

ANNUAL
REPORT
2017





Annual Report 2017

ERIKSHJÄLPEN

Erikshjalpen, Sweden is a large child rights development organisation working in more than 20 countries with over 125 projects. Presently ERIKS is supporting 9 large projects of HCDI.



ICA Japan, earlier known as Ecumenical Institute, supported one large project of HCDI in Bihar. ICAs are present in 30 countries and its international secretariat is in Brussels, Belgium.

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Message From The Director

It is with great joy I am presenting this Annual Report for the year 2017, reporting various activities undertaken during the year with some selected stories of transformation.

I take pride and satisfaction of the impact of our program interventions through projects of two kinds – one in the interior rural and tribal areas, where quality education and health care facilities for the children are in great need and the other in the urban set-up where the children with their parents are engaged as labourers in dump yards living in inhuman conditions. All our program activities carried out for the children are of high quality and focus on the promotion of child rights.

I am happy that our partnership with ERIKS, Sweden, which is now the principal partner, is growing strong and its financial support to HCDI is continuing in the

same manner and scale. In the case of the other partner – the Institute of Cultural Affairs, Japan (ICAJ), we are pleased that our proposal for a large project to promote Agriculture and Watershed Development in Madhya Pradesh, which would be funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), is under consideration and is expected to start from April 2018. I am, therefore, very grateful to ERIKS and ICAJ for their generous support.

I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all the Partner Churches / Project Holders, Project Staff, the Members of the Governing Body of HCDI and to all my colleagues at HCDI Office.

I am indeed filled with gratitude to God for the way He led us in this Ministry and blessed each and every one of us to serve the children in the best possible way.

N. Thomas Rajkumar

Holistic Child Development India

Holistic Child Development India stands tall with its working experience for children and their well-being.

In four decades it has grown to be an active promoter of child rights. HCDI endeavors to bring about positive changes in the quality of life of exploited children and their families who are deprived of basic human rights. HCDI is committed to addressing this group by implementing programs and activities with the Child Rights Approach that would help them develop themselves and progress in life. Children are the primary beneficiaries along with their families and community because we firmly believe that investment in a child today will surely bare fruits tomorrow.

HCDI is a registered society under the Societies Act with its Head Office in New Delhi and Administrative Office in Pune, Maharashtra. HCDI presently works in over eight states in India through its local partners promoting the rights, interests & dignity of children, their families and communities.



Our Vision

HCDI has a vision of children, youth and communities growing up in a holistic and friendly environment, to fulfil the God-given human potential within them, and thereby become creatively productive, responsible and caring citizens to promote equality and justice, peace and harmony in the society and to create a harmonious, equitable and sustainable global community.

Our Mission

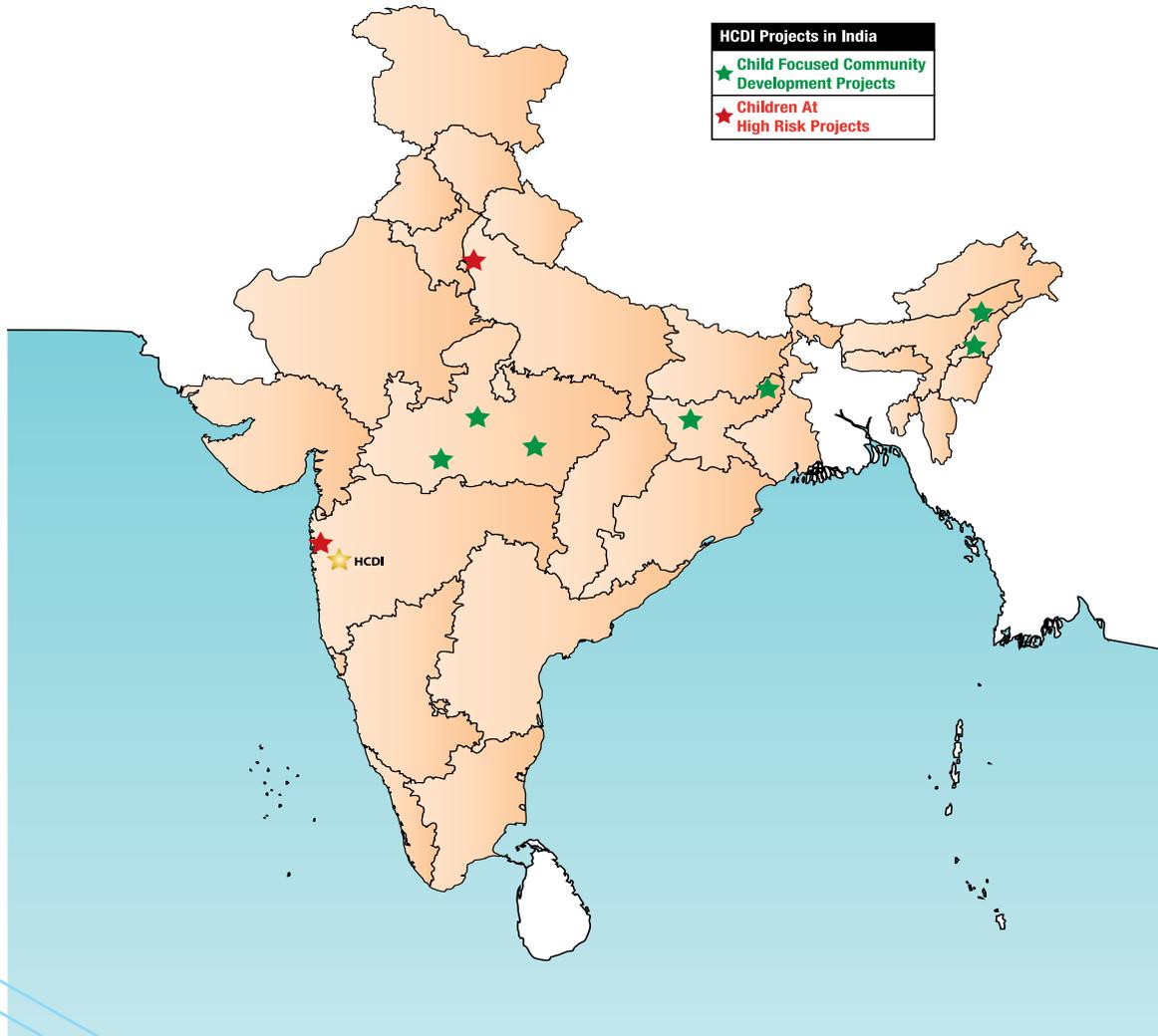
HCDI, in partnership with Churches and other Christian Organizations with similar objectives as that of HCDI, endeavours to serve children, youth and communities who are alienated, deprived and marginalized for any reason whatsoever, irrespective of caste, creed, colour, sex or religion by facilitating them with opportunities for a wholesome growth within a community setting, to realize their full God-given human potential, thereby enabling them to be productive and economically self reliant, socially responsible, spiritually alert and ecologically friendly.



HCDI - Program Focus

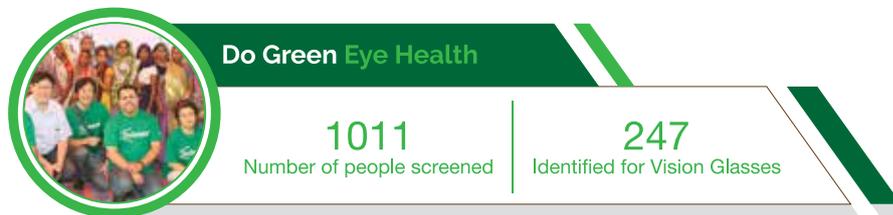
- Child rights based community development programs in rural and tribal areas. These programs are aimed to secure a sustainable future to the communities we work with.
- Programs for children at high risk (Children in exploitative situations), including children who are differently-abled.
- Mitigating the impact of climate change by building the capacities of the communities to adapt new methods of farming to enhance their livelihoods and face environmental challenges.
- Emergency response and disaster management to reduce the negative effects that disasters can have on children and families.
- Advocacy initiatives that promote the rights of children and women who are the support structures of families.

HCDI believes in the active participation of the people including children in any development programs that address their needs and interests. With the support of international funding partners and individual donors within this country, HCDI is able to accomplish its work in a meaningful and successful way.



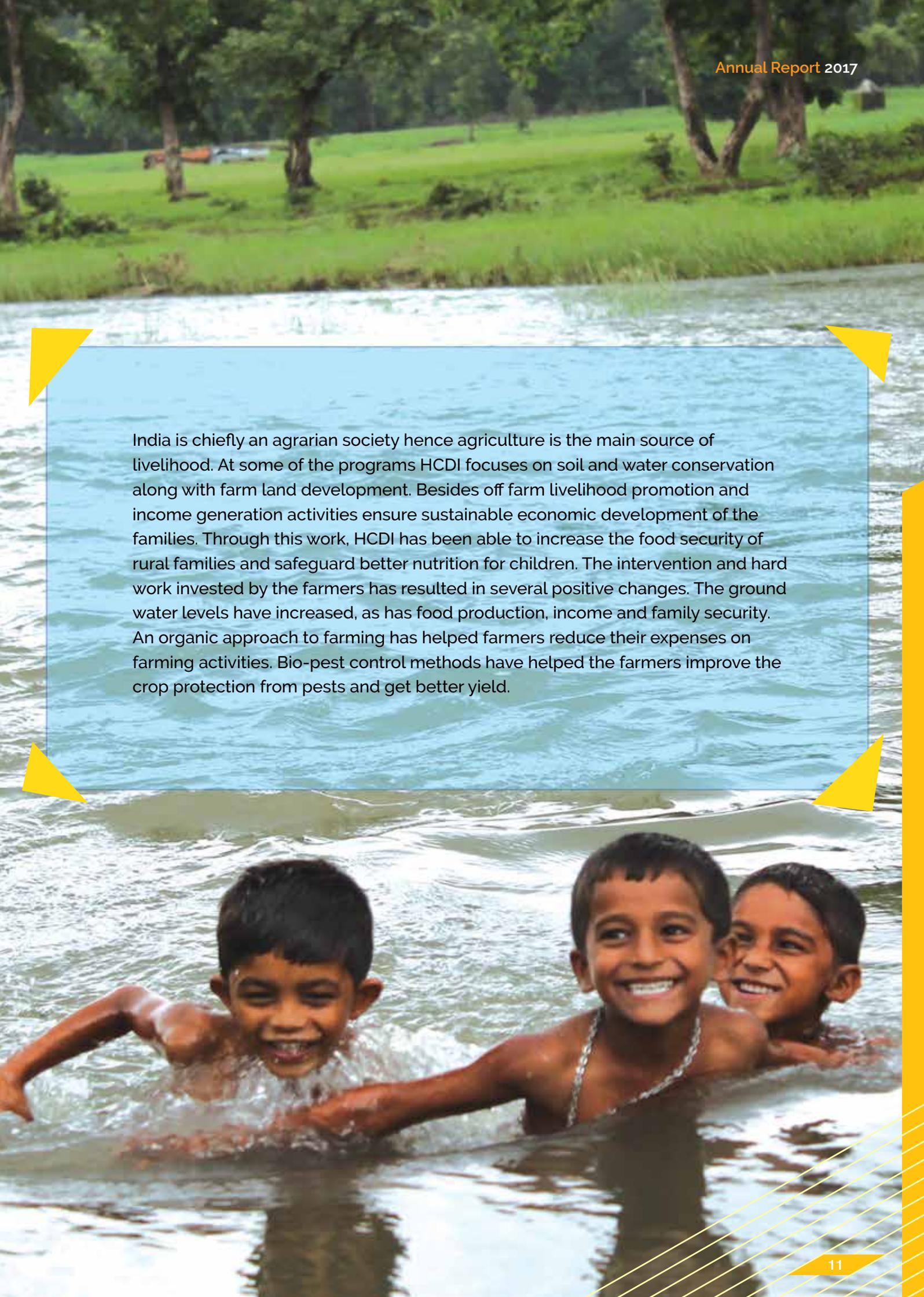
Program & Projects at a Glance

Programs & Projects at a Glance



Soil and Water Conservation for Livelihood Security





India is chiefly an agrarian society hence agriculture is the main source of livelihood. At some of the programs HCDI focuses on soil and water conservation along with farm land development. Besides off farm livelihood promotion and income generation activities ensure sustainable economic development of the families. Through this work, HCDI has been able to increase the food security of rural families and safeguard better nutrition for children. The intervention and hard work invested by the farmers has resulted in several positive changes. The ground water levels have increased, as has food production, income and family security. An organic approach to farming has helped farmers reduce their expenses on farming activities. Bio-pest control methods have helped the farmers improve the crop protection from pests and get better yield.

Water Harvesting to Increase Water Resources

Water harvesting structures have improved the water availability for the irrigation as well as for drinking. There was 12 months drinking water availability in villages where wells were deepened.

De-siltation of existing water bodies: Khandwa in 678.57 cbm area
De-siltation and construction of Check Dams: 1 in Pakur, 2 in Bhopal
Repair of existing Check Dams: 2 in Bhopal
Construction and rehabilitation of farm ponds: 6 in Pakur, 2 in Bhopal, 4 in Khandwa
Deepening of wells: 5 in Mandla, 1 in Bhopal
Construction of 4 water storage tanks in Nagaland

The moisture level of the land around and down line of the water bodies has increased enabling the possibility of a second crop.

An average 3 to 5 ft increase of the water table around the water structures has been reported. Water wastage is reduced and women have developed kitchen gardens to use waste water, resulting in increased vegetable consumption that adds to better nutrition.

Farm bunding to arrest the soil from erosion

One of the favoured activities of farmers is farm bunding. This arrests the soil from erosion and helps in rain water harvesting and percolation.

120 farmers in Khandwa, MP covered 50 Hac of land
54 farmers in Mandla, MP covered 45.23 Hac land
44 farmers in Bhopal, MP covered 40.5 Hac land
37 farmers in Pakur, Jharkhand covered 42.36 Hac land
Total 255 farmers covered 178.09 Hac for farm bunding,

This activity has resulted in increased cultivable land and increased food production. The majority of farmers are able to harvest two crops instead of one and hence, the production is almost doubled.

The increased food production has resulted in enhanced food security and reduction in migration. Since the farmers find jobs within the village or region, they have stopped migrating for daily wages.

Increase in Agriculture Production

88 Hac of unproductive land has been brought under cultivation through various land development activities, increasing 300 quintals of food production in 5 regions.

480 farmers have started a second crop cultivation which has doubled the agricultural produce.

This increased income from the agriculture has resulted in more investment in child education, health and lifestyle.

The trainings organized during the year for the farmers have enthused them to start organic farming methods.

220 farmers have started vermi-composting, 200 farmers are now practicing various other local manure preparation, 256 farmers are using bio-pest control methods. These practices have not only reduced the ill effects of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, but also reduced the agricultural expenditures.

In Bhopal 100 farmers were selected by the agriculture department for organic farming. All these farmers have constructed organic manure pits. Gradually farmers are moving towards reducing the use of chemicals. Around 76 farmers initiated vegetable cultivation and sale, which has become a livelihood option. One of the



SHGs purchased a four -wheeler to transport the vegetable to the market every day. This saved their time for marketing the vegetables, avoided the middlemen and gave them access to the market with a bargaining power.

The rural families, especially the tribal communities in rural India were not taking agriculture as a professional occupation due to lack of knowledge and the resources required. Now the farmers groups work as catalysts to promote agriculture and the leaders of the groups motivate the members, creating an increased interest in agriculture.

The farmers feel proud when they receive a good price for their organic produce through special markets. Linkages are built with marketing facilities available around the regions.

Cardamom, king chilly and broom grass cultivation promoted through the project in Nagaland increased the income of the farmers and the added bonus was the community bonding and sharing of profits which increased manifold.



Acclimatizing with the Climate Change



HCDI ensures that every project has a component which gives sufficient focus to environmental protection and promotion. Understanding the adaptation and mitigation measures is of primary importance to the farming community. As mostly an unlettered community, the challenge is to make them comprehend the growing threat of climate change. The measures incorporated in each community development project; aim at reducing the vulnerabilities of the rural communities while increasing their resilience through capacity building and various techniques to adapt to changing climate. HCDI projects have built resilience among rural agrarian communities through pro-active adaptation measures with a special focus on women and children. The idea is to enhance their coping capacity, by providing basic resources and promoting regional adaptive interventions. It is crucial that rural poor together with women and children are empowered to survive in a changing planet.

Community Awareness on climate change and its impact:

Awareness programmes on climate change conducted in rural villages to make people understand the issues and its causes. Most of the people in rural areas are able to relate to the present trends to climate change. The awareness programmes have helped them realise how human action can affect the climate and how the future is going to be affected.

The awareness and knowledge has prompted the rural communities to adapt to the situation through measures like: soil and water conservation, organic farming, tree plantation, plastic free villages, etc.

The projects have planted more than 15800 trees during the year with a survival rate of almost 60 to 70%. Members of Children's Parliaments and Ecology Clubs took initiatives to plant and care for the trees. Tree felling is reduced more than 50% in some villages.

23 Ecology Clubs have been actively functioning under the environment ministry of Children's Parliaments. During the implementation the project realised that the younger generation need to be educated regularly about the environment and climate change. They need to be made aware of taking care of the earth, so that the life on earth could be safe. Steps such as plantations, water management, bio-gas, organic farming, vermin composts etc., to reduce the impact of climate change are being propagated through Ecology Clubs.

The major areas of focus:

- Increased awareness on climate change and its impact
- Children taking initiatives in addressing the climate change and its impact.
- Communities adapting with measures to address the issues of climate change
- Improving the resources which are necessary for rural livelihood, such as:
 - a) Water resources
 - b) Land and soil resources
 - c) Forest & Biodiversity
 - d) Agriculture & animal husbandry
 - e) Energy efficiency



Plantating of trees:

The forest departments also supported the planting of trees by distributing saplings. The rural communities appreciate fruit trees which are doubly beneficial. Due to less water availability and less rains in some regions, the survival rate is rather low.

The environment ministry of the children's parliament took keen interest in planting trees and protecting them. The awareness campaigns organized by them led to reduced felling of trees across the states and a keener realization of the importance of protecting trees.



Alternative Energy Sources:

All the projects have made good efforts to promote vermi-composting, bio-manure, and bio-pest control methods as alternative measures to address climate change and its impact on agriculture. The farmers have gained knowledge in preparing manure and pest control liquids. This has not only helped them to reduce their expenses on fertilizers and pesticides, but also ensured better health of the community, especially of children.

Biogas as alternative fuel is promoted by the projects in Madhya Pradesh. Since there is government subsidy for bio-gas, the project has motivated more families to apply and get the subsidies. This has reduced the dependency on fuel wood.

The families have started using solar lamps in many of the villages in Assam, Jharkhand and in Madhya Pradesh. The solar lamps reduce the usage of kerosene lamps. The children have also started using the solar lamps for their evening studies, which is a great help where there is electricity shortage.



Empowering Communities through Education



In the rural areas of our country, education has to make a difference in the lives of the communities. Education is crucial to give people capabilities such as; literacy, knowledge, confidence and attitude that they need to build to participate in the society. Therefore, HCDI always has given importance to the education for all, starting from the Early Child Care and Education (ECCE) to the vocational trainings for the youth and drop out students, which also includes Grihini training for adolescent girls and skill trainings for youth.

The Government has taken initiatives in Jharkhand to start ICDS program in the villages, where they were not existing. There was a drive to enroll children in anganwadis in Jharkhand, which helped the project to transfer the children of ECCE to the government anganwadis. The 57 study groups formed in the project villages help children to practice a Self-Help Approach to education, through which older children help younger children of the village. This has shown marked improvement in their academic performance and school retention rate.

In Mandla of Madhya Pradesh, all children in the project villages are admitted in the anganwadi or schools according to their age. In the past year admissions in anganwadis has increased substantially. Similarly, the ECCs run by the project have increased admissions. Here children learn social behavior through picnics, for which parents volunteer to contribute. Education is gradually becoming a community venture rather than individual affair.



Empowering Communities through Education

Since the anganwadi, workers have been provided teaching aids, their work output has increased and improved in the villages of Tening, Nagaland. Besides, the children are learning better with these new materials. There is a marked positive change in the social behavior of the children, increasing their confidence, their awareness, their bonding and the team spirit.

Coaching classes are a big draw in rural areas of Khandwa District. These supplementary classes for both boys and girls have enabled them to be at the required class levels. 80% improvement in academic performance is reported. The District

education department conducts routine review of the employed teachers. Some of the government teachers take help from the animators of the project.

The nine coaching centers functioning in 8 target villages of Dibrugarh have benefited hundreds of both girls and boys. The regular attendance and better academic performance is credited to the parents and community encouraging their children for education. Just before starting the project, there was no interest in parents or children for education. Now every academic year the enrollment is increasing.



The tuition teachers help children with their studies and also give special attention to slow learners. In Bhopal, at the school the teachers are regular with attendance and often seek support from the project staff. There is awareness about child's rights. Target group children are encouraged to cultivate their natural talents.

Involvement and participation of children in all school activities including cultural performance has improved. School results indicate that the quality of education has improved due to additional support provided by the tuition centers. Children

are spending more time now for their studies. Other pluses are the reading habits that are being inculcated, and the collaborative approach of the teachers towards the project staff and the Village Education Committees (VECs).

Hostel facilities are made available to children from different villages- as parents are keen for their wards to study. Some children have got bicycles, to get to school thus ensuring good attendance. VEC along with parents keep an eye on the midday meals and other government schemes to ensure quality.



Basic computer training and spoken English are imparted to girls and boys in the project villages. About 15 youth have taken vocational course to find livelihood options in Tening. 2 girls in Khandwa and one in Tening who had completed their training have themselves become trainers and earn money to support their families.

The projects extended financial support to capable students for vocational training enabling them to get placements in industries or firms. The trainees get an income to support their families. In Mandla the support is in the form of returnable fees, which will be paid back from the salaries once they are employed. Women and girls have an interest in different fields. More girls take nursing courses and willing to serve as nurses. Others are learning to make bangles to be produced commercially, or learning tailoring to augment their incomes. The attitudinal change among parents of CBOs is evident, for they now encourage their wards to attend school regularly and motivate them for higher studies. The children on their part participate in school events and have overcome initial stage fears.

The Village Education Committees (VECs) have become the pressure groups in the villages who ensure increased attendance in the schools, monitor the quality of the midday meals and check on the regularity of teachers. Awareness and capacity building on importance of education, parent teacher meetings and trainings were organized at regular basis. Continuous encouragement, conducting sports, games and competitions to create interest for studies among children are organised by the projects with focus on 100% enrolment in the schools.

Children's parliaments played a vital role for encouraging their own friends for education. Events like Children's Day, School Chalo Abhiyan, Independence Day, Environment Day, Plantation, Competitions, Teacher's Day, Girl Child Day, etc., are organized to mark the days and to enlighten the children.



Community health is community wealth



In rural communities the people have to depend on work every day for their's and their family members' sustenance. Mostly they have to regularly burn more calories to earn them. In such situation due to various reasons if a person falls ill and he/she is not able to work, then the family suffers. Due to lack of adequate health facilities in the rural areas, the people do not go for immediate treatments. The women and children suffer more as they are more dependent on men in the families. In such situations HCDI to promote good health of the communities, especially of women and children encourages various activities such as awareness, trainings, health camps, medical assistance and referrals. HCDI through its projects encourages government health services to be active and regular to the village communities.



The communities in the project villages are made aware that the health is more important than earning income. If the community has good health they can earn income. Hence, they are educated to take care of their health needs. Improved health seeking habits, better nutrition for children, regular attendance of ANMs to address the health needs of women, accessing government health services, etc. have improved the health in the project villages.

The regular interventions and awareness programs on health, have motivated the CBO leaders to support their own community members during their health needs. Their support has helped many to come back to active life. Registration Cards have been issued to pregnant and lactating mothers in the anganwadis. More people are going to the

hospitals/ dispensaries for treatment than before. There is a considerable drop in IMR and MMR in the project villages which is attributed to the health awareness program, nutritional supply and hospital deliveries.

Immunization programs, held from time to time, have aided the community to be disease free. There is a vast change in the cleanliness of the villages. The SHGs and Children's Parliaments (CPs) in the project villages ensure that the communities regularly clean their surroundings. Occasionally cleanliness drives are organized by the CP children by cleaning the littered waste, cleaning the drainages, etc. There is a growing awareness to maintain clean water sources and often the community takes the responsibility to



clean the water sources. The Government provided the villagers water-purifier in anganwadis when it was demanded. The project also provided water purifiers in Dibrugarh for the children in anganwadis.

Those, who venture to the cities for work or education are made aware of the risk of HIV/AIDS. Addiction is another scourge in the rural setting. But the efforts towards good health have led to men shunning alcoholism, other addictions and being committed to a planned family idea in many villages.

Herbal plant gardens in project villages at Mandla and Nagaland are flourishing. The government has appointed a monitoring group to check health and hygiene of the village in Mandla. Women started the kitchen gardens, which have enabled

chemical free vegetable consumption in tribal areas of Mandla, Jharkhand and Bhopal. It has naturally changed nutritional level and is a step toward better health.

The challenge for HCDI and its partner organizations still is to make the government health service system active and community oriented. The Public Health Centers (PHCs) to be equipped with sufficient facilities and equipment to address the needs of the communities. Most of the PHCs do not have qualified doctors and being in the interior, without proper transportation facilities, the doctors are not willing to reach the PHCs. The CBOs are making efforts to talk with the health departments and demanding to improve the health services in rural areas.

Gems from the dumps



At the break of dawn trucks loaded with garbage dump their loads in the huge standing mountains of dump yards. Then children from the rag picking communities begin to scrounge. The scene is quite wretched at the 4 dump yards at Kalyan and the dump yard Balaswa dairy in Delhi. But Holistic Child Development India believes otherwise – HCDI ensures that every child enjoys the childhood and gets the opportunity for its development. More than 950 children in two projects are helped to come out of hazardous rag picking work and get education and vocational training to secure a better future.



Gems from the dumps

60 girls from the rag picking community in Delhi have been rehabilitated in girls' hostel and are getting all the facilities for their development. They look forward to a safer and brighter life of education and overall development in future. At the Gyansarovar non-formal education programme, in Delhi 400 children have been enlisted. They learn yoga, dance meditation, etc. and have counselling sessions that have helped them to learn basic life skills.

At the Kalyan project, of 556 registered children, 402 are school going and 154 attending day care programme. This has helped the rag picking community to accept education as part of empowerment, especially of children.

12 Children's Parliaments with 220 children in Delhi and 4 Children's Parliaments with 75 children in Kalyan give a perfect platform for children to exercise their leadership and creativities. Their



achievements range from getting drinking water connections in Kalyan, to getting public sanitation, drainage and road repaired in Delhi are worth mentioning. The meetings organised with the political leaders, including the Chief Minister of Delhi were the experiences of children that lead to new leadership initiatives.

Vocational training courses organised through Don Bosco Delhi, computer education, jewellery making, rakhi making, soap, detergents, perfume, phenyl,

paper bags, soft toys, mobile repairing, driving and book binding organised by both the projects slowly widened the horizons of livelihood opportunities for youth and women.

Adolescent girls' groups in the rag picking community played a vital role in empowering the girls. Girls have learnt self-defense, art & crafts, mehendi designs and beauty culture. They also prefer to complete their education and say no to early marriages. Peer group support to the girls encourages and emboldens them to resist social evils.

Boys groups take keen interest in social security, protection from anti-social elements, drugs, etc. Their role in organizing sports events and talent hunt programs have created more enthusiasm among boys' groups.

Medical camps and check-ups

As rag picking community lives in a high-risk environment, it is prone to severe health issues and problems. Children fall ill very easily. Medical camps and check-ups are conducted for the children and women regularly. The awareness programs have helped the community to seek health treatments as early as possible for quick relief. A good network with government hospitals and Family Planning Association India, (FPAI) has helped referrals to have better treatments. Specialized camps such as eye, dental, TB, hepatitis, cancer, etc. are also held time to time focusing on children and women. Immunization camps are held regularly for children. Community is taught on how to be hygienic in their limited situation. Cleanliness drives are regularly held to keep the premises of their homes neat and tidy.

Smart Children

The projects in Delhi and Kalyan have been able to bring a new life for the young ones. The little children living around the dump yards were till recently unwashed, shabbily dressed and often without clothes. Now it is different – because the children come clean and neatly dressed, they look beautiful as small gems with different colours. They come in the morning and take part in various activities throughout the time they are in the centers. Play way method of teaching and activities like games, drawing, storytelling, singing, dancing, etc. have prepared the little pearls for schooling. Like every year, this year too, more than 150 children from the dump yards have been enrolled in the school for education.



Children's Parliaments (CPS)



Ensuring Child Rights making a difference in the lives of children

Seldom have we seen children involved in decision making in the family or in the community. They are usually denied the right to participate and their voices go unheard. So, in keeping with the child rights approach to community development interventions, HCDI's experiment through projects, enabled children to discuss the matters, take decisions and participate in the decision-making bodies in community like Village Development Committees, Project Management Committees, participation in Gram Panchayat, etc. This was only possible through stupendous efforts of the staff and the children of Children's Parliaments across the projects.

Children's Parliament today is an essential platform for strengthening and protecting the rights of the child. The Children's Parliaments, while bringing a sense of responsibility among the parliamentarians have enkindled a sense of commitment to the issues among parents and community members. Children's Parliaments have not only looked at local issues, but also responded with mindfulness and creativity to issues of health, sanitation and environment as well as issues of civic concerns. The children become aware of their rights at the meetings and are able to translate this awareness by addressing issues that concern their lives, rights and their protection. Children's Parliament is found to be the best platform for children's voices to be heard and their rights to be realized.





The HCDI through its local project partners with the support from ERIKS has promoted 170 Children's Parliaments in 6 states of India with a membership of 2358 boys and 2293 girls.

The dream of HCDI is not forming as many CPs as possible but bringing them under the network of a movement 'of the children, by the children and for the children,' to make an impression in the social and political arena of the country. The dream became true when the ministers of various Children's Parliaments in Madhya Pradesh decided to form district level Children's Parliaments which led to an idea of networking at State and National Level Children's Parliaments. October 2017 witnessed the formation of state level Children's Parliament in

Madhya Pradesh with 30 parliamentary ministers from various parts of the state. The whole process was supported by a cadre of social workers committed to the cause of children and motivated and trained by able guidance of national trainer Mr. Joseph Rathinam. The state level Children's Parliament has been linked to Neighborhood Children's Network (NCN), Nagarcoil, which is part of national level network. The parliaments are now reorganized with 17 ministries to address the SDGs at neighborhood level, village level, district level and state level. In addition to the Ministries for SDGs, the Parliaments have the other important portfolios like Prime Minister, Home Minister, Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Finance Minister, Minister for persons with different abilities and Minister for Rights of children.



1 Community Based Child care to ensure children are taken care of their basic needs such as; food, clothes, shelter, love, health, etc. which address their survival right

2 Child Rights Based Community Development ensures that the parents and the communities understand and respect the need of various developments in the child; physical, cognitive, social, moral and spiritual.

3 Child Protection policies have been formulated and introduced in all the projects to ensure safety to children, especially children with vulnerabilities. Child protection committees are formed to look into any form of abuse or exploitation of children within the community, villages as well as in society.

4 Participation of Children in Village Development Committees and further in Gram Sabhas has been made mandatory in all the project villages, so that the children are given opportunities to present their views and represent their neglected community of children.

CHILD RIGHTS

The whole concept of Children's Parliament reiterates the efforts of HCDI through its projects to ensure the four major aspects of child rights

**Some of the great achievements/
successes through children
are worth mentioning**

**An Award by the Ministry of
Drinking Water and Sanitation**

Children from Nagaland are proud to announce that Ms Ellen, member of Children's Parliament from Tening village received an award by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation for 1st position in essay competition on Cleanliness Drive. She was encouraged by Children's Parliament to participate in this program. Children's Parliament has become a platform for children to shed their shyness & fear and with creative energy make a child's life more meaningful.

Helped a Poor Boy Who Had to Undergo Treatment

Vijay Kumar, the Prime Minister of Sawan Children's Parliament proudly explains how he could discuss and build consensus with his cabinet of 24 ministers to help a poor boy who had to undergo treatment when the boy's parents had no money. Hiralal, the boy from Somla village of Khandwa was helped by Sawan Children's Parliament with whatever little collection they had in their piggy pot/piggybank.

**Got the New School Building via
Petition in Public Hearing**

The education minister Rahul Kumar Bairagi from Bhandartal village of Mandla, explains how he could motivate children and elders to present the case of a newly built, but of extremely poor quality school building which would give way to a disaster at any time. The school building was constructed in 2015 but the construction was so bad that the people from the village had to construct a temporary shed to hold classes as the new building was a posing threat to life of the children. The Children's Parliament and other CBO's took the lead and went to Mandla to attend the Jansunwai (Public Hearing). They met the District Collector and presented the petition. Officers visited the remote village within a week and orders were given to demolish the defective roof and complete the work. Accordingly, the work was taken up and within 8 months it was completed. The new building was ready in March 2017 and classes are taking place without any fear. The children said "We are proud of our Children's Parliament which enabled us to raise our voices and get our rights. Now, we know how to present our concerns to our officials".





Community Based Organizations



Foundation to Community Development

Each community has its own problems, issues which affect their living and influence each other in a social arena. The issues affecting the women, farmers, youth, children, adolescent girls, etc. are specific to those groups, however in totality they influence each other in the society where they live. HCDI is well aware that all the efforts for community development without the participation of the community are not yielding the desired results. To ensure that the resources, time and energy invested are not wasted, the community has to be involved from the beginning for all programs. This way it takes ownership and through its own leadership all the development programs are implemented.

By understanding their role in the development process more community members are coming forward to be active in project villages, from initiating organic farming to training on mixed cropping and farming methodology, collective participation has borne fruits. Most noteworthy, is the pro-active participation of women at gram sabha and taking leadership roles in Panchayati Raj Institutions. CBOs in target villages work through people-centered modes of development such as availability of micro-finance in SHGs, participation in development, ensuring community health, education and infrastructure improvements over time. Economic empowerment has come to women, who are part of the SHGs and the training into Income Generation Programs (IGPs) is a big boost. Collaborative and joint activities have secured women with funds. Mobilising and pooling of own resources by regular saving increased their bargaining power.

409 SHGs
have a total saving of
Rs. 5,655,963.00





The CBOs have positively affected the process of rural change in health, education, income, and food security. They are now in a position to network with government programs and schemes for their successful livelihoods through right based approach. The community is looking at the Village Development Committees as agents between government and community directly to address the challenges. Panchayats recognize and value their opinions and recommendations for planning and implementation.

Net-working with Panchayati Raj institutions have enabled the CBOs to extend their role in developmental and right based activities. The community has realized the importance of CBOs and has learned to work with them. All divisive social factors diminished leading to communal harmony. People are becoming aware of their rights and unitedly demand them. A degree of self-sufficiency within the village has enabled the community to take on new ventures and social



Gender Sensitivity and Equality

HCDI sees gender equality, not just as economic empowerment, but an opportunity to create spaces for women, so they have an equal chance to contribute first to themselves, and then to the well-being of family and society. Today, women play a great role in all aspects of development sector and through its projects HCDI strives to mitigate persistent discriminatory social institutions and cultural norms that restrict the socio-economic role of women.

The projects encourage women to participate in all the village institutions, work together for leadership positions. Social change is a slow process, but women are being given places at all local village committees, stand for panchayat elections, take up important issues for discussions and above all treat girl children and boy children in the project villages without discrimination. There are still issues such as low workforce participation, gender wage gaps, early marriages, discriminatory social norms and stereotypes and high rates of violence against women and girls that are challenges.

HCDI projects have given maximum opportunities for women and girl children. Similarly, at the Children's Parliaments, girls have equal representation and enrolled in the school for equal opportunity for education. CPs ensure that there is no early dropout of girls from school.

Very active community based organisations like Children's Parliaments, SHGs, Village Development Committees and Eco Clubs have a high number of women and girl children membership. It is a clear example of how well the community develops when both men and women are involved to bring about developmental change. Women here are also taking part in gram sabha and addressing their own problems themselves. In Khandwa women also attend the programs organized by the district collector. The best leader award was given to the selected women from each village.

Women have become very confident to visit the bank and government offices. They have taken the initiative to open bank accounts for their children and obtain the Unique Identity Cards. Women of the SHGs exhibit an attitudinal change and have encouraged higher education for both their girl and boy children. Other women, who have attended trainings for capacity building at HCDI Pune, have exhibited more self-confidence and leadership qualities. Women in Dibrugarh are demanding for adult education as they want to read and write.

activities to forge ahead. Both women and children participate in decision making and both groups jointly work for a cause.

Associations are formed to undertake entrepreneurship and there is income earned through new works undertaken. Dependence on money lenders has reduced immensely.

सामुदायिक भवन रातीपट्टी, जिला मधेपुरा (बिहार)



Partnership Programs

Furthering Development Initiatives in Bihar in Partnership with ICA, Japan

The final phase of the Construction of Community Centers in Bihar flood affected 10 villages was completed and the last center in the village Ranipatti of Madhepura District was inaugurated by Ms. Maki Tsukamoto, ICA Japan in May 2016. The center was dedicated to the community for their development activities and symbolically handed over to the community leader by handing over the keys. The center is used for the Early Child Care and Education programme for children below 6 years of age, vocational training for youth & adolescent girls, regular meetings for the community organisations and study center for the school students. The community centers in 8 villages will be used by more than 200 people every month for various community activities. The centers will be given on rent to any celebrations and event organisations in the villages. In the event of any disasters, the centers will also be used for sheltering the people of the village.

Do Green eye health for tribal community Creating better vision

Jhabua region is the second largest tribal belt of rural India. Here poverty has its own definition, where thousands of people lose their sight every year just being poor. The choices before them are to have no eye treatment over spending their hard-earned money on treatment. The result where ignorance to eye care frequently leads to the only earning member of a family to go blind for life.

Eye Health Camp sponsored by CHEMI & Mitsui Chemicals Incorporated (MCI), Japan through Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA), Japan and Holistic Child Development India (HCDI) was implemented in Jhabua from 10th Nov 2017 to 17 Nov. 2017. The program was organised with the help of Navjeevan Kendra and Jeevan Jyothi Hospital Jhabua.

On 10th Nov. 2017, a team was sent for the announcement and distribution of pamphlets regarding the eye camps. More than 1000 pamphlets were distributed. At the three centers selected for the screening, more than a thousand people were screened. 247 people were identified for vision glasses and more than 300 people were recommended for cataract surgeries. Minor eye problems were treated with necessary medicines and eye drops. A team of officials from CHEMI, MCI and ICAJ were present during the eye health camp.

Date	Camp Location	Total Number screened	Cases identified for eye glass
11/11/17	Khutaya Gram Panchayat	184	49
12/11/17	Gopalpura, School premises	152	54
13/11/17	Navjeevan Centre, Bhandariya	278	59
16/11/17	St. Joseph's School, Jhabua	198	48
17/11/c17	St. Joseph's School, Jhabua	199	37
	Total	1011	247

The information on prescriptions for eye glasses has been sent to CHEMI through ICAJ and the glasses will be distributed to the people free of cost as soon as they are received.

Events, Trainings and Workshops



Child Protection

A milestone achieved

Abuse against children and women has been on an increase globally. The abuses are physical, psychological and sexual which not only leave children and families wounded and victimized but also cost the Governments huge economic social and political losses. Many times children are abused within the institutional setting and therefore there is a need for a child protection policy at the institutional level.

Holistic Child Development India in collaboration with Kindernoithilfe supported 21 trainings from 2015-2018 in Child safeguarding. These trainings and follow up are financially supported by BMZ (the German Government Social and Development wing) and will conclude in July 2018. The trainings were conducted by experts in the field of child protection and development in which 73 NGOs from India and Afghanistan participated and the feedback has been very encouraging.

The training designed as three modules was able to bring out good practices among NGOs for child protection/safeguarding and the NGOs now thoroughly appreciate the need for an efficient case management system and preventive measures in order to prevent any kind of abuse of children.

They are also able to understand how failure within the system can damage the reputation of an organization and therefore the need for a Child Protection Policy becomes an important document for protecting both children and staff.

After the two years of intensive training, participants report that having a robust policy and developing child protection initiatives will ensure safety and wellbeing of children and communities. They acknowledge that their knowledge regarding child rights and child protection has increased and that they are able to bring in many small and big changes which are due to their learning of new skills, especially, those taught to them for including children and stakeholders in the protection practices and in the implementation.

Children's voices, are central to the understanding of risks, types of abuses and management of risks, which are now being included meaningfully by NGOs in the drafting and implementing of their individual organisational child protection policy.



Annual Gathering of CP Ministers

The Annual Gathering of ministers from various Children's Parliaments from across the projects supported by ERIKS/HCDI was held from 24th to 26th October 2017. The workshop was steered by the children themselves. On the first day children shared their experiences in Children's Parliaments including their successes and failures. Some of the challenges they shared were; lack of motivation among children in dump yard projects, poor infrastructure in the rural areas, poor sanitation and poor environment affecting the health of the children, illiteracy of the community leading to inability to guide their wards properly, government officials do not take children seriously in the beginning, school teachers are not giving sufficient attention to children's requests and initiatives, no proper meeting place for the CPs in the village, etc.

The participants were guided through the Sustainable Development Goals as part of the various Ministries the CPs could take up. The 17 SDGs were explained in brief.

The second day was fully devoted to Child Rights. After giving brief explanation on Child rights the participants were guided for a group discussion on various forms of violations that are still taking place in the families, communities and in the society at large. Children discussed about the child rights violations and shared at the common session, which was followed by what action the CPs would take up to address the child rights violations in their own areas. Accordingly, action plans were drawn by project wise participants to be implemented during the year 2018 in their project area. Children also enjoyed an outing to Rajiv Gandhi Zoo and Snake Park, Pune.





Workshop on Developing Monitoring Tools

A workshop for the project directors and coordinators was held in two phases, one on 25th and 26th August 2017 and another on 10th and 11th October 2017. The workshop was attended by the incharges and coordinators of all the projects. During the first phase the participants were guided to prepare the monitoring tools according to the objectives and indicators planned in the log frame of the project. The participants were given some examples of monitoring tools and accordingly they were requested to prepare the tools

In the second phase of the workshop the participants were requested to come with the tools prepared by them, which were to be finalized and field tested. Project wise discussions were held on the tools prepared and the projects were requested to finalize the tools and use them for monitoring exercise.

Basic Training for CP Trainers

HCDI always ensures that the staff working in the implementation of the project has sufficient knowledge and capacity to implement the programs. Formation and strengthening of CPs is an important aspect of Child Rights Based Approach to Community Development. The staff of new project in Jharkhand was given a three-day training in the following areas:

- The concept of Children's Parliaments.
- The formation of CPs and election of ministers.
- The role of CP in child development and community development.
- Understanding Child Rights and promoting them through CPs.
- Involvement of community in promotion and sustainability of CPs.
- Trainings to be organized for children at field level
- Activities through CPs
- Assessment of CPs.

Financial Management in Not for Profit Organisations

The financial management workshop for the project directors, project coordinators and the account personnel of the HCDCI facilitated projects under ERIKS support was organised from 23rd to 26th November 2016. Mr. Bosco D'Souza, the auditor facilitated the workshop by initiating discussions on the following topics:

- Financial management in Not for Profit organisations
- Society, Trust and allied Topics such as Provident Fund, Tax deduction at Source, requirement of TAN (Tax deduction Account Number)
- Accounting procedures, maintaining books of accounts, submitting financial reports to Board as well as to donor agency.
- FCRA requirements, Income Tax Rules, Annual Audit requirements,
- Dos and Don'ts while dealing with Foreign Money, Penalties for not adhering to the Rules and regulations of FCRA.

The workshop gave a clear overview of accounting systems to be practiced by partner organisations and HCDCI to exercise best practices in accounting systems.



Financial Statement Of HCDI For The Year 2016-17 (April to March)

RECEIPTS		
RECEIPTS	2016-2017	2015-2016
	In Rupees	In Rupees
Opening Balance	20,11,678.41	39,44,003.23
Grants from Eriks, Sweden	2,65,51,952.00	2,61,44,236.00
Grants from ICA Japan	12,18,574.00	1,29,38,693.00
Grants from Kindernothilfe, Germany	-	2,01,40,935.00
Donations	2,31,300.00	9,52,690.00
Bank Interest	68,76,056.00	59,37,239.00
Investments Realised	1,02,85,269.00	-
Other Income/Receipts	10,37,642.71	21,94,566.00
Total	4,82,12,472.12	7,22,52,362.23

PAYMENTS		
PAYMENTS	2016-2017	2015-2016
	In Rupees	In Rupees
Funds Disbursed to Projects	2,60,43,199.00	2,89,21,239.00
Programme Administration	1,29,70,295.43	1,93,91,874.79
Other Expenses /Disbursement	39,97,859.16	2,15,41,071.03
Capital Expenditure	18,87,573.00	3,86,499.00
Closing Balance	33,13,545.53	20,11,678.41
Total	4,82,12,472.12	7,22,52,362.23

BALANCE SHEET		
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES	As at 31-03-2017	As at 31-03-2016
	In Rupees	In Rupees
Reserves And Surplus	6,41,52,946.49	6,43,76,341.87
Specific Funds	3,08,41,805.28	3,22,37,967.28
Current Liabilities	4,41,13,004.76	5,08,30,949.26
Total	13,91,07,756.53	14,74,45,258.41

PROPERTY AND ASSETS	As at 31-03-2017	As at 31-03-2016
	In Rupees	In Rupees
Fixed Assets	5,23,40,125.00	5,15,55,482.00
Investments	8,31,42,960.00	9,34,28,229.00
Deposits And Advances	3,11,126.00	4,49,869.00
Cash And Bank Balances	33,13,545.53	20,11,678.41
Total	13,91,07,756.53	14,74,45,258.41

Our Partners

OUR PROJECT PARTNERS	
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church (GELC)	Catholic Diocese of Jabalpur
Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church	Catholic Diocese of Khandwa
Missionary Society of St. Thomas The Apostle (MST)	Congregation of Mother of Carmel (CMC)
Nagaland Baptist Church Council (NBCC)	Dominican Sisters of the presentation (OP)
Theodori Rural Development Project (TRDP)	

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