

UDIN: 22232414BAAGPI2532

BEST PRACTICES FOUNDATION

Flat 3C/2C, Santosh Apartments, Palmgrove Road
Victoria Layout. Bengaluru – 560 047.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

System of Accounting	"Cash System" of accounting is followed except in the case of interest on fixed deposit, to match with Form 26AS of Income Tax.
Fund Accounting	"Fund Accounting Method" is adopted.
Depreciation	No depreciation is considered on fixed Assets since they are not employed for business.
Fixed Assets	Assets are not revalued during the year.
Inflation	Current Costs are not adjusted to reflect the effect of Inflation.





INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2021-22

BEST PRACTICES FOUNDATION
Flat 3C/2C, Santosh Apartments, Palmgrove Road, Victoria Layout,
Bengaluru - 560047, Karnataka, India.

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March, 2022
(Consolidated)

Expenditure			Amount (Rs.)	Income			Amount (Rs.)
	FC	LOCAL			FC	LOCAL	
To Other Payments :				To Bank Interest: Schedule - YS			
Capital Expenditure				on SB a/c	1,42,040	2,26,417	
Projector	-	37,760		on FDs	52,076	5,10,279	
UPS	-	9,994					
	-	47,754	47,754		1,94,116	7,36,696	9,30,812
General expenses	-	5,145	5,145				
Audit fee payable		25,000	25,000				
Bank Charges	820	-	820				
" Excess of Income over Expenditure transferred to General Fund	1,93,296	6,58,797	8,52,093				
Total			9,30,812	Total			9,30,812

Vide our report attached
For Shiva Prasad and Co.,
Chartered Accountants
FRN: 014378 S

CA. Shiva Prasad S
Proprietor
MRN: 232414
24-09-2022, Bengaluru



For Best Practices Foundation

Sangeetha Purushothaman
Dr. Sangeetha Purushothaman
Secretary

Gopa Mukherjee
Gopa Mukherjee
Treasurer





RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS 2021-22

BEST PRACTICES FOUNDATION

Flat 3C/2C, Santosh Apartments, Palmgrove Road, Victoria Layout,
Bengaluru - 560047, Karnataka, India.

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March, 2022 (Consolidated)

Receipts			Amount (Rs.)	Payments			Amount (Rs.)
To Opening Balance: (Schedule Y5)	FC	LOCAL		By Specific/Ear-Marked Fund	FC	LOCAL	
a) Cash In Hand	98,482	15,701		Expenses:			
b) Cash at Banks	7,28,381	5,22,408		(As per Schedule V2 & W2)	1,53,52,025	3,36,67,464	4,90,19,489
	8,26,863	5,38,108.34	13,64,971	By Other Payments :			
c) Fixed Deposit : Schedule - Y4	46,10,116	59,06,775	1,05,16,891	NextGen Godera- Covid Relief	-	6,848	
d) Programme Advance	83,879	-	83,879	Health Fund	-	87,722	
				General Expenses	-	5,145	
Specific / Ear-Marked Funds received					-	99,715	99,715
(As Per Schedule V1 & W1)	1,18,41,507	4,33,34,230.00	5,51,75,737	Capital Expenditure			
" Bank Interest:				Projector	-	37,760	
a) on SB a/c	1,42,040	2,26,417.00		UPS	-	9,994	
b) on Fixed Deposits	46,812	4,59,208.44			-	47,754	47,754
	1,88,852	6,85,625.44	8,74,477	Reversal of transfer	5,15,000	-	5,15,000
To Other Receipts :				TDS Collected paid	4,427	-	4,427
a) General Donation :				d) Bank Charges	820	-	820
NextGen Godera	-	7,426.63		" Closing Balance:			
Health Fund	-	88,500.00		a) Cash in Hand Schedule - Y5	58,111	21,180	
General Purpose	-	1,20,921.00		b) Cash at Banks Schedule - Y5	2,08,494	39,32,418	
	-	2,16,847.63	2,16,848		2,66,605	39,53,598	42,20,203
b) Professional tax Collected	2,400	200.00	2,600	c) Fixed Deposit - Schedule - Y4	13,07,500	1,27,56,674	1,40,64,174
				d) Programme Advance			
				Head Office	20,453.00	19,117	39,570
				Leadership	86,786.00	1,37,464	2,24,250
Total			6,82,35,402	Total			6,82,35,402

Vide our report attached
For Shiva Prasad and Co.,
Chartered Accountants
FRN: 014378 S

CA. Shiva Prasad S
Proprietor
MRN: 232414
24-09-2022, Bengaluru



For Best Practices Foundation

Dr. Sangeetha Purushothaman
Secretary



Gopa Mukherjee
Treasurer





BALANCE SHEET 2021-22

BEST PRACTICES FOUNDATION
Flat 3C/2C, Santosh Apartments, Palmgrove Road, Victoria Layout,
Bengaluru - 560047, Karnataka, India.

Balance Sheet as on 31st March, 2022
(Consolidated)

Liabilities			Amount (Rs.)	Assets			Amount (Rs.)
1. Capital Fund:	FC	Local		1. Fixed Assets:	FC	Local	
Opening Balance	15,83,732	55,27,000		(As Per Schedule Y1)			
Add: Transferred during the year being Capital Exp.				As per last Balance Sheet	15,83,732	55,27,000	
a) From I & E a/c		47,754		ADD: Additions made during the year	10,64,888	2,87,692	
b) From FC Project Utilisation (As Per Schedule Y1)	10,53,051	2,39,938		Less : Deletions made during the year	11,837	-	
	26,36,783	58,14,692	84,51,475		26,36,783	58,14,692	84,51,475
2. Undisbursed Ear-marked/Specific Funds:				2. Deposits:			
a) FC Section (As per Schedule Y2)	1,62,66,667	-		Fixed Deposits (Schedule Y4)	13,07,500	1,27,56,674	1,40,64,174
b) Local Section (As per Schedule Y3)	-	1,21,31,187	2,83,97,853	3. Current Assets:			
				a) Cash in Hand (Schedule Y5)	58,111	21,180	79,290
3. General Funds:				b) Cash at Banks (Schedule Y5)	2,08,494	39,32,418	41,40,913
Opening Balance	16,57,807	40,45,794		c) Rental Deposits:	4,40,000	1,00,400	5,40,400
Add: Excess of Income transferred from I & E a/c	1,93,296	6,58,797		d) TDS Receivable:			
Less: Excess of Expenditure transferred from I & E a/c	-	-		As per last Balance Sheet	99,238	4,69,444	
Add: from Project Utilisations :Schedule -LT	-	9,51,436		Less: Refund received	-	-	
	18,51,103	56,56,028	75,07,130		-	4,69,444	
				Add: TDS Receivable during the year	5,264	90,721	
4. Other Liabilities:					1,04,502	5,60,165	6,64,667
a) Professional tax	2,400	200	2,600	e) Programme Advance	1,07,239	1,56,581	2,63,820
c) Audit fee Payable	-	40,000	40,000	4. Others:			
				Ear-marked Funds-EXCESS APPLIED			
				a) FC Section (As per Schedule Y2)	1,58,94,323	-	
				b) Local Section (As per Schedule Y3)	-	2,99,996	1,61,94,320
Total			4,43,99,059	Total			4,43,99,059

Vide our report attached
For Shiva Prasad and Co.,
Chartered Accountants
FRN: 014378 S

CA. Shiva Prasad S
Proprietor
MRN: 232414
24-09-2022, Bengaluru



For Best Practices Foundation

Dr. Sangeetha Purushothaman
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