

COUNTRY IMPACT REPORT

FY 15-16



CONTENT

FOREWORD	05
GENESIS AND EVOLUTION OF CHILDFUND INDIA	06
CHILDFUND INDIA: NETWORKING, PARTNERSHIPS AND PROGRAM STRENGTHENING	08
FEATURED STORY	10
PROGRAM INITIATIVES AND THEIR IMPACTS	12
Healthy and Secure Infants	12
Educated and Confident Children	16
Skilled and Involved Youth	23
Responding to Disaster Risk Reduction /Emergencies	27
SMALL VOICES, BIG DREAMS 2015	29
ABBREVIATIONS	36
NGO PARTNERS' LIST	37





FOREWORD



The bygone year was a landmark for all of us working in the development Sector: we augmented from Millennium Development Goals to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), under the aegis of United Nations.

The government and civil society has reflected upon the impact that we have been able to demonstrate so far and I believe this revelation has informed the articulation of the SDGs, where the world leaders and their governments recommitted to sustain what has been achieved and have set 17 Sustainable Development Goals to be achieved by 2030.

We at ChildFund India continue to dedicate our efforts towards the well-being of our children, young adults, and communities at large. As we grow from strength to strength, we will continue to listen to our children and make their world a safer, better and happier place to live.

In the past two years, we have expanded our reach currently working in 15 states and reaching over 2 million children and youth. Our holistic programs have contributed significantly in improving awareness of and in cases of birth registration and malnutrition, establishment of vibrant early childhood development centres, model government schools in line with the RTE (Right to Education Act), well-equipped libraries in government schools, mobile libraries to provide access to quality of reading materials, provided scholarships to girls for higher education and vocational training and support to youth and young women to empower them to lead sustainable and dignified lives. Our Country Strategy 2020, focuses on setting up of sustainable community structures as child protection mechanisms to free children from early marriage, child labor and trafficking.

It gives me immense pleasure to share with you the successes of our children and how they have become champions in their communities and hope for other children. Trust you will find this report informative and interesting.

Your feedback will be most appreciated. Thank you for your time and support!

Yours sincerely,

Neelam Makhijani
National Director

GENESIS AND EVOLUTION OF CHILDFUND INDIA

ChildFund India is a part of ChildFund International, one of the oldest and most experienced child development organizations, founded in 1938, working directly with 18.5 million children and their communities across 30 countries.

ChildFund India has been representing the voice of deprived, excluded and vulnerable children in India since 1951, regardless of their race, creed and gender. It has been working in semi-rural, rural and the most remote locations of the country with its unique child centered program approach for over six decades.



OUR VISION

An India where children lead a dignified life and achieve their full potential.

OUR MISSION

- To help deprived, excluded and vulnerable children living in poverty, have the capacity to become young adults, parents and leaders who bring lasting and positive change to their communities.
- We promote societies whose individuals and institutes participate in valuing, protecting and advancing the worth and right of children.

OUR APPROACH

ChildFund India is the only organization, which takes a life stage-wise long-term approach to empower deprived, excluded and vulnerable (DEV) children and youth in need. It begins supporting children from birth with pre & post natal care and stays with them till the age of 24 years, ensuring they become actively contributing adults.

All aspects of a child's life are interwoven. Hence, ChildFund India's approach mirrors this interconnectedness, by providing holistic interventions integrating health, nutrition, education, livelihoods, and child protection.

Gender equality and humanitarian relief work are also key focus areas that cross-cut across all Life Stages.

OUR CORE PRINCIPLES

- Child Rights
- Root Causes
- Evidence Based
- Change Agents
- Partnerships
- Sustainable Ownership

OUR CORE VALUES

- Promoting positive outcomes for children
- Demonstrating integrity, openness and honesty, including stewardship of all resources
- Upholding the respect and value of the individual
- Championing diversity of thought and experience
- Fostering innovation and challenge; and
- Proactively connecting and collaborating

LIFE STAGE APPROACH OF CHILDFUND INDIA

Life Stage	Age Range	The core outcomes we seek
1	Birth to five years	Healthy and secure infants
2	Six to fourteen years	Educated and confident children
3	Fifteen to twenty four years	Skilled and involved youth

OUR PRESENCE AND REACH

In the past two years we have expanded to reach the unreached; we are now present in 15 States and one Union territory of India. The reach is strengthened by our local partners (NGOs) and directly through our area offices.



ChildFund India is steadfast to its values and principles on working with deprived, excluded and vulnerable (DEV) children in all these states. In the last year, we have increased our reach through our life stage-wise programs, from 1.13 million in 2014-15 to over 1.5 million people in 2015-16.

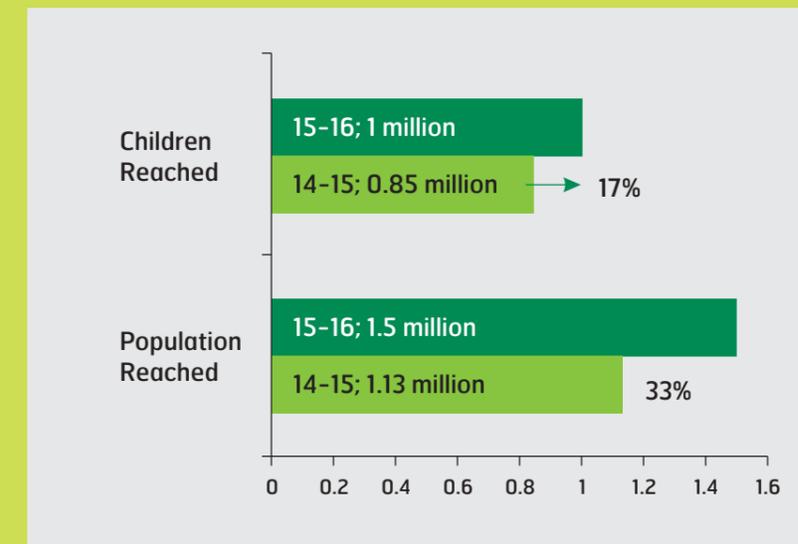


Fig 1: Increase in Reach 2014-2016

CHILD FUND INDIA: NETWORKING, PARTNERSHIPS AND PROGRAM STRENGTHENING

ChildFund India's unparalleled longstanding community presence and long-term partnerships with grassroots NGOs ensures that our programming fosters an enabling environment where children can grow to their fullest potential. ChildFund India works in tandem with communities, the government, academic institutions and corporates to support children and their families as well as strengthen child protection systems in order to prevent violence against children and protect them from abuse, neglect and harm. ChildFund India has also strengthened its ties with the media, civil society networks, and UN bodies in order to maximize its impact on the lives of children.

To reach the unreached and hard to reach areas, we have increased our local presence from 47 NGO partners in 2014-15 to 64 NGO partners in 2015-16. All our partners share our vision and have strong presence in the communities. Many of these partnerships are more than a decade old and some are even older. ChildFund India invests significantly to strengthen these partnerships.

During this year, for the first time in its history ChildFund India brought together in one forum nearly all the Chief Functionaries of its local partner organizations spread across the country. Meet was held on September 08, 2015 at the ChildFund India National Office in Bangalore, India.

The aim of this meeting was to come together, discuss expectations, roles and responsibilities, share learnings as well as challenges going forward and resolve issues being faced by ChildFund India as well as the Partners, in order to improve future outcomes.



One of the NGO Partners sharing



This platform provided with the much needed one to one interaction between ChildFund India and all its partners.

The 'highlight of the meet was the Hall of Fame – Gallery walk', which gave all the NGO partners an opportunity to showcase their work and program impact in front of everyone.

SOCIAL PRIORITY COLLOQUIUM – An Innovative Movement

Taking partnership to another level, on 24th and 25th Feb. 2016 at PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Event Partner) in Delhi and on 1st and 2nd March at S. P. Jain Institute of Management and Research (Knowledge Partner for the event) in Mumbai, ChildFund India in association with ChildFund Deutschland and SOCEO organized a rather unique Colloquium – 'Social Priority Colloquium'.

Breaking the traditional models of development initiatives, these 3 organizations from the charity sector joined forces to address the existing gap in the field of CSR between Corporates and NGOs by offering a common platform for NGOs/Social



Neelam Makhijani, National Director, ChildFund India, addressing the participants.

entrepreneurs, Industry representatives, Funding agencies and Academicians, to come together and create sustainable solutions for development challenges and lay the foundation for future potential partnerships which are needed against the backdrop of the new CSR bill.

Notable Corporates such as Everest Industries Ltd, Tech Mahindra Foundation, HCL Foundation, Jubilant Bhartia Foundation, Usha International Ltd, ACC Limited – Cement, Yes Bank Limited, Godrej Properties Ltd, Eureka Forbes Limited, L&T Finance Holdings Ltd., Tata Consultancy Services, Bajaj Electricals Ltd., Taj Hotels Resorts and Palaces, Essar Foundation, Ambuja Cement Foundation, Cadila Pharmaceuticals, etc. participated as panelists and worked with their NGO counter parts in designing projects that reflected their common vision.

This platform helped NGOs to understand on what issues to further work, how to improvise their project concepts as well as how to communicate the actual idea and its impact in clear, understandable and effective manner. On the other side, during the presentations of the NGO projects the PSU / Corporate CSR representatives demonstrated active engagement. The project performances were followed by comments and



Corporate and NGO participants at the colloquium.

discussions helping the corporates to understand the NGO perspective.

The event was considered a success by the organizers, as this effort gave form to collaborative social initiatives, in various fields, being implemented by these participants. The Social Priority Colloquium is about to outgrow its young stage, aiming at bringing 'CSR collaborations' to the next level.



FEATURED STORY – FREE FROM VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION IN INDIA

The issues related to exploitation of children and violence against them are prevalent worldwide yet they did not find mention in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that ended in 2015. As an effort to incorporate prevention of violence against children in the new Sustainable Development Goals, ChildFund Alliance countries initiated a global campaign, called ‘free from violence and exploitation – A world free from violence and exploitation against children’.

In support of the campaign petition, all ChildFund Alliance countries participated in ‘Show of Hands’ initiative by collecting handprints from children to demonstrate the same to UN Member States and UN entities worldwide, in which India also participated actively.

With the approval of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September 2015, ChildFund realized a

significant objective of having the target (Goal 16.2) of reduction of Exploitation and Violence against Children included in the post-MDG agenda.

As the next step, ChildFund Alliance (CFA) members in India – ChildFund India, EDUCO and Christian Children’s Fund of Canada (CCFC) gathered in Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh on March 30th & 31st 2016 with an intention to build a collective effort and commitment to work together to prevent violence and torture against children. The meeting was also attended by Meg Gardinier, Secretary General of the ChildFund Alliance.

The three members agreed to collaborate and design a joint initiative in support of SDG 16.2, to end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children, as adopted by the United Nations in September 2015. This initiative will be supported and guided by the Secretariat and the India

initiatives will, in turn, inform the Child-Friendly Accountability strategic plan, an approach being designed by ChildFund Alliance to achieve the SDG 16.2.

There is a call to action for increased and meaningful child participation in all aspects of prevention, response and monitoring of violence against them, as seen in the UN VAC Study (2006) recommendations and the mandate of the Special Representative on Violence against children. Hence, Child-Friendly Accountability approach will be adopted by the three members wherein Child-friendly (led) participation and accountability will focus on monitoring, reporting and advocacy / mobilizing on violence against children. CFA members will design programs in collaboration with children’s groups and ensure resources are directed by and responsive to children.



All the participants at the meeting in Chittoor, AP, India.



PROGRAM INITIATIVES & THEIR IMPACTS

HEALTHY AND SECURE INFANTS

ChildFund India's Life Stage 1 program aims to enhance the survival, optimal growth and age appropriate developmental milestones of children from birth to 5 years through active involvement of care givers, family and community. The Life Stage 1 program addresses maternal and child health issues, nutrition, early childhood care, quality pre-school education and stimulation to ensure the holistic development of the child.

Our assistance begins with encouraging expectant mothers to go for **Ante Natal Care (ANC) checkups**. Women in high risk pregnancies i.e. in late primigravidae gestational diabetes, pre-eclampsia, twins, previous history of abortion and caesarian section, edema feet, high BP, extended morning sickness, anemia etc., are identified and are brought in contact with front level health workers such as AWW and ASHA in the communities where we work and ensure they receive at least three check-ups during pregnancy.

Birth registration of a child is mandated by

Government of India Registration of Birth and Deaths Act 1969. Birth registration viewed as a permanent and certified record of child's existence and allows a child to enjoy his rights. Our Daltonganj area office, located in Jharkhand, an eastern state of India, organized a birth registration drive. As per the Annual Health Survey 2012 (AHS), the districts where our area office works the birth registration was 40 percent; however, it is estimated the actual possession of the certificate is much lower at 10 percent.

ChildFund launched an awareness drive to sensitize parents and caretakers, about value of birth registration. The six month long campaign, through meetings with stake holders i.e. the community, front line health workers block and upwards state government officials; ensured 841 birth registrations were done and out of them 826 received the birth registration certificates. The success rate of 98 percent was well recognized and received accolades from the state officials.

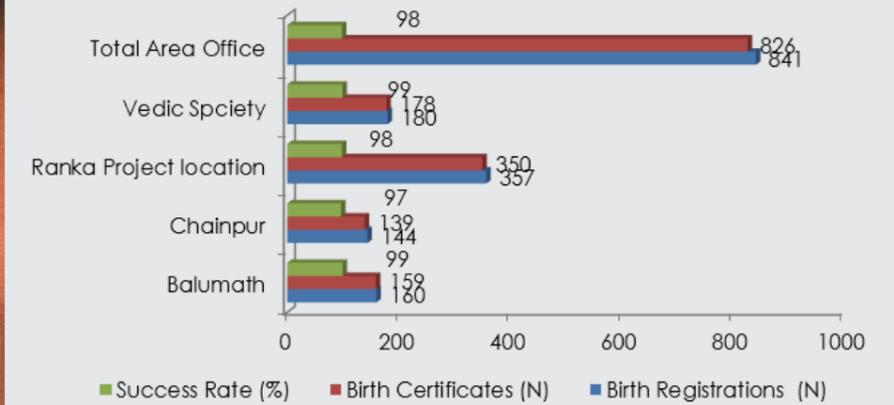
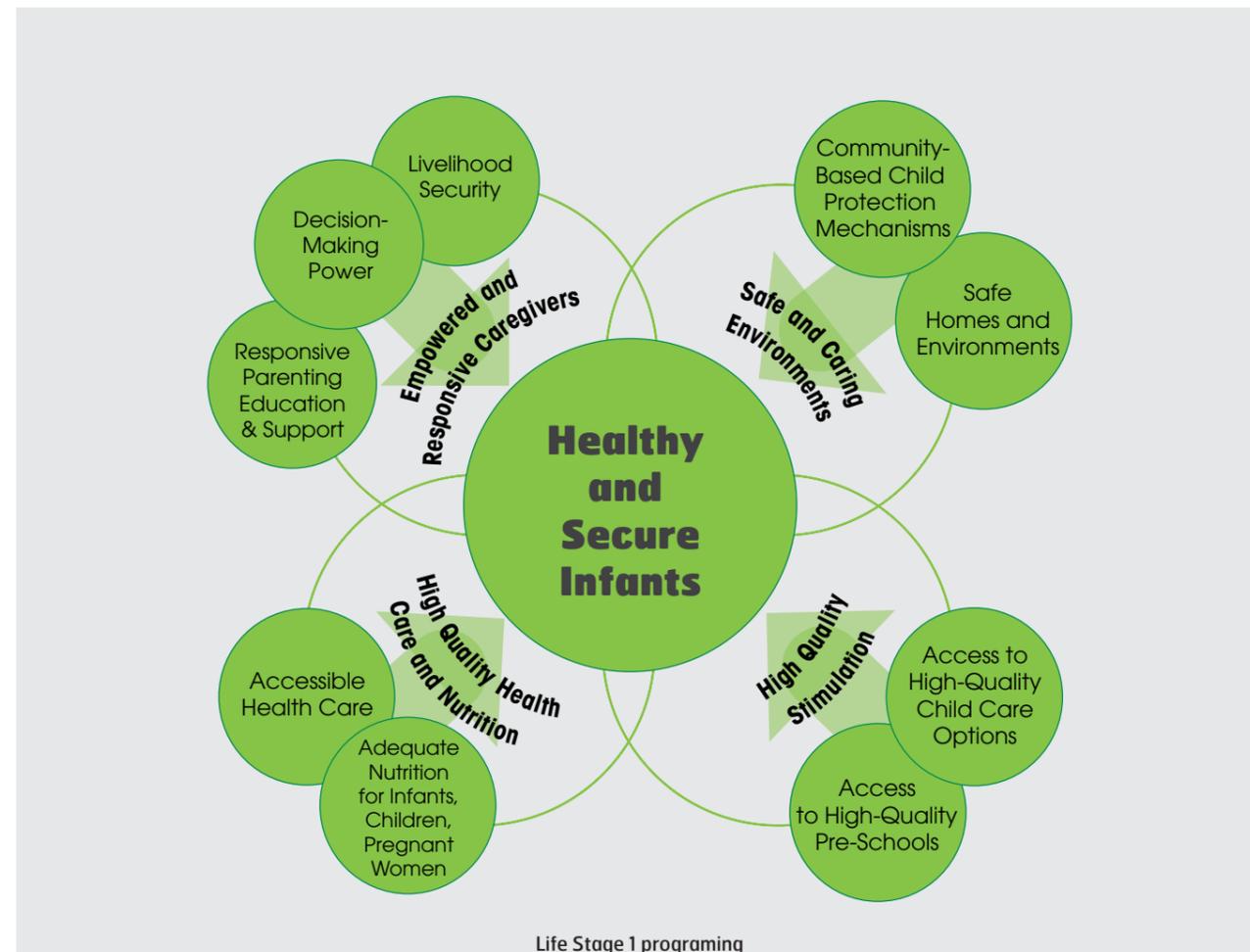


Fig 2: Success Rate of the Birth Registration Campaign



WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY ON OUR BIRTH REGISTRATION INITIATIVE

“What we have been struggling with for the last 6 years but could not accomplish, has been initiated and very well achieved by ChildFund India. We are ready to extend all possible support.”
-Sudhir Kumar, BPM, Health Department.

“We have achieved a milestone in birth registration with support from ChildFund India. ChildFund's effort in bringing a change in birth registration rate is highly commendable, and positive results are now visible on the ground.”
- Medical Officer In-charge, Head of the Block Health Unit of Ranka Block - Government of Jharkhand.

MALNUTRITION:

To make certain that children are not malnourished in our communities, in the last financial year 2015-16, we conducted several Positive Deviant Hearths.

One of our partners identified 179 malnourished children in his area and organized Positive Deviant Hearth sessions. The growth monitoring chart (GMC) showed, out of 179; 100 shifted to upper nutritional status and 79 shifted to normal statuses.

WHAT IS POSITIVE DEVIANT HEARTH?

Positive Deviance is an approach based on the premise that some solutions to community problems already exist within the community and just need to be discovered.

The PD Hearth process taps into local wisdom for successfully treating and preventing malnutrition and spreads that wisdom throughout the community.



Five mothers from each of the village, in our East and North-East program areas, having severe to moderately malnourished children were trained to prepare and distribute nutrified powder (a nutrition supplement). Total 462 children were covered under this during the whole year, out of which, 43 children moved from severe to moderate malnutrition condition and 65 children moved from moderate to normal condition. Also, 16 children moved from severe to normal condition.

SUCCESS STORY:

CHANDNI'S TRANSFORMATION INTO A WELL-NOURISHED BABY

On her regular growth monitoring visit to the children in her area, our community worker found that three months old Chandni weighed less than required for her age and was severely malnourished. Chandni was immediately referred to the nearest nutrition rehabilitation centre (NRC). Her mother's and care givers' behavior was assessed. The assessment revealed Chandni's mother was uninformed about immunization, breast feeding practices, providing nutritive food and its preparation.

She was enrolled for a 12 day long Positive Deviance plus session. Through awareness generation activities, she was made aware about importance of immunization, breast feeding practices, nutritive food items and its preparation. The follow-up visits by the community worker ensured that mother/caregivers adopted right nutritive practices and soon with consistent efforts Chandni gained weight as per her age and transformed in to a chubby and happy baby.



EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION CENTRE (ECCE)

The most important aim behind developing Vibrant Early Child Development Centres is to increase the attendance and that children who attend early childhood programs are able to succeed in primary level grades. Therefore, the government supported Pre-school centres were transformed into vibrant Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) centres, to ensure school readiness of children in the communities we serve. About 20 Anganwadi/Balwadi (Pre-school) centres across our program areas now have vibrant model ECCE centres. Four such centres have been handed over to ICDS department by one of our partners.

SOME MORE ACHIEVEMENTS -

- Organized 63 PD hearth sessions in 30 project villages. Through these sessions 360 pregnant and lactating women and 473 under 5 children were reached. Under the same, more than 600 families were provided with kitchen garden support.
- 1701 children recovered from severe malnutrition to normal level and 3540 from moderately malnourished to normal level.
- The consistent and increased interpersonal counselling to the families by the Anganwadi and Balwadi (preschool centre) workers resulted with 95 percent of children attending their pre-school centre regularly.
- 1761 pre-school children and families were provided with soaps and towels for their families, so that they practice hygiene.
- 165 number of mothers' committees have been formed to monitor pre-school activities.
- Trained 92 community mobilizers and 30 Preschool centre teachers on infant and young child nutrition care and development.

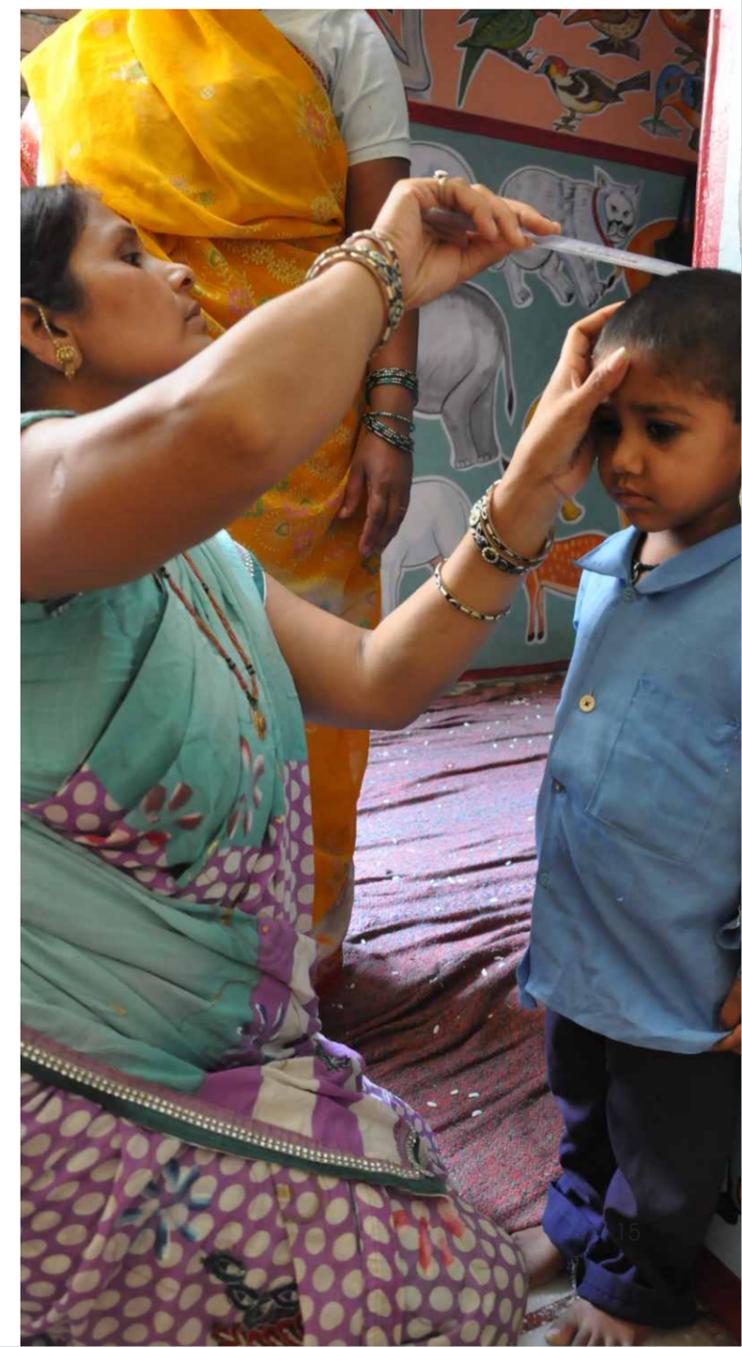
SNEH PROJECT

Under-nutrition is the leading cause of death among young children throughout the world even today. Nearly 55% of the under-five deaths among children in India is attributed to under-nutrition. The critical period of 1000 days, which includes prenatal period and first two years of a child's life, have positive impact on the healthy growth and development of a child.

ChildFund India with funding support from Copal Amba is implementing SNEH (Sustainable Nutrition, Education and Health) project to address the issue of child malnutrition at selected villages in Jhabua district, Madhya Pradesh through critical support to mother and child in first 1000 days of their life. According to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) III, the state of

Madhya Pradesh (MP) has one of the highest numbers of underweight children in the country wherein 70% of children were found anaemic.

Under this project, ChildFund India is providing comprehensive maternal and child healthcare support to mothers and children under two years of age during this critical 1,000 day period, which includes monitoring throughout the pregnancy period, ensuring that pregnant mothers attend all three recommended antenatal checkups, institutional delivery planning support, early identification of potential issues and subsequent referrals to appropriate treatment, community-based health sessions to capacitate caregivers on: correct feeding practices, personal health & hygiene practices, and ensuring timely vaccinations and doctors' appointments for newborns and young children, as well as identification and management of childhood illnesses, such as diarrhea and acute respiratory infections.



EDUCATED AND CONFIDENT CHILDREN

ChildFund India has been working towards improving the quality of education being provided to the children belonging to marginalized communities in rural and tribal areas of India. Under life stage two, the major focus is to boost enrollments in school, encourage regular attendance and enhance children's learning levels. Through capacitating school management committees, families and communities, ChildFund India's program has been successful in improving the enrollment, regularity and retention of children in schools.

BOOKS, MY FRIENDS CAMPAIGN

Given our understanding of the situation and the ground realities, under Reading Improvement program, Books, my Friends campaign was launched to promote not only the culture of reading but also help children and youth attending government schools get access to quality education. The campaign was rolled out in three phases.

After the successful implementation of ChildFund India's nationwide campaign - Books, my Friends' Phase 1 & 2, which involved distribution of age appropriate story books and solar lanterns to nearly 40,000 children

across its implementation areas, ChildFund India in association with the CSR division of Bajaj Electricals Ltd launched the campaign's 3rd Phase initiative titled "Mutthi Mai Asma – Sky is the Limit!", on 24th Nov 2015.

The campaign's 3rd phase is the final phase which is about creating a reading-friendly environment by offering supportive and sustainable infrastructure, not just to the children to nurture their reading habit and enhancing their literacy skills but also to the community to perform livelihood activities.

Under this campaign, ChildFund India has set-up solarized well equipped libraries in government schools across its implementation areas. It also established solar powered model government schools complete with water pump, street lights, toilets, well-equipped libraries, etc. in two of its implementation areas - Udaipur in Rajasthan and Jhabua in MP, with support from the CSR division of Bajaj Electricals Ltd.

Further, to make reading material more accessible to children, ChildFund has also introduced solar powered Mobile Libraries, beginning with one in Bangalore, which



Children reading books in the libraries established by ChildFund

is sponsored by Axis Bank and solarized by Bajaj Electricals. ChildFund aspires to ultimately transform all the government schools in its implementation areas in to well-equipped Model schools and introduce more Mobile libraries to empower our children.

ChildFund India in association with Pustak Mahal, published 5 Story books. As it understands the reading levels of children, to cater their specific needs, ChildFund India decided to venture into publishing of appealing story books that contains its values and ethos. On the success of these books, it wishes to publish of such books, in other vernacular languages too.



Launch of Books, my Friends Phase 3 - "Mutthi Mai Asma - Sky is the Limit!" and Releasing of story books developed by ChildFund India

SUCCESS STORY: WISDOM ON WHEELS

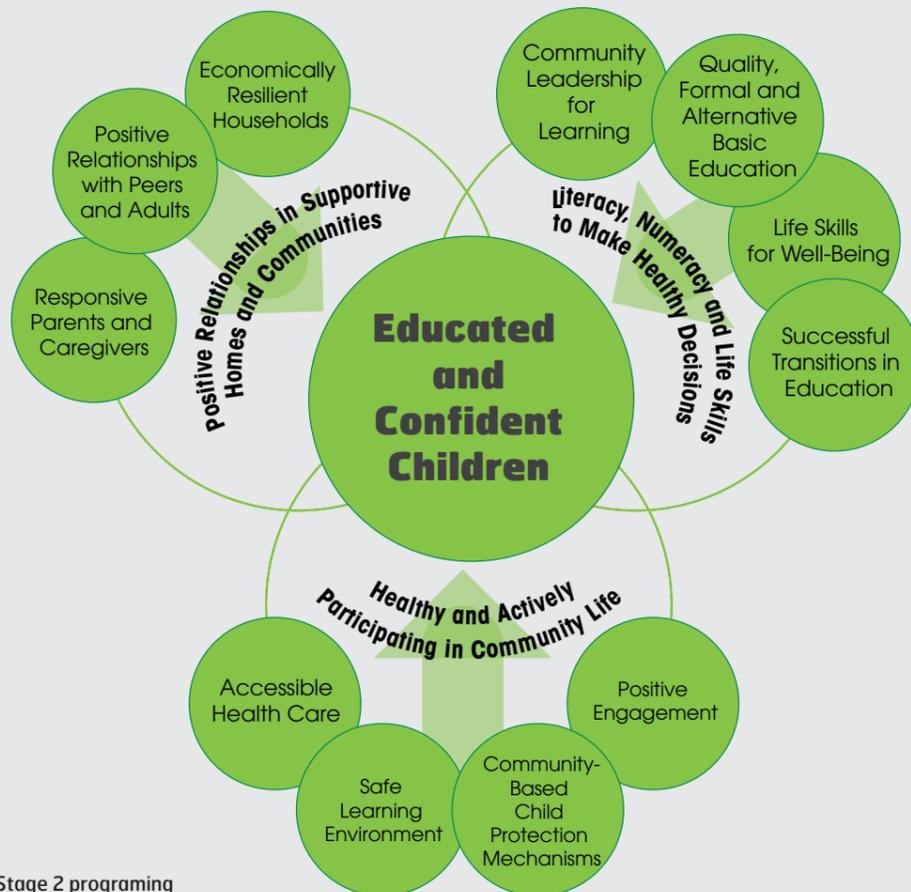
The 3rd phase of Books, my Friends introduces a mobile library, helping our literacy programs reach even more children. The first library — powered by solar energy — went to communities in Karnataka earlier this year.

Children are visibly delighted when the mobile library enters their school campuses. It carries books of different native dialects (as well as English) and also has a TV screen, so children can watch animated movies and educational videos. Even adults in the communities join in, and the events lead to discussions about children's rights, education and safety. A librarian conducts reading sessions with the children's teachers.

"I came to know the geography, the reasons behind changes in the atmosphere through a video shown in the mobile library," says Yamanur, a ninth-grader. "The books I have read have taught me many important lessons of life. Our parents are very happy and proud to see us grow like this."

Most of the schools in these areas don't have libraries, so the mobile library may be the first opportunity children have had to read books purely for fun, or their first exposure to books in their home language.

In Karnataka, most people speak Kannada, so the library has books in that language. This helps children comprehend the stories and feel comfortable reading. According to a primary school headmaster, "We encourage the children to share the moral of the story with everyone. This mobile library is like wisdom on wheels."



One video about educating children who live in forest tribes has struck a chord with students, says a village school teacher. "It was an inspiration to all the children who don't take their studies seriously for various reasons," she says. "They also became aware of their rights. Children said that the books and videos have taught them some important moral values and helped them to increase their knowledge."

They've learned, too, that a love of reading can last into adulthood. "We have realized that friends come and go in life, but books remain with us till the end," says Vijayalaxmi, an eighth-grader. "Books are our real friends that guide us to lead a good life — and can change our life."

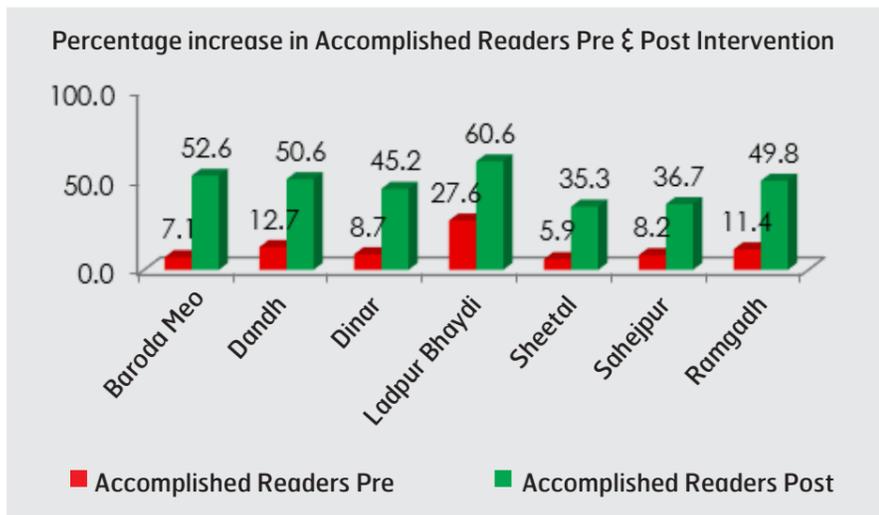


Mobile Library serving the community and government school children

READING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The causal-effect of reading is realized globally, ChildFund India, to ensure greater ability to read and thereby higher participation of children in schools, ran an eight months Reading Improvement Program in Alwar district of Rajasthan.

The endeavor received support from Fullerton India Credit Company Limited and Macmillan Education India Pvt. Ltd. The program reached out to nearly 1500 children residing in seven villages of the district, namely, Baroda Meo, Dandh, Dinar, Ladpur-Bhaydi, Sheetal, Sahejpur and Ramgadh. The beneficiary children aged 6-15 years, attending grades 1 to 10 in local government schools. Under the program, child learning centres (CLC) were established. In these centres, community volunteers trained by Macmillan Education India,



helped children to reach the age-appropriate reading levels. The analysis of the pre and post tests shows the difference ChildFund India's intervention has brought in the reading capacities of children.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST CHILD MARRIAGE

ChildFund India organized awareness campaigns in the operational areas having very high incidence of forced child marriages. To put a stop to this age old evil practice and reach a large number of people with its message, a vehicle was specially designed for the campaign which moved across ChildFund India's program villages. The awareness campaign included messages related to child marriage such as legal provisions against child marriage, consequences of child marriage and benefits of getting girls married at the right age. It also included messages on prevention of child labor, child's right to play, inclusive education as a fundamental right up to the age of 14 and promoting girl's education, which were displayed on the campaign vehicle in the regional languages. A song especially written for this campaign was also played through this vehicle.

The children participated enthusiastically in all the other activities that took place during the campaign - Poster making competition, Slogan making competition, interesting debate on Child Marriage and insightful Nukkad Nataks (skits) on the issue of Child Marriage. The skits conveyed the message of what sufferings a child has to go through if married at an early age.

All the participants pledged to stop Child Marriage and rallied across the areas chanting slogans against Child Marriage.

SUCCESS STORY:

SONAM'S FIGHT AGAINST CHILD MARRIAGE

Despite being illegal, child marriage remains rampant in many parts of India, which has the most child brides worldwide. An estimated 47 percent of girls are married before age 18, putting their physical, emotional and mental health at risk.

For a long time, ChildFund India has worked with adults and youth in the state of Madhya Pradesh, where the practice is particularly prevalent, to end this harmful tradition. For many in this fight, the stakes are personal.

When 17-year-old Sonam's parents insisted that she get married, she protested, and together with her youth club members who had taken an oath to become role models for others by not becoming the victims of early marriage, she spoke with her parents. She shared that she did not want to get married before reaching the legal age and also wanted to study further to achieve her dreams.

At the launch of a 100-day child marriage awareness campaign in 75 villages earlier this year, Sonam was recognized for addressing the issue of early marriage and for standing up against her own marriage. Anmol Jeevan, the campaign, drew great support from the community, including village leaders and parents. Thousands of people attended the event where Sonam and other youth members received awards.





Sonam, 17, a child marriage activist from Madhya Pradesh, India, accepts an award.



Sonam (left) at a literacy campaign event.

“ChildFund has changed my life — it came as a ray of hope in my life and has given me courage to dream about my future,” she said while accepting the award.

Sonam has been with ChildFund India since the beginning of the project, for more than six years. She has actively participated in several of ChildFund’s programs, awareness camps and meetings on early marriage. She also encourages mothers to get their children immunized and provide nutritious food. She also has promoted literacy in her village by doing door-to-door counseling and getting children of her village enrolled in school. With Sonam’s and her youth club members’ persistent efforts, more than 62 community members have learned to read — out of the 142 illiterate village members they had identified.

After a lot of persuasion, Sonam’s parents were convinced that she should remain unmarried. With their support, she is now preparing for exams, with plans to become an engineer and help her village. “If convinced properly,” says Sonam, “parents will support their daughters’ wishes to study instead of getting them married at an early age.”

And when they do, those girls will be able to make enormous contributions within their own communities — as Sonam has.

ANTI- CHILD TRAFFICKING PROJECT

‘Anti-Child Trafficking’ is a ChildFund India initiative, focused on qualitative improvement of children, endangered by human trafficking. The project is supported by BMZ: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany.

The goal of the anti-trafficking project is to protect children’s rights and prevent child trafficking in Rajasthan. More than 20,000 community members, 8500 children, 375 youths in the 50 villages where this project is being implemented as well as urban slums in the Udaipur District have been made aware on the dangers of trafficking. They were sensitized through awareness campaign, street plays, mobilization drive by youth and community members (especially mothers) on trafficking issues. In-house training on Child Protection and child rights has helped in mainstreaming children who need care and protection as well as prevention. Through the project evaluation, it is found that 61% of children are aware of the ill-effects of child labour. 73% of the children are oriented on various child protection laws and acts. Similarly, 88% of caregivers are aware of child protection laws and 76% of caregivers reported awareness on the child protection projects and programs. The incidence of Child Labour and Child Trafficking has decreased by 27% compared to the baseline data, which shows a significant difference has been made.

Through continuous effort - village, block and district level meetings, trainings, consultations with the community and other stakeholders, there is a positive improvement in the collective action. 314 lawyers and 217 police officers have participated actively in addressing the trafficking issues and supporting the migrated children to bring back to their own places. A strong network of Community Preventive Mechanism is in place: such as 10 Community Vigilance Squads (each group having 12-15 members and in total 135 members) that has rescued and blocked some of the trafficking attempts in the villages with the support of the local police. Bal Suraksha Network (a network comprising of the all the social organizations in the district) and Legal Friends for Children (comprising of the lawyer community) are the major outcomes of the project. These groups complement each other in strengthening the systems and thereby arresting child trafficking attempts, etc. The exposure of the groups to various line departments related to Child Protection (Integrated Child Protection Scheme, ChildLine, Anti-Human Trafficking Units etc.) has prepared them understand the process involved, right from the rescue as well as restoration and mainstreaming the child.

In total 375 youths have been trained and equipped with skills of various trades. These youths work in close coordination with Squad Members, existing youth groups of the villages to combat trafficking from the region. The Skill training has provided them an

opportunity to start rural based entrepreneurship in the respective village rather than leaving villages for the daily waged jobs. Apart from that these passed out candidates act as ambassadors of knowledge and good will in their respective villages.

MUKTI PROJECT

Mukti project fosters educational and other rights of the migrant children of the families working in brickfields in West Bengal, India. The project aims to target 220 children in the age group of 3-14 years age and 400 families of migrant laborers working in four target brickfields in Kolkata of West Bengal. This project is supported by ChildFund Deutschland.

DISHA CHILDREN’S PROGRAM

DISHA is a major initiative of ChildFund India, being implemented in 8 slums of Firozabad district since 1994, to promote sustainable community-based strategies for the prevention of child labor. Two of these slums are inhabited by the socially marginalized scavenger community.

The program is committed to release children from the clutches of labor by providing appropriate health, educational and livelihood support to them and their families. In a nutshell, it addresses two issues - child labor, and factors contributing to it as well as its consequences.

The project also strives to develop leadership quality in children and engage them in taking leadership role in the community by providing them various life skills and vocational skill based trainings. Child clubs, Youth clubs and their federations have also been formed to strengthen the initiative and develop sense of ownership in children.

Under the project to empower the youth and to make them self-reliant, DISHA has set up a single window solution Centre - DAKSH center, which is a fully equipped resource center with computers, library, tailoring, beauty care and IT enabled services training facility.



Providing financial support to the participants to start their own business.

During the year, an intense entrepreneurship and business training program was organized at the centre by Sujoy Chatterjee, MD SOCEO Germany and his team in May 2016.

In this 21 days training program, 34 members participated, and the main objectives of the training were,

- Creating awareness of enterprise and self-employment
- Developing positive attitudes towards innovation, enterprise and self-employment
- Develop entrepreneurial attitude through training
- Development of critical thinking, decision making and accountability in the field of entrepreneurship.

This training program included group discussion between the participants on entrepreneurship, audio-visual session, market survey, preparation of business strategy and presentation of business plan. The training resulted in 5 new business plans developed by the participants-

- Jewelry shop
- Milk product
- Homemade hand fan
- Videography
- Herbal product shop expansion.

To establish the above mentioned businesses, the project supported each participant with Rs. 30,000/-. Three of the participants have already started their businesses, making the training a success.



**SUCCESS STORY:
FROM CHILD LABORER
TO CHILD LEADER**

In most parts of India, children belonging to below poverty line families are engaged in child labor to support their families financially, also, because neither they nor their parents have any knowledge about their rights, importance of education and consequences of child labor. The children get involved in labor from a very young age, which can be as early as 7 years, a tender age when they should be studying, playing and enjoying their childhood.



Shakuntala, an 8th Grade student living in Firozabad city of Uttar Pradesh - popularly known as City of Bangles, didn't give-in to the harsh circumstances she was living in, instead she decided to stand-up and change the direction of events in her area, from the very moment she got associated with ChildFund India.

Shakuntala was just 7 years old when she had to join her parents in bangle making work to help them earn additional income for the family. But things started to change when Shakuntala got enrolled under ChildFund India's Reading improvement classes, where she was encouraged to study and introduced with various child protection issues. She started attending trainings and workshops conducted by ChildFund. Soon Shakuntala joined her area Child club and her consistent hard work



Shakuntala with other children presenting a gift to the CEO of ChildFund Deutschland & National Director of ChildFund India

led her to become the president of the club. She stopped working as a child labour and took up the challenge of working against the issue.

Shakuntala formed a group which visits at least 10 households in their area daily to sensitize them on the issues of child protection, immunization and hygiene. Last year, the group was able to help 12 children in their areas to get enrolled in school. This year, they have a list of another 14 children to be enrolled in school. She led the "Prohibition of child labor rally", which was organized in all the 8 slums of Firozabad, where ChildFund works, in which all the Child Club members from all the 8 slums participated.

Today, Shakuntala has emerged as an idol for all the children in her community. Under Shakuntala's leadership, the child club has also taken up several community development issues with the municipality of Firozabad, which were resolved immediately by the same. Because of their efforts today their area is one of the cleanest slums in Firozabad. "I want our club to work harder and make child labour history, while addressing other community based issues too. We will keep on organizing rallies to spread message against child labor and ensure that children do not get engaged in child labor and concentrate on their studies instead", says Shakuntala.



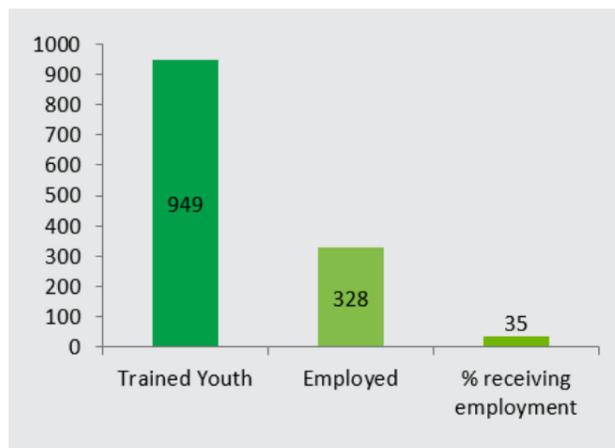
SKILLED AND INVOLVED YOUTH

Programs for youth aged 15 to 24 years focuses on life and livelihood skills, sexual and reproductive health, civic engagement and leadership. We believe that this stage is a critical time in a child's life when a child steps into adulthood. They are under tremendous pressure to manage physiological, mental, emotional and psychological changes that are taking place at the same time. Addressing livelihood and skill enhancement is one of the best ways to empower youth, which facilitates them in becoming responsible adults and citizens.



Life Stage 3 programing





The Life Stage 3 programs in the year 2015-16 set for a mission i.e. establishing ChildFund India as premier livelihood enhancement institution in urban and rural areas in its geographies. A total of 949 youth received skilled enhancement training for various trades. Out of 949 trained; 328 youth have been employed.

To make youth chose a healthy reproductive life, orientation on menstrual hygiene, adolescent sexual and reproductive health; awareness program on HIV/AIDS and sensitization of young couple were conducted in program areas.

YOUTH LIVELIHOOD AND EMPOWERMENT PROJECT - DAKSH CENTRES

Similar to the DAKSH (meaning skilled) centre in Firozabad, under DISHA project, ChildFund India in collaboration with Al Noor Charitable Society established another one of its Skill Development Centre - 'DAKSH, at Samaypur near Sanjay Gandhi Transport Nagar.

DAKSH Centre has been established under ChildFund India's Youth United for Voluntary Action (YUVA) project to provide vocational and livelihood training to the underprivileged youth in and around the slum of Bhagwanpura near Samaypur Badli area in North West Delhi to make them self-reliant and help them lead their life with dignity. The centre will be providing career guidance and skill development training to youths aged between 15 to 24 yrs. The skill development trainings will include courses such as Computer Skills, Garment Making, Retail Business, Automobile Repairing, Welding, Nursing, etc., giving them ample opportunities to have a sustainable livelihood.

Similar DAKSH Training Centres have been established in Daltonganj area of Jharkhand State and in Jhabua area of Madhya Pradesh State. A total of 1050 youths will be directly benefited from this project in the age group of 18-24 years from marginalized and economically backward families within the project period of three years. In both the areas, team members

conducted skill based market assessment and organized meetings with the youth clubs and shared the information for enrolling the youth in the training centres - for computer, retail sales and hospitality.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

ChildFund India is a part of "Yuva Samvad Abhiyan" a national network created to have dialogue with half a million youth on the issues of national and international importance that impact their lives.

To promote Civic Engagement and Leadership amongst youth, on 2nd October 2015, Youth Collectives prepared a "Charter of Demand" capturing needs and aspirations of Youth and Children and presented in front of the Local Governance Unit i.e. Gram Panchayat. Around 23 youth clubs under the guidance of the youth federation prepared their charter of demand and submitted it to the Firozabad Municipal Corporation. 500 youth got involved in this process.

UDAAN PROJECT

Udaan Project is sponsored by ChildFund Deutschland and is functional since April 2013. The project is implemented in four locations i.e., Jhadol in Rajasthan; Jhabua in Madhya Pradesh; Daltonganj in Jharkhand and Kalahandi in Orissa.

The goal of the project is to support higher education of youth, especially girls, from underprivileged families in India, help them have facilities and opportunities to select and pursue career of their choice. The major project interventions during the reported year 2015-16 were Career Guidance, Life Skills Education, Academic Support, Scholarship Support and Networking for the government secondary and high school students.

Through the above-said focused interventions, the project has generated awareness about importance of education for girls and their families; encouraged communities, villages, families to educate their daughters and collaborated with government, technical and professional institutes to provide platforms for targeted youth to attain higher qualification.

These interventions have supported a total of 4313 students out of which 2388 are girls and 1925 are boys. Under the same till date, 119 girls have been supported with scholarships for pursuing higher education.

SUCCESS STORY:

SUCCESS IS A JOURNEY, NOT A DESTINATION

An exceptionally bright and active 18-year old young girl, Pramila comes from a tribal village in Udaipur District of Rajasthan. Her father works as a labor, does painting work of building/houses, which barely supports the family of six. Yet Pramila never stopped aspiring for a better life.



Currently, she is pursuing BSc in Nursing with the support from ChildFund India's UDAAN - Girls scholarship program. For Pramila life has changed a lot in a very short span of time.

Pramila has studied in four different schools till she reached 12th grade, due to her father's work requirements. Walking daily 3km to the school and back never bothered Pramila as she loved attending school and always felt the need to set a good example in front of her younger siblings. After school, all the siblings would help their mother with the household chores. Pramila also helped her mother in stitching clothes.

Being the eldest of her siblings, Pramila knew that the expenses of her higher education were a huge burden on her parents. Yet despite their financial constraints, Pramila's parents always supported her.

Pramila and her family were struggling with her education related expenses and were in need of some help. Pramila's father, while working at a nearby college, accidentally overheard staff members talking about ChildFund India and the UDAAN - Girls Scholarship Program. Immediately he got her enrolled under this program. With genuine interest in health, Pramila decided to pursue a course in Nursing.

"I felt so happy that I could continue studying. It has taken a huge burden off my parents' shoulders. I now have complete freedom to study. Moving from the village to the city in order to do this course has changed my life for better. I really love this nursing course!" smiles Pramila.

Coming from a Hindi-medium background, Pramila has a new difficulty of undertaking her course entirely in English. Taking this challenge head-on, Pramila is all set to become a Nurse. Pramila's story has inspired children from her village to study. With her positive attitude in attaining quality education, Pramila is now a shining role model for her younger siblings as well as other teenagers in her village.

She says, "I want to go abroad in the future! I'll have so many opportunities when I'll become a nurse. But I'll



Pramila (front row, left side) currently taking classes for a BSc Degree in Nursing

never forget ChildFund India. Anywhere I'll go in life, will be thankful to ChildFund for their help."

LINK WORKER'S SCHEME:

ChildFund India is implementing the Link Workers Program (LWS) in 19 priority districts in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. LWS focuses on rural areas with an aim to reach out to High Risk Groups and vulnerable men and women with information, knowledge, skills on STI/HIV prevention and risk reduction.

During the reported period, 26,167 volunteers have been oriented about our program for various intervention / information dissemination. 3656 Village Information Centres were established in 19 villages. 1454 Red Ribbon Clubs were formed involving local village youths; Village HIV Health Committees have been formed in the district of Nizamabad. Condom outlet boxes and IEC have been provided at auto rickshaws stands and barber shops. The most active volunteers are being selected as Link Workers to enhance our program intervention effectively.

A total of 99,817 target population was covered with interventions during the reporting period. Among them 433 are girls in the age group of 6-14 years. 3255 & 363 were boys in the age group of 6-14 and 15-24 years, respectively.



RESPONDING TO DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR) / EMERGENCIES

DRR is an important component, mainstreamed in the plan and budget developed by partners as a cross cutting feature in all life stages, across ChildFund India's implementation areas. Here is a glimpse of the support ChildFund provided when natural calamity struck in some of its operational areas -

RELIEF SUPPORT TO FAMILIES AFFECTED BY FLOODS IN WEST BENGAL

Heavy and incessant rainfall from the night of 28th July till 2nd August 2015 and the release of water from Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) dam caused heavy floods in 11 districts of West Bengal, affecting all the 9 blocks in Hooghly district including Tarkeshwar Block, where ChildFund India works with 14 communities.

Fortunately there was no loss of life but thousands of households got severely affected. Houses of most of them got badly damaged, and some even collapsed. To support these affected families, ChildFund India initiated its immediate response activities.

In association with local govt departments and local youth groups, it distributed dried rice, mineral water, puffed rice, jaggary, medicines, amul milk powder, biscuits, emergency medicines, bleaching powder, zeolin liquid, tarpaulin, etc. to the affected people.

Once water receded, ChildFund with its local partner helped the vulnerable population like children, elderly people and pregnant & lactating mothers shift back to their homes after providing necessary care with the help of local health professionals. ChildFund also organized health camp as well as visited the houses and distributed medicines to the children/families as per their requirements with the support from Health Dept. of Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS)/ Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA)/ Auxiliary Nursing Midwives (ANMs).



ChildFund with local partner distributing relief material

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AFFECTED BY FLOODS IN CHENNAI

The incessant rains during the end of 2015, which caused massive flooding and disruption in the lives of the people in Chennai and areas around it, also affected the areas where ChildFund India works. As an immediate response to this calamity, ChildFund India deployed a team to assess the situation and provide initial support to the affected children and families in its program villages. Out of the 17 communities where it works, 6 communities were found to be severely impacted by the floods.

With the support from its local NGO partner as well as ChildFund Deutschland and Barnfonden, ChildFund India launched its response initiative and began providing humanitarian assistance in the form of non-food items consisting of tarpaulins, mosquito nets, cotton blankets, education support material, buckets, mugs and hygiene kits to the most affected households. Through this response, ChildFund India has supported 450 families with the relief material and around 300 children with the education kits, which included school bag, water bottle, note books, stationary items and an umbrella.



Entire village almost submerged under the flood water



ChildFund and Partner staff giving away relief material to the affected families.



FIRE IN SAMAYPUR BADLI, DELHI EMERGENCY RESPONSE

ChildFund India has been implementing a Youth empowerment project near Samaypur Badli area in North West Delhi, for their empowerment.

In the same area, on 18th December 2015, Friday, around 100 shanties were gutted in the fire tragedy which broke out due to a short circuit, as informed by local sources.

ChildFund India provided relief and rehabilitation material to support these 100 families, comprising of approx. 300 adults and 200 children. Keeping the freezing weather conditions of Delhi in mind, ChildFund India gave away woolen clothes to 200 children, also, since these children have lost all their education stationary in the fire - Education kits were distributed among 100 school going children, and to ensure that the basic necessities of these 100 families are met, they were provided with Family compact kits consisting of personal hygiene materials and kitchen utensils.



HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DROUGHT AFFECTED CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN INDIA

India faced severe drought this year due to huge rainfall deficiency in the last two years. This drought also impacted ChildFund project operational areas especially in Odisha and Madhya Pradesh where ChildFund implements its regular development programs. Considering the prevailing situation, ChildFund decided to undertake drought response activities in the above mentioned states through local partners in Odisha and direct implementation in Madhya Pradesh. ChildFund Korea and ChildFund Deutschland provided generous support to the drought response activities in both the states.

The major project interventions were Cash for Work (CFW) program, Seeds distribution, Vaccination camps and distribution of food baskets to the affected households. The project was implemented April 2016 onwards for five months duration.



SMALL VOICES, BIG DREAMS 2015 SURVEY

Small Voices, Big Dreams is an annual global survey conducted by ChildFund Alliance a group of 11 child-centred development organizations working in 63 countries to implement long-lasting and meaningful changes for children and families living in poverty.

The survey raises awareness of ChildFund and its work for children and engender greater attention to issues affecting the world's poorest children.

As a member of ChildFund Alliance, ChildFund India participated in "Small Voices, Big Dreams 2015" survey. This year, the focus was on Child Protection, drawing support for the Free from Violence and Exploitation Campaign. In India, nearly 300 children between the ages 10-12 years were surveyed, while maintaining gender equality. The children participated from across the country. The below survey results on child protection issues show where India stands compared to neighboring country Sri Lanka.

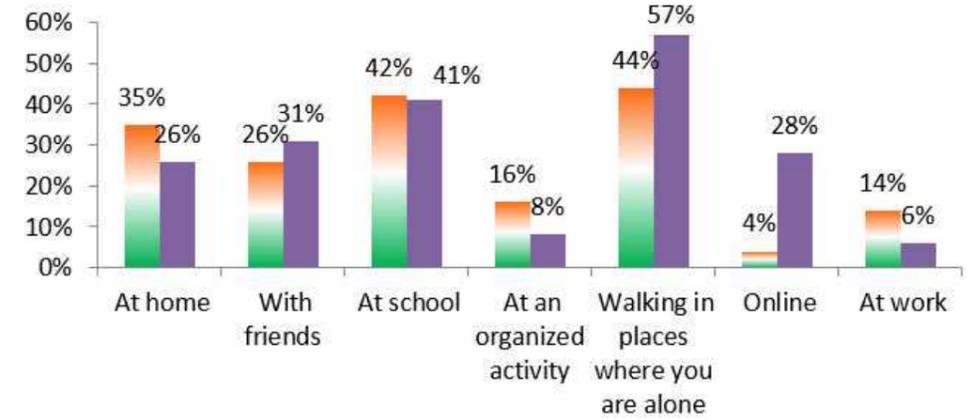




Q1.

WHERE DO YOU THINK GIRLS OR BOYS MAY BE AT RISK FROM HARM SUCH AS BEING PHYSICALLY OR EMOTIONALLY ABUSED OR MISTREATED?

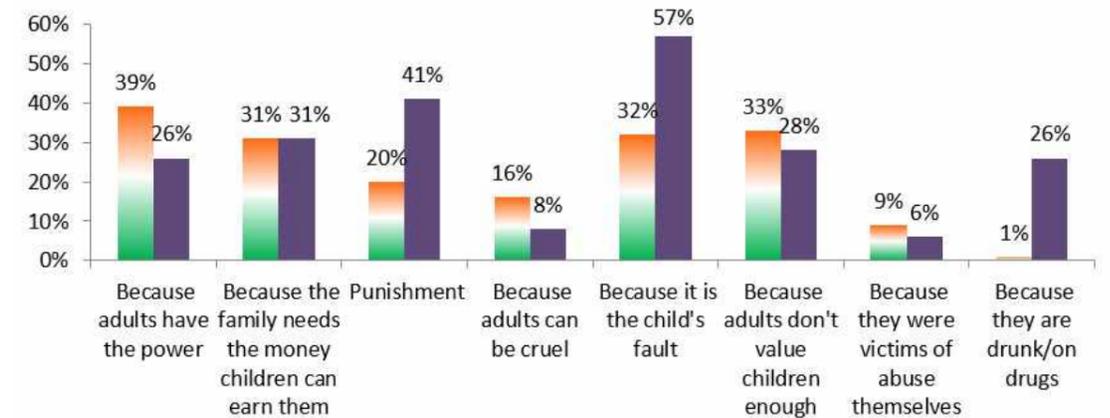
Places of Risk



Q2.

WHY DO YOU THINK ADULTS MISTREAT CHILDREN?

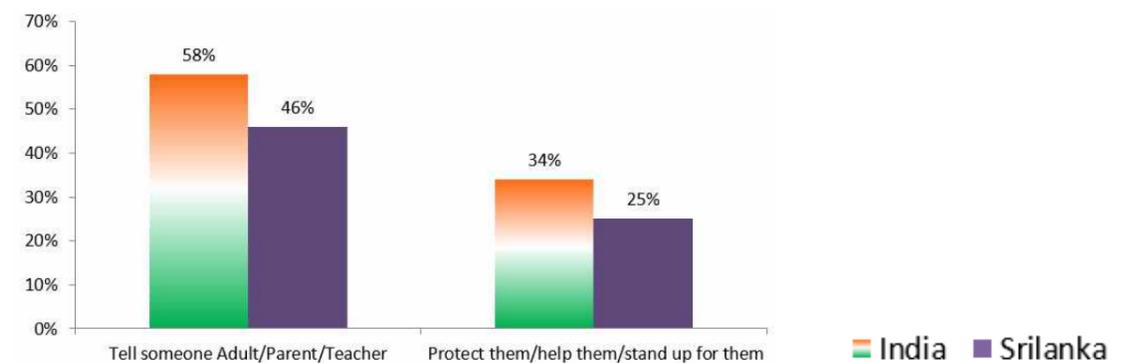
Reasons for mistreatment



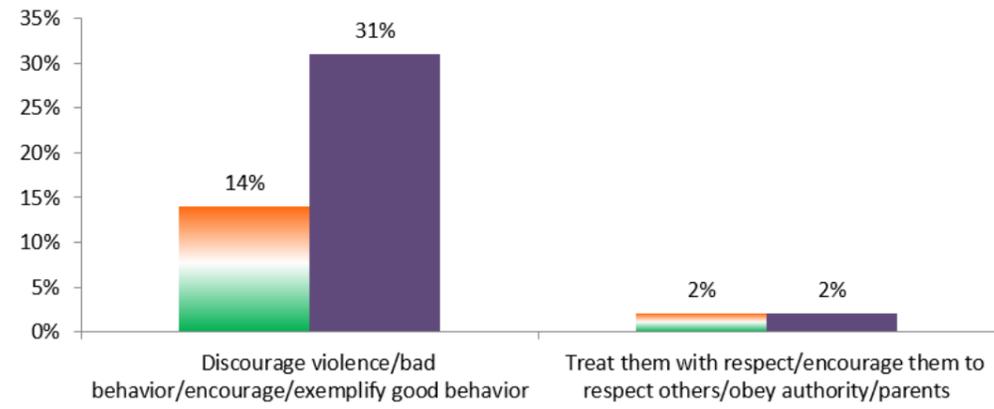
Q3.

AS A GIRL, WHAT COULD YOU DO TO HELP KEEP BOYS SAFE FROM HARM (AS A BOY, WHAT COULD YOU DO TO HELP KEEP GIRLS SAFE FROM HARM)? RESPONSES (A-D)

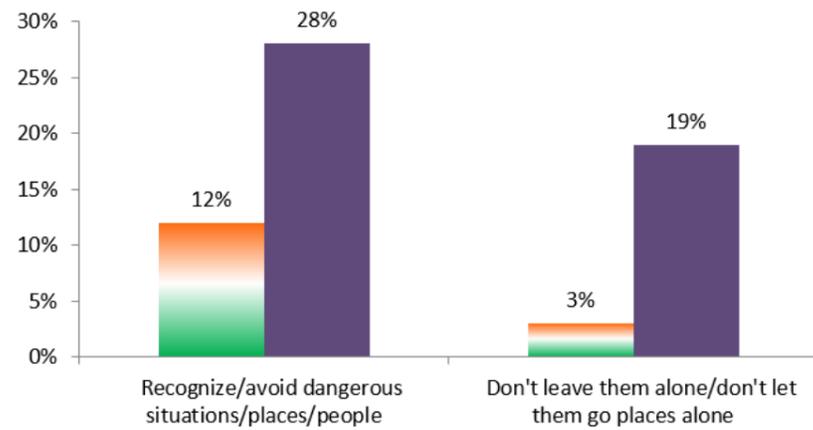
Responses (a) : Take Action



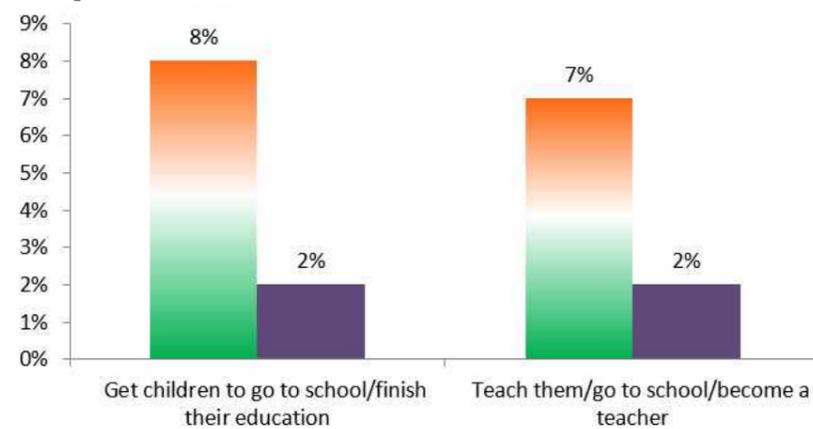
Responses (b) : Communicate/ Support



Responses (c) : Safety



Responses (d) : School/Education

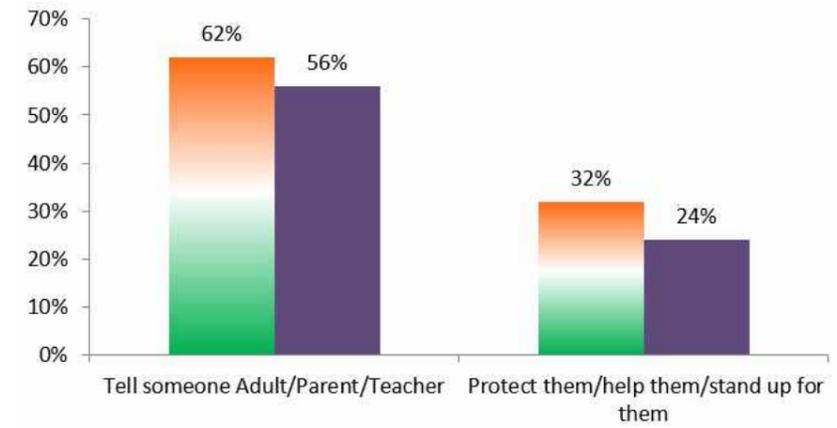


India Sri Lanka

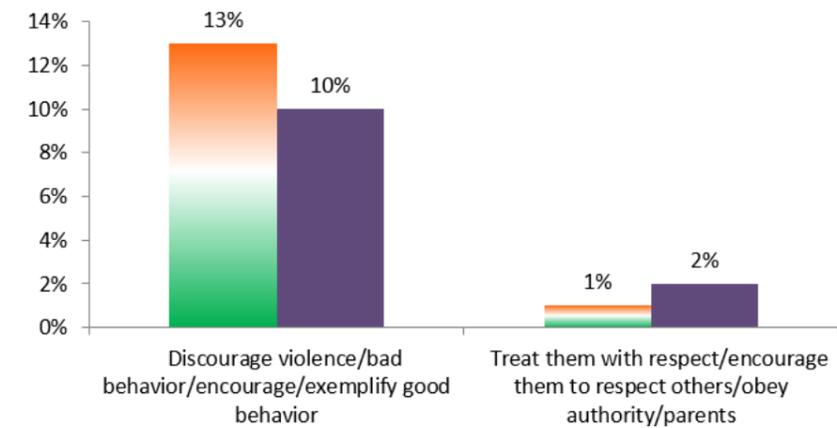
Q4.

AS A GIRL, WHAT COULD YOU DO TO HELP KEEP GIRLS SAFE FROM HARM (AS A BOY, WHAT COULD YOU DO TO HELP KEEP BOYS SAFE FROM HARM)? RESPONSES (A-D)

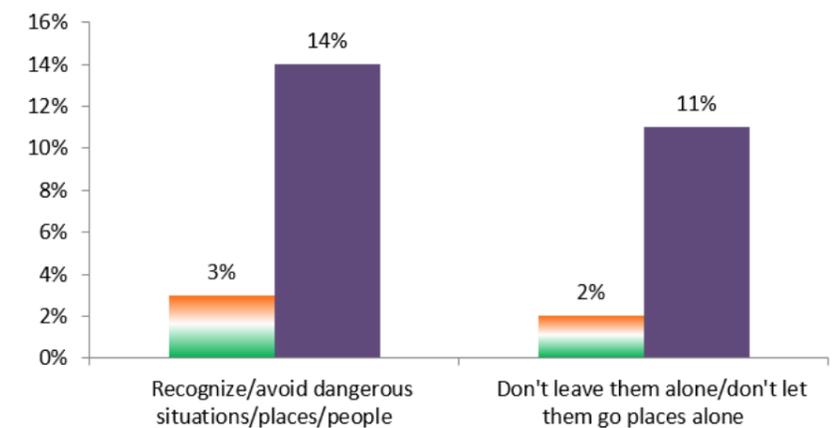
Responses (a) : Take Action



Responses (b) : Communicate/ Support



Responses (c) : Safety

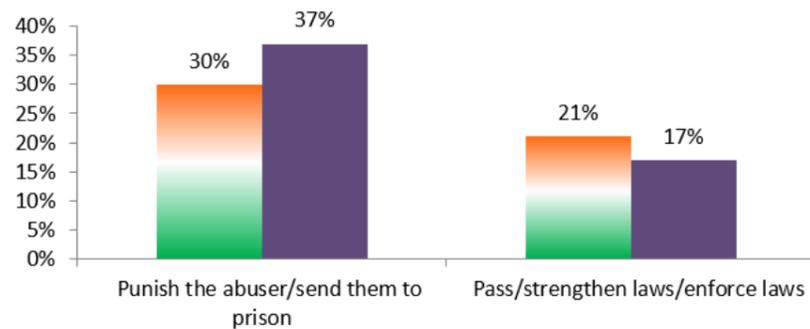


India Sri Lanka

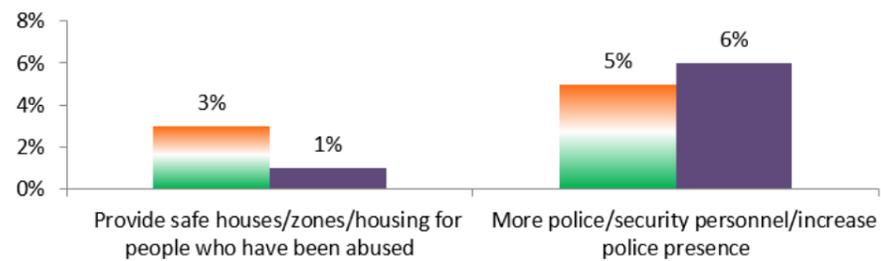
Q5.

IF YOU WERE THE LEADER OF YOUR COUNTRY AND COULD DO ONE THING TO KEEP CHILDREN SAFE FROM MISTREATMENT, WHAT WOULD IT BE? RESPONSE (A-C)

Responses (a) : Laws/Rules

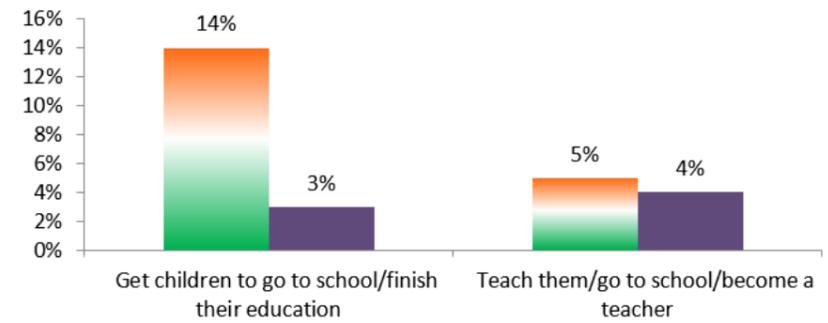


Responses (b) : Safety



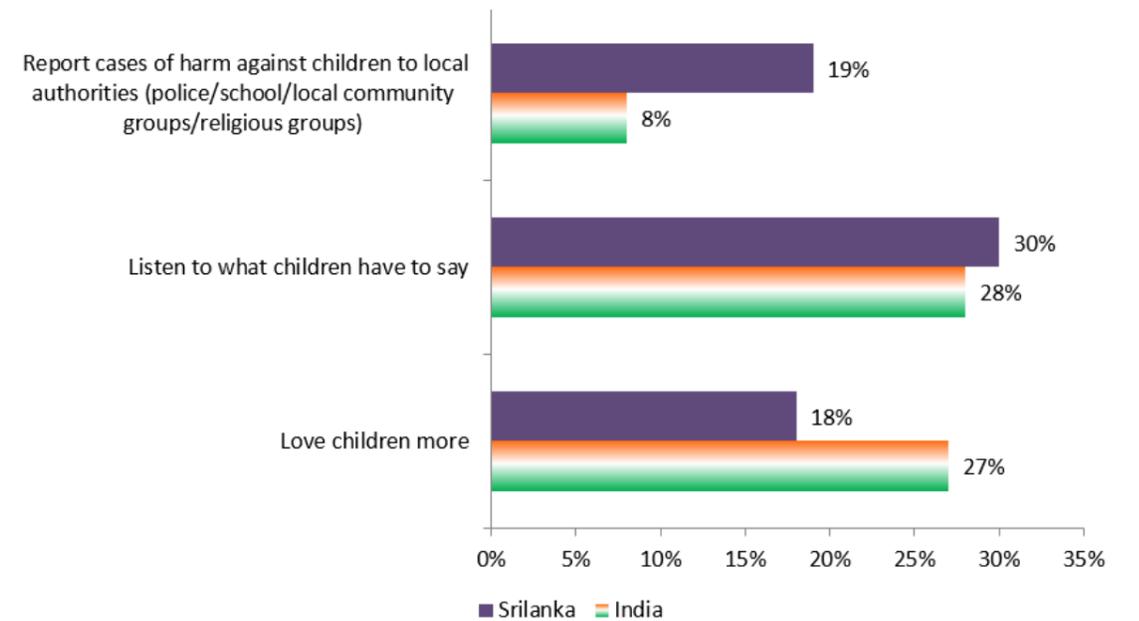
India Sri Lanka

Responses (c) : School/Education



Q6.

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ADULTS – ESPECIALLY PARENTS OR OTHER CAREGIVERS – COULD DO TO KEEP CHILDREN SAFER FROM BEING MISTREATED?



India Sri Lanka

ABBREVIATIONS

AO	Area Office
AHS	Annual Health Survey
ANM	Auxiliary Nursing Midwife
ASHA	Accredited Social Health Activist
AWW	Anganwadi Worker
BBSR	Bhubhaneshwar Zone office
CLC	Child Learning Center
CRC	Child Resource Center
DEV	Deprived, Excluded and Vulnerable
ECCE	Education Childhood Care and Education Centre
GMC	Growth Monitoring Chart
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Scheme
IEC	Information Education and Communication
LS- 1	Life Stage 1
LS- 2	Life Stage 2
LS- 3	Life Stage 3
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
YRC	Youth Resource Centre
YUVA	Youth United for Voluntary Action



NGO PARTNERS' LIST - 2015-16

S H EDUCATIONAL & CHARITABLE SOC	PANI
PRAJA SEVA SAMAJ	GSS CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
ADARSH COMMUNITY DEVT TRUST	JEOLIKOTE ST ANTHONYS PROJECT
BALAJI BALA VIKAS	CENTRE FOR TOTAL DEVELOPMENT
CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT - KAKINADA	NATURE
PARIVAR VIKAS	SHAKTHI
JAN PRAGATI SANSTHAN	AKHIL BHARTIYA SAMAJ SEWA SANSTHAN
BASTAR SEWAK MANDAL	BEDROC CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM BUILDING AND ENABLING DISASTER RESILIENCE OF COASTAL COMMUNITIES
URSULINE CONVENT KODAURA	SAMVAD SAMAJIK SANSTHAN
CARMEL SCHOOL & HOSTELS	CREED
MANGALA JYOTHI INTEGRATED SCHOOL	HEAL
VIMOCHANA CDP - GANGAVATHY	BALAJI BALA VIKAS - CHENNAI
PRAJNA COUNSELLING CENTRE	JATAN SANSTHAN
KARWAR RURAL WCD SOCIETY	CHETNA VIKAS
KIRIYA PUSHPA FAMILY HELPER PROJ	DALIT VIKAS VINDU
AMALAS KUTUMBA ABIVRUDDI YOJANE	BADLAO FOUNDATION
RAICHUR AREA - MYRADA	KARRTABYA
N K J EDNAL AND CHARITABLE SOCIETY	SEBA JAGAT
CAPUCHIN KRISHIK SEVA KENDRA	VEDIC SOCIETY
GRAMA VIKAS	CHETNA VIKAS
PRIDE INDIA	DALIT VIKAS VINDU
NATIONAL INST. FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVT	LOK JAGRITI KENDRA
SOUTH ORISSA VOLUNTARY ACTION	BADLAO FOUNDATION
ASHA CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT	CARD
NILACHAL SEVA PRATISTHAN	SAMPARK
VARRAT	PRAYAS
CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT - PUDUCHERRY	KARRTABYA
GRAM CHETNA KENDRA	SEBA JAGAT
AKHIL BHARTIYA GRAMIN UTHAN SAMITI	LOKDRUSTI
NILGIRIS ADIVASI WELFARE ASSOC	KALYANI
BHARATHI CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE	CAM
ASHA KENDRA	
MANAV SEWA KENDRA	



BECAUSE WE BELIEVE

that the well-being of all children leads to the well-being of the world, we empower children to thrive throughout all stages of life and become leaders of enduring change.



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