# ANNUAL REPORT



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### Looking forward for a better tomorrow



### Message from the Secretary .....



Dear Partners, Friends and Colleagues,

#### Greetings!

It gives me immense pleasure in presenting our Annual Report 2013 – 2014. SOVA has come a long way since its inception in 1993 and our relentless efforts of years in establishing a healthy and self reliant society has been well managed. This has been possible with your support and faith on the organization. The impact of our undeterred efforts is visible in the involvement of children, families and communities in adopting changes for a better cause.

SOVA's work focuses on improving opportunities for vulnerable mother and children including children in need who are living on the streets and those affected by HIV and for those who migrate leaving behind a family with eyes on their return. We have immense to do for the community but our limitations funnel us to a streamline approach.

We do not count the achievements or areas of improvement; we retrospect the vulnerability twenty years back and the vulnerability today. With reference to the past, we visualize for a better tomorrow.

I salute the cadres who work as a team and encourage the communities in moving towards self- reliance and sustainability not by holding their hands but creating space to realize their strength and voice for sustainability. I would appreciate my fellow board members for their visionary inputs. And finally, but most importantly, I would like to acknowledge and thank our development partners who stand by us in realizing an ideal society.

Thanking you for your ongoing support.

Yours truly,

Sanjit Patnaik Secretary, SOVA

### About SOVA



South Orissa Voluntary Action (SOVA) began its journey in 1993-94 when the tribal people of Koraput were displaced by the construction of the Upper Kolab Hydroelectric Dam. Over the years, we've continued to add programs and build strong, trusting relationships with the communities we serve. 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 Vision & Mission

#### Vision...

SOVA visualises: a healthy and self-reliant society, where excluded communities - especially tribal women and children - enjoy equal opportunities and rights with dignity and without any discrimination and exploitation

#### 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..

- Ensure that every child's rights are protected as stipulated under international instruments like the UNCRC and as guaranteed by the Indian Constitution and prevalent legislations.
- Improve human development indicators in the context of health and education;
- Facilitate economic and food security and access to entitlements;
- Ensure tribal participation in self-governance;
- Maintain gender equality across the programs;





### HEALTH



Vulnerable mother and children are more prawn to illness and malnutrition and reduced chances for survival. In a developing nation like India, the right to health care and treatment sometime gets denied. SOVA's strategic objective is to improve human development indicators in the context of health in the next five years. To cope of with the external macro environment challenges and threat, SOVA through PESTLE analysis have developed innovative approach and is found to be quite effective in addressing certain health issues.

SOVA believes in mobilizing and providing health awareness and referral services for the deprived sections of the community through community-based initiatives in the area of preventive and curative Health. It primarily focuses on reproductive and child health programme, childhood malnutrition and HIV & AIDS intervention across 146 villages of the district of Koraput.

Post natal check up has increased by 10% in the 88 villages.

Institutional delivery increased to 67% in 146 villages.

37 villages had regular immunisation benefitting419 children in last one year

173 pregnant and lactating mothers benefitted from the community based nutrition rehabilitation and behaviour change program conducted in 31 villages.

Increase in voluntary HIV testing in the project area from 53 % to 55% in last one year

# Major Achievements on RCH, HIV/AIDS & Childhood malnutrition



- Health camps in remote villages were conducted where 2045 persons got registered and treated for different ailments. Pregnant & lactating mothers treated and advised for post natal check up.
- A study to document citizens' perception on IMR, MMR and malnutrition among
  the communities in the rural pockets of Koraput in three gram Panchayat was
  done. The major suggestion for implementation of neo natal management
  programme could be introduced adopting Gadchiroli model. Honorarium for
  ASHA to be linked with at least 3 ANC for pregnant mothers, identification of high
  risk cases and registration of all deaths at GP /Block level for focused involvement
- PD Hearth sessions conducted in thirty one villages where 600 families have adopted safe child care and hygienic food practice among mothers reducing malnutrition status among children.
- Cultural program on safe motherhood performed in 100 villages where 3123 mothers made aware on safe motherhood, birth preparedness, early registration & health check up.
- PRI sensitisation program for 100 members in fourteen gram Panchayat have increased ASHA, Anganwadi and ANM services in remote areas thereby providing immunisation to 133 home delivered children.
- Interface with DAPCU, NRHM and other linked partners on ART adherence and LFUs resulted in increased ART adherence in 76 cases and registration of 161 PLHIV cases at ART centre.
- 1017 peer educators developed by SOVA have outreached 209 adolescent and youths who are disseminating messages of HIV and AIDS, condom promotion, PPTCT services and negotiation skills.
- 83% of positive pregnant mothers have delivered at PPTCT service center and have received Naverapine prophylaxis.
- Livelihood support of Rs. 10,000 provided to 100 PLHIV families for sustainable income generation. 41 families have increased their income level by 50% i.e. income per family increased by another Rs. 1500 2000 per month.

- Malnutrition percentage has reduced among 0-5 years children from 6% to 4.33%.
   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.
- After attending the football camp under the 'coaching for hope' program; 19 youth from 4 villages have stopped chewing tobacco.
- Child death has been reduced from twenty one in 146 villages to fourteen. 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.
- 217 of the 333 STI referrals underwent treatment for STI and RTI related problem.
- Support of Nutritional garden to 40 PLHIV families has increased their nutritional standard. This has developed their food habits and CD4 count.
- 11 PLHIV trained as positive speakers advocating for PLHIV rights at District and State level
- Campaign and awareness programme on Birth registration, have resulted in issuing 99 birth certificates of those children born at home. Out of 21 differently able persons identified and advocated for, 17 have received the disabled certificates and pension facilities and 2 persons have received hearing device.
- Through football(Coaching for Hope); issues like dropout, early marriage, HIV/AIDS have been addressed to 1568 youths. This resulted in delayed marriage among 11 tribal families. Access of youths to condom outlet set up in 53 villages.
- Material support to district level network of positive people have brought PLHIVs to a common platform where they develop positive living and confidence to led a descent life.

### **CASE STUDY**

#### "A smíle restored....."

Arun is a smiling young man of 24 living in a small village in the block of Jeypore in Koraput district in south west Orissa. After marriage he developed pain in his left abdomen for which ICTC test was done and he was found positive. Due to his



ignorance he became victim of some wrong information regarding services on HIV. To find the status of other complicacy he was asked to test his CD4 count, viral load and other test at Mumbai for which he had to sell off his bike, ornament, cows etc. Even his wife became sick. There dilapidating health and financial degradation eroded the beautiful smile of his face.

On referral from one PRI members, Arun approached SOVA. He was counseled and referred to the ART centre. Now he availed ART services and moral support in leading a dignified life. He then got registered in the DLN. His CD4 count and other tests were done and medicines provided. He was repeatedly followed up and asked to take preventives and nutritious food and boiled water for drinking. His wife was also tested and found to be positive. There was a great behavioral change in him. He attended the support group meetings/family awareness programs along with his parents who provided him moral supports. He then approached SOVA for some livelihood support. He wanted to invest in his already existing grocery shop which was also provided to him by SOVA. He was provided Rs.10, 000/- in the form of loan. He was constantly followed up and encouraged for positive living and suggested ways to improve his business. Thus SOVA supported not only financially but also in bringing about a positive change in him.

Business increased by almost three to four folds. Now he is accessing ART and other services & Medicines. His CD4 count, drug adherence and viral load have improved. He has been linked with Madhu babu pension Scheme and is receiving the benefits. He has become a spokesperson for the positive people. The psycho social support provided by SOVA through DLN (District Level Network) has made him a good positive speaker. His role as a change maker in the village will provide a lasting impact.

#### Support.....

SOVA's successes in health implementation programme have attracted international NGOs to come forward with supports like:

To reduce Malnutrition and Vitamin- A deficiency in children & pregnant women through promotion of Orange Flesh Sweet Potato

Continuum of Care for the people living with HIV and AIDS so that they lead a dignified life free of stigma and discrimination at all level

# SOVA

### CHILD RIGHTS

SOVA has been since long engaging children as both participants and decision-makers in child-centric programme, rather than as mere recipients. This has demonstrated itself to be effective enough to ensure child rights their participation and protection in Koraput district. Advocacy at Panchayat, block and district level administration for adoption, development and implementation of standards and protocols for improved child rights and protection was highly prioritized.

Vulnerability assessment in 302 villages was done identifying 3787 vulnerable children (Boys – 1997, Girls – 1790) who require immediate intervention. Child mapping provided an opportunity for qualitative assessment of child vulnerability.

- Village level Child Protection Committee (VLCPC) & Panchayat level Child Protection Committee (PLCPC) more informed about the existing government scheme for addressing child issues.
- 23 girl child of Doraguda Panchayat prevented from working at cashew mill with involvement and initiation of child club and CPC.
- 47 dropout children have been mainstreamed at different government residential school through initiation of child club and CPC.
- 6 numbers of physically challenged children have received their entitlements through identification and advocacy of child clubs and CPC.
- 9 orphans identified and applied to the DCPU for including them in the sponsored program of government.

- State level advocacy was an eye opener for the state administration as analytical report on need based assessment of individual child and Village level integrated child protection plan shared for better intervention.
- 121 integrated child protection committee with 350 children was developed and equal number of integrated child protection plan developed.
- 25 GP level CPC formed & strengthened and 50 numbers of CCI were registered that highlighted child protection and participation at higher level.
- Out of the 23 children identified and developed at the open shelter school, 05 numbers of children have been mainstreamed at different residential schools in the tear 2013-2014.
- Out of the 23 enrolled at the open shelter, 16
  of them are able to read & write. Five children
  are now being trained on painting and
  another six on using local musical instrument.

### .....no looking back

Kusa Jani, tribal boy of ten, once looked upon as a dreaded thief in making by the police and the community is today a class sixth student of Umuri high school who is regular to school and aims to become a teacher.

Kusa was orphaned from his childhood and stayed with his grandmother along with his five siblings at hatpada of Koraput. His grandmother works as a maid servant in two houses and with the little earning she gets from her work and the government supported old age pension that she receives; she manages in providing the children some food to survive.



Kusa was a school dropout with little interest in studies. With the street children he formed a group and started collecting bottles, scraps, liquor bottles and sold it to earn at least Rs. 50/- a day. He did not use the money in his family but spent it with his friends. People used him in bringing wine bottles from shop and gave them the empty bottle in return. Slowly he started tasting wine and became habituated to bidi, gutka, pan and all bad habits. Once he along with his friends robbed the guns and bullets from Koraput court office and was caught later by the police. The treatment they received was beyond expression but in due course of time they were looked down upon by the people as thieves.

Kusa was brought to the open shelter on 12/12/2013. In the beginning he was very quiet and did not respond to any body. During counseling he used to answer very rough and was quite adamant in his behavior. He was asked to join the other children during prayer time, share his thoughts through drawing as he could not read or right properly. Special support was given to him to focus on study. It was found that he had a good memory. Some change in his behavior was noticed. On finding some change in him, it now became easier for the staffs of open shelter to develop his skills in reading and writing.

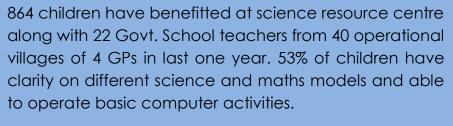
Now Kusa can read and write properly and is now admitted to class sixth at the Umuri high school. He is a regular student and participates in song, dance and drawing even though he is not good in doing so. Anticipating a bright future for Kusa.

### EDUCATION



Children have always been at the centre of SOVA's programmes, a strategy that has worked very well to bring flagship programmes like DPEP within the reach of these disadvantaged tribal children. Creating awareness on rights among children,

organising them and equipping them with negotiation skills is embedded in the child-centric approach.



SOVA has taken effort to conduct regular extra classes on mathematics & odiya in 40 villages as a result 53% of children have clarity on different science and mathematics models and able to operate basic computer activities.

SOVA supported five numbers of schools with 'Teaching & Learning material' (TLM) with consent of Sarba Sikshya Abhiyan (SSA). By which 384 nos. of children has got benefit in improving their learning level.

Training to Mother's committee and SHG members on "Children Entitlement" benefitted 1579 children of 40 villages in availing basic entitlements at schools and anganwadi centers.

110 children have been facilitated to join regular school of whom 51 are completely blind and 52 have progressive low vision

Interface meeting with SSA on existing situation in 35 schools of Pottangi has helped the block level officials as an eye opener and school monitoring enhanced in this area.

103 children have been facilitated to join in regular schools of which 51 are completely blind and 52 have progressive low vision.

Now 38 children can write and read sentences in Braille and are continuing their studies.



### LIVILIHOOD





SOVA through its livelihood programme has tried to empower the marginalized women, tribal and Dalit to enhance income of the poor and marginalised community and ensure food security through sustainable livelihood.

Widow and women headed family have been given more priority in all part of Sova intervention area.

- 102 hector of land was treated in 8 villages and a total of 202 families have directly benefited with an additional increase of 2.5 quintal of crops which ensured food security for another two months.
- Land treatment has created 1717 work days engaging 813 women and 904 men who have earned Rs.1,16,259 during the year 2013.
- Vegetable cultivation has been promoted as a sustainable source of income in 12 village's where 196 families have cultivated in 28.4 hector of land and have earned an additional income of Rs. 11,500.
- Under FRA, 352 out of 679 forest dwellers of 11 forest villages have received individual land entitlements during this year. 42 forest dweller from 6 villages who had benefited from FRA, have also received IAY (Low cost shelter), and 8 have treated land of 12acres through water shed mission.
- Out of 318 landless families 239 (75%) have received revenue land at an average of 1.5 acres of land for agriculture purpose.
- 14 poorest of poor families had lost their shelter due to heavy rain in a village, the VDC members advocated and supported for enquiry with revenue department and mobilized Rs. 7500/- for each families and their houses were reconstructed.

- Out of 39 VDC 22 committees have developed own fund, average of Rs. 6000/- to address village emergency issues.
- 28 SHGs (303 members) have made additional income of Rs. 6010 through various income generation program.
- 60 hector of land in two villages promoted agro forestry to contribute to minimize issues caused due to climate change.

Laichan Krisani .an inhabitant of village Put kerenga of Bada Kerenga panchyat. After exposure visit OUAT, Semiliguda SOVA. was influenced to "Pipali" (Medicin initiate plant) farming in 1/4 acres of land. In 2013 his families sold Pipali root for Rs.13000/- and has decided to take up "Pipali" as a sustinable income sources.



#### CASE STUDY:

#### A Right decision in right time......

Mono Jani and his wife are from village Chndia Jhiligaom of kundra block in koraput district which is one of the most backward districts of Odisha. With less than one acre cultivable land and daily labor work by two of the family members was difficult for a family of four to survive.

SOVA engaged an agriculture technician to with discussed community and collected information about their existing agricultural practices and informed them for diversification of cultivation. He suggested for cultivation of watermelon. This being newly introduced in the village, only four families came forward to go for watermelon cultivation.

Mono Jani and her wife agreed to cultivate along with their neighbor in two acre of land. It took him two days to prepare the land and SOVA provided them a pump set to use it on rotation basis. It took them another three days to implant the seeds in 70 cent land. Labor and zeal to cultivate watermelon that was new to them gave then what they had never dreamt of.

Twenty quintal (four thousand pieces) of fruits was harvested from the small land. It was beyond their imagination that they can earn so much from such a small land which generally remained unutilized for major part of the year. They could sale it for Rs. 76,000 at Jeypore and koraput market. SOVA linked them with vegetable venders from koraput and Jeypore who came to their field to purchase. Their profit was Rs. 62,000 in just 6 month time.



### **SPONSORSHIP**





- 459 children of the 758 sponsored children are able to write to their sponsor and are able to interact with others in the village regarding sponsorship.
- Family members of 37 children have stopped migrating to different places and send their children to school.
- The benefits of DFC have regularised 103 children in schools and has provided food security to 411 families. 530 children are able to use decent dresses and 411 families have got household requirements like utensils, almirahs etc.
- Eight Sponsored children have submitted application to the Sarpanch and the Block Development Officer through the child club as a result 2 nos. of defunct tube wells in their villages were repaired and drains and waste pits cleaned before monsoon by the respective department.
- 68 children from 7 villages, who are 13 to 15 years of age, refrained from getting married and motivated their parent to participate in the campaign on prevention of early marriage.
- 21 sponsored children have passed 10th exam with good marks and are into higher studies. Study materials support has enhanced 251 children's accessibility to education and increased their interest in education.
- Increase in sponsored child participation in Sisu mela, VDC meeting, and exposure programme, various competitions at Panchayat and district level.

### Hopes regained

Education, of course, creates panic in the minds of some children who play truant; but for children who have interest in it, get its sweet taste in the long run and go on achieving success throughout their life. A sponsored child named Abhisen Muduli, hailing from Machhara village, child (case no: 025017/00033), is an enthusiastic reader who believes in hard work. He has



treasured lots of dreams which he wants to materialize through education. There was a time when he had to struggle hard to go for higher studies due to lackadaisical attitude of his parents and poor economic condition of his family. Despite all these impediments, he did not give in, nor did he deviate from his study. He had virtually lost all hopes of getting the good taste of education as his parents, being poor, jilted his proposal of further study even if he fared well in his Grade-12 examination. For some time, he felt discouraged as all his dreams of leading a happy life through good education was in shambles. Fortunately, his sharing of the problem with SOVA staff eventually led him to direction he wanted to.

It so happened that our social worker, who was in charge of the above mentioned village, was apprised of this matter by the child himself. The first thing the social worker could do was to try to counsel his parents to allow the child to study further, but to no effect. After some days, we tried again and this time they seemed to be a bit amenable. As his parents told flatly that they are absolutely unable to finance his education, the social worker assured them of some arrangement.

SOVA intervenes. Arrangement was made to provide the required pecuniary aid so as to enable him to pursue graduation degree in Commerce. Since then there was no looking back. The boy is going to college and studying with great attention.

Now Abhisen says, "I will never let anyone down who have done me a great favor; I target to help hundred students like me in my life time".

### **GOVERNANCE**



SOVA's well-planned intervention to educate communities as well as elected representatives and potential candidates from among the tribal to understand the self-governance system and to execute their decision in a democratic manner has great implication in its approach to governance and has strengthened the local self governance institutions.



 247 migrants from Pottangi, Semiliguda, Jeypore, Borigumma, Bandhugaon, Lakshmipur and Dasmantpur have returned from worksite of Andhra Pradesh and Tamilnadu due to hearse treatment and nonpayment of wage. After advocacy at District Labor Office each of them received an average pending wages of 20 days.

### Community strength.....

individual families had received entitlement on over two acre of land each in village Bhutanagagar of Bada Kerenga Panchayat. Since last three years they were cultivating Ragi and paddy in the land for their consumption. Suddenly the forest department started plantation for development of forests in the same land without verification of documents. The village committee opposed it and did not allow forest departments to go for forest development as it has already been recorded in their name. They approached district administration with their grievances and eventually the forest department had to withdraw the plan of planting fire wood trees and in consultation with village development committee the forest rights committee mobilized cashew and other fruit bearing plants as a sustainable income for the villagers.

Out of 1964 Grievances received through 'Samadhan' during the reporting period; 1701 complaints were acknowledged, 1309 were opened and 439 complaints have been resolved.

Community Radio disseminating health messages, social security schemes and on precautionary measures during cyclone.

39 village plans accepted in gram sabha and activities implemented on Land development, Plantation, road construction, digging of pond and check dams benefitting 3627 families.

Under FRA, 352 out of 679 forest dwellers of 11 forest villages have received individual land entitlements during this year.

17 Youths have been rescued from Chennai, Bangalore and Balugaon with support of district administration and Labour department and linked with MGNREGA work at their village.

196 migrant families from 26 villages got land entitlement under Forest Rights Act, Indira Awas, and 98 left out families have been linked to various social security schemes.

# Financial Information

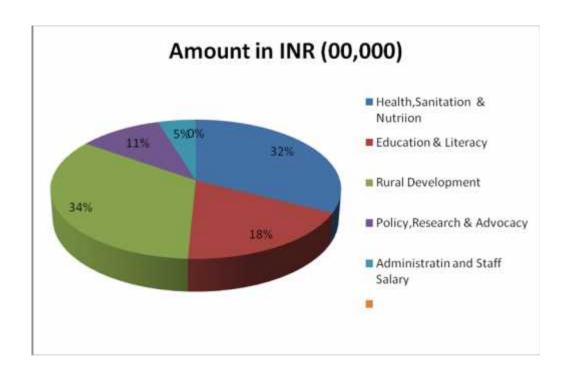


#### South Orissa Voluntary Action(SOVA)

### Abridged Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ended 31st March 2014

INCOME	2013-14	2012-13	EXPENDITURE	2013-14	2012-13
Self Generated	2010 14	2012 10	Programme Expenses	2010 14	2012 10
Membership			Health, Sanitation &		
Fees	46,500.00	20,000.00	Nutrition	5,52,545.00	1,91,991.00
Donation	8,16,737.00	5,31,910.00	Education & Literacy	3,13,200.00	1,73,567.00
Interest	1,44,842.00	89,862.00	Livelihood	5,80,032.00	3,45,321.00
Others	6,21,345.00	5,43,307.00	Governance	0.00	0.00
			Policy, Research &	1 70 (05 00	1 07 007 00
Total Self			Advocacy Total Programme	1,78,685.00	1,37,387.00
Generated	16,29,424.00	11,85,079.00	Expenses	16,24,462.00	8,48,266.00
			Administrative		
			Expenses  Depreciation on Fixed	81,043.81	5,84,619.60
Donation	-1,50,612.00	14,39,925.00	Assets	6,72,255.00	530633.97
Interest	4,13,785.00	2,62,358.00			
Others	-	17,728.00	Total Advainishables		
Total Grant	2,63,173.00	17,20,011.00	Total Administrative Expenses	7,53,298.81	11,15,253.57
	_,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	,,		.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	,,
			Excess of Income over	-4,85,163.81	941570.43
			Expenditure	, ,	
GRAND TOTAL	18,92,597.00	29,05,090.00	GRAND TOTAL	18,92,597.00	29,05,090.00
Abridged Balance Sheet As on 31st March 2014					
				(Fig in Rs)	
LIABILITIES	2013-14	2012-13	ASSETS	2013-14	2012-13
Capital Fund	136,02,310.74	103,95,090.12	Fixed Assets	37,17,697.78	43,92,591.78
Term Loan	5,66,473.00	9,14,221.00	Current Assets/		
Current Liabilities	4,15,214.00	9,46,865.00	Loan & Advances		
& Provision	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	,			
			Loan & Advances	81,600.00	1,04,673.00
			Deposit	4,77,726.00	4,53,290.00
			Cash & Bank Balance	103,06,973.96	73,05,621.34
GRAND TOTAL	145,83,997.74	122,56,176.12	GRAND TOTAL	145,83,997.74	122,56,176.12

#### PROGRAMMEWISE EXPENDITURE



# Acknowledgement



SOVA's endeavor over the years in establishing a healthy and self reliant society where people can live with dignity and without discrimination would not have been possible without the support of the community members and our target groups whose expectation from us is our honor.

Great commitment and relentless efforts from our staff in difficult situations have worked. Their motivation has increased participation and involvement among the community in the process. We thank each of them for their courage and dedication in the venture.

We are also grateful to the District Administration for the support they have shown to our cause. We thank them for making our work smooth and effective.

Joint initiatives from our local NGO network consisting of thirteen civil societies have proved effective for the good of the community we serve. We appreciate the team spirit and the assistance received from this group.

Our national and international donors who not only provide financial support but also skills and resources during every hour of need form to be our backbone in our attempts. A positive impact in our community is the outcome of their generosity and openness they show to work for the common cause. Our heartfelt thank goes to all of them.

With thanks!

Sanjlt Patnayak

Secretary, SOVA

## Our Institutional Partner



- Dep't of Women and Child Development, Gov't of Odisha.
- ChildFund India (CFI)
- Concern World Wide (CWW)
- Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO)
- United Nations International Children Emergency Fund (UNICEF)
- New Education Group (NEG Fire)
- Sightsavers International
- Trocaire'
- Sir Darobji Tata Trust (SDTT)
- Avantha Foundation
- Irish Aid
- Save the Children



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