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FOCUS



VOICE OF SURABI



4 Evening Study Centres

6 Toolkit for students

8 Agriculture Festival

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EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

We are immensely pleased to bring out the debut E-newsletter of SURABI, Project Development Office of Chennai Province. We are ever grateful to all those who pioneered and developed the vision and mission of SURABI. We would like to bring this E-newsletter as a bi-monthly issue, that focus on SURABI thematic approaches i.e., education, environment, empowerment of children, youth, women, vulnerable communities and humanitarian response. The horizon of each pillar of these thematic areas is very overwhelming in nature. We shall try to give a glimpse of project activities, programs, and achievements in these interventions.

I am thankful to all those collaborating in different stages of the project implementation that requires unflinching courage and commitment. Special appreciation to the Salesian communities and Staff at Sagayathottam, Thalavadi, Kadambur, Kotagiri, Gedilam, SIHARAM, Polur, Veeralur, Basin Bridge, Vyasarpadi, Madhavaram, Mathur, Cuddalore, Tirupattur, Kavarapettai, ParkTown, Pannur, Ayanavaram, Puducherry, Nedungadu, Karaikal, Katpadi, Tirukazhukundram, Redhills, Andaman and other Civil Society Organization where SURABI intervention is being implemented. I am indebted to all the donor agencies, contributors, SURABI staff, Volunteers, and an editorial team who designed and prepared this first E-newsletter. We are glad to receive your comment and feedback after going through this E-new letter.

Thanking You

OUR

MISSION

To provide strategic direction to the urban and rural economic and social development in the Salesian province of Chennai.

OUR

VISION

Building a just and peaceful civil society towards prosperity through supportive and strategic approaches to development and comprehensive services for the poor and the abandoned sections of the population, with a special focus for the youth.

OUR

THEMATIC AREAS

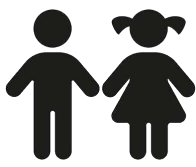
- Children
- Youth
- Women
- Green Alliance
- Vulnerable Communities
- Humanitarian Response

OUR WORKING AREAS



14 Northern Districts of Tamil Nadu

- Chennai
- Tiruvallur
- Kanchipuram
- Ranipet
- Tiruvannamalai
- Vellore
- Villupuram
- Kallakurichi
- Tirupattur
- Puducherry
- Cuddalore
- Karaikal
- Dharmapuri
- Erode



“
Education
is the most
powerful
weapon which
you can use to
Change the
World
”



Evening Study Centres - Visit to Thalavadi

To motivate and educate the children, we run Evening study centers, life skills training, and value education through the 3E approach Education, Empowerment and Environment. The major activities are Evening Study Centre, Summer Camps, Parents' teacher's meetings and counselling, Nutritious snack, Celebration of World Environment Day and World Water Day, Promotion of kitchen garden and Legal awareness to children. In tribal areas, most parents are illiterate and cannot help their children with their homework. This often leads to a loss of motivation in the children.

Supplementary Education which facilitates holistic development for the children through numerous impactful projects such as BEST (Building Effective Solutions Together),

DREAM (Dedicating Resources to Educating and Mentoring), SMILE (Stimulating Motivating Imaginative Learning Environment). As of now, we have been running 135 Evening study centers that provide quality education to 4800 students.





Advocacy Skills for CSOs @ Chennai

SURABI in collaboration with BOSCONET is executing the second phase of the Project titled 'Empowering civil society in seven Indian federal states by a capacity development program on the human-rights-based approach for non-governmental organizations'. It has the Rights-based empowerment striving towards achieving the UNDP's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The capacity building project undertakes 5 Training modules,

Participatory Approach Skills to involve the beneficiaries and the community and to empower them to encounter their problems by claiming their rights from the duty-bearers.

Advocacy Skills to improve the skills of the NGOs in supporting (or opposing) an issue and persuading the decision makers to act in such a way to support (or solve) the issue.

Lobbying Skills to complement the effort and impact of advocacy. Strategic lobbying creates more than just advantages for the clients; it enables win-win situation for the parties concerned.

Negotiation Skills to complement the advocacy effectiveness. Advocacy and negotiation go hand in hand.

Accessing Government Welfare Schemes educates the NGOs on the various aspects of these schemes, purpose, target group and methods of availing

In our effort to Capacity Develop 120 CSOs with 210 participants, the 3th Training Program on Advocacy Skills (2 Day duration) was held for 30 TOT CSOs in 2 Batches in May. They in turn trained 6 Batches of Key Staff CSOs (20 each) at Don Bosco SIHARAM, Tiruvannamalai and 3 batches of the same number at SURABI. They were made aware of Advocacy, its types, methods, the required skills Techniques, Ethics and Characteristics of Effective Advocacy. The Advocacy Campaign Dynamic Planning Model, Case Study, Advocacy Cycle and Grassroots Engagement were taught. The workshop was conducted with oration, Mock drills of Press Invite and Press release, Press reporter interaction, Interviews, Games to insist on Toolkit of needed for media advocacy. This has removed their apprehension that the advocacy has to be undertaken by the Advocates only and not by the Social entrepreneurs. Now, they are undertaking these initiatives collectively promoting coordination of the CSOs on the region.



Skills
Change
Lives



Tool Kits for Students trained on Solar @ Polur

Through solar army project five technical institutes in Basin Bridge, Kavarapettai, Polur, Cuddalore and Tirupattur provides training on solar power for the students. After completing the course every students is provided with a toolkit for their career support. A set of 15 equipments are present in the toolkit which will be utilized by the students.

Don Bosco Agro Tech Institute at polur distributed the Solar second batch students with toolkits. The students happily received the kits from the chief guest Fr. Francis Sebastian, Mr. Suresh Chief Editor and from Fr. Paul mark, Principal.

This event was also published in the local newspaper of Polur.

04-08-2022
BREAKING
NEWS



திருவண்ணாமலை மாவட்டம் போளூர்
தொன் போஸ்கோ தொழிற்பயிற்சி
மையத்தில் இரண்டாம் ஆண்டு சூரிய
மின்சக்தி பயிற்சி மாணவர்களுக்கு,
சிறப்பு விருந்தினர் பாதிரியார் பிரான்ஸிஸ்
செபாஸ்டியன், தொழில் கருவிகளை
வழங்கினார். அருகில் நிர்வாகி பால் மார்க்,
போளூர் குரல் ஆசிரியர் சுரேஷ் ஆகியோர்
உள்ளனர்.

செய்தி மற்றும் விஸ்பு தொடர்புக்கு : 9345792477, 9626881996

Creating Women Entrepreneurs @ Basin Bridge



The
**Empowered
Women** is
powerful
beyond
measure



SURABI partnered with Rotary club of Chennai, organized the loan distribution program at Basin Bridge on 22.06.2022. The selection criteria of the beneficiaries were very clear and evident. The first being, the willingness of the entrepreneurs to extend their business while the other being their ardent willingness to transform themselves as the entrepreneurs. The successful women entrepreneurs shared their experiences, challenges, and reflection with the new loan takers to obtain a better understanding of what is small-scale business is all about. Overall, 25 women were distributed Rs 40,000 and 15 women received the amount to initiate entrepreneurship.

Kitchen Garden Workshop For SHG Women @ Polur



Promotion of Women Empowerment and Rights projects aims to empower women on Leader, Group skills, Financial management and skills, also train them on organic farming and kitchen garden techniques. On 7th July 2022, the kitchen garden skill development program was conducted for 40 women at Peranambakkam village, in Tiruvannamalai District. Workshop 6 (module 1) gave the priority on organic farming and its importance, usefulness, and sustainability. The women actively participated in the training program and learned about the different kitchen garden farming techniques that can be practiced at home. The impact of the program was mentioned by VIA-Polur.



Stakeholders Meeting @ Sagayathottam

The stakeholder's meeting was held on 13th June 2022 at Sagayathottam. A good number of representatives of Farming communities participated. The farmers have come up with ideas to develop approaches which are relevant to the farmers. These farmers gave very positive feedback on the impact of applying climate smart Agriculture practices in their own fields. The stakeholder linkages dialogue strongly voiced their collective need of intervention in marketing of their produce to avoid middlemen nemesis.

Agricultural Festival 2022 @ Sagayathottam

Enhancing the adaptive capacity of Farming Communities



The annual mega agricultural festival was held on the 24th and 25th of July 2022 at Sagayathottam, Ranipet district. Around 6400 participants include farmers club leaders and members from 60 villages, other farmers, students, representatives of the producing industries and civil society organizations, general public and family members, teaching and non-teaching staff, and laborers who participated in the event. The main objective of the event was to invite farmers club members together to recap the project's progress, experiences, success, and failures.



Mr.D. Baskarapandian I.A.S, Ranipet District, Rev.Fr. K.M Jose SDB (Provincial, Chennai Salesian province) and Mr. Lukas lamberts (Project Manager- Don Bosco Mondo e.V. Germany) were the special invitees to the event. Besides, Mr. Britto Raj (Agriculture engineer), Mr. Vishvanath (Assistant agriculture officer, Ranipet District), Mr. Anbu Selvan (district coordinator Create organization), and Mr. Senthamizh Selvan (Coordinator, people welfare society, Vellore) were the resource persons of the first-day seminar who dealt with various topics on agriculture.



The agricultural exhibition was inaugurated by a special guest Mr. Lukas Lamberts. The college students, producing industries, and civil society organizations were given chance to present their products to the farmers.



The second-day program was attended by the school and college-going students. In addition, the youngsters should learn more about agriculture which was the main purpose for inviting the students. Mr. KM Balu (Manager, Thondai farmers club), Ms. Manvasanai Menaga (Women achiever, Chennai), Mr. Maria Belsin (Herbal researcher, Chennai), and Ms. Reka Sivakumar (Director, Anba samaikalam vanga organization, Vellore) were the resource person of the second-day seminar. At last, the two days celebration concluded with the distribution of free indigenous seeds to all the farmers.



Meeting with Lay Delegates of Youth Ministry @ Ennore



Social action and Experience is one of the dimensions of the province. The aim is to bring social experience among the school students through groups and movements. The school teachers were invited for the animation program, 45 teachers from different locations participated in the training program. They were trained on group based activities that should be carried out in the schools. SURABI had a chance to meet these social action representatives from different schools. We outlined elaborately them about the new initiatives on Environment necessary for the school children to inculcate the school based green activity. The teachers appreciated the initiative and also raised their participation for carrying out the activities in their schools.

Minority certificate Status Meeting @ Kilpauk



SURABI organized a meeting on 16-06-2022 at 6.00 pm and invited the schools and colleges that have applied for Minority certificates to discuss the status with Advocate Jose Abraham, Supreme Court of India. Fr. Joseph Leo, SURABI Director welcomed the gathering. Principals of various Don Bosco schools and staff in charge of minority certificates attended the meeting and clarified their doubts. Our Auditors were also present in the meeting. Finally, Advocate Mr. Jose Abraham briefed everyone on the need and the required documents for proceeding with the minority certificate.

Capacity Building Program - SURABI Staff

A two-day participatory workshop was conducted for SURABI Staff to improve their knowledge, skills, and attitude. The programme was organized on the 3rd and 4th of June 2022 at Mermaid Resort, Kelambakkam. The objectives are creating awareness of native plants and our environment, understanding the fundamentals of child rights in India, and comprehending the policy for Children Juvenile Justice (Care and protection of Children) act 2015. The methodology of the workshop included participatory exercises to engage all the stakeholders: Power Point presentation and experience sharing and clarifications of doubts. As a result, 8 SURABI staff improved their confidence and knowledge of the Environment and Child rights mechanism in India.

Building
Capacity
dissolves
differences
It irons out
inequalities

WELCOME



Fr. Leo

THANK YOU



Fr. Alphonse



Days to Celebrate

August 09 World's Indigenous Day

August 12 International Youth Day

September 21 International Day of Peace



SURABI - Strategic Urban Rural Advancement Backing Institute

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