Quarterly Newsletter



The ant

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What's In:

Campaign: Violence against women and children.

Girl Icon Fellowship

Sifung Harimu Afad

From IDeA Desk

ORANGE THE WORLD

The fortnight of 25th November to 10th December 2020 was observed as Campaign on Violence against Women (and children) across Chirang and parts of Bongaigaon and Cachar districts along with our partners Juber Masood Educational Charitable Trust and Sanatan Unnayan Sangstha. During the campaign, children in different age groups, women's groups, youth groups and stakeholders were reached through Silent Rallies, Street Plays, Group Discussions, Community Meetings, Drawing, Posters and Dotmocracy to build awareness on this sensitive issue of violence being faced by children and women in the present scenario. This was an initiative of Child Safeguarding Committee of the ant which came across increasing instances of child abuse, child marriage, domestic violence and addiction during Covid lockdowns and unlocks.



The Pledge:

"We will not and will not let anyone resort to violence"

Girl Icon Fellowship:

The two years journey of empowering and developing leadership among the selected adolescent girls who otherwise would have remained vulnerable came to an end with two series of events in Udalguri and Chirang district. The 36 girls in the age group of 12-18 years who successfully completed the journey were facilitated with a Manbihungi in the presence of officials from District Child Protection Units, Gaon Burhas and VCDC officials from both the districts. The Fellowship covered 20 VCDCs with 15 and18 districts of Udalguri and Chirang districts respectively. The most deserving 11 of them also received scholarship for meeting their educational requirements.



Sifung Harimu Afad

Started with a vision of minimizing the migration of unskilled youths or brain drain, to reduce the possibility of resorting to militancy and to promote the traditional culture of Bodoland which is on the verge of extinction, Sifung Harimu Afad has been able to reinitiate its work post -pandemic. During the last quarter of year 2020, it was able to spread out to 5 locations in the district and to train youth on traditional music and dance. Breaking the stereotypes, Sifung girls are trained to play Kham (the Bodo drum) and Sifung (the flute) which have been in the male domain traditionally.



From IDeA's desk

IDeA's project steering committee approved six projects covering six organizations from Assam, Nagaland and Meghalaya, which are working in the domain of Children's Right to Education, Livelihoods, Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) of Women with Disability, etc. The organizations started field execution from the month of December.

Assam Tea: The team has been successful in studying work opportunities for women with support from DFID, surveyed 300 tea garden workers covering districts of Dibrugarh, Numaligarh, Biswanath and learnt about women's life experiences and their well-being. IDeA's contribution in building the capacity of Community Development Forums has been appreciated, acknowledged by Ethical Tea Partnership (ETP) and the Tea Estate management.

Training: IDeA organized the training for 24 participants in collaboration with BI—The HUB Jorhat and supported by Child Aid Network; an interactive and participatory session using virtual mode touched upon documentation, different forms of reporting, video-photo making and record management.







Enrich:

Project ENRICH (Ensuring Rights of Children) is supported by Childaid Network, Germany which shall be implemented by 5 partner organizations working in 5 districts of Assam.

Due diligence visits to the partner organizations, meeting with the community, designing virtual conversations with stake holders and conducting the residential workshops with partners for project orientation have been completed by our team within the span of six months; despite Covid challenges.

Projects at a glance:

- Flood rehabilitation: 480 families who had lost their homes during recent flood, received rehabilitation assistance. 50 families headed by single women, mentally ill and senior citizens received materials for rebuilding their abodes.
- In **Dolphin**, external evaluation was completed for the project. The team has started a Journal club with the ant and the youths. Winter Mela was organised for children in Bengtol area.
- Under Livelihood and Nutrition security, 249 families were provided with seeds, fencing and training for setting up their organic kitchen gardens as well as to market their produces.
- Teachers under Shiksha and LEAP projects were trained on TLMs and pedagogy for imparting quality education in Remedial Learning, Child Development and Middle Elementary Centres.
- To popularise Science and Maths among the children and to upgrade the skills with practical methods; Lab In A Box training sessions were conducted for Middle Elementary school teachers & other organisations like Farm 2 Food, Jorhat, Assam.
- **Sports 4 Development** program, Ultimate tournaments, Colouring the Rainbow sessions, were held in 96 groups and locations.
- Mental Health Camps were organized in 7 locations reaching out to more than 1200 patients every month.
- Teaching Learning Materials for Assamese as Second Language
 Acquisition were developed. In accordance to the New Education
 Policy, this initiative was taken to enable the children from diverse
 backgrounds like Nepali, Bengali, Santhal and others to learn Assamese language easily.
- A baseline was conducted to assess the level of understanding of right during Conscious Citizenry sessions.
- A Baseline survey for 420 families was conducted to assess prevalence of Domestic Violence. Collection of the household data, registration of Domestic Violence cases, referral to legal aid cell and case follow up have been the major focus of AVAHAN.



Heartiest Congratulations to new family members of the aut family, Sukhabala, Jyotish, Ansuma, Anjali, Sabita, Sahida Begum, Soneswar, Amrit, Sanghamitra and Nibaran.

Uzdah, Nandita and Reshwin joined the ant team at Chirang.as part of State Bank of India Youth for India fellowship