

VILLAGE RECONSTRUCTION ORGANIZATION – INDIA (VRO)
Project Title: Child Education & Rights and Village Empowerment and Entitlement

PROJECT INFORMATION

Donor: VRO Germany

Project Details

Project Title	Children Education and Rights (CER) and Village Empowerment and Entitlement (VEE)	Circle	Perecherla
Project Focus	Children and women	Region	Guntur
Project Type	Community Based	Financial Year	2024-25
Project Operation	10 Villages	Donor Name	Germany VRO

Project Holder

Name of the organization	Village Reconstruction Organization, India
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Project Brief of CER

Education is the right of the child. However, at times due to various reasons the child rights are violated. In remote rural areas where the parents are uneducated the conditions of children are unsafe. In some cases the little grown up children accompany the parents for coolie work or taking care of the younger ones at home. In some cases the children automatically drop out from the school as the parents do not insist on going to school. Child labour, child marriage and child abuse are very common in rural areas. There are also cases where the children are interested to study but the land lord in whose farm the child's parent's work obstructs the education of children. In some villages we notice insufficient teachers to meet the requirement to provide quality education to the children who come to school. It is in this context VRO started the programme of Children Education and Rights (CER). Though the focus is that every child from the village goes to school, VRO aims at holistic development of the child beyond academics. The project includes various activities that aim at bringing out the inner worth of every child and creates opportunities to build leadership qualities and enable them to exercise their rights as children. VRO also focuses on parents by orienting them to the importance of education and the role of parents and the community in up-bringing the children. Children are the future citizens of the country and they need to empower, articulate their desire and to make a difference in the community. The project provides a space for children to learn decision making, and organizing small events that revoke the development process in the village. On the whole the program ensures the holistic development and improvement in quality of education.

Target Area and population

The target area Population is majorly the migrated workers who have come from Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Telangana and different parts of Andhra Pradesh 30 years ago to work in the stone crushers and stone quarries surrounded these settlements. They have been depending only on quarry works. Most of the people are Scheduled Caste & Tribes who settled here permanently. Most of the women are working in

agricultural fields as daily labourers or domestic labourers in the Guntur town or chillie yards clearing chillies. Present 80% people settled and got entitlements and Government facilities. Most of the men who work in quarries suffer with Tuber Clauses because of the heavy pollution in which they work and quite a few of die very young too. Hence there are quite a few young widows in these settlements. Hence these people deserve our service presence in education and village and women empowerment.

Information of the villages:

S.No	Village name	Distance from circle office	No. of families	Population		Total	SC	ST	OBC	OC	Total
				Male	Female						
1	Solasa	21 km	120	200	200	400	400	0	0	0	400
2	Santhapeta	16 km	125	230	220	450	450	0	0	0	450
3	Kondaveedu	14 km	118	218	202	420	420	0	0	0	420
4	Prakasampanthulu Colony	10 km	90	180	180	360	360	0	0	0	360
5	Nudurubadu	14 km	180	370	350	720	720	0	0	0	720
6	Visidala	7 km	185	400	340	740	740	0	0	0	740
7	Velavarthipadu	8 km	150	170	180	350	350	0	0	0	350
8	House Ganesh	12 km	105	220	190	410	0	0	260	150	410
9	Phirangipuram ST Colony	09 km	200	380	320	700	700	0	0	0	700
10	Puttakota	14 km	150	180	150	450	450	0	0	0	450
	Total		1423	2548	2332	5000	4590	0	260	150	5000

ST - Schedule Tribe; **SC** - Schedule Caste; **OBC** - Other Backward Caste; **OC** - Other Caste

Details of the Villages under CER:

S.NO	Village Name	Distance from Circle office	No. of Families	Boys	Girls	Total	SC	ST	OBC	OC	Total
1	Solasa	21 km	120	25	35	60	60	0	0	0	60
2	Santhapeta	16 km	125	13	28	41	41	0	0	0	41
3	Kondaveedu	14 km	118	23	22	45	45	0	0	0	45
4	Prakasampanthulu Colony	10 km	90	25	23	48	48	0	0	0	48
5	Nudurubadu	14 km	180	21	29	50	50	0	0	0	50
6	Visidala	7 km	185	26	25	51	51	0	0	0	51
7	Velavarthipadu	8 km	150	22	18	40	04	0	26	10	40
8	House Ganesh	12 km	105	20	20	40	10	20	05	05	40
9	Phirangipuram ST Colony	09 km	200	22	20	42	42	0	0	-	42
10	Puttakota	14 km	150	35	30	65	35	0	0	0	35
	TOTAL		1120	215	235	450	378	9	61	2	450

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Profile of CER

Objectives	Activities	Outcome	Indicators
To improve the quality of education among children	- Enrolment of Drop out children - identifying the dropouts - rapport building with the dropouts, parents and teachers - Conducting evening study regularly and effectively - study and address the problems of the unattended children - Make the centre child friendly and children involved - Monitoring academic progress, comparing academic progress - personal and Individual attention to home work - Conducting slip-tests, etc. - Conducting extracurricular activities like essay writing, drawing public speaking, etc., - periodical follow-up with school authority - Forming and strengthening Parents committee. (9 members in committee, 5:4 ratio) - Formation of parents' committee - Capacity building of parents' committee. - Enabling parents identify issues related to children and address the same - Ensure infrastructure facilities in all centres - Awareness building on Child Rights and Right to Education (RTE) to parents.	- Number of children enrolled in the school - Average number. of children attending evening study - Number of children improved their academic performance - Number of education committee formed and strengthened in order the solve issues of the children intheir education - Number of centres with Improved Infrastructure facilities - Number of sessions conducted for parents on child rights and Right to Education Act (RTE).	- Nil school dropouts in the given village % of children attend evening study % of children have improved in their academic learning - Improved support from parents and communities in % of centres - In % centres the infrastructure facilities are improved % child improved their ability to read and write and in mathematical skills appropriate to their age level.
To enhance social responsibility in the children	Forming and strengthening Children Parliament	Number of children parliament formed and	% of Villages have become plastic-free

	2. Orientation on the importance of cleanliness 2.1. Sensitizing other stake holders in the community on cleanliness 2.2. Organizing monthly service camp 2.3. Organizing environmental activities 2.4. Identifying and addressing community related issues. 3. Children identify and help the vulnerable people. 4. Leadership training for children	strengthened 2. Number of trees have been planted 1. Number of Vulnerable people are identified and taken care. 2. Number of leadership sessions organized for children	2. Number of community related issues identified by children 3. Number of villages became clean and green 2.2. % of children start helping each other 2.3.% of children manifested leadership qualities
To promote health and hygiene among the children	1. Conducting health education to children once in a week 2. Conducting health camps with the involvement of Government 3. promoting hand wash hygiene, de-worming	1. Number of health check-up camps conducted 2. Number of coordination meetings conducted and attended with the community health centres 3. Number of children de-wormed	1.% of children are aware of the hygienic practices 2. % children enjoy improved health status
To improve the knowledge and competency of the volunteers/CW on the importance of education and the rights of children	1. Continuous capacity building of Volunteers and Community Workers(CWs) 2. Training need assessment 2.1 Organizing trainings as per the need 3. Availing the existing monitoring mechanism (field monitoring, review meeting and operational team meeting)for in-service training	1. Number of capacity building sessions conducted for CWs and Volunteers on RTE and child rights. 2. Number of CWs and volunteers improved their knowledge and competency in teaching skills and public relations. 3. Number of CWs and volunteers improved skills in documentation and reporting.	1. % of community workers aware of the right to education and child protection act. 2. % of CWs have improved their teaching skills 3. % of volunteers/CWs improved their ability to document the process 4. % of them are able to organize meetings effectively 5. % of them are able to net-work with school authorities

Profile of VEE

Objectives	Activities	Output	Indicators
1. To improve economic and social status of women and community.	1. Forming and strengthening of MACS in minimum 10 villages in each circle: 1.1. Studying and sensitizing the community members towards formation of MACS. 1.2 Strengthening of Existing SHGs in the villages 1.3. Mobilizing savings among the members in the group 1.4. Registering and availing the Banking facilities 1.5. Identifying appropriate income generating business components 1.6. Promoting self or collective employment. 1.7. Encouraging MACS members in LOCAL Decision making process 1.8 Awareness program on women's rights 1.9 Celebrating International women's day	1. Number of sessions conducted in sensitizing women on MACs	1. % of women understood the concept of MACs
		2. Number of MACS formed and functioning in each circle.	2. % of MACs registered
		3. Number of MACs availed Bank facilities	3. % of MACS saved beyond Rs. 35000 in a year
		4. Number of business components identified	4. % of MACS members represented

		5. Number of MACs members employed 6. Number of MACS members especially women participate in decision making process 7. Number of MACs members aware of women rights	in local decision making bodies. 5.% of MACS access to bank loans 6.% of families increased their income by 25% in a year 7. % of women leaders emerged in one year
2.To improve community participation for their own development	1 CBOS formation and strengthening: 1.1 Forming of new CBOs 1.2 Strengthening of existing CBOs 1.3 Starting of water conservation measures 1.4 Improving community infrastructures 1.5 Accessing to government, entitlements schemes and bank loans	1. Number of CBOs formed 2. Number of existing CBOs strengthened 3. Number of villages undertaken water conservation measures 4. Number of Villages mobilized to improve community facilities and infrastructure 5. Number of attempts made by no of CBOs towards government entitlements, schemes and bank loans	1. % of community needs and issues identified 2. % of action taken on identified needs and issues 3. % of Water conservation pits completed 4. % of Community members benefited by entitlement 5. % of Villages improved the community infrastructures

			6. % of Villagers gained by government schemes and bank loans
3.To improve skills and competencies of the volunteers/CWs	1. Orientation on the concept of CBOs 2. Capacity Building on Community Mobilization. 3. Training on Local resource mobilization and networking 4. Training on organizing meetings and group dynamics 5. Skill Development on Process Report writing.	1. Number of orientations organized on the concept of CBOs 2. Number of capacity building sessions conducted on community mobilization and local resources to CWs and Volunteers 3. Number of trainings organized for CWs and Volunteers on group dynamics and conducting meetings. 4. Number of skill development training on process report writing	1. % of CWs and Volunteers understand the concept of CBO. 2. %. of CWs & Volunteers understand about Community mobilization. 3. % of CWs& Volunteers facilitated CBOs in identifying and addressing issues in the villages. 4. % of CWs and volunteers organize and manage village meetings effectively. 5. % of Volunteers network with government officials and mobilize local resources.

1. Formation of Parents Committee

To instil the importance of education and the responsibility of the parents in the mind of the parent's periodic parents meeting is organized. Every child has rights and those rights need to be nurtured and monitored. To facilitate this VRO through its Animator and community worker form Parents Committee and strengthen the same in every village in order to look into improving the facility for learning and enabling the children to achieve their rights. This committee monitor the parents and ensure that they participate in teacher-parent meeting in the school and ensure child health and hygiene. VRO volunteer facilitate the process of forming, organizing and conducting committee meetings. Another task of the committee is enabling parents identify issues related to children and finding ways to address them. A total of 5 committee meetings will be organized in each village per year.

2. Enrolment of children and dropouts

As parents do not pay attention to child education, children are not enrolled in schools. Besides, there are also drop out children due to various reasons. The Community worker by her frequent visits to the village identifies children above 5 years and the drop outs and ensures that such children are enrolled into the school in the respective village. The community worker's capacity in rapport building with the children, parents and the school teachers will make the village nil-dropout. The visit to school by oneself or with the parents to enquire about the children's progress will enhance the interest in the children to study well. 20 follow up visits will be undertaken in an academic year i.e. 2 per each centre.

3. Daily Evening Supervised Study

The moment the children come from the school either they play or roam around wasting their time. The teacher in the school cannot concentrate on the learning of the children as he/she has to handle 50 and above children. The parents too least bother about the learning of the children. In this context quite a few children drop out from the school as they find no interest in studying. VRO having assessed the situation through its baseline survey planned the evening supervisory study whereby the community selected Community worker by visiting every family, discussing with the parents and motivating the children bring them to a common place enabling them to follow up the lessons taught in the school. The CW gives personal attention to the weaker students in the learning process. Thus the CW conducts daily the evening study to support the children not only in their academics but also to provide opportunities for children to expose their talents. Apart from above, supervised study will be a platform for all the children to come together and participate in the above said activities. Besides, the children are also supported by providing them academic material such as books, planks, school bags, etc. In order to bring out the talent of the children extracurricular activities are conducted every Saturday during the supervisory studies. Children are motivated to take part in painting, singing, dancing, and essay and quiz competitions. They are also encouraged to write biweekly tests in the supervised study centres in order to find out how the children are improving in their academics.

4. Monitoring Academic Progress

The community worker during the evening study gives personal attention to home work. In addition the CW conducts slip-tests, essay writing, drawing and other related activities. The children are also followed up in the school by the community worker by regularly visiting the school and discussing with the concerned teachers. Sometimes the CW takes the parents also to the school enabling them to observe the progress of the children by directly contacting the teacher concerned.

5. Infrastructure facilities

The volunteer and the community worker of VRO along with the active support of the parents committee should ensure the improvement of the study centres in all the villages. In order to take this forward this year VRO is planning to form an education committee in every village which will look into the various needs of the children in the village. This committee will consist of the representatives of parents, Panchayat president, and teacher and government employee if any. This committee also will be responsible to appoint the Community Worker and support the CW once VRO withdraw financial support.

6. Children Parliament

Development moves are always decided by the adults and in return they effect the children directly or indirectly. Hence, it is very vital to empower children to make decision and voice out. Children parliament provides a space to practice analytical thinking and decision making enabling them to act accordingly. Children Parliament (CP) is an organized group of children in the neighbourhood. Each CP consists of 20 – 30 children who come from a same locality and are trained and facilitated to identify the social issues that violate their rights. The objective of children parliament is to capacitate children and enhance their participation in community development. A total of 5 children parliament meetings will be organized in each village per year. The selected children are given responsibility as Prime Minister, health Minister, education Minister, social environment Minister etc. For example the education minister is responsible to identify the children who are absent that day in the school and to inform the community worker so that the child is followed and motivated to go back to the school, likewise the health minister has to inform the teacher regarding the children who are sick or with other abilities so that they are taken care of. Likewise the environment minister will identify the places where new shady tree saplings could be planted to increase the green cover in the village and to make arrangements to protect and to maintain the newly planted trees. This minister will also inform the children of the dirty areas in the villages and motivates the children to clean those areas as well. Finance minister will motivate the children to save money every day and make use of it to help others. Likewise the children are motivated to become the agents of social change.

7. Children Service Camps

It is important that the Children are enabled to imbibe the value of social responsibility in them already when they are young. They should be guided, motivated and led to identify community related issues in the village and participate collectively to address such issues and thus bringing change in the current situation. Organizing service camp is one such activity that will enable the children to grow in social responsibility. Children will organize a camp with the help of the community worker to make people aware and act upon social issue. One such camp will be to clean the village and make it plastic free.

8. Children Festival

All the children of the supervised study centre from the 10 villages are gathered once a year in the VRO Perecherla centre to exhibit their talents through various cultural programs. Prior to this festival the children have completions in singing, dancing, painting, drama, etc. at village level. All the winners of these competitions exhibit their talents on this day in front of all the children from 10 villages, Thus the children have one complete day to interact with one another and to share their experiences as well. As they come together the villagers bear the travel expenses of the children and VRO provides lunch for all the children. Thus the children enjoy the whole day and go home in the

evening. The community worker mobilizes the whole event under the guidance of the project coordinator.

9. Capacity Building of Volunteers and Community Workers

To make our volunteers and community workers relevant and up to date it is important that the training need assessment is done and accordingly a well-planned out trainings are conducted every month. Besides, the existing monitoring mechanisms such as monthly review meeting, Operational team meeting and field visits are used as opportunities for in-service capacity building. There could be additional training conducted for skill development such as learning English language, documentation and communication.

(10) Health and Hygiene

Promoting health and hygiene among children is crucial for their development and well-being. Engaging activities that educate and encourage healthy practices can have a lasting impact. In this activity children will be trained in proper healthy habits like learn proper handwashing techniques, brushing teeth, bathing, and nail trimming, wearing clean and washed dress. Fitness Fun activities that incorporate physical exercise will also be organised. These activities not only promote physical health but also teach valuable life skills, fostering a sense of responsibility and self-care from a young age. Children will be engaging in discussions about nutrition and involving them in preparing simple, healthy snacks to enhance their understanding of a balanced diet. Health camps will be conducted in collaboration with local government agencies like Asha workers and PHCs

MONITORING AND IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Monitoring Methods

The project will be monitored using periodic review method i.e. monthly regional review will be conducted for the all the sites/circles under the region. The regional review will be planned and conducted by project officer. Once in a quarter, an assessment will be conducted for each region by project coordinator. Apart from above, the circle coordinators will be present for an operational review planned and conducted by project coordinator.

Review structure

1. Weekly review meetings at circle/ site level - Participants: - Project officer, Circle Coordinator and Volunteers.
2. Monthly regional Review Meeting - Participants:- Project Manager, project officer, Circle coordinator, Volunteers, community workers and accountant.
3. Quarterly Operational Review Meeting – Participants:- Directors, Project Manager, Project officers, circle coordinators, finance manager and accountants and consultant.

Venkatapathi Kolagani

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Operational Director

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