

SCINDeA Annual Report 2023



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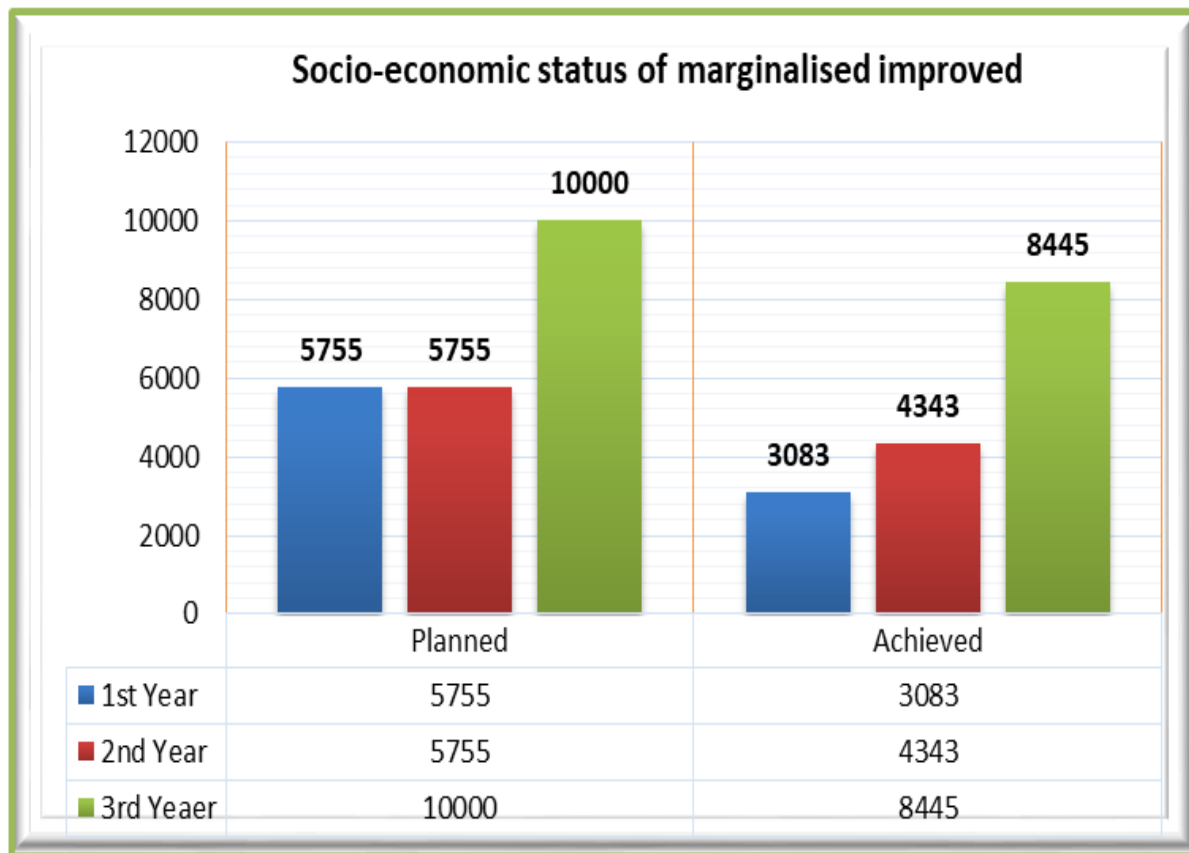
Programme Report for the Period November 2022 – October 2023

Objective I. The socio-economic status of marginalized communities focusing on women improved in 298 villages in the 3 states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka by 2023.

Indicator 1: 2415 males and 3340 women from 298 SHGs are self-employed leading to improved family income of Rs.3500 – 4000/month.

In the year 2126 males & 8730 females (10856 stakeholders) from 307 villages have been involved in different types of income generation activities and earn an improved income of Rs. 7000 – 9000 per month.

| No. of Beneficiaries involved in IGAs | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------|---------|-------|----------------------|---------|-------|---------------|
| Sl. No. | Activities | Nov. 2022 – April 2023 | | | May 2023 – Oct. 2023 | | | Overall Total |
| | | Males | Females | Total | Males | Females | Total | |
| 1. | Through the orientation programme on EDP to the community members Petty business has been started (Fish, Tiffin center, flower etc.) | 722 | 2437 | 3159 | 819 | 1381 | 2200 | 5359 |
| 2. | Tailoring work | 0 | 15 | 15 | 0 | 15 | 15 | 30 |
| 3. | Farmers received various schemes from Government Agriculture and Horticulture departments (Long stones, rearing chicks, pipes for drip irrigation, seeds, fruit saplings etc.) | 87 | 35 | 122 | 76 | 238 | 314 | 436 |
| 4. | Old age pension Rs. 1, 500 | 11 | 55 | 66 | 10 | 233 | 243 | 309 |
| 5. | Widow pension of Rs. 15, 00 per month | 0 | 23 | 23 | 0 | 231 | 231 | 254 |
| 6 | Training on EDP for women Self Help Group (SHG) members | 0 | 75 | 75 | 0 | 745 | 745 | 820 |
| 7 | Labor card for unorganized sectors | 65 | 90 | 155 | 84 | 258 | 342 | 497 |
| 8 | NRGEA cards for 150 days of work per year (By getting the NRGEA card the stakeholders have been ensured for 150 days of work.) | 160 | 54 | 214 | 121 | 404 | 525 | 739 |
| | Total | 1045 | 2784 | 3829 | 1110 | 3505 | 4615 | 8414 |



Indicator 1.2 : 550 women from marginalized communities participate actively in Gram Sabha meetings and collectively take decisions relating to their village development.

Indicator 1.1 : 2415 males and 3340 women from 298 SHGs are self-employed leading to improved family income of Rs.3500 – 4000/month Gram Sabha is one of the most significant bodies in the Panchayat Raj System. The Indian Constitution defines

Gram Sabha under the ambit of Article 243 (b). The local governance and Panchayat Raj system are centered on the concept of Gram Sabha. Gram Sabha is defined as a platform at the local or rural level, or people can talk and discuss various aspects of local development and administration. The Panchayat implements various development programs with the supervision and the mandate of the Gram Sabha. Every decision taken at the Panchayat is through the Gram Sabha. Every decision is deemed valid or official only with the consent of the Gram Sabha. During this reporting period 1580 women from 158 Panchayats in the project working villages actively participated in the Gram Sabha meeting. They could talk about the schemes allotted to the Panchayat level villages and placed their request for improving infrastructure facilities such as road, drinking water, street light, bus facility in their respective villages. Thus, the participation level of the women from the working villages kept increased. They also discussed on various issues related to allotment of grocery distribution, pension for old age, pension for handicapped according to the limits of Panchayat. Discussed various problems related to the enrolment of children in school, attendance in schools, and the development of schools within the jurisdiction of the Gram Sabha. Discussed regarding various hospitals as well as veterinary institutions and their activities in a Gram Sabha. Also the Gram Sabha discussed and educated people about the different preventive measures that they should take to protect their health and hygiene and their cattle.



Project objective2: Children's rights are safeguarded in 307 villages in the 3 states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka by 2023.

1. Indicator: 2.1 1750 children in age group of 6 - 17 years actively participate in the child protection committees both in schools & villages.

Indicator: 2.2. 45 School Management Committees ensure that school lessons are held regularly.

There was no change in the monitoring methods of the project. Usually, once in 4 months each of the 2 project programme coordinators in the Central office paid monitoring visits separately in 7 and 8 field offices respectively for 2 full days. During the visit there has been a briefing by the field office of the programmes implemented during the period, staff vacancies if any, field visit to the project area, interaction with programme beneficiaries and physical verification of project targets achieved.



And at the field level the project activities are monitored very often.

Every week the field project officer visited the field area as per the action plan submitted by the community mobilizers and cross verified that the programmes were executed on time and the intended results/outcome/output were on the way. At the field level every month the project review meetings were held to overview the programmes done and gaps and the solutions to fulfill the gap and also do the necessary action plan for the next month. Every month the project staffs at the field level submitted the data and relevant information to the project officer and in turn the project officer submitted the same to the Central office.



As far as the monitoring tools concerned, SCINDeA has been following 7 steps in monitoring. 1. Process monitoring. This is often referred to as activity monitoring. 2. Compliance monitoring. 3. Context monitoring. 4. Beneficiary monitoring. 5. Financial monitoring. 6. Organizational monitoring. 7. Results monitoring. The monitoring tools SCINDeA follows are Key performance indicators (KPIs), Dashboards, Checklists, and monitoring plans. These monitoring tools allow the staff team at the central office to track progress,

identify challenges and assess the implementation of a programme and the project at large. These monitoring tools are used to gather qualitative and quantitative data from the field areas.

Project objective 3: Youth in the age group of 15 – 28 years receive higher education in 307 villages in the 3 states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh &Karnataka by 2023.

1. Indicator: 3.1: 1630 male youth and 1245 female youth have enrolled in higher education.
Baseline/starting point: Insert starting point.

| Sl. No. | Programmes | Attended | | | Linked to IGA | | |
|---------|--|----------|-------|-------|---------------|-------|-------|
| | | Boys | Girls | Total | Boys | Girls | Total |
| 1 | Orientation and Career Guidance Programme - Youth | 659 | 370 | 1029 | 963 | 759 | 1722 |
| 2 | Developing Linkages for Youth with Banks, ADPI Institute for Skill training, and Self - Employment | 307 | 337 | 644 | 107 | 177 | 284 |
| 3 | Skill development (driving, painting) | 27 | 0 | 27 | 27 | 0 | 27 |



Positive Unintended effects:

- The self-help groups, children's groups and youth groups are the community-based organisations promoted by the project. Though the above mentioned groups are taking part in the project implementation process but the village community leaders in most of the project working areas are also taking part in the programme implementation which is a strength and support for better implementation and ensures different stakeholders are participating in the project implementation process.
- Children are highly motivated and enthusiastic in understanding their rights. They are improving themselves as change makers. Good rapport with government schools and school going children. Parents are highly supportive of the interventions for the children. Youth have explored the opportunities around them to get employed. Women are actively participating in gram sabha and demand their rights and do protest for basic needs.
- Ensured formation of compliance committees inside the garments and handlooms for redressal of issues of women. Bonus claimed as a right of labourers. Single women groups formed and hopes for employment are ensured. Youth entrepreneurs are promoted among women workers.
- Worked with farmers towards conversion to organic farming practices, cultivation of traditional seeds, follow drip irrigation, SIR method of cultivation, conversion of SHG into producers group, enable participation of women in gram sabha, fight for the rights to basic needs, entrepreneurship promotion in agri-business activities, value addition to agro products are the major changes witnessed in the field.
- Andhra Pradesh government has established village secretariat called Sachuvalayam where in all the government officials of all the department are deputed for services of the people. Further, government has appointed Volunteers for every 50 families to reach the government schemes and benefits. However, this system is controlled by the Dominant Caste Group members of the Village Community where Dalits are marginalized and have no say. Despite of the fact that there is high end of political influence by dominant caste groups and appropriation of common lands for private purposes, the project is able to play facilitator role with the government officials and the community to reach the benefits to the target group.

Negative Unintended effects

- While the project was primarily aimed to improve the economic status of the marginalized communities, it was a challenge for the project to address the basic structural inequalities existing among communities in accessing resources such as land, water and other natural resources and systemic issues of discriminatory practices among the bureaucracy and government operations. Because, the structural and systemic issues are likely to create hurdles in accessing government schemes and scaling up and sustaining the income of the

marginalized women. While improving the access to government schemes and resources to the project beneficiaries, the challenge was when approached the government department officials who belonged to upper caste communities were reluctant to complete the process of accessing the government schemes/resources for the marginalized village communities due to the structural and systemic issues are prevailing for a very long period for years together. The disturbances caused by the political parties' representatives at the local level was a hindrance to the development of the marginalized communities. Since, they are in the power, they felt they could negatively influence the target communities and prevent from the fundamental right to development of the citizens. But, it was not worked out, because the village people were very strong and aware of the laws that would protect them from any harms at the local level.

Highlights

- As a result of the orientation, capacity building, awareness on various Government Schemes legal aid, advocacy & lobbying, exposure programme carried out about 30-50% of the participants in each of the 15 field areas were able to avail the government schemes.
- The linkages to various government schemes/resources have been achieved to a moderate extent.
- Women Self-Help Group members were provided opportunities to participate in the capacity building Programs to start their own enterprises.
- Out of 4900 women from 245 SHGS covering 307 villages, 1400 women have become entrepreneurs with business worth Rs. 50 million.
- Assets in the form of cattle and house has increased to 900 from 125 villages were created with the support of the project. 1370 farmers from 90 villages have acquired knowledge on traditional farming practices, kitchen garden and improved the production of food products.
- 1450 individuals from Pudukottai, Ramanagara, Manamadurai, Pallipalayam, G.D. Nellore, Yadamari, Tiruppattur, Yercaud, and Yelagiri Hills, KGF have improved their access to livelihood opportunities which has led to increased, products and services. 1750 individuals from 54 village have availed subsidy-oriented government scheme and benefits.
- SCINDeA has been able to maintain a good rapport with a number of Central & State Government Departments particularly Agriculture & Horticulture, Labour Welfare, Fisheries, Industries, Women and Child Welfare, Adhidraida and Tribal Welfare & Rural Development departments while implementing the grass-root initiatives taken up by the project to improve the living conditions of the poor & vulnerable communities.
- Advocacy for fisheries welfare policy, free housing scheme in Pulicat area and promoting farmer producer Organisation in Pudukottai, accessing housing & land for Dalits in Manamadurai, Udumalpet, availing Animal Husbandry Schemes in Manamadurai have yielded considerable impact in favor of the community.
- Legal aid programs conducted for women's group on women's rights and legal provisions for protecting the rights of women from domestic violence, minimum wages, entitlements etc. has been achieved to a significant extent.

- This enables SCINDeA to be better equipped to implement projects from a rights-based approach.
- With the involvement of the local communities a massive tree plantation exercise had been undertaken. Nearly 1500 trees were planted and the self-help group women and children in each village are taking care of nurturing the trees. It is also reported that a massive cleaning of plastics campaign conducted in the villages as a follow up activity.
- Activation of 45 School Management Committees (SMC) in govt. schools is one of the main activities carried out by the project for safeguarding the development and protection of rights of children.
- Reading habits of 3452 children are improved from 222 villages.
- 417 children from 34 villages got educational scholarship support. This ensures continuation of education for these children.
- Attitude and behavior of children improved through 3354 children from 205 villages.
- Higher education opportunities are ensured for 134 children from 31 villages through the project.
- Activation of the government health and education services as an interface Program has been achieved to a significant extent covering the holistic needs of children.
- A curriculum on Adolescent Life Skill Education for imparting knowledge to children from the age of 13 years at schools and villages through Child Resource Centers which are located in 262 villages. Personality development, communication, emotional intelligence, health and hygiene, inter-personal relationship, environment protection, good & bad touch etc. is the major topics covered.
- Career guidance for children completing school education is another activity under this Program component which helps children to make informed choices for their higher education. This Program has been achieved to a significant extent to cover the needs of adolescent children.
- The Child Resource Centers, Children's Clubs and Children's Parliament continue in 85% of the field areas.
- Children's reading ability has been increased and their communication skills enhanced through this activity.
- 31 child parliaments continue in 5 field areas namely Pallipalayam, Kolar Gold Fields, Ramanagara, and Pulicat & Thiruvannamalai covering 701 children (319 boys & 382 girls).
- The children discuss the role of government and local bodies in preventing such problems with facilitation of the project staff.
- Capacity building of youth on leadership and career guidance carried out in 13 field areas with the support of volunteers from the villages.
- Skill development for both male & female youth in driving, tailoring etc. has increased from 5% to 10% in the 2nd year to 20% in 3rd year.
- The activity has helped youth to get employment opportunities in nearby cities and to start their own small entrepreneurship at the village level.
- The skill building, certification and accessing raw materials are the biggest support for youth in the remote villages. The youth have become productive resources for the village development.

- Youth from both genders are contributing to project as volunteers in sharing of knowledge, awareness to children and community members, and act as a role model and give guidance to peer group to replicate their model. Some youth provide employment to the villagers.

Challenges

- Government budget allocation is very low therefore delay in getting access to allotted government schemes in their respective villages.
- Schemes available only for particular panjayats and not for all villages – challenge.
- Difficulties in online registration for available schemes – challenge.
- Expect money in government offices for getting available government schemes
- Political interference in availing schemes
- High rate of interest in Micro – finance
- Bankers not cooperating with SHG members
- Restricted budget in government department for government schemes.

Lessons Learnt

- Participation in community service has been found to break down barriers to employment, while building confidence, building careers, and building community for its members.
- Opportunities such as linkages with various government schemes delivered through the ECoPP project implementation are an avenue through which women, men and youth can gain skills, explore career paths, develop social security, and engage in challenging and meaningful tasks necessary to gain employment.
- Increased connection and integration. The women in the SHGs and men in the communities changed the way they viewed their surroundings and their role in society during the pandemic. Through project implementation, the women, men and young adults were able to connect with different departments, institution for linkages, loan facilities, skill development and employment opportunities.
- The field level staff team and community people had the opportunities to strengthen the relationship and rapport with the various government departments. The officials in the departments also become aware of their roles and responsibilities in fulfilling the needs of the people in the communities.
- As the project implementation approach has shifted from welfare to development model the target community members have not changed their thinking or state of mind of receiving direct support for livelihood. The project beneficiaries still expect regular support from project implementing organization I.e., SCINDeA and when they have to claim their entitlements and sometimes if it does not happen they get disappointed when there is delay in getting the benefits of government schemes.
 - Difference in perception, knowledge and skills in project involvement reporting/interpretation of data/engagement with the community/building community ownership of project activities among the field project team impacts the consolidation effort at the central office.

- The project teams have to spend their lot of time and energy in lobbying with government and different department to avail the benefits. Enabling the community of their right to government schemes consumes huge amount of time & energy it impacts the frequency of field level work by field staff.
- The project has impacted the other community members in the same village as they hear about the changes in the lives of marginalized communities. Hence, the belonging to non-target community also requests the same support considering their varied degrees of vulnerability. But the project does not have scope for it. This affects the external environment and support. While implementing a rights-based approach, we need to go for periodical review and appraisal to improve the performance of the staff team.
- Promote volunteerism and effective program implementation at the field level. Need to go for local fund raising for sustainability. Need to equip with skills in advocacy and lobbying for engaging in policy changes and sustainability action even at the field level.

Gender is a social construct which defines and describes the socially perceived roles, responsibilities, rights, opportunities and interactions for females and males for the betterment and maintenance of society, which are influenced by familial, cultural, political, economic and spiritual determinants. Gender equity refers to the fairness, justice and balance in the distribution of benefits, responsibilities and roles according to gender determinants. These differences should be identified and addressed in a manner that rectifies the imbalance between the sexes at different phases of the life cycle.

There is gender balance and representation maintained at the field office level to address gender specific issues that emerge out of the project. As a result of the project there are lots of changes have happened in the project working areas. For example, almost in all the project villages, the acceptance of women from the families going to attend a common meeting, project related meetings or training cum awareness programme is very much increased. Generally, it's the rights of the women in the community to participate in any programme pertinent to women empowerment. But, for earlier for several years it was not allowed by men in the society/families due to old traditions that being a women should not go out, and belief was the women are meant to care take the children and serve men. But, it has gradually and drastically changed that all women today go out and take part in the programme meant for them.

The project aimed at improving socio-economic status of marginalized communities with focus on women has paved ways for women economic emancipation that has led to improved decision making power of women in the target areas. When women in the society economically empowered men's dominating character or mentality is gradually and steadily decreased. All operational villages have implemented the programme as per the plan and women are now able to articulate their issues and needs with much more clarity and also are able to negotiate with government officials to access women specific scheme. Due to the project the status and role of women in working villages have seen drastic changes over the project times. In early days the women's role was confined to the house and their families throughout then project areas. But, now a days the status of women was declined considerably. Thus, women in the operational areas of the project have started fighting for their rights and equality.

1 Outcome, relevance and sustainability

The income of 4761 male and 11110 women beneficiaries from 268 villages has improved at the end of October 2023. 268 women self-help groups (WSHGs) covering 5360 women members from 298 villages were able to mobilize Rs. 4, 11, 30,000/- through 6 different government schemes / programmes from each field office. Out of the support rendered to 268 WSHGs 1,371 individual women have promoted businesses of their own. 62 community forums with 5,944 members have been formed. They have been linked with social security schemes of the various govt. departments. In the last 3 years 7500 beneficiaries in 15 working areas received Rs. 1,94,31,841 worth of government schemes like road facility, overhead water tanks in the villages, village street lights, water connections to homes, construction of bridges, housing schemes etc. To achieve the above mentioned schemes beneficiaries have contributed to the tune of Rs. 33, 29,020 towards community level collective activities like monthly subscriptions, donations from the Panchayat and village leaders to meet the expenses etc. Out of the total worth of Rs. 1, 94, 31,841 worth of government schemes mobilized contributions from the community to the tune of Rs. 33, 29,020 makes the programme on way to sustainability and need based.

1.1 Relevance

The project was designed in such way that it mostly focussed on improving the socio-economic condition of the most marginalised communities especially the Scheduled Castes or Dalits/Scheduled Tribes or Adivasis/landless agricultural labourers/daily wage labourers/quarry workers/small & marginal farmers and ex-miners living in the project areas. Amongst whom the so called 'Dalits' are the most indigenous people in the country who suffer from extreme social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of age-old practice of untouchability and certain others on account of lack of infrastructure facilities and geographical isolation, and who need special consideration for safeguarding their interests and for their accelerated socio-economic development even after more than 75 years of Independence of India. And that's what the project activities had been designed especially for contributing to improvise their socio-economic condition by linking to government schemes and mobilizing local resources otherwise called pooling of various government resources in order to ensure the continuity of income earning opportunities for the deprived or underprivileged sections of the society.

To this extent possible, those activities carried out under each component of the project were pertinent in achieving the objectives of the project. Particularly the first objective of the project was to improve the socio-economic status of the marginalised communities. The project was relevant to the target people in today's perspective very much. Because, the present condition of the most marginalised communities in India face humiliation, exclusion, economic deprivation, as well as ill-treatment. There are various groups that are marginalised such as women, people with disabilities, the aged, scheduled castes or Dalits and scheduled tribes or Adivasis groups that are highly marginalised in today's situation as well. These groups have been historically disempowered and oppressed by influential and discriminatory groups. Therefore, in this condition the implementation of such project was very much relevant in contributing to solve the problems faced by these groups to certain extent possible. So, what were the most challenges faced by project target population? It was the struggle to acquire the necessities of life due to unequal distribution, the lack of income-generating opportunities, cultural differences, low motivation and self-efficacy, difficulty in accessing organizational resources, difficulty in identifying and taking advantage of developmental opportunities, and work-family conflicts. Hence, in order to overcome the challenges the project contributed in various ways and means and methods of orientation of target groups on tapping of

government schemes/resources to create income generating opportunity, skill building, and leadership training, advocacy & lobbying.

The project activities of helping poor and vulnerable women to get their ID cards like Aadhar card, voter Id, community certificates, welfare board membership, and pension schemes for old age/widow and providing services for women's group to access schemes and loans are very much in alignment with government priorities. The project also closely works with government departments at the block and district levels like rural development, women and child development, social welfare, labour welfare, municipal corporation in KGF, Agriculture and animal husbandry, fisheries, Adhidraida and tribal welfare departments. The project closely works with a total of 14 central govt. ministries through the 3 states of Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka, 17 state depts. & 14 central govt. depts. enabled the project beneficiaries to access govt. schemes.

According to the project there are three types of people or target populations being served or benefited. They are the community adult members both men & women, children and youth who belong to the above said communities. To improve the economic condition of the people the major activities such as orientation programme on various government schemes/resources, capacity building and awareness programme on entrepreneurship development programme, leadership & management programme for women entrepreneurs, advocacy & lobbying with government for proper deliverance of welfare schemes & resources were appropriate actions taken by the project. In the second component of safeguarding the children's rights the actions taken such as running of child resource center, imparting life skill education, conducting career guidance, and participation in child protection committee, children's clubs, and child parliaments were pertinent and have paved ways for children to participate and exercise their rights. In the third component of improve access to education and employment opportunities for youth the actions taken such as orientation on youth EDP, career guidance and skill development programme have granted the opportunities for quite a number of youth to get into higher education and self-employment and income generations towards an improved economic status of their families.

1.2 Sustainability

The project would further move towards sustainability by tapping government as well as local resources, because, the target population has been given sufficient orientation and capacity building, techniques of marketing, approaching the government machinery etc. However, the extent of marginalization and neglect of the government services and officials delay the process. But, the representatives of the community based organisations – CBOs in the target villages have not been re-strengthened to ensure persistency in building rapport with government officials to ensure the continuous access to schemes and resources to the communities. The project has invested in awareness education, capacity, rights approach, rapport building, advocacy techniques on community adults, women, children and youth through the programmes will make lasting impact, as the project design of education, asset creation and representation are three key areas of interventions by the project. The quantum of human resources that has been created out of this programme would continue to benefit the target community to grow further. Some of the project villages started up scaling their effort through networking and alliance building with like-minded organisations. The website's constant updating and software and digital services would be provided for all field offices for better co-ordination.

1.3 Lessons learned

Participation in community service has been found to break down barriers to employment, while building confidence, building careers, and building community for its members. Opportunities such as linkages with various government schemes delivered through the ECoPP project implementation are an avenue through which women, men and youth can gain skills, explore career paths, develop social security, and engage in challenging and meaningful tasks necessary to gain employment.

Increased connection and integration. The women in the SHGs and men in the communities changed the way they viewed their surroundings and their role in society during the pandemic. Through project implementation, the women, men and young adults were able to connect with different departments, institution for linkages, loan facilities, skill development and employment opportunities. The field level staff team and community people had the opportunities to strengthen the relationship and rapport with the various government departments. The officials in the departments also become aware of their roles and responsibilities in fulfilling the needs of the people in the communities.

As the project implementation approach has shifted from welfare to development model the target community members have not changed their thinking or state of mind of receiving direct support for livelihood. The project beneficiaries still expect regular support from project implementing organization I.e., SCINDeA and when they have to claim their entitlements and sometimes if it does not happen they get disappointed when there is delay in getting the benefits of government schemes.

Difference in perception, knowledge and skills in project involvement reporting/interpretation of data/engagement with the community/building community ownership of project activities among the field project team impacts the consolidation effort at the central office. The project teams had to spend their lot of time and energy in lobbying with government and different department to avail the benefits. Enabling the community of their right to government schemes consumes huge amount of time & energy it impacts the frequency of field level work by field staff.

The project has impacted the other community members in the same village as they hear about the changes in the lives of marginalized communities. Hence, the belonging to non-target community also requests the same support considering their varied degrees of vulnerability. But the project does not have scope for it. This affects the external environment and support. While implementing a rights-based approach, we need to go for periodical review and appraisal to improve the performance of the staff team. Need to promote volunteerism and effective program implementation at the field level. Need to go for local fund raising for sustainability. Need to equip with skills in advocacy and lobbying for engaging in policy changes and sustainability action even at the field level.

The project approach was developed with the participation of staff members who hail from the same operational area. The project intended to reach out to the most marginalized communities in which women, children and youth were identified as the target groups. Majority of the project beneficiaries/clients were women. Young adolescent girls in the project area who have completed schooling were also beneficiaries of the project as they work in the textile and hotel and small industries. They have been rescued from economic and sexual exploitation and rehabilitated through access to higher education and various skill training programmes. The formation of women's groups and linking them to government schemes, providing them access to credit through banking systems and supporting the vulnerable women in entrepreneurship development are exclusively women focused interventions. Activities like SHG formation, strengthening School management committees (SMCs), summer events, campaigns on climate change and environmental education focused on including women as key stakeholders.

The self-help groups, children's groups and youth groups are the community-based organizations promoted by the project. Village community leaders also took part in the programme implementation. Linking of government schemes with the self-help groups and support provided for accessing credit and security benefits for vulnerable groups largely depends on the government departments. While the safeguarding child rights programme was very relevant for attaining long term results through life skill education, children's parliament, the programmes are activity based. Children in the children's clubs take up community activities like tree plantations, encouraging elders to keep the village clean, disposal of plastics etc.

The project activities of helping poor and vulnerable women to get their ID cards like Aadhar card, voter Id, community certificates, welfare board membership, and pension schemes for old age/widow and providing services for women's group to access schemes and loans were very much in alignment with government priorities. The project also closely worked with government departments at the block and district levels like rural development, women and child development, social welfare, labour welfare, Municipal Corporation in KGF, Agriculture and animal husbandry, fisheries, Adhidravida and tribal welfare departments. The project closely worked with a total of 14 central govt. ministries through the 3 states of Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka, 17 state depts. & 14 central govt. depts. enabled the project beneficiaries to access government schemes. The activation of School Management Committee constituted under Right to Education Act was the

mandate of all government schools in which SCINDeA team plays a facilitating role in training the members and providing orientation on right to education for teachers, parents and elected representatives of local bodies. The skill training and career development for Youth Empowerment was another activity in the project.

At the end of the project as a result, of the 35119 target community members who had attended orientation and capacity building programme on various government schemes under the 1st component a total of 15,871 beneficiaries including 5049 men and 10822 women have been linked in the government schemes and have received the benefits of the schemes and resources. In children component a total of 6991 children including 3296 boys and 3695 girls have benefited of the project by attending various programmes such as child resource centers, up skilling with life skill education, obtaining career guidance after school education, participating in children parliament and children club activities, child protection committees and thus actively have been exercising their rights throughout the project period. Under third component a total of 1148 youth including 703 male and 445 female have enrolled in higher education. And 3099 youth including 1074 male and 877 female have had employment opportunities.

CSR Projects:

A. Promotion of 75 study centres

SCINDeA in collaboration with Fincare Small Finance Bank has promoted 75 study centres in the 3 states of its operation mainly Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and



Karnataka. A minimum of 20-25 children attended the study centres on a daily basis from Monday to Friday. English, Maths & Science are taught to the children. Saturday is activity day where children play both indoor and outdoor games, participate in competitions like hand writing, elocution, drawing, etc., Currently 1653 students from standards 3 -8 attend the study centres. Pretests and Posttest are also conducted

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