

2019-21
PROGRESS
& IMPACT

Trustees Update 2019-21

2019 - 2021 has turned out to be a challenge for the world compelling each of us to engineer futuristic solutions to the problems prompted by the pandemic. Although in the last 7 years we had the pleasure of sharing the Progress & Impact dossier of APPL Foundation, it is especially rewarding this time as it captures our struggles and achievements in a unique situation.

In the last 2 years we have fostered several valuable collaborations and partnerships which have contributed significantly to improving our reach and impact in the community especially among women and children, from the most marginalized communities in the North East,

bringing meaningful and sustainable change in their lives and livelihoods. We have directly reached more than 3,22,000 people across 2 states through 24 projects through interventions in healthcare, education and skill development, livelihoods and cultural integration.

Our **Skill Development and Educational** endeavors have thrived as they have been well received by the youth of our communities. The safe and secure environment at the Vocational Training Centres encourage large share of women participation, whereas our programmes at the communities meet the emerging need of children and women.

Today Project Swabhimaan is in itself a success story which over the years has enthused over 2000 women to be part of literacy initiatives. Our soft skill training for working women has emboldened them to tread a successful professional career. Today we have expanded our digital literacy initiatives across three centres in our communities.

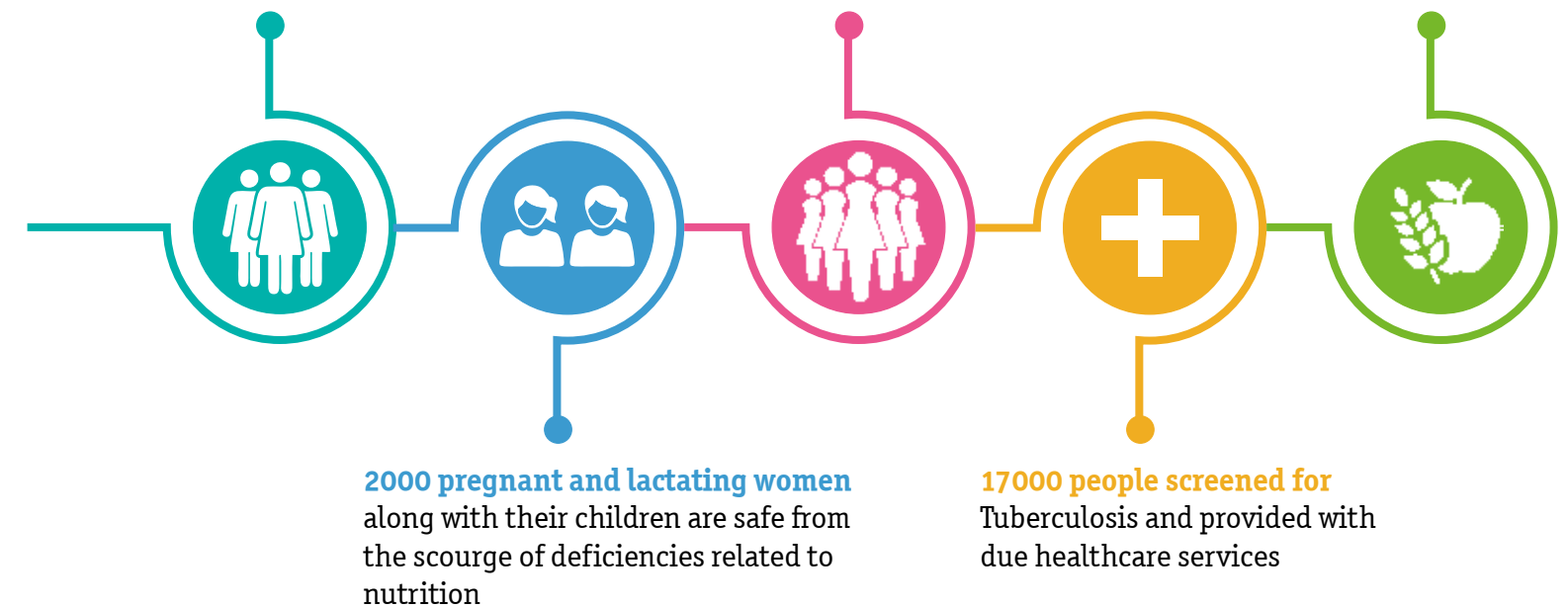
Our **Healthcare** interventions secured access to

quality health services particularly for women and children improving maternal and reproductive health, menstrual hygiene management, prevention of contagious disease as tuberculosis and fungal infection, child health, and nutrition outcomes. We identified the root causes of healthcare challenges, worked in partnerships to develop innovative solutions, and implemented quality healthcare services till the last mile.

2300000 people provided with quality healthcare

20000 women have access to safe and affordable menstrual hygiene products

Overall 11500 community people have access to better nutrition



SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATIONAL

1168 youth trained of which 900 are women

332 children now digitally literate

840 youth employed resulting in economic uplift of the families

2000 women and children sensitized on gender equality through trainings and workshops

150 children have been part of pilot online remedial education programme



The **Livelihood** programmes promoted sustainable livelihoods for women smallholder, developed markets and value chains that are equitable, and supported employability of women through solar entrepreneurship, bee-keeping and menstrual hygiene management product entrepreneurship.

- ◆ 83 women part of ecofriendly alternative livelihood trainings

- ◆ 6020 farmers including 4000 women farmers practising sustainable agriculture

The unabated spread of COVID 19 in 2020 though momentarily startled us, but sensing the need of the hour we engineered alternative mechanism to prevent the pandemic in partnership with our communities. Massive mobilization of nearly 1,50,000 people to adopt behavioural change was driven and is being sustained to combat the disease. We have been generously aided by our partners in enabling our communities establish infrastructural capacity so as to be self-sufficient in case of any imminent crisis.

Vision for tomorrow: The challenging circumstances have brought our attention to the key areas where action is a now a necessity. As per the emerging needs our future focus will be tele – medicine and digital education to create sustainable in-built healthcare and education system in our communities. Our design will include building of intra-connected self-sustaining communities thriving on the potential of its own

resources; economically, socially and ecologically. We are committed to continue our development initiatives to generate diverse opportunities for better health, wellbeing and safety of women and children in the communities.

The credit of our successful endeavours goes to our partners, who steadfastly supported us in planning, implementing, monitoring, knowledge generation, and delivering large scale impact on the ground. Though today the Foundation is an asset light entity we have been able to engrain natural assets in our communities along with our partners with whom our programme valuation today is Rs 7 crores.

Through the challenges of 2019-21, we could see through the progress our communities have made and the scope for sustainable development that it beholds. In this journey of change APPL Foundation has evolved stretching out its arms to its communities, associates and partners into a milieu envisioning a brighter tomorrow for everyone.

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to Mr. Ranjit Barthakur for leading the Foundation since its day of inception till 2020. With a heavy heart we express our gratitude to Late Mr. Deepak Atal who has been one of the strongest pillars of the Foundation.

We are thankful to Retd. Major General Manjit Singh Sandhu and Mrs. Radha Choudhury, for their constant support and guidance to the Trust.

Ajoyendra Mukherjee
Chairman, Board of Trustees



APPL Foundation, an irrevocable trust with the dominant objective of the welfare of the general public in distress was formed in 2011. For 9 years the Trust has provided medical aid, services and relief, propagation of education and learning, environment protection and food security to general 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

**To enhance the lives of
our own communities
in the Tea Plantations of
Eastern Himalayas**

Approach

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



APPL Foundation drives Sustainable Development

**A development which
meets the needs of the
present and enables the
future generation to meet
their own needs.**



**2019-20 &
2020-21**

We implemented
24 Programmes

**Across
4 Verticals**
Touching 3,22,000
lives

**In Assam and
West Bengal**
Across 9 Districts



Skill & Education



We Train

APPITI, Rowta
VTC, Chubwa
Project Swabhimaan
Menstrual Hygiene
Education Programme
Women Prosper
Kuhipath
TEAch Me



SDG 5
GENDER
EQUALITY

1691 women and girls sensitized in gender equality and rights of women

269 children learning about gender equality as a part of school curriculum

83 women trained to attain alternative livelihood

4000 women engaged in sustainable farming

900 women trained and **500 employed**



SDG 1
NO
POVERTY

900 members of below poverty line families provided with employment, enabling them to come out of poverty



SDG 4
QUALITY
EDUCATION

1500 youth have relevant technical and vocational skill for employment

332 children and **youth** are digitally literate

120 women functionally literate

430 children received quality education through online mode



Healthcare



We Treat

- RHRC
- eHealthcare
- Medical Outreach Programme
- Project Sambhuya
- 3 F Project
- SMART Hospital
- Nutrition Support for Pregnant Women
- Workforce Nutrition Programme
- Active Case Finding for Tuberculosis
- WISH Point of Care Device Programme
- COVID 19 Prevention Programme
- Workforce Nutrition Programme



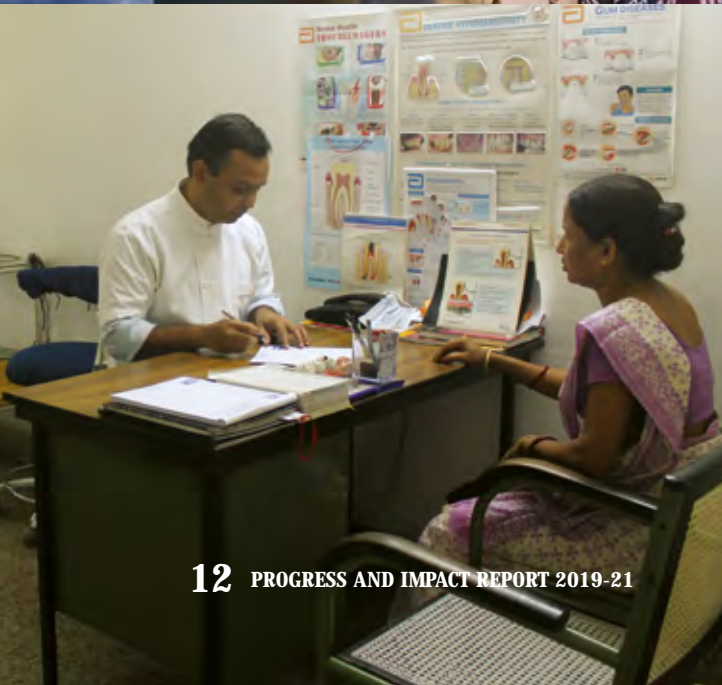
SDG 3
GOOD
HEALTH AND
WELL-BEING

230000 people provided with quality healthcare

1974 mothers and infants cared for

17393 community people screened for Tuberculosis and **23 treated**

Skill of **80 healthcare personnel** enhanced to strengthen the medical facilities



SDG 2
NO
HUNGER

11500 people with improved nutrition

Lives of **350 mothers and infants** impacted through supplementary nutrition

1000 women and children sensitized about nutrition related deficiencies





Environment & Livelihood



We Protect

Organic Growth
Women Prosper



SDG 7
AFFORDABLE
AND CLEAN
ENERGY

350 readers aware of renewable energy

4992 women trained to embrace
eco-friendly alternative livelihoods



SDG 12
RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION

Organic Growth Volume 17
promotes the sustainable management
and efficient use of natural resources



SDG 2
NO
HUNGER

6020 farmers engaged
in sustainable agriculture



Culture

We Promote



SDG 10
REDUCED
INEQUALITIES

Promoting **cultural inclusion** and **integration** of the people of the **Tea Tribes of Assam and West Bengal** with the mainstream society





Skill & Education

We Train

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.



10
initiatives

In
association
with
9
partners

Touching
22000
lives

Amalgamated Plantations Private Industrial Training Institute (APPITI), Rowta

Amalgamated Plantations Private Industrial Training Institute (APPITI) is a state-of-the-art livelihood training facility which trains youth from the region in various employable trades. A flagship programme of the APPL Foundation, the primary focus of the institute is to create efficient technical manpower which is in great demand in the region. Over the years the institute has gained recognition as a skill development-based education hub in the region.

APPITI was upgraded in partnership with Tata Motors in 2012. In 2014, APPL Foundation and Gram Tarang Employability Training Services (GTETS) forged a partnership to offer short-term courses.

We offer short term and long term courses



Electrician



Fitter



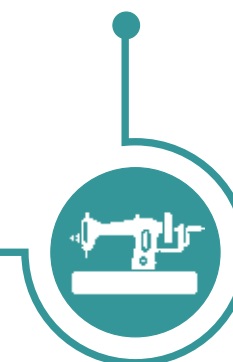
Driving



Operator



Sewing Machine



Mechanic
Motor Vehicle



Assistant
Electrician



Automotive
Service Technician



OIL - Skill
Development



OIL - Automotive
Service Technician



We are Unique



Girls' hostel with capacity

to accommodate 100 trainees within the premises encourages women participation



Boys' hostel with capacity

to accommodate 70 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 rates offered to youth from Below Poverty Line families



Forged partnership with Oil India Ltd 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 an average) in their first job



In 2019-20

117 trainees enrolled
48 trainees completed training
47 trainees placed

In 2020-21

165 trainees enrolled
97 trainees completed training
7 trainees placed

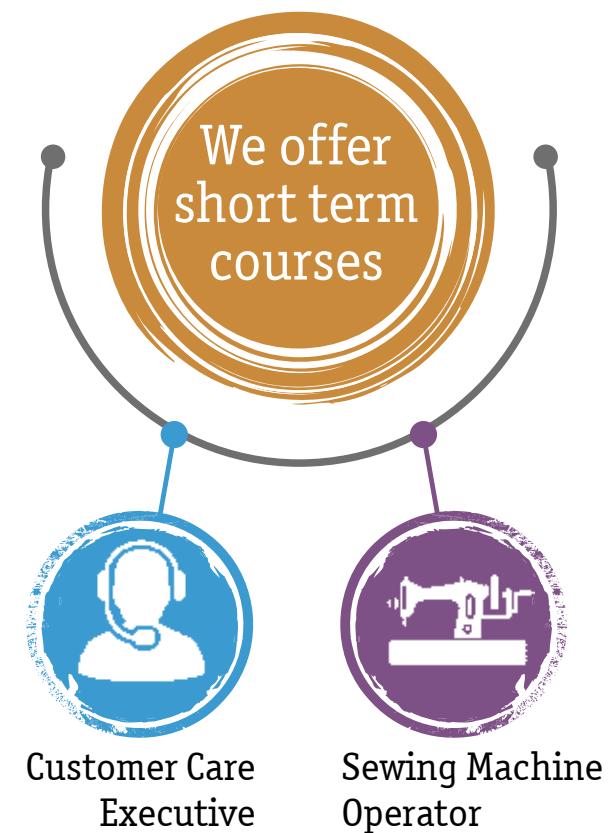


Vocational Training Centre (VTC), Chubwa

Vocational Training Centre (VTC) Chubwa was set up with the objective of training the tea garden youth in various skill and income-generating activities, with a vision to build a skilled workforce within the community to ensure sustainable development.

APPL Foundation & Gram Tarang Employability and Training Services (GTETS) entered into an agreement in 2016 to provide free quality skill training with assured jobs to underprivileged youth of the region.

We offer courses in partnership with DDU-GKY



In 2019-20

126 trainees enrolled
118 completed the training
115 placement provided

In 2020-21

110 trainees enrolled
60 completed the training
40 placement provided



We are Unique

65% of the trainees
are from tea tribes



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

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



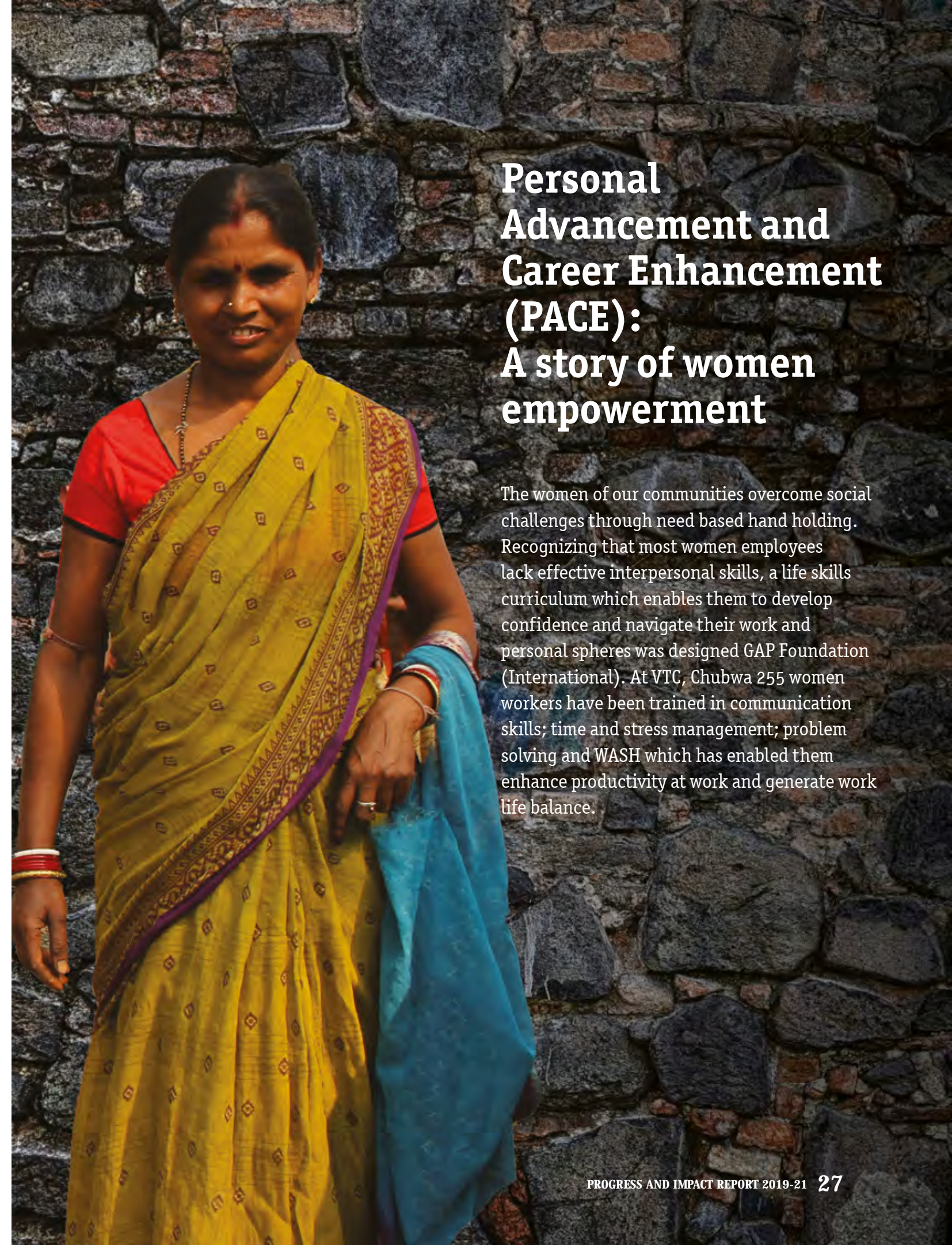
The centre holds a record of
placing 75% of its trainees

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



Personal Advancement and Career Enhancement (PACE): A story of women empowerment

The women of our communities overcome social challenges through need based hand holding. Recognizing that most women employees lack effective interpersonal skills, a life skills curriculum which enables them to develop confidence and navigate their work and personal spheres was designed GAP Foundation (International). At VTC, Chubwa 255 women workers have been trained in communication skills; time and stress management; problem solving and WASH which has enabled them enhance productivity at work and generate work life balance.



Digital Literacy Centre

From one to three: Our modest effort at one location has over the years reached two other locations.

“The future is all about living and working in digital networks.

We believe Digital Literacy is not only for students and educators, let’s enable generations with Digital Literacy for sustainable living.”



120 students trained in Basic Course

47% of the students in Basic Course are young girls

74 students trained under the Advance Course

At Lattakoojan in 2014

APPL Foundation in collaboration with IRDIS, set up a DLC at Lattakoojan Tea Estate, Golaghat in 2014, with the objective of disseminating basic computer knowledge within the tea community. Since then students from the tea community, within and in the vicinity of Lattakoojan Tea Estate have immensely benefitted from the Basic and Advance course offered at the centre. The participants, who range from Class VIII to BA degree students, are provided with quality digital education completely free of cost and certified by Microsoft and IRDIS on successful completion of the training programme.

AT APPITI, Rowta

As an initiative to reach out to the local adolescents, the centre offers digital literacy lessons to young children.

64 children part of the digital literacy initiative

86 children part of the digital literacy initiative

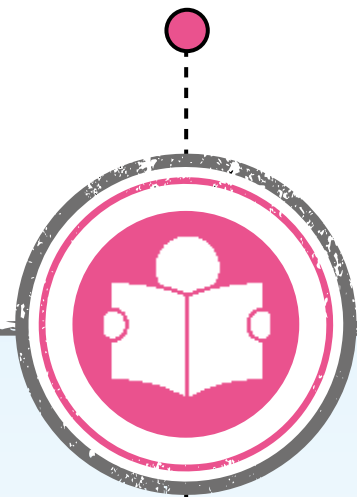
AT VTC, Chubwa

The centre has opened avenues for children from the tea tribes to access quality digital literacy course at the Centres Future Classroom Certificate in Computer Application.



Project Swabhimaan

A project which is now itself a success story



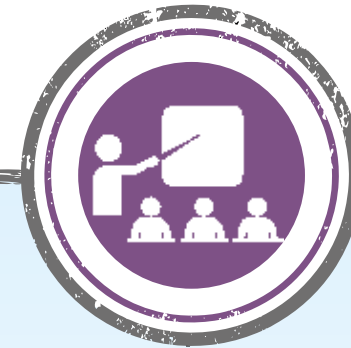
2015

marked the launch of effort to build resilient communities at the North Bank Tea Estates of Majuli, Hattigor and Nahorani. A community in which women are equal in contributing to the financial resources of the families, it was an imperative to enable them make informed decisions through Adult Literacy Programme.



2017

marked the continuation, not as a part of a larger initiative but a programme on its own. Women after a hard day's work gathered at the crèche to explore the world of basic literacy and numeracy.



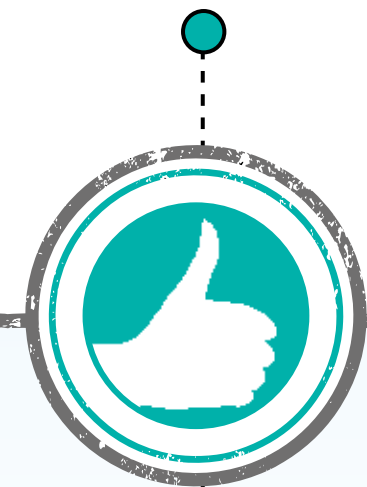
2018

marked the rechristening of the programme as Project Swabhimaan as by now it was synonymous to instilling self confidence in the adult learners in the communities. We supported the programme by creating user friendly experiential learning modules and aiding the adult educators with training.



2019

marked the beginning of the programme at Sagmotea Tea Estate. Women are enthusiastically joining the literacy programme.



120 women benefited through Project Swabhimaan

Menstrual Hygiene Education Programme

One year of talking about menstrual hygiene loud

The initiative launched by APPL Foundation in collaboration with VJS Foundation at Damdim, Nowera Nuddy, Rungamutte and Batabari in Dooars has normalized discussion on menstrual hygiene amongst adolescent girls and women. Now they are confident and fearless in talking about menstruation which was a taboo and are practising hygiene during menstruation by using sanitary napkins.



47 active agents

of change sensitizing community on menstrual hygiene



15000 women & adolescent girls sensitized on menstrual hygiene



50% women and girls

using cloths have adopted good practice of using sanitary napkins



10000 menstrual hygiene products reached to the girls and women in the communities



A year ago we used to seek; now we are seeked!

The Sakhis are the agents of change in the Tea Estate communities. After a robust training on menstrual hygiene, it was all their responsibility to educate the girls and women of the community about menstrual hygiene, counsel them and enable them in adopting good practices. With a bag full of quality affordable sanitary napkins they reach hygiene products at the door steps of girls and women in the community. And now women come and knock at their doorstep for sanitary napkins. The agents of change are contributing to the wellbeing of their families by earning Rs. 1200 on an average every month from selling sanitary napkins.

Women Prosper

Hathikuli Tea Estate's Women Prosper!

The Women Prosper programme is a high-touch initiative that takes a holistic approach to creating agency, imparting place-based skills and building enabling pathways for women to explore alternate sustainable livelihoods and entrepreneurial opportunities.

Our women are meandering to prosperity



Creating livelihood opportunities

22 Solar Entrepreneurs trained in making solar equipments. Rural Electronic Workshop (REW) built at Hathikuli for production of solar lanterns.

21 women trained in bee keeping. 24 kgs of honey produced in 2020 which fetched Rs. 11,000 as income for the producers.

Alternate learning opportunities for youngsters

750 adolescents and 150 parents at Hathikuli are being engaged in gender awareness curriculum and programmes.

Enriche Training Programme

Capacity building of women as agents of change who will reach out to the ultimate beneficiaries. 50 community women have undergone the ENRICHE curriculum, building on their critical thinking skills and developing an entrepreneurial mindset. These women have successfully reached 2728 direct beneficiaries in the first year, primarily by spreading awareness around the ENRICHE modules.

Creating wellness opportunities for women

Access to better sanitation facilities, awareness and behaviour change is key to ensure safety of women and enable them lead a productive life. Water filtration system and anaerobic digesters being installed in the community which will lead to better WASH practices not only amongst women but the community at large.



Kuhipath – An Online Education Initiative

Education for all is our motto and therefore we could not ignore the educational needs of our children at Tea Estates the pandemic. In order to test the feasibility of digital education, an online tutorial programme has been initiated at Kellyden Tea Estates for 103 children studying in Standard IV and V in collaboration with Progotishil. Children are partaking in hour long online sessions twice every week to enhance their English language skills.

100 children benefited from the short-term
online education course

TEAch Me

The learning from Kuhipath programme enabled us to craft need based educational programmes for our children. APPL Foundation in partnership with Vahdam Teas and BYJUS launched TEAch Me, an initiative to reach quality education to children in the Estate communities. Children with access to smart phones and internet connection were provided free registration to grade specific BYJUS' study content. Facilitators at the ground helped the children to navigate the app and understand the study material as and when required. We hope to continue this endeavour and reach larger number of children.

134 children at Nowera Nuddy Tea Estate and
78 children at Dam Dim Tea Estate benefited from the programme





Healthcare

We Treat

The greatest hindrance to an effective healthcare system is the wide urban-rural variations and limited access to the medical services. Our partner 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 the 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 location with latest technology, specialist treatment and skilled healthcare personnel.



13
initiatives

In
association
with
10
partners

Touching
300000
lives

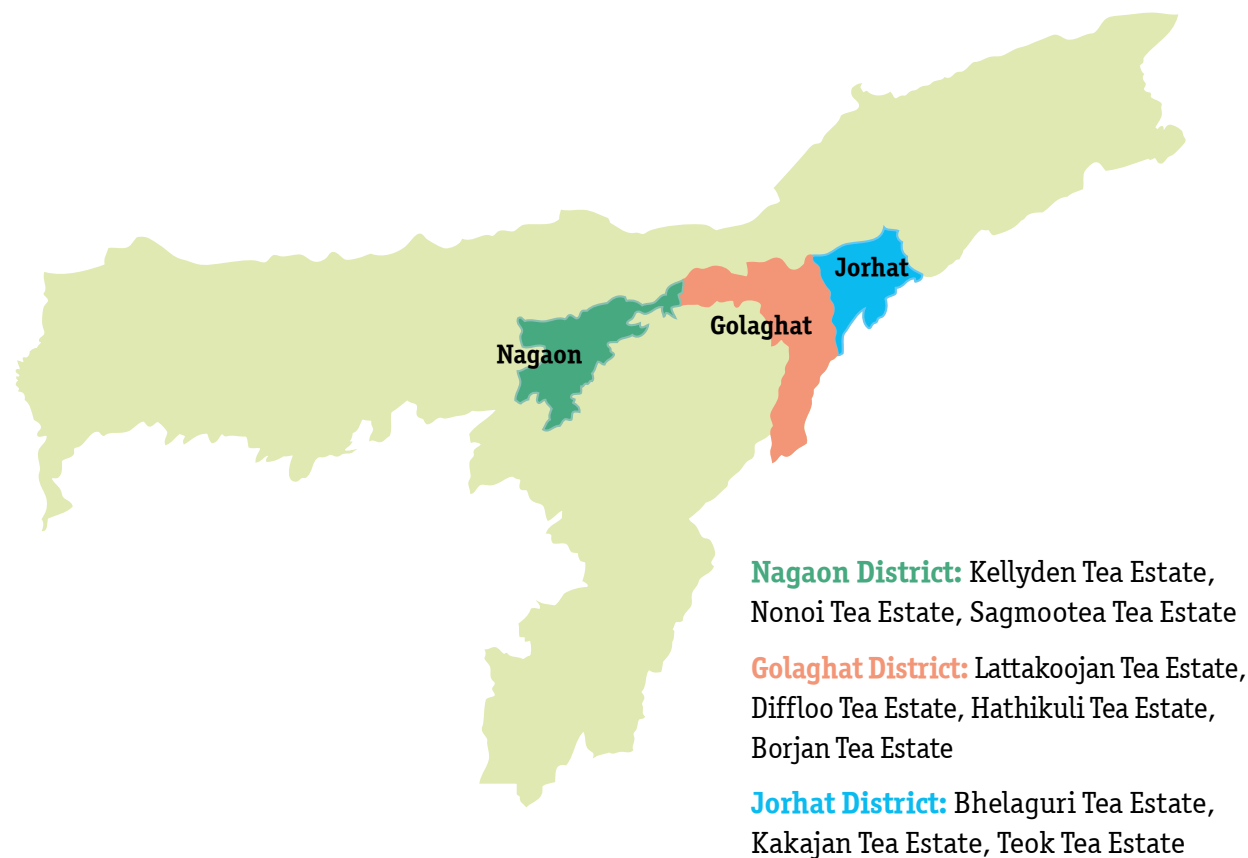
COVID 19 Prevention Programme

With the onset of the COVID 19, across the world communities have sought measures to prevent the spread of the disease. It is due to the need of the hour that communities have been proactive in adopting behavioral changes. But reaching out to the communities in need of support and assistance has been a challenge.

APPL Foundation stepped in along with Zorg van de Zaak Foundation to support the tea garden communities across Assam to prevent COVID 19. With the rise in caseload across India, the tea garden communities have also become much more vulnerable and adopting preventive measures along with strict vigil

of health indicators has become of primary importance now. Rising to the occasion, the Foundation identified 10 Estate communities in particular Districts where the trend of high caseload was observed during the onset of the pandemic. The major focus of the programme was preventing spread of COVID 19 through awareness generation and adoption of behavior change and monitoring the community at large and vulnerable groups.

The programme was able to prevent the rapid spread of the disease in the community by adopting a behaviour change model which involved every stakeholder in the community.



Impact of the Programme



12124 families cared for



152 people with chronic disease identified and monitored



2470 awareness meeting conducted reaching **50022 people**



1000 hygiene kits consisting of soap, masks, disinfectants distributed



70395 community people reached through the programme



3676 people with cold and flu linked with the Tea Garden Hospital (TGH)



10927 families reached through home visits

Swachh Griha Campaign

In order to acknowledge the behavioural change that has taken place in the communities, a campaign to identify households which are clean and have undertaken preventive measures as setting up hand wash stations was undertaken. Winners were identified by a decision-making body from each Estate comprising of the Management, Medical Officer, Welfare Officer, Community leaders and COVID Sakhi and Sakha. Each winning household has been felicitated with a plaque which has been put in front of their homes declaring them as Swachh Griha (clean household). We hope this will encourage others to keep their households clean.

94 households recognized as Swachh Griha's (clean households)



Covid Care Centre

With strict lockdown measures implemented in the country, the surge of migrant returnees coming back to their native communities was becoming a matter of grave concern. The Government facilities for quarantining the returnees was not sufficient. To ensure the natives of communities are able to safely return to their homes, TATA Sons Private Limited partnered with APPL Foundation in setting up quarantine centres across 25 communities. The centres received migrant returnees, provided for their stay, daily and medical needs during the quarantine period throughout 2019 – 20. This not only ensured the safety of the communities where the migrants were returning to, but also provided a care facility where the returnees did not have to face discrimination during their period of isolation.

1539 returnees cared for at the COVID Care Centres across **25 communities**





Referral Hospital and Research Centre (RHRC), Chubwa

Referral Hospital and Research Centre (RHRC) at Chubwa Tea Estate built by Tata Tea in 1994, as a secondary healthcare facility, today is an entity renowned for its quality healthcare service not only in Upper Assam, but in neighbouring states of Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland as well. It is the only healthcare centre in the region with SA8000 certification. This 70 bed hospital provides in patients and out patients care with facilities of specialist consultation, advance diagnostic and surgery under the same roof. Today, RHRC has built its reputation for ethical medical service which it continues to uphold and expand to bring more patients under its umbrella of treatment and care.

Our Vision at RHRC Health for All.

Deliver quality healthcare to all sections of the community at an affordable cost.

Our Mission at RHRC

Our effort constantly aims at providing quality, comprehensive and accessible healthcare to all at affordable cost.

We Offer

- ◆ Dedicated department of General, Medicine, Surgery, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Dental, Ophthalmology, ENT, Orthopaedics, Anaesthesia and Physiotherapy
- ◆ Specialist consultation through in house experts and visiting consultants
- ◆ Out Patient Department and in Patient Department treatment facility
- ◆ Surgery offered: General, General Minor, Laparoscopic, Eye, ENT, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Dental and Orthopaedics
- ◆ Diagnostics offered: Pathology, USG, Digital X – Ray, ECG, Audiometry, ENT Endoscopy
- ◆ In house Pharmacy, Blood Bank facility, ATM station within the premises
- ◆ Spectacle desk by Vision Spring offering quality affordable glasses to patients

In 2019-20

2167 surgeries performed

3146 patients treated in IPD

195114 diagnostic tests performed

42968 patients treated in OPD

In 2020-21

1164 surgeries performed

1696 patients treated in IPD

136625 diagnostic tests performed

26467 patients treated in OPD



RHRC is adding on to the services it provides

Blood bank at RHRC

Blood bank was reopened in October 2019. This was a much awaited requirement for the hospital. The facility, besides building confidence of the medical specialists, is also helping our patients significantly. Total 310 units of blood were collected and 285 units have been issued to patients so far. On an average of 2 units of bloods are issued from the facility daily. This unit is moving forward to function in a self-sustained manner.

ICU at RHRC

With surmounting pressure on Government Healthcare system, TATA Sons Private Limited has come forward in strengthening our secondary healthcare facility RHRC, Chubwa. With the support of our partner, we have established Intensive Care Unit with 4 ventilators to act as a support mechanism during the pandemic. The facility has enabled the hospital provide quality care to critical patients.



eHealthcare

The initiative of eHealthcare started in 2015 has evolved into a programme attending a prominent cause of eradicating Tuberculosis (TB)

We started eHealthcare in 2015

The first of its kind telemedicine initiative to be implemented in the North East, the e-Healthcare project links an eHub situated on the premises of RHRC, Chubwa to 5 estate hospitals spread across Assam and North Bengal. The initiative has successfully fulfilled the main objectives of reaching specialized medical attention to people in inaccessible parts of the region and to expedite the process of starting treatment for ailing patients, who would no longer need to physically travel to the closest city/town hospital for a consultation with a specialist.

2019-20



56889 patients
registrations recorded



9361
lab tests
conducted



853 patients
received tele - consultation with specialists

2020-21



39526 patients
registrations recorded



6903
lab tests
conducted



648 patients
received tele - consultation with specialists

In 2019 eHealthcare a hub for Active Case Finding Programme for TB

Tuberculosis being a longstanding concern of the Tea Garden communities, APPL has pledged to support initiatives in rendering its communities TB free which aligns with the national campaign under the leadership of Honorable Prime Minister of India's pledge to eradicate TB by 2030. Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) in collaboration with APPL Foundation has initiated a programme to this effect at Powai, Namroop, Kellyden and Hathikuli Tea Estates.

The programme offers

To screen the communities of 4 Tea Estates for TB

Enable diagnosis of people with TB like symptoms and connect diagnosed patients with first line of treatment.

To build capacities of the Tea Garden Hospitals to serve as TB identification/diagnosis centers for communities at large in near future



3314 households
surveyed, **17393** individuals screened



128 sputum tests
and **101** X - rays conducted



23 TB patients
diagnosed and linked with
first line of treatment



Medical Outreach Programme

A mobile clinic and a dedicated team of Medical professionals reaching quality healthcare to remote rural communities since 2016

The rural corners of North Bank of Assam, reel under the deficit of quality primary healthcare system. Taking cognizance of the dearth of facilities, APPL Foundation in partnership with APPL initiated a weekly medical outreach programme with the support of State Bank of India who donated a state of the art ambulance. A medical team from Hattigor Tea Estate runs weekly mobile camps, through which we have been able to bring relief to hundreds of ailing villagers. We have carried medical facilities to the doorstep of rural households which has turned this programme into one of the most cherished programmes of the APPL Foundation.

In 2019-20, **15** health camps at four focal points of Borigaon, Khokha Busty, Bangurung and Jora Pokhri treated **1200** children, men and women

Nutrition Support to Pregnant Women for Safe Motherhood

APPL Foundation in partnership with WISH Foundation has reached out to the pregnant and lactating women of 7 Tea Estates of Powai, Borhat, Namroop, Achabam, Nahorkutia, Chubwa and Nahortoli at Upper Assam to ensure them safe motherhood. The programme also doubles up as a study on the impact of nutrition, counseling, ante and post natal check up with monitoring of key health parameters which enables the health and safety of the mother and the child.

Taking care of pregnant and lactating mothers

Parturition support and service extended to every pregnant woman

Registering every pregnant women in the community during first trimester

High risk pregnancies tracked and linked with specialized healthcare facility

700 pregnant and lactating women provided with intense ante and post natal care

350 women provided with nutrition supplements during and post pregnancy

Monitoring the vitals of the mother and the child in ante and post natal stages



Project Sambhuya

In 2017, Solidarity and Action Against the HIV Infection in India (SAATHII) in collaboration with USAID and APPL Foundation initiated Project Sambhuya to support the provision of Reproductive Maternal and Child Health (RMNCH) services provided by the Tea Garden Hospitals. The intervention spans over 26 primary care Tea Garden Hospitals and one secondary care hospital in Assam and West Bengal (Dooars).

Training for health care providers

Skill-based training attended by 15 providers from our communities
27 mentoring visits were undertaken at 20 Tea Garden Hospitals
Gains in knowledge and skills of providers resulting from the training in 2017 were maintained through regular mentoring

Facility and quality systems strengthening

30 Hospital Management Committee (HMC) meetings were facilitated
Issues discussed under HMC was counseling and documentation of Family Planning, Birth Preparedness, Nutrition, Danger Sign
Labour room preparedness for safe delivery improved significantly

Community intervention

28 meetings were facilitated with the Mother and Adolescent Group

A well-equipped facility is essential for Reproductive Maternal and Child Health (RMNCH) services and today we stand well prepared

Labour room good practices are possible with presence of Delivery Tray, Episiotomy Tray and Baby Tray.

90% of our medical facilities now have Delivery tray

70% of our medical facilities now have Episiotomy Tray

90% of our medical facilities now have Baby Tray

As infection control measure;

90% of the facilities now use chlorine solution and 90% use colour coded plastic bags for bio - waste disposal

Essential drugs and equipment make our labour rooms better

80% of facilities have MGS04, Oxytocin Vitamin K available at labour room

Labour rooms are now well equipped with ambu bag, size 0 mask size 1 mask and radiant warmers

Point of Care Device (POCD) Initiative

Our Tea Garden Hospitals are hubs of innovation and enhancing our facilities are the Point Of Care Device (POCD) diagnostic kits provided by WISH Foundation across 10 facilities. With the facilities of ready check of haemoglobin, sugar and urine, as provided by the kit, we have been able to implant readily accessible quality healthcare facility in the tea estates itself.

900 patients helped through haemoglobin, sugar and urine tests by POCD

SMART Hospital Programme

SMART Hospital Programme was launched in 2018 by APPL Foundation in collaboration with WISH Foundation envisions transforming Tea Garden Hospitals into Smart Health & Wellness Centres. In this programme technology and innovation plays a vital role in improving the health care service delivery system at our Tea Garden Hospitals at Lattakoojan, Hathikuli, Sagmootea, Nahorani, Lamabari and Diffloo.

A technology driven primary healthcare system enhances the quality of service reaching benefits to the neediest people of our society.



The Programme Offers

Health System Strengthening

Better Governance towards Greater CDSS (Clinical Decision Support System) of the Tea Estate Hospitals

Promote

Digital Health and Technology Innovation [3-Tab Model] across all the Smart Hospitals

Capacity-building

Multi-skilling of the Health Care Workers and Teams [Various technological as well as domain-related training]

Strengthen Diagnostic Services

Introduction of various PoCDs and development of Diagnostic Labs across all 6 Tea Estate Hospitals

Engaging Communities

Mothers' Clubs, Youth Clubs, Nutrition Programme, Sports Meet, Street Plays etc conducted as part of community outreach

Our Success So Far

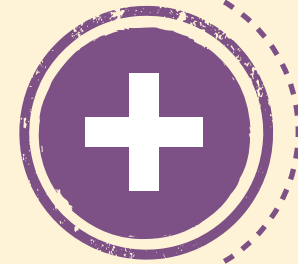
Reaching out to more than 15000 individuals through the 3-tab consultations



Conducting more than 3000 AINA and Laboratory tests; thus, contributing to saving of more than Rs. 4,00,000 as Out of Pocket Expenditure



Capacity-building of more than 200 Health Care Workers and other functionaries across the 6 tea estates



Offering opportunities to individuals from the communities to showcase their abilities and have a progressive growing curve



Continuous engagement with the communities – reaching out to more than 350 pregnant women, 300 + youths and children, 100 + community representatives



Fungal Free Frocks (3F) Project

A unique initiative to mitigate one of the most common and harmful disease in tea garden communities, especially women

Fungal infection is a common menace plaguing women tea garden workers and is generally ignored till it becomes a major issue. During monsoons, fungal infection affects approximately 7 out of 10 women in the Tea Estates. As a step to mitigate this, APPL Foundation, supported by Zorg van de Zaak Foundation initiated Fungal Free Frocks (3 F) Project.

Our project had two parts- preventive (to prevent fungal infections from happening) and curative (medical intervention to treat the infection once it has developed), and was implemented in 9 Tea Estates of Borjan, Nahartoli, Chubwa, Powai, Namroop, Achabam, Naharkutia, Chota Tingrai and Banamalie.

As a result of two years of intervention the project successfully created awareness about fungal infections and its genesis in what clothes are worn. The finding of the study conducted under the programme concludes that Dermatological Fungal disease among the female workforce can be controlled through proper awareness, medication, clothing hygiene, more number of Petticoats (frocks) and removing the disease from family contacts.

Awarded at the ICC Social Impact Awards 2021

The 3 F Project was recognised at the ICC Social Impact Awards in 2021 for its innovative approach to addressing a serious healthcare issue in a local community, namely the Tea Estate Workers Community. The award is given to APPL Foundation in the Special Jury Appreciation for Small Projects Category.

Innovation in Accesing Impact of Our Intervention – 3 F Wellness Challenge

The 3 F Wellness Challenge was curated to engage the community in displaying the behavioral change that they have adopted as an impact of the awareness generated by the 3 F project. The challenge requested for entries in 5 action themes in response to which videos and pictures of community people displaying good practices to maintain hygiene was received. Winner in each action theme was selected and awarded for adopting good practices as a part of way of living. Most of the entries were received from women and young girls spearheading the adoption of good practices in their households and also enabling the male members to be a part of the same.





3F Project at UN Foundation & Tata Trust Conference

APPL Foundation participated at the recently concluded UN Foundation-Tata Trusts Conference on Workplace Women's Health & Empowerment in Agriculture Sector in Bengaluru. A glimpse of the activities of APPL Foundation in the healthcare sector was shared, particularly in the field of Fungal Infections, particularly of project Fungal Free Frocks (3F), being piloted in three Tea Estates of Assam. This project aims to contain fungal infections through awareness generation, augmentation of clothing materials and provision of medicine and ointments. The interventions were well received by one and all, particularly for demonstrating how a small behavioural change can have multiple effects on improving the public health scenario.



Our Impact So Far

15449 people reached through the programme (4633 male, 7958 female and 2858 children)



88 awareness sessions conducted

3601 people diagnosed with fungal infection and treated (469 male, 2969 female and 163 children)



5900 petticoats and 5600 detergent distributed as a preventive measure

Only 25% recurrent cases of fungal infection



Workforce Nutrition Programme

Nutrition of individual, families and the community in general is key to a healthy life of the community members. APPL Foundation along with GAIN has initiated a programme to achieve better health as well as reduced expenditures in healthcare by adopting better nutrition practices. The programme piloted in the tea garden communities of Borjan and Nahartoli Tea Estates in Upper Assam post its completion was taken to the Estates of Achabam, Chubwa, Nahorkutia, Nahartoli, Namroop and Powai. In partnership with Dharmalife, the programme besides its previous initiatives is training women entrepreneurs in sensitizing the community about the importance of nutritious food and reaching quality affordable fortified food products at their doorsteps.



12124 families
were cared for through the programme



152 people
with chronic disease
identified and monitored



2470 awareness meeting reaching
50022 people



1000 hygiene kits
consisting of soap, masks,
disinfectants distributed



70395 community people
reached through the programme

Safe Eye Screening

We understand that services to our communities cannot wait due to the pandemic but making the community safe before continuing our continuous efforts is the best approach in present situation. During the pandemic, our long-term partner Vision Spring has come forward and distributed 3500 hygiene kits followed by ongoing eye screening camps for people in the Estate communities of Nahorani, Borjan and Lamabari. The patients suffering from eye problem were provided with spectacles at affordable rates which benefitted them immensely

7500 people provided with
hygiene kits and free eye screening

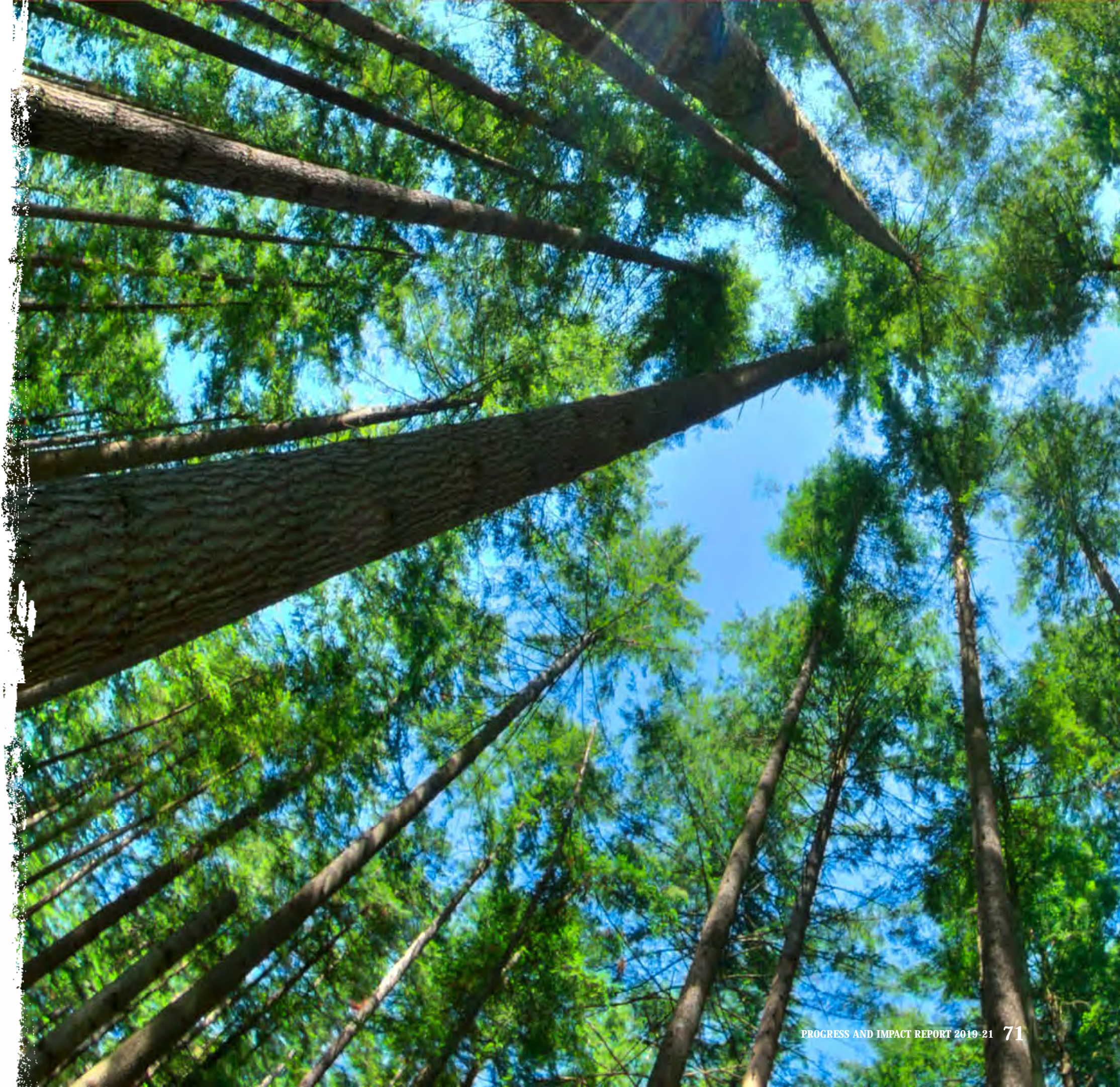




Environment & Livelihood

We Treat

The rich biodiversity of the communities that we partner with holds extensive possibilities to nurture flora and fauna unique to the region and create sustainable livelihood opportunities. APPL Foundation strives to garner active participation of communities to sustain environment through farming practices along with conserving the ecology around them. We collaborate with multiple stakeholders in generating livelihood options in harmonious relation with nature. At the Foundation the boarder goal of SDG to promote sustainable agriculture practice along with protection and promotion of ecosystem is a driving force for our work.



Women Practising Sustainable Livelihood

Our Farmer Producers

'Organic Bhumi' is a Farmer Producer Organization led by women. Farmer Producer Group members who also happen to be women sell turmeric to Organic Bhumi as per the prevailing market price. All the activities of the programme are interlinked and benefits thousands of poor women. Organic Bhumi also facilitates by supplying them with turmeric and black pepper on credit and developing marketing skills.



Our Solar Entrepreneurs

12 women from Hathikuli Tea Estate trained in making solar equipments. Solar Entrepreneurs are undergoing the ENRICHE and digital literacy training to enable them to conduct sales locally and learn to track transactions through smartphones.



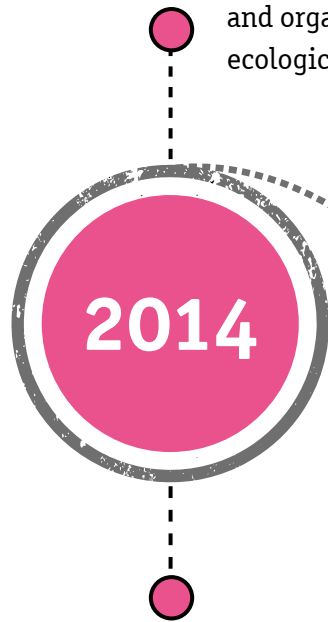
Our Bee Keepers

21 women of Hathikuli Tea Estate trained in bee keeping.

Our Journey So Far

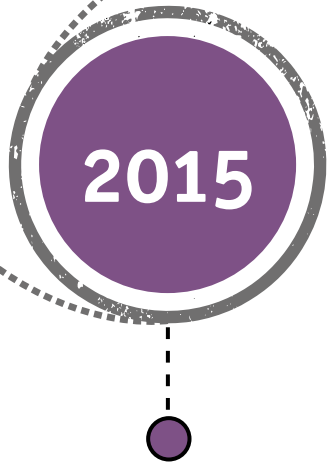
Organic Growth

Through our publication named Organic Growth, we intend to highlight current sustainability challenges and organic solutions that help preserve the delicate ecological balance in the North-Eastern region



Elephant Corridor Project

Elephants being an integral part of the ecosystem need care and protection along their migratory routes which are often close to the tea plantation communities. Along with Wildlife Conservation Society and Balipara Foundation it has been our mission to assess the migratory routes of elephants and identify appropriate conservation measures to facilitate safe migration of elephants in Hattigor and Karbi Anglong, Assam.



Wildlife Corridor Project

As an extension to previous effort 180 residents of Diffloo and Hathikuli Tea Estates were interviewed and state of art technology utilized to ensure safety of elephants during their migration between Kaziranga and Karbi Anglong Hills in Assam.

Haathi Parbath

A small hillock intentionally kept uncultivated in Diffloo Tea Estate to facilitate wildlife migration was surveyed by Balipara Foundation and a dossier of rich biodiversity unique to the hillock was prepared as a part of the project.



Lab to Land Project

The project encourages agriculture as a means of livelihood with the tea plantations and around it. Over 3500 community people across 180 villages received support to produce grains and vegetables and poultry farming. Thanks to Assam Agricultural University for being our endeavor partner.

Small Farm Integration & Sustainable Agriculture

APPL Foundation in partnership with Grameen Sahara and Sir Dorabjee Tata Trust (SDTT) promotes high value turmeric and black pepper crops in remote clusters along Assam-Meghalaya border. The larger goal of the project is to improve livelihood of 4275 families by integrating them with the market. The project also seeks convergence with irrigation and other spices-related project in the region.

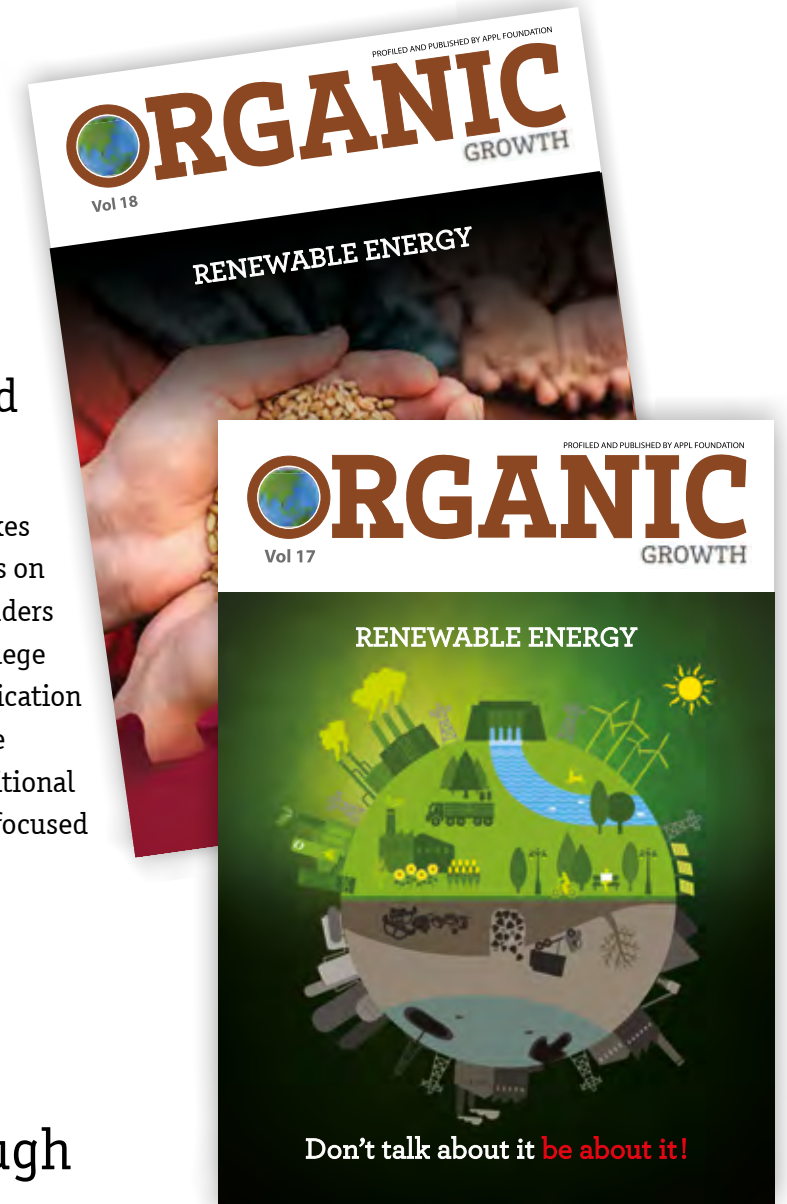


Organic Growth

A magazine dedicated to raise voice on matters concerning environmental degradation and the innovations that have bloomed across the world to construct a healthier and cleaner environment.

Organic Growth is a publication which makes a conscious effort in generating awareness on environment conservation amongst its readers which primarily consists of school and college students and community people. The publication of 2019 generated awareness on renewable sources of energy as an alternative to traditional sources. Whereas the publication in 2020 focused on different aspects of food security.

300 readers
engaged with us through
the magazine.





Culture

North East India is home to different tribal and ethnic groups, making it one of the most culturally diverse regions of the country. One of the most unique tribes of the region are the Tea Tribes. We believe that to attain the coexistence and mutual progression of the diverse communities in the tea estates and in the North East in general, there needs to be meaningful cultural exchanges between them. APPL Foundation aims to provide a cultural platform where the different tribes can showcase their unique culture, representing not simply the culture of their individual tribes but of the entire North East region of India.



SIRISH

The Tea Tribe Community were indentured from various parts of India and settled in the tea estates set up by the British Planters in 1830's. Together, they form what is today commonly known as Tea Tribes Community of Assam. It is important to these communities to celebrate the uniqueness of their own culture and at the same time, assimilate into the Assamese mainstream. This gave birth to Sirish – The Festival of Tea.

Sirish Festival is APPL Foundation's initiative for the promotion of indigenous art and culture. The event is an attempt to promote, showcase and preserve their distinct cultural traits and art forms and their assimilation into mainstream Assamese culture.

It Is All About

DANCE & SPORTS: The idea is to take the festival to the grassroots to identify and encourage traditional culture prevalent amongst the Tea Tribes in remote areas to come forward and participate.

ICON AWARDS: An independent platform, through which Sirish aims to honour community leaders in the field of Literature and Culture by recognising a community leader with a trophy, citation and cash of Rs.1 lakh each.



Sirish Over the Years

The first Sirish Festival took place at the Hathikuli tea estate. The festival welcomed participants from all tribes of the tea plantations. The first year of the program witnessed the attendance of 12,000 people.



Held in Powai in January 2016 for the second consecutive year, the festival saw a leap in the attendees to 35,000 people.



Held in Naharkatia in February, 2017. In its third year, the Festival was attended 90 teams comprising of 1500 artists over the course of the preliminary rounds and the final event.



Celebrated at Misa in Nagaon, this year's festival was graced by the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam Shri Sarabanada Sonowal and Minister of State Shri Keshab Mahanta.



Naharoni Tea Estate, celebrating its centenary was the venue of Sirish in 2019. The festival was graced by Shri Pallab Lochan Das, Member of Parliament and former Labour and Tea Tribe Welfare Minister.



A platform for emergence of dance forms

Over the last 4 years as SIRISH has spread its branches, it has borne the fruit of unearthing several nearly extinct dance forms practised by the Tea Tribes. We unfold before you the several dance forms that has flourished through practise and has been promoted by SIRISH festival.

Jhumoor

The Tea Tribe community from Dooars region of North Bengal has a history of their own. Despite tracing ancestral roots to their counterparts in Assam, they have incorporated traditions of Bengal. 'Jhumoor' remains the predominant dance form but in Dooars, the costumes, rhythm and movements are different.



Chayala

Santhals are a major adivasi group among the Tea Tribes and were indentured from modern day states of Jharkhand, Bihar and West Bengal. They worship the forces of Nature and 'Baha' festival is the most important amongst all.

Seen here is the Chhayla dance form of Santhali community where dancers revolve in circles using sticks.



Kurug

Kurug is the traditional dance form of the Orang tribe, who trace their origin to Jharkhand.

The long feathers that adorn their heads go back to their age old connection with peacocks.

Satnami

The Satnamis belong to the Chhatisgarh Region. They worship 'Satnam' based on the principles of truth, non-violence, universal brotherhood and equality.

Most of their dance forms is devotional in nature and performed wearing traditional white costume.





Sawra

The Sawra tribe is an ancient Munda tribe from Southern Odisha and is also found in the jungles of Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

One of their popular dance forms (shown in the picture) is martial in nature, probably owing to their hunting heritage.



Odia

The Odia dance form has a lot of depth and variety, with each region having its own specialty.

The adjacent picture shows the Sambalpuri variant of Odia dance.



Sabar

The Sabar people are one of the Adivasi of Munda ethnic groups. During the British Raj, they were classified as one of the 'criminal tribes' under Criminal Tribes Act (1871). They are also called Saora or Sawra in Assam.

They were forest dwelling tribes and sustained on forests for their livelihood.

The adjacent picture shows the earliest variant of Sabar dance.

Santhali Jhumoor

An amalgam of Santhali with the others has produced a nascent form of Jhumoor.

Traditional Jhumoor costume in red, while in the Santhali version, the colour code changes to green.





APPL Foundation's Growing Social Media Network

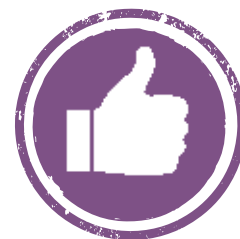
When major programmes were put to halt due to the rising pandemic, we focused our efforts in preventing and caring for our communities from the scourge of COVID 19. Our social media handle was our biggest support in spreading correct information and encouraging people to be safe.



20430
People Reached



2400
People Engaged

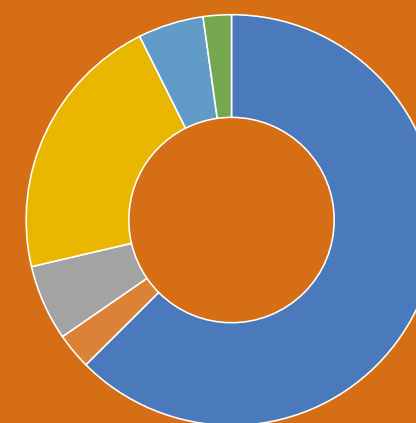


5043
People Liked APPLF page

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2019-20

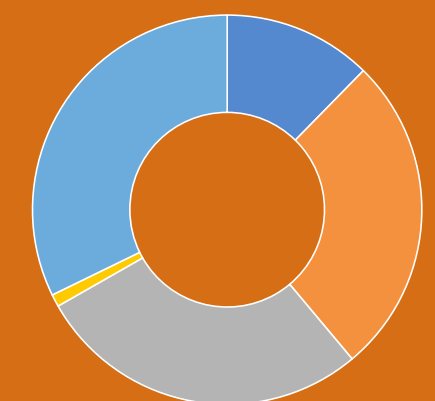
Particulars	Amount in INR
INFLOW	
Donation for Specific Projects	1,75,69,133
Other Donations	52,36,000
Income from Operating Activities	12,71,300
Income from Non-Operating Activities	5,45,000
Total Inflow	2,46,21,433
OUTFLOW	
Expenses for Specific Projects	58,72,464
Expenses for Core Activities	90,366
Donations Given	4,50,000
Administrative Expenses	28,34,033
Total Outflow	92,46,862
Cash & Equivalents	1,53,74,571

Financial Inflow



■ Health Care
■ Health & Hygiene
■ Environment & Livelihood
■ Other Donations
■ Operating Activities
■ Non-Operating Activities

Financial Outflow

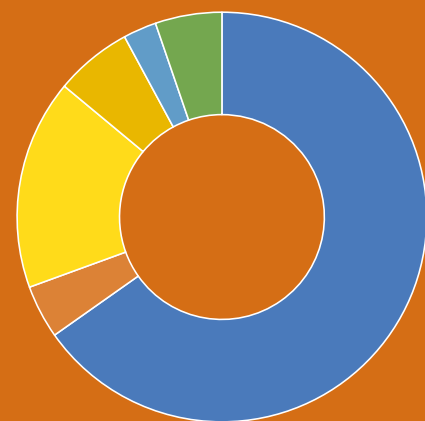


■ Skill Development
■ Health & Hygiene
■ SIRISH Festival
■ Core Activities
■ Administrative Expenses

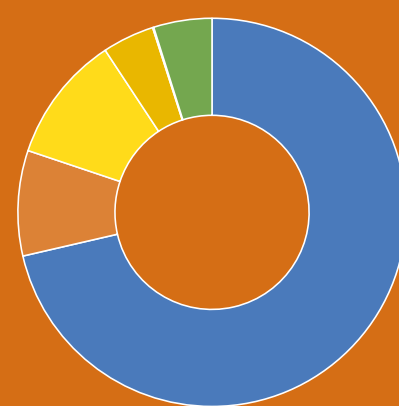
FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2020-21

Particulars	Amount in INR
INFLOW	
Donation for Specific Projects	1,55,64,809
Other Donations	11,00,973
Income from Operating Activities	4,75,124
Income from Non-Operating Activities	9,51,160
Total Inflow	1,80,92,066
OUTFLOW	
Expenses for Specific Projects	2,61,22,374
Expenses for Core Activities	25,400
Administrative Expenses	13,34,814
Total Outflow	2,74,82,588
Cash & Equivalents	(93,90,523)

Financial Inflow



Financial Outflow



- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| ■ Health Care | ■ Other Donations | ■ Health Care | ■ Health & Hygiene |
| ■ Health & Hygiene | ■ Operating Activities | ■ Environment & Livelihood | ■ Core Activities |
| ■ Environment & Livelihood | ■ Non-Operating Activities | ■ Skill Development | ■ Administrative Expenses |

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



JAGJEET SINGH KANDAL
Vice Chairman



DHIRAJ KAKATI
Managing Trustee



AMITAVA RANJAN SEN
Finance Trustee



RADHA CHAUDHURY
Trustee





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