

## Annual activity report 2014 - 2015

### Introduction:

It gives me pleasure and joy in presenting the brief activity report and the results achieved during the year 2014-2015.

### Programmes implemented during 2014- 2015 are:

1. Ensuring resilience among the Children & farmers from the damages caused by Climate Change .
2. Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction programme.
3. Prime Minister's Micro Insurance programme scheme for the poor
4. Enabling the women to relieve from poverty & violence:
5. Economic, Social & Human Rights Development of Women Beedi Workers
6. Community College for enhancing the skills poor
7. Running of crèches for the children of agriculture labourers and beedi workers.
8. Consultancy services to civil society organizations
9. Networking & coordination

### 1. Ensuring resilience among the Children & farmers from the damages caused by Climate Change .

**Capacity building trainings:** Rural Uplift Centre conducted eleven days each capacity building training programmes for the 181 small & marginal farmers at Marthandom, Padanthalumoodu, Monarchal, Kurunthancodu and Thidduvilai of Kanyakumari District. The topics covered are soil fertility management through various types of composts & green manure, selection process of seeds, nursery preparation, manure management, weed management, plant growth tonic preparations, Pest repeller preparation, bio-pest control measures, inter cropping, mixed cropping, three tier cropping, trap cropping, water conservation measures, animal husbandry etc. Five hundred copies of organic farming technology booklet were prepared & distributed to the farmers.

**Exposure visits:** One day each exposure programmes were conducted to all the 181 farmers to have a firsthand knowledge on the implementation of organic farming technology by the leading organic farmers promoted by Rural Uplift Centre. 98 selected famers were sent to Dindugal, Sathiamanagalam, Bhavani, Coimbatore, Ooty and Kodaikanal to interact with leading organic farmers, experts and scientists. 22 farmers participated in the Agritex2014 conference held at Coimbatore.

**Organic farmer's conference & exhibition of organic products:** Conducted one day organic farmers conference cum organic products exhibition was conducted at Nagercoil to promote organic farming. Joint Director of Agriculture-Mr.Ponkathaperumal, Asst. Director of Horticulture- Mr.Kannan, All India Radio Nagercoil Director- Mr.A.Shanmugiah, ICRA Principal Scientist(retd) Dr.P.Samraj spoke on the need & importance of organic farming. Personal Assistant to District collector(agriculture) -Mr.Nijamudeen inaugurated the organic products exhibition, which attracted the public at large. Nagercoil Municipal Chairperson Mrs.Meenadev released the conference souvenir. Conference participants passed various resolutions demanding the Government to promote organic farming for ensuring food security. Nearly 500 farmers and public participated in the conference.

**Climate Change Adaptation Education for school going Children:** Climate Change adaptation education conducted in eleven villages of Tirunelveli District benefitting 360 children. A booklet on various hazards, vulnerabilities to various hazards, preventive & rescue measures are prepared for teaching the climate change adaptation education. They were taught on various types of hazards, preventive measures and rescue measures. An exposure programme was conducted for 173 selected students to have knowledge of Tsunami damages, rehabilitation and resilience measures initiated by Rural Uplift Centre at Keezhamanakudy of Kanyakumari District.

### 2. Community Managed Drought Risk Reduction programme.

**Project area:** Pothaiadi, Valianeri, Rengasamudram, Sreerengarapuram, Ariakulam, Cinnamoolakaraipatti and Anumarputhukulam villages of Tirunelveli District.

S.no	Topics of the workshop	No of beneficiaries
	<b>Livelihood activities</b>	
1	Conducted two days each orientation on various governmental subsidy programs such as for agriculture and other flagship programmes and animated to avail the schemes	264 persons
2	Conducted 11 days workshops to farmers on organic farming skills. The topics covered were- Ecological Agriculture and Organic Food production, Bio-Environment, Seed production Technology. Soil Fertility Management, Water harvest Technology, Organic Manures and Bio	227 small & marginal farmers

	Fertilizers, Integrated pest management, Biological control of Pests, Mixed cropping methods, Cash crops cultivation, Food Habits and Human Health, Women in Organic Farming, Environmental Hygiene and Ecological Agriculture, Natural Food for Human health, on-Conventional Energy, Agricultural Business and marketing. All the 227 farmers received the identity cards from Government of Tamil Nadu to avail various welfare measures from Government.	
4	Conducted three days exposure programme for farmers to learn more about the organic farming technology adopted by leading organic farmers of Sathiamangalam, Bhavani, Kothagiri and Ooty.	50 small & marginal farmers
	<b>Environment</b>	
5	Conducted one public meeting each per village for creating awareness on the negative impacts of climate change and importance of tree plantation. Horticulture nurseries were supplied to Pottaiyadi Alangulam- 350 nos, Rengasamudram – 230 nos, Sreerengarajapuram – 350 nos, Anumarputhukulam – 230 nos, Ayarkulam – Ariyakulam- 350 nos, Chinna Moolaikarai - 300 nos, and Valiyaneri - 160 nos.	350 families
6	Conducted seven public meetings one each per village for creating awareness on converting conventional electric bulbs into energy saving CFL or LED lights and rain water harvesting	350 families
	<b>Governance &amp; preparedness</b>	
7	Facilitated the seven communities to form task force and sub committees in each village and delegated responsibilities to the members of the sub-committee.	350 families
8	Conducted DRR & CCA risk analysis, planning, implementation & monitoring for DRR task force leaders in seven villages	350 families
9	Oriented the seven communities to evolve micro plan & process for DRR / Climate change adaptation.	350 families
10	Conducted forty sessions each climate Change adaptation and rescue measures orientation to school going children of the seven villages. A booklet on various hazards and rescue measures was prepared and distributed to the students.	158 school going children
11	Provided drinking water facility to Pothaiadi Alankulam & Sreerengarajapuram	120 families
	<b>Policy advocacy</b>	
12	Conducted two days workshops for the leaders of Panchayat, NGOs and People's movement leaders on Disaster Management system in India, policy advocacy strategy for demanding the Government to establish DDMA, allocation of District Disaster Mitigation fund. Panchayat presidents Forum for Disaster Management was formed, which submitted memorandum to the Members of Parliament, Members of Legislative Assembly, Central and State Government officials demanding to deepen all the water-bodies in Tirunelveli & Tuticorin Districts, declare the two Districts as drought prone, immediate implementation of drought relief activities, implement the canal work to connect all the 46 ponds in Nanguneri Taluk and to implement the Canadian canal scheme to divert the Tamirabarani flood waters to drought prone Tuticorin District/Sathankulam Taluk.	People of Tirunelveli & Tuticorin Districts,
13	Participated & submitted a memorandum in the public hearing organized by the Government of Tamil Nadu for diverting the Tamirabarani flood waters to drought prone Tuticorin District/Sathankulam Taluk. Government of Tamil Nadu informed Rural Uplift Centre to execute the project during 2015-2016.	Tirunelveli & Tuticorin Districts
14	Facilitated the task force & the community to get the approval of the DRR / CCA plan in the Grama Sabha and allocation of fund for implementing the plan	Twelve panchayats

### 3. Prime Minister's Micro Insurance programme scheme for the poor

Rural Uplift Centre is one of the agencies approved by the Life Insurance Corporation of India to implement the Prime Minister's micro insurance scheme for poor. One thousand and seventy six poor persons were enrolled under this scheme. Out of this, two hundred live policy holders paid the premium amount of Rs:2,77,183/-(two lac seventy seven thousand and one hundred ) during this year. Forty six persons surrendered their policies and received an amount of Rs: 1,71,183/-(one lac seventy one thousand one hundred and eighty three). Three persons received maturity claim amount of Rs:27863/-(twenty seven thousand eight hundred and sixty three) .

#### 4. Enabling the women to relieve from poverty & violence:

S.no	Topics of the workshop	No of beneficiaries
1	Consultation meeting of Women's organization and NGOs at Nagercoil.	20 NGO chief functionaries
2	Two days each three District level workshops for women social activists of Tuticorin, Kanyakumari Districts & Four days District level workshops for women social activists of Tirunelveli District	173 women activists
3	Two days each para legal training to women beedi workers on basic principles of Indian constitution, beedi worker's rights	286 women beedi workers
4	Two days each para legal training to women agricultural labourers on basic principles of Indian constitution, minimum wage Act, Provident Fund Act, Prohibition of sexual harassment at work places Act, welfare measures of Government	168 women agricultural labourers
5	Free legal aid camp	51 Men & Women

#### Preparation & publications of laws in simplified Tamil language:

S.no	Topics	No of copies
1	Protection of children from sexual abuse Act 2012	150
2	Parents & old aged welfare & maintenance Act 2007	150
3	Criminal Law (amendment) 2013	150
4	Beedi workers Rights & privileges	1000
5	Simplified laws on Women's Right	1000

- The volunteers formed twenty Women's Rights Monitoring cells and facilitating the victims of women's rights violation to file the petitions before the appropriate authorities.

#### Women's Rights violence cases:

- Rural Uplift Centre advocate team provided legal aid/interventions through court of law, police and other institutions to assert the rights of fourteen victims of sexual harassment, labour issues of beedi workers and agricultural labourers

#### 5. Economic, Social & Human Rights Development of Women Beedi Workers

Twelve persons benefitted out of this programme as detailed below:-

Sl. No.	Purpose	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount
1	Agricultural Operations	5	105000.00

2	Educational Expenses	6	187500.00
3	Social Expenses	1	100000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>392500.00</b>

An amount of Rs: 1, 77, 739.00 (one lac seventy seven thousand seven hundred and thirty seven) including the service charge of Rs: 22,744.00(twenty two thousand seven hundred and forty four) is paid back by the beneficiaries. An amount of Rs: 22, 33,183.00 (twenty two lac thirty three thousand one hundred and eighty three) is outstanding with 536 persons. Due to this, we are unable to provide micro credit to the poor & needy.

## 6. Community College for the poor students

Rural Uplift Centre provides educational opportunities to the excluded students to get quality education for their better tomorrow through Indira Gandhi National University. The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), discontinued the community College system and withholds the results since 2011, which is causing untold miseries to the students, who had completed the Course. Due to this new students were not admitted for two years associate degree and continued with the existing nine students studying third year B.Com degree.

## 6. Running of crèches for poor children of agriculture labourers and beedi

### workers.

Rural Uplift Centre is conducting four crèches for the children of beedi-workers and agricultural labourers in Kallathi, Elankulam and Thalapathysamuthram (2 units) of Nanguneri Union, One hundred and eleven children are being taken care off with the financial support of Social Welfare Board. They were imparted pre-school training through play way method with the help of trained pre-school teachers. The children were provided with nutritional mid day meals. Health and medical facilities are provided in collaboration with the primary health centre personnel. Monthly orientation meetings were conducted to the mothers on child care, disease preventive measures and preparation of nutritious meals with the locally available food materials. Crèche monitoring committees are constituted in all villages consisting of elected Panchayat leaders, community leaders, women's group leaders and a representative of Rural Uplift Centre. Independence day, Republic day, Children's day and Annual day celebrations were conducted in all the centers to demonstrate the skills acquired by the children.

### Detailed break up of children

S. No.	Location of the Crèches	Sex			Community				
		M	F	Total	SC	BC	ST	OC	Total
1.	Elangulam	11	19	30	5	23	2	0	30
2.	Kalalathi	16	12	28	28	0	0	0	28
3.	Thalapathisamudram Unit - I	13	13	26	1	21	0	4	26
4.	Thalapathisamudram Unit - II	14	13	27	3	24	0	0	27
	<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>111</b>

## 8. Consultancy services to Civil Society organizations:

Rural Uplift Centre conducted three one day Organization policy development meetings to the Civil Society organizations working in Tirunelveli, Tuticorin and Kanyakumari Districts to enhance their efficiency of services. Each meeting cost is jointly borne by the two hosting organizations. Rural Uplift Centre regularly updates the Civil Society organizations working in Tirunelveli, Tuticorin and Kanyakumari Districts with the recent amendments & notifications on Income Tax Act 1961, Employees Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Act 1952, Foreign Contribution (regulation) Act 2010, Tamil Nadu Societies(registration) Act1975 and Companies Act 1956.

## 9. Net working & coordination:

Rural Uplift Centre participated in the two executive committee meetings of the Tamil Nadu Inter Agency Group held at Chennai and finalized the village level rapid assessment format, District level rapid assessment format and Strategy document for Tamil Nadu Inter Agency Group. Rural Uplift Centre participated and suggested various measures in the expert group meeting and the interaction meeting with the Parliamentarians on the revision of norms for relief measures to the victims of disasters jointly organized by Sphere India and National Campaign for Dalit Human Rights, at Constitutional Club, New Delhi. Rural Uplift Centre participated in the four days conference jointly organized by International Rural Reconstruction Institute, Manila & Give2Asia-USA at New Delhi on the preparation of indicators for Disaster Risk Reduction.

## 10. Income & Expenditure account:

During this year an amount of Rs: 36,41,566/-(thirty six lac forty one thousand five hundred and sixty six ) only is received from various sources and utilized an amount of Rs: 5956212/-(fifty nine lac fifty six thousand two hundred and twelve) only on various charitable activities as detailed in the audited statement of accounts.

#### **11. Thanks to the Collaborators & Partners.**

We, the members, staff & beneficiaries of Rural Uplift Centre, whole heartedly thank Cordaid - The Netherlands, Misereor - Germany, Indesch Patens Chaften - Luxembourg, MIVA-The Netherlands & Switzerland, Tamil Nadu State Social Welfare Board, elected People's Representatives, Central & State Government officials, Chairman and Members of State & District Legal Services Authorities, ASK - New Delhi, Mr. M. Kandasamy, Auditor- Chennai, Mr.P.Kulathooranpillai, Auditor-Nagercoil, NGOs of Tirunelveli, Tuticorin & Kanyakumari Districts, People's movement leaders, Print & Electronic media personnel for their valuable cooperation & solidarity in implementing the charitable activities during the year 2014 - 2015.