



Enabling learning that prepares a child for life

Annual Report 2014-15

Vision

A just and humane society that ensures equal opportunities for quality of life to every citizen of India through relevant and quality education to the most marginalized.

Mission

Development Focus promotes relevant and quality education for the most marginalized sections of the society by engaging with and building the capacity of civil society actors such that it leads to educated, egalitarian and empowered communities

Values

**Hope | Respect | Commitment |
Accountability | Transparency**

Objectives

- ◆ To strengthen and capacitate civil society actors to address the educational “needs” of the most marginalized sections of society (tribes and backward communities from the last 20% of the economic scale, with a focus on gender sensitivity).
- ◆ To ensure that “education” is inclusive of moral values, life skills, livelihood skills and appropriate technologies to improve the quality of life.
- ◆ To empower and conscientize communities to claim their entitlements and to demand accountability from the system.
- ◆ To facilitate social, economic and political empowerment within the community towards effective local governance.
- ◆ To capacitate and facilitate engagement by civil society actors and communities with the state, to make policy-level changes.

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Message from the Managing Trustee



Dear partners and well-wishers of Development Focus,

It is my privilege once again to write a few words on the work and aspirations of DF in the year that went by. I have always considered DF as a small organisation trying to do big things and that has been reflected in this report. All this has been possible because of our partners – those who are implementing in difficult circumstances and those who are supporting the implementation through sacrificial giving. Our implementing partners have shown great courage and commitment to make a difference for the people who need to be empowered.

Since inception, the main focus of our programmes has been on education with a holistic perspective for the Bottom of the Pyramid population. Education as we see it is, equipping a person for life – a wholesome life. We ventured into a new area of this education this year to provide awareness on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights to adolescent girls and boys. Without this awareness, young lives are being abused in myriad ways. The small intervention makes us realize that the need is very great and what we have achieved with our partners is just to address the tip of the iceberg. For example, according to a global survey done by the UNFPA titled 'Marrying Too Young: End Child Marriage', 47% women between 20 to 24 years of age in India had married by 18 during 2000-2011 in the state of Jharkhand. In some districts like Deogarh, this is as high as 72.4%. Some girls as young as 12 are married off leading to lifelong physical and mental trauma. There is a big challenge here that needs to be addressed. The attitude of the communities needs to change.

The Power of One campaign taken up in the schools of Bangalore is another new initiative. Children in their impressionable age are sensitized of the plight of lesser privileged children of their own age and are called upon to reflect and act. This will go a long way to bring about a more equitable society.

As a country we are going through major changes. Societal disparity seems to be growing. The influence of Civil Society is stifled and vested interests are gaining acceptance. Financial support for development programmes from outside the country is dwindling. Some of the core values that we uphold in this context are:

We believe that people can find the best solutions for their problems if provided the opportunity. This leads to bottom-up approaches in the true sense.

To work towards changing attitudes and behaviour of people and developing local leadership that lead to sustainable development.

- ◆ We believe that people have fundamental rights and they have possibilities.
- ◆ We value people's culture and want them to enrich the same.
- ◆ We believe in cost effective approaches with a wide impact.
- ◆ We do not set up parallel structures like schools but empower people to claim their rights for quality services from the state.
- ◆ Partnerships with like-minded players and networking are important to us
- ◆ We respect the law of the land as responsible citizens and will fulfil all statutory requirements, not out of fear of being penalized but as a core value.

We look forward to your continued support to make our country a better place not only for us who may read these pages but for every Indian, many of whom are voiceless, powerless and hidden in pockets of poverty and misery.

Thomas Paul
Thomas Paul

Programs and results, during the year

The year 2014-15 was by and large a satisfying year. Our programs focus continued to be on 'Education for life and livelihood' – and sought to cover important sub themes of vocational training, livelihood skills, Clean Energy based Entrepreneurship, Health Education - Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR), with cross cutting gender focus. We continued to look at innovative and smart ways of addressing community needs especially the aspirations of the youth, by appropriate program formulations and interventions.

We were able to realize the results of most of what was planned for the year, which was accordingly reflected in our finances. The 2nd phase of the Basic Education Program through the five Clusters, in Jharkhand, Orissa and Chhattisgarh was successfully completed. The findings and recommendations of the end term evaluation done by ASK, are being taken forward. Our pilot venture on micro entrepreneurial training of youth in Fuel Efficient Stoves and Solar Lanterns was implemented in Jharkhand and Odisha.

The micro entrepreneurs who are making and marketing the Fuel Efficient stoves are doing well. The 'Make-Market-Maintain' concept applied to rural entrepreneurship in Solar Lanterns is probably a unique concept. Although several of the trained youth are doing their business well, there have been technical and marketing challenges with Solar Lanterns, which are being addressed. The program on Child Marriage and SRHR education has produced good results in a relatively short duration.

Institutionally, DF and other like minded organizations have come together to form the 'Sustainability Alliance', an important development, opening up opportunities of leveraging synergies for enhanced cooperation in the near future. We have a stable team, gaining experience and acquiring desired skill set, to take on the challenges lying ahead.

Basic Education Program

The 2nd phase of the Basic Education program with 5 Clusters was completed during the year, which included an end term evaluation. The contractual requirement of end of term Progress report – both narrative and audited financial statements has since been completed.

Month of Completion	March'14	April'14	July'14	September'14	November'14
Cluster Partner	Western Orissa Education Watch (WOEW)	DAHAR	Siksha Chetana(SC)	Siksha se Parivarthan(SSP)	Bastar Ujar (BU)



End of term evaluation

Association for Simulating Knowledge, Gurgaon, was engaged to do the evaluation in consultation with Edukans. Some of the key findings and recommendations include:

- 100% enrolment; 80-85% retention; reduction of drop outs- a major success of the project
- Promotion and strengthening of joyful and child-friendly learning
- Child participation in basic education activities effectively enhanced through Children's Clubs
- School Management Committees, with participation of children and community members have become functional in most of the places although overall capacity remains a challenge. They have been successful in bringing change in people's understanding of importance of education and its access. This has been a contributing factor in increasing enrolment and retention of children in school.
- A key strength of the project is the mobilization and strengthening of community groups like Self Help Groups. A two pronged approach (education + livelihood) was adopted to empower the SHGs.
- State Forums and the community are going to sustain the educational initiative even after the project cycle ends, because of their ownership, interest and motivation
- The state forums will continue to influence policies and implementation at the state level, to improve quality and access to basic education.
- The project was efficient in terms of cost involved, inputs provided and time spent
- Project designing/formulation done based on context, problem and target group analysis
- Selection of the most backward areas in all the three states
- Close monitoring and evaluation was followed by DF to ensure timeliness, accountability and timely course corrections

Recommendations

- Facilitate effective inter clusters adoption of best practices
- Conduct market and feasibility study for improved alignment of Vocational Training to market/livelihood
- Partner, Clusters, State Forums and Development Focus level to collectively develop strategies and mechanisms for continuation of the project interventions

- Consider incorporating strengthening/consolidation phase before withdrawal phase in project design
- Simplify planning process and documents for future projects
- Formulate a concrete 'results based M and E mechanism' for future programs



The results achieved in the Basic Education Program are indeed satisfying. Cluster approach in program implementation validated the cost effectiveness of project delivery. We are committed to apply the learnings and recommendations in our future program initiatives.

The rapidly changing development situation demands that we constantly fine tune and align the program approach to the specific demands of thematic intervention, and in consultation with collaborative partners.

State Forums



We continued with the agenda of building and strengthening Civil Society Networks to take on advocacy and lobbying on education and livelihood in Jharkhand, Orissa and Chhattisgarh. The focus was on strengthening the three State Forum's capacity and adaptability to formulate and implement innovative programs as per changing demands of community and stakeholders.

- The Inter State Forum workshop in Aug'14 focused on reviewing: results and experiences from advocacy and

lobbying undertaken in the Basic Education project, thematic competencies of member organizations and progress in the institutional development of the Forums. During the discussions, participants suggested that DF should continue to support the Forum and member organizations especially their capacity building in the area of 'Theory of Change' based program development, and conceptual clarity on Social Entrepreneurship.

- ◆ The Joint planning workshops in Feb'15 focused on the above specific needs. These were held statewise to help bring focus and capacity assessment specific to the context and challenges of respective State Forums. Like minded organizations from outside of the Forum were invited for the Chhattisgarh workshop to help value add and strengthen the Forum.

DF facilitated the State Forums to:

- Introspect objectively on the progress in institutional development of State Forum's - their Organization, Leadership, Sustainability and Strategic Planning and preparedness to be equipped and be relevant to changing times. This exercise enabled the Forums to take stock and make firm plans for strengthening the Forum institutionally and make considered decision on the strategic goal for the near future.

- Develop a Theory of Change based annual plan for 2015-16.
- Have a conceptual orientation on Social Enterprises.

The Feb'15 workshops were timely in the context of partnership with the Forums and partner organizations. Development interventions undertaken, role taken on by the State Forums and their institutional development were assessed. Gaps and specific areas for organizational development were identified for the Forums. All three State Forums have since come up with Plans, that would enable them to be better prepared to the changing times and development needs.

Clean Development Mechanism Pilot Program

A key flagship initiative undertaken during the year, the initiative involved skilling youth/young adults for entrepreneurship on Fuel Efficient Stoves (FE Stoves) and Solar Lantern.

Approach: The Cluster approach was broadly followed here too, but nuanced to address the demands of the Entrepreneurship program. A competent partner took on the role of Nodal Training Centre, working with a group of 3-5 Implementing partners, to train selected youth in one of the above energy device. The following structure was followed:

	Fuel Efficient Stoves			Solar Lanterns		
	Jharkhand	Chhattisgarh	Orissa	Jharkhand	Chhattisgarh	Orissa
Nodal Training Centre	LEADS	BSM	YCDA	TRCSC	SWA	ORES
Implementing Partners	KMS, SBMS & LEADS	GSS, BSJVS & BSM	PAP, WOSCA, WORD & YCDA	YUVA, PL & TRCSC	SAVISA, SMS & SWA	SIDI, SEWAKADARSA, ORES



Key elements

- Specifications for Solar Lanterns and FE Stoves were carefully arrived at, factoring in local needs and market demands.
- Design and Mild Steel moulds from ARTI, Pune, were used for casting FE Stoves. The Fibre Reinforced Plastic mould designed by Philips, could not be used as the high cost of Moulds rendered the finished product of cement Stoves non affordable for households, making them financially non-viable for Micro Entrepreneurs.
- Solar Lanterns are procured as SKD Kits (semi knocked down kits) from manufacturers. The Micro-entrepreneur is capacitated to make and market the lanterns, and provide maintenance services when needed.
- The training module was suitably developed, Master Trainers and resource persons were identified to deliver training.

Outputs

- 360 youth/young adults trained;
- 200 in Fuel Efficient Stoves (JH:80+OR:60+CG:60); 160 in Solar Lanterns (JH:60+OR:40+ CG:60)
- Capacity building of partner organizations through 1 day Orientation in each state and two Interim/mid-term review workshops.

Outcomes

- Youth/young adults are doing well in Fuel Efficient Stove Micro Entrepreneurship; Most of them sell 6-10 clay stoves per month earning net income of around INR 1500 per month in the initial months.
- The predominant demand has been for Clay Stoves. In Jharkhand the demand has been for cement stoves due to easy availability of quarry dust/stone grit.
- Around 50% of the Micro Entrepreneurs trained in Solar Lanterns have been successful. They earned around INR 2000 per month in the initial stages. The technical/marketing challenges faced are being addressed.

Learnings

- Solar Lantern Micro Entrepreneurship is vulnerable to supply chain management challenges – like distance of suppliers, delivery times, minimum ordering quantity, etc.
- The market demands more than one model at different quality and price. Micro Entrepreneurs have to compete in the market by offering choices to

Users, necessitating investing in inventory for at least 2 models.

- Training imparted needs to be flexible and proactive in modifying content and methodology to respond to grasping levels of youth, so as to equip trainees with required skills and confidence to be successful
- Partners need to diligently anchor the selection of trainees to the community and CBOs – for improved ownership, post training – working capital and marketing support
- Many partners could not cope with the demand of a Entrepreneurship program – especially in adequately hand holding and nurturing the micro entrepreneurs in the early stages of their micro enterprises

Changes made

- Solar Lantern Entrepreneurship program recast to demonstrate its viability. This included: revised training, providing options of 2-3 models for users to buy, including lesser priced models
- NGOs/Training Institutions with better experience in Skilling/Vocational Training co-opted into the network, to address perceived gaps
- Improved monitoring and facilitation to ensure community participation in selection of trainees and post training support in providing credit and marketing

Child Marriage Program

The Dutch Ministry's invite for programme proposals addressing prevention of child marriages initiated the process of developing a program proposal for India by Edukans and Development Focus. The consortium of Dutch NGO's - SIMAVI, Rutgers WPF and Edukans took it up as a much needed endeavour leading to the program proposals for India and Malawi being developed. Edukans in association with Development Focus conceptualized the program for India, with an intervention period of one year: July 2014 to July 2015. The understanding was the short duration program can build upon the experiences and results from the Basic Education program – especially the rapport with the communities and the emergence of good Community Organizations, helping leap frog processes to facilitate the addressing of the Child Marriage issue.

Taking into account the need for complementarity with India partners of the Consortium (Simavi partners in Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa) and the experience of partner organizations in activities related to Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR), project locations in Jharkhand and Orissa were shortlisted. The size of the program and resources available determined the decision to deploy the

program in project locations of 20 Partner Organisations (POs). Based on assessment of development understanding and ability to lead a cluster of NGOs, 3 Clusters - DAHAR, WOEW and SC clusters was selected. The selection of POs in each Cluster was made based on a participatory joint assessment of POs (as per objective criterion) by DF and Cluster Lead. This assessment included performance in the 'Basic Education program', although the actual clustering of POs and the selection of the Cluster Lead was done afresh, based on past performance and competency to manage the

'SRHR' program. The program is being steered towards its goal and objectives by Development Focus.

The programme had four strategic activities (a) Empowerment of Girls: Adolescent and Youth (b) Access to Formal Education (c) Involvement of Local Communities to combat Child Marriage (d) Development and implementation of Legislation and Policy for Child Marriage. The following table gives an overview of the implementation of programme.

State	Name of the Cluster	Cluster Lead and NGO partners
Jharkhand	DAHAR	LGSS, TRCSC, LEADS, YUVA, BPYP, MSUS, MMKK, SPAR, Vedic Society and SPARK
Orissa	Western Orissa Child Marriage Prevention (WOCMP)	YCDA, PAP, AJKA, ADARSA and SIDI
	Siksha Chetana	ORES, WOSCA, VARRAT, WORD and SES



Initiatives and methodologies adopted

- 6 Yuva Mithra's (Change Agents) per village (2 young men/women and 4 adults-parents/teacher)
- 2 Youth Clubs per village:15-25 youth per club (both separate and mixed - girls and boys)
- Youth sensitized by a team of resource persons – Doctors and health professionals
- CBOs-Women SHGs, Parents teachers Associations, School Management Committees
- Use of Rallies, Wall writings and Charts, to generate awareness and motivate/equip youth, parents/ community to action

Outputs and Outcomes

Outcomes	Outputs
Young people, women and men are able to make informed decisions on SRHR-issues	2358 Trained educators for SRHR-issues 13269 Participating in SRHR education sessions 9545 take leadership on SRHR-issues in their community 650 (youth)clubs involved in prevention of child marriage
Improved access to formal Education	100 Schools in the intervention area with teachers trained on gender sensitive didactics 11 sensitization meetings with parents, SMCs, PTAs to promote school participation of children (especially girls) 500 teachers trained in gender sensitization activities
Girls and young women are able to exercise their SRHR-rights and not forced into child marriage by their environment	2399 Trainers/peers trained to provide awareness-raising activities 10216 Members from the local community reached 3449 Members of the local community (incl. local leaders) via media, campaigns.
There is a favourable (policy and legal) environment to prevent child marriage	20 Action Plan for lobby and policy-influencing 28 Partner organisations active in networks and lobby 11 Meetings to which partners participate for legal- and policy influencing



Holistic Education program for North Karnataka

Development Focus plans to implement a Holistic Development Program in three of the very poor districts of North Karnataka where the development indicators are very low. A program Concept has been developed focusing on: primary education for 5-14 year old children, vocational training for out of school youth and Health and SRHR Education for adolescent youth. Due diligence of shortlisted NGOs is underway.

Internship and Volunteering @ DF

As our commitment to society and as a means to enthuse individuals to engage with non-profits and charities in meaningful ways, we encourage:

- ◆ Students-from social and other disciplines to intern with us, gain on the job practical experience and contribute to organizational requirements in studies and assessment.
- ◆ Working professionals to volunteer their time and skills, address specific project needs, and value add to current initiatives in the organization.

Our website provides further details including policies and application packs, for interested people to peruse and contact us for further dialogue.

During the year, we had an Intern from the Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland. The Intern did a desk research on: 'Carbon trading potential and prospects for the CDM pilot program at DF' and 'Skill development focus of Government and implications for DF's livelihood programs'.

Communication and Fund Raising



Power of One Fund Raiser with an Educational Institution

Communication: The Annual Report for 2013-14 was published and sent to partners, stakeholders, Alliance/network partners, and well-wishers. An e-copy is also published on our website. We will continue to focus on proactive communication of our program initiatives and their impact in people's lives, to enhance visibility and enthuse well-wishers and potential supporters for active engagement and meaningful partnership.

The new website of DF with a refreshing look and feel, was made operational during the year. The Content Management System facility enables us to regularly update the website amongst others, with: project progress, 'Stories of Change', News and Events. The website is receiving good 'Hits' and has begun to generate enquires for collaboration and support.

Fund raising: DF currently has four broad streams of Fund Raising: Development Institutions, Individual Philanthropy; Sensitization cum Fund Raiser Campaign with Schools and Colleges, and CSR collaboration with the corporate sector.

The Fund Raiser Campaign with Educational Institutions in Bangalore is active under the caption "Power of One". It is an endeavour to sensitize children in their impressionable age, to appreciate the privileges they enjoy and the lack of basic educational facilities faced by rural children, moving them to help make a difference in a unique way. We could not build on the leads developed in this stream and expand further this year, due to the challenges on the fund raising personnel front. We continue to explore ways and means of addressing this requirement, and strengthen the Individual philanthropy portfolio by enrolling more individuals and friends to be supporters of DF.

Human Resources Development

We have a stable team now, which is quickly gaining experience to take on the challenges lying ahead. We continue to strengthen our team competencies to meet changing demands.

Dipty Joseph and Suranjan Dutt came on board during the year, they have settled down well in their roles of Program Officer and Program Manager respectively. Christina Dominic also joined the team to replace Binu Titus, Finance Officer, who left for greener pastures.

DF team participated in an in house Team Building and Communication workshop, at the beginning of the year. Facilitated by a resource person from Human and Institutional Development Forum, the workshop helped the staff in improving teamwork and coordination, and effective communication with stakeholders.

Development Cooperation, Institutional Development and Governance



DF Team with Dik, Edukans

Development Cooperation:

DF and Edukans Foundation continued their institutional dialogue to consider Edukans internationalization plans, and possible changes in DF's role as the Local Expertise Centre (LEC) in India. DF had earlier indicated its willingness to be part of

the process and further details of the strategic framework of this new cooperation was to be mutually worked out. As part of this agenda, DF's Director was invited to participate in the 'LEC Week' meetings at Amersfoort, The Netherlands.

Development Focus, Help a Child India and ICCo India, have come together to form the 'Sustainability Alliance'. Sustainability Alliance – is an important development with potential for opening up opportunities of leveraging synergies for enhanced cooperation between the three organizations, in the near future.

ICCo Trust and DF have signed a contract for a program on 'Skills for Clean Markets'. Discussions on joint programs development/planning was slated for the beginning of the year between program teams of DF and ICCo, is likely to happen in the beginning of the new fiscal year. DF seeks to leverage these funds for programs on Clean Energy/CDM program and Social Enterprises on Agriculture value chains.

Visits and Consultations:

We had the pleasure of having friends visiting us in Bangalore and holding consultations in other parts of the country.

- ◆ Kees De Jong, Bert Nordergraaf, Dik Verboom and Pieterella Teeuwen– from Edukans Foundation
- ◆ Paul van Wijngaarden - from Planet Hope
- ◆ Alay Barah, Sanmita Kamat, Michael Govindraj – ICCo Trust

We had interesting dialogue on ongoing programs as well as future collaborations and Alliances, and look forward to taking forward our institutional relationship and cooperation with these friends.

Governance:

Our Board of Trustees continue to be a source of inspiration and support, as they set strategic directions for the organization, steering her towards accomplishing the mission and vision. The Board met 4 times during the year -to approve annual plans and budget and conduct regular business.



Stories of Change



A ray of hope amidst social evil

Phool Kumari from Harmu Village of Lohardaga district in Jharkhand became a victim of child marriage. She's from an economically backward family. Phool Kumari shares the difficulties she underwent due to being married at a tender age. Her family's economic crisis compelled Kumari to migrate to Chhattisgarh to earn a living as a domestic help. Upon her return from Chhattisgarh, her parents promised her hand to Partill Oraon.

At this point of time, she was 14 years of age and was about to get admitted to a Middle School. She was married to Partill against her wishes, and was not allowed to continue her studies. Early marriage, led to early pregnancy, resulting in serious health issues. While the first child delivery was trouble free, it was her second pregnancy within a year of the first one that troubled her greatly. Already weakened by her first issue and unable to recover from it, the second pregnancy was hard on her. Considering the toll two quick pregnancies took on her young body, Kumari's doctor advised her to undergo Tubectomy surgical procedure. Even after the surgery, Kumari had to endure acute discomfort.

When the Child Marriage Program was launched in her village; Kumari actively took part in the initiative to check the prevalence of the evil of child marriage. She sensitises the adolescents as well as adults of her community about the physical and mental problems one has to face as a result of child marriage. She substantiates her explanations with her own example and forbids everyone to encourage child marriage. Phool Kumari, today, is considered one of the most resourceful persons in her community to make people aware about SRHR issues.

Fuel Efficient Stove Micro Enterprise- brings economic stability to Gitanjali's home

Geetanjali Muduli, lives with her family in Patharmunda Village, Agalpur Block, Balangir District in Odisha state. Her husband is a daily wage worker, and they have three children. The family belongs to the SC community. Geetanjali is a member of the Lakshmi Self Help Group (SHG), who selected her to undergo training in micro entrepreneurship in Smokeless Chulha. She received training for 5 days through DF's CDM Pilot program. She felt motivated and confident after the training, and took this as an opportunity to enhance the livelihood of her family, and improve the community she lives in.

She started her business by preparing a list of beneficiaries and developing a plan to mobilize her clients. She has since made and sold 212 Chulha's and earned Rs. 21,200 in the process. She was able to save money for her children's education, medical treatment for her family and also for everyday expenses. She has since trained her husband on making these Chulhas, and has plans to expand her business beyond her village.



How Micro Entrepreneurship has changed a life

Dushashan Sahu lives in Gochagora village of Kantamal Block with his wife and one son. He has a small landholding of 1 acre. He is able to grow 2 months' worth of paddy in that land. For the rest of the year he is reliant on manual labour. His wife cannot work, so his meagre income is used for their livelihood. He has no BPL card and hence cannot afford Govt. facilities.

He had always dreamt of doing a small business but financial constraints prevented him from taking the next steps. The 'Model Village' initiative in his village, provided him an opportunity to make his dream of doing a small business, come true. The Village Development Committee selected him for support to become an entrepreneur, and an individual business plan was developed. With facilitation from the project team a Resources - Market - Skill mapping exercise was made to assess the business potential in the village, that facilitated Dushashan to choose 'Spice trading'. He received financial project to the extent of Rs. 5000 towards purchasing a cycle and other raw materials. Every month he goes to 16 Hatt (local markets) and puts up a stall. During the initial 6 months, he could earn a profit of Rs 600 - 700 from each 'Hatt'.



Since then Dushashan Sahu has invested Rs. 6000 from his profits to expand his business – which includes increasing the number of items for sale, as per market demands. He now earns a profit of around Rs. 2000 per month. As a result, he is now able to fulfil the basic needs of his family, his standard of living has increased. He is now trying to expand his business with the help of a soft loan from the local bank. Dushashan Sahu has set a good example for the people in his village.

Fuel Efficient Stove for a safe and healthy home

Sulekha Kumari, D/o Mrs. Shankar Mahto, lives in Ghagra Bandtoli village of Murhu Block, Khunti district in Jharkhand. She is 15 years old, and an intelligent student studying in standard 8. Being the eldest daughter in the family, she has to cook for her family before she goes to school, and after returning from school she has to cook dinner. She was facing the burden of cooking, and did not get time to study or do her homework.



She learnt about the benefits of using a Fuel Efficient Stoves (FES) or Smokeless Chulha, through her mother - a SHG member. She met DF's field facilitator and expressed her desire to have a Smokeless Chulha installed in her home.

She is excited with the new smokeless Chulha, as it enables faster cooking, also with minimal soot on the vessels. She is very happy and enthusiastic as she now gets time for her studies, and her younger sister and brother also help her with the cooking. She shared her cooking experiences on the new type of Stove with her friends, teachers and mid-day meals cook in the school. They are also interested to install FES in school to cook mid-day meals. She is committed to bring awareness among more students and women on FES.

Reflections from the Executive Director

It is with a sense of fulfilment that I share my thoughts on the year that has gone by. We have been able to complete most of our plans and accomplish the desired results. As I look back, we are also mindful of the fact that we live in an increasingly connected world, so international developments and commitments by countries are bound to influence our work and Cooperation. With the Millennium Development Goals nearing its review in 2015, concerns on the gaps in addressing poverty challenges in a sustainable way, have led to the formulation a new set of 'Sustainable Development Goals' for the countries to adopt. Hopefully, this should set the agenda for a renewed pursuit of eradicating poverty and bringing in sustainable development in India. The national development agenda now has a major focus on 'Skilling' the youth, influencing the extent of focus and resources allocation for flagship development programs like National Rural Livelihood Mission.



Our thematic focus revolved around making Education relevant for life and livelihood - for the children and youth. We have successfully completed the 'Basic Education Program' in Jharkhand, Orissa and Chhattisgarh, positively impacting the quality education needs and lives of more than 100,000 children and out of school youth. The finding and recommendations of the external evaluation, give us a sense of fulfilment, and directions for refinements in design and strategy, for such interventions in the future. A key objective has been to build the capacities of nearly 50 partner organizations and the 3 State Forums. A planned strategic shift in our partnership with the State Forums, entailed facilitating each of the State Forum assess their progress in institutional development and help them set renewed goals and milestones.

The CDM pilot program on training youth in Fuel Efficient Stoves and Solar Lantern based micro entrepreneurship, has given us good results – Fuel Efficient Stoves Micro Entrepreneurs are earning Rs. 1500- 2000 per month. Solar Lanterns has a tremendous potential in providing decent livelihoods to the aspirational youth -we are tweaking the product, training and co-opting new competent partners to address challenges in supply chain management and technical issues. Skilling for livelihood development remains a key element of our programmatic strategy.

Our foray into sensitization of adolescent youth on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights, has touched the lives of more than 20,000 youth enabling them make right choices on their age of marriage. We have seen encouraging results within a short period, and are on course to achieving the goal and objectives of the project. We and our partners are indeed richer by the experience. Our interactions with the youth has brought up a critical need for providing livelihood trainings to enable them dissuade their parents from compelling them to marry early, while addressing their aspirations for a good livelihood and life. We hope to respond to this need, in the coming year(s).

DF continued the agenda of broadening the development cooperation framework by exploring and dialoguing with like-minded organizations for enhanced cooperation, and forging Alliances to harness synergies for collaboration. Although 'early days' they have the potential to transform our Cooperation space. With improved communication of our work, results and approach, enhanced visibility is beginning to promote and lay the foundation for new partnerships and cooperation with new players. We continue to explore newer ways of cementing partnerships for the near future.

I am grateful to Edukans Foundation, our principal institutional supporter so far and all our individual donors, for your trust and support - we value our partnership with you. To all our partner organizations who worked hard in the field, others who provided expertise in allied areas as resource persons or agencies- thank you very much.

I place on record my gratitude to our Board of Trustees, who by wise counsel has enabled our team to maintain high standards in all areas of our work. To each of my colleagues on the team, thank you for your commitment and hard work.

As we move into a rapidly changing 'development cooperation' era, we are acutely conscious of the challenges that lie ahead and also aware of the opportunities that they present. We remain committed to excellence in our work, and to think 'out of box' in our development formulations and strategies, to ensure our initiatives are sustainable, life transforming and cost effective. Thank you all for your support and encouragement.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mohan Paul Prabhu'.

Mohan Paul Prabhu

Accountability, Transparency and our Financial Statement

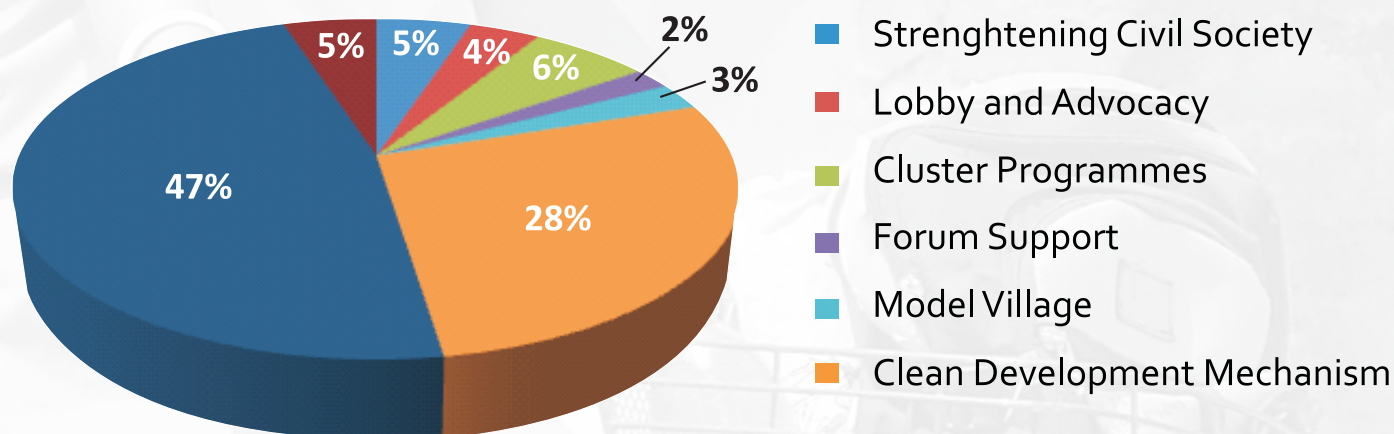
At Development Focus, commitment to accountability and transparency are important integral part of our core values. We strive to maintain high standards of accounting and accept the need to be accountable through appropriate structures and systems. They ensure that our work is as cost effective as possible in reaching our mission, objectives and goals, in fulfilling our responsibilities to the communities.

Governance oversight by our Board of Trustees sets the agenda for: ensuring that the resources we are entrusted with are deployed smartly and efficiently to maximize results from every rupee spent; managing risks; and compliance with statutory requirement. DF management pursues the highest standards of monitoring, accounting and reporting through mid-term review and external evaluation of programs, and financial audit by reputed audit agencies.

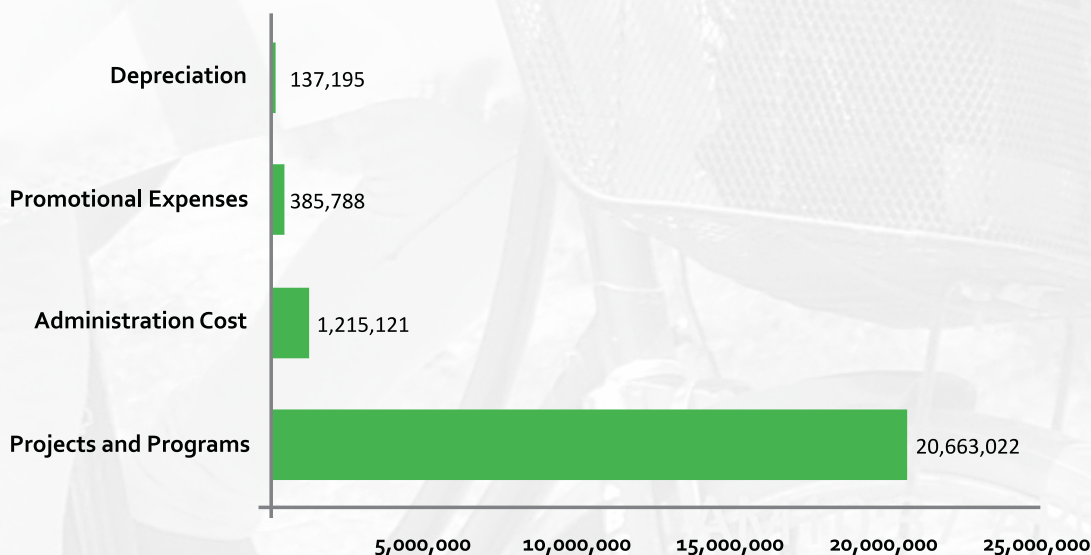
Our partnership with partners NGOs is based on these core values and standards of accounting and reporting. Our due diligence protocol ensures that all our programs are implemented in partnership with partner NGOs who subscribe to these values. Our participatory approach involving the communities keeps both DF and partners accountable, committed and responsive to children, youth and their communities.

Audited statement of accounts of the organization is available in the public domain on our website. We remain committed to pursue excellence in our work and reporting, transcending mandatory compliances.

Fund Application- Projects



Fund Management



Audited consolidated statement of accounts

R. K. KHANNA & ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



1305, Brigade Towers
135, Brigade Road
Bangalore- 560 025

Tel. : 22275419, 49217193

Fax : 22235419

E-Mail : rkk_a@hathway.com

Website : www.rkkhannaassociates.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS **OF DEVELOPMENT FOCUS**

Report on the Financial Statements:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **DEVELOPMENT FOCUS**, No 917, 9th B Main, 3rd Cross, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore – 560043 which comprise the Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 2015 and the Income and Expenditure Account for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements:

Management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position and financial performance of the Trust in accordance with the Accounting Standards generally accepted in India. This responsibility includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility:

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error.

In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Trust's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also



Head office: 402, Regent Chambers, Nariman Point, Mumbai 400021

includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion:

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the financial statements give the information required in the manner so required and give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India:

- a) In the case of the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the Trust as at March 31, 2015; and
- b) In the case of the Income and Expenditure Account, of the excess of income over expenditure for the year ended on that date;

For R. K. KHANNA & ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants

(Firm Regn. No.105082W)



(S. MANJU GEORGE)

Partner

(Membership No. 027444)

Place: Bangalore

Date: 10th June, 2015.

DEVELOPMENT FOCUS
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2015

	Rupees	2014-15
SOURCES OF FUNDS:		
GENERAL FUND		
As per Last Balance Sheet..	1,17,89,601.82	
Excess of Income over Expenditure transferred from Income & Expenditure Account...	6,28,980.15	1,24,18,581.97
CORPUS FUND		29,05,513.00
ENDOWMENT FUND		1,29,322.00
DEPRECIATION FUND		
As per Last Balance Sheet...	16,46,808.57	
Additions during the year...	2,67,817.24	19,14,625.81
		1,73,68,042.78
APPLICATION OF FUNDS:		
FIXED ASSETS		
Per Schedule "A"		8,63,565.27
INVESTMENTS		
In Fixed deposits with Banks		
General Fund...	67,99,608.40	
Corpus Fund...	29,10,375.70	
Depreciation Fund...	16,80,247.20	
In units of Mutual fund		
Endowment Fund...	1,62,289.46	
(NAV as on 31/3/2015 Rs. 2,03,648/-)		1,15,52,520.76
CURRENT ASSETS		
Deposits...	2,03,000.00	
Loans and Advances...	2,45,275.00	
Cash and bank Balances...	46,39,066.25	
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities...	(1,35,384.50)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		49,51,956.75
		1,73,68,042.78

ACCOUNTING POLICY AND NOTES TO ACCOUNTS...SCHEDULE 'B'

Schedules A and B form part of this Balance Sheet...
Per our report of even date attached...

For R.K.KHANNA & ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants
(Firm Regn. No.105082W)

(S. MANJU GEORGE)
Partner
(Membership No.027444)



For DEVELOPMENT FOCUS

(THOMAS PAUL)
Managing Trustee

(DR. D. GLADYS SUMITHRA)
Trustee

Place : Bangalore
Date : 10th June ,2015

DEVELOPMENT FOCUS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2015

	2014-15	
	Rupees	Rupees
INCOME:		
Donations ...	2,23,68,245.00	
Interest on fixed deposits...	7,05,581.20	
Interest from Savings bank account...	1,77,855.00	
Income from fund raising activity...	12,790.00	
Other Income...	33,451.10	2,32,97,922.30
		2,32,97,922.30
EXPENDITURE :		
Projects and Programs		
Strengthening Civil Society...	10,50,004.00	
Lobby and Advocacy...	7,89,059.00	
Cluster Programmes...	13,20,745.00	
Forum Support...	4,17,779.47	
Model village...	5,32,000.00	
Clean Development Mechanism Projects...	57,15,518.00	
Child Marriage Programme India...	98,03,958.03	
End-term Evaluation...	10,33,958.00	2,06,63,021.50
Administration Cost...		12,15,120.50
Promotional Expenses...		3,85,787.67
Depreciation...		1,37,195.24
		2,24,01,124.91
Excess of Income over Expenditure...		8,96,797.39
Appropriation to Depreciation Fund...		2,67,817.24
Balance transferred to General Fund...		6,28,980.15

ACCOUNTING POLICY AND NOTES TO ACCOUNTS...SCHEDULE 'B'

Schedule B forms part of this Income and Expenditure Account...

Per our report of even date attached...

For R.K.KHANNA & ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants

(Firm Regn. No.105082W)

(S. MANJU GEORGE)

Partner

(Membership No.027444)



For DEVELOPMENT FOCUS

(THOMAS PAUL)

Managing Trustee

(DR. D. GLADYS SUMITHRA)

Trustee

Place: Bangalore

Date: 10th June , 2015



Our partners in implementation

Jharkhand

LGSS (Lohardaga Gram Seva Samastha)
SPARK (Society for Participatory Action Research and Knowledge)
BPYP (Bihar Parishad Yuva Parishad)
LEADS (Life Education and Development Support)
MMKK (Maharshi Menhi Kalyan Kendra)
MSUS (Mahila Sangra Uthaam Samithi)
VEDIC Society
YUVA (Youth Unity for Voluntary Action)
SPAR (Society for Participatory Action and Reflection)
SBMS (Shikshit Berojgar Mahila Samithi)
TRCSC (Technology Resource Communication and Service Centre)
PRAGATI, Luyadhiana
ASRA (Society for Reformation and Advancement of Adivasis)
SMVM (Srijan Mahila Vikas Manch)
KMS (Kolam Mahila Sanghthan)
SPACE Foundation

Orissa

YCDA (Youth Council for Development Alternatives)
ADARSA (Association for Development Research in Socio Economic Activity)
AJKA (Agranee Jana Kalyan Anusthan)
PAP (Palli Alok Pathagar)
SIDI (Sambalpur Integrated Development Institute)
ORES (Old Rourkela Education Society)
SES (Sundergarh Education Society)
SEWAK (Self Employed Workers Association Kendra)
VARRAT (Voluntary Association for Rural Reconstruction and Appropriate Technology)
WORD (Women Organization for Rural Development)
WOSCA (Women Organization for Socio Cultural Awareness)
YAVARD (Youth Association for Voluntary Action and Rural Development)

Chhattisgarh

BSM (Bastar Sevak Mandal)
BSJVS (Bastar Samjik Jan Vikas Samithi)
BVSS (Bastar Viklang Seva Samiti)
GSS (Gramodaya Seva Sadan)
SAVISA (Bastar Samagra Vikas Samithi)
SMS (Snehagiri Missionary Sisters)
SWA (Sanjeevani Welfare Association)
VM (Vikas Mithra)
GEEDAM

The Telegraph

THE TELEGRAPH CALCUTTA SATURDAY 28 MARCH 2015

Sabar kids saved from nasty knots

ANIMESH BISOEE

Jamshedpur, March 27: Three minor girls belonging to the Sabar community, one of nine particularly vulnerable tribes in Jharkhand, were saved from the cancer of child marriage earlier this month, underscoring how an efficient network of crusaders can check widespread slaughter of childhood.

While a 14-year-old orphan girl from Tangrain village, 40km from the steel city, in Potka block of East Singhbhum was married off to a 60-year-old man, her eight-year-old sister was allegedly sold for Rs 3,000 by their grandfather to a middle-aged suitor. The third victim, a 12-year-old from Dhenam village, 70km off city, had fled home to marry a boy — also a minor — she was apparently smitten by.

A Jamshedpur-based NGO's extensive counselling and campaigning in 20 villages of the block paved the way for rescue of the Sabar girls. Youth Unity for Voluntary Action (Yuva) employed its network of mitras (friends) in these villages to trace and rescue the minor children.

According to Yuva co-ordinator Arup Kumar Mondal, the teenager from Tangrain lived in a state-run hostel in Sundernagar, on the outskirts of the city, and studied in Class IV.

"On March 19, a man from her village took her away saying her mother, who had remarried and left her after her father died, had passed away too. The girl was, however, taken to Lango village in Dumuria block of Ghatshila sub-division and compelled to

marry a veteran villager. One of our Yuva mitras, Jayanti Sardar of neighbouring Chakri village, informed us," Mondal said, adding that they rescued the teen and re-admitted her to school.

On March 21, the same teenager's younger sister, who is only eight and a Class I student, was traded for Rs 3,000 to a Lango villager. "We informed the mukhya of Tangrain Rajaram Mondal who helped us rescue the child. She is in a shelter run by Mahila Samakhya in Khunti since March 23," Mondal said.

Earlier, on March 17, the 12-year-old from Dhenam — a student of Class VI in the local government middle school — went missing from home with a few friends. "We have a learning centre for Sabar children in the same village and the girl had been on the rolls before we admitted her to the government school. We interacted with some children of her age and learnt she had left home to marry the boy she liked," the Yuva co-ordinator recalled.

A Yuva team went to Lango along with the girl's parents and persuaded her to give up the idea of wedding for now. "We counselled her and her boyfriend, a Class X student, on the effects that this marriage would have on their future. The girl was not just persuaded on health and education grounds, but also told that if she did not study, she would stand deprived of government schemes. Finally, they were convinced and the girl returned with her parents," said Barnali Chakraborty, the secretary of Yuva.

the pioneer

RANCHI | SATURDAY | AUGUST 29, 2015

'Child marriages still rampant in J'khand'



Social Welfare Minister Louis Marandi addresses the programme at a city-based hotel in Ranchi on Friday. Pioneer photo

PNB ■ RANCHI

The State level dissemination workshop on child marriage was conducted at Hotel Le Lac on Friday.

The practice of child marriage is persistent and accepted by majority in the predominantly tribal areas of rural Jharkhand. Development Focus and a cluster of 10 partner organizations have worked in 6 selected districts of Jharkhand to address the problem of early marriages. The six districts include Lohardaga, Latehar, Palamu, East Singhbhum, West Singhbhum and Seraikela.

A panel discussion on comprehensive and collaborative approach in addressing early marriages was held on Friday. The discussion basically focused on three important factors: the livelihood development for youth and its deterrence effect on child marriage; the role of media in informing and influencing positive action and the need for comprehensive approach in legal and health rights.

Planning for the project started in July 2014 whereas the

actual implementation began from September 2014. The goal of the project was to reduce child marriages by 50% and strengthen (sexual and reproductive health and rights) SRHR among adolescents and youths, by the year 2015.

The strategies and interventions of the programme were strategized and planned with the objective of achieving the result within a short duration of one year.

Louis Marandi, Minister, Social welfare was present as the chief guest in the programme. "Child marriage is a curse for girls, especially those living in the villages and is not aware of their rights. In the outskirts and small pockets girls are married at the age of 12," said the Minister.

"Poverty and lack of awareness are very vital issues which need to be tackled. If a girl child is married at a young age, she has to face several health issues in the future. Education is the main weapon to control this crime," Marandi further added.

"Social welfare department has also launched various schemes and policies and Laxmi

Ladli Yojana is one such scheme which can help the girl child to secure her future," Marandi pointed out.

According to the report presented, around six crore girls are married off before they attain the age of 18 years in South Asia. According to the survey done in the year 2007-08 in India itself, approximately around 43% girls get married at an early age.

"To combat child marriage female literacy is mandatory. We also need to focus on rural economy. The livelihood pattern in the village is another big factor responsible for child marriages. Identification of small pockets where child marriage is still prevalent has become mandatory," said economist Ramesh Sharan.

"Dropout rate among girls is also one major factor for the child marriages in the interior regions. Investment in quality education is a need of time. State Government needs to invest more on education and create awareness regarding this sensitive issue," said Sharan.

According to the survey conducted by the International institute of population studies, in Jharkhand 55.7% girls are married before they attain an age of 18 years. In Bihar, the ratio is 68.2% whereas in Rajasthan 57.6% child marriages take place.

"Population and poverty are two main factors which lead to child marriages in the interior regions. Social awareness drive on a wide scale can help to restrain the issue," said senior Journalist Balbir Dutt.

प्रभात खबर

रांची, हरिद्वार 29 अगस्त, 2015
www.prabhatkhabar.com

06

क.र्यशाला. बाल विवाह उन्मूलन विषय पर मंत्री लुईस मरांडी ने कहा प्रबुद्ध लोगों को आगे आना होगा

लोहरदगा ग्राम स्वराज्य संस्थान के कार्यों की सराहना की बाल विवाह का मुख्य कारण अशिक्षा व गरीबी

शिक्षा के साथ-साथ जीविका की भी व्यवस्था करनी होगी



हरिद्वार में उपस्थित मंत्री लुईस मरांडी, सहित प्रचारक कार्यालय दा व अन्य.

समाज कल्याण, महिला एवं बाल विकास और लुईस मरांडी ने कहा कि बाल विवाह एक अभिशाप है, इस पर अंकुश लगाना जरूरी है, इससे शारदाई भी अक्षुण्ण नहीं है, इस कुप्रथा को दूर करने के लिए समाज के प्रबुद्ध लोगों को आगे आना होगा, उन्होंने लोहरदगा ग्राम स्वराज्य संस्थान (एलजेएसएस) के कार्यों की सराहना की, उन्होंने कहा कि यह अभियान राज्य के छह जिलों में हो नहीं, बल्कि सभी जिलों में चलना चाहिए, प्रमोदी मरांडी मुखवार को एलजेएसएस ड्राग होटल लौटते

में बाल विवाह उन्मूलन विषय पर आयोजित कार्यशाला में बाल विवाह का मुख्य कारण अशिक्षा व गरीबी है, सरकार इसे हर स्तर पर दूर करने का प्रयास कर रही है, हमें समूहिक तौर पर बाल विवाह को

समझ से दूर करने का संकल्प लेना होगा, इस मौके पर अर्थशास्त्री प्रो रमेश शरण ने कहा कि बाल विवाह एक सामाजिक कुर्मति है, इसे दूर करना होगा, इसके लिए सबसे पहले बच्चों के लिए शिक्षा के साथ-साथ उनकी जीविका की भी व्यवस्था करनी होगी

बाल विवाह उन्मूलन कार्यशाला में लुईस मरांडी ने कहा कि बाल विवाह एक अभिशाप है, इस पर अंकुश लगाना जरूरी है, इससे शारदाई भी अक्षुण्ण नहीं है, इस कुप्रथा को दूर करने के लिए समाज के प्रबुद्ध लोगों को आगे आना होगा, उन्होंने लोहरदगा ग्राम स्वराज्य संस्थान (एलजेएसएस) के कार्यों की सराहना की, उन्होंने कहा कि यह अभियान राज्य के छह जिलों में हो नहीं, बल्कि सभी जिलों में चलना चाहिए, प्रमोदी मरांडी मुखवार को एलजेएसएस ड्राग होटल लौटते

और विनीता रो पंडी

बाल विवाह उन्मूलन कार्यशाला में लुईस मरांडी ने कहा कि बाल विवाह एक अभिशाप है, इस पर अंकुश लगाना जरूरी है, इससे शारदाई भी अक्षुण्ण नहीं है, इस कुप्रथा को दूर करने के लिए समाज के प्रबुद्ध लोगों को आगे आना होगा, उन्होंने लोहरदगा ग्राम स्वराज्य संस्थान (एलजेएसएस) के कार्यों की सराहना की, उन्होंने कहा कि यह अभियान राज्य के छह जिलों में हो नहीं, बल्कि सभी जिलों में चलना चाहिए, प्रमोदी मरांडी मुखवार को एलजेएसएस ड्राग होटल लौटते

बाल विवाह उन्मूलन कार्यशाला में लुईस मरांडी ने कहा कि बाल विवाह एक अभिशाप है, इस पर अंकुश लगाना जरूरी है, इससे शारदाई भी अक्षुण्ण नहीं है, इस कुप्रथा को दूर करने के लिए समाज के प्रबुद्ध लोगों को आगे आना होगा, उन्होंने लोहरदगा ग्राम स्वराज्य संस्थान (एलजेएसएस) के कार्यों की सराहना की, उन्होंने कहा कि यह अभियान राज्य के छह जिलों में हो नहीं, बल्कि सभी जिलों में चलना चाहिए, प्रमोदी मरांडी मुखवार को एलजेएसएस ड्राग होटल लौटते

Joins hands with us in changing lives of children and youth

In a rapidly changing development context within the country, the poor and voiceless have not benefited commensurately from the economic growth. For many of these children, youth and communities, life still remains a daily struggle. As governments carry out their constitutional mandate of improving lives through programs and schemes, non-governmental effort has been pioneering, exemplary and in many cases has showed the way.

Many such efforts are increasingly being supported by donations from individuals, who desire a better life for their lesser privileged co-citizens. Giving in India is gaining ground, as many give sacrificially and from a desire to bring about change in people's lives.

The amendments to the Companies Act 2013 now mandates companies- both public and private, with a net profit of INR 5 Crores or more, to spend on Corporate Social Responsibility activities. The Confederation of Indian Industry's CSR Handbook states that the 'CSR Act will encourage companies to take up CSR strategically, systematically and thoughtfully'. As CSR evolves in the corporate sector, there is a greater urgency for dialogue between companies and the non-profit sector to help forge collaborative partnerships.

Development Focus's work touches the lives of underprivileged children, youth and marginalized communities, from some of the poorest, remote and tribal regions of the country – in several ways as explained in this report. Our program approach also gives us the advantage of cost effectiveness in delivery of results, and scalability in operations.

We welcome partnership with Individuals, Companies, Foundations and Trusts, in giving fillip to this movement, to bring about change, hope and transformation in the lives of children and youth.

Please contact us for more details, and we will get in touch with you to help shape a meaningful partnership.





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