

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Across 18 years of restless services produced by PAD in joint venture with other supporters likeminded organizations of different corners has achieved or get to see a tremendous social change and it has become a crystal vivid graph that, marginalized (Tribals and Adivasis) of targeted areas are developing beyond PAD's imagination, if it deeply remembers the past.

Long back Adivasi youths from tea gardens or from villages of Assam were seen suffocated and low confident in all spheres. But now; the activities-interventions-programmes-trainings-team works-exposures-plays etc created them a new and a changed individual. He or she, individually or collectively can knock the door for his/her or their approach/need in any other sectors or departments or community without much hesitation. PAD cannot deny the social fact that "Children are our partners in social change." The burning example what broad thinkers of targeted areas can see is this, that parents are growing smarter and children rights are more being focused.

Undoubtedly, the women have shaped themselves for better living standard and social updates. Traditional costumes and practices are being promoted by the women at rapid in various occasions. Even in the bank and market targeted community face less con. So, here can be seen a flash of awareness of education.

At large, the several trainings, programmes, team works and other interventions on different dimensions undergone by the marginalized has turned a community into a new direction; the direction of progressive and prosperity i.e. politically, economically, physically and spiritually. PAD in associate with other partners have cultivated not only the targeted marginalized categories but also the Mentors-Staff and Non-staff and volunteers of PAD; of which now PAD's governing body and well-wishers are enjoying seeing clear vision and the satisfactory goals.

One of the prime objective of the organization is to eradicate poverty and to see an equal and just society under clean environment and so for this; PAD's effort and afford of OXFAM, Save the Children, Aide et Action and Tea Directorate is strengthening its mission bridging towards ultimate goals and achievements very much.

Sincere thanks to OXFAM, Save the Children, Aide et Action, Tea Directorate and social engineers from root of PAD's heart.

Thanking you.

CONTENTS

- Few words of president
- Few words of secretary
- Pen picture of PAD
- Governing Board Member
- Target Area

Activities:

- OXFAM
- Aide et action
- Save the children
- Tea Directorate

Pen Picture of PAD

Peoples Action For Development has a Vision of equal and just society where people strive to live a healthy life in clean environment and PAD seeks to achieve equal and just society through empowerment of the marginalized Adivasis and tribal people by organizing them into SHGs/CBOs, building their capacity and enabling them to utilize available resource and creating awareness on environment.

Peoples Action for development (PAD) was formed on 25th Dec. 2001 at Mission Baligaon in Gogamukh, Dhemaji. PAD has its registered office (HO) is at Gogamukh, Dhemaji district and for better implementation it winged so far 4 more field offices; its first Field office is located at Ananda, Boginadi Block and second field office located at Nowboicha under North Lakhimpur district, third field office is located at Gogamukh, Dhemaji and the fourth one is located at Ghaigaon, Gohpur under Bishwanath Charali District, Assam.

PAD is registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 in the year 2002. It has been registered under 12A and 80G of the income tax Act. On 2008 in the month of February, it is registered under Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, Ministry of Home Affairs- India.

PAD so far able to obtained the membership of Right to Food Campaign, Monitoring Committee of Gogamukh PHC and Inter Agency Group. PAD is also registered under PADOR(European Commission) and World Intellectual Property Organization(WIPO).

Queen supporter and backing pillars of PAD's vision-mission-action are: Nawa Bihan Samaj, Action aid India, PAJHRA, DBSS, Gana Chetana Samaj, Women Earth Alliance, North East Network, Andheri Hilfe Bonn-Germany, Save the children, International Food Security Network, European Commission, Terre Des Hommes-Germany, Gramin Vikash Manch, NEADS, SsTEP, ANT, TSSS, Rural Volunteer Centre, SIL International, AMT, Legal Cell for Human Rights, WIPO and Nehru Yuva Kendra.

The organization was initiated with its main objective of bringing about socio-economic development of socially excluded and backward communities. With about 15 years of services and experiences, the organization has gained adequate confident and profession over the impact of social scenario.

The different sections of the communities have been organized into various collectives, like youth forum, women forum, students club, VLDC, SHG's, VCPC, Dropouts etc. PAD has successfully initiated good network with the Adivasi organizations and Tea garden community which is one of the marginalized community of Assam. One of the regular community based activity is Adivasi Vision 2020(AAV2020). PAD has been able to reach out to over 10,500 households through the project and approximately it has been indirectly benefitting around 10, 00,900 tribal and Adivasi people.

In the Education sector, PAD has been a pioneer organization in establishing 6 nos. of MTB_MLE School and 1 nos. an English Medium, through its initiative to promote education among the marginalized communities.

From the President Desk

Team of Peoples action for development is proud to bring its 18th Annual Report of 2018-19, during this glorious journey of 18 years we have reached number of people with different package of programs and information services and brought about many changes in the life of people living in poverty in the part of upper Assam. We were recognized by various organizations with accreditation and awards for incredible work that we were able to do.

Since the inception of PAD, it has been our earnest attempt to alleviate poverty through its interventions. PAD has been working to provide improved and sustainable livelihood to poor in some of the most difficult rural areas where people in general are toiling hard to survive in most hostile ecological conditions.

Our all interventions are targeted to provide sustainable livelihood solutions to the poor in a participatory approach. We mobilize the beneficiaries by giving a clear message that the project in hand is to create a healthier economic condition for them if they come forward and take part in its implementation. Social mobilization of this kind helps in formation of groups which are significantly benefitted from these economic activities. Groups hinged around our projects implementation get opportunities of productive employment for their economic growth. It results in a wider access to sustainable socio-economic activities are being done in an environment of fairness and equal justice. Our interventions thus focus on opportunities for larger number of people while protecting the vulnerable as all the dynamics sustainable growth and larger access to opportunities.

In the endeavor of bringing large part of the population under the growth process, all segments of growth initiatives in India need to work in a synergistic way to make it a success. PAD stresses more on building partnership to bring inclusiveness and to raise the pace of growth in the rural sector by gainful utilization of the contribution of public and private both. We at PAD are fully committed to build a better social environment and decent employment opportunities and social inclusion to ensure equal access to opportunities.

Staff List

SL. NO	Name	Designation
1	Wilfred Topno	Secretary/ Director
2	Asranti Bhengra	Administrator
3	Jaynosh Urang	Accountant
Project Title: Trans Boundary Rivers Of South Asia (TROSA)		
Supported By: Oxfam India		
1	Manoj Tanti	Project Coordinator
2	John Tirkey	Advocacy Liasoning Officer
3	Libion Topno	Advocacy Liasoning Officer
4	Arundati Borah	Advocacy Liasoning Officer
5	Philipson Sona	Advocacy Liasoning Officer
6	Jaynosh Urang	Accountant
7	Bhadreswari Saikia	Community Organiser
8	Lakhya Saikia	Community Organiser
Project Title: Protection The Children Of Tea Plantation Workers From Rights Violence (SCBR)		
Supported By: Save The Children (Bal Raksha Bharat)		
1	Wilfred Topno	Project Coordinator
2	Robert Tigga	Supervisor
3	Rashmi Topno	Community Organiser
4	Brijilal Bagh	Community Organiser
5	Jyoti Surin	Community Organiser
6	Leo Tete	Community Organiser
7	Mangal bhagat	Community Organiser
Project Title: Access And Quality Education For Adivasi Children In Assam		
Supported By: Aide Et Action International-South Asia		
1	Asranti Bhengra	Project Coordinator
2	Imanual Purtey	Education Facilitator

2019-2020 Annual Report

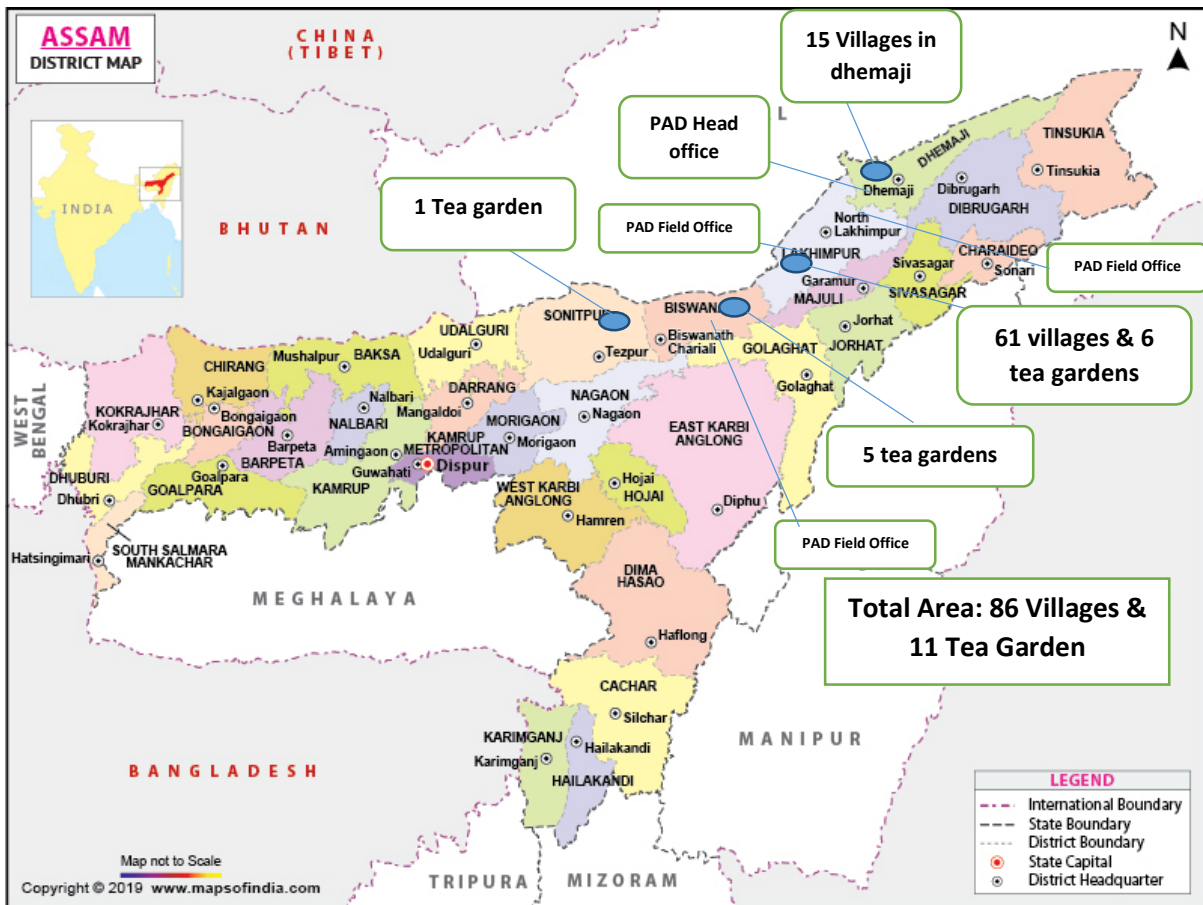
3	Paul Baghwar	Education Facilitator
4	Barna Demta	Education Facilitator
5	Pranav Tanti	Education Facilitator
Non staff		
1	Fransiska Tigga	Volunteer
2	Sanjit Sawasi	Volunteer
3	Rajesh Kerketa	Volunteer
4	Monali Beniya	Volunteer
5	Simon Topno	Volunteer
6	Pankhraj Soreng	Volunteer
7	Bikrant Dhan	Volunteer
8	Dipak Kachyap	Volunteer
9	Philisita Horo	Volunteer
10	Joseph Baghwar	Volunteer
11	Mirenda Tiru	Volunteer
12	Joachim Topno	Volunteer
13	Anjali Manki	Volunteer
14	Punam Surin	Volunteer
15	Gopal Topno	Volunteer
16	Karamshing Sawasi	Volunteer
17	Sapna Jurai	Volunteer
18	Hemaboti Dehori	Volunteer
19	Jonn Soreng	Volunteer
20	Depty Nayak	Volunteer
21	Mridola Horo	Volunteer
22	Sunita Aind	Volunteer
23	Sunita Manki	Volunteer
24	Rupali Surin	Volunteer
25	Bolin Sanga	Volunteer
26	Minu Gorh	Volunteer
27		

Don Bosco School

1	Alex soy	Teacher
2	John soreng	Teacher
3	John Ekka	Teacher
4	Boby rajwar	Teacher
4	Laxmi urang	Teacher
6	Foresh urang	Teacher
7	George ekka	Teacher
8	Gopal toppo	Teacher
9	Remish toppo	Teacher

TARGET AREA

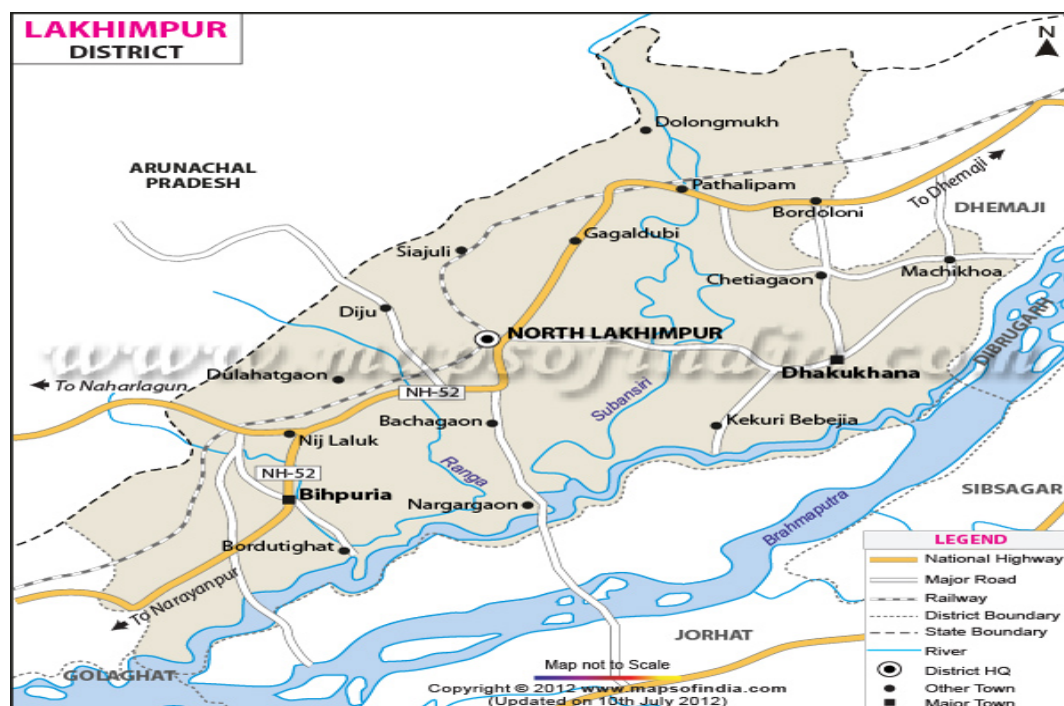
Presently PAD has its interventions in the districts of North Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Biswanath and Sonitpur. In Lakhimpur it is working in the following blocks- Boginadi, Ghilamora, Bihpuria, Nowboicha, North Lakhimpur and Karunabari. In the district of dhemaji – Bordoloni and Dhemaji Block in the Biswanath District – Gohpur Sub division and in Sonitpur district.



ANNUAL REPORT

PROJECT TITLE: “TRANSBOUNDARY RIVERS OF SOUTH ASIA”

PROJECT LOCATION MAP



About the Project: Flood, conflict, land erosion etc. are the greatest harm to the communities in the districts of Lakhimpur. The consequences of these disasters on lives, livelihoods, property and environment can last up to months, often eroding hard-won assets of individuals, hindering human development. The poor and socially disadvantaged groups face greater stress when managing the impact of natural disasters, since they are the least equipped to cope with them. Without better economic options and with continuous depletion of their assets, the poor are forced to live in vulnerable areas prone to flooding and erosions or in shelters unable to withstanding long water logging or strong winds. The situation aggravates during monsoon time every year.

The programme is planned to be implemented in 10 villages (Gelahati, Bhoroluwa, Phulbari, Putabil, Gorsiga, Madhya Nowboicha, Dejoo, Pachim Telahi,) covering more than 4,500 households. The planned duration of the programme is 5 years (from June 2016 to May 2021). It is intended to be executed in Lakhimpur district located in the Indian part of the basin of River Brahmaputra. These are ‘orphan basins’ with inadequate community

involvement in matters of water governance. The programme intends to ensure the equitable and sustainable access of the community to the water resources of the above basins.

1. Brief description of project and progress and outcomes:

The TROSA Project aims to poverty reduction of marginalized and vulnerable river basin communities through increased access to and control over river basin water resources on which their livelihoods depend. Y2 Q3 Activities have dipping the work of providing more access and control over water resources to the community.

(Last year there were several workshops and consultation carried out where scientist, Academician, Activist took part to discussed about the issue of water governance. Several institutions like Indian Institution of Technology (IIT), Guwahati, Brahmaputra Board, State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD), NERIWALM took part in the workshops arranged by TROSA- PAD Officials. Person like Prof. Chandan Mahanta, Environmentalist Dr. P.J. Das. Mrs. Nandita Hazarica (Director. State Rural Livelihood Mission. SRLM) had attended the Consultation on the issue of water governance and water management. The experts from China, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar, Bhutan, and India came together to discuss the Trans-boundary river basin issues.)

This year there was one CSO network meeting and Several Celebrations. Where experts, Activist and media person came together to discuss on the water governance issue. Dr. P.J. Das environment expert and prominent media person like Mr. Ranjit Kakoti of the Sentinel, Mr. Debo Saikia and Kumud Baruah (Assomiya Protidin) were present and an express their satisfaction for taking such an important issue of water governance by TROSA team.

These meeting and Celebrations brought deepened the understanding of the real issues of trans-boundary river basin Communities. Which are 1. Disaster (Flood), 2. Erosion, 3. Water Resources sharing, 4. Livelihood, 5. Water pollution etc. The workshops also given some major solutions for Early Warnings System (EWS) through cooperation and Data sharing.

2. The key achievements in the main projects are:

2.1. More inclusive policy and practise of The Government

The Government policies should be open to receive public opinion and complaints. The Voice of the community must be heard by authority. TROSA Team initiative has brought discussion around water

governance. This was never an issue of discussion other than the flood and disaster in Assam. New thought on water inclusive policy is needed for better management of water governance.

India is newly forming policies on the water Governance and it was great opportunity for TROSA team to take part on reviews of two bills last year. We have given our suggestion for more inclusive Policies on these bills. During the review meetings Water Resource Department and The Brahmaputra Board which are the main authority of water Governance in Assam has given assurance in working together for Good water governance. We are hoping more inclusive policies in coming days.

2.2. Respectful Policy and practises of the Private Sector

The Policy of Private Sector are not very assessable to civil society. In our Project area two major private sectors one is **Dam authority** and other is **Tea Industries**. Both of them use water very extensively.

Due to present political Situation we have limited our self in dialogue and discussion without conflict. We have started casual discussion with Tea Management.

Dam issue is very sensitive in the area and it is also risky for FCRA of rules of India. Therefore, we are moving slowly in this direction though dialogue. We are also looking possibility of using Grievances Redressal Mechanism of International financial institution if they are financed by such funder.

2.3. Enhanced capacity of CSOs

One of the noted results in the Q3 is the formation of **CSO Network for eastern Brahmaputra**. CSO network was formed which involved the participants from Arunachal Pradesh which start at the China boarder of Brahmaputra river and Upper Assam as well as from the federations, water users' group and VDMCs. Before the formation of the CSO network, the PAD team has initially visited Jonai to have a discussion with the other NGOs, Journalists and members of civil societies regarding the formation of CSO network. There was another visit to Arunachal Pradesh for the similar discussions with the NGOs and Government officials regarding the formation of CSO network in the Brahmaputra river basin. The CSO network was formed on 28th of March 2019. This network will take up river basin issues in the future in the turns –boundary stages. Also, TROSA Team has promoted a Federation called **Brahmaputra Federation** collectives of 21 village development committees. The federation will look after the local issues of water governance

2.4 Reduce Vulnerability of community

Increases in Livelihood options through proper management of water resource reduce vulnerability of communities. Also, capacity building of Women leaders is important for changing the situation of river basin community.

A three days' workshop on capacity building was held at NERIWALM Tezpur for the women. The program was held on 25th of February 2019 to 27th with the theme water and land resources, empowering of women leaders for water management. The main discussion on this training was on water harvesting techniques and water management program focused on soil conservation and how to properly use water and to use structures to check the flow of water from the sources. Management structure of the Dong system. The key element of the system is fairness in the water distribution for all water users. The arrangement of water allocation is very simple in the Dong system. The water entranceway is blocked when it is not their turn. Villagers believe that water management through system is more promising compared to other irrigation methods. Gender sensitization program was held to bring awareness about equality in the field of work/activities. Special grooming of Aruna Das for the consultation at Nepal.

2.5 Improve asses and control over riverine resource

Key problem of asses to the river resources is non-awareness of policies and practises of water Governance. Therefore, TROSA team at Lakhimpur concentrated on awareness building through visits and discussion at village level. Linkage building with the water resource department, Agriculture for irrigation, PHE for water supply was regular activities for the team.

Now slowly community is realizing their rights over water.

Specially Community of Joinpur and surrounding villages of Ranganadi basin has taken to build proper embankment for the protection of the river basin community.

The Ranganadi one of major tributary of Brahmaputra water became dirty due to contamination. Immediately the river basin community became alert and raise the issue in the media and several forums even in the CSO meeting. These contaminations happened due to the activity in the upstream North East power Co-operation Ltd (NEEPCO) Dam This issue has been brought to the concern authority through the community. They also raised their voices regarding contamination of the river water these are clear indication of controlling river resource.

2.6 Amplified Voice of Women in water Governance.

The special part of Y2Q3 was Women participants in the Trans-boundary water management issues. Women champions from the different countries gathered at ICMOD, Nepal and exchanged their views and achievements. From Lakhimpur TROSA Project Mrs. Aruna Das participated in the Nepal. She also came back and shared her experience in the community which inspired women to take part in the water management activity in the project area. These resulted increase in women participant in the water management.

(Observations are tools for showcase our achievements and Objectives)

2.7 Observation of International Women’s Day: On 8th of March 2019 International Women’s Day was celebrated at Nowboicha teachers’ common room. The participants were the women members, students and youth. The Celebration was a tool to showcase TROSAs Objectives and achievements. Women leaders promoted by TROSA were the focus of the event. They raise the women right issues. Now women should get their property rights in the family. Land document must provide ownership to the women. Girls education and protection in the major issue if the humanity is fighting against poverty.

2.8 World Water Day: on 22nd March 2019 World Water day was organized at Nowboicha teachers’ common room. The participants were men, women and youths. As the project focuses more with women’s involvement in water management, they were given priority in the discussion. Water scarcity, water pollution and preservations were discussed during the celebration with other water governance issues.

2.9 A workshop was organised for the women champions with the theme Women and Water on 1st of April 2019 held at Nowbaicha Press Club, Dolahat, Lakhimpur. Water and women are inseparable in the traditional society of Assam. Therefore, women are closely associated with water governance. The wellbeing of women depends on good water management of household or Society. Therefore, it is important to have a good water governance policy in the country and State.

Key project activities and progress against outcomes

Outcome 1: Government policies and practices
Ranganadi is one of major tributary of Brahmaputra water became dirty with contamination immediately the river basin community became alert and raise the issue in the media and several forums even in the CSO meeting. These contaminations happened due to the activity in the upstream North East power Co-operation Ltd (NEEPCO) Dam This issue has been brought to the concern authority through the community.
Outcome 2: Policies and practices of private sector

- 2.1 Regarding the private Sector not much has been done but PAD Secretary had done discussion with the Tea Garden management (Assam Branch of Indian Tea Association. ABITA) Discussion on contamination of river water by use of pesticide in the tea Garden which flows to the water in the nearby river. Also, over water pumping from river for irrigation of Tea plants. Regarding the Pesticide ABITA chairman of Lakhimpur informed our Secretary that they are switching to organic farming slowly but it will take time.
- 2.2 PAD also Concern about the Dam builder but the political situation is not in favor to bring the issue of Dam impact in the nature and human habitation. Still the issue of Dam induce floods and water contamination issue are brought to the notice of government and authority through discussions and media.
- 2.3 We are also looking at the international financial Institution who are funding huge projects over rivers like Dams, river diversion etc. Japan Development Bank (JDB) South Asian Development Bank (SADB) World Bank etc. are investing huge fund on these projects which has adverse impact on humanity. Complain Can be filed against such adverse impact and the damage can be minimized by changing the mind of investor Agencies.
- 2.4 PAD and Oxfam always believe to solve the issues in mutual understanding without conflicts with the private sector chance we have started discussions with the authorities of these sector

Outcome 3: CSOs and local communities CSOs increasingly participate in or influence trans-boundary water governance, women’s inclusion and resolution of water conflicts

- 3.1 CSO network was formed which involved the participants from Arunachal and Upper Assam as well as from the federations, water users’ group and VDMCs held at Lakhimpur in Hotel A&A2. Before the formation of the CSO network, the PAD team has initially visited Jonai, Pasighat of Arunachal Pradesh to have a discussion with the other NGOs, Journalists and members of civil societies regarding the formation of CSO network. There was another visit to Arunachal Pradesh for the similar discussions with the NGOs and Government officials regarding the formation of CSO network in the Brahmaputra river basin.
- 3.2 The CSO network has started participate in the water governance activity like giving memorandums to Deputy Commissioner on water Contamination of river Rangandi. They

have also gone for the field visit to the affected villages of Chines flood. To know the impact and how to take measures in future? How the issue can be solved in cross boundary countries by bilateral and multilateral dialogue and cooperation. Through Data sharing and information.

Outcome 4.1: Local communities are better able to reduce their vulnerability to water resource related shock including from conflict& disasters

4.1.1 PAD-TROSA Project have formed VDMCs and Water User groups. These groups have further divided to Disaster Management Group and Task Force for disaster Mitigation. Each 21 villages have VDMC which are to reduce vulnerability related to disaster. The members of these committees are trained by Oxfam PAD initiatives. They have also participated in mock drills of Disaster preparedness.

4.1.2 The community have started participate in decision making of water governance. By responding to the change in river behaviour or river water contamination or dam induced flood.

Increases in Livelihood options through proper management of water resource reduce vulnerability of communities. Also, capacity building of Women leaders is important for changing the situation of river basin community.

4.1.3 A three days' workshop on capacity building was held at NERIWALM Tezpur for the women. The program was held on 25th of February 2019 to 27thwith the theme water and land resources, empowering of women leaders for water management. The main discussion on this training was on water harvesting techniques and water management program focused on soil conservation and how to properly use water and to use structures to check the flow of water from the sources. Management structure of the Dong system. The key element of the system is fairness in the water distribution for all water users. The arrangement of water allocation is very simple in the Dong system. The water entranceway is blocked when it is not their turn. Villagers believe that water management through system is more promising compared to other irrigation methods. Gender sensitization program was held to bring awareness about equality in the field of work/activities.

Outcome 4.2: Local communities have more secure access and control over their water resources

Key problem of asses to the river resources is non-awareness of policies and practises of water Governance. Therefore, TROSA team at Lakhimpur concentrated on awareness building through visits and discussion at village level. Linkage building with the water resource department, Agriculture for irrigation, PHED for water supply was regular activities for the team.

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Outcome 5: Increased participation and influence of women

The various activities were carried out during this period. Women empowerment and capacity building program was organised on water management, observation of International Women's Day, observation of World Water Day, workshop on Women and Water as well exposure visit to Nepal by one of the women champions.

Results to be achieved:

- ❖ To strengthen women leadership
- ❖ To work closely with riverine communities and facilities to resolve the Trans boundary issues.

Prior Achievements:

- ❖ Formation of VDMC's (Village Development Management Committees). It was basically formed to discuss about water governance and identify the problems related to water resources.
- ❖ Formation of Water Users Group (WUG). The community leaders, including women, especially those belonging to the VDMCs and WUGs contested as candidates during the recent Panchayat election held in Assam.

- ❖ The VDMCs and WUGs promoted under TROSA project have now started getting recognition from the line departments as they are now being called to participate in different programs and activities.
- ❖ Many women members of the VDMCs and WUGs received training on how to cope with different risks and challenges, especially during any water induced hazard or disaster.
- ❖ Formation of new district level federation which is named as ‘Mahabahu Brahmaputra Federation’ has strengthened and capacitated as they are able to network and engage with larger networks so as to participate and influence trans-boundary water resource management.
- ❖ Formation of CAN (Community Action Network): We have already initiated CAN for Water Governance and discussion with several stake holders is done. We are going to from it on next 28th March 2019 which will take up cross boundary river issues with Bangladesh and china.

Quotes of Beneficiaries:

Through the project the various communities are benefited as they are able to participate in various activities of water governance.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)

Activities related to MEAL are reported here. The activities should be reported while the detail report of each one should be annexed.

We have regular monitoring and evaluations meeting on monthly basis. The Project Director as well as the Program Coordinator is regularly monitoring the activities keeping in close contact with the staff and coordinating regularly with the Community Mobilizes over phone as well as WhatsApp and visiting the field regularly.

Every month staff meeting is organized in the field office located at Nowboichao to discuss about the progress of the project activity, whereby in the meeting the team share about their activities undertaken so far, progresses made, issues identified in the villages or within the communities and challenges faced during intervention. From time to time staff technical meetings were also organized to orient the staff and keep them updated about the learning

made from attending different meetings, workshops or consultations. Monthly review meetings were organized to track the performances of the staff and hear from them about their learning from the field. During this meeting the team also plan for the future course of action to achieve the project goals and objectives as well as try to clarify their doubts and confusions.

At the end of every month the project staffs have to submit their timesheet of the activity that they have carried out for the month and the same is being checked by the senior staff (Project Coordinator) and that of the senior staff by President or Secretary of the organization.

Challenges and Risks

What difficulties or challenges the implementation has faced during the period and possibly anticipated to be continued to happen.

The challenges and risks faced during the period are as follows –

- ❖ Bringing or linking the trans-boundary aspect to activities implemented in this particular district of Assam has always been challenging.
- ❖ As mentioned in previous quarter report, the Government departments are too busy, like election duty, NRC duty etc. so it becomes difficult and challenging to get proper time or timely response from them.
- ❖ Special focus is given to women under this TROSA project, so, as mentioned even in earlier report, the participation level of men folks is still found to be decreasing day by day.

Lesson Learnt

What the implementation has learned and what should be the best solution to address in the coming reporting period.

- ❖ As mentioned in the Challenges and Risks section bringing or linking the trans-boundary aspect to activities implemented in this particular district of Assam has always been challenging. So, it is the need of the hour to move beyond normal plan as well as beyond present boundary of Lakhimpur district and expand or engage in outreach activities that would ensure a connect to link or touch the trans-boundary aspects.
- ❖ A developing democracy like India needs wider participation of the people in political process. Political participation of women from remote villages in panchayat election is

good for them and also for the society. These will be helpful in learning their rights, demands etc. as well as in making them influential so as to be heard and more importantly participate in decision making.

- ❖ Now the village people have started giving their opinion, especially through the platform provided to them through TROSA. They can speak with govt. officials without any hesitations or inferiority complex. This has gradually led to making and taking decisions even at individual level. It is true that providing right kind of environment as well as platform can really contribute towards bringing changes or transformation.
- ❖ The problems in the villages are serious as well as enormous. As of now, due to the interventions made through the TROSA project, they feel that PAD will solve their problems rather than Government. They need to be made to understand that it is they who can solve their problems. The NGOs are just facilitators, the Government duty bearers, but they are the main actors and leaders who can make things happen and work for their benefit and well-being.

Case study

A resident of Amtola village in Lakhimpur district of Assam, 32 years old Aruna Das was born in the Dalit Assamese community. Inspired by the members of PAD – Oxfam team, who are implementing TROSA project. She becomes president of Water User Group (WUG) of her village. Her village is suffering from floods every year. Her village is located on the river basin of Ranganadi. Ranganadi has a dam at upstream (NEPCO dam) of their village. During the summers the Dam is filled with rainy water. The company (NEPCO) releases the water to save the dam for mover flow. The flow of the dam water creates flood in the downstream villages. Due to the impact of flood waters, many roads, embankments and bridges got damaged. Now the villages a united and demanded for their protection of their village accordingly after several agitation program Government has provided embankment.

When the construction of embankment started, some workers (fixer) were not doing that work properly. At that time, she took a leading role and stopped that work with the help of her village people specially women. After that complaint, the embankment was constructed properly. Now she leads every developing works of her village also motivated a large number of village women in the work of empowerment. She had gone to District head

quarter to
situation of the
flood 2017 and
support from



} present the
village during
able to get
government.

Clean water is very important to survive. We noticed that in much of the world, mostly women are traditionally responsible or access water for their families such as drinking, cooking, sanitation and hygiene. They may stand in line and wait for water, they may walk long distances to collect water. In flood affected area they faced so many problems to collect water. Women are the main users of water. Therefore, members of this group are mostly women. The goal of this group is to reach/access of clean water without problems. This Water User Group (WUG) of Amtola village is led by her. They mainly discuss on water issues and try to solve them. The main water issues in the village are 1. Safe drinking water, 2. Dam induced Flood, And 3. Water scarcity in the winter. The women are united and taking part in changing society.

There is a federation namely 'Mahabahu Brahmaputra'. This federation is important for the communities who always face challenges because of climate variability like flood. This threatens their lives, assets and livelihoods, thereby affect food security and achievement of sustainable development. This federation will help them to achieve sustainable development. They will share their problems directly with the concerned authority through this Federation. The federation was formed by the support of the VDMC and WUG's members.

ACCESS AND QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ADIVASI CHILDREN IN ASSAM”

Financial year 2018-2019



The “Access and Quality Education for Adivasi Children in Assam” project is envisaged in 2018 with the aim of providing quality and contextually relevant education for Adivasi children in primary schools of Assam. The project is implemented in 20 primary schools, comprising of both SSA schools and Tea Garden management run Labour Schools in Behali, Chaiduar and Pub Chaiduar blocks of Bishwanath district in Assam. The intervention aims at achieving two primary objectives – 1) improving children’s education by helping them achieve classroom-level competencies in Reading, Writing and Arithmetic (3Rs) by applying concepts such as Back2Basics (B2B) and the Liberate School activities and 2) strengthen education governance in schools by working with community stakeholders and their building capacities. Additionally, the project will also engage in advocacy for fulfilment of education rights of children and compliance of RTE in the schools. It would also advocate for citizenship rights of the Adivasi community and engage with the Tea Garden management and the State department to facilitate enabling environment to respond to the needs of children, particular girls and young women.

Activities of 2018- 2019

As per the project title for the period from 1st May to 31st December, 2018 ‘**Acess to Quality Education for Adivasi Children in Assam**’ carried out in Biswanth district. The following activities were undertaken in 20 primary schools Gohpur TE LP school, Gohpur Naya Gagra LP school, Konibori LP school, Rastrabhasa LP school, Purubbari LP school, Bhulaguri LP school, Nonkibalijan LP school, Nirmala TE LP school, Dr. Ambedkar LP school, Dufflaghar LP school, Bhelouadanga LP school, Karibil LP school, Amjaroni school, Boroï LP school, Halem Ananadpur, Kettela TE LP school, Borganag TE LP school, Niz Borgang LP school, Sahid Anil Borah LP school, Sundar Line LP school.

Formation of youth and mother group

20 youth and 20 mothers groups were formed during the project period in the intervening areas. The objectives to form the youth and mother group were to build the capacity and create awareness on quality education, reduce dropout rate, monitor the school children, remedial classes.



Strengthening and regular meetings of youth, mother group and SMC

The strengthening and regular meetings of mothers, SMCs and youth group meeting were held in all 20 schools from 1st may to Dec.2019 where the mother, SMC and youth group members met together in their respective area and discuss on various issues prevailing in their area or school. The Objective of the Programs were to strengthen the mothers, SMCs and youths in the intervening areas and to build up strong foundation for look after the mid-day meal program in the school, school



infrastructure, encourage and monitor the children to go to school, also work for protection of children, improving the education of the children after school to take the remedial classes for student those who are poor in academic.

Capacity Building of Staff

During the project period one “Capacity Building program of staff” was organized at Ananda field office. The objectives of this meeting was -To Capacitate the Staff on quality Education, to build leadership skill of the project staff, to introduce a process enabling staff to identify and analyse local/School/ community environment issues and to develop learning programmes around these issues, to provide the opportunity, to implement activities that promotes active learning, to share information about the different education programme.

Life skill training for youth

2 days Life skill training program was organised in Ananda field office. Around 30 youths had participated in the program. The Objective of the program was to give the ideas/ knowledge to find individual aims of life, personality development, Techniques of study, leadership building, emotional intelligence and time management. The various topic discussed were Skill, life skill, me and myself, Self-image, self-awareness, understand life, personality development. Vikrant Dhan and Mintu Mijur



was the resource person of the training program.



Awareness meeting/rally / campaign

Awareness meeting /rally / campaign were conducted in Halem, Borgang, Nirmala and Gohpur Tea garden. The awareness meeting were on Important of Education, girl's education, dropout, anti- alcohol. The objectives of the meeting were to reduce dropout, to stop using alcohol in the tea garden, to aware the people to importance of education.

Sponsorship Activities



Child Competency Assessment Test (CCA)

Child competency assessment test (CCA) was conducted in 20 Primary schools in 2019 to assessing the ability in reading,

writing and arithmetic level of the children based on Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) guideline. The Test was Categories in to 4 Grads (Grade- A, B, C and D). Those children are falls grade C and D they consider as poor in academy .With C and D student PAD-Aide et Action started remedial classes so that all the children may reach in same level.



Case History (Child profile)

During the project period 600 case histories have complete d.Case history, where the details of children were collected to link them with the Sponsor. 2 24 children linked with the Sponsor.



New Year Greetings card (NYG)

224 NYG has completed during the project period. Children drew the pictures and pasted their photos in the NYG card on the address to the sponsor to wish the Sponsor.



Term Letter

Sponsorship being an integral part of the education project, every correspondence that the child ambassador writes to the sponsor with whom he/she is linked to, should be considered as an learning experience. It is vital to strengthen our efforts for

ensuring quality in these correspondences as it reflects the quality of our program intervention towards development through education.

The correspondences from children, commonly termed as ‘Term letters’ in Aide et Action South Asia (AEA SA), is composed of three segments namely, ‘child drawing’, ‘child message’ and ‘teacher’s message’. Quality indicators for each of these segments are elaborated below along with the learning outcomes among children as they participate in every term letter session. These learning outcomes are based on important fundamental child development principles.



The field actors directly involved in conducting the term letter session should consciously take efforts to make the term letter sessions a learning experience for children and ensure that the learning takes place as mentioned against each quality indicator.

During the project period 224 term letters have competed send to the sponsors, where the children drew what they like to draw and wrote what they are learning in the class. Also community volunteer has written (Teacher massage) the basic information about the each individual child.

Remedial Class

In 2019, Pad-aide action Started Remedial classes in Karibil Kachari, Halem Anadapur, Boro TE, Sunadrnile, Borgang TE, Sahid Anil Borah, Dr. Amedakar, Nirmala, Nonkibalijan. 9 remedial classes are running by the Local youth group.

Case study on child Marriage

Ruhit Porja (20 Years) son of Suleman Porja and Alisa Induwar (15 years) daughter of Ansel Induwar from Kettela 13no line. Ruhit Porja and Alisa Indwar eloped (comes under child marriage) on 2nd Feb .Boy’s family requested the APD Youth group of *Aide et Action* to find out the Boy and girl. On 9th of February the boy and girl were found in Mijikajan, Biswanath Assam, by the help of Aide et action youth group and AASAA.

The girl’s family didn’t want to take back the girl. Her father said “I will not accept her anymore”. Girl’s family said that “girl should be hand over to the boy and send them to work outside. On 10th of February APD group conducted a meeting in Kettela TE 13no line by the help of AASAA and VLCP committee. Robert Tigga Supervisor of *save the children project* and Paul Baghwar community volunteer of *Aide et action* gave very good counselling and suggestion on behalf of Child marriage. Finally both the Boy & Girl were agreed to be separate till their age is completed.

Boy’s father also said “I will accept the girl when my son and girl will be appropriate age of marriage.

The community of the Kettela 13 no line, Aide Et action youth group, Save the children, AASSA and VLCP made the written paper agreement and taken the signature of both the boy & girl along with the witness.

Case study of Anandapur LP School



Anandapur School is Govt. LP School established on 2006, which is situated under the location of Halem Tea Garden of Chaiduar Block, Gohpur Biswanath Dist. Assam.

Anandapur LP School is Assamese Medium School which is run under the SSA under the Assam Government. On this School there are 5 nos. of classes from Class KA to Class V with 75 students according to the record of 2018. The school has 3 teachers, one Headmaster, one Asst. Teacher and

another is engaged with a Volunteer teacher and two cook men. Moreover school has SMC members and Mothers Group.

Anandpur LP School has good infrastructure along with the kitchen shed and separate boys and girl’s toilet facilities and bamboo fence in boundary.

Since the establishment of school has there are the water facilities in the school of hand pump. But the hand pump has lots of Iron in the water and it is unable to use for safe drinking



for the children. Therefore the School headmaster had enquired and seeks lots of help to get the supply water facilities and he has become failure in every steps.

Finally the Headmaster took the agenda on the SMC meet and elaborates all the situation of water facilities. Then the SMC and Parents of LP School were given the counselling about the Safe drinking water by the Staff of PAD Organization on the same SMC meeting. Moreover he had raised the word to contribute the willing donation to build the Pucca Ring Well in the School campus for the usage of school children. Then to encourage the community and the SMC he had contributed the sum of Rs.1000.00, finally all the Parents and the SMC had also gave the word to contribute the donation from each family the sum of Rs.200. 00. SMC and



Parents had collected the sum of total Rs. 19,200.00 plus Rs.1000.00 means they collected Rs. 20,200.00.

Through these amounts SMC had built the Ring well under the premise of Anandapur LP School under the sum of Rs.

8000.00 and rest Rs.14000.00 they had built the Bridge on the canal which is attested in the school boundary.

Finally all the school Children, Teachers, Parents, SMC and Mother's Group are very happy to see their result of the Contribution.

Case Study on Child Labor

The name Called Soitom Gowala Age 11years son of Lt. Tipu Gowala and Rupi Gowala from kettela 11no.line.Dist- Biswanath PO-Borgang, PS- Bihali . He was Studying in class V. Soitom was very good in study and Regular student. But on 21 May (Tuesday) 2019 a person

from another village came to their home and convince the Soitom to work outside from the village and Soitom was agreed to go with him to work outside of the village called Nagsankar village, and he left the school. After few days headmistress of the school got the news about him and inform to Paul Baghwar (community Volunteer). On 24th May 2019, as soon as after getting the news Paul Baghwar and Kettela youth members went to visit their home and met his mother, when he interacted with Soitom's mom came to know that the man who took Soitom, he didn't talk directly with her about taking him for work. But once Soitom told to his mom that he wants to go out for work. Therefore they also allowed going.

After hearing all the story Community volunteer Paul Baghwar and few members of Kettela Youth group speak to them on Child labor also council them on values and importance of education with different example and requested the mother to bring back home. Soitom's mother promised that ***"I will bring back my son tomorrow and again send him to school"***. Right after next day she brought back her son and rejoined in the school. Now he goes to school regularly.

Community volunteer and Kettela youth member do visit Soitom and his family. Soitom and his family members are very much thankful to Biswanath ***Aide et Action*** team for their great support to the entire family.

Case Study on Trafficking

The name called Niten Munda Age 11 year so of Munda and Palo Munda. Niten was studying IV (Four) from Brahmajan TE, Dist- Biswanath, PO- Tetenbatri, PS- Gahigaon. The boy was taken to Arunachal by Mohan Munda for Child Labor but on the way to Arunachal the place called Bengbil Aide et Action team members caught him and inquired about the child and stopped taking for the work, and made the boy to go to school called Barhmajan TE LP school.

At present the boy is continue to go to school and parents are happy about it and extended thanks to Biswanath Aide et Action team.

Project: 'Protecting Children of tea plantation workers in Assam from rights violations'

Financial year:2018- 2019

Introduction

As per the project title for **'Protecting Children of tea plantation workers in Assam from rights violations'** carried out in the Sonitpur district from the month of July 2014 to March 2019. The following activities were undertaken in the 10 lines of five tea gardens Gohpur Te Estate, Purupbari Tea Estate, Brahamjan



Tea Estate and
and Halem Tea

Nirmala Tea Estate
Estate.

The project Team	
Kurian Lakra	Project Coordinator
Joynus Orang	Accountant
Habil Barla	Community Mobilizer
Rasmi Topno	Community Mobilizer
Brijlal Bagh	Community Mobilizer
Robet Tigga	Community Mobilizer
Jyoti Surin	Community Mobilizer

Result 1: community based groups are actively involved in protecting children in tea gardens in Sonitpur from all forms of neglect, abuse, violence and exploitation.

- ***Formation, strengthening and meeting of CG including identification of the risk and needs assessment***

The CG meeting was held in the ten lines of the five gardens every month where the children group always meet together to entertain themselves through songs and dances. In this get-together they not only sing and dance but also discuss some of the important matters of their lines. The CG children have taken initiative and done lot of activities through the help of CPC committee.

The activities done in the ten lines by the CG children are as follows:

- ✓ Survey of child profile (door to door assessment)
- ✓ Dropout children name listing
- ✓ Health survey (Follow-up of health workers training)
- ✓ Monitoring of evening study
- ✓ Appointing senior students for tuition classes
- ✓ AWC visit for data collection (Follow-up of Refresher training AWC workers)
- ✓ LP school survey (data collection)
- ✓ Safai Abhijan
- ✓ Application to manager for drainage system
- ✓ Street play
- ✓ Cultural event (Songs, dances and storytelling organized by CG)
- ✓ Sport competitions
- ✓ Awareness on cleanliness

The CG children with the help of CPC members in all the ten lines are trying to solve some of the cases of trafficked children. The children have successfully enrolled the dropout children of their lines in the LP school. It is happy to see that the children group visited the LP schools and could the dropout children retention is 100% in all the schools.

Achievements :

- ❖ The children group (CG) with the help of CPC took step to write an application to management for drainage system and clean water in lines which is accepted by the management and the work are taking place in gardens like Halem TE and Nirmala TE
- ❖ LP school and AWC survey was done by the children group (CG) to check retention rate of enrolled dropout children
- ❖ Stop of transfer of school teacher at Gohpur TE
- ❖ 2 children trafficking are solved in the garden Halem Tea Estate by the initiative of CG and CPC with the support of Child Welfare Committee (CWC).

- ***Formation, strengthening and meeting CPC including reporting and response mechanism on child rights violation.***

The CPC meeting is accomplished in all the 10 lines through different activities. The CPC had regular meetings in every month with a different issues and objectives. The activities done by the CPC of 10 lines in five gardens are as follows:

- ✓ Follow-up of survey done by CG children about Health survey
- ✓ Follow-up of AWC visit done by children group
- ✓ Meeting with the School managing Committee (SMC)
- ✓ Application forward to management for school teacher in school of Gohpur TE
- ✓ Application to the CDO for AWC in Gohpur TE
- ✓ Rescued CG child from trafficking at Brahamajan TE and Purupbari TE
- ✓ Application to management for drainage system
- ✓ Application for clean the wells and rings for drinking water in the lines

The CPC are trying their best to create awareness in the community through personal approaches with the children parents to send their child in the schools and also to stop selling alcohol. The CPC are also trying to ensure the protection plans that are made by the CPC in the lines must be strictly followed in the lines.

- ***Monthly Community report card on Child Protection by CPC***

The monthly report card has been prepared in all the 10 lines of five gardens. The card is maintained by the mobilisers with all the records and data of lines. The card is prepared of formats made of chart papers in which the detail data i.e.

- ❖ No. of child labour
- ❖ No. of children
- ❖ No. of new born child
- ❖ Total population
- ❖ No. of trafficked child rescued
- ❖ No. of child marriage
- ❖ No. of dropouts
- ❖ No. of lactating mothers
- ❖ No. of pregnant women etc.

All this records and data are maintained monthly which is updated by the community mobilisers in every lines. The charts are also highlighted in the CG and CPC meetings and the according to the data and records some of the issues are discussed in the CPC meetings.

Through this activity the community are aware of the data of their lines also they are come across with the cases of child labor, child marriage etc that are increased or decreased in their lines. The CG and the CPC are also aware of their duties and also motivated and encouraged with the progress through some works.

- ***Workshop with tea garden unions and association/line department to adopt Child friendly tea garden policy***

Introduction

On 28th November, 2018, the ‘**Workshop with tea garden unions and association/line department to adopt Child friendly tea garden policy**’ was organized by People’s Action for Development (PAD) in support of save the children held at Hotel Kamakhya, Gohpur. The workshop program was for the local stakeholders of tea garden like Assam Chai Mazdoor Sangha (ACMS), Welfare manager of tea garden, Line Chowkidars, Line Sardars, Mother clubs, ATTSA and AASAA. The primary objective of the program was to discuss:

1. To discuss on the various policy level of children safeguard in the tea garden.
2. To ensure about the proper utilization of the children safeguarding policies provided tea garden management and the government.
3. To bring forward the issues of children of tea garden and discuss about the safety net of child in the gardens.

About the Program

The Workshop program was started at 10:00 AM with a welcoming session. The project Co-coordinator Kurian lakra welcomes the participants in the program. He also welcomes the Director of PAD and the programme officer of save the children Mrs. Kritanjali Kayshap with a traditional gamucha along with two members representing from ACMS and Mother Club.

After the welcome session there was an introduction session where all the participants representing from five tea gardens Gohpur TE, Nirmala TE, Purupbari TE, Halem TE and Brahmajan TE gave their introduction and the designation they are involve. After the introduction of the participants the programme officer of save the children Mrs. kayshap addressed about the objective of the workshop program. She told that there are different children safeguarding policies implemented by the government of India. And this policy has to be properly implemented for every child of the nation. She told that the policies of child welfare and child protection scheme is implemented in every district, block and even in the tea garden management but it still it is clearly seen that the children of the tea gardens are still lacking for various welfare schemes and protection from social evils in the society. She told that through this one day workshop program and discussion would certainly bring a fruitful platform to think for the issues of tea garden children.

After the meaningful address about the objective of the program the participants were asked to share their activities related to the children issues from their working areas. The mother club member form Halem Tea Estate Mrs. Shanti Ekka shared the activities of mother club by telling that the mother club member so a survey in the lines every month to find the pregnant mothers and the lactating mothers to keep the records for knowing the health status of mother and the child. She also expressed that as lot of minor girl are victim of child marriage in the tea garden areas, the mother club members visits and take every necessary records of the mother and the child. They take the updates whether the mother is regularly visiting the health centre and takes the prescribed medicine and immunization for the babies. She said that the mother club members have a meeting in every month where they discuss on the problems of the pregnant and lactating mothers. In those meeting the ANM and the GNM of the tea garden provide awareness on health sessions which the mother club members ensure to enrich the acquired knowledge in the community. The mother club members visit each houses to take records of any new born babies and sensitize the mother for the proper

immunization and good nutrition for the child. They also visit the Anganwadi Kendras to take the updates of the pre-school children that they get proper nutritious food and care in the Anganwadis. They update the records in the tea garden health centre to follow-up the mother and the child regular check-ups and the immunizations. She also mentioned that there are such cases found that in the tea gardens that the new born babies are not informed to them by the mothers or any other families because of lack of awareness and get indulge in the local traditional treatments and herbs.

After the sharing activities from the mother club the ACMS member from Purupbari Tea Estate shared about the children schemes in the tea garden. According to him they always inform the line chokidars, and the mother clubs and the health centre for any new schemes for the children. The ACMS keep in touch with the tea garden LP school to keep the updates of in the lines that the children goes to school regular. They have a meeting monthly basis with all the tea garden unions, labour committee, mother club and line chowkidars for any issues of tea garden. In those meetings they discuss also about the health and education of the children. He also said that children of the tea garden are seen mostly dropouts and involved in the child labour because of influence of money and media. He also mentioned that the major problem of dropouts is alcoholism in the families. Even the child keeps a desire of studying the unhealthy environment makes the children mentally disturbed to lose his track.

As such the line chowkidar as well as local leader of ASSAA from Purupbari Tea Estate also shares that the managements like Purupbari Tea Estate under private Ltd is also unable to fulfill the basic needs like Electricity and water in the lines and for which the people and specially students face lot of difficulty in their regular school.

He also mentioned that there was no tea garden LP school for the management earlier but due to the regular effort by the local bodies like ASSAA and ATTSA they could able to manage to bring a LP school in their garden.

After the sharing of roles, activities and implementations of policies in the gardens for the children by the ACMS, Line chowkidars and Mother clubs a short session on PLA was taken by the Director of PAD, Mr. Wilfred Topno. He started with few documentary videos and Photos of tea gardens and addressed that the people of tea garden have the capacity to overcome from all the social evils evolving in the garden related to child or related to adult. But it can only eradicate if the people living in the garden do not fully depend in the tea garden management. He told that people should think of self sustaining and find other source of incomes and also know the government schemes and policies because if the management

is not listening to them then they can survive through the self earnings and government sources. He said that they should have a vision to educate their children choose his/her track towards different areas of careers in life rather than depending in the tea garden because if the owners of the tea gardens do not care for the people than people can survive through own means of livelihood.

He presented some of the policy of Plantation Labour Act (PLA) in the PowerPoint related children protection and safeguarding policy like:

- Every garden should have crech house facility for the children where they get proper nutrition and recreation
- According to PLA teacher- student ratio should be 1:45
- Schools facilities
- Health facilities

The above are the basic facilities that the Tea garden should fully implemented in the tea gardens and if these are not followed than it the duties and responsibilities of ACMS, Unions, Labour departments, local bodies like ASSAA and ATTSA to raise voice against the management for the basic rights. He concluded his talk by saying that all the stakeholders of the tea gardens should think innovative and give emphasis to the children in the tea garden community because children can bring change in the Adivasi community.

Feed Backs

At the end of the programme few participants from Nirmala Tea Estate and Gohpur Tea Estate representing from Assam Chai Mazdoor Sangha (ACMS) gave a feedback by saying that they are very much privileged to be part of such program and though they are very much also aware about the activities undertaking in their respective lines and as they are also part of the CPC committees, they gave their assurance to give their best efforts for the development of children and ensure to utilize maximum children safeguarding policies implemented by the government and form the tea garden management. And with this the programme was concluded by way forward by the project coordinator Kurian lakra.

- ***Awareness campaign on child protection and celebration of CRC week***

The Awareness campaign (CRC) was organized in all the 10 lines of five tea gardens. It was organized by the children group (CG) and the children protection committee (CPC) with an objective to create awareness on the child rights issues. The children of the garden prepared a play cards highlighting like stoppage of child labor, stop child marriage and stop child trafficking. The campaign was done in the local community which was followed with a small

gathering organized where some local leaders, local police personal, education department officer, health department officer are invited to deliver and create understand about child rights. The speakers' in the program shared in their talk about the importance of education and the rights of child should be given in all sector. The parents should give full freedom to enjoy their rights from every perspective. In the entire CRC program, the speakers try to focus in the four issues Violence, exploitation, neglect and abuse and try to explain the community that no children have to suffer from any of those issues according to the government law. The speakers and guest in those programs made the community understand by telling that children are the key model of the future.



- ***School level events to create awareness on child rights and child protection issue***

The school event program is organized in the 10 LP schools of the five gardens. The schools are Uttar Chatrang LP School, Rastra bhasa LP, Purpbari TE LP School, Nirmala TG LP school, Nirmala pachim Jorabari LP school, Halem TE LP school, Halem Anandpur LP School, Gohpur TG LP School, Dr Ambekar LP school, Brahmajan TG LP school.

The school event was conducted by the community mobilisers of PAD adjusting the convenient schedule of the school. They mainly focused class 3, 4 and 5 because it would be easy to communicate about the child rights issues. The mobiliser organized drawing competitions, dance competitions; song competition and games like running and jump for the school children. The teachers of the school also participated in the school event. There were some guest and the resource person invited in some school for the department of education.

The guest and the resource person delivered speech on child rights and the about quality education for the school teacher. In their speech they mainly spoke to the children that education is right for every child and gave inspirational examples of great person who struggled in their life and became great leaders of the country.

The children showed their great interest in those speeches and also in all the activities organized for them. At the end of the program the children also received prizes like pencil, rubber, sharpner and ruler based on the competitions held in the program. The children also enjoyed some sweets distributed to them. And thus, the school event was successfully organized in all the 10 schools of the five gardens.

Workshop with frontline Health workers on adolescent and reproductive health

Introduction

The workshop with frontline health workers on adolescent and reproductive health programme started at 11 am. The programme was hosted by community mobiliser Mr.Habil Barla. He welcomed all the participants and the resource persons Mrs. Sandhya Saikia and Mr.Anup Jyoti Bora. The resource persons were honored with assamese traditional gamucha. After that,the Project Coordinator Kurian lakra addressed about the project activities and the objectives of the project . He told that the project has been undertaken by Peoples Action for Development (PAD) and the project is for the protection of children of tea gardens. he also told that various activities has been undertaken in the last year in different tea garden lines for the protection of children like protection from child labour , ,dropouts ,child marriage, health and child trafficking. He made it clear in his speech that the main objective of conducting this programme with the health workers is to create awareness and discussion the health status of the tea garden children and also to know the preventive measures and pre-cautions from diseases evolving in the tea garden areas. With this Project Coordinator handed over the programme to the resource person Mrs. Saikia

First Session

In the first session, Mrs. Saikia started with brain wash game where she made all to look at one of the picture hanged on the wall. The picture was showing about hand washing of children in the schools with different steps. After that the Resource person asked the participants about the number of steps shown in the picture. The participants could not give the correct answer as no one concentrate about the number of steps in the picture. From this

game she said to all that the power of concentration is very essential for every work especially in health departments.

After that she started with the definition of health where she told a person is called healthy only when he/ she are physically, mentally, socially and spiritually fit. A person cannot only be called healthy for beautiful, handsome, tall or fat. To become healthy one must not possess any sickness in his/ her body then a person can be called as healthy person. Adding on to this she also told that children are the future of our society and country and we have the responsibility to protect every children from problems.

‘With this she asked a question to the health workers that what happen when a person falls sick’.

And the participants (health workers) replied that the person suffers mentally, suffers from economic, family suffers and loss of property.

‘The second question to the health workers was when does a person gets more sickness.’

The correct answer was given by one of health worker named Basanti Nag (ASHA) from Halem Tea Estate replied that a person gets more sickness and the death rate also can be seen at the age of 0-5 years and the old age of 50 above and which generally happen because of lack of proper care, love and protection.

With this the resource person comes to the diseases found in the tea garden areas, she said that the most dangerous sickness found in the tea garden children is anemia. It is seen in 50-60 percent of children in the tea gardens and which can also assumed that it is highly found because of consumption of salt tea by the tea pluckers in the tea garden. She told that the salt tea is not only makes the brain dull but also seen very less percent of hemoglobin in the body.

She told the health workers to take more and more fresh vegetables and maintain kitchen garden in the houses. She told about the process of taking fresh vegetables and how to maintain hemoglobin in the body.

Second Session

The Second session was taken by Mr. Anup jyoti before lunch as he had to leave the programme in the second half for some urgent work. So Mrs. Saikia made a small introduction about Mr. Anup jyoti about his work and how she convinced him to bring him into the programme even of his busy schedule.

Mr. Annup Jyoti is Senior Treatment Supervisor specialized for Tuberculosis of Gohpur Circle. He started his session on tuberculosis describing about child that child are innocence and we are responsible for them in every activities they do and act.

Adding on this he said that TB is one the major and common disease found in the garden. He said that according to the latest survey 40% TB patient are found in the Gohpur Division.

He spoke about

Symptoms of Tuberculosis like – loss of weight, weakness, continuous cough, evening fever and blood cough.

Preventions

He said that in the first stage of TB,

- a person should have a regular test and checkups in the health centres. Regular medicines should be taken by the patient. If a person gaps in the medicine means giving chance to the bacteria to become strong. He said that there are 3000 bacteria in the TB patient and if a person is weak then 10 percent bacteria easily affects the person.
- BCG vaccination should be taken within 1 year to prevent from TB. But TB can be found even after taking BCG vaccination.
- Proper Hand Wash
- Separate dishes and utensils
- Sterilize the utensils in warm water
- Should not cough face to face or communicate

He said that we find out the TB people and make them aware and go for immediate treatment for the safety of normal people.

He said there are different types of TB-

- DRTB (Drug Restraint TB)
- MDRTB (Multi Drug Restraint TB)
- XDRTB (2% - 3% resist at Gohpur division)

With this the Resource person Mr. Anup concluded the session by telling that if we want to save the children then we have to find out the TB patient and immediate treatment should be adopted for the safety of the normal people otherwise the day is not far when all human being will be affected by Tuberculosis.

Third Session

In the third session, after the lunch the Resource person talked on the reproduction. She started by telling that a girl begin to change her attitude towards the sexual desires from the age of 13 years. And she start the process of reproduction as her internal organs slowly develops and form to give birth. In this stage the girl child has to be properly cared and taught by her mother and health workers for the safe and cleanliness. The resource person told that health workers that the children of the tea gardens become victim of child marriage and this happen because no safe sex knowledge and about health.

She told that it is our duty to create awareness and talk to the girl child about reproduction and safe sex. She also showed the pictures based on the cycle of reproduction process.

With all this the resource person concluded her session by telling the health workers to perform their roles and responsibilities well and make the tea garden children and community safe from diseases.

The programme was concluded with an action plan where the participants feedback by saying:

- All the Health workers must speak and create awareness among the people about diseases like TB, Reproduction
- Health workers must conduct awareness meeting with the girl child I the presence of their mothers.

Life skills training to adolescents

On 12th January, 2019 the People's Action for Development (PAD) in collaboration with save the children conducted a Life Skill Training Programme to Adolescents at Rajwaha Bhawan, Gohpur.

The training program started at 10: 20 AM with a warm welcome by Mr. Habil Barla, a community mobiliser from PAD. After the welcome session, the project co-ordinator of SC addressed about the objective of the programme by saying that this programme is mainly for the adolescents of garden to equip life skill personality development. He told that the adolescent's period is the stage which is very sensitive which need to be cared and think seriously. He added that since the tea garden people are still in poverty, the children are not cared by their parents for proper development. In this way the children of the garden do not acquire the necessary skills and as a result the children of the garden areas have very low self esteem and low confidence in their life. They also do not get many activities in the schools where they can get good exposure to build their skills. He said that this kind of programs will build their skills and make strong decision in the life. With this he welcomes all the children of CG and also the vocational trainee candidates in the program.

After that the resource person Mr. Deba start the session with a brain storming game by bringing the children in the circle with an introduction where every the children has to take the name and remember everybody's name presented in the program. The children participated with full enthusiasm and enjoyed it very much. From this game the children get to know each other and also become free and face the public with confidence.

After this game the resource person delivered a message about some of the great person quotes like Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela. He encouraged the children by saying that such persons had always with a good and strong personality even they belonged from poor families. They always aimed high and never became discourage with any obstacles that came in their life. He also showed the children some inspirational videos to encourage them and how some people coming from very backward areas have achieved success in their life. With this Mr. Deba made the children again in the circle to play another game which was paring and matching of words and partner. The children were given a piece of paper written with different matching words where they have to find the partners by matching appropriate words. After getting their partners they were told to know about each other likes and dislikes and to share their hobbies and aims. At the end they will be sharing each other facts what they had shared by both of them. Thus all the children shared each about others and gave a general introduction about their partners. From this game the children get to know about each other more nicely and through this their skills and hobbies were highlighted more specifically

in the group by their partners. Mr. Deba also added by saying the moral of the game that they could know each other nicely because it would help them in their life in case of any problems anywhere. He also said that before this game no one was aware about their talents and skills in their life which after the game could able to know by their partners about their skills and hobbies in their life. And with this there was a lunch break.

After the lunch break, the second session was taken by Mr. Deba with an action song helped by the staffs of PAD. Mr. Deba take over session after the action song making the children sit and give them a session on personality development. He ticked on the major points like:

- **Self Awareness**
- **Empathy**
- **Critical Thinking**
- **Creative Thinking**
- **Decision Making**
- **Problem Solving**
- **Effective communication**
- **Interpersonal Relationship**
- **Coping with Stress &**
- **Coping with Emotions**

Mr. Deba beautifully explained each of the points in details by giving examples which enlightened the children in their personal life. He told that if these ten principles are followed well then every situation can be handled with well in life.

With this the program was ended, the coordinator thanked the children and Mr. Deba and wished the children for their bright future.

Directorate for welfare of Tea & Ex-Tea Garden Tribes



Introduction:

Assam is the largest producer of tea in India with about 800 registered tea gardens contributing about 51% of country's and 1/6 of the world's total tea productions. Tea is a labour intensive industry requiring human resources pre dominantly during all stages of its production. In Assam since the discovery of wild tea bushes by the British during the first quarter of the 19 century and the subsequent birth of tea plantation as an industry, the colonial entrepreneurs brought people from Central India (from the present day States of Jharkhand, Chatisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, West-Bengal, Odisa, Andhra Pradesh, Telengana) to work as laborers in the plantations. The descendents of those migrant workers brought by the British, now constitute over 17% of the State's population. They are a heterogeneous group with diverse cultural and social traditions. The commonality of their existence along with a common lingua franca has made them identify themselves as the Tea Tribes Community. They are now part of the greater Assamese society and each of them proudly identifies themselves as Assamese. However, they are generally marginalized, vulnerable and often remain outside the ambit of development leading to poor quality of life, impacting their health and overall living standards.

As stated the Directorate for Welfare of Tea & Ex-Tea Garden Tribes, Assam has taken up a scheme for awareness programme on child/human trafficking, family planning, legal awareness, health & hygiene, etc. in the tea garden areas of the State, through NGOs. Accordingly, expression of interest has been published in local newspapers calling for

applications from willing NGOs. Out of 113 NGOs who have applied 20 nos. Of NGOs have been selected by a committee headed by the Principal Secretary, Tea Tribes Welfare Department and PAD is one of the reputed organisation which is selected.

Sl. No	Activates
1	Women empowerment
2	Awareness programs
3	SHG Formation
4	Film show
5	Adolescent group
6	Awareness on environment
7	Awareness on health & hygiene

Achievements

- The community aware on various social issues.
- Enthusiastic to work for development of the community
- Increased women empowerment
- SHG and Mother Groups formed
- Increase level of awareness on government schemes
- Human trafficking is decreased from the tea garden areas
- Youth are giving importance on education
-

Activities:

Women Empowerment Program:

For centuries women were not treated equal to men in many ways. They were not allowed to own property, they did not have a Share in the property of their parents, they had no voting rights, and they had no freedom to choose their work or job and so on. Gender inequality has been part and parcel of an accepted male-dominated Indian society throughout history. Women were expected to be bound to



the house, while men went out and worked. This division of labor was one of the major reasons why certain evils like 'Sati Pratha', 'Pardah System', 'Child Marriage', 'Dowry System', etc. took birth in our society. The traditional Indian mentality assumes that the place of women is mainly concentrated to the household activities like kitchen work and upbringing of the children. There is systematic discrimination against women economically, socially, politically and culturally more so, in India. These discriminations & disabilities are practiced at all levels day in & day out. Women Empowerment is the ability of women to exercise full control over their actions. This means control over material assets, intellectual resources and even over their ideologies. It involves, at the psychological level, women's ability to assert them which has, so far, been constricted by the 'gender roles' assigned to them especially in a culture like India which resists changes.

Peoples Action for Development is solely committed to strengthen women for which over the year, several efforts were directed towards strengthening women's groups by building their confidence, motivating and stimulating their moral by the provision of several vocational and trade trainings that helped them in finding ways through life and have a better living. The women supported through several ways have now started to come out of their houses and participate in the social development activities like Gram Panchayat, Gaon Sabha, and Community Meetings etc. and put forward their opinion without any hesitation. The gender inequality in the areas have forced the women to stay within their house and not participate in any social or economic activities. Their opinion were not even considered at home in

domestic discussions but the effort put up by the organization with all its stakeholders have changed the paradigm of the society in respect to gender inequality

Formation and Capacity building of Mothers Group.



Mothers Group was held in Tunijan and Doolahat Tea estate and the new women's group (mother group) was formed. In the meeting many social issues were discussed regarding on women, education, children and as well as about the village apart from that discussed also held on about their culture and traditions.

Miss Hana Bakala said that earlier we were unable to raise voice and we always had to get scold from our husbands after attending the meeting or raising voice against any social issues, but now everything is changed and we use to visit house to house and make people understand about various issues and give awareness about education for children, Liquor and Local wine to stop selling, organised meetings on various topics. She also mentioned that because intervention which was given by PAD they develop their empowerment level. After saying that everyone does light and agrees with her opinion. After that Mrs. Sabita Guria said that our women rarely come out of the house and feel ashamed to say something in front of people. Therefore, empowering women to form groups is very important for our development and elevates our community and all participants agree with her opinion.

Sanjit Savasi, said that in this meeting we can see your eagerness and how you are interested to discuss something with women. Before this, people in this village were afraid to say something to express their feelings to the people, but now we are very happy to see your courage and enthusiasm. Your desire and enthusiasm can bring change in our community. We can grow our nation together, and for this he thanked them and made 20 members of the Mother's Group with the President and Secretary among them. The meeting finally ended



with the Vote of Thanks.

Formation and Capacity building of adolescent Girls Group.

15 Adolescents girls group was formed during the project period in the intervening lines. The objectives to form the adolescent girls group were to build the capacity and create an awareness on menstrual health and hygiene, personal hygiene, sexual health behaviour, reproductive health. The adolescent girls group comprises the girls within the intervening line from the age group 10- 19. Total 13-16 members are present in the groups. And various capacity building program was also conducted in the Doolahat and Ananda tea garden for the

captain of the adolescent's girls group. The PAD volunteers are taking session on health and hygiene and making the teen girls understand what the good practices and cleanliness.

Formed SHG:

Number self-help group was formed at Doolahat & Ananda Tea Estate and various social issues were also discussed in TG. The women in the meeting showed their affinity and eagerness for the upliftment of the village.

Many groups with 10-15 members was formed with the help of the staff of People's Action for Development. In the meeting PAD staff make them understand about principle of SHG and roles and regulation which they have to follow. After forming the group they had discussion on social issues in the village and how to address those issues by SHG.

During the meeting, one of the member of the group said about their inappropriate document which they does not have. Caste certificate, voter ID card, etc., then the PAD employees explain to them what they have to do, where to contact. Apart from that women's were very happy to PAD because PAD is helping them for their development and shows their gratitude



to them.

Awareness through Films show: number of awareness programme was organised on social issues through film show at Doolahat Ananda, Tunijan Tea Estate (line to line). The main purpose of the film show was to create awareness on education, child marriage, environment and health as well as different social issues in the village. Mr. Rajesh Kerketa staff of the PAD organization explained about the objectives of progrmme. Before starting

that they had discussion about different social issues with the community people and how those issues are effecting us in our daily life and make them understand what step should be taken to erase those problems. After that they started showing film and it was observed that the eagerness of the people to do something for bringing chanes in their lives. After the film



show many people gave their feedbacks and opinion regards on film and how it helps them to understand many things and how to deal with different problems, the awareness which was given through the film show that was very successful. And at the last with the Vote of thanks by Mr. Sanjit Sawasi programme was ended.



Health Program:

PAD organised various health programme, works to change peoples' health practices and care seeking behaviour through education, awareness and experience with quality services. In addition, the programme explores innovative solutions to local health challenges, as well as works with the government in an attempt to improve the area's public health services. PAD collaborates with local community health workers, other civil society organizations, the government, and the private health sector to work towards these objectives. The three major components of the health program are maternal health, child health and adolescent health. These specific interventions aim at developing better health-related norms and influence the wider discourse on public and community health in the Tea garden areas.

Education Program:

PAD is a non-governmental organization working to provide quality education to the underprivileged children in rural areas. Our mission is to ensure "Every Child in School and Learning Well." Every year, we reach many children in rural areas (tea garden) through a range of interventions. Our programs include pre-school education, mainstreaming out of school children, providing learning support to both in-school and out of school children, providing children with access to books, protecting vulnerable children, among others. Over the years, PAD has moved from being a service delivery organization to one which successfully impacts policy and practice.

Water and Sanitation Program:

The water and sanitation crisis is a health crisis. Access to safe water and sanitation means opportunity for improved health and the ability to help fight disease. Access to safe water means improved health for women and girls who no longer have to delay finding a place to go. It means reduced child and maternal mortality rates. It means increased dignity and reduced psychological stress for girls and women. It means reduced physical injury from constant lifting and carrying heavy loads of water. And it means reduced risk of rape, sexual assault and increased safety as women and girls do not have to go to remote and dangerous places to relieve themselves.

Peoples Action for Development through sensitization and awareness generation activities encouraged people to use toilets at home for their safety and for maintaining sanitation around them as well.