

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22**







**National Institute for Sustainable Development** 

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### Introduction:

Last two years were very bad for all and almost all sections of society, particularly the rural poor, faced lot of problem. The parents faced problems regarding survival, getting income for their families, feeding the dependent members like children, elderly, etc. Earning members were in the home due to lock outs, no employment opportunities. Children lost their schooling, they were out of touch with their studies, cut off from their school, friends, etc. Teachers though attending schools but schools are just for name sake as children were not able to attend schools, many schools buildings are used for keeping the isolation patients, teachers are not having safety material for themselves and children, due to that parent were not sending children in the schools. Every where there was anxiety and fear no body knows what will happen tomorrow. Many social problems are also arise such as domestic violence, early age marriages increased, girls drop out rate increased, mental health problems increased etc.

The rural families were facing more problems as most of the people of this areas are depend on day labor work/ wages or beedi rolling and due to lock downs they did not have any income source. Lock downs are for longer durations so people were facing maximum problem and many poor families did not have saving or food items. People were not able to help each others because most of them were in the similar situation. People like widows, separated, orphans, and very poor families sorrows had no bounds. In this difficult situation NISD tried to it's level best and did the following work------

### A. KARUNA EMERGENCY SUPPORT: During COVID emergency we did following activates.

- a. NISD distributed food kits to 646 very poor and needy families, mainly from widows/separated/ handicapped/ elderly and families whose earning main member is lost due to covid.
- b. NISD staff checked temperature etc. 3095 girls and their family members and out of that referred 58 suspectable cases for Covid centers for further check ups..
- c. NISD organized 10 mini camps during this period and checked 408 patients and provided medicines to them for minor problems. 21 patents are referred to further check-up/ treatment to the town hospitals.
- d. Coordinated with 20 disaster management committees about vaccination, social distancing, awareness raising, preventing measures, refer suspectable cases etc.
- e. NISD helped 2195 rural people in registering their names online for vaccination and also motivated them.
- f. IEC Material Exhibited in the 20 Villages and Created Awareness about Domestic Violence and Covid Vaccination
- g. Sanitary Napkins provided to 980 Adolescent Girls
- h. Helped 321 poor families to avail Govt. facilities/schemes( Ujwala Gas-11, Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana 25, Sukanya Yojana 1, MNAREGA-41, Agri. Equipments-4, Ayushaman Bharat1, Grocery Kits-5, Gharkul-15, Sewing Machine-1, Handicapped Teaching aids, 3, Toilets-14 and Soak pits-200.)

















### **B. KARUNA GIRLS EDUCATION PROJECT:**

In the second half of the year i.e. October-2021 to March 2022 NISD tried to focus on the original project activities and conducted following activities----

- a. Sensitization and Aware raising among community about Girls Rights: NISD prepared girl's right posters and organized poster exhibitions in all the 20 villages. 683 parents visited the posters exhibitions (Male243, Female 440). Apart from that NISD staff also visited 860 girls houses and motivated their parents to send their daughters to the schools. Many of the adolescent girls were irregular in the high schools so these visits helped them in regularizing in the schools.
- b. Formation/ Sensitization of Child Protection Committee Members and Local Leaders: NISD staff organized meetings of Child Protection Committee members and local leaders in all the new 20 Karuna supported villages. 41 meetings organized in that 660 members were present. Different problems were brought to the notice of these Child Protection Committee members such as post covid situation of schools, sorrowful condition of school building and facilities, parents are not willing to send girls in the school, Water problems, repairs and renovation needs of school facilities, need of resending girls in the schools, safety measures etc. were discussed in these meetings.

- c. Organizing/ Restructuring Girls Groups in the 20 Villages: After October, 2021, NISD staff met all the members of girls together groups and encouraged them to restart their group activities, meetings etc. on regular basis. The Girls Groups are restructured and motivated them to conduct their regular activities. Girls are also motivated to start attending their schooling. The problems of primary girls also tried to understand and the senior girls were helping the younger members of their groups. The girls who were not regular home visit were done. Survey was done by the groups members of the covid death and covid patients, problems of such families etc. Senior girls leaders helped elderly and illiterate villagers in vaccination registration work, checking their temperature etc. through thermometer gun and keep their record etc. Thus involving them in different activities motivated them by such activities. 160 meetings conducted in 20 villages and total 1012 girls attended these meetings.
- d. Gender Sensitization Training for Primary Teachers: Two Gender Sensitization trainings organized during these six months in 71 teachers participated. Gender equality, effect of Covid pandemic on girls education, how to change parent's mentality, these topics are covered by external experts in this online trainings. Teachers also shared their problems with the experts.
- e. School Enrolment/ bringing Girls in the school Campaign: When the Govt. declared to start the schools parents are reluctant to send their children, particularly girls in the schools. NISD staff conducted home visits, poster exhibition on girls education and requested parents to send their daughters in the schools. 711 letters are sent to the parents requesting to send their daughters in schools. Through exhibitions / awareness programs/ meetings and home visit conducted in all the 20 villages in that 1140 participated or motivated.
- f. Provision of Education Material to poor Primary School girls: Education material provided to 123 girls who are studying in 1-4<sup>th</sup> standards such as geometry boxes, notebooks, pens etc. This distribution is done with close coordination with the teachers, SMC members and SHGs. NISD staff paid home visits and selected the girls who are very poor and their parents are not able to buy educational material for these girls.
- g. Restructuring/ reorganizing Girls Groups: During covid the Girls Groups of adolescent girls were disturbed badly as their were no school, they were not able to meet regularly, parents are not allowing them to go in a groups etc. Therefore NISD staff convinced the parents, girls and started organizing meetings/ lectures and other activities for these girls so that these girls can start coming again in the group. NISD distributed books on adolescent health, some stationary items, distributed sanitary pads in the groups, organized lectures and by regular meetings tried to again bring these girls together so that they can come together and meet regularly.



- h. Provision of Education Material to poor girls: Education material provided to 238 girls who are studying in 5-10 standards such as geometry boxes, notebooks, pens etc. This distribution is done with close coordination with the teachers, SMC members and SHGs. NISD staff paid home visits and selected the girls who are very poor and their parents are not able to buy educational material for these girls. As these girls received educational material many girls are saved from becoming school drop out.
- i. Leadership Development trainings: NISD organized 4 leadership trainings for the groups leaders in that total 161 leaders ( cumulative) attended the trainings. Two trainings organized at village level and two trainings organized at Sangamner office. 28 field staff ( cumulative) also present in the leadership trainings. What is leadership, positive points of a leaders, responsibilities of leaders, work distribution, different activities youth leaders can undertake etc. subjects are discussed with the help of discussions, play etc.



j. Distribution of Sanitary Napkins: October 2021 to March 2022 NISD provided sanitary napkins to 737 girls (twice). This was done through the help of girls groups at village level and also in the high schools.





- k. Adolescent health training for Female Teachers (Online): One Adolescent health training was organized online in which 44 female teachers participated. Dr. Pramodini Sanap educated teachers about adolescent health, psychological aspect, problems faced by girls, how to deal with them, impact of Covid on girls psychological health etc. 44 female teachers, 14 field level workers and 3 NISD staff attended the online training.
- I. Adolescent Health Lectures for the Girls: As this is one of important activity, NISD with the help of doctors organized lectures for adolescent girls both in the high schools and also in the villages.40 adolescent health lectures were in 12 schools and 20 villages with the help of local doctors and 1470 girls attended the lectures. Changes during adolescent period, psychological health problems during this period, physical changes, personal hygiene, use of sanitary napkins, etc. topics discussed with the girls. These lectures helped lot during post covid.



m. Menstrual Hygiene and Adolescent Health lectures to girls leaders: Trainings were organized for adolescent girls leaders of 12 schools with the help of doctors. In these trainings 163 adolescent girls leaders and 23 field staff participated. Menstrual health, care during monthly cycle, different diseases if not taken proper care/ cleanliness, these information was given to these girls leaders and motivated them to pass the same to their groups members.



n. Provision of Bicycles to needy girls: NISD staff identified 21 poor girls, who are finding difficulty in attending their schooling due to not having transportation or due to poverty they are not able to buy a bicycles. NISD staff paid home visits, selected needy girls and by organizing program distributed bicycles to 21 girls. The Block Development Officer, Education Officer, Bank officers were the chief guests for this program.





o. Toilet construction/ Renovation at Pimpalgano Matha Highschool: Pimpalgaon Matha is a very remote village and girls coming there from nearby hamlets which are 3-4 km. It took long time for them. But in the high school the toilet was not usable, the toilet and door was broken, no water tank, no safety so it was not used by the girls and they have to control their urine etc. for longer time which was very difficult and unhealthy for them. By seeing this NISD arranged meeting with the high school authority and staff and worked out a plan in which Rs. 20000 contribution was raised by them and Rs. 30000 was given through Karuna project. Thus this

toilet work is started. Now 31 girls will have good toilet which they can use and their many problems will be sorted out.

p. Self-defense Training: Schools are started but there was a fear in the schools, There were no entertainment in the school or extra curricular activities in the schools. NISD noticed this situation and decided to start Self-defense training programs in the high school which was very popular among the girls. It gives them some exercise also. During this six months the Self-defense teacher conducted 86 sessions in these 12 high schools which was attended by 1987 girls (cumulative)



A view of Self- Defense Training for adolescent girls.

- q. SHG Formation and strengthening of old SHGs: During October 2021 to March 2022 NISD staff reorganized earlier SHGs and also organized new SHGs in these new 20 villages. Now there are 36 SHGs in this area and 454 women are members. All are formed by NISD only. 182 meetings organized these groups during these six months and motivated them about saving, regular meetings, record keepings, social issues, Income generations etc.
- r. Formation of Girls Leaders Federation and Training: Two trainings organized for girls leaders in which 73 girls leaders were present. Importance of girls unity, different programs girls can take up for their development, different roles of members and their responsibilities, what role can federation play etc. was discussed in these programs.



Leadership training for girls group leaders.

S. Girl's protection committee members meetings: Due to covid it was not possible to organize meetings at block level so NISD organized meetings of girls protection committee members at the village level. Total 38 meetings at village level organized in which 678 members participated. Topic discussed in the meetings were parents not sending girls to schools, sending girls for wage labor or involving them in house work, cycle distribution to needy girls, members visit to put pressure on parents those are not sending girls to school etc.

#### t. SELF LEARNING MATERIAL FOR GIRLS STUDENT DURING COVID SITUATION

COVID situation is a big challenge before us to keep girl's in touch with the school studies and also saving them to become drop out, wage labor or even to get marry at an early age. This is due to lock down, closure of school and cut off from the education. Parents engaging their adolescent girls in house work or even prefer to send on daily wages so that they can earn some thing for the family. Some cases are also noticed that parents organizing marriages of these girls as only 50 relatives are allowed for wedding ceremony which reduces lot of expenditure on marriages. Also they feel one member will reduce from the family that will ease the financial burden on them.

Schools are closed, girls are not able to attend their schooling, poor internet, non-availability of mobile phones to poor girls (even parents) etc. not allow us to organise online classes to keep these girls in touch of education. To over come this NISD spoke with the girls, teachers, SMC members and also with the local leaders. After several meetings we came to the conclusion that use of social media will not help in our area to keep continue girl's education. So as per discussion with the stake holders we decided to develop self learning material which can be distributed to the girl's and encourage and motivate them so that they will stay in touch with their studies. Then NISD contacted some of the teachers and told them our plan. These teacher's showed their willingness to help us in preparing the self-learning material, check and correct the same and guide the girls.

Accordingly we formed a group of teachers and developed self-learning material for the girls for the 8,9 and 10 std. girls. Because these classes are important and they have to appear for exams for entering in next standard (upto 7th std Govt. pass all the student and recommend them for next standard) Also we decided that COVID situation can change any time so we should give self learning material for monthly basis. The idea was to develop material to distribute this to girls (through teachers, our field staff and social workers etc) encourage girls to do their learning with help of it, solve the problems, then they will return the solved copies to the teachers (through or field staff, social workers or their own) then the teachers will check the answer sheets, give necessary remarks on that, if the girls living near by then can meet the teachers in a small group and get guidance from them and after finishing first month next months self learning material will be given to them. This will go on still the covid situation will not become normal and schools are not function on regular basis.

After developing the self-learning material we get it printed and as per our plan we distributed to 146 girls of 3 remote villages on model basis. Our staff made home visits of these girls, encouraged and motivated them, told them the plan and what they have to do and how it will help them to keep continue their studies and also keep them in touch with education. We also motivated parents that allow these girls to complete their studies and do not put more work burden on them.

After distribution of the self-learning material our staff regularly pay visits to these girls and taking follow up. Now shortly our first month will get complete. The girls will come to meet the teachers in a small group (5-6) and show their answer sheets, the teacher will check it and give them necessary suggestions and guidance. Then we will give them the next months material and the corrected copies. Then they will do necessary corrections as well as staff studying their next months work. After 4-5 months ( upto the covid situation will get over) this will go on. After that we will

collect all the material get it spiral binding and return the girls so that they can use this material for preparation of their final examination.

It is noticed that the girls who are staying nearby (organized girl's group by NISD) coming together and helping each other in studying the material, solving the problem, helping each other to correct their doubts and also solving the questions. As teachers are involved girls and their parents feel that school is not functioning this way so they are also cooperating properly and allowing girls to do their studies. NISD staff, SMC members and teachers are also keeping an eye and motivating and encouraging girls and their parents in this.

Some parents (junior girls and boys) are not happy because we are implanting this model program only for girls of  $8.9.10^{th}$  girls. Boys and their parents of these std. said we should start this for them also but due to our financial problem we could not do much in that. So some teachers collect contribution from the boys and also put their own money and xeroxed this material and distributed this material to 8.9.10 th boys of these villages.





Self learning material proved useful for girls not having access of mobile phones.

# C. KARUNA INCOME GENERATION PROGRAM FOR RURAL WOMEN:

Due to COVID situation the women, who are doing wage laboring work, marginal or landless farmers faced lot many difficulties as they did not able to have secure income sources. As due to lock outs, labor work was not available they faced lot of financial difficulties. To overcome this NISD requested Karuna Trust to support these women to start their small income units so that they will have secure income source and their dependencies over day labor will be reduced/ end. We are thankful to Karuna Trust for enabling NISD to support these women to start their income generation units.

NISD approached our SHGs and organized meetings with them. In the meetings NISD staff requested them to motivate and encourage their members, who are willing to start some income generation units. Then the interested women applied with their plans, required amount etc. NISD staff scrutinized these application and which are found good paid home visits of these members. After satisfaction the social worker recommended their cases to NISD team for necessary sanction. After selecting the members we told them to submit required documents like Addhar card, ration card, recommendations of SHGs, etc.

**THE WORK DONE**: The NISD staff supervised the income generation started/ expanded and encouraged women to start the units, helped them in their problems etc. Here we are details of the businesses in brief so that you will have more clarity.

SN	Details	No of women
1	Dairy	22
2	Tailoring (Machine/Material)	8
3	Poultry	10
4	Grocery	4
5	Hotel/ snack stalls	2
6	juice stall	1
7	Beauty Parlor	2
8	Vegetable shops	3
9	Dry fish stall	1
10	other	7
	Total =	60

### SHG WISE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS:

SN	Village	SHG	Total
1	Karule	1	5
2	Kuthekamleswar	2	5
3	Tigaon	1	2
4	Samanapur	1	3
5	Zole	3	5
6	Kuran	5	12
7	Hivargaon	4	13
8	velhale	1	6
9	Wadgaonpan	1	9
		19	60



The above table shows that in 9 villages this 60 business units are started. 19 SHG's  $\,60$  members are benefitted by this project i.e. first income generation project.

## D. AZIM PREMJI FOUNDATION PROJECT: Women Empowerment.

Following activities planned and carried out during the last 6 months as per the set Outcomes----

OUTCOME 1. To create strong women's network in the project villages ( by organizing, capacitating and strengthening women's self- Help Groups, Village Level Organizations and MAHASANGH ( Federation) and enable them to work for member's income enhancement and empowerment.

- 1. Orientation cum Training for Program Level Staff: The President, NISD organized a training of program staff and gave detail information about the program, proposed activities, what we expect from that, objectives outputs, indicators, expected results, budget and what will be our strategy to achieve the expected goals. All APPI and NISD staff was present for this training. Discussion held on this and the doubts of the staff are cleared.
  - A 3 day Training was organized, by the Goat Trust of India, for program staff organized in that 6 program staff members participated. In that the resource person explained how this project will go ahead, goad keeping, goat management, importance of VLR persons, her work and responsibilities, type of goats, problem involves advantages, marketing etc.
- 2. Field / Village Assessment and Base line Survey: NISD, with the help of program staff and filed staff, developed a detailed format, pre-tested the same, and conducted survey of 1200 women of these 7 project villages, This survey is related to family information, financial condition, income sources, land holding, animals, goats, education, health status, etc. This will help us to know more about the socio-economic and health condition of these 1200 beneficiaries. We also collected information about the villages, problems of these villages, water sources, hygiene related information, educational and other organizations, local leaders, etc. This survey helped us in educating our field staff, about survey methods, survey tactics, interaction with the beneficiaries, they came to know the local situation, problems, etc. We plan to select 1000 beneficiaries out of that who are needy and interested to participate in this project.
- 3. To motivate/ Encourage women to come together and form Self-help groups: NISD staff worked very hard and not in 7 villages there are 96 SHG groups formed/ reorganized and organized a strong network of 1089 rural women belonging marginal and landless families. Information was given to them about the proposed project, how their union will help them to develop, getting knowledge, income generation, etc.
- 4. Trainings of members on group functioning/ group norms and systems and building their capacities: The SHG members are trained about the rules, regulation, saving pattern, record keeping, how to seek loans/ schemes from Govt. banks etc. paper work, how we want to move further by taking up goat keeping, how to improve health by growing nutritious vegetables fruits etc. Apart from meetings, home visits we organized 5 trainings in which 167 women participated and received basic information how to form, run, and prepare documentations etc. of the SHGs for proper functioning.
- 5. Village level Meetings with Gram Panchayat members/ community leaders to build common consensus for village level activities: In the 5

villages Trainings/meetings with the panchayat members and community leaders like Aganwadi workers, Asha workers, SHG members, Gramsevak, Sarpanch and elected members of villages. Information regarding the project is given to them and how this will help the local women in improving their income, health and unity and how it will impact positively on their villages growth. Total 186 people participated in the trainings/ meetings. This will help in receiving support from the local leaders while implementing this project.

- 6. Meetings for formation of Village Level Organizations and group functioning group norms etc.: In 2 villages meetings were organized of the SHG group leaders, about how to form village level Organization of the SHGs. In which 50 participants were present. Information was give to them about the Village level Organization, how it will be formed, its rules and regulations, functions, how it will help the SHGs and its members of that particular village.
- 7. Meetings of Village level organizations leaders for formation of MAHASANGH: The basic work of organizing 1089 women and forming their 96 SHGs is carried out. Now the process of organizing Village level organizations of that particular villages is going on. We also informed them how we are going to organize MAHASANGH by selecting active leaders from each villages.
- 8. Meeting of SHG on record keeping / paper works: 4 meetings organized in which 125 SHG members took part and upgrade/ gain knowledge about record keeping, how to open bank accounts in the bank, paper work for that, how to write cheques, how to maintain the records etc.
- 9. Training of SHGs Leaders on Digital Literacy: A training was organized for the leaders of SHGs on digital literacy. Forty participants attended the training. Information was given to them about how to fill the forms, how to deposit amount in the bank, use of ATM, google pay, phone pe, etc. This helped in understanding the difficulties of women while dealing with banks and tried to reduced their fear about it.
- 10. Review Meetings/ Experience Sharing Meetings of Staff: As this is beginning of the project and most of the field staff and program staff is new about the area/project NISD organizes monthly meetings of this staff in which they share each others experiences, learn from each other, teach them to use different formats, and upgrade their knowledge etc. The project staff gives them ideas about how to move further and conduct future activities. This help in building the confidence, knowledge etc. of the staff. During this 6 month six meetings conducted.
  - OUTCOME 2. Improve Income of 450 poor households (specially women) by organizing, strengthening and building their capacities in Goat Management and other income generation activities.
- 11. Training meeting of Village Level Organizations on accessing working capital from Govt/ Banks/ Bachata gat/ Others: Two training at village level organized in which 70 female participated. In this training information was given about the Govt. and banking schemes, how to get loan from banks, what are their expectations and needed paper work, different

- OUTCOME 3: Availability of balance and nutritious food to 550 beneficiary families by motivating them and developing Nutrition gardens.
- 12. 3-day training for NISD staff on Nutrition gardening: 3 day training organized for NISD In that 14 program/field staff members took part. The Resource Person from the Amhi Amchya Arogyasathi, gave Information about how blood is produced, red and white cells, what is anemia, HB, reasons behind anemia, type of anemia, diagnosis, preventive aspects, was given about the anemic condition of women/children, how to cope with that, how to grow different vegetables/ fruits etc so that women will get good leafy vegetables, different type of Nutrition garden, type of plants, vegetables, how to motivate them, water provision during shortage of water, pesticides and fertilizer making in a natural way (organic) etc.
- 13. Demonstration training for NISD staff and villagers: Demonstration trainings are organized in 5 villages for the village women and also for the benefit of NISD program staff. Total 326 women participated in it. Women are taught how to develop nutrition gardens by using small piece of lands and their court yards, how to use different nutrition garden models, water arrangements, different plants/ vegetables, use of local seeds, use of locally made fertilizers and pesticides, what care to be taken etc.
- 14. HB testing of women: NISD organized HB testing of 1101 women of the project area. For this NISD encouraged, motivated and brought to their notice about the problems of anemia, causes and effect of anemia, need of HB testing. Dr.Mrs. Rasal and her team worked very hard and collected and diagnosed samples of 1100 women by visiting the villages. The diagnosis indicates that 461 women's HB is less that 10.
- 15. Seed (Indigenous Local Seeds) and Developing Seed Bank: To create awareness about indigenous seeds, how to collect, process on it and store the same and save them etc. NISD organized a visit to the seed bank of Mrs. Rahibai Popere, who received Presidential award from Govt. of India. She educated our staff how this local variety vegetables, organic treatment, organic pesticide and fertilizer, save human beings from number of diseases and give us poison free foods i.e vegetables, fruits etc. She also guided NISD staff how to collect, preserve, store these local variety seeds and use if.
- 16. Organizational Development Plan: Mr. David Kadam prepared a questionnaire, discussed with the staff, then had detailed discussion with the staff members, took inputs and tried to know present situation of NISD, it's Management, Administration, statuary compliances, staffing patterns, financial management, different policies, fund raising capabilities and future plans etc. After completing initial work he is drafting the final report and will submit by end on July 2022 to NISD with his suggestions etc.

### **PROGRAM PHOTOS:**



Before Kitchen garden



After Kitchen garden development



Self-Help Group formation at Kauthe-Kamaleshwar



SHG meeting at Tigaon village



Village leader/ Gram panchayat member's meetings



NISD Staff trainings and staff monthly meeting at Project level







View of HB Testing camps at village level.





Nutrition Garden training for NISD staff Organic Pesticide training at Village level





Nutrition Garden demonstration training for NISD staff at field level





Training Given by Goat Trust of India to the NISD program staff

## E. AFARM-INDIGO WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROJECT

- a. Under AFARM- Indigo project 950 women are trained in different income generation activities such as poultry, goat keeping, dairy, agriculture, and other income generation activities.
- b. 875 women are given knowledge/ information about social security schemes out of that 625 women received benefits.
- c. Bank account of 900 women opened in nationalized banks and given them financial literacy training and gave them information about bank related transactions.
- d. 156 women are members of Agriculture Producer Groups. Training is given to them about low cost pesticides and compost making, organic farming etc. This is helping them in reducing their production costs.

- e. Hivargaon village 5 members received Rs. 100000 each i.e. Rs. 500000 to start their income generation out of that they got Rs. 35000 each as subsidy.
- f. Five Village Gramsangh organized in that 1125 women are members. Out of that 364 started their income generation activities. Indigo project gave them Rs. 20,62,500 as revolving fund.
- g. These beneficiaries did 28,24,500 turnover during the year and established 364 business (Dairy 164, Goat keeping 83, Poultry 51, Agri. Business 25 and other 41)
- h. In five villages Gramsangh started group business such as Gunny bag stitching, milk related items making, animal feed making unit etc.
- In total under AFARM project NISD organized 64 Producer groups and 1125 are members of these Producer groups.

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