

South Central India Network for Development Alternatives



Annual Report 2021



SCINDeA

219, Kottaiyur Road, Yelagiri Hills – 635 853 Vellore District, Tamilnadu

South Central India Network for Development Alternatives (SCINDeA)

Introduction to SCINDeA

South Central India Network for Development Alternatives is a reputed pioneering NGO serving in the field of social development sector since 1993. SCINDeA is constituted of 15 field offices organizations that are geographically situated in the south central regions of India i.e., Chittoor district in Andhra Pradesh, Ramanagara & Kolar districts in Karnataka and 10 districts in Tamil Nadu (Thiruvallur, Thiruvannamalai, Salem, Namakkal, Pudukottai, Dindigul, Madurai, Sivagangai, Tiruppur and Tirupattur).

In the light of the FCRA Act amendments made in September 2020 SCINDeA had to take up a paradigm shift from networking model to directly implementing approach adhering to the new rules and regulations enforced in the social development sector by the Ministry of Home Affairs, India.

Accordingly, SCINDeA has started implementing the projects directly in all project working areas excepting the UELCI urban slums in Chennai, instead, 14 tribal villages from Yelagiri Hills in Tirupattur district were integrated in SCINDeA project working areas.

SCINDeA primarily works with the Dalits, Adivasis, quarry workers, fisher folk, small and marginalized farmers and ex-minors.

SCINDeA's programmes are generally evolved with active participation and support of the communities with whom we work. Over the years SCINDeA has developed a fairly good rapport with the communities and the projects have been developed from a bottom-up approach. There is constructive engagement and ownership of the community in all intervention developments that SCINDeA had taken in the past.

In the last 26 years SCINDeA has been involved in livelihood promotion, community organization, child development, health and hygiene, water & sanitation, HIV/AIDS prevention programmes, community health, climate change initiatives, sustainable agriculture, addressing food and nutritional security for women & children and nutrition sensitive organic agriculture practices etc.

VISION

- SCINDeA envisions a just society based on the principles of justice, equality, liberty & fraternity.

MISSION

- Build an empowered and self-reliant community in the South Central regions of the country.
- Enhance the capacity of communities and the staff team of SCINDeA to evolve sustainable development programmes focused on gender equity, integrity and autonomy through people's participation.

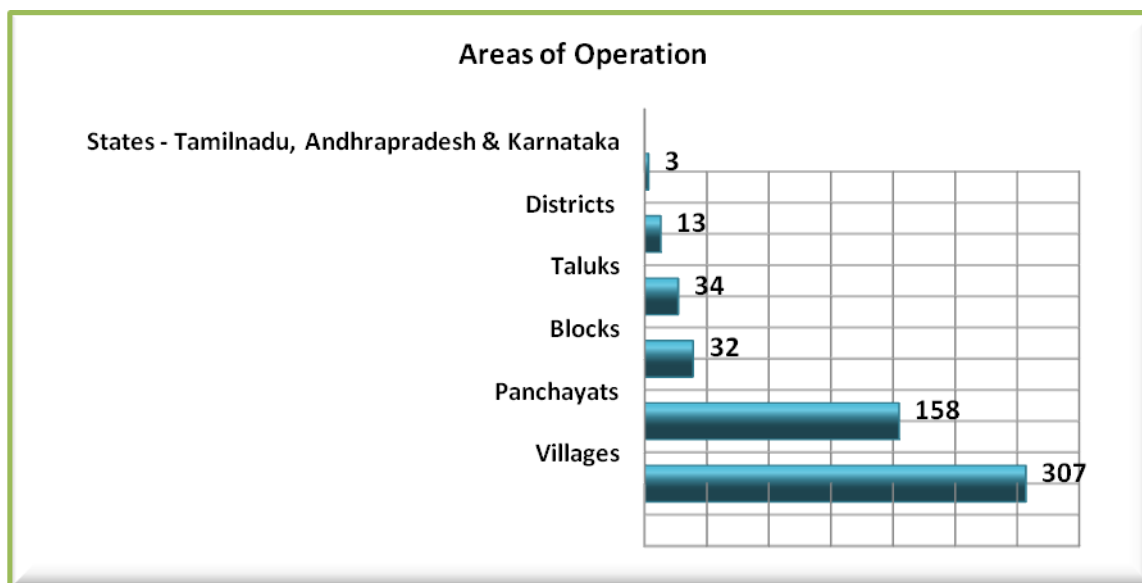
UNIQUE FEATURES OF SCINDeA

SCINDeA is coordinated by the Central Office with a full time Executive Director. Policy decisions are taken by the Executive Committee of the Network and ratified by the SCINDeA General Body Association. The Executive Committee takes all interim decisions such as making provisions for budgetary requirements that are required to ensure the smooth running of the programmes. Deviation of programme implementation with adequate justification is placed before the Executive Committee for consideration. At the Annual General Body meeting of SCINDeA, narrative reports of the programmes of all field offices along with their audited accounts and balance sheets are shared and discussed. All staff of SCINDeA is very experienced staff in social work and developmental field.

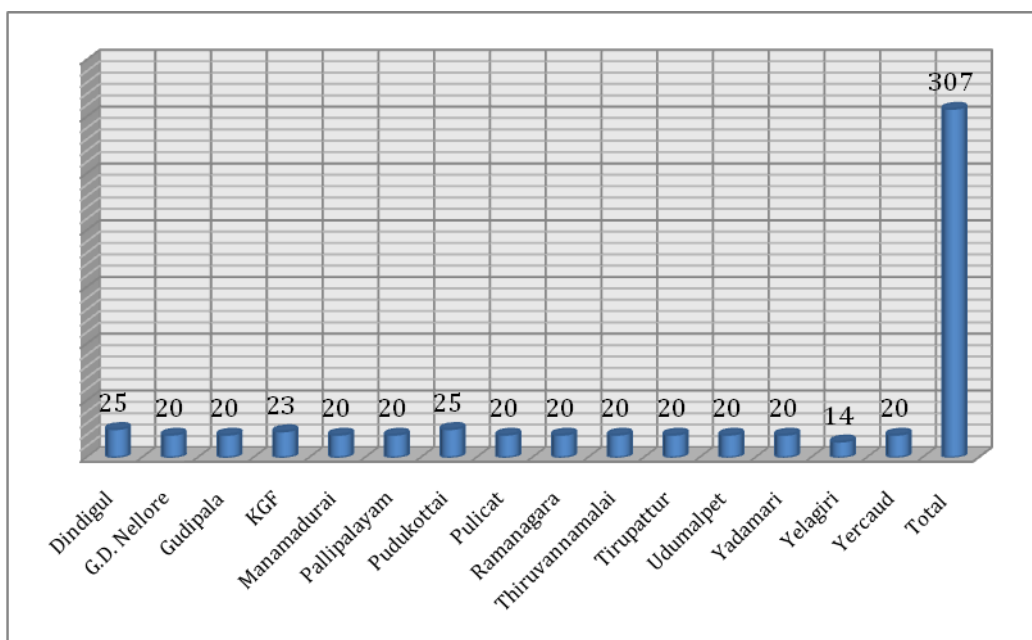
CORE NON NEGOTIABLE VALUES OF THE NETWORK

- Collective democratic participatory decision making
- Gender sensitivity
- Decentralization
- People centered initiatives
- Transparency & accountability
- Mutual sharing
- Solidarity

SCINDeA's Areas of Operation



Field Office Coverage of Villages



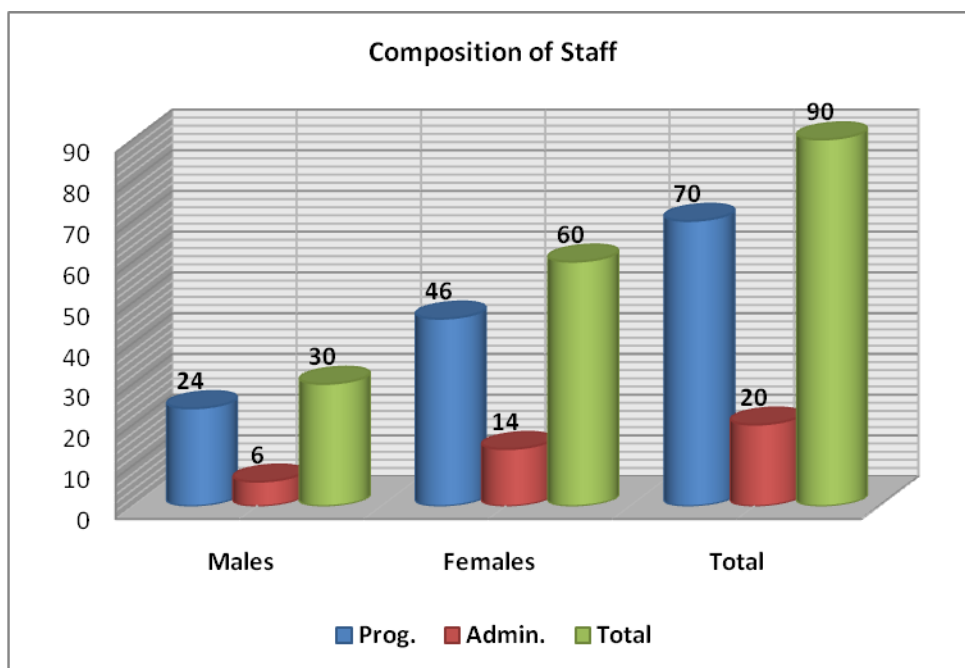
SCINDeA AIMS AT EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH

- Orientation Programme on government schemes etc.
- Capacitate women and men on income generation programme through EDP (Entrepreneurship Development Programme)
- Lobby, advocacy & legal aid programme
- Women Self-help group development programme
- Women empowerment programme
- Enabling children on child rights and self-protection
- Capacitate the youth on leadership qualities and carrier guidance
- Linking mainstream services and resources
- Skill development (driving, painting, tailoring)

PARICIPATION OF STAKEHOLDERS

- Understanding issue based action programme
- Acquiring and exercising leadership roles
- Extending cooperation in community activities
- Organizing community meetings and educational programmes
- Helping in the coordination & activities within the area
- Encouraging local leaders to access government schemes and reach out to the unreached
- Motivating parents to send children to school
- Planning, implementation, monitoring & evaluation of the project are an ongoing process and integral part of the overall programme

Composition of Staff in SCINDeA



In SCINDeA 70 programme staff along with 20 admin staff are involved in implementing the programmes both at field level and Central office level.

COMMUNITIES SCINDeA WORKS WITH

- Dalits
- Tribal
- Fisher folk
- Quarry workers
- Small & marginalized farmers
- Ex-miners

DEVELOPMENT SECTORS SCINDeA WORKS IN



I. EMPOWERMENT OF COMMUNITIES THROUGH PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION (ECoPP)

1. Improving the Socio-Economic Situation of Marginalized Communities with focus on Women by Individual / Collective Entrepreneurship & Self-Employment (Tapping of Government Schemes and Resources towards Economic Independence)

The ECoPP programme for the marginalized communities has been implemented in the 9th phase (2020-2023) which is supported by BFtW, Germany covering 307 villages in 205 Panchayats, 39 blocks, 27 Taluks, and 12 districts in 3 States in South India. The project concentrated on tapping of government schemes & resources for the target communities in order to have regular employment to improve their economic status.

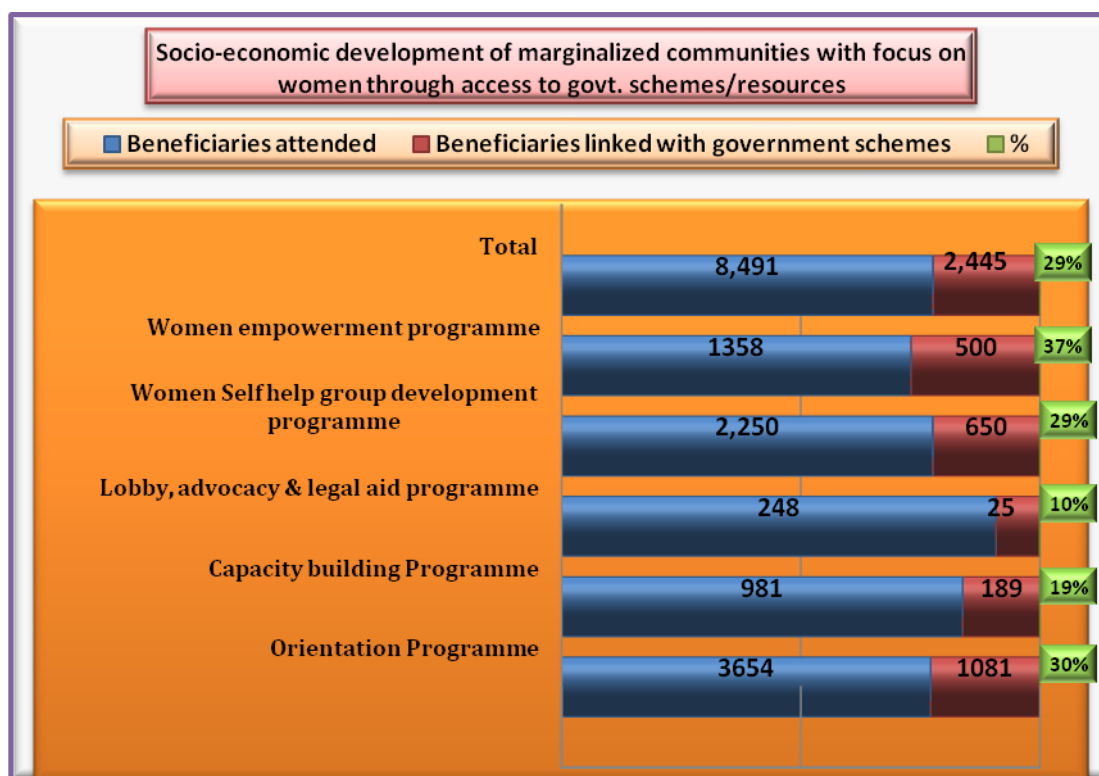


In the current reporting period (2020-2021) the orientation and capacity building, free legal aid programme, lobbying & advocacy and, women self-help group development programme and women empowerment programmes were conducted. 8490 selected beneficiaries both men & women had attended the programmes.



Of which 2445 beneficiaries have been linked with various State & Central Government schemes and resources. As a result the beneficiaries have got financial support and started individual and group businesses. Access to the local markets for the beneficiaries who are involved in rural enterprises has improved. Women enjoy the power of their unity and play active role in decision making process in Gram Sabha meetings. The women leaders of SHGs are functioning effectively and have achieved their rights in local/ village level bodies. Access to health and education facilities has improved as women are becoming economically independent.





OUTCOME

- Women involved in self-employment and small petty businesses are earning an income of Rs. 500 to Rs. 5000/- depending on the size and type of business.
- Women in the fisher-folk community were able to avail direct bank loans from Rs. 1,00,000/- to Rs. 7,00,000/- and Rs. 3,00,000/- as Fisheries loan for doing viable businesses and earning an additional income of Rs. 1000 – Rs. 2000/- per month.
- Farmers involved in agriculture have insured the lands worth of Rs. 3,65,520 to Rs. 5,00,000/- through linking with government agriculture department.
- The livelihood of fisher folk has been ensured by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change by opening of the Pulicat coastal area Sand bar mouth permanently at a cost of Rs. 27 crore.
- The project has empowered the women beneficiaries both economically and socially.
- The project has improved the capacity building of the women to solve their day-to-day problems. Thus, the ECoPP project has a positive impact on the lives of the women beneficiaries.

- The women members in the self-help groups are enabled to speak out and express their opinions freely. Thus, the members in the self-help groups have cultivated the skill of self-confidence and leadership qualities.
- The elderly people are able to meet out their medical expenses through old age pension and lead a healthy life.
- The fisher-folk are enabled and equipped with necessary skills in lobbying and advocacy for ensuring their sources of livelihood in the coastal areas.
- The interface meetings with various government departments have increased rapport and cooperation that has increased the benefits and resources from the government at various levels.
- The project has paved ways to improve linkages with government schemes & resources particularly for women in the self-help groups and has reduced the insufficiency to some extent in terms of generating employment, income, savings and increase in overall assets.
- Tribal farmers involved in agriculture are getting an income of Rs. 45,000 through making organic fertilizers. The income has improved the livelihood of the people and thus providing security for leading a better life.

SUCCESS STORY OF MR. NAGESH

My name is Nagesh aged 39 and I live in Seepkatte village in Ramanagara district of Karnataka state. I have completed school education up to 10th grade. I have 2 sons. My main occupation is doing agriculture (cultivation of Ragi) and rearing of Silk worms. So far I was not able to get a good income out of it.

I attended orientation programme on marketing technology conducted by SCINDeA Ramanagara field office. It was only after attending the programme I came to know about the marketing technology, and learned how to approach different officials for marketing and where to go and how to do it. I also got contacts of different sources for marketing.

I have 2 acres of land and I cultivated Ragi in 1 acre and mulberry plant for silk worms in another 1 acre. In earlier days I used to sell my products through middle men. Now, after the training on marketing technology I could get different links and able to sell directly. Earlier I had to pay Rs. 5000 to 7000 to the middle men to sell my products. But now I get the full amount for the product. For the last crop which I sold I got Rs. 50000. Of which Rs. 23000 is the profit and Rs. 27000 was the expense. And I saved Rs. 7000 which I would have spent for the middle man if I did not get



the opportunity of attending the programme on marketing technology offered by SCINDeA in Ramanagara project area.

I am happy that I am able to pay back my debt from the profit I got and run my family in a better way. At home we also cook ragi food. Health wise it is good to increase nutritional requirement. Through this training what I learned was that it is not only important to work hard in the field but also I need to learn the techniques of marketing. Thanks to SCINDeA Ramanagara Field Office for the great opportunity.



2. Ensuring Children Safe Guard their Rights, Developing their life Skills & making use of the Available Government Facilities.

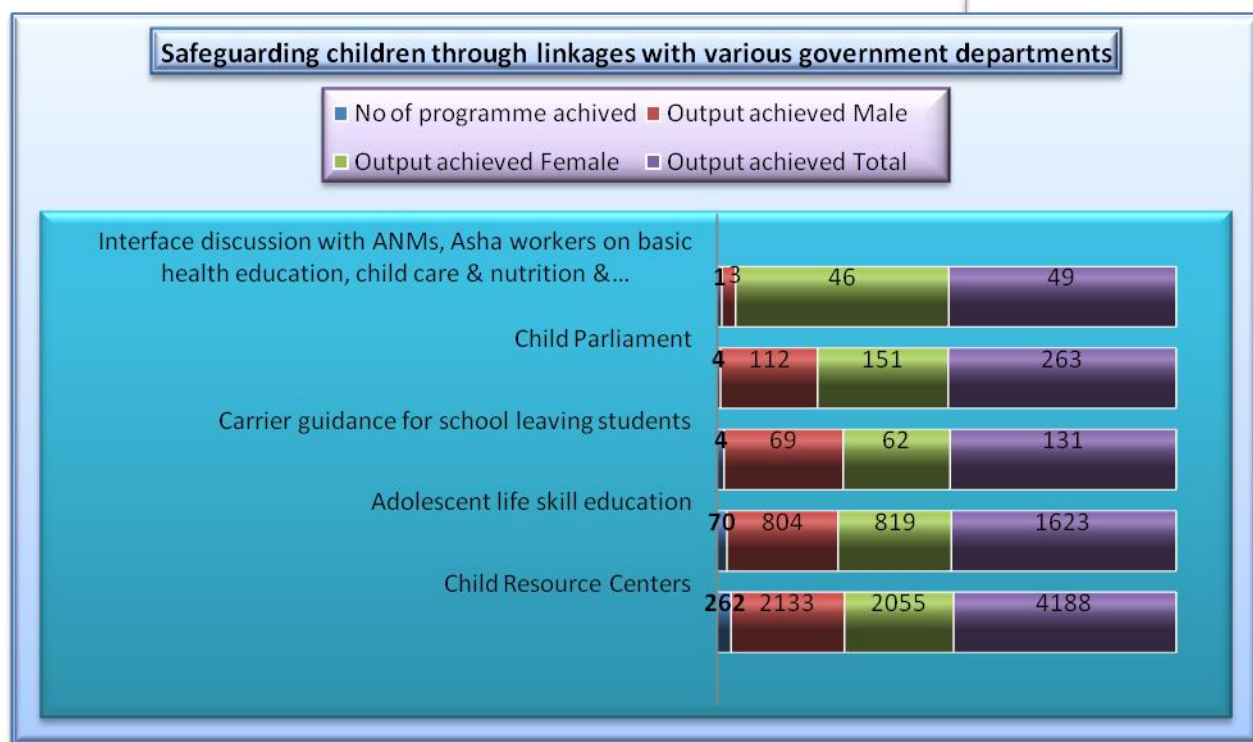
During the reporting period 262 Child Resource Centers were in place and actively functioning. Children participate actively in extra and co-curricular activities. Continuous monitoring by the project staff and the community volunteers ensure that children develop the habit of reading books. Indoors & outdoors play materials have been provided for the children. Children now spend more time on their studies & improving their general knowledge and use play materials during weekends.

In 262 children's clubs children have been sensitized on personal health and hygiene, climate change, child rights and child protection, and basics of gender sensitization. They are encouraged and guided to use child helpline in case of emergencies.



Annually children also participate in summer camps conducted. Summer camp is a community where children come together to have fun while learning lifelong lessons. The setting of the camp is such that children start developing a sense of independence while trying new adventures. Summer camps are known for their safe environment and the fun activities for kids that they provide. In today's pressure-oriented society, the camp provides a non-threatening environment for children adolescents to be active, to develop competence in life

skills, to learn about and enhance their own abilities and to benefit from meaningful participation in a camp designed just for them. 320 children (150 boys & 170 girls) participated in the camps conducted in various places.



SUCCESS STORY OF JEENATH BANU (SAFEGUARDING RIGHTS OF CHILDREN)



I am Jeenath Banu, studying 9th grade in Jameelabad High School in Pulicat village of Tamilnadu state. I had attended different training sessions on life skill education of knowing one self and communications skills. The programme was meant for teenagers and conducted by SCINDeA-Pulicat field office in my school. After the training programme I could feel that I have undergone a lot of changes in myself. Earlier I used to call my friends by their nick name but now I do not call anyone by their nickname rather I call by their name with respect and I understand that each one likes to get respect and dignity so I do as well. I have realized that I get angry for even small things and the

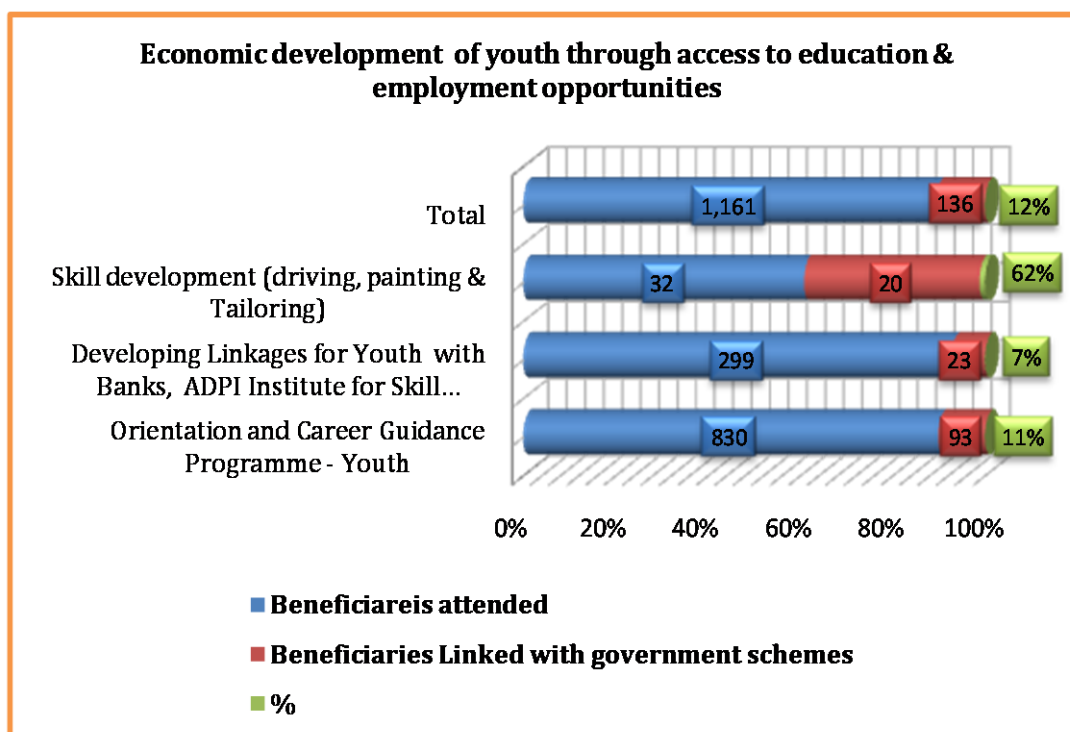
consequences of it. As a result of the training I am happy that I am aware of the situations of getting angry and learnt to reduce my anger. I do not allow relatives or friends into the house when I am alone at home. Not allowing anyone to touch and talk. If someone speaks words I do not like that and I will come out from that place. I have learnt protect myself. I have set a goal for myself to become an IAS officer and will continue to study until I reach my goal. Thanks to SCINDeA-Pulicat Field office for the opportunity.

Outcome

- 4258 male and 3599 female children from 253 villages are actively attending the child protection committees in schools and village level.
- The children in SCINDeA areas of operation are aware of preventing themselves from Covid and practiced Covid protocol such hand washing, keeping social distance of 6 feet from one another, correct face masking etc.
- 20 children's clubs with 1143 children (658 boys + 485 girls) in 20 villages are actively functioning. Children are aware of child rights, gender discrimination, child parliament and Covid 19 pandemic as well.
- The families of the 20 children's clubs are practicing the child rights and avoiding the gender discrimination against children.
- The children of the children's club in 20 villages are spreading the awareness to the other children in their own community and neighboring communities as well.
- Child Parliaments have been formed in 7 villages with 85 children (48 boys + 37 girls) through which the children have got the awareness and knowledge about how does a parliament in India function and who are the members of the parliament and their different roles and responsibilities. Similarly the child parliament concept was also developed and the active children were selected as ministers of different ministries and they are functioning actively in 7 villages. The parliament meetings are conducted every month wherein the children express their opinions and they do collect information on different issues pertaining to child development.
- 3 School Management Committees comprised of 18 members in M.P.U.P – Municipal Panchayat Union Primary school, Koonankuppam village and in M.P.U.P – Municipal Panchayat Union Primary school, Chempachipallikuppam village primary school are actively functioning. The members of the SMCs have become aware of their roles and responsibilities. They are keenly monitoring the school activities such as rate of enrolment of the children, the status of students' attendance, and strictly following the Covid 19 protocol while children are attending classes.

3. Enabling Youth to Access Higher Education & Employment Opportunities leading to their Economic Development

1160 youth were given orientation on various skill training schemes that are available in the government. Based on the programme, the beneficiaries were selected from each village for orientation with different govt. depts. in order to create awareness on various govt. schemes that are available and how to access them. Each beneficiary was then followed up by the concerned project staff. Of the 1160 youth attended on various government schemes 170 youth have been linked with various government schemes. 130 males and 40 females have been employed and earn an income of Rs. 4000 to 5000 per month. After attending orientation on EDP; 14 female and 20 male youth have been linked to central government skill training on driving and tailoring programme. Out of 12 youth attended training on driving 7 youth have got employed and earn an income of Rs 12000 to 15000 per month.



SUCCESS STORY OF MANOHER

ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

Manoher aged 25 is living in Perumallapalli village of Yadamarri Mandal in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh state. He studied school education up to 10th grade. Murali's father had not been to school and he works as an agriculture landless laborer. Mother Bhanu has studied up to 5th grade. Manoher has a younger brother studying in 9th grade.

Manoher's family does not own any property or land except the rural house which they live was built with monitory assistance which they received through Government housing scheme. Manoher's family condition was very poor, sometimes due to lack of labor the family struggled for food. His family depended on the rations for the food given by the government. Manoher after his 10th grade could not continue higher school education due to family situation. He used to go with trucks at the local level as helper and he was getting a small amount.



It was during the community mobilizer's field visit to Perumallapalli village Manoher got introduced to the community mobilizer and told about his ambition to get a heavy four wheeler driving license and to work as driver. He also informed him that he has learnt driving skill while accompanying the trucks as laborer but did not go for training to avail 4 wheeler driving license. If he had 4 wheeler driving license he would be working as driver and earn a decent income, he said.



Immediately the field staff introduced Manoher to the driving school and got admitted him. The payment to avail the license was done on installment basis. Manoher after receiving his driving license he joined as a driver in a private company and completed the payment of the fees. He is now earning Rs. 1000 per day and supports his family fulfilling daily routine needs. He is now married 3 months ago and leads a happy. He said that because of the motivation given through youth EDP programme and the encouragement by the field staff he has got the driving license and got a decent driving job. Manoher expressed his heartfelt gratitude and thanked SCINDeA Yadamarri field office for creating the job opportunity for him by obtaining a driving license that has paid him with self-dignity and prosperity.

Outcome

- 1 girl from tribal area – (Yercaud hill station) who had completed 12th grade was deprived of higher education due to her poor family background. But, after she attended the career guidance programme conducted in Yercaud hill station by SCINDeA she has availed the opportunity to do higher education. She is now doing higher education – (a degree course) in Muthayammal College in Salem district, Tamilnadu.
- 16 youth have applied for Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (Indian Bank, Chittoor district) scheme for training courses in computer, Tally, beautician course. And 2 young girls completed 1 month skill training in beautician course and 2 in basket wiring bag making courses and obtained course completion certificates.
- 32 youth linked in skill India training Programme like, (Shoe, Bags, Belts & Wallets etc.,) for stitching training Programme.
- 4 male youth in Kollakoor tribal village in Yercaud have got painting job and earning an income of Rs. 500/- per day. The income is used for daily needs of the family as well as for the education purpose of siblings in their families.

II. FUND RAISING INITIATIVES THROUGH CSR PROJECTS

Fund Raising initiatives through CSR Projects In the last 1 year SCINDeA has mobilized funds through CSR projects and individual donors to implement the following activities. In the last 1 year through a Menstrual Health & Hygiene Campaign SCINDeA had raised Rs.2,42,821/- to provide 670 rural & tribal adolescent girls in govt. schools reusable sanitary napkins. The campaign was implemented through 11 field offices of SCINDeA namely, Pudukottai, Yercaud, Tiruppattur, KGF, Dindigul, Thiruvannamalai, Ramanagara, Yadamar, Gudipala, & P allipalayam.

1. Menstrual Health & Hygiene Campaign

The objectives of the campaign were to increase awareness on menstrual hygiene among rural adolescent school girls, increase access to and use of good quality sanitary napkins among adolescent girls. SCINDeA



procured reusable and antimicrobial sanitary pads for distribution to rural & tribal adolescent school girls. Each box of sanitary pads contained 3 day pads, 1 long night pad & 1 storage bag. Prior to the distribution an awareness programme on Menstrual Hygiene Management was conducted in the schools by the SCINDeA coordinators. Feedbacks from the girls were that during school hours they were able to manage their menstruation days with dignity due to the high degree of absorbency of the day pads. The awareness programme on menstrual hygiene management help to break the culture of silence & the girls felt free to discuss the issue with their peers & female family members. Contributors to the Campaign

2. Provision of Safe Drinking Water in Schools

SCINDeA in partnership with Tandrust Foundation the CSR Wing of 'Eureka Forbes' provided 8 water filters to 5 rural & tribal govt. schools through 4 SCINDeA project working areas (Kolar district of Karnataka, Tiruppattur district, Pulicat in Thiruvallur District and Yercaud in Salem District). Through this project initiative about 1,677 school children are being benefitted.



3. Sanitation Project

SCINDeA in partnership with Thirumalai Chemicals Pvt. Ltd, Ranipet constructed 2 toilet blocks each in Z.P. High School & M.P.P. School in G.D.Nellore Mandal, Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh. The strength of the Z.P High school is 102 (45 boys & 57 girls) and M.P.P. school is 35 (15 boys & 20 girls). The



school contributed approximately.

sanitation project was completed in 2 months (February – March 2020). It aimed to improve access to sanitation and hygiene services for adolescent boys and girls where there were no such facilities. This also helped adolescent girls to continue their school education. During the construction health, hygiene and sanitation awareness education was given to the children in both schools by the project staff. Important messages regarding hygiene and sanitation were painted on the wall of the toilet building. Each

III. RESPONSE TO COVID-19 IN 2021

A total of 3,100 families have been covered in 2021

Each packet contained 5kgs rice, ½ kg tamarind, 1 kg dhal, 1 kg. Salt, ½ lit cooking oil, 1 bottle sanitizer, 100 gm. chili powder, 1 bathing soap, & 2 masks.

Each field offices have been covered 200 beneficiaries and the staff



IV. SCINDeA's PARTICIPATION IN OTHER PROGRAMMES

SCINDeA in collaboration with LAYA-INECC organized a 2 day Consultation on Climate Resilient Agriculture – Sharing Insights from Practice in Trichy, Tamil Nadu. A total of 20 persons participated in the Consultation of whom 6 were from LAYA, 5 were from SCINDeA and the rest were farmers from the neighboring Pudukottai district of Tamil Nadu. There were 2 major sessions on the 1 day of the Consultation namely approaches towards building climate resilience to climate change and climate smart agriculture. The various presentations were from Tamil Nadu, East Godavari in Andhra Pradesh & Orissa.

V. COVID-19 VACCINATION DRIVE PROJECT

Following the signing of MoU between CAF India and SCINDeA on October 21st, 2021 the Project on Campaign on Vaccination Drive against Covid 19 was initiated in 7 locations in Bangalore South and Ramanagara districts of Karnataka. It was implemented by 2 Project Coordinators and 28 Volunteers who are mainly Asha workers and have good rapport with the communities. Prior to the initiation the project staff contacted 7 PHCs in the 7 different locations to elicit their support and cooperation in the vaccination campaign.

The project was implemented in 7 shortlisted locations in 2 districts of Karnataka aiming to cover 2,500 beneficiaries for the vaccination. It was planned to be implemented in 5 months from October 2021 to February 2022. It was executed in 2 phases. In the first phase (3 months) there was intensive awareness programme on importance of testing & need for vaccination. Following that, vaccination camps were held in each of the 7 locations for the first dose of vaccine. Similarly, in the second phase of 2 months the above mentioned methodology was followed.

The project had two major components:

1. Mass community awareness on importance of vaccination in shortlisted areas in two districts in Karnataka namely Bangalore South and Ramanagara.
2. Organization of vaccination camps in specific shortlisted PHCs in the above mentioned two districts in Karnataka.

The following activities had been conducted:

1. Finalization of the 7 locations in Bangalore South and Ramanagara districts of Karnataka.
2. Shortlisting and appointment of 2 Project Coordinators and 28 Volunteers for implementing the project activities
3. Finalizing the 7 PHCs and discussions on the vaccination process.



1. Preparation and Printing of IEC Materials

SCINDeA printed 25,000 - 30,000 handbills and 10-12 banners in Kannada to highlight the importance of testing, vaccination and Covid appropriate behavior during the current Covid pandemic. The content of the IEC material was provided by SCINDeA. This was distributed on a daily basis to the 7 locations during sensitization programmes auto announcements.



2. IEC Dissemination

Sensitization programme on importance testing, vaccination and Covid appropriate behavior was conducted in all 7 locations in the 2 clusters of the project area. During the sensitization programme IEC materials was distributed to the communities. This will be done on a regular basis during the 1st & 2nd phases of the vaccination drive. Shamianas & chairs were provided in each of the 7 locations.



3. Auto Announcements for Awareness



During the 1st & 2nd phases of the vaccination campaign, besides sensitization programme, awareness on the need & importance of testing & vaccination was imparted to the communities through auto announcements.

In each of the 7 locations an auto was hired and fitted with an audio system to disseminate information of the Covid infection, importance of testing & vaccination etc. This was done a minimum of twice a week during

the 1st & 2nd phases of the vaccination campaign. Auto announcements were also increased in some locations where there were more number of wards in the 5 urban locations & number of villages in the 2 rural locations.



4. Vaccination camp at 7 PHCs (5 UPHC & 2 RPHC)

Covid-19 Safety Kits (masks, sanitizers, gloves, temperature kit)

Covid-19 safety kits was provided for the project staff (2 project coordinators and 28 community mobilizes) at the beginning of the project. Each kit contained 2 masks, sanitizers, gloves etc.



Implementation Plan



The project was implemented directly by SCINDeA in Ramanagara & Bangalore districts of Karnataka state for a period of 5 months. At the start of the project the coordinator and community mobilizers charted out an action plan delegating responsibility to each person. This was further broken down into a weekly action plan which included the activities to be implemented and the targets to be covered. The two coordinators periodically visited the location sites allocated to them.

Community Volunteers mostly Asha workers who have good rapport with the families and communities were allocated specific sub locations within the main locations to be covered in a month. The health workers – Asha workers and volunteers were capacitated to contribute towards the programme. Finances of the project were managed by the Accountant of the Central office. Standard operating procedures of fund management of the project were strictly adhered to.

Results of the Project

During the 5 month period of the vaccination drive a total of 2,511 beneficiaries received both their 1st & 2nd dose of vaccination (total of 6,206 doses). Both Covishield & Covaxin vaccines were available at the 7 PHCs in 7 locations of the project. Additionally 1,970 beneficiaries also received their 1st dose of vaccination during the project period.

- 50- 60% of the community would have access to vaccination and to information of the corona virus infection and how to prevent it.
- Rumors, misconceptions, fear panic and misinformation reduced due to intensive mass awareness programmes.

