

2021-22
PROGRESS
& IMPACT REPORT



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Trustees Update 2021-22

As a trustee of the Foundation, I am pleased to present the Annual Report for the fiscal year 2021-22. This year has been a challenge for us as we navigated the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on our operations and finances. Despite it, I am proud to report that our Foundation remains resilient and continues to make a positive impact on our communities.

A key highlight of this year was our ability to adapt to the changing needs, as we quickly shifted focus to providing essential services in health, skills and education. We were able to reach many more individuals and families in need, and secure additional funding to support these efforts.

Through our interventions in healthcare, skill development, education, livelihood and environment conservation, we have directly reached 4,39,000 people through 13 programmes implemented across 12 districts of Assam and West Bengal this year.

Looking forward, we will continue to adapt our responses to the changing needs of the population. We thank our staff, donors, and partners for their continued support and look forward to another successful year.

Healthcare

The operations of the Referral Hospital and Research Centre (RHRC) in Chubwa, which provides specialized medical facilities, consultations and treatments to the residents of the area, was transferred to APPL Foundation in February 2022. We are grateful to TCPL for their continued support in the operations of the Hospital, which addressed health concerns of approximately 1,90,000 people this year through In-patient and Out-patient Departments, surgeries and diagnostic tests.

Tuberculosis is a major health concern in North-East India. Contributing to The National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP), we screened over 1,50,000 people for TB, of which 386 were diagnosed and treated. In the process, we also built capacities of our healthcare personnel and hospitals to serve as diagnosis and treatment centres for the larger community in and around tea estates.

The Foundation consistently worked, post-Covid, to

address fungal infections and menstrual hygiene related challenges among adolescent girls and women; nutritional challenges among children and pregnant or lactating women. Through community engagement such as street plays and awareness campaigns, out of a total of 17400 women and girls in Upper Assam and Dooars, the taboo around menstrual hygiene was reduced among 88% of them. The program also provided a source of income to women from the community who conducted door-to-door awareness and sold menstrual absorbents to them at affordable prices.

The Workforce Nutrition Programme, with a similar strategy, employed 6 educators from the community to increase awareness about nutritional cooking and food related practices. They received an incentive per sale of health and nutritional products, improving the health of over 1000 lactating and pregnant women.

Skills and Education

The Foundation continued their work on skills and education during the pandemic at the Vocational

Training Centre (VTC) Chubwa and the Industrial Training Institute (APPITI) at Rowta, with special emphasis on women and adolescent girls. At APPITI, Rowta, the short and long-term vocational training courses saw 412 new enrolments in 2021-22, while maintaining a record of 75% placements, with an average starting income of Rs.10,000 per month in reputed textile companies.

In response to the rise in gender-based violence incidents reported across the country, women, adolescent girls and their guardians were also made aware of Women's Rights and the importance of ensuring Safety and Gender Equality, through awareness meetings and discussions.

The Foundation also publishes an e-journal, "Organic Growth" which highlights critical issues on environment degradation and innovations for a healthier and greener future.

Vision for Tomorrow

We are proud to share our vision for the coming years since the reduced impact of Covid-19 now allows us to build back stronger.

With focus on expanding our reach and impact, we will forge new partnerships with like-minded organizations and businesses, who also challenge us to innovate and

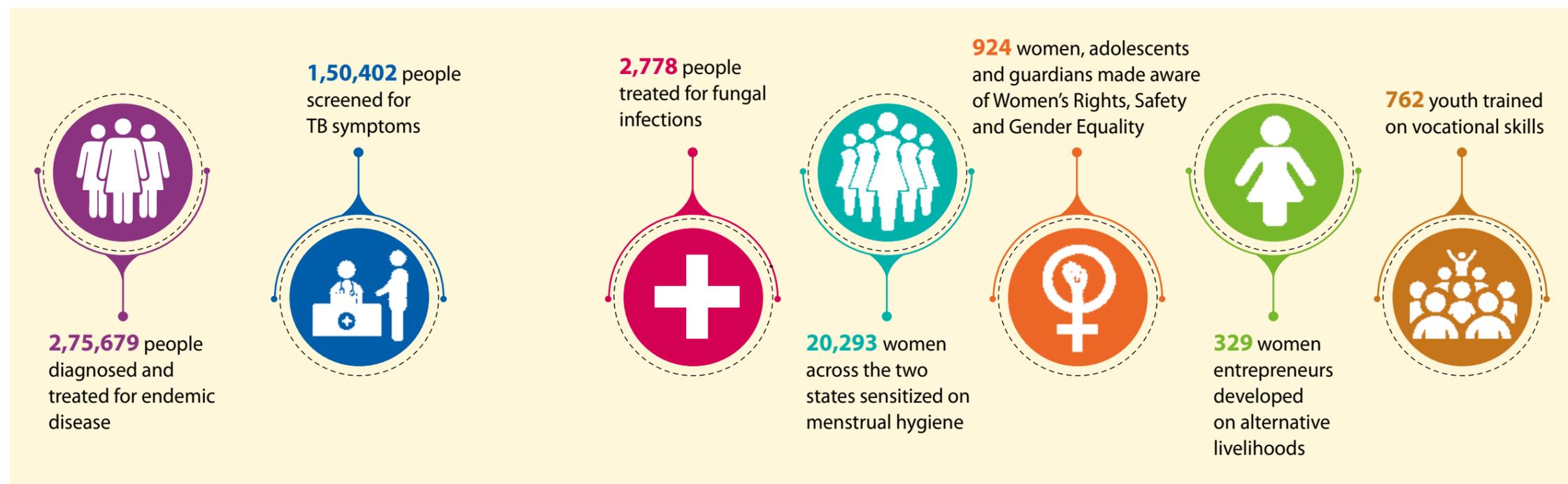
improve. We will also continue to invest in pioneering initiatives that address the most pressing needs of our communities.

Committed to increasing transparency and accountability to our donors and stakeholders who have stood by us during challenging times, we will continue to share impact updates and will regularly seek feedback from those we serve.

We take this opportunity to thank our resigning Trustees – Mr. Jagjeet Singh Kandal and Ms. Radha Chaudhury – for their support. We have immense gratitude for Mr. Dhiraj Kakati for supporting the Foundation as Managing Trustee, who retired from the role in 2021. We also welcome our newly joined Trustees – Ms. Mahfuza Rahman, Ms. Ruma Rao, Mr. Dipankar Borah, Mr. Rizwan Akhtar Sadique and Mr. PK Sasikumar - to the Foundation.

With a vision of being a leader in the field of philanthropy, we will continue our work on sustainable development by exploring new and innovative ways to support our communities.

– **Ajoyendra Mukherjee**
Chairman, Board of Trustees





APPL
FOUNDATION

APPL Foundation, an irrevocable trust with the dominant objective of welfare of the general public in distress was formed in 2011. For 10 years the Trust has provided medical aid, services and relief, propagation of education and learning, environment protection and food security to the public at large and for the revival of indigenous tribal, music and dance. The initiatives of Trust in the field of education, skill development, healthcare, environmental conservation and culture has far-reaching impact within the communities in Assam Valley region and Dooars.



Vision

Catalysing Change

Mission

Significant improvement in the quality of life and livelihood sustenance of marginalized communities in the North East.

Approach

Launch social impact initiatives in the fields of skill & education development, healthcare, environment & livelihood, and culture in the North East



In 2021-22

**We
implemented
13
programmes**

**Across
4 Verticals
Touching
439000
lives**

**In Assam &
West Bengal
Across
12 Districts**

APPL Foundation Drives Sustainable Development

Development which meets the needs of the present and enables the future generation to meet their own needs.



Healthcare



SDG 2
NO HUNGER



SDG 3
GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The greatest hindrance to an effective healthcare system is the wide urban-rural variation and limited access to medical services. Communities face a number of challenges, the most crucial being lack of doctors and specialists. APPL Foundation, along with its partner organizations, tries to bridge the gap between rural healthcare requirement and its availability. Our objective is to provide access to quality healthcare to the rural areas in North East India by equipping the healthcare units at the remotest locations with latest technology, treatment by medical specialists and skilled healthcare personnel.

We Treat

- RHRC
- Covid-19 Support
- e-Healthcare
- TB Case Findings Programme
- Fungal Free Frocks (3F) Project
- MHM Programme
- Project Swadhin
- Point of Care Device (PoCD) Initiative
- Workforce Nutrition Programme

2,75,679 people were diagnosed and treated for fungal infection and TB

20,293 women of the tea estates across the two states sensitized on their menstrual needs and best practice on Menstrual Hygiene Management

3,327 people were provided safe and clean drinking water



Referral Hospital & Research Centre (RHRC), Chubwa

Referral Hospital & Research Centre, a 76-bed hospital with state-of-the-art medical facilities, was set up at Chubwa Tea Estate by Tata Tea Ltd. (Tata Consumer Products Ltd.) in 1994. The hospital works on a non-profit basis and has been offering treatment at affordable cost to the public. On April 1, 2007, the hospital was transferred from Tata Tea to APPL and then again to APPL Foundation on February 21, 2021.

The hospital was built to provide secondary care medical facilities to nearby tea estate residents and the population in and around that area. RHRC has treated over 3,29,154 patients since its inception, including over 2,73,809 people from the community at large.

Our Vision
Good Health for all

Our Mission
Provide Quality, Comprehensive and Accessible Healthcare at affordable cost





Facilities

Outpatient Department, Inpatient Department, Orthopaedic consultations /surgery, Cardiology consultations/investigations, Eye & ENT consultations / Surgery, Dental Department, executive suite, medicine shop, 24 X 7 Blood Bank services, Cashless Insurance, Digital Medical Record System and 24 X 7 ambulance services.

Departments with advance modern facilities

Laparoscopic Surgery, Pathology Department with latest diagnostics facilities, Radiology Department with USG, Digital X-Ray & C Arm, 24*7 SCU and ICU with Ventilator, Modern Anesthesia Unit, Echocardiography Unit.

2021-22 at a glance

27063 patients treated in Outpatient Department (OPD)

2091 patients treated in Indoor admission (IPD)

1309 surgeries performed

164214 diagnostic tests performed

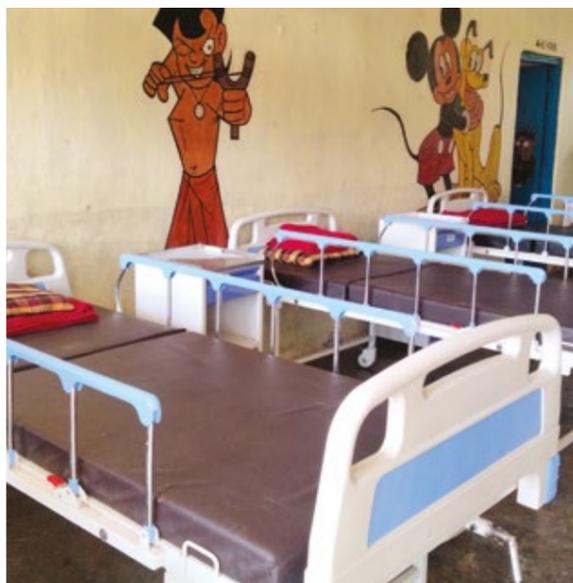
Covid-19 Support

All OPD patients and the patients coming for investigations (Pathology/Radiology) underwent mandatory Rapid Antigen tests (RAT). From March 2022, selective tests were done as advised by the Doctor.

27654 tested

Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) **24969**

Real Time PCR **579**



656 Covid positive cases detected

Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) **579**

Real Time PCR **77**

eHealthcare

eHealthcare is one of the ambitious projects of APPL Foundation, in association with Hewlett-Packard Enterprise (HPE) to promote telemedicine services in 5 Tea Estate hospitals in Assam and North Bengal. The project was started in 2015 at Dam Dim, Kellyden, Hathikuli, Namroop, and Powai Tea Estates. Currently, the eHubs offer consultations on medicine, surgery, gynaecology, eye, ENT, and lab test services.

Key Objects

- ◆ To deliver advanced medical services in remote locations
- ◆ To increase resources to make them accessible to the neighbouring rural population within a 10km radius
- ◆ To provide timely treatment to patients who are unable to travel for better medical consultation
- ◆ To establish a structure capable of responding quickly in the event of a widespread medical emergency.

2021-22

 **51322** patients registered

 **11221** lab tests conducted

 **591** patients received tele-consultations with specialists



TB Case Findings Programme

The TB Case Findings Programme has been initiated by the foundation, in collaboration with Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE), in Kellyden, Powai, Namroop and Hathikuli Tea Estates.

Tuberculosis has been a longstanding issue in the tea garden communities, mainly due to lack of sanitation practices and increased exposure to germs. APPL Foundation has pledged to support these communities in being TB free by aligning with The National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP), which aims to strategically reduce TB burden in India by 2025.

The programme offers

- ◆ Screening of communities for TB across 4 estates
- ◆ Diagnosis of people showing TB symptoms and their subsequent testing
- ◆ Connecting diagnosed patients with the first line of treatment and monitoring their treatment
- ◆ Building capacity of tea garden hospitals to serve as TB identification/diagnosis centres for the community at large.



150402 people
screened for TB symptoms



3377 people
tested for TB



386 people
diagnosed with TB



385 patients
put on treatment



281 patients
completed treatment

Fungal Free Frocks (3F) Project

The 3F Project is an initiative of APPL Foundation supported by Serra Foundation. The project aims to prevent and cure fungal infection through medical intervention. The project was piloted in 3 tea estate communities in North Bank of Assam in 2019 which has now expanded and spans over 13 communities. A reflection of the success of the project can be seen in the health and lifestyle change that the community has adopted.

The initiative has helped in breaking the silence around fungal infection.

3F 2nd Phase: 2021-22

6 Estates: Powai, Achabam, Nahorkutia, Chota Tingri, Namroop & Banamalli

Awareness Campaigns

50 awareness sessions
7342 people surveyed
2441 infected people identified



Hygiene Promotion

824 petticoats & detergents distributed



Treatment

2778 ointment & 2395 medicines distributed

BIROSHMONI TANTI

The Unsung Promoter of Change



Biroshmoni of Achabam is a worker in garden who not only understands the importance of the preventive measures against fungal infection, but also spreads these messages in her community. She also advised her friends to adopt similar hygiene practices. Ointments to those who needed treatment was administered by the doctor. She also encouraged her neighbouring households to avail the benefits of the 3F project, due to which, they were also treated and cured.



Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Programme

APPL Foundation along with VJS Foundation, began their sensitization drive on menstruation hygiene in Dooars across 4 tea estates, Dam Dim, Nowera Nuddy, Rungamuttee and Batabari. The programme aims to normalise conversations on menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls and women. It has created an environment for the young girls to discuss freely about their menstrual problem and has provided opportunity to avail affordable menstrual hygiene products for women of all ages.

12720 adolescent girls and women sensitized on good Menstrual Hygiene practices

4059 menstrual absorbents were availed by the women in the community

More than 50% women and girls adopted healthy menstrual practices by using sanitary napkins



Project Swadhin

A new wing of ease and dignified menstrual days

Battling with the unhygienic practices and taboo related to menstruation among the tea community, APPL Foundation partnered with 'Aadya-zaroorihai' to implement Project 'SWADHIN' for Menstrual Hygiene Management in the four tea estates of Assam: Borhat, Achabam, Nahorkutia, and Namroop. The project aims to fight the taboo related to menstruation in Assam, as menarche is celebrated as a rite of passage for young girls with pomp.



Empowerment by ensuring Menstrual Hygiene

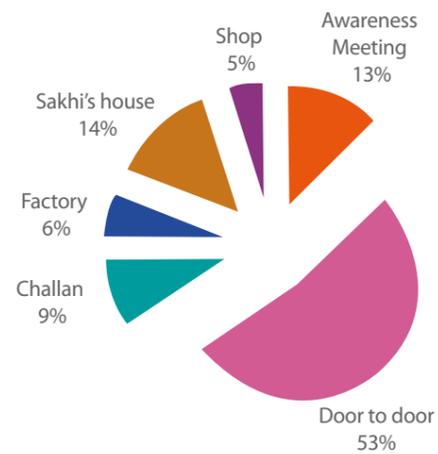
We believe "It is imperative that every woman understands what is happening inside her body and how best she can manage it."

4 Sakhis trained on Menstrual Hygiene

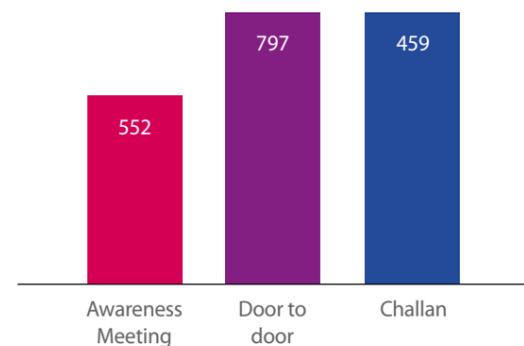
2548 women and adolescent girls reached by awareness & training programmes

875 menstrual absorbents availed by women of all ages

Menstrual absorbents are placed in various locations throughout the tea estates, so that women can easily access them. Pads are made available at doorsteps and common places of gathering such as challans, factories, and at awareness meetings.



Awareness Activities



Point of Care Device (PoCD) Initiative

Point of Care Device (PoCD) Initiative is an extension to the SMART hospital programme of LEHS | WISH Foundation which started in 2018, in the 6 Tea Garden Hospitals of APPL at Lattakoojan, Hathikuli, Sagmootea, Nahorani, Lamabari and Diffloo. SMART hospital was a technology driven primary healthcare system at the Tea Garden Hospitals. Through PoCD, diagnostic kit for multiple blood tests is provided to enhance the facilities of these 6 garden hospitals.

PoCD supports various COVID-19 related projects in generating community awareness on aspects of health and conducting community mobilization.

Our Success

15 Sakha Sakhis conducted community level activities



71613 tea garden people made aware on various aspects of health, hygiene & nutrition, including Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) and COVID-19

25053 tea garden residents were mobilized and supported through COVID-19 vaccination



262 blood tests performed using AINA point of care diagnostic device (PoCD)

1683 beneficiaries benefitted using ENJECT needle and syringe



Workforce Nutrition Programme

Nutrition support to pregnant and lactating women for safe motherhood

APPL Foundation in partnership with the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) and Dharma Life have implemented this programme in 6 Tea Estates namely; Achabam, Chubwa, Nahorkutia, Nahortoli, Namroop & Powai of Upper Assam. The objective of the programme is to address nutritional challenges in Tea Supply Chain through behaviour change campaigns and community engagement activities. The programme mainly reached out to pregnant and lactating women. Dharma Life Educator (DLEs) were selected from the community to run activities under the programme and to promote nutrition through sale of social cause-based products like food, solar lights, induction cooktop, sanitary napkins.

It's an entrepreneurial model where DLEs get incentive from sale, apart from their basic stipend.

6 DLEs underwent capacity building training

14 street plays reached 975 audiences

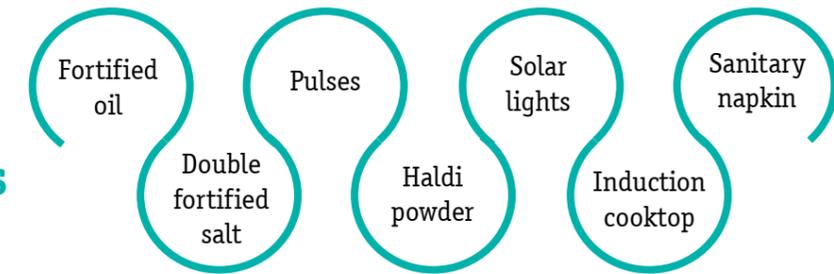
3434 households were visited to generate awareness about nutritional need amongst 1114 pregnant and lactating mothers

17 IFC solar events were conducted benefitting 611 people



Nutrition and other social cause-based products sale

Seven Products



SANGRAM/We – The COVID Support

The DLEs create a WhatsApp group- Sangram/We- where community members generate awareness about COVID -19 and ensure COVID appropriate behaviour in the community by engaging them in several online community activities. 6 DLEs from the community have shown great ingenuity in generating awareness in the community with help of digital and other promotional tools.





Skills & Education



SDG 1
NO
POVERTY



SDG 4
QUALITY
EDUCATION



SDG 5
GENDER
EQUALITY



SDG 8
DECENT WORK
& ECONOMIC
GROWTH



We Train

APPITI, Rowta
VTC, Chubwa

APPL Foundation aims to co-build sustainable communities. One of the approaches adopted is education and skill-development amongst the young and old. Our focus is not only formal school education, but to take a realistic approach and train the youth for employment. Expanding the horizon of education, we are enabling communities to become resilient by equipping its key stakeholders – women and children – with the right balance of formal training and life skills.



762 youth from Tea Community were trained on technical and vocational training

276 women entrepreneurs were trained on alternative livelihood methods

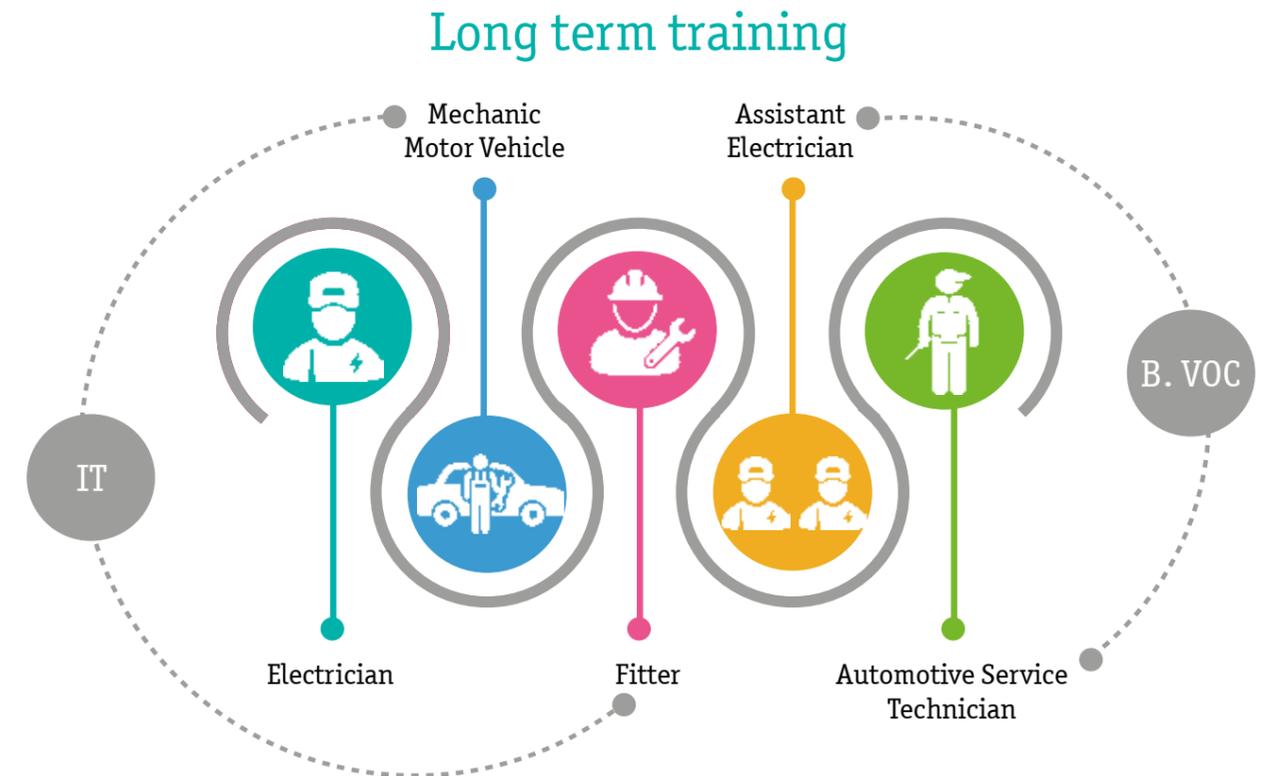
924 women, adolescent and guardians were made aware of Women Rights, Safety and Gender Equality

Amalgamated Plantations Private Industrial Training Institute (APPITI), Rowta

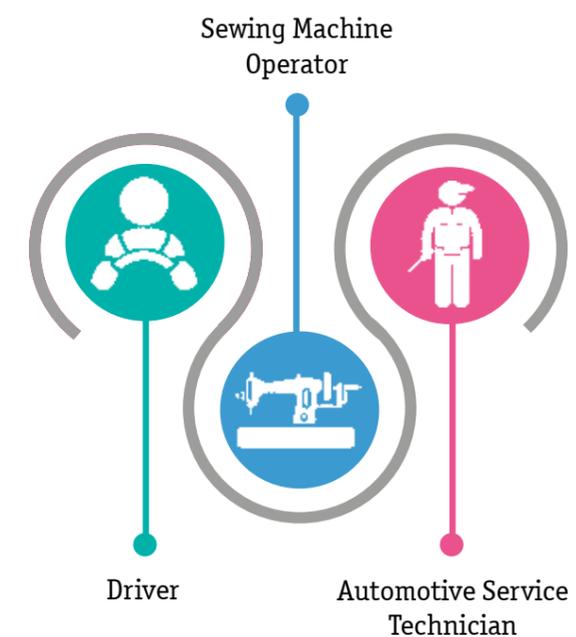
Amalgamated Plantations Private Industrial Training Institute (APPITI) is a flagship facility of APPL Foundation that provides certified vocational training to youths. The institute was established in 1997 by Tata Tea Ltd. (Tata Consumer Products Ltd.) out of the need for skill-based courses for the youth from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds in order to generate technical manpower and employability. Since 2014, APPITI in partnership with Gram Tarang Employability Training Services (GTETS) has been training and creating employment opportunities for thousands of youth in the region.



We offer short term and long term courses



Short term training





A Trendsetter in Skill Development

Girls' hostel with capacity to accommodate **100 trainees** within the premises encourages women participation

Boys' hostel with capacity to accommodate **72 trainees** within the premises

A well-maintained canteen providing quality affordable food to students and people visiting the centre in general

Self-financed ITI courses

at subsidized amount offered to youth from Below Poverty Line families

Forged partnership with OIL India and Kaziranga University for running new short and long term courses

50% of the trainees at the centre are women

Trainees earn **Rs. 10000 per month** (on average) in their very first job.



183
trainees enrolled



101
completed training



76
trainees placed



Vocational Training Centre (VTC), Chubwa

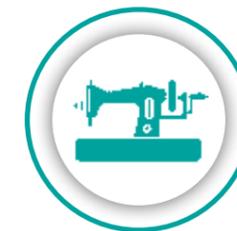
The objective of establishing the Vocational Training Centre (VTC) in Chubwa was to upskill the youth of the tea tribe community through certified courses.

In Since 2016, APPL Foundation in partnership with Gram Tarang Employability and Training Services (GTETS) is providing free quality skill-based training, hence generating employment opportunities for the underprivileged youth of the region.

We offer short term courses



Customer Service Representative



Sewing Machine Operator

We provide courses in collaboration with DDU-GKY

We are Unique



65% of the trainees
are from tea tribes



81% of the trainees
from tea tribes secured jobs after
completing the trainings



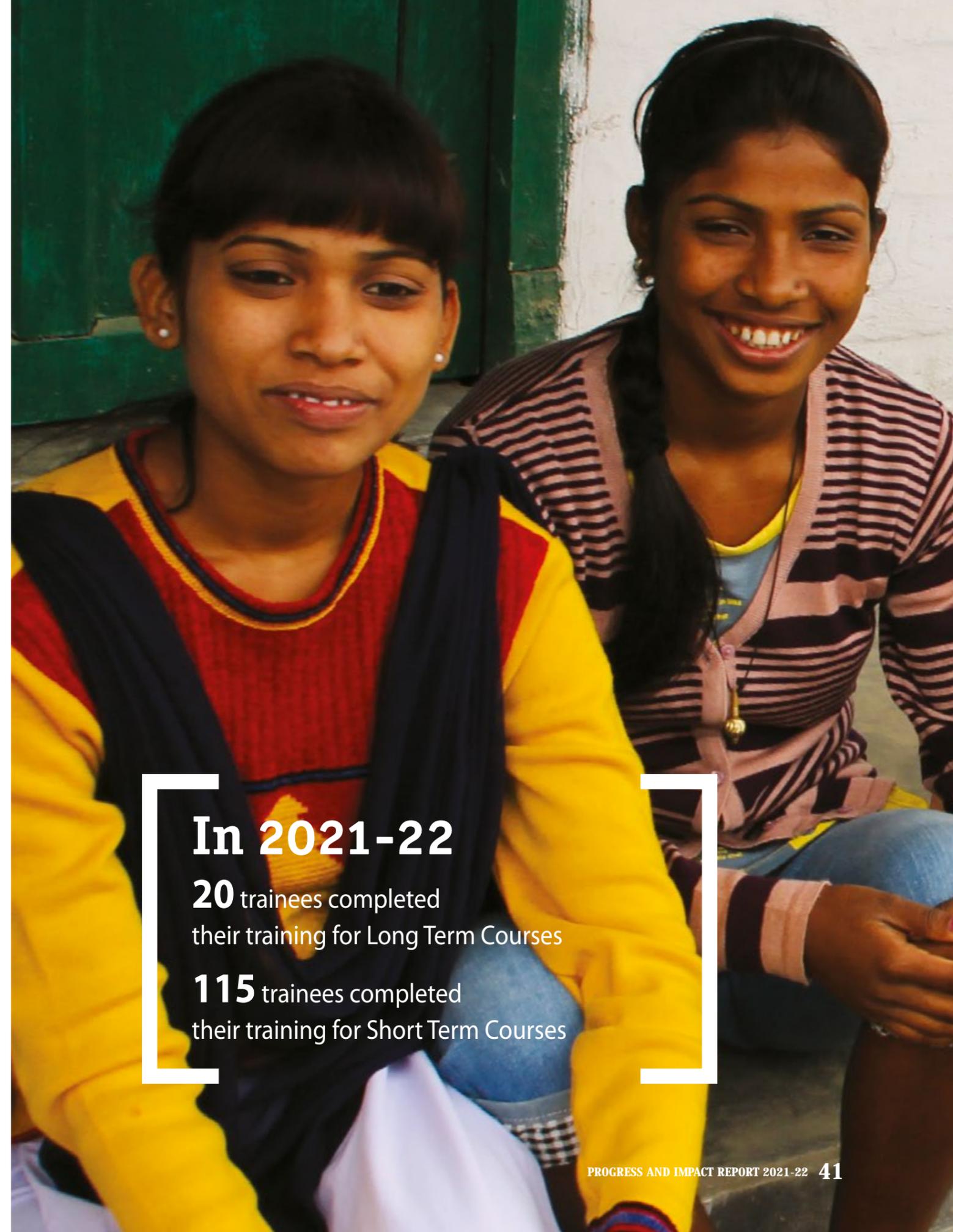
Youth across 8 districts
of Assam have been trained
at the centre



Trainees earn
Rs 8500 per month
(on average) in their very first job



75% placement
of its trainees



In 2021-22

20 trainees completed
their training for Long Term Courses

115 trainees completed
their training for Short Term Courses



412

New Enrollments

165 trainees enrolled for Long Term Courses

247 trainees enrolled for Short Term Courses

285 completed their training

161 placements





Environment & Livelihood



SDG 11
SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES

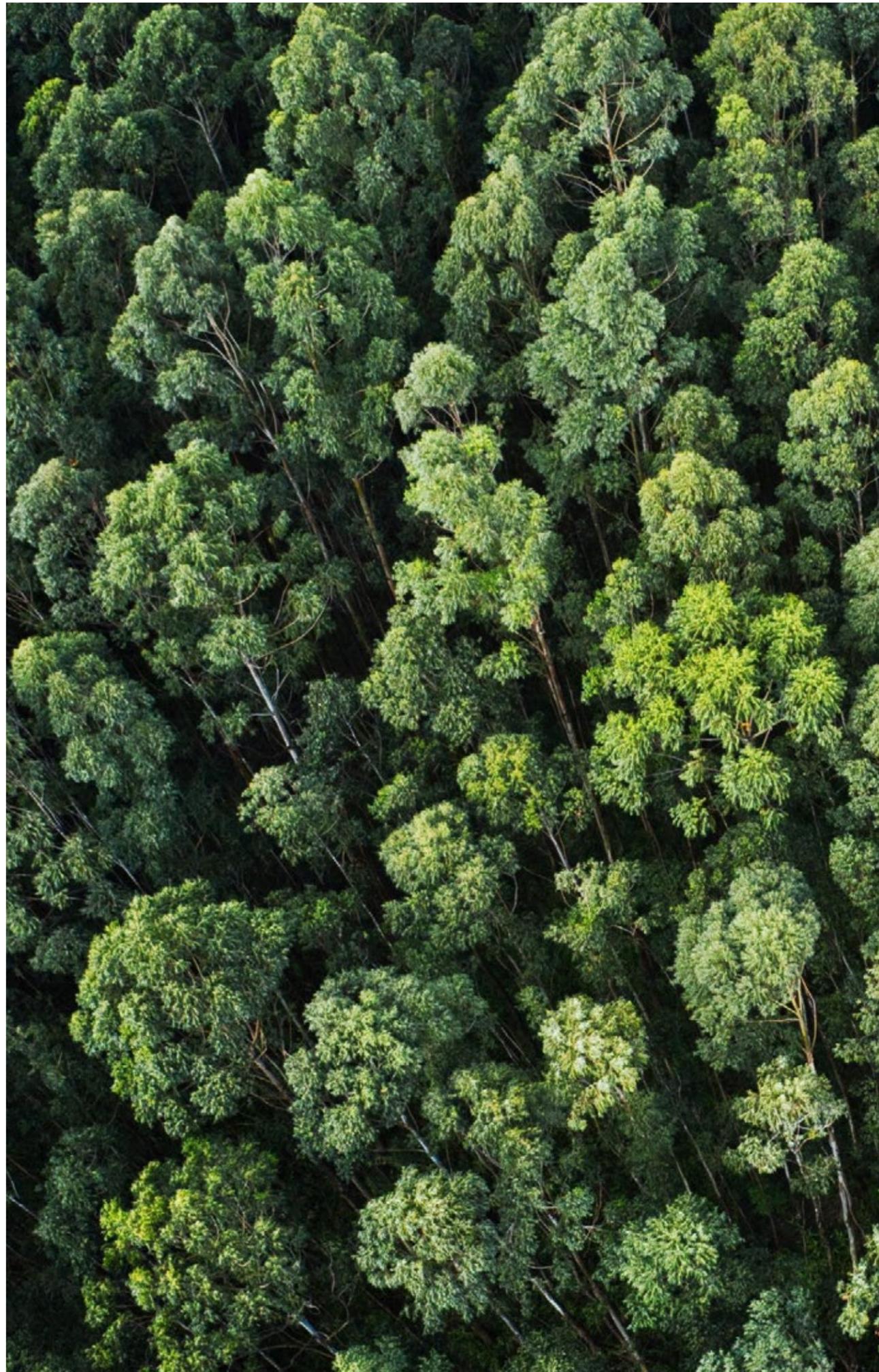


SDG 12
RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
& PRODUCTION

We Protect

Organic Growth
Women Prosper

Assam and West Bengal, with its rich biodiversity, offers several solutions, indigenous to the region, for sustainable livelihoods. APPL Foundation works to engage the local population in development practices to improve their socio-economic status while conserving the local ecology. The Foundation's work is driven by the overarching objective of SDG, which calls for the promotion of sustainable communities and responsible consumption and production.



Women Prosper Programme

Enhancing the overall prosperity of Hathikuli women

Women prosper is a multi-sectoral initiative of the Barefoot College International (BCI) in partnership with the Starbucks Foundation and SHRI Foundation for women of Hathikuli Tea Estate. The objective is to transform woman at Hathikuli into a skilled, self-confident woman, aware and vocal about her social, financial, and health rights.

Sustainable livelihood through environment friendly products

ENRICHE & Digital Training

50 women were trained as Solar engineers, Beekeepers and Community leaders under Enriche module.

Empowerment to the women of Hathikuli to be self-reliant and confident by training on alternative skills of income generation. 50 women became digitally literate which positively impacted their financial literacy. Now they are aware of online payment systems and can perform internet banking. The programme benefited 2728 women directly who are now aware of the Enriche training modules on soft skills.

Beekeeping

Our 21 beekeepers are a successful example of women empowerment and sustainable biodiversity conservation.

Hathikuli provides a suitable landscape for beekeeping as it is near the strategic location of Kaziranga National Park. It is a state-of-the-art women's entrepreneurial model which directly benefited 21 women of the Hathikuli area. Each woman was provided with 2 bee boxes with fresh bee colonies and other essential tools.

24 kgs honey were harvested

Solar Engineers

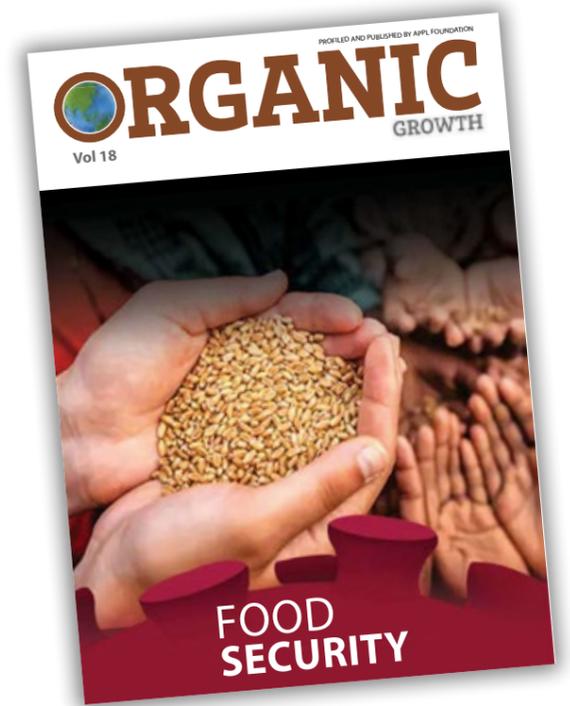
22 women were trained as Solar Engineers.

They were successfully trained on fabrication, repair, and maintenance of solar products. The solar Rural Electronic Workshop (REW) in Hathikuli was established to provide a space for solar engineers to manufacture their solar products.

Organic Growth

In contribution to global discussions around environment conservation, APPL Foundation publishes an e-journal, "Organic Growth" with over 400 readers in East and North-East India. It highlights issues of environment degradation and innovative technical and non-technical breakthroughs towards environment conservation for a healthier greener future. The latest issue of the journal in 2021 focuses on Food Security, discussing critical topics such as - overuse of natural resources, changing land use patterns and food insecurity affecting the socio-economically vulnerable communities.

400 readers engaged with us through the journal.



Women Wellness Programme

150 women made aware of **Anaemia** and its prevention



50 women made aware of **Menstrual Hygiene**



24 women made aware about **domestic violence** under **Mera Haq Meri Zimmedari Programme**



1550 people of Hathikuli benefitted under the various **Covid -19** relief programmes of **Barefoot College International (BCI)**



180 women provided with **Nutritional Supplement** and exhibited double digit haemoglobin levels



100 menstrual **absorbents** distributed



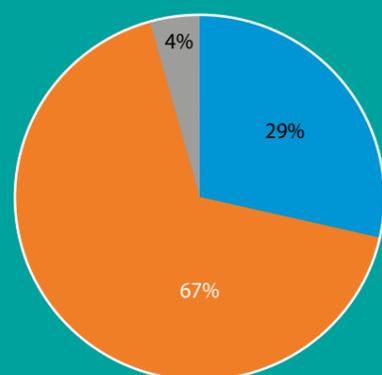
750 adolescents & 150 parents sensitized on **gender issues** through **Girl Rising Programme**



FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2021-22

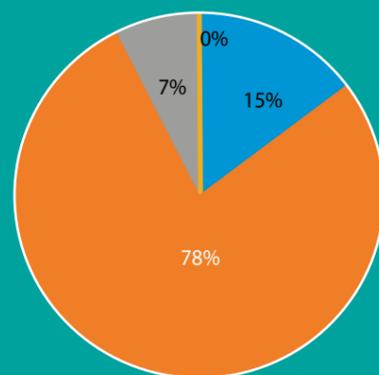
Particulars	Amount in INR
INFLOW	
Donation and Grants	47,60,713
Income from RHRC	1,12,73,101
Other Income	7,01,730
Total	1,67,35,545
EXPENDITURE	
Expenditure on the Object of the Trust	34,58,486
Expenses of RHRC	1,78,10,222
Administration & General Expenses	15,83,717
Depreciation	24,585
Total	2,28,77,008
Excess of Income over Expenditure	(61,41,464)
Amount Transferred (to) / from Project Earmarked Funds	24,16,293
Surplus/ (Deficit) for the Year carried to Balance Sheet	(37,25,171)

Financial Inflow



■ Donations and Grants
 ■ Income from RHRC
 ■ Other Income

Financial Outflow



■ Expenditure of the Trust
 ■ Expenses of RHRC
 ■ Administration & General Expenses
 ■ Depreciation

OUR PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

Our partners are pillars on which our interventions are established. We are thankful to our partners and associates for their continued support in our transformational journey.



OUR TEAM



AJOYENDRA MUKHERJEE
Chairman



AMITAVA RANJAN SEN
Secretary Trustee



MAHFUZA RAHMAN
Trustee



RUMA RAO
Trustee



DIPANKAR BORAH
Trustee



RIZWAN AKHTAR SADIQUE
Trustee



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