

ANNUAL REPORT 2005 - 06



National Institute of Women, Child and Youth Development, Nagpur

1. PREFACE

National institute of women child and youth development has completed twenty years from its registration in 1985. In the two decades since its small beginning NIWCYD has metamorphosed from a grass root implementing NGO to the incubator of smaller groups. This journey of two decades is in the process of documentation with internal team members joining hands with some of the associates to share the institutional and programmatic canvass of NIWCYD.

If Eighties was the period of infancy, nineties of schooling then, the first decade of the new millennium is the period of consolidation, streamlining, resource pooling and vertical leverage. As the programme expanse grew exponentially/geometrical progression, the institutional growth was imminent. So along with the programme streamlining, NIWCYD as an institution is carrying out exercises to turn it into a resource organisation with institutional systems of reporting, monitoring, evaluation and management gearing up for the role the organisation is envisaging for itself. In retrospect the report is a curtain raiser for the "Twenty Years of NIWCYD" and also shares the glimpses of the institutional mechanisms/exercises that went in to build the "Futuristic Institution".

By the start of 2005, the institution was looking to move away from the project based to programme based. The scene was scary as it is tedious job to bring in synergies in the approaches of different resource partners working on a single issue. The organisation has been deliberating with its partners.

The organisation has been working in four broad thematic areas viz. Livelihood of the Tribal and Marginalised; Child rights; Gender and women empowerment and; Governance (strengthening of Community Based organisations for control and management of village economy). Presently, the organisation is reaching tribal and marginalized population of nearly four lakhs. So in the subsequent chapters will find the progress under these thematic areas, the processes that lead to the achievements, learning and way ahead.

The organisation humbly feels that the task ahead is onerous and requests all of you to contribute with your feedback, critique and suggestions to make NIWCYD into a learning organisation.

R.K. Malviya
Chief Functionary

2. Programme Progress Card

A. LIVELIHOOD

In 2005 - 06, the programme was supported by six resource partner's viz. AWO, IGSSS, LWR, MPRLP, OXFAM, CIDA and TdH. Geographically the area under operation with the seven partners was distinct and no overlapping occurred. Below is the project wise progress report for the concluded year.

Self Help Project for Baigas

Location: 12 villages in the Samnapur block of Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh, India.

Project Objectives: Improving the living conditions of the tribal in 11 villages in Samnapur block of Dindori district

Specific Objective

1. Promotion of self-sufficiency of the tribal through capacity building and self-help mechanisms.
2. Self-steering capacity of the target group built.

Brief Description: The programme consist of (1) Soil water conservation measures, (2) Sustainable Agriculture measures, (3) Women empowerment, (4) Health and Education, (5) Forestry and non-timber forest produce, (6) Capacity building of the community and the project staff, (7) Advocacy.

Progress Card:

1. The campaign for getting the yellow cards which provide food grains at much subsidised rates to the poor families has been initiated in the project area. Also the campaign for the effective implementation of the public distribution system has been taken up both at the community level as well as the government level. As a result of this campaign, 324 baiga families got the yields in the yellow cards in the project area
2. Contribution of 123.36 quintals of grains and seeds in the grain and seed bank by the people. The percentage of the returns to the seed and grain banks is 83% in all the project villages. Maximum utilisation of the village fund for the agriculture and income generation activities.
3. 175 acres of land developed in the project area. 79 acres of land brought under second crop cultivation by 123 families. Demonstration plots for the sustainable agriculture developed in each project village. 66 families are engaged in kitchen gardening and vegetable cultivation. In all the villages people have done kitchen gardening with the water pumps provided to them. This has resulted in increase of income by about Rs. 1000/- for 45 families. Apart from this the people got the green vegetables during the summer season which was a very rare commodity for them.
4. The list of local species of the trees, the birds, the animals and other living things in the forests are being developed by the people themselves. Herbarium of local species developed in the project area. People in seven project villages have

protected the forest adjoining the village for forest conservation and have formulated the rules for the use of the forest. Development of Bamboo nursery in all the villages with about 15,000 saplings. These saplings have been supplied to other villages in the area.

5. Income generation programme of collection and marketing of the oil seeds has been initiated in the project area. 200 quintals of oil seeds (Rai and Ramtila) have been procured by the village development committees from the Gramkosh.

Key Achievements

1. Forest & Forest Department:

- The local forest officials have acknowledged the roles of the forestry study group and have included the members of the group as the trainers for the training to be imparted by the forest department for the prevention of the fire in the forest.
- People have started the protection of the vanishing species of the forest.
- The livelihood enhancement schemes of the government of Madhya Pradesh and the forest department have started implementing in the project area.
- Land development and the water resources development programme is being implemented by the forest department in the project villages.
- Lake development work initiated by the forest department in project villages.
- Regular meetings with the forest protection committees on the issue of forest conservation.
- People's representatives got elected in the forest protection committees.

2. Food Security

- Food availability of 308 families has increased from 5 months to 7 months.
- Increase in the food grain production by 25% as compared to the year 2004.

3. Development

- The scheme of fishery of the agriculture department is being implemented in the project village Titarahi where organisation had developed a pond last year.
- People have started protecting the forest from the fire.
- Process of making the development plans of the forest villages initiated in the project area.
- Development plan of one of the project villages Pondi approved by the forest department.
- People have demanded and succeeded in getting wages as per the specified rates for all the work from the forest department as well as other government agencies.

Fostering Livelihood by Promotions of NTFP Based Income Generation Activities for Poverty Alleviation in Mandla and Dindori District, M.P.

Objectives of the project:

- To supplement income of poor and tribal families through land and forest based income generating activities.
- Empower women through economic activities.
- To develop capacity and skill of people for value addition based on forest and agro based produce.
- To develop skill and capacity for better management and marketing for sustaining the activities.

Progress Card:

- The Baiga and Gond tribal are the chief beneficiaries under the project. In all 205 families got benefited. In the thirteen villages (5 in Baiga Chek region, 5 in Mawai block and 3 in Amarpur blocks)
- Orientation of SHGs conducted in 13 project villages and this process also carried out in new 7 villages. Twelve new SHGs promoted in the project area and linked with IGP activities. Seven groups received revolving fund from different government schemes.
- Orientation training on accounting: Conducted orientation programme for SHG members on proper accounting and collective marketing of their products. 29 women members participated.
- Collective marketing promotion: Learning from previous experience, one group has been formed at the block level at Amarpur for marketing of plate and bowl of one SHGs. One more group is formed in Samnapur block for collective processing and marketing of mustard oil.
- Plate and bowl making: SHG members and others continued the production of plate and bowls in Amarpur and Mawai blocks.
- The traders in the Dindori district are demanding plates of big size. NIWCYD has now provided two electric plate and bowl making machines at Amarpur to cater to the demands of the market. Small plates are sold in the local market by the SHG members and the big plates are sold by the marketing group at block and district headquarters to the traders.
- The workers in Mawai are continuing their talks with traders in Raipur and Mandla for better price. The traders have agreed to purchase their product at the rate of Rs. 45/- per 100 plates.
- In all 160 families are engaged in this activity. They prepared 21,200 plate bundles (25 plates per bundle) during the season. Due to summer marriage season, the groups were able to sell the products locally. The average income was Rs. 530/- per family.
- Due to this activity, the purchase rate of the leaves (by local traders) has increased from Rs. 3/- per kg. to Rs. 5/- per kg. this year. 75 families indirectly benefited due to rise in this rate.
- Marketing group of Amarpur has established contacts with traders in other areas (Dindori, Jabalpur) and are gearing up the SHGs for additional production in the next season with the help of two new machines.

- Broom making: 50 old families continued the manufacturing of home use small brooms and designer brooms. 10 more families joined the activity. The small brooms were produced in bulk to cater to the demand of peripheral markets.
- 5,100 brooms prepared from local grass and sold in Mawai, Belgaon and Mandla markets. Each family benefited to the tune of Rs. 595/-.
- Three beneficiaries started production of fiber from local raw material. They will promote this trade in coming months.
- The groups have stored 9 quintal of raw material for continuation of work in rainy season.
- Mustard Processing & Marketing: In Baiga Chak this activity is extended in 12 nearby villages. 200 quintals of Rai & Ramtila was procured by 12 SHGs and VDC by 150 families at the rate of Rs. 1400/- per quintals. The local middle men used to collect @ Rs. 900/- to Rs. 1000/- per quintals. Due to NIWCYDs intervention, the purchase rate has increased and the families got benefit of Rs. 400/- to Rs. 500/- per quintals. Due to this intervention, people in the peripheral villages got aware and money lenders were compelled to increase the purchase price. Nearly 100 marginal farmers benefited indirectly under this activity.
- The traditional oil extraction equipment 'Pitla' was promoted in the village. 13 families extracted oil using Pitla and sold it in the same village. The by product was collected for extraction of more oil from mini oil machine installed by NIWCYD at Samnapur. Containers and other oil storage facilities provided.
- Two persons of the groups are trained for proper handling of oil extraction machine. Extraction of oil from this machine has started in June 2006. Marketing group sold Mustard oil in the local market @ Rs. 50/- per liter. Demand of this oil is increasing day by day because of purity and fair rate of the product. The oil has been tested in the laboratory. All ingredients are properly found in right proportions. Workers discussed with fisheries department for purchase of by products. Department is ready to purchase all by-product for fish food. As per the initial production of oil it is expected that profit of Rs. 60,000/- from this trade. This profit will be utilized for the strengthening of this activity in next year.
- Other activities: Bell metal crafts, wood carving and leather work promoted by motivation of artisans in collaboration with Madhya Pradesh Hasta Shilpa Nigam. 60 artisans trained and initiated the production in Mawai area. Two groups received funds Rs. 31,000/- from district authorities. Three groups of Amarpur have initiated incandescent sticks unit, dalia production and detergent powder unit with support from lead bank and from own funds. 10 groups linked under different government schemes and received Rs. 50,000/- for agro based activity.

Livelihood Project through Agriculture Development - Kanker

The programme is in its second phase of implementation. The livelihood programme is carried out in 10 villages of Kanker district (erstwhile Bastar district) of Chhatisgarh state (carved out of Madhya Pradesh on 1st November 2001)

Location: 10 villages of Antagad Block of Kanker district of Chhatisgarh state.

Project Objectives: Improvement of livelihood options through agriculture in tribal communities.

Specific Objectives:

- To increase agricultural yield of 150 families from 10 villages
- To increase household income
- To form farmers associations
- Enhanced skill and knowledge of agriculture practises
- Enhanced skill and knowledge on IGP

Progress Card

1. Agriculture:

- Horticulture and vegetable cultivation in groups initiated by people
- Land development by 41 families in three villages
- Farmers groups have been formed in the project area. Paddle pumps provided to groups formed.
- Development of vermi-compost in the project areas
- Crop rotation and inter-cropping practises initiated in seven villages
- Collection of improved qualities of traditional seeds
- Training on sustainable agriculture at Indira Gandhi Agriculture University and WOTR Ahmadnagar
- Exposure on sustainable agriculture at Ramkrishna Mission Ashram, Narayanpur
- Demonstration farm development for crop rotation
- Land development by 41 families in three villages.

2. Micro-credit through women's groups

- Formation and strengthening of self help groups
- Livestock management training
- Income generation skill development programme for self help groups
- Income generation programme for minor forest produce collection and marketing through revolving fund
- Income generation programme of Minor forest produce collection and marketing started by Self Help Groups.
- Initiations of minor forest produce collection and marketing by four self help groups.

Food security and irrigation for tribal farmers

This program is being implemented in 2 villages of Kanker district in Chhatisgarh namely Gumjeer & Pusaghati. In collaboration with Afro (Action for food production) Raipur, the program is being focused on the livelihood support to the tribes. Natural resource up gradation and their management through people's institution is the major area of concern under the project. The activities undertaken under the project with the objective of enhancing the food security of the people by strengthening their agriculture activities. Major interventions during the year are as follows;

- **Self help for self reliance;** 11 self Help groups are being formed in two villages with the involvement 227 people of these village. All these 11 SHGs are linked to the Banks and they have also initiated economic activities in their villages. Up to March 06 they have saved an amount of Rs. 29656 through their collective efforts.
- **Capacity building Trainings;** For enhancement of their agriculture production the people were given different trainings on Fisheries, machinery like traddle pumps operation & management, exposure to the watershed activities at Udaipur, Rajasthan were organised to build up the capacities of the people to take up the programs at their own.
- **NRM activities;** 95 % of the population of these villages dependent on the agriculture & allied activities for their livelihood. To increase their production in agriculture and for making agriculture a viable option various structure were either generated or upgraded in these two villages. In Gumjeer village Pond & Gabion structure are being constructed & repaired. 60 human days of work is being generated through this work. Two Nalla Diversion work was also undertaken in the village in which the employment of 1540 human days was being generated. It helped the people to not take migration as an option for attaining their livelihood outside the village.
- **Supporting their small efforts;** 21 people of these two villages were encouraged to take small entrepreneurship activities & supported with the small amount of Rs. 31500. They have started small locally viable business like Mahua collection, grocery shop, cycle repairing, and carpenter work to increase their income. These small helps motivated themselves to take up the other options for supporting their livelihood.
- **Balwadi Support;** As a preschool intervention component, one Balwadi centre is supported in Pusaghati village. 51 children were supported through the centre. This centre helped the children & villagers to understand the importance of education and they are motivated to join the formal system of education.

Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihood Project – Mandla & Dindori

Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihood Project is a state run programme and is in the first year of implementation. The programme is implemented by the govt. machinery. In two of the districts viz. Dindori and Mandla, the MPRLP collaborated with NIWCYD in two fields: technical know how and community mobilisation. This was so because of the nature of the MPRLP programme i.e. livelihood and the technical know how the organisation had gained in working on enhancing the livelihood of tribal in Mandla and Dindori as well as the grass root level workers and coordinators who have gained immense expertise in community mobilisation.

It would be too early to gauge the results of the collaboration as the programme has yet to complete one year. So far, the organisation has provided technical support in the area of soil water conservation in the two districts and mobilised the community in the initial phase.

Sustainable Adivasi Integrated Development (SAID) Programme

Background:

Oxfam India trust is continuously supporting NIWCYD since last 18 years on different aspects. The support for livelihood intervention is being done since last 8 years.

Dindori is the district known for its lack of access to developmental resources pulled from government. Being thickly populated with Gond and Baiga tribes the people are marginalized from the developmental arena. The organization has been trying to facilitate all possible processes with in the existing circumstances. The sustainable Adivasi Integrated Development Program is ended in November 2005 and focus is being shifted to Small and Marginal Farmers, which is found to be the most underprivileged part of the community. The project "Support to small & marginal farmers to enhance their livelihood" was initiated in December 2005 in 35 villages of Chada, & Amarpur Area in Dindori by including 11 new villages. The major issue of the area remained same whereas strategic intervention in the area has been shifted. Through experiences in the area it was decided to take up the major prevalent issues of the area in priority. Issues that are being taken up are as under;

- Food security.
- Access to credit facilities.
- Migration.
- Access and control in market.
- Access to social security schemes
- Access to information etc.

Project activities:

Resource Mapping;

In the 35 project villages extensive mapping and analysis is underway with members and households of Self Help Group Members. Through these exercises the issues of the area are analyzed with the people, what are the major obstacles ruling with livelihood, forestry and agriculture and how they can be overcome through collective actions.

Assessing the impact:

Impact assessment of previous phase of work done in three villages of Baiga Chek was carried out in association with Arithik Anusandhan Kendra (An U.P. based organization working on participatory techniques and livelihood). The changes in the resource profile of the people was mapped, changes in mentality of the people, extent of enhancement of food security, changes in position of women and community's assessment of further work required, challenges in front of the community were documented. This assessment helped to improve our process of developing village development action plans.

Mass mobilization for NTFP trading

A one day level workshop was organized each at Amarpur and Chada where 75 people, both men and women from the project villages attended to share issues related to collection and sale of non-timber forest produce. This process motivated the people for collective action of agricultural products and NTFP.

Efforts of Success – Khera wali swayam Sahayta Samooh

Kherawali (a local Goddess) SHG of Amgaon is constituted by 13 women of the village. Initially they all are engaged in making the bowl and plates of Mahul leaves through hands. Their products have very low rates in market because its look is not very attractive. The village worker and member of SHG discussed the issue in front of the forest officer. They supported the group by providing a machine for making the leaf plate and bowl without any cost. This support boosted the confidence of the women members. Now they are earning a fair amount of their produce. On the first sell they earned a profit of Rs. 800/-

Trapping the government resources;

For involving the district officials discussions were held with relevant line department's i.e. Agriculture department, ITDP, Zila Panchayat, district administration etc on improved cropping packages suitable for the area, NREGA, and other allied interventions. The meeting helped to know the personnel of the departments, their duty area and specialization was better understood by the project personnel. As a result of discussion maize cultivation has been taken up as a summer crop. Vegetable cultivation will also be encouraged by the department in the near future by supporting the seeds with in the area.

A development plan of 50 villages through the approval of Gram Sabha of different villages is also submitted to the district administration. An orientation program on NREGA is also organized for the staff and village leaders to ensure its effective implementation in the areas.

Land and water development:

Activities carried under for developing land and water resources through people's involvement led people to work towards agriculture development practices. Organization also took a lead under NREGS facilitation in district and convinced the district administration to develop such structures under this initiative. The village development plans would be converged with the programs of MP government like Jalabhishek abhiyan etc. Under land development program total 249108 cubic feet land is developed for agriculture purpose which generated 3898 human days of work to provide them livelihood & employment in 10 villages of the project area. In WATER DEVELOPMENT activities under 4 villages of the project area 175 families benefited in water structure development work for their irrigation purpose. 4537 human days work generated.

Propagating the innovations:

Exposures of farmers were organized to understand WADI programme of BAIF in Nasik, Maharashtra. In WADI programme 36 farmer's visited in 2 batches to understand the concept of WADI. The result was a significant and people shown their willingness for plantation. 500 pits for planting saplings of fruit had been made. 350 families in Amarpur & Baiga chek region planted mango saplings after these exposures. The community members were also very interested in protecting the sapling. The survival

rate of these plants boosted other community members to adopt such practices in their agriculture land. The facilitation programs for post harvesting produce management of Rabi and Kharif crops were also organized with the community people.

As resource, the revolving fund has been given to different SHG groups for collection of NTFP like Mahua and Char Seed. SHG of Silpidi have been experimenting various options to enhance their income like poultry, band group etc. while SHG of Samhar (Baigan tola) collected Mahua. SHG of Pipariya initiated candle making through this support and SHG of Amgaon is engaged in leaf plate and bowl making. These small initiatives led these women members to actively participate in the village developmental processes.

Advocacy & People actions:

Supporting the voices of people on their concern is an integral part of the project design. The strategies are designed to bring the people on a platform and two multi-stake holder consultations was organized at Dindori with representation from different line departments like Chief Executive Officer of the Zila Panchayat Mr. Shelvendran, Head of Fisheries department, Nodal officer of the District Udyog Vyapar Kendra, and other organizations like bank officials.

These meetings were attended by members of village Panchayat and SHG members from Amarpur and Baiga chek areas of the project. During the two rounds of the meeting the various issues were discussed/ clarified – Distribution of Job cards under NREGS, Role of Panchayat and how people can approach for demanding work, social audit procedures, etc.

These meetings led a impact on activating the processes in the area. People in the project area were provided job card in an accelerated process following the Jan sunwai (this process was on earlier but pace picked up then). People started approaching Panchayat for more work. People learnt the wage rates specified by the government and were able to obtain the same.

Meetings of gram sabha became regular and community took interest in its proceedings. Action plans have been developed in the 35 project villages and additionally in a further 15 villages adjoining the area for the year 2006-2007.

Evidence documentation

The poor Public Distribution System of the area was a major issue of concern. Its Status & people's access to it was studied and documented. It was found that number of Baiga families in Baiga chek was living without the yellow card provided for the most BPL families. (Supreme Court of India ordered to provide each Baiga family with yellow card). 8 Baiga families raised their voices in Jan sunwai at Bhopal to demand yellow cards.

Immediately after these actions people of the project area were provided with yellow cards by the government so that they could claim their entitlement from PDS shops.

The special programmes for primitive tribes were documented and its present status in district has also been analyzed. This analysis is being provided to the district level

administration. Based on the report district administration identified villages under fisheries and Wadi programme. The action plan of the villages was coordinated with the interventions planned by the government to increase benefit to the community.

Capacity building of staff

At the very onset staff orientation on general project deliverables was conducted in two rounds (including one refresher). Trainings were held on appropriate methods of facilitating, shared learning / participation in communities. Orientation program on knowledge management on different government programmes. Oriented about the information dissemination patterns within the project area. Special emphasis was laid on sharing information on National Rural Employment Generation Programme.

Major Outcomes

Through these specific interventions the major changes observed are as under;

- People in the project area were provided job card in an accelerated process.
- BPL – yellow cards were distributed in 35 villages of Baiga chek on mass basis.
- Meetings of gram sabha became regular and community took interest in its proceedings
- Action plans have been developed in the 50 project villages.
- 2-3 farmers in a village started line sowing of paddy crops.
- New patterns of agriculture practices like WADI was adopted in the project areas.
- Participation of women participants increased in village level meetings and they initiated demands of transparency in use of village fund (Gram-kosh).
- District administration has appreciated the efforts under NREGS and further involved organization as a lead NGO in the district.
- Community people initiated approaching to the district official directly for their problems after consultative meetings.

Tribal Peoples' Organisation with Agricultural Development in Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh (India)

Villages - 30, Families – 2079, Population – 11236
Families: 1300, Women: 2500, Children / Youth: 1250

Progress Card:

Land Improvement and agriculture development

Among the land improvement & agriculture development program the major interventions have been construction of stone bunds, earthen bunds, check dams, gabion structures, etc. As there is an abundance of stones, preference was given to stone embankments. As part of the program 1300 families were to benefit from these interventions. Some of the other activities were; restoration of about 541.46 hectare of arable land, stone embankment construction on approx. 50 hectares, introduction of new varieties of seed & trainings in different land improvement measures. Training & orientation on Role of Study Group on Water Conservation, Management of Seed/Grain

banks, Vermi-compost – field demonstration, seed selection & storage and vegetable promotion, have been organized with 293 participants during the period.

Access to Safe drinking water & water resource development

Restoration and excavation of wells, construction of new wells, excavation of ponds, training for operation and maintenance of the system formed part of the major intervention. Through restoration & excavation of ponds / construction of rain water reservoirs, tapping of drinking water supply, installation of water canals, trainings were the major activities carried under the program.

The question of drinking water is so closely related to the overall water resource development plans. Quality of water is also another major issue especially in Kanker. Measure such as repairs of existing wells or construction of new wells have certainly helped in reducing the intensity of the drinking water problem up to some extent.

Women Empowerment

Involving women in the processes was found as a major concern in the area. Initially women did not attend any of the joint meeting neither was there willingness to attend separate meetings. Through series of interventions, women have now been attending these meetings regularly and in fact few have actively taken up roles in the different committees that have been set up. They were trained to improve their status through different literacy courses, educational seminars, leadership trainings, awareness programs regarding various government schemes, management of SHGs, vocational trainings etc.

Total 71 Self Help Groups were formed in the respective project areas with the membership of 1020 members. Through this collective actions they are able to collect the amount of Rs. 410153 /. They also supported 218 their co-members by internal lending procedures.

Village Institutions & Shock proofing measures

Learning groups for voluntary actions;

There are 30 groups of male & female are being formed. The learning groups had the task of identifying problems in districts and developing strategies for improving the situation. Emphasis of given on the introduction of practice oriented planning methods.

They were oriented on water conservation, tribal issues, Youth leadership, Medicinal plantation and cultivation, JFM and Nistar Rights, Rabi crop promotion, PRA, Sustainable agriculture organized. These learning groups also participated in village council meetings.

Village Fund

Gramkosh is a village fund, which has been built through financial contributions from the people. These contributions are 20 % of the labor work that was taken up by the organization on their lands. Farmers were paid 80% of their labor costs. It has been working more or less like the SHG without its regular monthly contribution. It was set up as an emergency requirement to counter the rampant exploitation by the moneylenders. The rate of interest is similar to the rate in the SHG. The capital in the Gramkosh

therefore depends entirely on the interest on loans. Loans are taken up by the people for purchase of Bullock, agriculture equipments, illness, weddings etc.

- Total Village Fund is Rs. 12,79,119/- in 30 villages.
- Rs. 5,34,737/- distributed to 452 families for social, educational, health & economic needs

Grain banks / Seed Bank

As an important intervention towards the self reliance of village Grain banks & seed banks were introduced in these villages. These areas are very poor with low agriculture productivity on the one hand & poor access to PDS on the other. Along with lack of irrigation & soil erosion, non availability of good quality seeds is another factor responsible for low agriculture productivity. Thus seed bank is seen as an important institution in such villages to address the problems. Traditionally too there has been something called as Ramkothi in existence to meet out the emergencies in villages. Seed grain bank & Grain banks are the Modified form of that. It also meets out the food requirements of the villages during the emergent situations. For the management of seeds & grain bank, a committee consisting of 10 members was appointed. The distribution of seeds in individual or collective emergency situations was discussed in Gram sabhas as per the criteria of need. These process came out with

- Establishment of seed banks in 30 villages, 539 quintal of seed collected (15% increase)
- Distribution of 474 quintals of seeds benefiting 883 families for Kharif crop
- Collected Rabi seeds – 60.30 quintal and distributed 47.90 quintal to 479 families
- 179 quintals of food grains distributed to 459 families of 15 villages
- Orientation of 60 persons in the management of grain banks organized
- 1044 persons got benefited out of these measures.

Impact of the Program;

The initiative was being taken up during the mid of 2002. During the period of the major impact of the program can be seen as follows;

- a) Land Improvement & Agriculture Development – Intervening with construction & up gradation of various structures of bunds, nala bunds, nala trench, stone bunds, stop dams etc. we are able to increase the cultivable area by 35 % in the project fields. The processes were reached to the 63 % of total population with coverage of 27 % of most marginal farmers having land holding of below 1 acre. The overall production from all the crops shown an increase from 535.78 quintals to 919.78 quintals through the various inputs in the area. Second crop is being introduced in the area of Chhindwada & kanker due to the availability of water resources & 740 families started taking up second crop due to access to the irrigation facilities.
- b) Reduction in Migration – migration has come down from 492 families to 68 families during the intervention phase. As the employment opportunities have been generated with in the village over their own land, people have stopped migration up to 86%. Earlier they did not consider it as migration while going to the stone crusher units in their neighboring villages.
- c) Due to the interventions regarding water resources, safe drinking water problem of 722 families was solved.

Endogenous Tourism Project - Chougan

Government of India ministry of Tourism & United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has selected 31 locations of rural India as sites for sustainable rural tourism. The objective of this programme is rooted on the internationally discussed concept of tourism as one of the effective and sustainable catalyst to lead the country towards economic development.

In Madhya Pradesh village "CHOUGAN" is selected for its unique features as the location of one of the popular tribal sacred seat called Madhiyaji , which attracts thousands of tribal and other devotees not only from Madhya Pradesh but also the neighboring states Chhatisgarh, Maharashtra and Orissa during the Chaitra Navaratri festival which falls in the month of April – May.

NIWCYD works as the software implementing agency basically community mobilization of the project whereas district administration of Mandla undertakes the hardware component of the project. The software activities started on the month of November 2005 with the baseline survey and PRA during the time of Chaitra Navaratri festival celebrated in the sacred seat of thousands of tribal community from different neighboring states.

To promote community livelihood sources through tourism related entrepreneurship development in which all the sections of the community of the host village Chougan will be benefited. So the project in the title itself one thing is obvious that local resources both human and natural will be used in a sustainable manner as the products of tourism, at the same the values of local culture and tradition remain intact.

Activities carried out so far:

1. Base line survey and PRA.
2. Video documentation of the Chaitra Navaratri festival/ ritual also carried out.
3. Three groups of artisans and a farmers group has identified for promote their skills according to the tourism specific entrepreneurship.
4. Service providers like indigenous food makers, dance and song group also has been identified and training programme initiated.
5. Convergence workshop has organized at Mandla with the hardware implementation agency- district administration, Mandla.

Major achievements:

1. A group of youth have been started to make furniture and several craft items (souvenir) as the part of the tourism related entrepreneurship development programme in the village by using a plant species called Lantana which is considered to be inhospitable to the forest and agricultural bio- diversity.
2. District handicraft development board has started training programme for ten youths in wood carving in the village. Five of them are able to make craft items.
3. A group of seventeen farmers are expressed their interest to start Vermi- compost making in their own farm land, as the initial step to convert the village as an organic agricultural land.

4. A film on the Chougan village depicting its cultural and traditional importance has also developed.
5. Host communities started to provide traditional food and services to the visitors.
6. Village tourism promotion committee has formed.

B. CHILD RIGHTS AND EDUCATION

Bachpan – Bringing back childhood

The Bhopal regional office initiated Bachpan as the Action Aid India project in the year 2001. Realizing that the daily needs of children living in deprived conditions are not met, Bachpan meaning '*Childhood*' was initiated to facilitate the process of ensuring rights of the children in the city of Bhopal and Itarsi. The project was designed keeping in view the child rights framework. Its mission is to address the rights of individuals, here mainly children, who suffer the most dense denial of rights. The partner communities of the project as decided were:

- Children living in slums/ child labour
- Neglected or abandoned children living on the streets or railway platforms

Though the partner community referred to here is only of children, there has been a very keen attempt to ensure the active participation of parents, teachers and the community by emphasizing on a community based approach. In the long run, there have also been attempts to hold the state accountable.

Till end of 2004 the child rights initiative in Bhopal was only slum based. Beginning from the fag end of 04, the platform initiative began.

I. Initiative with Platform Children

Introduction

The children living on platforms form one of the *most vulnerable* categories among the marginalized children in India. These children are subject to baseless stigmatization as delinquents and crime-prone children. The extent of marginalization is high. The boys are primarily engaged in selling used water bottles, petty items, begging, sweeping floors, and pick pocketing whereas the girls eke out a living through begging, singing or are exploited for sexual purpose. What makes the children abandon their homes could be poverty, dwindling base of resources of their communities, ill treatment, physical harassment by a parent, lure of freedom or even a misplaced taste for adventure. They suffer gross violation of rights from railway employees, police, passengers and gangs operating on the platforms. Their health status is poor because of an existence, centered on films, gambling, and addictions to smoking and drugs.

Bachpan has initiated its work with platform children this year. Out of the 17 major platforms in M.P. that serve as shelter to thousands of children, Bachpan has started its intervention in 3 platforms namely Bhopal, Ujjain and Itarsi. Bachpan believes in the **de-institutional** rehabilitation of these children, addressing their right to dignity,

mainstreaming them or making attempts to influence policies or holding the state accountable. Bachpan also recommends community based/ family centered care of the child, thus primarily focusing on counselling the child and sending back to their family where ever possible.

Shelter Home Facility to children

In order to provide security from any form of physical exploitation especially during night and ensure minimum health needs and nutritional requirements, children are provided with shelter support initiated at Bhopal, Itarsi and Ujjain. Here they are also provided with some basic amenities like one time meal, water, toilet facilities, clothing and shelter at night. Health checks up camps are organized for the children in the shelter. Since the initiation, the three Shelters cater to the needs of at least 30 children each day. Twenty six children have been sent back to their homes and ten children have been linked to schools. Three children who have become handicapped due to accidents during their train journey have been linked to the State benefit schemes.

Theatre Camp

At Bhopal a training camp of forum theatre was organized for the children from the street. The aim was to initiate a process of sensitising the children about their own situation using participatory techniques, act as active agents to change the situation in their favour. While on one hand, this process gave the children a chance to articulate their realities, on the other hand it served as a mechanism to increase children's participation and ownership in the process. Through this 15 days training programme children prepared a play of their own story and have given a name – '**Talaash**' (meaning: Search) to the script. A group of 10 children has been evolved through the whole process and till date they have presented 16 shows at different locations, particularly in schools to voice their environment and problems.

Home placement/ Detoxification camp

While following the de-institutional approach, and with the aim of re-integrating the children back to their families a one-month home placement camp was organized for 28 children of Bhopal, and Itarsi shelter homes. The camp was organized keeping three things in mind: The camp was organized keeping three things in mind: de-addiction, number of years of the child being away from the family, frequency of child's running away from home.

The camp was organized in a village named *Dhokheda*, in the outskirts of in collaboration with other two organizations Saathiya and Saathi, Raichur. Saathi provided the technical support to Bachpan based on their 12 years experience in working with platform children. A series of activities were undertaken to prepare and counsel these children to go back to their families. Major outcomes of this camp are –

- ❖ The last day of the camp culminated in the form of a function only to mark a new beginning in the lives of these children.
- ❖ Out of 28 children, 24 were sent back to their homes. 15 children were handed over to their parents during the function in front of the Commissioner (Mr. S.R. Mohanty),

Women and Child Development Department M.P. Government. Nine children were accompanied by one the staff members of Bachpan and sent to their families.

- ❖ 4 children out of 28 have been referred to different organisations after the camp and their family tracing is in process.

II. INITIATIVE WITH SLUM CHILDREN

The focus of the Bachpan's initiative with Children in slums in the year 2005 has been Education, with special focus on children out of school (by definition all children out of school are child laborers). Since its inception Bachpan's work in the nine slum areas has led to building up a movement towards universalizing primary education. Bachpan has adopted a rights based framework in its approach to deal with the Education and Health rights of children in slums. Over the period of four years, a transition in approach is observed in this regard from running non-formal education centers to school enrolment drives and networking with the concerned government departments at different levels. Major concern of Bachpan's initiative in Education has moved to liaison with the Education department and the government school authorities in order to consider factors such as improving school infrastructure of government schools and the pedagogy to reduce the drop out rates of children.

A. Mainstreaming Child Labourers

Residential Bridge Course Camp for girls

Based on our experiences in working with children particularly of the rag picking community in the slums and in spite of our regular efforts to keep them in schools it was observed that girls of age group 8 – 14 years have to discontinue schooling in spite of their interest in studies. This can be attributed to the lack of supportive environment for studies at home. At a tender age they are compelled to lead a life of dual responsibility of helping in the household chores, taking care for younger siblings and sometimes even working outside to support family's income.

Keeping this in mind a residential bridge course (a non-formal educational method wherein the children are equipped for school through specially designed courses that accelerate their knowledge) camp for girls was organized to develop a favorable learning environment with the participation of children from 9th May 2005 to 26th June 2005, just before the school reopens in July. During the preparation a series of meetings were organized to sensitize the parents of the girls in order to take their consent. Fifty girls of age group 10 – 14 participated in the camp. The main objectives of the camp were five folds:

- To mainstream the girls in formal education system in classes appropriate to their age.
- To create a learning environment for girls in order to motivate them for schooling
- To have close interaction with the girls by means of adopting innovative teaching methodology
- To bring about and understand behavioral changes in the girls.
- To develop a cadre of the girls

The camp culminated in the form of a school enrolment drive and rally on 29th June '05. Out of 50, 46 girls were mainstreamed in government schools and a follow up plan strategically prepared. Along with these children other 429 children were also enrolled in the schools. A regular follow up, home visits and school visits are done to ensure their retention in school.

Anita is 10 years old and lives in Mira Nagar. When Bachpan initiated their work in the field area Anita was observed roaming around, picking rags. She was a hard-core addict to Silochan (whitener), and gutka pouches. She used to be filthily clad and looked thin and miserable. She was a school drop out. However Anita has a sharp mind and has tremendous interest in studying. Her family is poor. Father is a daily wage laborer, and mother works hard to fulfill the basic needs of her children. Her father is addicted to alcohol and forces Anita to go to for ragpicking from where she will earn some money to fulfill the demands of her father.. Anita is closely attached to her mother and younger brother Deepak. Food security is a major issue in Anita's family. The children get full day meal just once during the day. She gets lot of encouragement from her mother. Her mother supports her in all the good things she shows interest in.

A small booklet 'Umang' meaning enthusiasm has been published which narrates the experiences of the participants, and learnings of the team in organizing the camp.

B. No more Child Marriages now

Campaign against Child Marriages:

Child marriages are a major concern in the target area. In its effort to combat this evil Bachpan team has initiated a campaign against child marriages in the community. Bachpan has also published awareness generation material regarding the harmful effects of child marriages.

"I am Meena, 11 years old. I live in Mira Nagar of ward 52 Bhopal with my father (Kailash, 36 years old), and my mother (Kusum, 28 years old). I have 2 brothers. Elder brother (Raju, 20 years old) works in Khabadi shop and second brother (Mukesh 17 years old) at present is not able to work since his arm got fractured in an accident. Both of them have never gone to school. I also do not go to school. I stay at home and do all the cooking, cleaning, fetching water, and washing. Sometimes I attend the Bachpan center where Savita didi organizes lots of activities for children. She had called me a number of times to attend the center but I have to take care of the house.

In my community the girls are married at a small age. My father had also fixed my marriage with a boy (Kewal, 17 years old) who is resident of Misrodh, Bhopal. The marriage was on 14th Dec. 2005. I was feeling nervous. I had always wanted to go to school and play around like other girls of my age in the community.

Savita didi came to know about my marriage through other children in the community. She and another didi (Anjum) from Bachpan office tried to explain my parents that it is illegal to marry girls below 18 years and boys below 20 years. She also tried to explain them to not to burden me with the pressure of marriage at a small age. But my parents just wouldn't listen. On the day of the marriage when the ceremony had just started, to my surprise I saw Savita didi and Anjum didi accompanied with four policemen. I was excited but I was also scared. There were also people from newspaper and T.V. The policemen caught hold of us and took us to the police station. Anjum didi was with me all the time. In the police station, the policemen explained to my father and made him promise that he will not make this mistake again.

Thanks to Savita and Anjum didi. They saved me from the burden and harm of getting married at a small age. Now I will start going to school regularly. I wish to study hard and become like Savita didi."

C. Their concerns, their voices

Trainings of Children's groups:

A 20 days residential programme was organized for building capacity of the children. Nineteen children (girls: 7; boys: 12) participated in the training. A lot of creative activities were done with the children to give them a chance to express themselves with colours and craft. The training gave them a chance to articulate the situation they are living in. Through this 15 days training programme children prepared a play of their own living conditions and the problems of lack of basic facilities of water, toilet, electricity they face living in the slums. They have given a name – "**Rang Le Lo Rang**" (*meaning: Sharing colours of our life*) to the script. As a result of the training the children are able to voice their problems at different platforms and pose a question to the citizens of civil society about their existence in meagre resources. The training has also helped in identifying and developing leaders among the participants. Their talent will be helpful in the future course of Bachpan in mobilizing the community.

b) Campaign for Universalization of Education

NIWCYD Bachpan as one of the partners of Action Aid has initiated the Campaign for Universalisation of School Education in the last quarter of 2005 in 20 slums of Bhopal. In the initial phase following activities have been carried out to support the campaign:

- Area Selection, Team building---- As mentioned earlier the work of Campaign will be initiated in 20 slums of Bhopal. Since its initiation Bachpan has worked in 10 slums. Through this campaign Bachpan will be initiating its work in ten new slums. The slums are strategically divided into three clusters:
- Strategic interventions planned are Strengthening PTAs, Capacity building of Youths groups, Enrollment campaign, research etc.

Bridge class for slow learners

Supporting Education of Dropouts

Major objectives of the program are

- To ensure access to education for all children of age group 6 – 14 yrs. in the project area
- To reduce the drop out rate of children in schools
- To ensure provision of quality education

Interventions:

Community Learning Centers

1. L2R – Learning to Read (Language)

The classes are mainly run for children who are in school but are lagging behind. It is observed that these children lack family support. Therefore after school, most of them either help their parents or roam around in the communities with their friends. With starting of the classes in the communities, we have observed that the discipline of 'sitting to study after school hours or before school hours' is inculcated in them.

The technique used for L2R is a combination of 'Whole Language Approach' and 'Varnamala Padhati' that uses a rapid learning process, enabling children to learn how to read in approximately 45 days. Through these classes' parent association also formed in the communities. For arithmetic the innovative and creative method of explaining tens and units was implemented using 'gathe-sutte' (bundles of ten straws).

Bridge Classes

This is aimed at mainstreaming 'never been to school' or 'drop-out' children into formal school. The accelerated learning program enables them to enter school within 6, 9 or 11 months, depending on the baseline skill and aptitude of the child. The child is enrolled into the formal school in an appropriate grade. 34 such bridge classes were conducted in 20 slums of Bhopal.

Reading to learn classes

Children who are able to read fluently are then given extra inputs on subjects children are supposed to learn through their textbooks. The emphasis of this program is primarily on developing "self learning" package, where teacher's role is of facilitator.

The rationale being to inculcate the reading habit into the children. This will further ensure that their reading competency gets sustained and strengthened and forms a base on which other competencies can be built. From basic reading in language and performance in math, the child must make the essential transition to reading on subjects as diverse as history, science and geography.

Child labour / Girl child labour program

The question of the girl children has been one of the major challenges faced by the organization. Various trainings were given for supportive income to these girls. In Jabalpur NIWCYD started a hostel where these girls are encouraged to continue their education along with different skill trainings.

Lack of access to education facilities is the major issue of concern in the rural & Tribal pockets of Kanker, Chhindwara & Jabalpur. Girls are forced to work in the stone crusher units of Bargi region at Jabalpur. It is estimated that there are about 500 girls in the project area who are working under exploitative conditions. To build an environment regarding education, the major component of the project had been its Non Formal Education Centres. The main aim of these centres is to integrate school dropout children in the formal system of education.

In the Jabalpur area, Girl children are preferred to employ in the stone quarries because they are agile at work, can be employed at lower rates and importantly provide a ready access to the owner for sexual favours. So the main aim in this area was to get these girls out of this exploitative work & rehabilitate them by integrating them into schools. Parents meeting were conducted in each of the villages to convince them to send their children to schools.

The major interventions & out comes of the program are as follows;

- 404 children (191 G + 213 B) attended NFE classes
- 293 children (166 G + 127 B) admitted to schools
- 27 children successfully cleared V std. exam in Chhindwara & Jabalpur clusters
- 3 cluster wise NFE teacher orientation held
- Plan prepared for school enrolment of children
- Three street play trainings organized. Two groups established in Chhindwara and Jabalpur clusters.
- 104 Boys and 86 girls appeared for exams of std. I to V. Out of these 83 boys and 69 girls passed out in respective classes.
- 163 boys and 142 girls attending non-formal education classes
- Village Education Committee (VEC) members of all villages oriented to monitor mid day meal scheme in primary schools.
- Identification of children of 6 years age for admission to primary schools
- Two street plays performed by children street play group in Jabalpur cluster on social issues.
- 18 girl child laborers admitted to girls hostel at Jabalpur
- Skill up gradation of girls in tailoring and stitching

Impact

- All children in Kanker area are attending school. NFE teachers are conducting bridge classes in school
- Ratio of dropout children decreased due to NFE centers and Bridge classes.
- Child laborers are linked with education through NFE centers and schools

- Street Play groups creating awareness on children education, child labor, child marriages amongst the villagers
- 12 children joined middle school as a result of street play on education
- 32 beneficiary girls child laborers were monitored and ensured that they don't return to work.
- Provided to regular health support to 32 girl child labor in hostel and cluster villages.
- Visits by staff to families of girls who have stopped working in stone crusher units and agricultural farms outside the project area
- Till date 153 girls have stopped work in hazardous units and farm labor out of 327 working girls

C. Self Governance & Institution Building

Swayam Samarthan Project

The PACS (Poorest Area Civil Society) Program is a DFID supported project launched in July 2003 with the coverage in most cornered areas of four districts in Madhya Pradesh i.e. Dindori, Mandala, Betul & Chhindwara. The villages in the project area share common characteristics like forested areas with 73 % tribal populations. For addressing the vulnerable situations in the area strategies are designed in such a manner that the effected people will become self reliant and their voice will just their concerns in respective of their issues i.e. SWAYAM – SAMARTHAN. The project is being implemented with the network of 10 NGOs of 4 tribal populated districts lead by NIWCYD.

Major Concerns;

- Improved Local Self Governance in rural and urban areas
- Women's empowerment
- Self Help to meet basic needs
- Poverty alleviation

Project objectives

The overall project goal is "Building and strengthening people's institutions in 450 villages in Mandla, Dindori, Chhindwara and Betul districts of Madhya Pradesh; thereby enabling conservation and efficient use of their natural resources and benefits under government schemes".

Strategic Actions

Gramdoot (Village Animator): Gramdoot is not a new concept. There are a few in the villages who are always there to provide assistance, suggestions, to one and all. This person carries out his work to earn the livelihood and takes time out to be of any help to the others. We call this person as Gramdoot.

- We have been working on this line for quite some time in Mandla/Dindori district. During our entry point activities, we identify such persons and involve them with our

day-to-day programmes. He/she then is slowly groomed to continue the activities during our part withdrawal and total withdrawal. In a fact the gramdoot fits into our phase out strategy.

- 450 Gramdoot were selected through their nomination in the Gramsabha. 8 % of these Gramdoot are females.
- Organization had provided exposure, training and capacity building & motivational events for their strong momentum. We have assessed the Gramdoot voluntary work form each village & seen the Gramdoot acting as a change catalyst at village level for mobilization of the people. In rights based approach on livelihood issue they ensured the effective implementation of NREGA & proper implementation of govt. schemes at Village level like school, anganwadi, Mid day meal & other welfare program.
- During the implementation of this concept, our partners & some people insisted us to give some incentive in form of honorarium to Gramdoot. But we do not want to dilute the philosophy & had a stand on principles and philosophy of voluntarism - Gramdoot Role, so on we felt that they should work as volunteer (without any remuneration) and give some time for village issues with their regular livelihood work.
- We and found that 50% to 60% Gramdoot have taken stand to solve various village issues during the period of 2 years. Some Gramdoot taken very commendable steps on local issues and they got the success. It is also another achievement of the program that tribal & Dalit leadership is being evolved for social change. A cluster level Gramdoot Sangh is also established as a grass root structure for advocacy & people's action. Through their consistent efforts we are able to increase the participation level of women in Panchayat meetings up to 37-40%.

Strengthening People's Institutions

The inbuilt philosophy of organizations intervention is strengthening peoples institution. Keeping this in mind 671 SHGs with a capacity of about 2000 trained female members were promoted in the project area. 174 groups of small & marginal Farmers promoted to understand & assert sustainable food security measures. Special emphasis is given on the groups of Landless families. In 30 villages Parent teachers associations are established to assert Right to education of children. To give a momentum towards political advocacy & to strengthen PRIs Voter awareness Campaign organized with active women participation. To address the concerns of Joint Forest Management Committees of 64 forest villages in project area 148 Forest Committees are activated. To facilitate the processes various capacity building programs were organized on leadership, community participation, PRIs, EDP, SHG, their rights, NTFP, MFP, JFM & CFM. Led 3097 villagers to initiate collection of forest produce.

For seeking sustainable options other processes carried out are Village – Entrepreneurship motivation campaign, horticulture/ vegetable farming promotion campaign, Indigenous seed promotion campaign in 129 villages to have traditional seed banks and Seed bank, grain bank formation.

Major outcomes:

Poverty & Livelihood

- 328 families stopped migration.
- 63% villages (282) initiated food security measures through grain & seed banks.
- BPL cards issued at Baiga chek.
- Rs. 75,4724/ pulled through resources in area.
- 6373 BPL families linked with govt. schemes.

Governance:

- In 24% villages (108) developmental processes activated.
- 1203 statutory institution initiated actions.
- 1121 change agents/ potential leaders (avg. 2 in each village) continuing the momentum.
- 15 villages have their own plans based on felt needs.

Gender

- Participation of women increased by 32-35% in village meetings.
- Representation of 2000 trained SHG women members in process.
- 149 potential women leaders trained on PRIs to strengthen the systems.
- 33 female gramdoot are facilitating the changes at village level.

Few Steps Ahead

- Filed PIL for the land rights of 77 tribal families displaced in Betul district.
- 11 Baiga tribes voiced their concerns in a Public hearing at Bhopal on PDS issues.
- A concept of State advocacy unit is evolved to raise the concerns regarding livelihood

Community Mobilization for Elderly, Mandla

Project Advocacy for elderly is supported by HeopAge India under the Poorest Area Civil Society programme (PACS). NIWCYD has been implementing this programme in hundred villages of Mandla district spread in four development blocks – Mohgaon, Bichchiya, Nainpur and Mandla respectively. The selection of villages has made on the base of the percentage of population of persons above the age group of sixty and the poor access to various government welfare schemes targeted especially for elderly.

The implementation strategy of the programme is to empower the elderly community members through different level awareness programmes in order to improve their liaison capacity with various PRI institutions and government departments on the base of their right which is enshrined in the national policy for elderly.

Twenty Vridha Mitras (age caring volunteers) have been selected and appointed among the project villages as one cluster consisting five villages under one VM. The Vridha Mitras are assigned to stay in the villages so have selected one village as their head quarters in each cluster. One project assistant and administrative assistant cum accountant had also selected and appointed in the field office.

The project started in the month of November 2005 with the appointment and orientation of project team and VMs by NIWCYD and HelpAge India – PACS Bhopal team.

Activities carried out so far:

1. Base line survey and PRA exercises has been carried out.
2. Village level awareness programme has been started with PRI and elderly community members of the each village.
3. 100 elderly had been linked up with three welfare schemes (Indira Awas Yojna, Antoday Anna Yojna and Old Age Pension yojana) apart from other schemes like NREGS, and health check ups.
4. The first phase of orientation training to Vridha Mitras has conducted on March 2005.
5. Groups of elderly (Vridha Smities) were formed in all 100 villages and start to put forward their demands in the GramSabhas and other PRI meetings.
6. Organised one event during the month of January 2005 in that occasion the first issue of the quarterly news letter has released jointly by the senior citizens of Mandla.

D. Women and Health

Home Based Neonatal Care

This project is continued in 16 villages of Mansar area of Nagpur district. Regular health services are being made available to new born by women health workers.

Safe motherhood campaign

Launching the campaign:

A one-day state level workshop on safe mother hood was organized on the occasion of safe mother hood day, 11 April 2005 at Local Self Governance, Bhopal. The inaugural session was attended by Mr. G. S. Shukla Chief election commissioner of MP, Anju Singh of MP Mahila Arthik Vikas Nigam, Mrinalini Gadre, Dr. Sheela Bhambal, Tapas Dutta of UNICEF Bhopal and Pradanya of CARE Bhopal.

Major Concerns of the campaign are:

- The poor health facilities in the state of M.P.
- The whole issue of delivery deaths should be taken into consideration, as a human rights issue and human rights perspective believe beyond figures.
- Efforts of social change should be continuing and should not be limited to medical reasons only. We should also address social causes.

- CEDAW must prepare an alternative report on maternal mortality in M.P.
- We should also advocate against gender discrimination.

Dr. Sheela Bhambhal oriented participants about the technical and Medical aspects of the issue. He told that 498 mothers die every year over per lakh cases .Though in India we could not say the correct status. She suggested incorporating the groups of adolescent in our programs while addressing the issue. Participants raised their concerns on the poor government's health delivery systems in MP and felt a need to advocate for such issues.

The issues of Human Rights and Safe motherhood, Panchayat role in preventing delivery Deaths, strategy to address the issue was also discussed during the workshop by participants of seventy NGO representatives, media persons, and govt. officers.

The representatives of organization to address the issue formulated an action plan.

- Mobilizing govt.'s resources and strengthening govt. institutions
- Mass awareness programmes of govt. policies
- Awareness campaigns at community level against myths followed during pregnancy and for safe motherhood
- Advocacy and Networking

E. Disaster Management

Flood relief at 'Panna'

NIWCYD has a history for immediate responding in the emergent situations whether it is earth quake, flood or draught. This year we responded in Panna flood after going through media reports and information collected from govt. department, 1355 villages of 9 districts were affected by the floods. More than one lakh livestock was dead. 90,146 houses were damaged. People lost their livelihood resources. Agricultural land was submerged under the silt and the kharip crops were washed out. Approach roads to the villages were washed away.

Situation of Panna District during flood

In Panna district, where NIWCYD had initiated the relief work 225 villages were affected by the floods. Out of this 125 villages were totally affected. Relief team of NIWCYD met the district collector Mrs. Deepali Rastogi immediately and co-ordinated for proper and immediate relief work and compensation. Due to co-ordination with Govt. immediate relief material like ballis and bamboo for the temporary shelter and food packets were distributed to the affected villagers. Team of NIWCYD volunteers and doctors provided support to the district administration for immediate relief measures. NIWCYD team observed that about 50 villages which were far from the block headquarters and which were on the other side of the river, the situation was very worst as no help was reaching properly to those villages. The team worked continuously for about 30 days and provided medical support, sanitation drive & water purification awareness to the most affected villages. Due to NIWCYD interventions neglected villages received the material and help from government department. NIWCYD intervened the relief work with most

vulnerable groups of 1168 families in 9 unapproachable villages. The details are given below.

NIWCYD selected the 9 villages of Pawai and Amanganj Block of Panna District under relief work with the support from SWISSAID. These villages were unapproachable and no other NGO was working there. The organization initiated following relief and liasoning with the Govt. for proper help of badly affected families. The following relief work done by the organization.

1. Food grain support provided to 1168 families.
2. Seed for Rabi crop to 1168 families.
3. Blanket & sheet provided to 599 families.
4. Partial supplementary food to 260 children.
5. Teaching & learning material provided to 255 children.
6. Medical health check-up camps and sanitation campaign conducted.
7. Misc. helps to the needy families.
8. Advocacy and liasoning with Panchayat and District Administration for proper relief work.

Relief Measures for the flood affected families by NIWCYD:

a) Food Grain Support 9 villages

The most marginalized and the poorest & needy families were in need of food grain support.

Details of Food Grain Distribution to badly Flood Affected Families

No. of Village	Population	No. of beneficiary families	Food Grain Wheat in quintal
9	4756	1168	350.40

The food grain distribution provided relief to the farmers as following –

1. 350.40 quintals of food grains provided to badly flood affected marginal families. This support has helped these families to complete their agricultural work for second crop and reestablishment of their houses and help for the children have started going to school.
2. The women and children also benefited with this support.

b) Seed Support

People almost lost the kharif crops and there was a possibility of Rabi crop cultivation. But people lost the seeds too in the flood. Poor and the marginalized families were in need of the seed support for the coming Rabi season. Seed support of 175.20 quintals was provided to 1168 families for Rabi crop.

175.2 quintal seed distributed to marginal farmers for their 437.5 acres of land and it is expected that tentatively 1750 quintal of yield will come out which will provide food security to them in next season.

c) Blankets & Sheets 2 villages

People from the poor and the marginal families lost their bedding. To sustain the upcoming weather/season the organization provided the blanket and sheets to the 599 poor and marginal families. This partial support of blanket & sheet provided the protection from bad weather and severe cold especially to the small children.

d) Support to the children

The organization supported 260 children those who had lost their teaching/learning material due to flood. The notebook, slates, pen, pencils etc. provided to these children. The organization also supported to the children partially by providing the food grain during the flood. The organisation created normal environment for children for attending the school with liasoning to school teacher and mobilized the families through conseling.

e) Medical health check-up camps and sanitation campaign conducted

After the floods the water was logged everywhere and the dead bodies of the animals were lying unattended. Due to this there was a fear of spreading the diseases like malaria, dengue, cholera, acute respiratory infection, diarrhea diseases, skin infections etc. There was a need for additional assistance in treatment and prevention of these diseases through camps and awareness, building the health volunteers at the local level. Accordingly the medical health check-up camps and sanitation services provided by the organization.

Medical Camp, Sanitation Drive And Water Puirification Campaign

The medical condition of the flood-affected people was pathetic. Much water borne related health condition, which had made their life miserable, affected the people. Through epidemic has not yet occurred, yet due attention to the health problem was needed.

The people were submerged in the flood water for three complete days without food and water. There was loss of food and property. The houses were collapsed and the bodies of the dead animal lay abandoned in the field. The relief work had started, but the question of livelihood was to be sought on the long,-term basis.

The disease caused were mostly water borne disease. The terror of the flood could yet be seen in the eyes of the people. The team of doctors visited the village of 'GADIKARIYA', 'SIMRA', 'ZIRMILA', 'ZIRATA' & 'CHOWMUKHA'. Amongst these villages, the village of CHOWMUKHA was worst affected, as regards health condition.

Help to the needy families

NIWCYD partially supported as a material ,food and volunteers to most affected families for reestablishment of their shelters and also supported with utensils including small equipment for agricultural work etc. 125 families benefited form this support.

Impact

- The target group of affected families now resettled in their respective villages and involved in their routine agricultural and other livelihood activities.
- The support of Grain and Rabi seed ensured the families for production of Rabi crop.
- Medical camp and sanitation drive controlled the diseases .
- Due to regular intervention & liaisoning with district administration and health department Govt. has taken following steps in flood affected area.
- Accessibility of temporary shelters to vulnerable and marginalized groups – Government provided plastic sheets to the affected families and compensation as per the extent of damage, but that was very less as compared to the damages people have suffered.
- Food and Nutrition: The government provided 5 to 6 kgs of food grains for each family for immediate relief.
- Health: Health check-up camps and primary health services provided by government and NGOs.
- Temporary shelter: Ballis, bamboos and one plastic sheet for the temporary shelter provided to the affected families.
- Cash compensation in the range of Rs. 5000 to Rs. 15000/- as per the extent of damage and loss of livestock was provided.

F. INSTITUTIONAL PROCESS

- Cluster level monthly meetings.
- Quarterly & six monthly meetings.
- Team building.
- Bridging with Government agencies like NABARD, Panchayat & Rural Deptt. Etc.
- Capacity building trainings through a team of resource persons at regular intervals.
- District level trainings of staff.
- Process documentation.
- Induction Workshops.
- State level advocacy processes.
- Media advocacy.
- Capacity building of network partners.
- Coordination with other networks like Right to food campaign for Issues of BPL, PDS system & ICDS.
- Process documentation

Partner Organizations

The NIWCYD Governing Council wishes to acknowledge the support it has received from a variety of individuals and institutions in the year under report. This includes financial support from

- AWO, Germany
- Oxfam (India) Trust, Lucknow

- Indo Global Social Service Society (IGSSS), Bhubaneswar
- Terre des Hommes (TdH), Pune
- ActionAid India, Bhopal
- DFID through Development Alternatives, New Delhi
- HelpAge India, New Delhi
- SEARCH, Gadchiroli
- AFPRO, Raipur
- Pratham Mumbai Education Initiative, Mumbai
- Canadian High Commission, CIDA, New Delhi
- Swiss Aid, Mumbai
- Unicef, Bhopal
- Ministry of Tourism through DM, Mandla
- MPRLP – ZP Mandla & Dindori

The governing council also wishes to thank the staff, volunteers and various technical associates who have contributed greatly to its programmes and mission.

Head Office

National Institute of Women, Child and Youth Development (NIWCYD)
Plot No. 14, Layout 4, Jaiprakash Nagar, Nagpur - 440 025
Maharashtra - India
0091 – 0712 – 2290521, 2290929
niwcydnagpur@gmail.com

Branch Offices

National Institute of Women, Child and Youth Development (NIWCYD)
E-7/47, Arera Colony, Bhopal – 462 016
Madhya Pradesh - India
0091 – 0755 – 2461161
niwcydbhopal@gmail.com

National Institute of Women, Child and Youth Development (NIWCYD)
House No. 16, Narmada Awaz Colony, Devdhara,
Sahastradhara Road, Mandla - 481661
Tel. : 07642 - 252980
niwcydmandla@gmail.com

National Institute of Women, Child and Youth Development (NIWCYD)
Gwarighat Road, Jaibhim Nagar, Polipathar,
Jabalpur - 482 008 Madhya Pradesh – India
niwcydjbp@yahoo.co.in

National Institute of Women, Child and Youth Development (NIWCYD)
Sharda Chowk, Sukhkhaar, Jabalpur Road
Dindori – 481 880
Tel : (07644) 234206
lallan_niwcyd@rediffmail.com

National Institute of Women, Child and Youth Development (NIWCYD)
Kayshap Niwas, Near Danteshwari Petrol Pump, Jagdalpur Road,
Kanker, Chhattisgarh – India
Tel. : 0091 – 7868 – 241113, 241093

Field Offices

Amarpur, Samnapur, Chada (Baiga Chak), Sakka, Gopalpur, Kathotiya - Dist. Dindori, MP
Mawai, Nainpur, Ghutas - Dist. Mandla, MP
Shahpur – Dist. Betul, MP
Sonpur – Dist. Chhindwara, MP
Sarona, Dist. Kanker, CG
Mansar - Dist. Nagpur, Maharashtra