

Annual Report 2011



Society for Promoting Rural Education and Development



SPREAD

... the seeds of change

Reporting Period:
1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011

Message from the Leadership



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From the Secretary

It is needless to say that this Annual Report would not have been completed, had we not received the heartily acceptance of the community, we are working for.

Second, I owe my sincere gratitude towards all our team members, who have rendered their best efforts in facilitating the processes among the communities despite of lots of pressure, hardships, threats and hazardous working environments.

Third, we will never forget to thank the Animators and Activists - the real frontline brave soldiers - who, as the real change agents, have strived much in facilitating the development processes among the marginalized communities.

And last but not the least we are really very much thankful and obliged before our resource partners: Child Rights and You [CRY], CASA, Danish Church Action [DCA], CBR FORUM and Concern Worldwide, for their valuable support as well as for their critical opinions, feedback, timely follow up and evaluations. This, in fact, has infused indomitable spirit, courage and commitment in us to put our best efforts in making our work of the highest quality and bringing smiles to the lips of thousands of down-trodden marginalized tribes thereby empowering them to create a more dignified living.

At last, we express our gratitude to all our fellow well wishers, friends, who have directly or indirectly provided their helping hands towards our work, process and organization as a whole.

BIDYUT MOHANTY

Secretary

Financial Information

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING RURAL EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT (SPREAD)
L/3, KALPANA SQUARE, BHUBANESWAR - 751014
FIELD OFFICE : JANIGUDA, KORAPUT

CONSOLIDATED BALANCESHEET AS AT 31.03.2011

LIABILITIES	Amount in Rs.	Amount in Rs.	ASSETS	Amount in Rs.
Capital Fund			Fixed Assets	
Opening Balance	2,635,967.77		As per Scheduled-19	1,003,987.56
Add: Surplus During the Year	(1,021,942.10)			
		1,614,025.67		
Capital Reserve for non Recurring Grant	1,358,254.44		Current Assets	
Add: Assets Purchased during the Year	79,434.00		Cash in Hand & Bank	1,832,110.31
	1,437,688.44		As per Scheduled - 15	
Less: Adjustment of Depreciation	259,782.00	1,177,906.44	Profit & Loss Account	
Unsecured Loans			Opening Balance	5,973.24
Balaram Sethy	6,492.00			
Khageswar Manhira	7,915.00			
Prasan Ku. Modi	9,732.00	24,139.00		
Current Liabilities & Provisions				
As per Scheduled -18		26,000.00		
TOTAL		2,842,071.11	TOTAL	2,842,071.11

Place: Bhubaneswar
Date: 26/03/2011

For D.M. ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants
Anil Kumar Agarwal
(C.A. Anil Kumar Agarwal)
Partner
Membership No. 055984

Secretary
SPREAD

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING RURAL EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT (SPREAD)
L/3, KALPANA SQUARE, BHUBANESWAR - 751014
FIELD OFFICE : JANIGUDA, KORAPUT

CONSOLIDATED RECEIPT AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31.03.2011

Receipts	SCH.	Amounts (Rs.)	Payments	SCH.	Amounts (Rs.)
To Opening Balance B/d	1		By Programme Expenses	2	5,683,861.00
Cash in Hand		251,562.60	By Training Expenses	3	46,652.00
Cash at Bank			By Salary	4	2,695,591.00
Koraput		789,582.73	By Administration Expenses	5	1,504,430.60
Bhubaneswar		586,162.31	By Capital Expenditure	6	98,934.00
To Grant in Aid	16	10,109,237.72	By Perspective & Capacity Building of Team	7	153,724.00
To Bank Interest	17	92,712.00	By Source of Livelihood	8	179,340.00
To Sale of Books		6,875.00	By Gender Empowerment	9	171,355.00
To Income from Hiring			By Self Governance & Networking	10	183,545.00
Charges of LCD		37,000.00	By Right to Survival	11	73,644.00
To Refund of Prog. Adv.			By Right to Participation	12	239,532.00
Euronaid		15,000.00	By Right to Protection	13	2,597.00
To Matured of Term Deposit of Euronaid		1,000,000.00	By Right to Development	14	132,970.00
To Loan from Coordinators (VCRO Project)			By PPP Meeting (DCA)		127,282.00
Balaram Sethy		6,492.00	Closing Balance	15	
Khageswar Manhira		7,915.00	By Cash in Hand		89,859.00
Prasan Kumar Modi		9,732.00	By Cash at Bank		
To Sale of T- Shirts		35,490.00	Koraput		1,455,361.73
To PPP Meeting (DCA)		127,116.55	Bhubaneswar		286,889.58
To Resource Person Charges raised by Staff		50,500.00			
TOTAL		13,125,367.91	TOTAL		13,125,367.91

Place: Bhubaneswar
Date: 26/03/2011

For D.M. ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants
Anil Kumar Agarwal
(C.A. Anil Kumar Agarwal)
Partner
Membership No. 055984

Secretary
SPREAD

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING RURAL EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT (SPREAD)
L/3, KALPANA SQUARE, BHUBANESWAR - 751014
FIELD OFFICE : JANIGUDA, KORAPUT

CONSOLIDATED INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31.03.2011

EXPENDITURE	Amount in Rs.	INCOME	Amount in Rs.
To Programme Expenses	5,682,161.00	By Grant in Aid (Revenue)	10,029,803.72
To Training Expenses	46,652.00	By Bank Interest	92,712.00
To Salary	2,695,591.00	By Sale of Books	6,875.00
To Administration Expenses	1,504,430.60	By Income from Hiring of LCD	37,000.00
To Perspective & Capacity Building of Team	153,724.00	By Sale of T- Shirts	35,490.00
To Source of Livelihood	179,340.00	By Resource Person Charges raised by Staff	50,500.00
To Gender Empowerment	171,355.00	By Write of expenses of FCC Project	47,500.00
To Self Governance & Networking	183,545.00	By Write of creditors of SSH Project	8,200.00
To Right to Survival	73,644.00	By Write of stipend of CVT Project	4,500.00
To Right to Participation	73,644.00	By PPP Meeting (DCA)	127,116.55
To Right to Protection	239,532.00		
To Right to Development	2,597.00		
To Write of Grant in Aid Receivable from CSWB	124,078.81		
To PPP Meeting (DCA)	127,282.00		
To Provision for Audit Fees	4,000.00		
To Depreciation	54,537.00		
To Excess of Income over Expenditure	(1,021,942.10)		
TOTAL	10,439,697.27	TOTAL	10,439,697.27

Place: Bhubaneswar
Date: 26/03/2011

For D.M. ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants
Anil Kumar Agarwal
(C.A. Anil Kumar Agarwal)
Partner
Membership No. 055984

Secretary
SPREAD

About SPREAD

Vision

A region and society without any exploitation and discrimination with access to the basic necessities of life and ability for people to assert their rights for a dignified living.

Mission

To work as a catalyst with the underprivileged class so as to build up their capacity and to facilitate the process of participatory development.

Goal

To make the most marginalized section of the society aware of their rights and duties and enable them to have access and control over the socio-economic-political process for a dignified living.

Inaugurated in 1989, the Society for Promoting Rural Education and Development (SPREAD) is dedicated to empowering the marginalized communities of Koraput district so that they may access their rights to land, food and work. Ultimately this will lead to their ability to maintain a dignified way of life.

Approach

SPREAD works with scheduled tribes, scheduled castes, and other backward communities in 3 blocks of Orissa's Koraput district. The organisation takes a rights-based approach to issues of land, food, and work by connecting communities with the government benefits to which they're entitled. SPREAD does this by facilitating people's organisations, managing awareness campaigns and mass mobilizations, and training community leaders. A focus on gender and disability is mainstreamed throughout the organisation's programs.

Program Areas

- Right to food
- Right to work
- Right to land
- People's Organizations
- Rights of vulnerable groups (women and girls, children, persons with disabilities)

The Team

SPREAD believes in the importance of hiring people from the communities where they work. 85% of the organization's 57 team members are tribals and dalits from the rural villages in SPREAD's operational area.



Where We Work

Koraput

The population of Koraput district is 1.2 million, 83.2% of which live in remote, rural areas. It is home to the most marginalized people in society; tribals make up more than 49% of the population, and scheduled castes comprise close to 14%.

Some key indicators of rural Koraput's well-being:

- Literacy rate: 44.3% for men, 21.9% for women
- Married before 18 years old: 58.0%
- Institutional births: 11.6%
- Availability of electricity: 7.8%
- Households below poverty line: 80.1%
- Infant mortality rate: 125 per 1,000 live births
- Enrolment in secondary school: 7.8%

Our Operational Area



3 BLOCKS

21 GRAM PANCHAYAT

573 VILLAGES

The operational area is home to many villages adversely affected by implementation of dam projects, industries and other developmental initiatives.

Case Study

Reli Khilo is 47 years old and has a family of 8. He works in dongar (hill) cultivation near his village. He admits that his cultivation methods are crude and, since he doesn't possess any modern agricultural implements, he is unable to provide food for his family all year.

He explained that the gram panchayat has a certain number of sahuikars who have a strong grip over the villagers by offering grain and cash loans. The sahuikars do not demand interest, but impose a condition that the villagers have to sell their produce only to him. Reli took a grain loan of 4 manas (20 kg) last year from a sahuikar, but could not repay it as he didn't have a good harvest.

He shares his experience of how painful it was for him to go to the sahuikar's house 5 or 6 times to ask for a loan and spend the entire day waiting. He says, "It's like losing one's own self-respect and surrendering before someone in distress."

Reli was enthusiastic about the concept of a grain bank in his village. His village of Sirsapadar in Kulabir gram panchayat has 38 households. He is one of the members of the grain bank and recently took a loan of 5 manas (25 kg) of paddy. He is confident that he will be able to repay it after the harvest in December, with the interest of five kg as decided by the village committee.

For Reli, the grain bank is more than a way to feed his family. It's a symbol of self-respect and community ownership.



Activities

Community Monitoring

- In 175 villages, the community is tracking the status of the public distribution system (PDS) and various pension schemes.

PDS Social Audit

- In November 2010, the SPREAD team surveyed 5,531 households from 94 villages in 3 gram panchayats to assess the status of PDS in the area.
- On 24 December 2010, a public hearing was held in Koraput Town Hall. 460 people attended to hear the results of the audit and to air their complaints in a public forum.

PDS Intervention

- SPREAD works with the villagers to rectify situations where rights to food have been violated. 120 ration cards that had been illegally taken were returned to their rightful owners. 12 families received a 4-month backlog of PDS rations, 60 families received a 3-month backlog, and 31 families received a 1-month backlog.

Grain and Seed Banks

- Grain banks were formed in 135 villages, allowing villagers to store excess grain after harvest and take loans during lean times.
- Seed banks were formed in 30 villages, with the goal of preserving traditional seed varieties and providing seed loans to farmers, to be repaid after harvest.

Advocacy and Awareness

- 19 trainings on government food schemes were conducted.
- SPREAD took a leading role in organizing a convention on right to food. 76 people, including village leaders, participated in the convention.
- A district-level consultation on the proposed National Food Security Bill was organized in Koraput. 48 civil society members participated.

Right to Food

Pension Assistance

- New pension cards were received by 917 beneficiaries.
 - Rs. 200 per month for elderly persons
 - Rs. 200 per month for widows
 - Rs. 200 per month for disabled persons
- 136 elderly persons received backpayment in addition to their new pension cards. Each beneficiary received 12 months' payment, or Rs. 2,400.



Villagers speaking at the PDS public hearing

PDS Social Audit Findings

It was found that 27.75% of households in the surveyed area (1,535 out of 5,531) do not have any entitlement card at all (APL, BPL, or AAY). The surveys revealed hundreds of individuals with unsolved PDS card problems.

- Enlisted in BPL list but not having cards – 109 families
- Manipulation in card distribution – 33 families have the wrong type of card
- False Entries – 65 families

There are 10 dealers in the 3 GPs (3 PEO, 7 run by women's SHGs). In these shops, the distribution of PDS is not taking place on the stipulated dates (5, 6, 7, 20, 21, and 22 of each month), but are only open 2 to 3 days per month. Further, the allotment, lifting, and requirements didn't match for any of the PDS items. For instance, the kerosene allotment for Panthlung GP is 20% less than the requirement. Also, though APL cardholders are entitled to 10 kg wheat per month, this has never been available from the fair price shops. The quantity of items provided is less than stipulated by the government. Most families receive 2-3 kg less than their entitlement of rice, 1 kg less than their entitlement of sugar, and 2-3 L less than their entitlement of kerosene.

Transparency is virtually non-existent. There is no detail about PDS in the district website and there were many barriers to getting the information that was requested through RTI. The information that was finally provided was not complete. From the fair price shops, there is no visible information board related to PDS. Also, the grievance redressal mechanism is either unsuccessful or not known.

Case Study

Sirasguda village of Padwa panchayat consists of 37 households; Panasputvillage of Panthlung GP consists of 26 households. The families in the two villages had been surviving off the forest land for the last few decades. After the Forest Rights Act came into existence, they claimed their land (in 2008) by presenting the requisite documents to the sub-divisional committee of FRA. Verification of the claimed lands was done in December 2009, but the final individual rights were never provided to the claimants.

In March 2010, the forester came to the villages' lands with some labourers, to start making a plantation under a JBIC project. The Forest Rights Act stipulates that no persons or department can take up claimed forest land for any development purpose. The people protested, but the forester turned a deaf ear to the people's request. They got angry and started to throw stones to the labourers and the forester. Finding no other way out, the forester fled from the place.

The problem was discussed in the village meeting; it was decided unanimously that some villagers, with the help of the leaders of Machhkund Baschyut Maha Sangha (MBMS) would meet with the district collector and district forest officer (DFO). On 17 April 2010, the meeting took place. Ultimately, the collector and the DFO issued a letter to the concerned forester instructing him to stop making the plantation.

Activities

Land Rights

Some of our land work involves the acquisition of land titles for land that has already been occupied and/or farmed for decades, but for which the villagers don't have proof of ownership. Other land work focuses on acquiring official rights over land that the government has promised to the people.

SPREAD's work has resulted in the following achievements:

- To replace lost or ruined records of rights (RORs), 2,243 duplicate RORs were applied for; 2,233 were received.
- 1,372 claims for agricultural land were submitted; 229 were approved, with the patta (land title) in the hand of its owner.
- 2,512 claims for homestead land were submitted and 462 new pattas were delivered to their rightful owners.
- 5,979 individual claims for forest land were submitted and 1,699 new pattas were issued.
- 4,538 cashew land claims were filed; cashew land rights were awarded to 422 families.

Participatory Land Process

In 13 villages, a land process was completed. In each village, SPREAD's land process entails the formation of a land rights committee, training in land laws and villagers' rights, mapping of the village and surrounding land, and application for the appropriate land titles.

Training

18 land laws programs were organized, providing information about land rights and the process of obtaining them to 149 men and 74 women.

Right to Land

Land Improvements

- 47 families benefitted from an irrigation system set up for the villages of Kharsapada and Gandhiguda.
- Two villagers and two SPREAD staff members visited SEWA in Bilaspur for exposure and training to learn to rejuvenate badi/backyard/wasteland for production. A team from SEWA visited the villages and now 12 families are under the process of organic vegetable cultivation in Kharsapada and Gandhiguda villages.



The land committee in Khadalipadar examines the land map

Case Study

Dhana Muduli, about 40 years old, lives in Bimbhariput village. He received 4.95 acres of land through the settlement of ceiling surplus lands in the area 20 years ago. However, the original owner of the land Trinath Pradhani had influenced the revenue officials and still possessed the land.

For years, Dhana had been complaining to the tahasildar, but his efforts were in vain. He also presented his grievance before the revenue officials during the Public Hearing on Land Issues held at Koraput on 22 December 2009, but even that did not yield any result. In March 2010, Dhana brought the matter to the notice of Sahid Laxman Nayak Shramik-Sangathan (SLSS), a people's organization ensuring the rights of the poor, marginalized, and vulnerable people.

The members of SLSS, along with Dhana, met with the tahasildar and pressured him to look into the matter and resolve it as soon as possible, failing which they threatened to protest against the incapability of the revenue officials in a larger forum. This was enough to make the tahasildar finally act.

The investigation started immediately and the record of rights over the land was handed to Dhana Muduli officially in April 2010. Now, Dhana is cultivating the land and says that he knows it will be a permanent source of livelihood for him.

Case Study

65 job card holders of Kadoamb, Doleimaliguda, and Kalothjodi villages of Chipakur GP applied for jobs under MGNREGA and availed work accordingly. 50 of them were engaged in construction of a dam and 15 of them in construction of a cement concrete road in Kalothjodi village. A total of 444 man days generated. After completion of the work, they were entitled to Rs. 31,080 total as wage payment, but they were paid only Rs. 2,640 total. The payment was delayed intentionally by the panchayat and the block authorities.

The problem was identified during the village meeting on 18 May 2010 in Kadoamb. The Bhumi Adhikar Sangathan (BAS) members decided to meet with the Block Development Officer of Boipariguda. At the meeting, the BDO turned a deaf ear to their persistent plea. The laborers met with the BDO again; this time, the news was highlighted in the local newspaper SAMBAD. Finding no other way out, the BDO instructed the concerned PEO and Junior Engineer to settle the case as quickly as possible. As a result, the remaining Rs. 28,440 was deposited in the postal accounts of the laborers.

Activities

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) assures rural labourers 100 days of work per year. The scheme is helpful in theory, but is riddled with corruption and a lack of motivation from officials. NGOs like SPREAD are instrumental in connecting labourers to open jobs and availing payment.

MGNREGA Work

- In our 21 operational GPs, labourers from 8,798 households worked for 3,73,380 total days worth Rs. 3,70,24,734.
- 37 persons with disability (PwDs) earned a total of Rs. 34,830 from 387 total work days.

Delayed Payments

- In 5 separate cases, SPREAD's intervention with officials helped to secure delayed MGNREGA payments.
- During the year, Rs. 2,30,760 was secured for more than 300 men and women.

Trainings

- SPREAD selected 3 gram sanjokaks to participate in a block-level training on their role and responsibility in implementing MGNREGA.
- Information about MGNREGA was presented at each of the regional-level people's group meetings (detailed on the following page), reaching more than 600 people.

People's Organizations

Highlights

People's organisations are the lifeblood of SPREAD's work. We work with 4 larger organisations and dozens of smaller village-level groups.

Fees and collections for the 67 self-help groups in one area resulted in a bank balance of 10.76 lakhs. To date, loans in the amount of 3.41 lakhs have been taken by the members.

SPREAD organizes 3 main meetings for the people's groups each year:

- 194 leaders (138 females, 56 males) participated in the annual women's convention.
- 272 persons (192 males, 80 females) attended the annual tribal convention.
- 500 members of Bhumi Adhikar Sangathan and Gupteswari Mohila Mohasangha (211 males, 289 females) participated in their yearly convention.



About the Groups

Among the many community groups that SPREAD works with are 4 regional-level bodies.

- Bhuma Adhikar Sangathan (BAS) comprises 800 men and women from 5 gram panchayats in Boipariguda block. The group's focus is on forest land rights and food entitlement to forest villages.
- Mahila Mohasangha includes more than 10,000 women (with a core committee of 50 members) from 5 blocks in Koraput district. The group focuses on issues specific to women, such as participation in political process, education of girls, domestic violence and leadership. Membership fees are collected for resource mobilization.
- Dangar Adhikar Samiti (DAS) involves 1,308 men and women from Lamtaput block who meet to discuss issue regarding cashew land with a goal of allotting 2 acres to each household. They are also preparing to form a cashew cooperative for processing of the fruits.
- Machhkund Basachyut Maha (MBMS) consists of 1,440 men and women from Koraput and Nandapur blocks. The group was formed after construction of the Machhkund dam displaced many villages in the 1950s. The group focuses on availing fundamental rights of the displaced people through pressurizing government officials..

Rights of People with Disabilities

Case Study

Ramesh Charky, about 25 years old, lives in Ramgiri village of Koraput District. He lives with his father, mother, two brothers and a sister. Ramesh is the eldest son of the family. The family is very poor and hardly meets their daily expenses. His father and mother work as daily wage earners and cultivate a small piece of land.

In 2007, Ramesh went with his mother to work in the field. While working, he felt pain in his head as if someone had hit him. His parents took him to Ramgiri Primary Health Centre (PHC) and consulted with the doctor, but they did not get any answers; the doctor advised them to take Ramesh to Koraput District Headquarters Hospital. Being poverty stricken, his family was not able to follow this advice.

For years, Ramesh was suffering needlessly from his mental illness. He was not taking regular baths; he spoke unpleasant words to people; he roamed in his village the whole day and night without taking sufficient food.

After analysing Ramesh's situation, SPREAD took Ramesh to Jeypore in 2010 for consultation with a specialist. Every month since then, Ramesh and his father have travelled to Jeypore to meet with the doctor. Also, Ramesh has begun taking regular medica-

Activities

SPREAD's work with persons with disabilities (PWDs) focuses on 354 children and adults in 83 villages of Koraput district.

Staff Training

- The 5 members of the disability project team each participated in multiple weeks of technical training programs, to better enable them to address the special needs of the beneficiaries.

Caregiver Training

- In September 2010, full-day trainings were organized for two groups of parents of disabled children/youths. 67 people (28 fathers, 24 mothers, 16 children/youths) learned basic hygiene and physiotherapy tips. A similar training was held in July 2010, attended by 20 parents, 5 children, and 5 project staff.
- A trained physiotherapist led home-based interventions for 7 children. The project team and caregivers received information about care and learned physiotherapy interventions to improve the child's flexibility and range of motion.

Medical Treatment

- 4 mentally ill patients were taken to a psychiatrist for counseling and necessary treatment on in September 2010.

Education

- Discussions with teachers and parents of children with disabilities focused on the children's right to education. 24 children with disabilities (13 boys, 11 girls) started attending school regularly for the first time.

Meeting Participation

One of the goals of the disability project team is to increase participation of persons with disabilities in general body meetings at all levels.

- 152 children in 10 child support groups held 30 meetings throughout the year. SPREAD staff facilitated these meetings, helping the children to understand their role in including children with disabilities in their daily activities and games.

Rights of Women and Children

Activities

Education

- In October 2010, VCRO and Sikshya Sandhan Bhubaneswar organized a two-day RTE workshop at Bhubaneswar. The Peoples organization member's and staff participated in this workshop.
- 17 drop-out children (10 boys, 7 girls) returned to school.

Healthcare

- 18 new anganwadi centers were set up to manage the Integrated Child Development Services scheme for women and children.
- 26 children benefitted from health referrals for appropriate medical treatment.
- 144 mothers availed the Rs. 1,400 JSY benefit for institutional births.

Rights

- A birth certificate campaign resulted in 29 new certificates.
- About 355 women were made aware of women issues, family violence and provisions under PESA to prevent intoxication, through Federation meetings & SHG meetings.

Case Study

Maliguda is a small forest village of Ramgiri GP in Boipariguda block, Koraput district. The village is about 10 km from the GP headquarters. It consists of 35 households.

The villagers of Maliguda are very poor, as it is a forest village with little agriculture. Most adults in the village earn their meagre wages by doing daily labour work, collecting non-timber forest products, and crafting bamboo items. There is very little government assistance provided to Maliguda, though there are provisions for various services. For example, there is provision for an anganwadi centre (AWC) for villages with more than 40 inhabitants. (An AWC manages the integrated child development services (ICDS) scheme, which aims to provide nutritious meals and basic education to children from age 0 to 6, adolescent girls, and pregnant and lactating women.)

There is an active village development committee in Maliput. This issue was discussed several times in village-level meetings and was then put before the Gupteswari Mohila Mohasangha (Women Federation of Ramgiri GP). The GP-level committee decided to file an application with the block development officer (BDO). SPREAD helped the committee to file this application and 9 others. After a long struggle and regular follow-up by the federation members, the government decided to open 16 new AWCs in Ramgiri GP, including the one in Maliguda. The AWCs have been built and staffed and the children, adolescent girls, and pregnant and lactating women are benefitting from the scheme.

Case Study

Mani Sisha is a woman of 40 years living in Antabir village of Bilaput GP under Nandapur block. Her family consists of 5 members. She has 5 acres of land and a BPL card, but does not farm her land and cannot feed her family with only the 25 kg of PDS rice. She sometimes works as a coolie or in daily labour work, but was still struggling.

In 2003, SPREAD gave her a loan of Rs. 2,000 to buy a sheep. Gradually, the number of sheep increased; they were sold for good profit in the market and the loan was repaid to SPREAD. Mani has also taken loans from the grain bank, VDC, and SHGs. She is improving her living status and says "SPREAD is for me and I am for SPREAD".

Case Study

Jamuna Pangi, 25 is a young woman of Surmi village under Bilaput panchayat. She lives with her husband and two other family members. She has few possessions besides a BPL card and a Coolie card. She is a member of an SHG and part of the Adam grain bank.

Her family is landless, so daily labour is her livelihood. In 2009-2010, she suffered from ill health. She tried to treat herself with local medicine, but remained sick. Her family petitioned for help at the village meeting and at the GP-level Mahila Maha Sangh meeting. At last, she was taken to the District Headquarters Hospital, Koraput, where doctors identified her illness as TB. SPREAD provided financial support for travel and medicine. Jamuna took the medicine properly for 7-8 months and is now completely better.

Activities

Interface with Officials

- Meetings with officials resulted in the repair of 74 defunct tube wells.
- The people of Jodambo village met with the Block Development Officer after being excluded from the census survey. As a result, the survey was completed in the village.

Needs Analysis

In 12 villages, a participatory vulnerability assessment was completed with the cooperation of the villagers. Plans were made to address the problems of the neediest villagers.

Government Housing Benefit

22 households were identified as Indira Awas Yojana beneficiaries and provided with a house.

Income Generation Projects

Rs. 12 lakh was disbursed as micro-loans among 59 villages for income generation activities. The beneficiaries invested in activities such as petty business, agriculture, vegetable farming, and goatery. During the year, Rs. 28,650 (almost 24%) was collected as repayment.

Cultural Preservation

To preserve the history and tradition of the Paraja tribe, information and materials were gathered for safe-keeping. Herbal medicines, traditional song documents, festival information, a summary of the tribe's justice system, and history were shared with officials.

Health Referrals

SPREAD sent 39 critically ill persons (26 women, 9 men, and 4 children) to District Headquarters Hospital, Koraput for treatment. All expenses were supported, including travel, pathology investigations, and medicine. SPREAD also linked with the District Red Cross Medicine Bank to get medicines worth Rs. 12,000 for these patients free of cost.

Partners

Thanks to Our Partners

Heartfelt thanks go to our development partners who provide ongoing support as well as valuable collaboration and thought leadership:



CONCERN
worldwide



Child Rights & You



Church's Auxiliary for
Social Action



Voluntary Services
Overseas



Community Based
Rehabilitation Forum



DanChurchAid

Get Involved

Financial Support

Our partner projects address many needs of Koraput's poor, but team members often encounter need that cannot be covered by project funds, as it is outside the scope of the project. Donations from individuals can address these needs.

Contact us at spread@spread.org.in to discuss how you can contribute to:

- Physiotherapy for disabled children
- Start-up funds for small business
- Books and clothing for students (especially girls) of the poorest families
- Mosquito nets for malaria prevention
- Blankets and clothing for the poorest families

General donations are also welcome. We will report to you how your gift has made a difference in the lives of the tribals of Koraput.

Volunteer / Intern

We accept volunteer fellows and interns from India or abroad to conduct studies on specific issues pertaining to our work as well as broader social issues. These collaborative efforts help us to improve our programs and strategies.



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