

ANNUAL REPORT

TRDSW

2018-2019



Our world is at an historic paradoxical moment. It holds new possibilities while it is also wrought with inequality, suffering, and violence. As such, we are citizens of a world that is both broken and blessed. Now, more than ever, we are conscious of the urgency not only to take action where we are, but also to speak out and give witness to JPIC together.

~JPIC document 2019

TORPA RURAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY FOR WOMEN
Tapkara Road, Torpa, Khunti District, Jharkhand 835227.
www.trdsw.org | www.facebook.com/trdsw



The Torpa Rural Development Society for Women (TRDSW) was founded in 1995. Right from its inception the focus area of the organisation has been the empowerment of the tribal community by providing the necessary support for quality Education and for utilising and developing local resources in order to economically strengthen their livelihood activities. TRDSW has reached out to 4,000 farmers created 400 SHGs and brought education to over 28,000 children in the Torpa and Rania Blocks of the Khunti district. The organisation has also opened a showroom to exhibit lac and bamboo handicrafts and other local products made by the tribal community.



Our Vision

Fostering a just world where everyone's human dignity is respected.



Our Mission

A Society that upholds the human dignity of the oppressed and the marginalized, especially the tribal by enhancing education and livelihood, by networking and collaborating with likeminded CBOs, NGOs and the Government through right based approach.

LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMS



World Environment Day
Niraj Kumar, IGSSS with Rania SHGs.

.....
Vijayata Verma, EdelGive interacting with SHGs at Manhatu Raitoli village



1. Creating Livelihood Options under drought

The program was initiated for building resilience for 750 small and marginal farmers in 15 villages of the Torpa and Rania Block at Khunti District, to combat the effects of drought, hunger and food insecurity.

Specific Strategies Adopted during the year

Regular trainings and demonstrations were provided with capacity building support on organic cultivation (mulching, amrit jal, organic manure, composting) and improved agriculture practices like mixed & relay cropping along with demonstrations of water conservation methods.

Objectives

- SRI method for cultivation of rice and marwa.
- Best practices like *machan kheti*, mix cropping, etc are replicated.
- More emphasis given to vegetable cultivation.
- Soak pit, field trenches, etc for water recharging.

2. Integrated Tribal Development Program

In 2016 the Integral Development program of the tribal community was initiated with a focus on empowering women socially and economically by strengthening livelihood programs for 2200 tribal households of the Torpa and Rania Blocks of the Khunti district.

Objectives

To formulate and nurture SHGs of women through capacity building initiatives. Self-Help Groups (SHGs) are informal associations of about 10 to 20 women from the same village, who come from similar socio-economic backgrounds and work towards collective action for change.

- Linking to banking services and govt schemes
- Training on micro-credit and entrepreneurship
- Training on improving bargaining skills

LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMS



SRI Cultivation



3. Interface Convergence Meetings

After the initial meetings at the community level, handholding and follow up meetings were conducted in the presence of the mukhiya to disseminate information regarding various govt. schemes like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Samaan Nidhi, Mukhya Mantri Krishi Ashirwad Yojna, Pradhan Mantri Ujwwal Yojna, etc.

4. Building Capacities and Networking Partnerships

It was essential to introduce the program team of 13 members to the package of practices (POP) in livelihood. With this objective in mind an exposure visit was organised in December 2018 to an EdelGive partner organisation Pragati, Koraput at Odisha.

New learnings took place in activities like Sustainable Agriculture, Solar Irrigation, Land and Water Conservation measures, Organic Farming, 0.5 Acre Modern Farming and Farmer's Field School.

During the year networking programs were conducted and technical inputs were provided by IINRG Namkum, KVK Ranchi, R.K. Mission Ranchi, KVK Kharsawa, KVK Ranchi and Birsa Agriculture University (BAU) Ranchi.

3 research students interned at TRDSW during the year. Pallavi Joshi a U.S. University student researched on munda tribal development, Munna Ahmed from Australia University researched on lac cultivation and Sabha Ahmed from TISS Mumbai worked on human trafficking cases.

LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMS

Lac Training



5. Lac Cultivation

From November 2018 to January 2019 after 3 community meetings, there were interactive discussions with the farmers group (kisan club) to discuss the value addition of cultivating lac. Months before the meeting, villages were identified, where ber and kusum trees grow. Our lac cell team with master trainers provided 1 day trainings. In 2018, lac training was conducted with 500 kgs of (bihan) brood lac. Technical inputs were demonstrated to 101 farmers. Lac was available at 25% local contribution. The farmers earned a good crop of 24 quintals brood lac. Most of the brood lac was sold in the local markets at Rs 200 to Rs 250 per kg. Due to the immediate need for money, the small and marginal farmers were unable to process the brood lac and gain a higher price.

6. A one month **Bamboo handicrafts training** was provided to two villages Khelo and Turigarha.

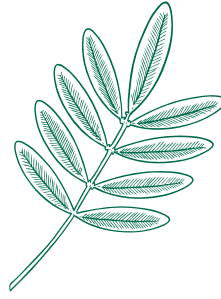
7. **Mushroom cultivation training and pickle making training** of local seasonal produce like ohl (yam), bamboo and mango was conducted.

8. **Entrepreneurship trainings** for SHG members were conducted to build the business acumen of the group.

9. **Off Farm Training** was conducted for goat, pig, duck rearing and fisheries. Follow up training for para veterinaries was held to add value to animal husbandry and strengthen livelihoods.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



88

NO OF NEW SHGS FORMED

1016

NO OF SHG MEMBERS LINKED
TO THE BANK

181

NO OF SHG MEMBERS TRAINED
ON MICRO CREDIT PLANNING

484

NO OF INDIVIDUALS TRAINED
IN NEW CULTIVATION
TECHNIQUES

569

NO OF INDIVIDUALS TRAINED
IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

918

NO OF FAMILIES RECEIVING
CAPACITY BUILDING

79

NO OF INDIVIDUALS TRAINED
AS PARA VETERNARIES

434

NO OF INDIVIDUALS STARTING
THEIR OWN ENTERPRISE

324

NO OF INDIVIDUALS TRAINED
IN INCOME GENERATION
ACTIVITIES

1502

NO OF INDIVIDUALS TRAINED
IN SRI CULTIVATION



SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT



1. Mahila Divas (Women's Day)

To commemorate International Women's Day at TRDSW Torpa is to recognize the collective efforts of the self-help groups of women from 71 villages of Torpa and Rania Blocks. The event was held on 13 March 2019. The theme was "Nari Shakti - Samaj ki Unnati" (Strength of Woman - Progress for Society). The highlights were the live demonstrations on income generation activities like Bamboo handicrafts and Lac bangle making. The nukkad nataks (plays) focused on the importance of water conservation techniques. The cultural welcome song and dance was an experience of the overwhelming presence, enthusiasm, and participation of 4000 women.

2. Our intervention in Human Trafficking cases

5 victims of human trafficking were rescued with TRDSW support. Two girls have been admitted to the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalyaya Rania. The procedures are on for another 2 girls to be admitted in the next academic year. Often the rescue and follow up of the case is slow moving as the victims are minors and do not hold any valid documents to support their identity and place of birth. Rescue work has been possible because of the valuable networking support with the local police, Delhi Police, AHTU Khunti, DCPO Khunti (District Child Protection Office) and Justice & Care Delhi.

3. Lac Bangle Making for Inmates of Khunti Jail

The Superintendent of the Khunti Jail recognized and commended the efforts of TRDSW to train women inmates at lac bangle making. A 10 day training and 1 follow-up training were provided by 2 women master trainers from Bishunpur village.

VISITORS



**Mother General and Councillors
visit Govt School-Torpa**

Visitors & Networking at Block and District Level

The Provincial, Sr Anila Verghese visited TRDSW activities. Shri Suraj Kumar, D.C. Khunti, visited the education and livelihood programs at Bishunpur village. He also addressed the entire staff of the organization. Smt. Anjali Yadav, DDC Khunti, visited the showroom of handicraft exhibits and interacted with SHGs at the haldi processing unit.

There were networking visits from the Aspirational District Fellows (ADF) Khunti. The Mother General, Sister Barbara Dawson & Councillors interacted with the entire staff through the market place display of TRDSW programs.

Two representatives of the World Bank visited and interacted with women SHG members. The CLAD Project Officer Susmita Ghatuary and Niraj Kumar and the EdelGive Foundation Project Manager Vijayata Verma assisted the program team whenever needed. They also interacted with individual farmers, SHGs and the community. Executive Director Mr. Nelson, the Zonal Manager Sukanya Chatterjee and IGSSS team visited 3 villages and interacted with the CBO (community based organisation) members .



**DDC visit to
TRDSW**

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

DC visit to Nandatoli School Library



1. School and Community based Quality Improvement Program for Primary level Education

The program continued in Year 2 with the collaborative efforts of TATA CINI in 40 centers of the Torpa Block. The focus area of our intervention and the purpose of collaboration was:

- developing innovative teaching learning materials,
- strengthening Bal Sansad,
- strengthening capacity of SMCs,
- making library corners/rooms inviting for children.

Teacher Development Capacity Building Programs

A two day review meeting was conducted every month for the 54 member program team. Weekly meetings were held for the core team and the learning facilitators. Team building activities were also conducted for the program team. Teaching and learning materials (TLMs) were developed and updated in order to maintain a print rich environment at the centres. In order to introduce the team to an alternate teaching methodology, an exposure visit was conducted for 26 staff to Mukhtangan, an NGO working in BMC schools in Mumbai.

Child Development Activities

In May 2018 a summer camp was conducted for 1500 children. In September 2018 two exposure visits were conducted for 200 children - the first to Hatia Railway station and Science Centre Ranchi and the second visit was to Khel Gaon and the Tribal Museum Ranchi. A sports and cultural contest was conducted at school level. Activities like kitchen garden, art & craft & local artisans classes were held at each centre.

Ayan Deb and CINI team conducted monitoring visits for selected centres and provided valuable feedback.

Achievements:

- 89% munda children covered in project area.
- 1262 children received quality education in class 1 & 2.
- Average attendance was 74%

EDUCATION PROGRAMS



3. The Schooling and Learning Improvement Program (SLIP) for tribal children began in January 2015 and ended in March 2019. The intervention of the organization greatly helped to improve the teaching activities and the learning level of the children. A cluster-wise evaluation of the centres was also conducted.

4. Balwadi & School Intervention: The project provided capacity building, direct supervision and handholding to 20 government anganwadi centres. 149 teachers were trained in the first two years. The team were able to create an environment of teaching and learning through a child centric approach. The summer acceleration camp in May 2018 and the Bal Mela in October 2018 was well received by the children.

5. 3085 gram sabha members have received awareness on value of education based on RTE and the need for strengthening **school management committees (SMCs)**. Regular follow up took place at school level through contextualised trainings and monthly review meetings at community level and cluster level meetings. The project co-ordinator together with the program team of 13 balwadi teachers and 12 school teachers handled the centres skillfully. 75 volunteers and remedial teachers too made a difference to the program as the weaker children improved in learning levels and there was relevant value addition.

Achievements

- 82% Munda children covered in project area.
- 10,026 children received quality education.
- 97.5% children retained at primary school level.
- 4,345 children mainstreamed.
- 88% attained grade specific learning.
- Average attendance was 72%.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS



6. Integrated Approaches to Technology in Education (ITE) was introduced in July 2015 in 4 centres at Husir, Jogisoso, Kajurdag and Sode. 754 children were covered under the ITE program. Science, History, Geography, Civics and environmental studies were the main subjects covered in classes 6 to 8. The teachers design learning activities through lesson plan. Students create learning artifacts with the help of technology.

An ITE Mela was conducted in January 2019. Two hundred children from 6 schools participated along with SMC representatives, govt teachers and the headmaster. The program was well attended by the Torpa Block Program Officer (BPO) Mr. Narender Kumar and block officials, Dr. Amina Charania and TISS team and Mr Aryadev from TATA TRUSTS Mumbai.

7. Literacy for Development of Tribal Women

The overall goal of this program was to empower rural women through imparting functional literacy skills and to strengthen participation of women in leadership roles. The literacy program began in May 2015 with 2 phases (basic & advanced) and ended in October 2018. During this period, a total of 1724 women learned to read, write, recognise alphabets and to learn math with the abacus method. The issue based discussions held in the daily class helped the women to translate it in their day to day activities. This was seen by their active participation at the SHG meetings and at village level meetings.

8. Bal Niketan

During the academic year 2018-19 there were a total of 405 children. Nursery – 138, L.K.G. –147, U.K.G. - 122 . The ages range from 2.5 years to 6 years. 10 deserving children were provided a fee concession. The focus is to create a joy filled learning atmosphere in the early formative years of growth and to allow for the cognitive skills of children especially the ability to learn, to process and to apply knowledge. The teachers and the children's creativity was displayed at the different festivals during the year: Raksha bandhan, Independence day, Republic Day, Diwali and Christmas.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS



9. Vocational Training

The **K.G. training course** was discontinued for the academic year 2018-2019. It was important for the team to review and add relevance to the syllabus.

Like every year there were 2 sessions held for the **tailoring** students. There were 53 students in the first session and 28 students in the second session. Of these 16 deserving students were provided free accommodation.

The students were taught to sew sari blouse, petticoat, skirt, salwar suit, purse, handmade items, hand embroidered kerchiefs, tablecloths, pillow covers. Twice a year, in October and March, an exhibition cum sale of their handwork was displayed. The students earned money for their products. They also gained valuable experience for a self-reliant future.

Certificates for Tailoring Students



10. Working Women's Hostel

The Working Women's Hostel is a self-run hostel. The young women look after the marketing, cooking, cleanliness and the day-to-day running of the hostel. There were a total of 96 residents.

THANK YOU



We thank the donors, partners, team efforts of the staff and the many friends and well-wishers who enable our work of economic empowerment and sustainable development of the tribal community at the Torpa Rural Development Society for Women.



Haldi Processing



Lac Bangle Making



*Trusting in the Creator Spirit that continues transforming
the world, our commitment to JPIC impels us toward
Being Artisans of Hope in our Blessed and Broken World
in the contexts where we live and serve.*

~ JPIC document 2019



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