

Annual Progress Report

Year : 2014-2015



creda

Centre for Rural Education and Development Action (CREDA)

Regd. Office: Sher Khan Lane, Mirzapur-231001

Working Office: 490-491, Awas Vikas Colony, Mirzapur-231001

Phone: 05442-220285, Mob: 09415206651

Email: samshad@sancharnet.in, we@credaindia.org

www.credaindia.org

Centre for Rural Education and Development Action (CREDA)

Regd. Office: Sher Khan Lane, Mirzapur-231001

Working Office: 490-491, Awas Vikas Colony, Mirzapur-231001

Annual Progress Report

Year : 2014-2015

Project: Child Right Project – Supported by UNICEF

Protecting child rights, in particular the right to education and protection in Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh

A. Quality education available for all children 06-14 years

- Support provided to SSA in School Chalo Abhiyan in July 2014 and Household Survey in August 2014 in selected villages. Under this activity, 227 out of school children were identified and enrolled in primary or upper primary school.
- Regular attendance of school going children particularly girls and enrollment of out of school children were discussed in the meetings of CPC and WG and interface meeting with community and stakeholders.
- Community was made aware and sensitized about RTE and role of SMCs. These were discussed in various meetings organized in the project villages.
- At village and block levels, discussions were also made on school sanitation and safe drinking water with focus on separate toilets for girls in the schools.

B. Child protection structures in place addressing child rights, and child protection issues, especially child labour

- Regular orientation of 221 Child Protection Committees (CPCs) members was done by the Field Animators, which helped the CPCs respond to the CP issues at village and block level.
- Monthly and Quarterly meetings of CPCs organized. The CPCs met regularly (based on the local need) to address the child protection issues in the village. The project staffs ensured and technically supported the regular monthly meetings of CPCs on the decided dates. Minutes of the meeting was recorded on the register specially developed and provided by UNICEF.
- The CPCs in each village undertaken an assessment of the child protection (CP) issues in their respective village and developed/updated village level child protection action plan and same was shared with Block Level Child Protection Committee (BCPC). Situation analysis was also done in each of the project village, which was reflected in the action plans.
- Based on the Village CP assessments, block based CP Needs assessment was consolidated. Issues identified in the village child protection action plans were shared in the BCPC meetings.
- Vulnerable children in need of care and protection were identified and tracked in most of the project villages.

- Training of 218 members of women groups was carried out on Anti Child Labour Campaign.
- Anti Child Labour Campaign organized in 112 project villages and the community specially CPCs, SMCs, WGs, and children become aware about child protection. As a part of the campaign, regular communication to WG members and community people was done using video show, flip book, situation cards, and charts on child labor, child education and child marriage. Activities with children were also carried out with talking with them and using comic book, game for sensitization and creation of child labour free villages. They were also encouraged to go school regularly.
- Supportive supervision provided to 221 CPCs through field animators to promote child protection system.
- Block level Civil Society Alliances (CSAs) strengthened for creating a protective environment for children in Halia and Madihan blocks of Mirzapur District. Regular quarterly meeting of CSAs were organized in both the project blocks.
- During the quarterly meetings, the civil society alliances developed sustainable plan for action for strengthening child protection initiatives in the region and worked on it.
- Cluster level child protection sammelans organized to give a platform to CPC members for sharing of problems and experiences. Capacity and knowledge of CPC members and community enhanced and they shared the problems and experiences through these Sammelans.
- Interface among CPC, SMC, WG & other village based committees organized at village level to share the experiences and get the support from each other towards protection of child rights.
- Interface of CPC members with block level officers were organized where they could shared the village CP issues with block level officers for solution. The project staffs organized and facilitated these interface meetings.

C. Knowledge enhanced and attitude changed of families and communities in 5,160 villages for the promotion of child rights and the protection of children against violence, exploitation and abuse

- Regular meetings of WGs and community groups held with the service providers and PRIs.
- Open meetings of Model Gram Sabhas (GS) held as per government guidelines organized in 11 project villages. The project staffs supported and facilitated in organizing of these meetings.
- The WGs member visited at least 5 households belonging to excluded and marginalized communities which have at least one child in age group 6-14 years. During such visits, they used communication materials for family level knowledge dissemination and change of attitude.
- Social mobilization was done through community meetings held in the project villages with focus on child labour / child survival, exclusive breastfeeding, complementary feeding, routine immunization, hygiene and sanitation, child marriage, girl education.
- Social mobilization activities (Community meetings SHG members with their prioritized households) with focus on child marriage, child labour and child survival were carried out.

D. Enhanced access to service providers and social protection schemes by vulnerable families

- After getting orientation on community monitoring system of Red Alerts, the senior project staff orientated the field animators in the monthly review, learning and sharing meeting.
- The FAs, during the meetings of WGs and CPCs, oriented 1,605 WG members and 1,251 CPC members on red alerts.
- The FAs facilitated discussions on red alerts during community meetings at 7 places. General awareness in the community on the “red alerts” were carried out by WG and CPC members along with PRI representatives (ward members) in these villages.
- Through the Red Alerts community monitoring system, vulnerable families were supported in accessing the delayed services.

E. Women empowered to champion/promote rights of children, especially those from socially excluded groups

- WGs members undertook home visits and conducted group meetings. The quality of WGs meetings and home visits improved through supportive supervision provided by Field Animators.
- Field animators provided supportive supervision to women groups in making home visits and conducting group meetings. They regularly provided inputs to the WG members so that the WG members can communicate the message of 10 Point Child Friendly Agenda in their selected households and quality of group meetings is improved.
- Some of the members of women groups participated in the meetings of gram sabhas, CPCs, SMCs, and others forums. The field animators and other project staff encouraged them to participate in these forums and raise the issues especially related to child protection.

F. Additional Achievements

- The field animators were in regular contact with 211 'Kishori Sangam' (adolescent girls' association) and 142 'Kishor Sangam' (adolescent boys' association). The groups especially adolescent girls' associations were active in their respective village and providing their support in the project activities such as support in organizing meetings and writing the minutes of the CPC and SHG meetings, etc.
- 157 out of school children identified and enrolled in the schools.
- Intensive Diarrhea Control Fortnight (IDCF) was celebrated in 25 villages in Halia block and 55 villages of Madihan block from 28th July to 8th August 2014. In a one day orientation programme, the field staffs were oriented on reasons of diarrhea, precautions to prevent from diarrhea, affects of diarrhea on children. During the community meetings, the target groups were encouraged to practice the hand wash using soap and water. With the support of ASHA, in the Newadhia, Kotwan Pandey and Madihan villages of Madihan block, ORS was distributed and the recipients were explained about how to use the ORS. AWWs also explained the pregnant and lactating women about the use of ORS. Women champions also discussed about the diarrhea during the home visits.
- World Breastfeeding Week was organized from 1st to 7th August 2014. During this period community meetings were organized in 36 villages of Halia block and 44 villages of Madihan block. During the community meetings, the lactating women, pregnant women and other participants were made aware about the importance of exclusive breastfeeding. The participants were also told to give supplementary nutrition to the baby only after 6 months.

- Global Hand Washing Day on 15th October 2014 and Global Handwashing Week from 13th to 18th October 2014 were celebrated in both the project blocks. During this period, community meetings were organized in 39 villages of Halia block and 60 villages of Madihan block. Activities in school were also carried out in 40 villages (40 PS and 6 UPS) of Halia block and 54 villages (57 PS and 21 UPS) of Madihan block. The hand washing was demonstrated in the community meetings as well as in schools. The target groups were encouraged to practice the hand wash using soap and water to be safe from various diseases. At the end of the sessions, they also took oath to practice the hand wash.
- Regular counseling was provided to PRI members, Gram Pradhans, school teachers and SMC members for improving toilet facility in the community and in school.

Project: GARIMA Project – Supported by UNICEF

Girls Today Women Tomorrow

Activities:

A. Inception

- 436 adolescent girls groups (AGGs) have been formed/involved under the project and there were 8,733 members in these groups at the end of the year.
- 2 AGGs have been formed in the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalyayas (KGBVs) of Halia and Madihan blocks.
- One member from each of the above adolescent girls groups have been selected as a peer educator who leads the group and its activities.
- 224 mother's groups (MGs) have been formed under the project. These groups have 4,266 members.

B. Training and Capacity Building

- From 10th to 13th April 2014, a four-day training of trainers (ToT) was organized by Restless Development, New Delhi. 6 persons from CREDA participated in the above training.
- From 23rd to 24th May 2014, a two-day training on MHM, Life Skills, IPC and MIS was organized for field facilitators at CREDA Resource Centre, Sukhra, Halia, Mirzapur. All 22 field facilitators participated in the training.
- A three-day training of peer educators on life skills was conducted in July and August 2014.
- A two-day training of peer educators on IPC skills was organized in September and November 2014.
- The project staffs were oriented on better use of communication materials provided by UNICEF on 4th March 2015.

C. Interpersonal communication and group communication at village level

- The AGG members met on a regular basis. Each meeting was based on a special theme of the month. During these meetings, the participants could share the problems faced by them and they were made aware about the solution of the problems. The meetings were very helpful in breaking the silence of the adolescent girls.

- Monthly thematic meetings of mother's groups were also organized. Many issues were raised in these meetings. Mothers could know about the problems faced by daughters but not sharing with anyone. The most important point of these meetings was that the mothers were encouraged to help their daughters and provide the facility of toilet and bathrooms.
- As a result of mobilization activity, the importance of use of toilets, hand washing and safe drinking water was encouraged in the schools. Regular distribution of nutritious food from a number of AWCs has been observed.
- A number of film shows organized using the films on various themes provided by UNICEF. The films were screened during the AGG meetings, MG meetings, male group meetings, in KGBVs, Rajkiya Ashram Padhati Awasiya Balika Intermediate College, meetings with adolescent boys, and in upper primary schools. The film show was participated by an average of 20-25 participants at each place.
- On 20th May 2014, a Kishori Sammelan was organized in Madihan block. The purpose of the Sammelan was to create an opportunity to allow the girls to express themselves and also to be aware on several social and health related issues that affect their life. The Sammelan was participated by adolescent girls and mothers, fathers, elected representatives, health officials, SMCs, and neighbourhood communities.
- To sensitize the male groups on the issue of adolescent girls' health, education and protection, meetings with male groups had also been organized. In these meetings, they were told about the objective and activities of GARIMA Project. They felt that the project is very useful to the adolescent girls of the village. After knowing the details of the problem, they felt that the problem arising in the schools should not have been there. They will contact the village pradhan for construction of the community toilets. The importance about the TT vaccination was also understood by them. The sensitization has been observed on the issue of education, health and protection of the girls in the village.
- The project staff conducted regular home visits to the adolescent girls and got information about the change in the behaviour of adolescent girls. They collected the information in a especially designed format for further analysis.
- Meeting with block level stakeholders i.e. MOIC, CDPO, HEO, and Supervisors, organized for getting support in cluster level meeting of ASHA and AWW. The purpose of this initiative was to get help of ASHA and AWWs in delivering the message to community on VHND and health issues.

D. Innovations

- In the month of May 2014, Art Competitions were organized in 60 villages of Madihan block, which were participated by nearly 600 adolescent girls. The purpose was to ensure participation of the AGGs for creating messages suited for their development and also have an opportunity to express their thoughts through the art. During the competitions, the participating adolescent girls expressed their views, aspirations and understanding on theme of education, health and hygiene, gender, dowry, environment, need of toilets, and child marriage.

E. Convergence with Government Programmes:

- The project staffs closely interacted with 300 adolescent girls in Residential Ashram Paddhati Vidyalaya of Government of U.P. in Madihan block and two KGBVs in Madihan and Halia blocks. Meetings with adolescent girls are also being organized in upper primary schools.
- As a result of advocacy with government officials, adolescent girls were personally helped to get their part of poshahar on VHND (once in a month) and on Poshahar Diwas (on weekend), in getting IFA tablets and TT vaccination.

- The project staffs participated in the sector meetings of AWWs and ASHAs to get the support of government frontline workers (FLWs) in the project and benefit of the government schemes to the adolescent girls.

The issues discussed were:

Timely distribution of IFA tablets and poshahar, discussion on MHM with adolescent girls, participation of FLWs in MG and AGG meetings, effective implementation of VHND, counseling of mothers and AGs, encouragement of girls and mothers to link the girls in BSGY and Sabla schemes, Vaccination of adolescent girls on VHND and monthly health check up of AGs, ASHAs are not able to participate in the AGG and MG meetings due to their prior engagements.

- To make the reach-out of the messages to community at large, the films on MHM and girls' education were copied in the laptops provided by U.P. Government to increase the knowledge of adolescent girls and community. This activity has increased the awareness of the community.
- The GARIMA staff is on a motivational drive to encourage the people of the project blocks for having a toilet. The community is coming forward demand for construction of toilet and bathrooms by the government through gram panchayats.

Project: TARA Akshar+ Programme – Supported by Society for Development Alternative

TARA Akshar+ ICT Based Literacy Programme (for women)

Activities:

A. Mobilization and Coordinator of TARA Akshar+ Instructors

- 30 TARA Akshar+ Instructors were appointed under the programme. Each Instructor was placed at a women literacy centre known as TARA Akshar+ Centre
- Each instructor was provided supportive supervision for the functioning of the TARA Akshar+ Centre
- When any position of the Instructor become vacant, new candidate was identified and recruited followed by a training

B. Mobilization of Learners

- Mobilization of learners and community participation for every new cycle at the village level where centres are located were done.
- 30 learners (in three batches of 10 each) were mobilized for each centre
- Awareness created among the community for participation in the TARA Akshar+ women literacy program at the local level

C. Centers establishment, enrolment, batch formation and functioning of the TARA Akshar+ Centres

- 30 TARA Akshar+ Centres established in each teaching cycle and all required teaching and learnign materials arranged
- Batches formed and the learners were enrolled for the adult literacy programme
- All the learners enrolled at the centres were provided with the learning materials

- Special care were taken at the time of establishing the centre like security and safety of the learners, easily accessible place, higienic place, etc.
- All the learners enrolled at the centres were encouraged to attend the centre regularly
- Regular monitoring of centre operations was done to find out the issues, if any and to take corrective or remedial actions. Weekly monitoring reports were submitted to the Society for Development Alternative, New Delhi

D. Coverage

- 30 TARA Akshar+ Centres were functioning in each teaching cycle
- 30 learners were enrolled at each Centre for 3 teaching cycles. 2,700 learners were covered under these 3 teaching cycles.
- 20 learners were enrolled at each Centre in one teaching cycle during winter. 600 learners were covered under this teaching cycle.
- 4,300 learners were covered in all the 4 teaching cycles.

E. Final certification and graduation ceremony of the learners passed

- Graduation ceremony on certification of learners were organized the learners were awarded certificate
- Feedback from learners and community obtained for the improvement of the programme

F. Continuation of learning – Reading Clubs

- After completion of each teaching cycle of TARA Akshar+ Centre, the learners were given opportunity to keep continue the learning at Reading Clubs for six months.
- Different books and literatures were made available at the Reading Clubs to help the learners continue the learning.
- The Reading Clubs were constituted at a convenient location so that the attendance of the learners could be maximized
- The Reading Clubs function daily to maintain the receptivity of the students.