

# Annual

# Report

2019-20



Our motto is 'Helping People Help Themselves' by making the disadvantaged self-reliant and enabling them to lead a life of dignity. This philosophy lays the foundation for our work on the ground. The following are highlights of a few of our programs in this year.

## Projects under Education:

### Educating The Girl Child Project

The Girl Child Project is very dear to our hearts. It is designed to bring education and all-round-development to girls who have been socially and financially marginalized. With our corporate partner we have managed to reach out to 210 girls in Bengaluru, aged 13 to 14 years, from 4 organizations, in the financial year 2019-20. The project started with the support of 14 girls in 2017-18. Since then,



it has grown exponentially. The girls are supported on various fronts including their school fees, after-school-training classes, life skills education, counselling, self-defence training and aptitude tests to guide them for their further careers. The aim is to work towards their all-round development and to support them in building a sustainable future for themselves.

### Enhancing Educational Support for Children of Domestic Workers in 7 Centres in the Urban Slums



Our 7 supported after-school learning centres for children of domestic workers in Chennai focus on giving the children remedial and back-up classes to augment the lessons they are receiving in school. The learning centres give the children a peaceful space to study, while also helping them with supplementary learning. The after-school learning centres play a critical role in helping the children with their education and in encouraging them in their academics.

They are of key importance in preventing the children from dropping out of school as well as in keeping them away from child labour. Our intervention has helped all the children in the learning centres to move to the next grade. Of these students, 40 have appeared for board exams. The child labour percentage among our beneficiaries has decreased from 50% to 16% after our intervention. As the situation in urban areas has increasingly become unpredictable and unsafe for girls, they were introduced to Kravmaga Self Defence classes. 125 adolescent girls, aged 11yrs - 17yrs, from seven learning centres were the direct beneficiaries of this intervention. These girls learnt the fundamentals of defence, strikes, defence-strike combination and



movement. They also learnt about safety issues with regard to online and mobile abuse. After learning the self-defence techniques, there is an increased safety awareness, assertiveness and confidence in life- challenging situations amongst the girls. Apart from this, reproductive health education sessions were conducted for 125 girls. Sessions were conducted on gender, the reproductive system and its functions, menstrual hygiene, reproductive tract infections, nutritional anaemia and so on. The results indicated that there is a tremendous increase in awareness and knowledge with regard to reproductive/ menstrual health and hygiene after the intervention. The sessions have played a significant role in changing the attitude and perceptions of the girls towards menstruation and reproductive health.

### **Feedback by Children and Parents**

“My self-confidence and boldness has increased after learning the self-defence techniques.” M.Priya, Mylapore Learning centre

“Self-defence training has helped me to learn about good touch/bad touch and also to keep a distance from strangers.” Ranjani, New Avadi Road Learning centre

“I thank you for giving me self-defence training; the techniques learnt will help me to defend myself when someone attacks or misbehaves with me.”- S.Kokila, Mylapore Learning centre

### **About KravMaga (self-defense)**

Increasing incidents of attacks on minors are being reported, resulting in parent’s anxiety about their children’s safety. This is resulting in limiting girls’ involvement in activities which need them to step out of their homes, due to the fear of being followed or even attacked by strangers.

We believe in empowering the girls with self-defense skills in order to protect themselves. Concern India Foundation is supporting Kravmaga an Israeli self-defense technique that has a combat system designed for girls to handle survival on the street and being able to handle crisis situations. An introductory, 10-hour basic self-defense course was conducted amongst the girls studying in the after-school learning centres located in Choolaimedu, Mylapore, T. Nagar, New Avadi Road, Vyasarpadi and Perumbakkam.

### **Infrastructure Development of a Zilla Parishad School in Anwir, Patilpada**

In Anwir, rural Maharashtra, the Zilla Parishad school which we took under our wing in 2019-20, was in huge need of renovation, repair and infrastructural development. The school which is attended by 450 tribal children annually was in need of basic amenities. With support from our corporate partner, Concern India Foundation undertook refurbishment of all the classrooms, construction of the toilet facility with a solar connection, construction of the kitchen shed, drainage line work and construction of an open stage on the school grounds. Levelling of the playground, provision of play equipment for the children and installation of a water tank and a bicycle parking shed were also undertaken. A school as good as new awaits the children when they return to it after the lockdown.



## Projects under Health:

### Suraksha Project

With a focus on raising awareness on adolescent and menstrual health and hygiene, Concern conducted its unique 'Suraksha' (Safety) project in Kolkata, Bengaluru and Delhi. Ensuring hygiene within our population is the need of the hour as is the necessity of driving home the message of reproductive health and protection of young children. And what better audience to do this with than the children and youth themselves? Our programme was conducted in schools for children from the socio-economically weaker sections of society. Conducted amongst children in the age group of 7 to 11 years and 12 to 16 years, the sessions imparted lessons on menstrual awareness and health and hygiene in a friendly, fun-filled manner. While the sessions were conducted primarily with girls, we also conducted some sessions with young boys. Parents and teachers also participated and the appreciation from all age-groups was gratifying. The sessions were followed by the formation of peer groups which will be the go-to groups for students when they want to discuss relevant issues.



## Projects under Community Development:

### Community Development Project at Rabale

Rabale (in the Navi Mumbai area of the Mumbai Metropolitan Region), saw sustained activity from Concern India Foundation in six intervention areas, viz. the slums of Gautam Nagar, Saibaba Nagar, Bhim Nagar, Nochil



Naka, Golden Nagar and Talavli Naka. Typically, the slums lack facilities like proper sanitation and safe drinking water, while there is an acute problem of malnutrition and lack of basic healthcare within them. Concern, with support from our corporate partner has started the implementation of an integrated community health and development program within the intervention areas. The focus points are preventive health and hygiene, training of women and the formation of self-help groups to build up financial independence. Capacity building and training of members of the community, to equip them to build up a better future for themselves is

also part of our intervention which reached out to approximately 9000 community members.

### Sustainable Livelihood through Community Based Farming Practices

Our intervention with women farmers in Vellaputhur and L. Endathur villages in Chengalpattu district of Tamil Nadu has seen much activity and progress. Concern is supporting 148 women farmers belonging to

the marginalized sections of the community in the two villages with relevant interventions like irrigation facilities, well-deepening and training to enable regular cultivation. Through our intervention three (3) irrigation wells were deepened/ revived and improved water facilities were facilitated at cooperative farms in the 2 villages.

installed for one (1) well in L.

Vellaputhur villages and

on 50 acres of land

441 tonnes of crops

harvested and

INR 38.2 lakhs

Measures

improving

maintenance

farming

Women from

farmers' groups

in scientific

New methods

adopted through

varieties of crops are

groundnuts, green gram,

being just a few. Infrastructural

have been introduced to make

farmers in these villages were hitherto involved in daily wage labour and menial jobs in spite of owning their own farm land, due to the fact that there was no source of water for them and agriculture was purely rain-fed. Male members of the village often migrated to cities and nearby villages in search of work. Our intervention however is changing the face of the villages. With the strengthening of agriculture as the mainstay of their lives, the families can look forward to an improved and sustainable future.



Drip irrigation facilities were

facilitated at

Endathur and two (2) wells in

cultivation was initiated

through drip irrigation;

and vegetables were

income worth

was generated.

were taken for

soil fertility and

through proper

techniques.

cooperative

were trained

farming practices.

of cropping were

which multiple

now being cultivated

black gram and cow pea

support and simple technologies

agricultural work easier. The women

## Participatory Natural Resource Management

Concern India Foundation significantly strengthened its programme support towards enhancing water and food security in rural Rajasthan in 2018. What started as a watershed intervention in 2014 in 2 villages was taken forward further in 2016 with two more villages and in 2019 in the neighbouring village of Ghata, (Gogunda block -Udaipur district.) Ghata village is a backward area with hilly terrain, dominated by tribal population, located amidst the hillocks of the Aravalli ranges. The topography of the village has a high percentage of sloping land leading to major run-off, severe soil erosion and availability of miniscule area for agriculture. Our intervention brought 18ha of land under afforestation. Soil water conservation was done on 4 ha of irrigated and unirrigated land and 3 wells were renovated. 37 demonstration farms, 1 vegetable model, 20 kitchen gardens and horticulture plots were developed with a drip irrigation model, while 5 backyard poultry systems were provided to poor families as a livelihood intervention.



### **Saving the Green Cover of Bengaluru**

On October 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 339 volunteers from our corporate supporter joined us in an initiative to save the fast-vanishing green cover of Bengaluru. A massive tree plantation was conducted by us in the city, following the proven Miyawaki method, one through which saplings grow 10 times faster than normal and where heavy watering is not required. The two days were packed with intense activity, coordinated team-work and high humour. The volunteers thoroughly enjoyed themselves and departed



with the satisfaction of knowing that they had contributed to the environment with the plantation of 10,000 saplings. In the past, we have had similar tree plantations in Mumbai for volunteers with far-reaching results. Not only have the trees flourished, but one volunteer replicated the tree plantation through the Miyawaki method in his housing society. We hope to continue to spread the message of tree plantation and environment conservation.

### **Sharing Knowledge for their Future**

In Vadodara city, 22 employees of our corporate supporter conducted training and guidance sessions on career guidance, entrepreneurship and health & hygiene for 45 disadvantaged students of Classes 7 to 10 of Navprerna School. The employees had taken care to research the topics carefully and the students responded to the sessions with enthusiasm. A keen desire to learn more was evident amongst them and they bombarded the volunteers with questions which were handled admirably.

### **Computer Literacy Workshop in Pune**

The teachers of our supported programme in Pune have come a long way with regard to computer literacy, thanks to the efforts of volunteers from our corporate partner. On June 11<sup>th</sup> 2019, 17 volunteers conducted a session with more than 30 teachers of our programme, many of whom did not even know how to switch on a computer. Having received a brief from us, the volunteers had taken the trouble to painstakingly put together a structured programme through which to train the teachers. Groups were formed of one volunteer and two teachers each and basic, hands-on knowledge of Word, Excel, PPT and Google was imparted. The volunteers very clearly put their heart into the training sessions and an easy bonhomie sprang up between them and the teachers. The volunteers took pains to write down instructions for the teachers to follow and allowed them to make mistakes in order to facilitate a thorough learning. The efforts of a few hours by 17 employees from our corporate partner will serve the beneficiaries for a lifetime.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Abridged income & expenditure account as at 31.3.2020      Abridged balance sheet for the year ended 31.3.2020

PARTICULARS	(In Rs.crores)
Establishment Expenses	1.35
Legal and Professional Charges	0.04
Audit Fees	0.01
Miscellaneous Expenses	0.00
Depreciation	0.02
Expenditure on Objects of the Trust	14.16
<b>Total</b>	<b>15.58</b>
Interest	0.99
Dividend	0.01
Donations in Cash or Kind	16.91
<b>Total</b>	<b>17.91</b>

LIABILITIES	(In Rs.crores)
Corpus Funds	5.69
Income & Expenditure A/C	19.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>25.36</b>
Assets	
Fixed Assets	0.15
Investments	18.18
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	
Current Assets	
Less: Current Liabilities	7.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>25.36</b>

Summarised from financial statements audited by M/s Y. K. Bhagwagar & Co., Chartered Accountants.

Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 at Mumbai.

## IMPACT

- Our programs have reached **over 1.65 lac marginalized people**
- Our support to educational initiatives impacted **25049 children** and **over 523 youth**
- Our support to grass root level programmes in the area of **health and hygiene** improved the lives of **18832 people**
- Through our special support we have reached to **over 4350 differently abled** people and over 248 elderly.
- Our support in **community development** like natural resource management, livelihoods, women empowerment and community at large has directly benefited **126122 individuals**.
- We have serviced over **32 CSRs partners** in the reporting year through end to end to project management

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU

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