



LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE INDIA TRUST

Empowering the last, the least and the lost

E-Newsletter

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Lutheran World Service India Trust is a Christian, ecumenical organization promoted jointly by the United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India and the National Council of Churches in India.

(LWSIT) registered formally as a National NGO in 2008 and began to work as the India program arm of Lutheran World Federation/ Department of World Service in 1974 offering relief services to the refugees of the 1971 Bangladesh War of Independence.

The organization works on the thematic areas of Sustainable Livelihoods, Community Resilience, Education and Health with Gender and Peace. The main purpose of LWSIT is to empower disadvantaged communities and it focuses mainly in Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal & Assam, while it responds to disaster management in Pan India.

INSIDE STORIES:



CELEBRATIONS

PROJECT UPDATES

STORIES OF CHANGE

MEETINGS, TRAININGS,
WORKSHOPS & VISITS



Independence Day Celebrations at CCI Unit

Galatians 5:1

“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.”

Independence Day Celebrations

In CCI and STEER Project, The National Flag was hoisted to celebrate the **Independence Day** and to signify the sacrifices done by the freedom fighters to get our country free. Children took part in dance, yoga and drawing competition.



Independence Day Celebrations at Mayurbhanj Unit of STEER Project

Programs at Project Units

Humanitarian Assistance to the People affected by Ethnic Conflict in Manipur:



Distribution of Relief Materials at Manipur

In the Manipur conflict, Approximately 70,000 people have been displaced and taking shelter in more than 600 relief camps which are mostly schools and other educational institutions. LWSIT provided relief materials with the support of ACT Alliance RRF to 1,000 families covering 4,500 population (approx.) those are living in 14 relief camps. The **relief materials distributed** had Food Items like Raw Rice, Dal, Oil, Soya Chunk, Salt, Chilly & Turmeric Powder. Non-Food Items like Mosquito Net, Sleeping Mat, Bed Sheet and Woolen Blanket. WASH/Hygiene Kits like Detergent, Bathing Soap, Dettol, Antiseptic Liquid, Sanitary Napkin and Silpaulin Sheets.

Programs at Project Units

In STEER Project:

Location - Balangir

- The Hans Foundation supported **24 Goats** to community for sustainable income generating schemes.
- To **Support Individual Orchard**, 345 mango saplings were distributed to 69 females in 10 communities as future sustainable livelihood plan as home stead fruit tree plantation



Livelihood Support for Income Generation

- **Capacity Building Training** was organised for Farmers involving 32 females from 9 communities on increasing crops production and non- farm activities
- **Market Linkages was established** covering 27 participants of 12 Communities for knowledge on commercial farming
- 37 female participants from 4 communities attended the training on **increasing and strengthening leadership quality of women** purposing on the women empowerment and livelihood.
- **For scientific Fish Farming** & group income generation, The Hans Foundation supported two unit (finger lings, vitamins, feeds, lime item). The profit money will be shared among the group members and a portion of that will be contributed to the group fund from which they can take soft loans.
- Training on **Adolescent Sexual & Reproductive Health Rights** was organized with 33 Girls

Location – Mayurbhanj

- 16 Male & Female from 16 Communities attended the Training on **Establishing market linkages** which covered the Concept of Business development, Marketing Strategies for the Farm & Non-Farm Collective agriculture
- 3 **Training Programs on Commercial vegetable cultivation** was conducted with 44 Female & 57 Male members from 30 Communities focussing on the importance & different steps of vegetable farming in commercial way.
- On 08th September, 151 men, 199 women, 78 Boys & 80 Girls from 15 communities actively participated in the **World Literacy Day** with the theme of the year ‘**Promoting literacy for a world in transition : Building the foundation for sustainable and peaceful societies**’.

Location – Kalahandi

- 16 Male & Female members from 16 Communities attended the **Training on establishing market linkages** Program
- **2 Trainings on Commercial Vegetable Farming** and capacity building programme was carried out with 32 Male & 19 Female from 18 communities.
- 20 women & 12 Men from 6 communities participated in the training on **Mushroom Cultivation**

Programs at Project Units

Location – Kendrapada

- 2 training programs was organised on **Improved commercial vegetable farming and Establishing market linkages** where 81 farmers and entrepreneurs took active part.
- 1 male and 2 females from the community attended the **Nursery Rising Training**
- **4 Goat rearing unit** was supported to the women of income generation Groups of the community
- **2 Pisciculture scheme** was introduced in the operational communities, LWSIT supported 6 individual Income Generation units to the women headed families.
- 5 right holders are linked with **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)**.
- **650 Fruit plants have been distributed** among 50 families
- One **paper plate making unit** was implemented where 10 SHG members would benefit through Income generation

Location – Bankura

- **Training on Conflict Management** was organised at Bankura Unit with 8 Male, 18 Female and 7 SHG covering 5 communities. This helped the peace committee to speedily and successfully prevent & address conflict or resolve any situation disrupting the peace within or among the communities.
- **International Literacy Day** was organized for the communities of backward tribal society with 05 men, 34 women, 14 boys & 20 girls from 7 communities. Importance of Education & protection through safety & healthy educational environment was discussed in the event.
- A **Networking & Linkage meeting with Bank, NABARD and Govt Personnel** was organized with 6 men and 28 women from 8 communities. Different government officials present discussed about various schemes and procedures to get them from Duare Sarkar.

In CAP-R Project:

Location - Assam

- On August 12th 2023 **International Youth Day** was Celebrated with the Theme **“Green Skill for Youth : Towards a Sustainable World’** aiming to promote the role of young people as crucial development agents in societies. More than 520 young people and grown up children participated in the events, 156 Male, 123 Female, 117 Boys and 124 girls



Friendship Football Match

- A Friendship Football Tournament was conducted as **Peace Building Activities** for Youths with 259 people from 14 communities to bring youths together from across communities to promote Peace

In GEP Project:

Location - Bhubaneswar

- With collaboration of Rotary club & Child Help Foundation, LWSIT **distributed Sleep sack kit** for 108 children
- One TG received match grant of Rs. 50,000 under SWEEKRUTI Yojana, another received loan amount Rs 3 lacs from bank linkage program, Two TG engaged in AHAR Centre program and Solid waste management program of CMC, One TG SHG engaged in water tariff collection under WATCO program through **Sensitization camps on gender disparity - involving men, women and transgender**
- 10 SHG members started **Individual Business for Income Generation**
- 4 **water tanks were repaired** with the help of contribution from the community.
- **Material Support** to 5 girl students of COVID-19 affected families for continuing higher studies.
- Training on **Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights** for 24 adolescent girls
- **Exposure visit of DWA** member about the violence case handling process
- 65 women attended the workshop for **Domestic Workers Association**, covered by local channel.

Media coverage link- https://youtu.be/SvbxO6a9vzc?si=_9NN5c9OOyj7uFjH

Location - Kolkata

- 61 members attended the **Workshop for domestic worker association**
- 40 participants from 6 communities actively participated in the **Peace building program** through interfaith dialogue
- **Advisory Committee Meeting** : On 16th September, 2023, advisory committee of LWSIT visited GEP Kolkata Unit & Baghbazar community and interacted with the locals. 30 members from 5 SHG group and 1 DWA group were present in the meeting and shared their progress and development in the personal life and in the community.



Advisory Committee Meeting

Programs at Project Units

In CCI Project:

- 20 **yoga mats** were purchased for the children
- Children received Orange, Blue, and Green Belt for **Karate** along with the certificates
- **Raksha bandhan** was celebrated by tying handmade rakhi & sweets
- Children participated with dance & songs in the **Teacher's Day** function and honoured them with handmade cards and gifts
- **Pest control** (bug spray) for the unit was done on 14.09.2023



International Karate Championship

- Children participated & achieved gold, silver and bronze medal in the 7th International **Karate Championship** at Netaji Indoor Stadium.



LWSIT Foundation Day Celebrations

- LWSIT celebrated its 15th **Foundation day** On 04.09.2023. The event started with Devotion and was followed by lightning of the auspicious lamp and performances by Children from CCI Unit and National Office staff. It ended with a cake cutting ceremony.

In Open Shelter Project:

- 18 children participated in the **Ratha Yatra** Festival celebrations with different activities.
- **Parents meeting** cum sensitization was conducted with 7 Parents
- A **drawing competition** was organized on Independence Day where two children got 1st Prize.
- **Rakhi Purnima** was observed with 19 children where they tied Rakhi on each others wrist and distributed sweets.
- **Independence Day** was celebrated with performing yoga by the children of Open Shelter
- **Teacher's Day** was celebrated on 5th September 2023 with Children's performance on dance.

Programs at Project Units

In DSSQC Project:

Location - Birbhum

- To enhance the knowledge and skill of farmers, a Training was organized on preparation of **Bio-compost manure** where the use of organic manure instead of chemical fertilizer was encouraged to maintain good soil health
- Monitoring Visits from LWSIT Staff was done to Birbhum Unit

Location – Dumka

- Training support was given to Food processing centre by Organising **Farmer Producer Organization (FPO)** on Pickle & Jam Jelly preservation to increase their livelihood income.



Training on Pickle & Jam Jelly preservation process

In Transboundary Flood Resilience (TFR) Project in South Asia, Assam:

- **Solar Lights** was provided to 32 families from 7 non-electrified isolated river bank
- 50 marginal farmers were assisted with **agriculture implement (Sprayer)** to prevent insecticides of the plants.



Distribution of Sprayer Machines

- 1,400 grafted Mango and Jackfruit seedlings was provided to 520 families to **promote homestead fruit tree plantation** and to increase green coverage.

- Under **School DRR program**, 18 Schools were supported with 36 Fire Extinguisher by which 3,405 Students & 114 Teachers would be able to prevent any disaster risks

- 50 **Life Jackets** were **distributed** to village people of 8 banks of Sankosh river who travels by country boats as a means of transport.

Meetings / Programs / Webinars Attended From July To September 2023

Meeting/Workshop/Training attended by the ED - Online/Offline:

- ❖ Online meeting with ELCA, RDRS Bangladesh & LWF Nepal for TFR Project on 4th July 2023
- ❖ Capacity building workshop on Resource Mobilisation and Communication at National Office on July 18th-19th 2023
- ❖ Online meeting with ELCA on TFR Project on 3rd and 7th August and 12th September 2023
- ❖ Online meeting with Normisjon on the new projects on 9th August 2023
- ❖ Finance + HR Committee and Board meeting on 22 & 23rd August 2023 at National office
- ❖ Online meeting with The Hans Foundation on 1st Sept 2023
- ❖ Online meeting with ACT Alliance India on 5th August 2023
- ❖ Advisory Committee meeting on 16th September 2023

Visits done by ED:

- Bhubaneswar unit on 24th -25th July 2023 for appointing the new Project Co-ordinator and for staff meeting
- UELCI General Body and Annual Reporting meeting on 16th -18th August 2023 at Gurukul, Chennai
- NCCI Executive Committee and GBM at Nagpur on 29th & 30th August 2023
- Staff Exposure Visit to Puri on 19th - 21st September 2023



Board Meeting held on 23rd August 2023 at National Office



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