

APPENDIX CAM16: PROGRAM NEWSLETTER (EXAMPLE)

Kalahandi - Program Newsletter 2011-2012

Dear Sponsor,

The Kalahandi- Integrated Child Development Programme (K-ICDP) is designed with the Child-Centered Community Development concept, based on the findings of the situation analysis conducted in the year 2008. Currently Kalahandi ICDP is intervening in 18 target villages of Thuamul Rampur Block of Kalahandi district. The program is designed together with the community to address the holistic needs of the children and the community.

BASIC EDUCATION



Basic education is one of the key focus areas in the program, which led the children to attain quality of education. By considering the need in the community and bridging the gaps in the education, we are running tuition centers in the target villages. Trained animators from the villages are coaching the children. Apart from the education inputs, the tuition centers are integrated with sports activities, extracurricular activities like Debate, Essay writing, Singing and moral teachings which contributes to overall development of the children. During the

reporting period, the program has introduced the Multi Grade Multi Level methods of teaching in the tuition centers. With the help of this new method, the children's learning level increased. 70% of the children have attained the minimum level of learning in their respective classes. We also campaign environmental cleanliness, organized to sensitize the children and parents into keeping their environment neat and tidy. Children's rights and protection rallies were organized at the Block headquarters during the reporting period. Children have been participating in the rally with banners and placards which awakened government administration as well as the parents, teachers and relevant stakeholders to give importance to children's education and protection. (Children's rally at Block headquarters)



Awareness campaigns (Street play) using folk media were organized in all target villages to create awareness among the parents regarding the importance of education, reenrollment of dropouts and mainstreaming disability and social issues like alcoholism. This activity resulted in reenrollment of dropouts and the women realizing the ill effects of alcoholism on their children, and women were motivated to convince their husbands to abstain from drinking alcohol.

(Street play on education awareness)

BASIC NEEDS

In all target villages, grain banks have been installed to have food grains during lean seasons. A grain bank committee has been formed for the proper functioning of the grain bank. The community takes food grains from the bank when there is no food in their houses, which later they repay with interest. This approach ensures the sustainability of the grain bank and supports the families with food throughout the year. Now the children are having their meal every day in their own houses. (Grain Bank)



Planting kitchen gardens is promoted among the target areas to acquire nutritional food for the children, pregnant women, lactating mothers and the community. Now the community is growing local beans, papaya plants, and drumsticks to increase nutrition.

Sustainable Economic Development

Women have been mobilized and organized to form Self Help Groups -SHGs- in the target villages. Now, 24 Self Help Groups have been strengthened to carry out income generation activities by using their local resources. This activity will enhance their economic status. Improved economic status of the families would positively impact the children's wellbeing.

In addition, 12 unemployed youths have been identified and counseled to undergo skill development trainings. After the skill development training, the youths will be facilitated to have their sustainable employment.

EMPOWERMENT

There are many community-based organizations existing in the villages for village development. The members of one such group are called 'Village Development Committee'. Members were trained on how to access government schemes. It is an achievement that 3 school buildings were being approved and are now completely constructed. Now, the children are happily attending their classes in new school building.

Community-based organization empowerment is very significant. At present, community people and leaders of the Community Based Organizations are frequently visiting government line departments and discussing their issues.

We thank you for all your support and love for the children. We even extend our gratitude to enable us to serve the Lord through the lives of these children whom you love so much.

With Many Prayers,

Kalahandi ICDP