



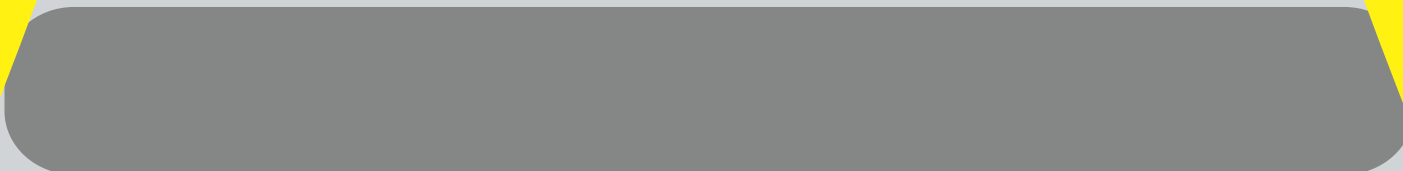
**ACTIVITIES REPORT  
APR 2015 - MAR 2016**

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Though India is at the cusp of change, there is still a long way to go in improving the health and socio-economic status of its citizens. A run-through of its national profile shows an India that's exponentially growing, yet its negative effects are a concern. And still larger parts of the nation continue to be at a disadvantage due to regressive social practices.

Healthcare, quality of education and child labour are some of the concerns that civil societies need to address to bring the development to fast pace.

Indian healthcare is painfully insufficient in delivering quality and timely care to its people. With only 7 physicians and 17.1 midwives/nurses for every 10,000 patients, there simply aren't enough health professionals in a nation with increasing population and decreasing environmental health. The availability of good physicians and trained nurses for rural India is even lower, bringing the quality of their collective health down. Common problems are left untreated for long until they become too expensive to bother with. Preventative healthcare is all but absent, where something as basic as accessibility is a task.

In 68 years, literacy in India has gone from a paltry 12 per cent to 74.15 per cent. It took more than half a century for India to drag the literacy rate to this number. Even then, there is a staggering gender and regional disparity in literacy levels, where only 65.51 per cent of women, but 82.18 per cent of men are literate. Whilst Tripura has 93.92 per cent literacy, Bihar is stuck at an abysmal 64.4 per cent. This number is even lower for women in Bihar.

-  Healthcare
-  Child labour
-  Quality education

Even after so many years of our country's independence, there are instances where children are deprived of their fundamental right to education. Social and economic backwardness is amongst the main reason for child labour. There are thousands of villages in our country where there are no proper facilities of education. And if there is any, the quality of education is dismal. The administrative laxity is also responsible for child labour.

During the year FDI was instrumental in advocating for quality education and proper health care with important national media in spreading awareness of ongoing and upcoming policy initiatives along-with direct implementation of several programmes so that even the poor, particularly children will be a valuable human resource in future and be driven away from poverty.

The glimpses of FDI's activity during the year are presented hereunder in details.

The Foundation for Development Initiative is a consortium of individuals, organisations and businesses working towards the holistic development of people and communities.

#### **Our goals are to:**

- Promote, Strengthen and Advance non-profit initiatives towards human development.
- Promote Corporate, Donor and Government partnerships with nonprofits.
- Promote Individual Giving and Volunteering.

FDI pursues these goals primarily through network building, interfacing between different stakeholders in the give and take of resources, and building civil society capacities.

FDI, in the past one year, has consolidated its position as an umbrella organisation providing development consultation to its network partners, through project development and fund-raising.

The projects/activities implemented through network partners were selected on the basis of the needs of the local communities.

# OUR ACTIVITIES IN BRIEF

## **School Enrolment Drive for Slum Children**

## **Health Care and Family Welfare Programme:**

## **Women & Youth Development Programme:**

## **Cooperatives Development & Self Help Groups:**

## **Environment:**

## **Network Membership:**

FDI provided consultation, advice and program leadership for the following activities:

### **School Enrolment Drive for Slum Children:**

Education will play an important role in bridging the gap between the elite and the underprivileged. In continuation of the previous year's programme, an awareness campaign was organised on the importance of education in the slum areas of Delhi. Parents and community members were approached to enrol the non-school going children in their community into schools. Assistance was also provided in getting admissions for these children in government schools. Teachers and students from schools in the locality were involved in this activity.

The following slums were covered:

- Slum colony opposite MTNL building in Nehru Place, Delhi.
- Slum dwellers in Saidullajab village, Delhi.
- Slum colony near Post office Kalkaji, Delhi
- Slum dwellers in Alaknanda, Kalkaji

### **Health Care and Family Welfare Programme:**

The purpose of the programme was to promote hygiene and sanitary conditions and improve general awareness on health issues in under-served marginal population groups. As part of the programme, FDI organised free eye and dental check-up camps, general health check-ups and awareness campaigns on hygiene and nutrition in different slum areas of Delhi. Free medicine, first-aid kits and contraceptives were distributed. IEC materials on Family Planning and health care were published and disseminated.

These camps were organised in Delhi through the Chinmaya Mission

With the objective of improving hygiene, 60 low cost latrines (toilets) were constructed through FDI partner Haldia Samaj Kalyan Prasad in Sutahata –I Block, Haldia, Midnapore district, West Bengal.

### **Women & Youth Development Programme:**

The purpose of this programme was to impart basic literacy, numeracy, life skills, health awareness and income-generating skills to youth from marginalized sections of the society.

As part of this programme:

- Organised awareness camps on different life-skills.
- Organised basic literacy classes for adolescents and adults.
- Organised basic account keeping skills for adolescents and adults.
- Interfaced with local businesses and organisations to provide employment to these youth.

Vocational Training was imparted to the unemployed rural youth in carpentry, motor winding, radio repair, and tailoring in Basudevpur in Haldia, Midnapore district, West Bengal, through FDI partner Haldia Samaj Kalyan Parisad.

### **Cooperatives Development & Self Help Groups:**

Two cooperatives and 06 Self Help Groups have been formed in different fields to promote women entrepreneurship.


To overcome exploitation and create confidence for the economic self-reliance of rural poor, particularly for women, Self-Help Groups were formed in South 24 Parganas, West Bengal, through South Sundarban Janakalyan Sangha (SSJS). A total of 180 women became members of 6 SHGs, and a total saving of Rs.240,000 was reported during the FY.

Following Cooperatives were formed as part of the Agriculture Development Program in Uttaranchal by FDI Partner - UYRDC:

Cooperative in Agriculture: Covered 20 villages and formed Producers Cooperative groups from village level to block level for the organised marketing of agriculture produce, such as pulses, amarantham, wheat etc.

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 **Environment:**

 **Network Membership:**

## Environment:

The existing system of open chullah (cooking fire range) is quite unhygienic as well as environmentally unsafe. With the financial support from local Panchayat samiti and community contribution 200 smokeless chullahs were distributed to 200 families in Naltala village in South 24 Parganas. As a pretext awareness on health and environmental benefits of using smokeless chullahs were generated amongst the targeted communities. The ground implementation was conducted by Gram Unnayan Mahila Samity from South 24 Parganas.

## Workshops/Trainings Organised:

- Conducted a workshop on “Knowledge sharing on available government schemes for people living below poverty line” in June 2015, in Angul District of Orissa.
- Conducted a workshop on “Fund-raising through the Indian Diaspora”, in Oct 2015, in Kolkata, West Bengal.

## Network Membership:

To achieve sustainable growth of communities, and to impact a larger number of people, FDI works through a network of partner organisations. At present, FDI has a committed member network of more than 100 NGOs working to improve living conditions and opportunities for people in different parts of the country. FDI has facilitated grant making to these organisations through various Donor Agencies, Businesses and the Government.

## Network meetings organised by FDI:

- Meeting at 378, Diamond Harbour Road, Kolkata on Feb 27th, 2016. The meeting took place in the presence of Mr.Sukhendu Banerjee at 3-30 P.M, and went on till 5-00 PM. The entire partner NGOs of the region was invited. The meeting proposed a possible study on “Scope of better Livelihood through Cooperative movement”. This study is proposed to be conducted in 27 villages in three tribal inhabited districts ( Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj and Angul ) of Orissa and 13 villages in four districts ( Howrah, Hooghly, North & South 24 Pargans ) of West Bengal.



ACTIVITIES IMAGES

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✂ Health Care and Family Welfare Programme:

✂ Women & Youth Development Programme:

✂ Cooperatives Development & Self Help Groups:

✂ Environment:

✂ Network Membership:



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