

ANNUAL REPORT

2012

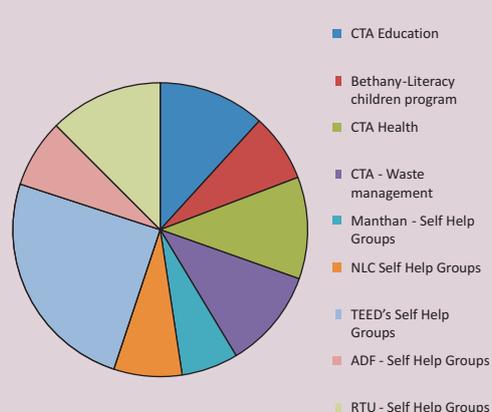
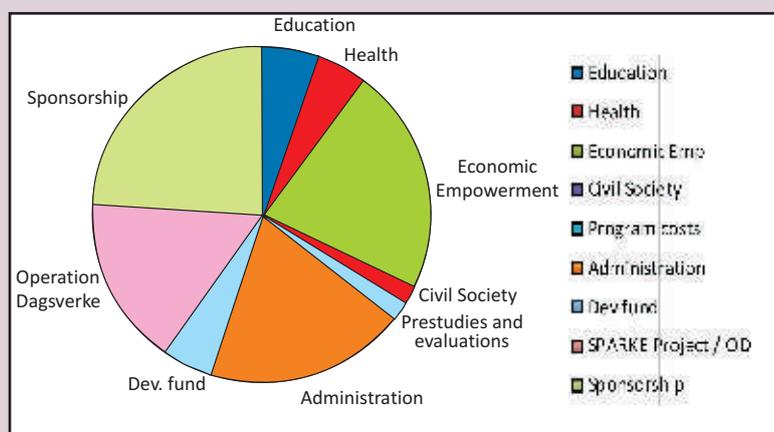


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PARTNERS AND BUDGET ALLOCATION

Partner	Component	Budget
Tibetan Children's Educational and Welfare Fund	Education	16,45,000
Tibetan Voluntary Health Association	Health	15,75,000
Central Tibetan Relief Committee	Economic Empowerment	15,40,000
Sisters of the Little Flower of Bethany	Education	10,50,000
Kiran Society	Education	14,00,000
Reaching The Unreached	Economic Empowerment	17,50,300
Maximising Employment to Serve the Handicapped	Fair Trade	28,42,816
Manthan	Economic Empowerment	8,75,000
New Life Centre	Economic Empowerment	10,50,000
Tribal Educational and Environment Development Trust	Economic Empowerment & Education	35,00,000
Asha Deep Foundation	Economic Empowerment	10,52,890



EDUCATION

Objective: Access to good quality primary and secondary level education to approximately 8 000 marginalized boys and girls, including children with disabilities, by 2014 in order to enhance their career opportunities and enable them to live to their full potential.

Indicators

Results or progress towards results

4000 marginalized children, including children with disabilities, have access to educational and vocational training opportunities.

- Approximately 800 children have had access to educational opportunities.
- More than 500 children have had access to evening study centres that are improving their education opportunities.
- 95 youths had access to vocational training opportunities and 53 youths received employment after vocational training opportunities.
- Enrolment and attendance of children with disabilities in schools is increasing.

Teachers and parents from 22 schools under SPARKE project are aware of the rights of children and have knowledge on methods for positive disciplining and prevention of bullying.

- 400 teachers and 1200 students from 18 schools participated in workshops on rights of children, positive disciplining, and prevention of bullying.

Improved teaching skills of 85 teachers through exchange program and exposure between Tibetan schools.

- 48 teachers and teacher trainees improved their teaching skills through workshops and exchange programs.
- 13 university science students got practical teaching experience. 3700 Tibetan school students from grade 6-12 and 300 Tibetan college students have access to career counseling and are aware of the opportunities.
- Approximately 3350 school students have had access to career counseling.

Local authorities support the implementation of successful models, based on experiences from education projects.

- A government department has considered opening three small child-care centers after Parent Committees approached the department.
- Government support establishment of informal schools by providing classrooms.
- Nine private and government schools are ready to implement the concept of Inclusive Education.

Processes leading up to the outcomes

Access to education has improved for different groups of marginalized girls and boys, such as tribal children, migrant labourers' children, and children living with disabilities. The education these girls and boys are receiving will have a lasting impact on their lives as they are increasing their knowledge and thereby their chances of a brighter future. Through education initiatives the access to employment has also improved, through different types of vocational programs which also lead to a lasting impact for these individuals and their families.

In the cases where basic education is available to a large part of the children, the most important thing to do in order to reach positive outcomes is often to improve the quality and standard of the education. However, in the case of marginalized children such as disabled children or tribal children in remote areas, they often do not have any education opportunities at all. To work with awareness is therefore an important strategy. During the past year, this has been an important part of the processes leading up to the outcomes. In addition, working with models for education is an important strategy in this component.

An important aspect in this work with education for children living with disabilities has been to convince these students and their parents of the importance of education. More and more parents are participating in awareness programs and trying to receive government schemes such as disability pension, hearing aids, wheel chairs etc.

The quality of education has improved in the Tibetan schools. School heads and teachers experience improved education and academic results through the introduction of new and improved teaching methodologies. This is mainly due to processes of developing good concepts and models that on one hand increase the capacity of the teachers, and on the other hand structure and organize the way that career counseling is given to the students. There is also an improved level of awareness among parents to help their children in regard to career options.

Partners create good models for Inclusive Education, models that can and be adopted in other schools and education systems. This requires networking and lobbying work from the partner which is something that partners are developing and working on.

In the case of SPARKE project, the main process has been to further develop and implement the already existing concept around working against corporal punishment and bullying, in order to reach as many teachers and students as possible.

HEALTH

Objective: Improved health and knowledge on preventive health measures among individuals from marginalized groups through health education, awareness raising and service delivery.

Indicators	Results or progress towards results
Increased awareness on how to prevent tuberculosis, sexually transmitted diseases and water borne diseases in three Tibetan settlements with a target population of 11 000 through campaigns and workshops.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More than 3500 people took part of health talks, information materials, awareness raising and mobile health campaigns. - One HIV/AIDS documentary film was produced, distributed and shown in Tibetan settlements.
Reduced number (70% of target population) of new cases of tuberculosis (TB), sexually transmitted diseases and water-borne diseases through improved access to clean water and awareness raising.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved access to clean water through construction of one water tank.

Processes leading up to the outcomes

The awareness on health has increased among the target groups through participation in workshops and awareness talks. Awareness work is one of the most important strategies when it comes to improving health for people in the region. Basic health-care is available for many of the target groups, but if these people are unaware of preventive health measures or updated information within the area of health, not much improvement in their health can be seen. Our partner has worked very actively with this work, which has led to positive outcomes.

Good methods have been developed for creating awareness among the Tibetan settlers, both when it comes to the health talks and the HIV/AIDS film. This is a process that still needs fine-tuning. A separate process has been to analyze the need for, and plan and construct the most suitable infrastructure for improved access to clean water.

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Objective: Improved socio-economic status of marginalized individuals and communities through income generating activities, waste management and cooperatives.

Indicators

Results or progress towards results

Enhanced socio-economic status and self-confidence among 450 self-help groups with 7000 marginalized women in rural communities

- More than 450 functioning women self-help groups with more than 6600 members.
- SHG women have raised their income through involvement in income-generating activities after being capacitated, some on individual basis and some as a group.
- SHG women were elected in the local body elections to voice the concerns of the poor.
- SHG women get enhanced self-confidence, which for example lead to them making more decisions in their homes and about their children's education.

Improved environment and public awareness amongst three Tibetan settlements in Central India with a population of 4 800 through Solid Waste Management.

- Waste management system created and implemented in three Tibetan settlements.
- Public awareness was raised through talks on waste management systems and environment protection.
- 70% of households have started segregating wet and dry waste.
- 50% of total households consider the environment to be cleaner since the implementation of the system.

10-15 job opportunities in the three settlements through this intervention.

- 10 job opportunities created in the three settlements. Improved forest cover and income generated from the produce from the tree plantation program.
- More than 17500 trees were planted.

Processes leading up to the outcomes

As several of the interventions are continuations of earlier projects some impact has already been achieved. Over 100 self-help groups are sustainable in the sense that they are very regular in organizing meetings, writing books of accounts, minutes book, regular repayment and savings, conflict resolving, facilitating formation of new SHGs, sharing and presentation skills, productive investment of loan by members.

The key strategy and main process for the partners working with economic empowerment for women is to support and guide the creation and running of the self-help groups, and other bodies associated with these, such as federations. As Economic Empowerment through self-help groups is a holistic approach many different processes and aspects have been put in place, ranging from capacity building in how to run the groups, to how to deal with the banks and how to create income-generating projects. The experience of the partners within this field is important and also the knowledge sharing in between the partners.

An important process for these partners is also the awareness and support work, strengthening and empowering the self-help group women by teaching basic reading, writing, and arithmetic skills to the women, has brought gradual changes in the life of the target groups especially women. The literacy centers have made it easier for women to participate in group activities with increased confidence, dignity and self-respect.

The creation and implementation of a waste management system has led to important outcomes of cleaner and safer environment and more orderly settlements. As the concept and system already was in place prior to this project, the main process has been to duplicate and fine-tune the system, as well as create awareness among the settlers who have not previously had a waste management system.

CIVIL SOCIETY STRENGTHENING

Objective: SOIR-IM has contributed with technical and management capacities to the partner organizations, in order for them to be articulated, constructive organizations open to dialogue in society. The partner organizations in their turn have strengthened the target groups they work with.

Indicators

Results or progress towards results

19 partner organizations have improved their knowledge and capacities in the coordination of projects and management.

- Partners have increased their knowledge (on topics such as: leadership techniques, strategic management, team work & performance review and risk management, Results Based Management and PME during the two network meetings (35 participants).

Dissemination of information and knowledge sharing among SOIR-IM's

- Two issues of the Development Magazine have been distributed to 155 receivers.

19 partners through Development Network Magazine and the Annual Network Meeting for partner organizations.

- Two three day network meetings have been held with 35 participants.

Processes leading up to the outcomes

The main process when it comes to strengthening the civil societies that are our partners, is to create an atmosphere and platform that leads to sharing, exchanging and discussing ideas, problems and learnings with each other. In addition, it has been of great importance to choose topics for capacity building that the partners feel are useful and relevant, to ensure that they have a willingness to dedicate time and energy towards this. This has been done both through the Network Meetings and the Development Magazine.

ANNUAL NETWORK MEETING AND WORKSHOP WITH PARTNERS

Two network meetings were held with the partners and the SOIR-IM staff:

- 22nd to 25th May, 35 participants. The meeting was conducted by an external resource person, Mr. Pankaj Mehndiratta. Topics included: leadership techniques, strategic management, team work & performance review and risk management.
- 27-29 November, 35 participants. The meeting was conducted by the Director. The topics were Results Based Management and Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, with a focus on reporting.

These network meetings are much appreciated by both partners and staff. It is a valuable time for partners to come together and share their experiences, problems and successes. Much time is dedicated to group work and informal discussions during these network meetings. They also provide an opportunity for the SOIR-IM staff to have a dialogue with the partners. Both meetings have written participants evaluations that show very good results and feedback.



STORIES OF RESULTS

Partner: Tibetan Voluntary Health Association

Intervention: Water & Sanitation and Health campaign program

Health Campaign and Talks: With the continuous funding from SOIR-IM for organizing the health talks and campaign in the settlements. The department is able to undertake health talks and campaign in Tibetan community comprises of settlements, schools, monasteries, colleges, nunneries and other institutions. The yearly intervention of this program had helped to reach some of the remotest Tibetan settlements located at Jangthang (nomadic Tibetan settlement in Ladakh) in northern India and Tuting in Arunachal Pradesh state of India both sharing border to China.

Publication of education materials: The publications of various educational materials on HIV/AIDS and free distribution among the people is helping in raising awareness which would lead to change in behavior among the community in fighting against the spread of the disease. The publications include pamphlets, booklets, posters, badges, bookmarks, leaflets and other to promote the health of the people avoiding the irresponsible and unsafe practices.

Documentary film on HIV/AIDS: Tibetan Voluntary Health Association also known as the Department of Health, Central Tibetan Administration introduced the HIV/AIDS desk to impart the preventive knowledge and to create awareness among the Tibetan community located in various Indian states. The first case of HIV was detected in year 1995. The Tibetans community is scattered all over India and being a mobile community, there is a big risk of HIV infection. A documentary film of 26 minutes length was made and screened at selected places to raise awareness and provide information about the disease like modes of transmission, preventive and safety practices and the medication process. The documentary film focuses on the importance of knowing the facts about the disease to prevent its spread. It covers all aspects about the HIV infection, from the process of multiplication of HIV and symptoms of AIDS to the test for identifying the infection and seeking medical help for diagnosis.

Though there is prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the Tibetan community, but nobody comes forward to talk and share their experience fearing being stigmatized. With continuous awareness raising and health talks, three people came forward and agreed to share their experience in the documentary film with faces blurred and identity concealed. But that is a big achievement in itself as there is hardly any documentary film made on Tibetan people suffering from HIV/AIDS and the patients coming forward and sharing their experience. In the documentary film, the patients share how they got the disease and what type of support they received from the



HIV patient Late Mr. Damchoe sharing his life history during awareness campaign.



Premiere of HIV Documentary film at Gangkyi, Dharamsala (Above) and Deykiling in Dehra Dun (Below)



department. They expressed that the HIV/AIDS patient group formed by the department is very helpful in sharing experiences among themselves. In the documentary film, they also shared about information provided by the department on the free distribution of ART (Anti Retro Viral) drug by the Indian government hospitals. This has helped them in controlling HIV infection. The department is very positive that with continuous awareness and education, the stigma associated with the HIV/AIDS will be reduced to a great extent.

CASE STUDIES-1

Partner: Asha Deep Foundation

Intervention: Integrated Rural Development Program

34 years old Soni is a member of the SHG named Om Namah Shivay. Her husband Azad is a farmer. He is not able to contribute much towards the family income due to low earning capacity. Soni has two school going children named Chetan, 16 years old and Golu, 13 years old. Before the start of intervention by ADF in the Nagla Village, her life was miserable. There was financial crisis being experienced by the family. She never thought of herself being a source of extra income for her family.

When she was introduced to the concept of SHG by ADF staff, she found it really effective and got motivated to start her own entrepreneur. In order to support her family she took a stand and decided to open a small shop in the village to generate income. For this purpose she took a loan of Rs. 10,000/- through savings by SHGs. At present she is successfully running a cosmetic shop and having good earnings from it. This has not only improved her family's financial condition but also given a boost to her self- esteem. She has been a very active member and is also now leading her group. She is regularly involved in organizing the functioning of SHGs activities with full enthusiasm. She also plays major role in motivating other village women to be a part and member of SHGs. Soni and other female members of the village in cooperation with ADF staff have achieved success in resolving many problems of the village like she is always there to help the village women in solving any kind of problem involving disputes in the



families, to help the pregnant women to be taken to the hospital for delivery etc. She is now well informed and very confident. Soni, whose life once was limited to the four walls of her house, is now aiming high. In near future, she wants to learn English language so that her prospects for success can increase. Now she is linked with the Village ASHA and that is supporting her to help the village people in need. She is proactive towards women's problems and wants to move ahead with their active participation. After many initial hardships with the village elders, she is now taking her own decisions and being very independent. She recently bought a motor cycle and now goes to work on her motor cycle despite the objections from the elders.

ASHA stands for Accredited Social Health Activist - started by the Government of India: Government focusing attention on public health at the village level - having a proposed budget of Rs 8,000 crore to be spent in the next two years, the mission would comprise a health centre in every village. The centre will be headed by 'ASHA' (Accredited Social Health Activist). Asha will be the women's representative from the village and will be chosen by the village health committee of the Panchayat.

'ASHA' also means hope in Hindi and so it is appropriately named to bring hope to millions of village women living with ignorance, discrimination and poverty.

CASE STUDIES-2

Partner: New Life Centre

Intervention: Socio-economic and political empowerment of Tribals and Dalits with focus on women in Rayagada block, Rayagada District.

Palle Kadraka, aged about 30 is a tribal woman belonging to the Sanasiguru village, one of the project villages of NLC. Her family comprises of her husband, one son aged about 10 and a daughter aged about 8. Besides there is Palle's aged mother-in-law.

Being landless, the only source of income for the family was the income earned by Palle's husband from daily wage labour which was also available only on a seasonal basis for a limited number of months in a year.

Though she herself is illiterate, Palle wished to give her two children good education. But her husband was finding it very hard even to meet the daily need for food etc. of the family let alone setting aside money for school fees for the children.



When NLC started the literacy program in her village, Palle was too eager to join the Centre. She regularly attended the classes despite being always loaded with heavy household work. When NLC facilitated the formation of Narisakti SHG in the village, she too joined the group along with 9 other women of her neighborhood. As she had no income of her own, initially it was difficult for her to pay the monthly Group savings. But her husband was very supportive and that enabled her make regular contributions to the Group's savings.

Under the provision of Project, the group was supported with INR Rs. 5000/- as seed capital. This support enabled the group to start trading on minor forest produces in a small way. The group enterprise took off very well and seemed to be very promising as the Group was able to make some profit. After keeping some money from the profit in the common fund to enhance the capital for continued trading, the group divided the rest of the profit among the members. Each member could earn monthly about INR 150-200/- on an average. This made it easy for Palle to pay the monthly savings without difficulty.

Six months after formation of the SHG, the Group managed to get a bank loan of Rs. 50,000/- from a local Bank through bank linkage. From the Group loan, Palle borrowed Rs. 5000/- and started a grocery shop.

Though she was illiterate, she could learn simple calculations at the literacy Centre. This was of immense help for her in managing her shop. She also received support from her husband and NLC field staff whenever needed.

Palle also earns some additional income as she is still part of the Group activity of trading on seasonal minor forest produces. Presently she earns anything between Rs. 2000-2500/- in a month. Palle is also an active member of the Village Development Committee which is acting as a Pressure Group for the improvement of service delivery in the village by the local duty bearers. The composition of the Village Committee is of 50% men and 50% women.

Palle's family that was once living in abject poverty now leads a happy life with both the wife and husband earning and their children getting good food, education and health care - thanks to NLC's intervention, guidance and encouragement and the success of the SHG concept for economic empowerment at the village grassroots level. This is not at all an isolated case. There is ample number of poor families who could come out of poverty because of the success of the SHG movement in the NLC's Project area villages.

CASE STUDIES-3

Partner: Kiran Society

Intervention: Mainstreaming of children with disabilities and marginalized girls through Inclusive Education program

Shining eyes, extreme confidence, endless excitement, as well as passion to reach new peaks, these are some unique qualities and identity of Suresh Kr. Sharma who is 2nd year student of B. Ed. S.E. (C.P.), in Human Resource Training of KIRAN Centre, which makes him different from others.



Through this article, we want to share his life experiences which are full of so many struggles right from his childhood. As a middle (among one brother & sister) son of Mr. Lalji Prasad Sharma (Retd. Major-Army), and Mrs. Amrawati Devi (House Wife), Suresh

Kr. Sharma, a student-HRTC, was born on 10-10-1978, at Village Virbhanpur (Near Rajatalab), Varanasi District. Due to continuous health breakdowns, he was under treatment for long time and finally Polio was diagnosed by the doctor. He did not receive any education till the age of 12, he did manage to do class- I in Bangalore after which he returned back to his village. Since he was very good at his studies, he got direct admission to class-VI in a nearby school (i.e. Ambika Singh Inter College, Bhaironath) with the efforts put by his relatives, where he completed Intermediate. After intermediate, he took admission in B.A. with Arts subject in Jagatpur Degree College, where after facing lots of trouble in his travels between home and college due to lack of a tricycle, he had to leave his studies uncompleted. Without losing hope he again took admission in B.A. Ram Manohar Post Graduate College which was nearby his home. Along with the P.G. Education, he took admission in Computer Diploma Course. But, due to sickness, again he had to leave his computer course uncompleted.

While continuing his P.G.(Post Graduate), his health started to get better and decided to do some part time job in which one of his close friends supported him to find the work as a Reporter in Bharat Samayik Publications. His few articles were published there which was quite appreciated. But against his work, he was not paid anything. After repeated requests when he did not get any payment, left the job. Then, he tried to run his shop which was at his home itself, but it was also not successful. In the mean time he completed his P.G. Studies.

One day he came to know about the services of KIRAN Centre which reminded him also of the advertisement of KIRAN Centre displayed on Doordarshan Regional TV, few years back. Immediately he decided to come to KIRAN Centre. His journey takes around 32 kilometers by his tricycle to reach KIRAN Centre. His intention was to find some job here instead he was suggested to go through a professional course like Special B. Ed, which could help him secure a better job in the future. But, due to financial problems, he could not say yes to this suggestion. KIRAN understood his problem and arranged his entire course fee through scholarship support.

Presently, he is a second and final year student of Special B.Ed. (Cerebral Palsy) course in Human Resource Training Centre of KIRAN Centre. In the future, he intends to be a devoted Special Educator who could serve the needy disabled persons like him – understanding very well their weaknesses and strengths.

PUROSHATTAM'S EDUCATION JOURNEY

Partner: Raphael Ryder Cheshire International Centre

Puroshattam Das was born on 18th March 1995 of leprosy parentage at Dehradun. His parents were living in a leprosy colony. As his parents could not afford a proper education for Puroshattam both on account of their economic condition as well the social stigma of leprosy due to which no regular school in town was prepared to admit him. They therefore requested to admit their child in Raphael. Puroshattam was admitted to Raphael in June 2000 and after initially studying in Raphael's Primary School, he joined a regular school (Fergar School) in the town in the year 2003. From the year 2003 after a lot of persuasion the schools in town had started accepting out children in their schools from Nursery class itself.

Puroshattam started performing well both in academics and sports in his school. He continued to maintain steady progress and it was pleasing to see this young child developing well. At Raphael, effort is made for a holistic development of the children staying in our hostel for children of leprosy parentage. While he maintained a steady progress in academics, he outshone his classmates in the sports activities. Raphael encouraged his interest and potential in sports and arranged for extra coaching in Basketball at Welham Boys School. The efforts and his interest and perseverance enabled Puroshattam to participate in State Level Basketball tournament.



Today, Puroshattam is in Class 12 in the CNI Boys' school. He had obtained 47.6% marks in the 10th Board Examination. In class 11 he secured 51% marks. We expect him to do reasonably well in class 12th Board Examination. His ambition is to join Merchant Navy with the second option of joining the Armed Forces. We will prepare him accordingly and hope that he succeeds in one of his career options. The SOIR-IM, Dehradun contribution to Raphael for education and all round development of children of Leprosy parentage has been a contributing factor in the progress made by Puroshattam.

COMMUNICATION

The Development Magazine has been published with two issues (in July and December) as per the plan.

Approximately 155 copies have been distributed to our program partners, sponsorship partners as well as other stakeholders and actors in our network such as different schools we cooperate with, Tibetan settlement officers etc. The magazine is also sent to all back donors, the Fair Trade shops, and other stake holders.

STAFF TRAINING

Staff Training and Capacity Building activities implemented during the year.

1. **Results Based Management:** A three day workshop was held with an external consultant, as per the plan. A written participant evaluation was done after the trainings that showed very good results. The staffs, especially the program staffs, are now being able to easily distinguish between output, outcome and input, and are also able to guide the partners in this.
2. **Risk Management:** A one day workshop was held in November by the Director. The purpose was to make the staff familiar with the risk management and use of tools. This clearly led to an easier and improved application when it comes to the Risk Management tools, for example filling in the IMRATT.
3. **Fair Trade:** The Head of Fair Trade section and the Senior Advisor participated in the Fair Trade Conference 2012, in Goa from 9–13 October arranged by Fair Trade Forum India.

The characteristics of SOIR-IM

SOIR-IM has three characteristics that shall guide our work and pervade the organisation:

Compassion – We show interest, knowledge, respect and openness when meeting people. All human beings should be treated equally, regardless of gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age and disability. We give marginalized and discriminated groups priority in our work. Our work is made possible thanks to the compassion and commitment of people around the world to uphold human rights.

Empowerment – Our aim is to support women, men, girls and boys so that they can empower themselves. We strive to support sustainable solutions and it is our ambition that our partner organizations become independent.

Presence – Good results are dependent on proximity to partners and participants in our programmes and a good knowledge about the local context. SOIR-IM interacts closely with our partner organisation.

