South Orissa Voluntary Action

Annual Report 2012
(April 2011 - March 2012)
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Dear Partners, Friends and Colleagues,

Greetings!!

The year 2011-2012 has seen SOVA focusing strongly on issues it gives me immense pleasure in presenting to you our Annual Report 2011-2012.

The year 2011-2012 has seen SOVA focusing strongly on issues of Governance as one of the essential areas of work for improving overall credibility of the Voluntary Sector. Given the positioning of the organization as a leading capacity building institution, her own governance should set the standards for other NGOs to learn from. SOVA will continue work with community and other NGOs in program partnership mode to address issues relating to health, education, livelihood and governance.

During the year, SOVA launched programme to address public grievances quickly and bring accountability to the administration, an internet based technology called “SAMADHAN-Citizen’s Action for Governance “was launched by the Hon’able Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri Naveen Patnaik. Strategies are being evolved to render services in a manner that the service seekers help themselves, being in partnership with SOVA.

I thank those who partner us, salute those cadres who work as a team with us and encourage the communities that are putting efforts along with us, in moving towards self- reliance and sustainability. The apparent change in the attitude of the weaker section, that SOVA works with and adaptation of the practices of utilizing their own resources, available within their community and gradually managing their affairs in a way that bring in emancipation of the weaker section of the societies, is not only very gratifying but is in tune with the goals established by SOVA. The impact of our intervention is visible in children, families and communities. Showcasing success in various fields has enabled SOVA to be recognized for its humane services. I am also thankful to the district administration for cooperating with us in our efforts to work with the people of Koraput.

Sanjit Patnaik
Secretary
**SOVA** (South Orissa Voluntary Action) is a non-profit, secular organization working for the past 20 years in Koraput, one of the poorest districts in Odisha, India. We empower the most disadvantaged members of society, especially women and children, to better their own lives through healthcare, education, governance, livelihood and disaster relief. Our participatory process motivates tribes to work together to fight poverty, exploitation and discrimination so they can one day become free and equal members of society.

Our journey began in 1993-94 when the tribal people of Koraput were displaced by the construction of the Upper Kolab Hydroelectric Dam. People who had been living for centuries along the reservoirs were forced to move uphill, where the land was not suitable for agriculture and lacked other natural resources like forests and rivers. As a result, the infrastructure and institutions of the tribal fell apart.

The displaced people were grappling with the difficulties of starting over again when we stepped in. We motivated them to form groups to discuss issues, fight for their rights, plan for their future and regain their sense of community. Over the years, we’ve continued to add programs and build strong, trusting relationships with the communities we serve. We work in 250 villages over seven blocks.

**Our Vision & Mission**

**Vision...**

“We will establish a healthy and self-reliant society where community and children enjoy equal opportunities, rights, liberty, justice, participation, informed decision-making and ability to solve their issues. We believe in a society where people can live with dignity and without discrimination or exploitation on the basis of class, caste, creed, sex, race or religion.”

**Mission...**

SOVA’s mission is to ensure that its primary stakeholders - excluded communities especially tribal women and children - have equal and gender-balanced access to their rights in the spectrum of health, education livelihood and governance.
**Strategic Objectives**

- To ensure the enrolment and completion of primary school education for all children, especially girls
- To promote preventive and curative health measures in operational areas
- To increase the income level of the community by 50%, thus enabling them to live above the poverty line
- To increase participation of community at panchayat institution and make these institutions self-reliant in true spirit
- To build the capacities of the tribals, and marginalised people of South Orissa on their rights and develop their skills through advocacy and lobby

**SOVA’s participatory approach**

SOVA’s core strategy is to help communities to empower themselves by providing guidance on self-governance and assisting villages to set up Village Development Committees (VDCs) and other Community Based Organisations (CBOs) like Self Help Groups (SHGs) and School Management Committee (SMCs). This approach is evident in all programme areas and has led to noticeable achievements towards our long term vision and strategic objectives ensuring sustainable development in our operational area.
Malnutrition in children of zero to five years of age has reduced by 4% to 2.33%.

The dream for a common school for the blind and low vision children was realised with the successful operation of 446 cases with IOL.

Institutional delivery increased to 67.6% in the 73 intervention village where SOVA works for the health and hygiene of the community.
Out of 584 deliveries, 395 cases of institutionally delivered have been performed across 73 villages in the 4 blocks of Koraput. (67.6 % institutional delivery against the targeted 80% by 2014)

59 outreach screening camps were organised in which 1271 patients were tested. 446 of the 508 referred for surgical treatment were successfully operated with IOL at Asha Kiran hospital which included one successful Juvenile cataract operation and is now included in normal school.

Campaign and awareness programme on Birth registration, have resulted in issuing 135 birth certificates. Out of 35 differently able persons identified and advocated for, 32 have received the disabled certificates and pension facilities and 3 persons have received hearing device.

Under the CBR project implemented across 340 villages of Koraput and Semiliguda, 44 people have received disable certificate from health department. Another 44 have been enrolled under Madhubabu pension yojana and 40 people have received white cane (assistive devices)

203 numbers of teachers from SSA were trained on primary eye care, inclusive education, and identification of visually impaired children and government facilities available for these children.

Malnutrition percentage has reduced among 0-5 years children from 6% to 2.33%. This is possible through the PD hearth training program for mothers at village level where they develop and share the idea to get maximum use of the available nutritious food in their area.

277 ASHA and AWW were trained on primary eye care, identification and referral to service providing institutions. 31 Gram Kalyan Samiti (GKS) members were oriented on primary eye care and identification of disabilities. 107 eye care committees were formed in 107 villages where there is no GKS.

After attending the football camp under the coaching for hope program, 16 youth from 4 villages have stopped chewing tobacco.

Child death has been reduced from 6 in the previous year to two. This is possible due to the sensitisation programme on the benefits of institutional delivery and post natal check up.

Eleven numbers of blind and low vision children have developed skills on health care practices and are able to take their own responsibility independently.

309 of the 481 STI referrals underwent treatment for STI and RTI related problem
Kolab, a tribal village situated at the banks of river Kolab in Lankaput gram panchayat of Koraput block, 7 km from the District Headquarter Hospital (DHH). People here are dependent on labour, agriculture and vegetable cultivation. Due to lack of transportation from the village to the hospital and irregularity of the ANM and AWW, pregnant women here face problems like unwanted abortion, irregular immunization, and neonatal death. During emergency even ambulance couldn’t reach the village on time. This leads to unsafe home delivery practice by Traditional Birth Attendants (TBA). Due to their strong belief in traditional practices, women were scared to receive treatment from doctors and hence institutional delivery is a distant dream.

After the regular intervention of SOVA at the village, community members are now aware on the benefits of institutional delivery and as a result, now AWW is staying in the village while earlier she seldom use to stay. Initiatives were taken for promotion of institutional delivery, regularly check-up by ANM, a minimum of 3 ANC check-ups and follow ups of the pregnant mother. Orientation was given to the women group on benefits of the institutional delivery, ANC and PNC, even suggesting them to keep phone numbers of the Auto drivers in case of emergency. Though only few cases have been reported yet it is a remarkable achievement to start with. Two out of the three deliveries are Institutional.

Champa Mali w/o Pakulu Mali, is a regular participant in the village meetings. Earlier she delivered at home resulting in an underweight child and improper immunization. However, now she ensured 3 ANC’s, 2 TT vaccines and 100 IFA tablets. Mode of transportation was also arranged in advance to ensure institutional delivery. She gave birth to a male child with a normal weight of 2700 gm at the DHH, Koraput. She is now ensuring BCG vaccine and breast feeding. She also availed Rs.1400 under JSY scheme. Now Champa is happy with her new born and sets an example for others to adopt institutional delivery.
PPTCT programme was launched which has increased the access to services by PLHIV by 70%.

403 peer educators have outreached 4157 youth and adolescence in 51 villages.

Voluntary HIV testing amongst pregnant women has increased from 50 in 2010-11 to 248 in 2011-12.

32 out of 41 condom outlets are run by women volunteers.

51 PLHIV with the support of livelihood programme have increased income level and take nutritious food.

Through football issues like dropout, early marriage, HIV/AIDS have been addressed to 1568 youths.

543 PLHIV have regularly access to ART treatment and counseling.

2 girls’ football teams were formed and they are addressing issues related to HIV.

Voluntary HIV testing amongst pregnant women has increased from 50 in 2010-11 to 248 in 2011-12.
SOVA with ‘Albion in the community’ conducted a young leader training program at Goa on addressing social issues through football across the 51 project villages. 16 football teams including two women team have been formed and trained on HIV and AIDS, who will again disseminate the information in their peer groups.

Prevention of Parents to Child Transmission (PPTCT) programme was launched on December 1, 2011 (World AIDS Day) at Umeri to ensure preventing HIV transmission and the PPTCT services outreach has increased by 70% among PLHIV.

HIV testing in pregnant women has increased from 50 in 2010-2011 to 248 in 2011-2012.

In the year 2011, 403 adolescent and youth peer educators outreached 4157 peers across 51 villages in the ratio of 1:10.

Counselling, referral services and home visits to monitor ART adherence has reduced irregularity and defaults in ART of 543 PLHIV.

Negotiation skills have developed among females as 32 out of 41 condom outlets are maintained by them Support of Nutritional garden to 120 families has increased their nutritional level. This has developed their food habits and CD4 count of ten PLHIVs is well balanced now.

During FY2012, 38 PLHIV have received the benefits of Madhu Babu Pension scheme.

18 PLHIV trained as positive speakers advocating for PLHIV rights at District and State level.

51 PLHIV supported for livelihood programme.

30% women in the project areas have reported for voluntary testing at ANC.

481 STI referrals were registered in 2011-2012 out of which 309 have undergone testing and availed treatment.
Amana is a poor HIV positive women living in a slum of Jeypore since 15 years. Her husband who was a driver left her with a 7 month old pregnancy and a 8 year old son, to parish in the vast unpredicted world. Left with no financial support for the family to survive and finding no other alternative, Amana had to stay with her mother who was an old lady depended on two cows? Now the entire family of four had to depend on these two cows for survival.

It was 2002 that Amana’s husband who was treated for TB, passed away. Anticipating that her husband had died of TB, she became more concerned about her family being infected with TB. During the death of her husband she was in her 7th month of pregnancy. It was in 2005 when heaven broke upon her and Amana showed symptoms of TB. She suffered from severe cough and was treated for the same. She underwent treatment for 9 months. Every month nearly Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 was spent for her medicines which were not affordable for the family.

Finding the treatment very costly and effect less, they decided to undergo treatment at Dongaguda for free services. There she was suggested to undergo HIV test. Earth slipped from her feet when she was intimated that she was HIV positive. SOVA suggested her children to test for HIV. The result was as expected. Both the children were found HIV positive. Even though they received free medicines, social stigma pestered them with survival being a major milestone.

Amana’s family saw a ray of light when SOVA with their livelihood support provided a cow and a calf to raise her financial position and to live a dignified life. She was also provided service support by SOVA’s staff and was enrolled in District Level Network of positive people (DLN). This small step of hers has landed her today in a position where she earns a daily profit of Rs. 50 to Rs. 80. She has now a tie-up with OMFED where she sells the milk. She has also availed the Madhubabu pension scheme. Apart from her personal daily work she even finds time to create awareness among PLHIV and help them get enrolled in DLN. The lady who once felt aloof now states that she is no longer alone; rather she is the member of a DLN family. She feels empowered .Her family is quite regular on ART and they never fail to adopt all remedial precautions. Amana is no more a burden for anybody, rather she is a proud daughter and a proud mother of two school going children.

A smile restored.......

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SOVA with the support of community members developed 3 tribal language book for primary school teachers.

CPC members of Puki mobilized a mini anganwadi centre which benefited 17nos. 3-5 years children.

154 children enrolled in AW pre-school centres boosting their cognitive development.
Achievements

- SOVA’s intervention in inclusive education for visually challenged children. 127 blind and low vision children from 7 blocks were examined (Low vision assessment) of which 43 children were referred for surgery, 40 for low vision devices and 17 for special schools for VI.
- With an objective to develop the skill of visually challenged children of age 6-16, 25 blind and 5 critical low vision children were provided 15 days skill development training at Chappar with aid and appliances support from SSA, DSWO and Sight Savers International. Braille kit was provided to 19 children.
- 10 Low Vision children and 31 refractive error children have been enrolled in general schools.
- Eye screening in 40 schools of Koraput district through vision centre was conducted and 200 School teachers were oriented on comprehensive eye care including orientation on ‘see chart’.
- Through Coaching for Hope programme 16 dropout were enrolled in regular school viz. 5 from Umeri, 6 from new Kerenga, 4 from Chappar and 1 child labour from Umeri was enrolled in regular school.
- At Puki, CPC has mobilised a mini anganwadi centre. By advocating to DSW, now the building is under construction with supervision of CPC members. In these centre 17 numbers of 3-5 years children are going to be benefitted.
- In New Kerenga CPC has mobilized a health sub-centre, which will be covering 3 villages for child immunization, mother immunization, enhance of nutrition status of child and support for other diseases. The construction of the centre is under the supervision of CPC.
- 10 children had surgery at Vivekananda Mission Asram Netra Niramay Niketan (Kolkata) with the support of SSA. Seven children were operated for IOL surgery and three for Press myopia. Counselling and post operation follow up are done by SOVA.
- SOVA in support of IPAP-Save the children has formed CPCs with adult members to establish a protection mechanism for the children, controlled and managed by community members in its operational villages.
- CPC structure of Save the Children was advocated and the CPC module was approved by the state government and they are now forming village to state level child protection committee. They have asked the list of committees already formed by the implementing agencies which has been submitted.
- 13 school dropouts of New Keranga were identified by child club and Youth club members and are readmitted to school.
- Bridge classes organized with the support of SSA for dropout children have successfully enrolled 263 children in government run residential or regular schools.
- Network has been established with child welfare committee, child protection committee, labour department, education department, department of women and child development, DSWO, SSA to advocate issues related to child education, protection, development and participation issues.
Chanchala Basra is a child with low vision. Previously she was not attending school fearing discrimination and lack of confidence. Her parents also were reluctant to send her to school as they felt their daughter would not be able to read and follow classes.

On continuous counseling and encouragement to her parents from SOVA and IE staff, Chanchala joined school. However, her peers discriminated against her and she had to undergo a lot of humiliation. They didn’t even want to address her by her name. When SOVA was intimated about the same, peer training was organized and now Chanchala is accepted by her fellow students.

Chanchala really enjoys going to school where she can play with other children. She also received a book for low vision children and finds it a lot easier to read. Although low vision school books are difficult to find in Koraput, SOVA has been successful in mobilizing low vision school books through the District Project Coordinator (DPC). Chanchala is determined to study hard and one day she wants to be a teacher herself. A dream that is no longer out of reach.

A memorable dawn...

Rajani Khora a ten years old poor tribal girl living with her parents and two brothers at Kahjuriguda, a small village under Chandaka Gram Panchayat of Potangi block in Koraput District. Rajani and her younger brother are blind since birth.

SOVA organized a Low Vision Assessment with the help of Sight Saver international facilitated by Mr. Kishor Sahu (Optometrist- Vivekananda Mission Ashram, Kolkata). It was found that Rajani could recover her sight after an operation. She was then provided a 15 days residential skill development training program for visually impaired children where she had to stay with her peers and was under the constant supervision of the IE teachers. This increased her outlook and she gained the skill to perform the daily activities of her own.

On hearing that their daughter would gain sight after operation, her parents were excited but subsequently became reluctant because they feared that Kolkata is a big place and doctors may remove some of the organs. Also arranging money for the operation was a difficult task for them. On being intimated that their travels and boarding along with the cost of operation will be borne by SSA and SSI and that the IE teacher and SOVA staffs will accompany her along with nine other BLV children along with one attendant from each family, her parents agreed for the operation. Her father accompanied her to Kolkata and stayed there for 4 days. After a two and half hour operation and post operation care under the supervision of doctors, there was sign of improvement in her vision. Functional assessment was done and medicines were provided to her. Now Rajani is able see. She is very happy and is now admitted to a common school.

During revisit, her parents with tears in eyes said “this work would not have been possible on our part, we are thankful to SOVA and the doctors who have saved a girl from being harassed in her life”.

A dream comes true...!!
Livelihoods

Through goatery programme helped to increase income level of 33 families and providing them with food and livelihood sustainability.

Through vermi compost 25 farmers increased their yields securing their food for a year.

Vegetable cultivation benefited 76 families to improve their income level up to Rs 6000 p.a each and provide food security for the year.

Vocational trainings on electrical fittings have improved the income levels of village tribal youths.

Land development has directly benefited 149 families by producing 150 kgs of extra produce ensuring 4 months of food security.

44 tribal women earned profits of approx Rs. 1800 each from mushroom cultivation.
44 women from 4 villages had a profitable income of approximately Rs. 1800 each from mushroom cultivation.

Land development activities initiated in four villages covering 144 acres of degraded land of which 40 acres were barren. Land bonding, gully control and stone bonding was done to check soil erosion. 2596 man day created due to which 192 quintal extra cultivation was obtained from these lands increasing food security for three months.

67 marginalised farmers were trained on Systematic Rice Intensification (SRI) and they yield was almost four times.

Vegetable Cultivation training with financial and material support was provided to 76 farmers who cultivated vegetable in 48 acres of land during the session and each family has earned an additional income of Rs.6,000/-

7 tribal were trained on electrical fitting which earned them an income of Rs 8000/- to Rs.12,000/- per month.

12 families produced mixed crop production and sold these cash crops which increased their average income by Rs 2,500.

Due to land development in 30 acre of barren land, 9 families could cultivate raggi which provided food security for 2 months.

33 families were supported with 90 goats, in which 7 beneficiary have sold a baby goat and earned Rs 1,750.

37 SHG were linked with bank for gotary, petty business, vegetable cultivation, each group could earn minimum Rs 22,000 per SHG.

A timely initiative...

Chaitan Paraja from Jhilligoan lives with his wife and a baby boy. During 2011 land based activities was done in the village by SOVA, his family worked in the field as wage labour and earned Rs. 6000/-. With that amount he released his one acre of land that was mortgaged since last 2 years by his father. The released land was also treated by the project supported activities. After the land development activities with technical support, Chaitan along with the village farmers for the first time initiated vegetable cultivation. The...
family prepared the land for vegetable cultivation. Chaitan cultivated tomato, and the yield was so good that he sold the vegetable and benefited Rs. 8000/-.

With the benefited amount Chaitan purchased a cycle so that he could move market to market to sell his product.

His wife is very happy that chaitan purchased a gold ear ring for her from the money he earned from vegetable cultivation.

Laxmi Pentia and Damu is one of the poorest of the poor and land less family of Heruguda Colony, Kundra panchyat. She stays with her husband, 4 daughters and 1 son.

Damu his husband is working at Kundra as “Khalisi” (daily wage labour), who was earning Rs.20/- to 30/- per day, which was difficult to manage large family. The family having BPL card the PDS rice only for 12 to 15 days.

Community identified the family as one of the poorest of poor in the village, SOVA then supported 2 goats to increase livelihood. Presently she have 5 goats and she had sold 2 Male goat for Rs.1200/- each. Still these Goats has not mitigated family financial need.

As a poorest of the poor of the village SOVA staff have facilitated the family to improve income level and developed individual plan of the family and time to time gave proper guidance about selling of product and management to Laxmi and her husband. As per plan family was linked with petty business and initiated selling of vegetable, with some grocery.She moves to different villages and also sells at weakly market at near villages on Wednesday. She could repay the loan amount of Rs.500/- And their weakly transaction is Rs.3000/-. At present both Domu and Laxmi are earning member for their families. Now the beifites supports to manage food for the entire month.

Apart she uses barter system she exchange selling product against paddy or ragy. His husband supports to purchase goods for selling from local market or some time from Jeypore (40Km distance from village).

With in few month the family was able to get ahalf acer of land in mortgage of Rs 3000/- in this land they cultivate Ragy for their own consumption. At present the elder daughter study in a residential school nearby village in standard 8th other children in primary school at village. Family is now able to support note books and dress for their children. Now the family have able to cooks some green vegetable two times per day. In future Laxmi thinks to make a shop at village to sell the same product.

With adoption of any process should arrange one “Podi”(1/4 Kg) of rice.

Laxmi says with doing this small business she arranged every day food for her family. And she wants to continue for longer.
"SAMADHAN - Citizen’s Action for Governance" was launched by the Hon’able Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri Naveen Patnaik.

193 forest dwellers received land entitlement under Forest Right Act and it helped other forest dwellers to apply for it.

30% staffs of Radio Dhimsa are able to produce live-programmes after the installation of telephone lines for phone-in-programming.
Achievements

- 914 joint passbooks were issued under NREGA after advocacy
- 1318 Public Distribution System (PDS) cards were issued to BPL families
- 193 forest dwellers received land entitlement under FRA
- With the facilitation of SOVA, 39 village development plans were approved in poli and gram-sabha of which 29 were implemented
- 6 women group were formed to address issues related to women and referring for institutional delivery, GKS monitoring, prevention of malaria, village sanitation etc
- Mapping exercise with the community on gender has reduced the work load of women in 21 villages
- With a view to address public grievances quickly and bring accountability to the administration, an internet based technology called “SAMADHAN-Citizen’s Action for Governance” was launched by the Hon’able Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri Naveen Patnaik on 26th of August 2011
- SAMADHAN, a pilot project in Koraput district of Orissa, is a joint initiative of Collectorate of Koraput District, Government of Odisha, the United Nations Millennium Campaign (UNMC), Civil society Partners VSO India Trust and South Orissa Voluntary Action (SOVA)
- Within 6 months of its launch, 222 complaints were lodged through SAMADHAN of which 24 of them were resolved and closed
- SOVA with the support of UNICEF & District Administration established Gram Panchayat Resource Centres in 50 GPs, the first of its kinds in Odisha. 10 out of the 50 GPRCs are functioning at government Infrastructure Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra while the rest are merged with existing Panchayat Office building. The main purpose of the centre is to disseminate information on various Govt. Schemes/programmes, provide services and counseling to the community members establishing linkages with different government departments.
- The jingles, announcements, dramas and various other programs developed by Radio Dhimsa are been aired by All India Radio (AIR), Jeypore
- 75 hours of produced programmes were reviewed by Technical Support Agency (TSA) on the month of Feb 2012 and now ready for broadcast
- 30% staffs of Radio Dhimsa Community Radio Station (RDCRS) are able to produce live-programmes after the installation of telephone lines for phone-in-programming of RDCRS

Case Study – Sonai Paraja’s story

Sonai Paraja, 70 years old widow of late Damo Paraja, of Heruguda village in Kundra block, finally feels secure after fighting a long battle to receive her regular old age pension. Sonai was denied her pension from block and panchayat authorities several times before she brought her predicament to the notice of the VDC members. She didn’t expect that any complaints or pleas would help her. However, when in one of the village meetings, an office bearer of the VDC immediately sought to help her. They approached the panchayat authorities with required documents. Sonai Paraja’s pension was finally regularized. She was even paid the pension for the last four months retrospectively which amounted to Rs. 800. This meager amount proved nonetheless to be a great help to Sonai Paraja. She repaired her house with the pension amount and she is very happy to have a roof above head. With a sense of security she says “it was possible only because of unity in the village and the facilitation of SOVA”.

Sibaram Bandhia, 35, lives in Bandhia Guda village of Kundra Block. The village has 56 households with a population of 267. Out of the entire population, 43 are children in the age group of 6 to 14 years. There is no primary school in the village to provide basic and elementary education to these children. The nearest primary school is located in the village Uduluguda, which is 2 km from Bandhia Guda. It poses great difficulty to the children to cross the stream which flows between the two villages, to reach school.

Having understood the problems of their children, the villagers organized a village level meeting and unanimously decided to approach officials at block level to set up a primary school in their village. They visited the Block Office of Kundra and submitted an application to this respect. When no positive outcome was forthcoming they returned many times to follow up on their application but without success.

Through initiatives by SOVA, a unique grievance redressal mechanism called SAMADHAN was introduced to them through which they were able to reach the District Administration directly to have their grievance addressed.

On November 2011, they formally registered their grievance through the toll free number of SAMADHAN. The matter was transferred to District Primary Education Program (DPEP) department, who took immediate action and sanctioned a primary school in Bandhia Guda village.

The site selection work has already been completed and the construction work of the school building is underway. The villagers are cooperating wholeheartedly in this noble cause and the role of the community is this entire situation is very positive and commendable.

This is a very inspiring and encouraging story of the villagers of Bandhia Guda, whose combined efforts paid off and their grievance was resolved through the SAMADHAN system.
The Koraput District Administration identified a lack of accessibility to Chief Minister’s Relief Fund for tribal and illiterate people of the rural areas. SOVA was approached to help facilitating access to this important service and provides now a volunteer service at Emergency Cell of the District Head Quarters Hospital through its partner NGOs. A volunteer will guide the assistance seeker inside the hospital, will supply and fill in the required forms. The volunteer service also includes accompanying the patient to the referral hospital.

SOVA came into existence when the tribal people of Koraput were displaced by the construction of the Upper Kolab Hydroelectric Dam. Most of communities still suffer from the consequences and SOVA aims to help tribal villages to be better prepared for potential disasters and develop more resilient livelihoods. For this reason, 58 disaster risk reduction plans were developed with the local communities. Following a participatory process, the villagers were supported in analysing the risks and problems they face which led to a prioritisation of issues and a detailed plan how these can be tackled by the villagers. The initiative established participatory and self-governing structures in the villages so the plan can be updated without external intervention achieving self-reliance in this area in all 58 communities.

33 poorest of the poor people were referred to different medical college of odisha state for higher treatment with the help of the District Admin
Of the 877 enrolled children, 649 are sponsored.

Of the 649 sponsored, 237 are able to write letters to their sponsors.

89 children regularized in schools and 385 families have increased food security due to DFC.

10 families have sustainable positive change in financial condition due to livestock support.

423 children wear decent dresses due to the DFC and 278 families have got household material support.
Out of the quota of 1000 children that SOVA is responsible for, there are 877 enrolled children of which 649 are sponsored.

510 children have received Designated Fund Certificate (DFC) from their sponsors enabling the children and their families to purchase rice, utensils, clothing and shoes, blankets and other items.

Due to the DFCs, 89 children regularised in schools; food security of 385 families have increased; sustainable positive change is seen in the financial condition of 10 families from livestock support; 423 children wear decent dresses; 278 families got household requirements like utensils, almirahs etc.

Of the 649 sponsored children, 237 children are able to write to their sponsor and are able to interact with others in the village regarding sponsorship.

Cas Study - Sukra’s Story

SOVA (South Orissa Voluntary Action) and ChildFund India have been working together for the last 16 years for the overall development of the people living in the tribal infested Koraput district. They have been providing various facilities by conducting different programmes in the remote areas. Especially in view of the difficulties faced by the school-going children in this area, ChildFund India has started providing bi-cycles to the children for the last two years.

Dharmika Nayak, 15, is a sponsored child with Case No-356. She is also one of the bi-cycle receiving children. She is from village-Chhapar, of Umuri Panchayat of Koraput District of Odisha. Now she is studying in class-X, but there was a time when her parents were about to discontinue her study. It so happened that when she was studying in class-VIII, everyday she had to walk 4 kms to reach school as a result most of the days she was reaching school late and even on some days she was not going to school at all. Moreover, the days on which she was in school, most of the times she was returning late in the evening which was really not safe for a grown-up girl like her. This had created a great concern for her parents. But her parents could not think of any alternative for the child because of the financial condition of the family. Hence, such a situation forced them to discontinue her studies. But the workers of SOVA ChildFund advised them to refrain from such a negative thought. And they made arrangements for providing her a bicycle through ChildFund India’s bicycle distribution programme. Such a timely support of ChildFund India brought a flash of smile on her face and showed her the path of light by protecting her from an uncertain and dark future.

She says, “The bi-cycle gift provided by SOVA ChildFund has cleared off all the hurdles coming up on the way of my studies. Now I am going to school happily and with ease. I am no more feeling tired of walking the long distance and nor am I late to school. My parents are sending me to school with a smile on their face. Hence, I convey my gratitude to SOVA ChildFund”. Her father Arjun Mali and mother Nainamoti Mali say, “We are very grateful to SOVA ChildFund as its timely cooperation helped protect the future of our child from being spoiled and provided her the opportunity of education”.
SOVA has a strong community base in the Koraput district and better linkages with the line department and with the community. The main focus on demonstrating the past year learning and best practices, SOVA has changed the strategy and developed new innovative activities in Koraput District.

SOVA will give more focus to work in collaboration with the District NRHM, for the promotion of the Institutional delivery under JSY scheme, and give more thrust on 100% birth registration and immunization in the project areas.

To increase the access to quality primary education SOVA will give more thrust on 100% enrollment, attendance and retention of the children in between 6-14 years and facilitate to mainstream the dropout children in primary schools, also SOVA will strive to integrate and mainstream the child protection and participation in all the programme sectors for this we will collaborate with DPEP, Koraput.

This year, we will continue our community outreach to have a diverse group of people involved directly or indirectly in SOVA activities. We have successfully established partnership with the Concern worldwide, Trocaire, Save the Children, CWS, Child Fund India, UNICEF, NEG-Fire, Sight savers International, Health & Family welfare Govt of Orissa, and other alliance and individuals like Annie.

As a non-profit organization, awareness is the most prevalent aspect that not only brings monetary contributions but also non-monetary support to the organization such as volunteer hours. We believe this can be achieved by working closely with local and international organizations. We at SOVA strongly believe that just lighting up the torch of humanitarian issues is not the only solution but passing that light to others is the key to galvanizing public awareness

“Looking Forward for a Better Tomorrow”
South Orissa Voluntary Action (SOVA)

Abridged Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ended 31st March 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>2011-12</th>
<th>2010-11</th>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>2011-12</th>
<th>2010-11</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self Generated</td>
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<td>Programme Expenses</td>
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<td>Membership Fees</td>
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<td>22,000.00</td>
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<td>Policy, Research &amp; Advocacy</td>
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<td>1,90,41,578.35</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Grant Foreign Source</th>
<th>Administrative Expenses</th>
<th>Depreciation on Fixed Assets</th>
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<td>Institutional Donor</td>
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<td>Others</td>
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<td>Total Grant</td>
<td>2,48,63,367.24</td>
<td>2,36,43,185.60</td>
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| Excess of Income over Expenditure | 27,73,320.43 | 1660158.61 |

GRAND TOTAL | 3,07,65,423.24 | 3,13,96,847.60 |

Abridged Balance Sheet As on 31st March 2011

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES</th>
<th>2011-12</th>
<th>2010-11</th>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2011-12</th>
<th>2010-11</th>
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<td>Loan &amp; Advances</td>
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<td>GRAND TOTAL</td>
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<td>85,89,245.68</td>
<td>GRAND TOTAL</td>
<td>1,20,44,030.11</td>
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<td>Category</td>
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<td>Health, Sanitation &amp; Nutrition</td>
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<td>Education &amp; Literacy</td>
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<td>Agriculture &amp; Natural Resource Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relief for Natural Calamities</td>
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<td>Policy, Research &amp; Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>01.</td>
<td>Mr. Madan Kirisani</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Machra Village, Umuri GPKoraput, Orissa</td>
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<tr>
<td>02.</td>
<td>Mr. Sanjit Patnayak</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Pujariput Koraput, Orissa</td>
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<tr>
<td>03.</td>
<td>Ms Baby Rani Nanda</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Mali Street, Koraput, Orissa</td>
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<tr>
<td>04.</td>
<td>Ms. Nabhi Ratna</td>
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<td>05.</td>
<td>Mr Tanka Chendia</td>
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<td>06.</td>
<td>Mr Baliram Prasad</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Randapalli, Jeypore Dist: Koraput, Orissa</td>
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<td>07.</td>
<td>Mr. Jacob Thundyil</td>
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<td>08.</td>
<td>Mr. Tripati Mishra</td>
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<td>09.</td>
<td>Ms. Suprava Nisanka</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Mr. M Mutyala Rao</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>Ms Madhusmita Mohanty</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Pujariput, Koraput, Orissa</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SOVA’s work would not have been possible without the support from a large number of organizations and individuals.

The staff have worked tirelessly in sometimes difficult situations and have shown great commitment. They motivated many members of the community to participate and support others. We thank each individual for their courage and dedication.

A not insignificant part of our work was only possible through the close links and good working relationship with the District Administration and various government line departments. We are grateful for the support the officials have shown to our cause.

The local NGO network consisting of 13 members is a strong body for advocacy and collaboration. Joint initiatives have proved effective for the good of the community we serve. We appreciate the team spirit and the assistance received from this group. Thanks to all our partners who made our work possible.

Not just the majority our funding but also a great pool of skills and resources was kindly provided by our national and international donors. Their generosity and desire to establish and maintain a true partnership has empowered us to make a positive impact in our community. Our heartfelt thank goes to all of them.
Special thanks to the partners who made our work possible:

ChildFund India
Concern Worldwide
Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO)
UNICEF
Debra Glasband, Goats & Hopes
Beyond Solar

New Education Group (NEG-fire)
Save the Children
Sightsavers
Trocaire
CWS
Skillshare
National Rural Health Mission

South Orissa Voluntary Action
Rangbalikhumbleh Road,
Koraput-764020, Orissa, India
Email: sovakpt@gmail.com
Web: www.sovakoraput.org
Phone: 91-6852-250590