



Annual Report 2017-18

Rural Educational Activities for Development
(READ)

Defense Colony, Bhabinarayanapur road.

PO-Narendrapur

Berhampur- 760007

District- Ganjam, Odisha, India.

Email: readngo93@gmail.com

www.readodisha.org



TABLE OF CONTENTS

About READ.....	3
Ideology & Approach of the Organization.....	4
Our Current Strategic Framework.....	4
PROGRAMME:	
Eradication of Extreme Poverty.....	4
➤ Outcome indicator of the project.....	8
➤ Long impact.....	8
Healthy living of Widows & Marginalized Women through Strengthening SHGs Federation.....	9
➤ Progress in Achieving Project Objectives at the end of current year..	14
➤ Overall Impact.....	15
Education Program	15
Capacity building of staff	16
Evidence based advocacy study.....	16
Finances	18
Partners & Supporters.....	21

About READ

Rural Educational Activities for Development (READ) is a civil society organization working for the cause of the Adivasis and Dalits since 25 years now. READ was formed by few like-minded individuals to bridge the gap between development and the marginalized communities that they deeply felt for. The organization was seen as a vehicle for realizing their dreams for a peaceful and just society especially for people who generally get pushed to the margins of development. In their home state Odisha, these populations were the Adivasis (ST) and the Dalits (SC) who have been at the sidelines for decades. It is registered with the Government of India under the society registration Act in the year 1993. READ has been working with the people of 50 villages in the districts Rayagada, Ganjam and Gajapati with a focus on women, marginalized farmers and youth within the Dalits and Adivasis communities. READ has approximately 12 staff members within the organization directly supported by All We Can. READ has an Board of Governors which is responsible for developing policies and directions for the organization and arrange annual auditing of the organization.





Vision of READ : READ's vision is to create a peaceful, just and an equal society where *adivasis, dalits* and marginalized communities are empowered to live a life of dignity and quality.

Mission of READ: READ strives to fulfill its mission by empowering the marginalized communities, capacitating them to recognize and access their rights, building peoples collectives at local and larger levels, strengthening local leadership & local governance institutions for enabling participatory development, pro people policies and realization of rights, entitlements and justice working together with community leadership, likeminded organizations and relevant stakeholders

Ideology and approach of the organization:

Participatory processes and collective leadership are at the core of READ's approach to facilitate the social change. Over the last 24 years, READ has developed a community-based approach to improving the lives of most marginalized and oppressed people of the communities. READ mobilizes and inspires local people and concerned authorities to stand for equality and justice in gender-related issues. In marginalized communities, people are discriminated on the basis of caste, class and gender. One of the biggest challenges is an acceptance of discrimination or oppression as part of 'fate' - combined with a culture of silence. Raising awareness of constitutional entitlements and challenging social norms is the key in overcoming such hurdles through the capacity building programmes. READ is changing mindsets - from 'victim of circumstance' to 'change-maker'.

Our current Strategic Framework:

'Initiative from within' and 'Solidarity is the biggest asset of the marginalized people' are READ's two key premises about the envisaged social change. Mobilizing marginalized people on the Constitutional Entitlement Based Approach is a challenging task. People are sometimes exposed to risks while breaking the culture of silence on marginalization. But this is the way for bringing qualitative and sustained change in people's lives. The inequalities in power relationships must be addressed in the democratic framework of constitution. Looking at the enormity, diversity and complexity of the issues faced by the marginalized people, the right strategy of intervention is to invest in building up leadership from within the marginalized so that these leaders then become change agent in their own communities (micro level) and collectively they can impact at the macro level.

PROGRAMMS

Eradication of Extreme Poverty

Goal: The project will have contributed to eradicating extreme poverty



Voice of voiceless.....

Geographical Reach:

The Programme is being implemented in the 50 villages of 3 Gram Panchayats under Ramanaguda Block of Rayagada District, Odisha, India

OBJECTIVE -1

Improved food security through increased agricultural production for 1556 families

Key indicators of the Activities:

1. LEVELING OF LAND: 350 acres of uncultivable land provided under Forest Regulation Act will be leveled. This will increase cultivable land from 7800 acres to 8150 acres

With SHGs, chose 115 acres of land (out of through the FRA) from 17 villages of 3 Panchayats and 94 acres of land are this year at the lowest cost manually by family). READ staff conducted meetings in village with SHGs and Village Development (VDCs) and selected the deserving for land leveling and the beneficiaries have contributed their labour to clear the land. has been used for land leveling work and acres of land of 94 farmers during this



1600 given Gram leveled during JCB (1 acre=1 each target Committees beneficiaries accepted and The hired JCB have leveled 94 financial year.

2. PROVIDE IRRIGATION FACILITIES and SUPPORT WATER CONSERVATION: Additional 1600 acres of land to be irrigated bringing a total of 2300 acres under irrigation by providing 3 Check Dams and renovating 18 existing ponds

Organized meetings in 17 villages with SHGs, VDCs and farmers committee to identify irrigation sources for Check Dam and ponds renovation in 3 gram Panchayats. By conducting SHGs, VDCs and farmers committee meeting identified the type of irrigation and place Sabarada village of Gulunthi G.P. where the Check Dam has been constructed.

Identified the beneficiaries and to be irrigated area with SHGs, VDCs and Farmers' committees and agreed on community contribution (in kind). Agreement has been done with land holders whose lands are being irrigated for construction of check dam or pond renovation. One check dam has been constructed in Sabarada village. 6 no. of existing ponds have been renovated during this financial period.

2. SUPPORT 456 BELOW POVERTY LINE FARMERS

Organized 50 nos. of meetings with SHG, VDC and farmers committee in 50 villages and identified the beneficiaries and decided the types of seeds & quantity for 50 villages. Paddy seeds for 300 beneficiaries and named the Paddy seeds selected were Pooja & 1001 and was purchased total 9 quintals (3 Kg for 1 acre for each farmer), Red Gram Seed 300 Kg for 100 acres/beneficiaries (3 Kg for each farmer), Chhani Seed 200 Kg for 40 farmers (each farmer 5 kg for 1 acre). All these seeds were purchased from local market and Ramanaguda Lamps. All these seeds are disbursed among the selected farmers in the revolving process for the sustainable agriculture development.

Training was Conducted to 150 farmers (50 from each GP) on different types of crops and how to cultivate at Panchayat level. The land registration has been done. We have now applied for legal



Voice of voiceless.....

entitlement (Potta). The storeroom construction will be started as soon as we receive the Record of Rights to land. READ facilitated the community and mobilised 2640 cashew plants from horticulture department and distributed among 33 beneficiaries of target 3 GPs. Apart from this 618 farmers are facilitated to obtain hybrid cotton seeds and cultivated in 1881.5 Acres of land. READ procured and distributed seeds of Chhani, Paddy and Red Gram from different local vendors as follows;

Red Gram seeds:

- 35 farmers from Gogupadu GP @ 3 Kgs each & total 105 Kgs.
- 35 farmers from Gulanthi GP @ 3 Kgs each & total 105 Kgs.
- 30 farmers from Penkam GP @ 3 Kgs each & total 090 Kgs.



Total 100 nos. of farmers are provided 300 Kgs of Red gram seeds by READ and the farmers have cultivated in 100 Acres of land during this reporting period.

Paddy seeds:

- 100 farmers from Gogupadu GP are provided @ 3 Kgs. per Acre/ farmer & total 300 Kgs. of seeds for 100 Acres of land.
- 100 nos. of farmers from Gulanthi GP are provided @ 3 Kgs. per Acre/ farmer & total 300 Kgs. of seeds for 100 Acres of land,
-
- 100 nos of farmers from Penkam GP are provided @ 3 Kgs. per Acre /farmer & total 300 Kgs. of seeds for 100 Acres of land.

Vegetable seeds:

- 54 no. of families from Penkam GP are provided @ 200gm each of seeds and cultivated in their respective kitchen gardens.
- 54 no. of families from Gulunthi GP are provided @200gm each of seeds and cultivated in their respective kitchen gardens.
- 55 no. of families from Gogupadu GP are provided @200gm each of seeds and cultivated in their respective kitchen gardens.

Total 163 no. of families from 3 GPs are provided 32.3 kg of vegetable seeds and cultivated in their respective kitchen gardens.

Chhani seeds:

15 nos. of farmers from Gogupadu GP are provided 75 KGs of seeds @ 5 Kgs per acre/farmers and cultivated in 15 Acres.

- 13 nos. of farmers from Gulanthi GP are provided 65KGs of seeds @ 5 Kgs per acre/farmers and cultivated in 13 Acres.
- 12 nos. of farmers from Penkam GP are provided 60 KGs of seeds @ 5 Kgs per acre/farmers and cultivated in 12 Acres.

Total 40 nos. of farmers are supported 200 Kgs. of Chhani seeds and the farmers have cultivated in 40 areas of land.

Sunflower Seeds:

- READ has distributed 78 kgs sunflower seeds to 39 farmers including 2nd year and 3rd year activity. The farmers have cultivated in the 30 Acres of land.
Gulunthi GP-10 farmers, Penkam GP – 12 farmers and Gogupadu GP- 17 farmers.



Voice of voiceless.....

OBJECTIVE-2

Improved livelihoods through increased income for 840 families

Key indicators of the Activities:

The beneficiaries were selected during the SHG meeting. They selected the persons those are having shade/place for rearing the chick's securely and who have not received earlier. The selected beneficiaries were provided 2000, 7-10day old indigenous chicks to 200 women through SHGs. The beneficiaries also were provided 5kgs of chick feed each to 200 women, to feed the chicks for 7-10 days. The Chicks rearing training programmes were conducted in 4 batches for 200 SHG members in the 3 gram panchayats. 40 Goats are provided to 40 SHG members in three GPs. Goat and Sheep rearing training programmes also implemented successfully in 2 batches for 80 SHG members. READ supported to purchase 40 life insurance covers for 40 goats and Vaccination given (Dew arming + FMD) to 40 goats. The farmers Conducted 4 quarterly farmers meeting within the reporting period.

OBJECTIVE -3

750 women are empowered to access government schemes and demand their rights

Key indicators of the Activities:

READ conducted 50 meetings in 50 villages with SHGs and village development committees,

farmers committees on different government schemes & entitlements. The interface meeting was conducted at Block level with different block level officials and village leaders. Total 156 participants were participated in the meeting out of it 105 female and 51 male participants were participated in the interface meeting. READ also has successfully completed the training program for 216 SHG member for 2 days duration to skill up the SHG leaders on various Govt. Schemes in the 3 batches. 144 women are provided training on lobby and advocacy and applying for government schemes in two days duration in 3 batches. Organized 3 trainings on LAW and VAW (Violence Against Women)to access justice to 144 women. READ conducted International Women's Day celebration on 7th of March 2018. READ has organised regular monthly federation meeting in 3 Gram Panchayats and has conducted 12 nos. of Federation meetings during this reporting period





OUTCOME INDICATORS OF THE PROJECT:

Outcome	Indicators (copy from proposal)	Baseline measurement (start of project)	Result expected (by end of current project year)	Result achieved (by end of current project year)
1. Improve food security through increased agricultural production for 1556 families	1.1 Number of families that harvest twice a year	150	550	362
	1.2 Number of families who have 3 meals a day of rice, dhal and vegetables all year	492	900	796
	1.3 Number of families that are growing mixed crops	150	450	324
2. Improved livelihoods through increased income for 840 families	2.1 Number of families above the poverty line	0	400	167
	2.2 Number of families who have individual cash savings	309	840	665
3. 750 women (50 villages), are empowered to access government schemes and demand their rights through SHGs.	3.1 Numbers of villages accessing at least 2 government schemes through SHGs	28	45	86
	3.2 Number of SHGs obtaining a government loan	68	82	44
	3.3 Number of families accessing IAY (housing scheme) through SHGs	362	452	288

LONG IMPACT:

READ has been working with the beneficiaries and providing need based capacity building trainings and developing network with different government line department to create relationship and make them aware of different policies, schemes of the government, which create confidence among the beneficiaries to access government welfare schemes and programs and know the systems of the government and slowly gaining the benefits.

Despite of capacity building and strengthening CBOs, READ also supports land levelling, renovation of ponds and check dams for improving agricultural activities, which is the main occupation of the community. The land levelling will improve the life and livelihood of the landless and marginal farmers to develop the uncultivable land into cultivable land and produce food grains for their livelihood. Different agricultural implements, seeds, seedlings, chicks, goats & sheep etc also are provided to the beneficiaries as start-up support. As a result of which the beneficiaries are sensitized the use of the same and slowly trying to link with different government welfare agencies to access the resources. Different skill development trainings provided to the beneficiaries, which also will enhance the knowledge and skill of the beneficiaries to know how to produce more goods and generate more income from their regular activities using new techniques and skill & are improving their livelihood standard. Therefore, from all the above activities, programs and achievements, we anticipate the project is contributing towards the project goal.



Voice of voiceless.....

Healthy Living of Widows' & Marginalized Women through Strengthening SHGs Federation

Goal: Healthy living of widows & marginalized women through strengthening SHGs federation leaders, enhancing employability skill and accessing equal rights and entitlements by 2020.

Geographical Reach:

The Programme is being implemented in the 80 villages in 3 Blocks of Ganjam & Gajapati District Orissa by 2020.

Objective-1

To strengthen and capacitate the Widow SHGs Federation members to create at least 240 widow leaders, who will work as social change agent of the widows in 3 years.

Key indicators of the Activities:

- a) Capacity building of widow federation leaders on leadership, group management, problem solving,



Capacity building training on leadership development, group management and problems solving training was provided to 160 widow leaders in 3 batches, 2days duration. The program was very effective and the group leaders were motivated to improve the group activities and work on widows and women related activities with the involvement of other women groups in the community. Now 60 widow SHG leaders have been working actively and maintaining their group records. They have been doing economic activities both in individually and in group with transparent way. The regular monitoring and guidance of READ staff create a kind of

confident among the group members. Therefore the group problems are rarely seen in the groups. Whenever they feel it's a problem of widows then the group members immediately try to solve among themselves or take the help of READ or the local PRI members. The internal thrift and credit system and different entrepreneurial activities slowly changes the economic condition of the widows.

- b) Training to SHGs Federation leaders on communication, coordination & public speaking.

240 SHG leaders were provided 2days training in 5 batches on communication, coordination and public speaking. This training was really helpful to the SHGs Federation leaders to communicate with groups, different government line departments, PRI leaders and access their rights and entitlements.

The women were very scared of approaching different government and PRI people initially, but the physical and psychological fearfulness of 70 nos. of women leaders have gone in some extend. Now the widows SHG leaders can freely and purposefully going to different government offices and address their issues and rights. 70 nos. of women leaders are able to express their opinion and share their knowledge and information to group members and participate in different meetings, like gram sabha, palli sabha and village meetings. They also address widows' problems and issues in different government line departments and in local self governance (PRI).



Voice of voiceless.....

c) Monthly federation leaders meetings

Monthly widows SHGs Federation meeting is being conducted regularly. In this reporting period only 8 nos. of SHGs Federation meetings are conducted regularly and effectively. All the federation leaders along with SHG members carry out village level activities like surrounding cleaning, solve where there is domestic violence, help the SHGs for availing govt. schemes and entitlement etc. They also discuss and decide on repayment of the SHGs loan, income generation activities, availing

bank loan etc regularly. Due to regular Federation meetings many women are able to share their opinion and address their issues. The Federation meetings also helps other women a kind of training. Those women feel hesitation to speak in the meetings or in the public they are given opportunity to speak and share their suggestions, opinion etc. With the support and cooperation of the Federation leaders, deserving women are entitled with different central and state government schemes and entitlements.

OBJECTIVE -2

To enhance employability Skills among 600 widows to ensure sustainable livelihood within 3 years.

Key Indicators of the Activities:

a) Training to new SHGs members on group building, saving, record keeping and group management.

READ has been able to formed 30 nos. of new women SHGs during this reporting period, incorporating of 305 members. After the group building, saving, record keeping and group management training the SHG members are actively doing their group work and a kind of team spirit has been created among them. The SHGs have been saving regularly minimum of Rs. 50/- to Rs. 100/- monthly. All 30 new SHGs are facilitated to open group accounts in the nearer banks and have saved minimum Rs. 5000/- to Rs. 10000/- each group till now. They have been practicing internal thrift and credit system within their group members with minimum of 1% interest. This internal thrift and credit system helps the women to meet their emergency needs. In each SHG there are secretaries elected, who are now able to maintain group records on a regular basis. In their monthly meetings they used to discuss on their group problems and widows related issues and try to solve at their level. Wherever they feel difficult the READ staffs help them and guide them to solve.

d) Skill based training to widow leaders on honey cultivation, mushroom cultivation, kitchen garden, dry food, incense sticks making.

READ had facilitated a training program for 150 widows in 4 batches in 2days duration out of 400 beneficiaries on Bee keeping, mushroom cultivation, kitchen garden, dry food, incense sticks making etc based on the viability of local resources and marketing facilities during this reporting period as planned. Out of 150 beneficiaries; 40 women were provided training on Bee keeping, 31 women were on Mushroom cultivation, 48 women on vegetable cultivation and 31 women were on dry food business. There were 3 nos. of facilitators invited to facilitate the trainings. The training was very effective and constructive for the women. The women had participated actively in the training, which was indicating their interest of doing different activities. After this training is completed, there are 15 nos. of women have showed their interest and started Bee keeping, 10 nos. of women have





Voice of voiceless.....

started mushroom cultivation, 45 nos. of women have initiated vegetable cultivation and 7 nos. of women have started dry food making and

selling business. Slowly the other women also will be encouraged to undertake different entrepreneurial activities.

e) Skill based training on goat rearing, chicks rearing.

100 nos. of women are trained on goat rearing and chicks rearing program. this training was provided to women who are interested to do goat rearing and chicks rearing business. This training program was every effective for the participant women. They were mainly taught about how to take care of the goats and chicks, different diseases affects, its solutions, providing vaccinations, doing insurances etc. after receiving this training, now only 140 nos. of women have started chicks rearing and 30 nos. of women are doing goat rearing business. As they have started these activities recently, therefore no improvement has been seen. The women are taking care of the goat and chicks.

f) Start-up support for entrepreneurship programs

READ had provided new SHGs a star-up support for entrepreneurship activities so as to improve their economical condition and encourage women to be engaged with the same for their sustainable livelihood. In this reporting period only 10 nos. of women have received Rs. 20000/- each from READ for

- 10 women have received Rs. 20000 as support from READ for petty business.
- 3 SHGs have been doing business of kewda flower by selling to the local vendors.
- 4 SHGs are under taking vegetable cultivation.
- 17 SHGs have received 1 lakh each from banks and 7 SHGs have received Rs. 50000 from Panchyats
- 7 SHGs have received 1 lakh and invested on vegetable cultivation and earning of RS 20000 as on date.
- 3 SHGs are doing cow rearing and selling milk and earning of Rs 35000 as on date.
- 1 SHG have taken loan from bank Rs. 50000 and invested on fruit selling.
- 3 SHGs have invested on kewda flower Business Rs. 50000 and earning profit seasonally.
- 15 nos. of widows are supported with Rs. 3000 for honey cultivation.

OBJECTIVE -3

To increase 80% acceptance of widows in the community through inclusion process with other community women in this project period.

Key Indicators of the Activities:

a) Organize Block level workshop on widows' rights & dignity in the society.

One workshop was conducted in the Block level on widows' rights and dignity in the society. There were many dignitaries were invited like Block Development Officer (BDO), Block Project Manager (BPM) from Odisha Livelihood Mission(OLM), Gram Panchayat Officer (GPO), PRI members from different Gram Panchayats, CSO leaders from area, different community level government servants etc. The program was successfully organised. Many had appreciated and supported for this program and The BDO said many CSOs are working on different issues of the society and try to alleviate the poverty, try to reduce the diseases, try to educate the children, even for the development of the orphan children etc, which are also very important and need of the society, but in our conservative Odia Hindu society it was truly needed to work on widows' for their empowerment and READ is



doing. He had appreciated READ for its passion for the widows'. It was also essential to sensitise the community to accept the widows' as they are also human being and have equal rights to access alloportunities and live a dignity life in the society and assured whenever READ needs of his help, he will be ready to support for this work. Other dignitaries also had encouraged widows and promised to help READ and the widows' SHGs at their level as and when is required. The widows are slowly getting into different decision making process and participating actively. Now they are allowed in

70% villages to participate in Palli Sabha and Gram Sabha & also participating in different religious activities in the community level. The widows also are sensitised & slowly getting into the system and availing support from the community and different government officials.

- b) Organize international women's day: READ had organised International women's day in the Block level, where many dignitaries from Block level, Gram Panchayat level were invited. But unfortunately only BDO and BPM from OLM department had attended in the program and PRI members, community level government servants too. Many of them had encouraged women for their organisation and hard effort. They also strongly advised that, the state government and central



government have planned different schemes and programs for wo men empowerment. Therefore all women should take the advantage of different government schemes. All this can be possible if you are united and form strong women organisation. Because government also believes on women organisations who can bring change the family and the society more successfully. The motivational and inspiring speeches of the dignitaries had encouraged the women. As a result of which they are approaching to different government institutions for accessing their rights and dignity. The most importantly the BDO had promised in the program in front of all the women that, those widows' have not yet received widow pension, please make a list and meet with him in the office and he will help to get the widow pension. The READ staff had immediately made survey and submitted the list of 27 widows to the BDO and the BDO has signed over the application and forwarded to the concerned department for sanctioning of the pension. Many of them had encouraged women for their organisation and hard effort. They also strongly advised that, the state government and central government have planned different schemes and programs for women empowerment. Therefore all women should take the advantage of different government schemes. All this can be possible if you are united and form strong women organisation. Because government also believes on women organisations who can bring change the family and the society more successfully. The motivational and inspiring speeches of the dignitaries had encouraged the women. As a result of which they are approaching to different government institutions for accessing their rights and dignity. The most importantly the BDO had promised in the program in front of all the women that, those widows' have not yet received widow pension, please make a list and meet with him in the office and he will help to get the widow pension. The READ staff had immediately made survey and submitted the list of 27 widows to the BDO and the BDO has signed over the application and forwarded to the concerned department for sanctioning of the pension.

Objective-4

To educate the widows on their rights & entitlements for effective partnership with local self government, decision making & planning process within 3 years of project period.



Key Indicators of the Activities:

- a) Training on role & responsibilities of community leaders and PRI, importance of palli sabha, gram sabha & the procedure of electoral process.

In order to sensitise the women and increase active participation in decision making process, electoral process, electing right candidates as people's representatives, what would be the role and responsibility of an elected members etc, they were provided PRI training. The training was so effective and had encouraged women to take part in all decision making process actively. As a result of which 2 women of our target beneficiaries are elected as a Samiti Sabhya and a Ward member. Now the widows also participate in Palli Sabha and Gram Sabha and addressing their needs and

women related issues. The 30% women leaders are actively participating in various decision making process and lead the groups in developing process. To conduct training on analysis of various resource and its distribution systems.

2days training was conducted to 160 women in 3 phases on analysing of various resources and its distribution system. In this training the women had actively participated and were facilitated by the resource person to identify the local resources available. The women also were sensitised through different games and group discussions that, the use of the resources and who all are getting more benefit and who are less from the resources etc. it was identified from this training that, the 70% of local resources are occupied and controlled by the rich, politicians, petty politicians of the community. The other 30% are used for the benefit of the community. Therefore the facilitator had briefly analysed the stakeholders' analysis, which was very interesting and more effective. As 2days program was not sufficient for this program therefore he suggested conducting 2 more days for detail analysis of the program in future.

- b) To conduct training on gender sensitization.

The gender sensitization training was conducted to 160 women leaders in 2days duration in 3 batches. The facilitator had organised this training with participatory process so that every participant can take active role in the training. The women had enjoyed the training and sensitised how the women and girl children are discriminated in the family, in the society and who all are discriminating in the family and in the society etc. therefore the facilitator advised the participants to bring gender equality in the family first, which is easier and also can be possible in our hand, then it will be possible to bring gender equality in our own community. After this training the women have started discussing in the SHGs and in the Federation meetings to work on gender disparity. In some of the families, the women have initiated and are prioritising equal rights and opportunities to girl children.

- c) Monthly staffs review meeting:

In every month the staff review and planning meeting is being conducted regularly, where the project coordinator evaluates the monthly activities, discuss on different community issues, challenges and also discuss on project progress and achievements. The field staffs present their monthly progress report to the project coordinator in this monthly meeting, give SHGs status and prepare monthly action plan for the next month. The monthly staff review and planning meeting helps the project to know the proper implementation of the activities and how effectively it is working in the community. This also helps us to monitor the staff and program in the monthly basis, as a result of which the staff work more sincerely and discharge their duties for the empowerment of the target group.

- d) Annual review and planning workshop:

The Annual review had planning workshop was conducted to evaluate the annual progress and achievements of the project. In this workshop, all the field staffs were given opportunity to share their field situations, program, success and failures in details as well as issues and challenges faced



during implementation of the programs etc. it helps the workers to learn from each other and try to solve the common problems of the area, target people and community. During the annual review and planning workshop, it is also facilitated the project staff on project cycle management (PCM), so that the staff members are sensitised and implemented the program more effectively. In the last day of the workshop all project staffs prepared annual action plan for the next year. Various problems and issues also emerged while implementing of the project. So all those problems also are discussed in the workshop and made plan for the same too.

Progress in Achieving Project Objectives at the end of current Year:

SL. NO.	OBJECTIVES	INDICATORS (From the project proposal)	BASELINE MEASUREMENT (at the time of Project Start)	RESULT ACHIEVED (By the end of year-1)	TOTAL RESULT ACHIEVED (Till this reporting period)
1	To strengthen and capacitate the Widow SHGs Federation members to create at least 240 widow leaders, who will work as social change agent of the widows in 3 years.	1. 240 widow leaders are emerged actively,	145	40	185
		2. Nos. of women & widow issues are solved,	0	1	
		3. At least 2 to 3 nos. of government schemes are implemented in 80 villages,	30	11	41
		4. Leadership quality among 240 widows is developed.	60	50	110
2	To enhance employability Skills among 600 widows to ensure sustainable livelihood within 3 years.	1. At least 600 widows are skilled up and engaged in different income sources.	120	150	270
		2. At least 1518 nos. of families are accessed nutritional food.	660	150	810
		3. At least 600 widows are earning Rs. 30000/- to Rs.50000/- per annum from the IGP.	45	25	70
3	To increase 80% acceptance of widows in the community through inclusion process with other community women in this project period.	1. In 80% villages widows are accepted by the other women in the community,	38%	10%	48%
		2. In 80% villages mixed women groups (widows & non-widows) are formed.	0%	30%	30%
		3. 80% widows are equally participated in different social gatherings,	20%	20%	40%
4	To educate the widows on their rights & entitlements for effective partnership with local self government, decision making & planning process within 3 years of project period.	1. 80% widows are actively participated in different decision making process.	45%	15%	60%
		2. 80% are equally participated in palli sabha, gram sabha.	32%	25%	57%
		3. At least 5 nos. of widows are participated in local self governance unit (PRIs).	0	2	2
		4. 100% widows are accessed government schemes & provisions.	38%	15%	53%



Overall impact

When the project got launched in three years ago, the identified widows from the operational villages lived a life of dejection, distressful and loneliness. Whether young or old widows were treated as unwanted members in the families. READ organized widows into self-help groups and provided continuous hand holding support, guidance and valuable inputs being shared with the groups. As a result of this effort, the most heartening and tangible change that are prevailed in the communities is the sense of awe feelings, sense of caring and sharing with each other in times of all good and bad times.

These widows both young and old were feeling a kind of dejection, rejection, disheartening as no one cared for them. But with the initiation of groups the sorrows and sufferings are turned into happiness, resourceful and living a respectful and dignified as the group members have been living together and sharing each other's burden and solacing the sufferings ones. Once upon a time these women used to depend on their sons, daughters or daughter in - laws for any kind of basic amenities. But with the intervention of this project, most of the women earn their own livelihood in and through undertaking small petty business on regular basis and seasonally. With the continuous support and guidance of READ and its staff, the Self Help Groups have crossed many phases like forming, storming, and norming and today they are at the performing stage. Each of the office bearers knows her own duties and responsibilities. Presidents, secretaries know how to maintain book of records like saving ledger, loan ledger, cash book and monthly minute's registers with a little support from the outsiders.

The individual cry or appeal for availing social security schemes and entitlements was far dream achievement. But with the strength of SHGs and Federations and the united efforts, many of the widows have availed social security schemes like 25 widows have availed with widow pensions, 11 widows have been benefited with Rs. 20000/- from Paribar Kalyan Yajana, 15 widows have availed with Indira Awas and living a dignified life. Every SHG group has been enrolled under OLM, so that these SHGs can avail IGA loan from OLM time to time. As a single widow, got frightened to raise voice against exploitation, corruption and all antisocial activities, but with the strength of groups and having acquired with the relevant information and knowledge on social security schemes and entitlement, widows have been frankly and boldly addressing their rights and entitlements. With the efforts of READ, 5 SHGs have availed 1 lakh each from the banks and 7 SHGs have availed 50 thousands each from the banks. These women SHGs have been successfully undertaking income generating activities, gaining profit and managing their lives and families' well. Participation of these women in Palli Sabha and Gram Sabha has been fantastic and productive. These women take part in decision making process, put their opinion and suggestion for betterment of their families and communities as well.

Above all, the projects staffs are also of the primary stakeholders have been functional and impact oriented with the constant capacity building inputs of the organization. They are confident that they can lead the SHGs and Federations to that level where they can manage their institutions so well addressing each one's genuine needs and requirements in and through working in close coordination with the govt. Line departments.

EDUCATION PROGRAM:

The children from poor, marginalized, orphan and rural children are supported teaching materials to encourage and keep steady on education Many children from rural area are not going to schools and those



who go to school they dropout from schools on different reasons. Mainly they unable to afford the study cost, unaware of educational value, due to poverty the parents encourage children to help in their household works and involve for earning purposes. Therefore READ organizes orientation programs in the community level and support study materials to 24 nos. of children those who are willing to continue their studies and encourage them on education. There are many children who need support but due to lack of fund READ only supports to some selected students who are single parents and some were school dropout.

CAPACITY BUILDING OF STAFF

READ staff capacity building program was conducted in New Delhi YMCA conference hall. We had invited Dr. Harish Vaishistha of Credibility Alliance(CA) New Delhi, Ms, Kajol from CA and Mr. D. Dharma Rao from Galway Foundation to facilitate our team on different documentation, fund mobilizing, organization building etc. The organisations's strategic plan was reviewed. All were privileged to visit a CSR office and an organization who are working on human right activities. the staffs were capacitated on update organization's website, Facebook and other social media. Upload and update of program documents, photos etc, in website and social medias. Learned how to developed relationship and mobilize CSR funding etc.



The staffs also were facilitated to have training-cum-exposure visit program to Puri. They could learn the process and required materials for mushroom cultivation, gained the skill and knowledge of appliqué work, learned the marketing approaches, received knowledge to make safe shade for chicks, learned the process of plantation, able to know the leadership quality of the WSHGs and

EVIDENCE BASED ADVOCACY STUDY REPORT

Rural Educational Activities for Development (READ) is a civil society organization working for the cause of the Adivasis and Dalits since 24 years now. It was registered under the society registration Act in the year 1993. READ was formed by few like-minded individuals to bridge the gap between development and the marginalized communities that they deeply felt for.

The organization was seen as a vehicle for realizing their dreams for a peaceful and just society especially for people who generally get pushed to the margins of development. In their home state Odisha, these populations were the Adivasis (ST) and the Dalits (SC) who have been at the sidelines for decades.

Over these years, READ has been working with the people of 50 villages in the districts Rayagada, Ganjam and Gajapati with a focus on women, marginalized farmers and youth within the Dalits and Adivasis communities. The





Voice of voiceless.....

organization has been facilitating and strengthening women's self-help groups (SHGs) as part of its community development interventions.

As far as the employment of women is concerned the women self help group in India have been recognized as an effective strategy for the empowerment of women in rural as well as urban areas, bringing women together from all spheres of life to fight for their rights. Uplifting the women from poverty has been a challenge to the policy makers since independence and poverty alleviation has been the main component of India's development programs. In the recent past, micro finance and rural credit are seen as effective tools towards poverty alleviation by providing access to credit and mobilizing savings. The current evolving strategy emphasizes on group approach and people's institutions by organizing the rural poor into self help groups, training to beneficiaries, provision of credit from banks, infrastructure development and marketing their products.



The SHG work of the organization is a positive movement with regard the formation of SHGs through the years. As on today, there are 152 READ-facilitated women's SHGs in 130 villages of 15 Gram Panchayats in the Ramanaguda, Mohana, Chatrapur & Rangeilunda block of Rayagada, Gajapati & Ganjam District. Empowerment of women is a holistic concept multidimensional in approach and involves a basic realization and awareness of one's power, capabilities, potentialities and competencies and one's rights and opportunities for development in important sphere of life. Empowerment

is a process which generates changes in ideas and perceptions and creates awareness about one's rights and opportunities for self development in all important sphere of life.

Due to different reasons, the women of the marginalised community especially in Ramanaguda Block of Rayagada District, where READ is working, are not able to access them all, thus the economic empowerment of women has remained unchanged. So READ has initiated to find out the reasons, why the women of its operational area are not able to access all the schemes.

Therefore the present research study focuses on the importance of complexities and challenges faced by the women, getting benefits of government schemes; the study is conducted in 3 Gram Panchayats of Ramanaguda Block of Rayagada district, Odisha.

To provide strength to this initiative of READ, All We Can and PRIA developed an initial road map which included, training on advocacy, followed by mentoring and coaching support to design and implement a participatory research on women's empowerment in Rayagada district of Odisha. Two-day training on advocacy for READ staff was conducted in February 2017 in Berhampur, Odisha. The training helped READ staff to understand the meaning and processes of advocacy in light of READ's current programme priorities

and strategies. This workshop suggested that READ's contribution in mobilizing women at the local level has been significant. However, it was recognized that the scaling up of READ's work would require engaging with the government especially with the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI). READ's experience suggested that the rural women often could not access government schemes/ programmes/ training/ resources which are meant for their economic empowerment, for a variety of reasons. READ has been so far engaging mostly with the elected Gram Panchayats and occasionally with Block and District Panchayats. The discussion in the workshop clarified that an evidence based engagement with the Block and District Panchayat is crucial across sites where READ is currently working. In this context READ identified the issue of "enabling access to government schemes and resources for women empowerment" to develop it's analytical and documentation and evidence based advocacy engagement.



Voice of voiceless.....

FINANCES

RURAL EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (READ)
AT:AMBAPUA MAIN ROAD, PO :ENGINEERING SCHOOL ROAD,
BERHAMPUR ,760010,DIST:GANJAM ORISSA

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH 2018

LIABILITIES	AMOUNT (Rs.)	ASSETS	AMOUNT (Rs.)
CAPITAL FUND :		FIXED ASSETS	
Opening Balance	3,109,613.00	(As per Schedule)	2,056,857.00
Add : Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,107,352.00	Current Assets	
	4,216,965.00	General Account	
		Programme Advance	2,000.00
General Account		F.C. Account (Manos Unidas)	
* Sustainable Income Generation Programme (Fund)	111,420.00	Programme Advance	15,000.00
TDS Payable	5,340.00	Closing Balance	
		All We Can (MRDF)	
		Cash in Hand	11.00
		Cash at Bank	
		IOB, Gajapati Nagar Branch, Bam.	1,376,400.00
		S.B A/c.No.153001000002980	
		Wid's Emp. (Manos Unidas)	
		Cash in Hand	-
		Cash at Bank	
		IOB, Gajapati Nagar Branch, Bam.	785,885.00
		S.B A/c.No.153001000002980	
		All We Can (MRDF Office & R/C)	
		Cash in Hand	-
		Cash at Bank	
		IOB, Gajapati Nagar Branch, Bam.	32.00
		S.B A/c.No.153001000002980	
		General Account	
		Cash in hand	5,340.00
		Cash at Bank	
		(SBI, SB A/c No.30436239257)	92,200.00
	4,333,725.00		4,333,725.00

As per our report of even date attached

Manjulek Sahu
19/6/18
PRESIDENT/SECRETARY
R.E.A.D.
GANJAM
ODISHA
BERHAMPUR

For M/S NALAM ASSOCIATES
BERHAMPUR
760002
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
(N. UDAYA KUMAR, FCA)
PARTNER



Voice of voiceless.....

RURAL EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (READ)
AT:AMBAPUA MAIN ROAD, PO :ENGINEERING SCHOOL ROAD,
BERHAMPUR ,760010,DIST:GANJAM ORISSA

CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2018

EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT (Rs.)	INCOME	AMOUNT (Rs.)
To Project Utilisation		By Grant received	
* All We Can	3,977,276.00	* All We Can, United Kingdom	4,253,598.00
* Wid's Emp. (Manos Unidas)	1,811,613.00	* Manos Unidas, Spain	2,573,840.00
* General Account	1,328,010.00		
To Depreciation (As Per Schedule)	82,107.00	By Bank Interest	
To Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,107,352.00	* All We Can, United Kingdom	97,675.00
		* Manos Unidas, Spain	62,290.00
		By General Account	
		Membership Fees	36,000.00
		Local Contribution Received	
		* All We Can (MRDF)	891,195.00
		* Manos Unidas	390,520.00
		By Bank Interest	1,240.00
	8,306,358.00		8,306,358.00

Mamjulata Sahu
PRESIDENT/SECRETARY
R.E.A.D.
GANJAM
ODISHA
BERHAMPUR
19/6/18

FOR M/S NALAM ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
BERHAMPUR
760002
(N. UDAYA KUMAR, FCA)
PARTNER



Voice of voiceless.....

RURAL EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (READ)
AT:AMBAPUA MAIN ROAD, PO :ENGINEERING SCHOOL ROAD,
BERHAMPUR ,760010,DIST:GANJAM ORISSA

CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 2018

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT (Rs.)	PAYMENTS	AMOUNT (Rs.)
To Opening Balance		By Project Utilisation	
All We Can		* All We Can (MRDF)	3,977,276.00
Cash in Hand	11.00	* Wid's Emp. (Manos Unidas)	1,811,613.00
Cash at Bank		* General Account	1,328,010.00
IOB, Gajapati Nagar Branch, Bam. S.B A/c.No.153001000002980	1,002,403.00		
Wid's Emp. (Manos Unidas)		Purchase of Fixed Assets	
Cash in Hand	-	Bicycles	21,420.00
Cash at Bank		Laptop	46,100.00
IOB, Gajapati Nagar Branch, Bam. S.B A/c.No.153001000002980	113,328.00	Two Wheeler	69,440.00
All We Can (Office & R/C)		By Programme Advance	15,000.00
Cash in Hand	-		
Cash at Bank		By Closing Balance	
IOB, Gajapati Nagar Branch, Bam. S.B A/c.No.153001000002980	32.00	All We Can (MRDF)	
General Account		Cash in Hand	11.00
Cash in Hand	-	Cash at Bank	
Cash at Bank	5,085.00	IOB, Gajapati Nagar Branch, Bam. S.B A/c.No.153001000002980	1,376,400.00
(SBI, SB A/c No.30436239257)			
To Grant received		Wid's Emp. (Manos Unidas)	
* All We Can, United Kingdom	4,253,598.00	Cash in Hand	-
* Manos Unidas, Spain	2,573,840.00	Cash at Bank	
		IOB, Gajapati Nagar Branch, Bam. S.B A/c.No.153001000002980	785,885.00
To Bank Interest received			
* All We Can, United Kingdom	97,675.00	All We Can (MRDF Office & R/C)	
* Manos Unidas, Spain	62,290.00	Cash in Hand	-
		Cash at Bank	
To General Account		IOB, Gajapati Nagar Branch, Bam. S.B A/c.No.153001000002980	32.00
Membership Fees	36,000.00		
Local Contribution Received		General Account	
* All We Can (MRDF)	891,195.00	Cash in Hand	5,340.00
* Manos Unidas	390,520.00	Cash at Bank	92,200.00
		(SBI, SB A/c No.30436239257)	
To Bank Interest	1,240.00		
To Sustainable Income Generation Programme	96,170.00		
To TDS amount received from Ganga Transport	5,340.00		
	9,528,727.00		9,528,727.00

Manjula Sahu
PRESIDENT/SECRETARY
R.E.A.D. 19/6/18



For M/S NALAM ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
BERHAMPUR
760002
(N. UDAYA KUMAR, FCA)
PARTNER



Voice of voiceless.....

PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

Our work is enriched with a broad range of partners and supporters from Grassroots Organizations, NGOs, International Foundations & Government like:



With thanks

M. Sahu

Manjulata Sahu

Executive Secretary
READ