STOP Trafficking and Oppression of children and women

Impact Report

The present report aims to provide a detailed overview of the principal programs, projects and activities undertaken by STOP from October, 2021 to September, 2022.

Ramola Bhar Charitable Trust, estd. 1990 (Accredited with Special Consultative Status of the United Nations Economic and Social Council)

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From President's Desk

My Dear Friends and Associates,

The last year has been a testing period for all across industries and sectors. The social impact sector has been one of the crucial areas of work, demonstrating it's true zeal and role in the community working for social development. This year the organisation has also engaged in innovative methods of addressing most pressing challenges in the community that results into violence against women and children , including human trafficking. As a organization strongly believing and strategically operating to ensure right based approach, beneficiary centric assistance, and evolving democratically based on constant needs and feedback from the community, this year the team of STOP has worked in the domain of Gender justice and digital equity, child protection, livelihood for vulnerable women, environment sustainability, healthcare, education, food security and much more. Through various programs, this year the organization has impacted over 5000 families in various capacities through its project activities. The organization has also initiated it's activities in the community intervention practices through the model AID (Awareness, Intervention, and Direct Services) at the grassroots and increased it's beneficiary base in terms of geography and programatic activities.

Besides community intervention, the organisation has also performed activities enhancing networking and advocacy activities. STOP organised a national and regional workshop to learn of the emerging trends, especially focusing on the issue of cross-border trafficking, livelihood and employment challenges, as well as understand impact of unmonitored digital access. The organisation has also completed a pioneering study in understanding various factors in the domain of sexual exploitation of Boys. In partnership with ECPAT international, the organisation has represented India in a 11 country research. The organisation has also been working closely with US embassy and mission in India on the emerging trends of Human Trafficking. As our partnership strategy, the organisation has been engaging with the Special Police Unit for Women and Children with the Delhi police to help the law enforcement strengthen the responses on the ground.

Another major area of work has been care and support to survivors, especially the ones who had been restored and being reintegrated. With livelihood support through micro finance to survivors to academic assistance, the team of STOP has been working to help the survivors be back on their feet after the hurdles they've faced during COVID.

5000+ families assisted in Delhi and West Bengal by STOP.

We thank all of our partners and associated in various capacities who have been instrumental in our activities this year. As we move forward the organisation is moving further to enhance it's community safeguarding mechanism through robust training and reducing gender inequity in digital space. We look forward to presenting the impact of coming year.

In Solidarity

Prof. Roma Debabrata

Background

Ramola Bhar Charitable Trust (hereinafter mentioned as RBC Trust) was established in 1990 by academicians, professionals and grass root level activists to create a habitable society and ensure justice and equality for women and children in particular. STOP Trafficking and Oppression of Children and Women was initiated as a movement under the Trust in 1998. Since its inception, it has continued to focus on the recovery, repatriation, and survival of trafficked women and children despite insurmountable odds and provides non-judgmental support and care.

Trust holds a consultative status with UNECOSOC, is the founding member of Action Against Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children (ATSEC- Delhi Chapter) and associate member of the End Child Prostitution And Trafficking (ECPAT) network in their commitment to bring an end to sexual exploitation of children. As an organization, STOP envisions a gender just world, free from all forms of slavery and abuse. It works on specific strategies and actions to make it possible.

STOP, as part of its preventive strategy works with vulnerable women and at-risk children in some of the most marginalised communities in Delhi and elsewhere in the country. As part of its empowerment program, Thousand Dreams- an independent social enterprise (supported by STOP) is led by young activists who have transformed their lives from a victim - to survivor - to warrior. In addition, "Koshish", a self-help group led by women and young adults' work hard is also catering to various events with a vast variety of world cuisine. Thousand Dreams and Koshish both produce apparels and accessories for local and foreign clients, as a small enterprise. It also manages Koshish Catering Service (Self Help Group), a vertical that serves Indian delicacies and some chosen western cuisine at different events locally.

Mission

The mission of STOP is to promote the establishment of an egalitarian society through the political, social and economic empowerment of victims of trafficking and violence, helping them in their journey of victims to survivors and ultimately agents of social change

Vision

STOP's vision is to eradicate human trafficking and all types of violence against children and women

Objectives:

The objectives of STOP are based on organization's strategy, focusing on preventive action, increased focus on global advocacy, geographical expansion of outreach programmes to remote rural villages in addition to urban slums, exploring possibilities in aftercare services and research and development on techniques to combat new methods used for trafficking.

- Create a non-judgemental open space ready to accept marginalised/ wronged/ violated women and children
- Provide survivors with appropriate and safe care, protection and accommodation, trauma counselling services, medical assistance and legal aid, education and vocational skill training. Support is also extended to children in survivors in form of accommodation, food, educational, medical and counseling support.
- Help victims in retaining confidence, reuniting with family and rehabilitating.
- Facilitate repatriation and restoration of foreign citizens who fell victims to the menace of trafficking;
 - Support and encourage children of vulnerable communities and survivors of violence to engage in formal and/or remedial educational services as well as professional and vocational training programs.
 - Create gender just and resilient community free from all forms of violence against women and children
 - Create women's self-help groups to empower and assist survivors in gaining access to employment opportunities.
 - Advocate for the improvement of legal policies about issues related to its field of activity.
 - Create sustainable and safe community for women and children by utilising legal tool envisaged under the Right to Information Act, 2005.
 - Identify victims of various forms of exploitation through local stakeholders.
 - Provide skill based training to victims suffering from various forms of exploitation.
 - Research latest emerging trends of trafficking and violence against women and children.
 - Promote research/documentation/ handbook.
 - Prepare care leavers for reintegration in to the society through applying Group Home model.
 - Focus on ensuring community health as a step towards enhancing focus on safety of women and children.

As per the strategy of the organization, 60% of activities are dedicated towards Prevention

Core Value Statement

STOP strives to create an engendered and gender-just society through social and economic empowerment of marginalised women and children by adopting a right-based, collaborative,

transparent and participatory approach across all decision making processes within the organisation to foster personal and organisational growth which in turn nurtures talent and promotes organisational excellence.

The organization's role as one of the globally recognised movements for addressing human trafficking derives its mandate from an overarching goal to establish an egalitarian society that promises gender equality by spearheading crusade against all forms of exploitation/ violence against the marginalised section of the population, mainly children and women by creating groups of new change makers in the society through social and economic empowerment.

It provides quality education, marketable skill training and leadership opportunities through creation of social enterprises and community self-help groups geared towards transforming those vulnerable/victimised souls into becoming survivors empowered to spearhead social change. STOP fosters creation of resilient and empowered grass-root communities with increasing capacity for self-improvement.



Care and Support to Survivors

During pandemic, STOP has received numerous accounts wherein the survivors who had been reinstated over years faced challenges in survival as they lost all sources of income and for some even members of the family. The organisation following deliberation and approval form the Board of Trustees developed a fund specially to provide recurring assistance to survivors of various forms of violence. Currently the organisation is supporting over 10 survivors in livelihood and academic endeavours. Two beneficiaries are pursuing their higher education in B.Sc. Hotel Management and Bachelors in Social Work. Two beneficiaries are currently receiving primary school education.

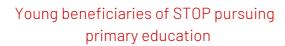
As part of repatriation activity, four Bangladeshi men awaiting to be repatriated for two years were finally sent to their home-country.



Survivor support to initiate local business venture for livelihood



Survivor support to Afreen for livlihood





Four Bangladesh men at the india-Bangladesh border



INNOVATIONS

Last year has been one of the most exciting and challenging times for the organization. While the regular activities were brought back to their original state of implementation, to curb the challenges brought on by the pandemic required the organization to innovate and work in a cross-functional fashion. Besides the prevention activities of the organization, the organization has been dedicated towards assisting its adopted communities in Delhi and West Bengal. Assistance was provided to people focusing on healthcare and hygiene, food security, education, and natural disaster. The organization innovated in three domains

1) Digital literacy of women in community through project "wEQUIP" via an integrated module aiming to train on fin-tech and child protection centric approach.

- 2) Special project on building livelihood skill of women through sustainable methods in remote locations of the Sundarbans, West Bengal.
- 3) Indira Lahiri Sponsorship programme for girls to enhance their co-curricular skills.
- 4) Vaccination facilitated in the community through a digital health initiative, Health100.

Innovation 1: WEQUIP

126 women successfully trained in the community based on the integrated module over the course of 4 months through 3 batches with 20 digital devices

Innovation 3: Indira

Lahiri Scholarships

50 girls participated in a talent search competition. Four girls received year-long scholarship to purse a activity that will help in their academic growth

Innovation 2: Sustainability & Livelihood

115 women trained in livelihood options to have access to formal market in tailoring, stitching, general duty attendant, and sustainable farming.

Innovation 4: Health100 (Phase2)

3521 beneficiaries
vaccinated age 16 and
above. 1069
beneficiaries registered
through the mobile app.
over 700 families
received dry ration



One of the 10,000+ beneficiaries vaccinated in the fight against COVID-19

Finallists for the scholarship competition





Training under wEQUIP project in Tughlakabad



Closing gender gap in digital access through digital literacy training of women in community



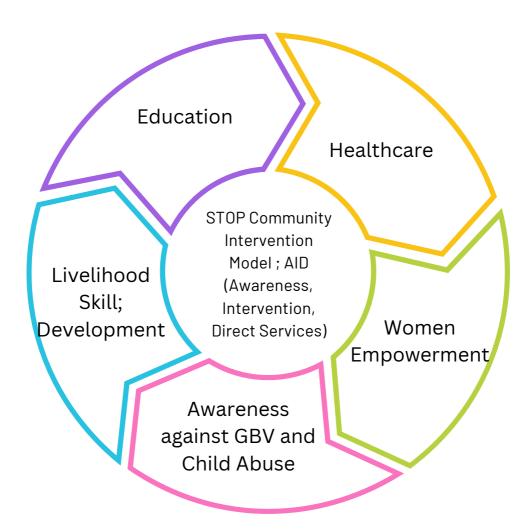
Sustainable and environment centric livelihood option in action



Peer Learning and Skill assessment at Bhangor, WB

Community Intervention Program

As the world dawned into 2022, the risk and threats of COVID-19 reduced in India. Life began to move on it's 'normal' pace, leading for our community interventions to be resumed to it's original format of implementation. Besides, the innovations that has paved way to increase the organizations reach, the community intervention model 'AID' was again brought in action!



Tughalakabad (Churriya Mohollah)

STOP's presence and operations in Tughlakabad has helped it to implement multiple social assistance programmes in the community to assist the community in combatting human trafficking from the first steps.

- Survey for research: Working women condition at workplace and during travel
- Survey on girl child nutrition: 100 girl child
- Domestic violence cases: 13
- Dry ration distribution: 345 Families
- Youth group meeting
- Mahila Mandal meetings (monthly)
- Youth group meeting (monthly)
- Running NFE education centre with 45 students
- Formal School admission of dropout children: 17
- Special summer activity with students
- PTM(Monthly)
- NIOS Admission of dropout girls:8
- Tailoring training: (Basic course 12 advance course: 15)
- Tie and Die training
- Teachers training (TOT) for NFE teachers
- Beautician training 13 beneficiaries
- Health OPD newly started (100 beneficiaries)



Meeting with the Mahila Mandal (Women's collective)



Capacity building workshop of first hand service provider in the community.



Livelihood training of at-risk beneficiaries in the community

Tigri (JJ Colony)



Independence Day Celebration at Tigri

The activities in Tigri has had a vast impact in Tigri. Each community demands a unique approach and Tigri being a resettlement colony has people from various backgrounds but mostly comprises of daily wage earners. Following is a glimpse of activity for Tigri:

- Mahila Mandal Meetings engaging 350 women :
- 1. on Prevention of COVID
- 2. Harassment/ Problem faced by women at workplace/ during travel
 - 3. International women's day celebration
 - 4. Importance of girl child education
 - 5. Internet safety
 - 6. Women's right and helpline numbers
 - Youth group meeting: safety of girls, Good touch and bad touch, Social media in daily life/ positive as well as negative, Importance of girl's higher studies and self employment workshop with 26 girls, Safety issues during COVID pandemic and regular sending of their children into school
 - Preparation on half yearly exam for 40 children
 - 15th August celebration
 - Domestic violence cases: 6
 - Dry Ration Distribution: 345 (1400 people) families
 - Tailoring training: 18 beneficiaries
 - Beautician training: 27 beneficiaries

Networking and International Advocacy

In the reporting period, the organisation has engaged with its partners and stakeholder at every level; local, national, regional, and international. In February the organisation hosted a national level consultation to discuss the challenges faced by network members during the pandemic. With organisation representing multiple geographies, trends of cross-border trafficking and issues with digital access were discussed. Based on the outcome of the national consultation, the organisation conducted a regional consultation on *Impact of Pandemic on gender norms and behaviour in South Asia*. Participants from India, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Thailand, presented the challenges they face in area of digital access, survivor assistance, and cross-border trafficking. The versatile representation of practitioners, academicians, government stakeholders presented an overview of various agencies engaging to combat issue of human trafficking and violence against children and women.

The organisation has also been actively involved with regional activities as part of the ECPAt International network and ATSEC international network in devising future plans and strategies for the a regional action to tackle emerging forms of human trafficking. STOP was represented at the Anti-trafficking conclave in Kolakata organised by the US embassy, India. The organisation has been actively engaging with partners at the US mission to develop future plan on combatting human trafficking on an international stage. The organisation in July.

As part of networking, STOP has been one of the stakeholder for the National Commission for Women, Govt. of India to plan the strategic for two day workshop on planning activities of the NCW.



Koshish (SHG)

With a vision to provide economic independence to the survivors/vulnerable women, Koshish (meaning endeavor) was formed in the year 2006. With the support from Femmes d' Europe, and Indian Railways, and many other; a commercial work space was setup for Koshish by 2018. The beneficiaries of Koshish were provided with training, handholding and market linkages in the area of catering and retail food production. The Self Help Group has empowered the women associated with it by helping them attain sustainability through constant skill training to develop and sustain their catering business.

This year Koshish has been recovering from the pandemic and has served meetings and individual orders and has catered to different public gatherings for autumn celebration.



Team of Koshish at the Autumn celebration

Thousand Dreams

Launched in 2015, Thousand Dreams is an independent start-up social enterprise, with incubation support initiated by STOP and run by group of empowered women and young adults. The venture assists at-risk women and girls to get trained as well as attain knowledge, support and awareness of their rights. TD aims at channelizing the interest, skills and efforts of vulnerable women and survivors of trafficking and oppression into income generating activities. Steadily, Thousand Dreams is evolving into a leading social enterprise and a marketable brand across the globe in the apparel and accessories sector. Its mission is to emerge as a market leader for imparting necessary skill to first generation vulnerable and at-risk women and girl thereby transforming them into agents of social change. Its specialties include manufacture of all sorts of ladies and gents garments, uniforms, apparel, accessories, artificial and cosmetic jewellery, bead work, bags etc.

This year Thousand Dreams has completed three big orders which includes preparing wardrobe for a bride. During pandemic the export action had taken a step-back. Moving ahead the reach of Thousand Dreams increasing. Thousand Dreams has been continuously working With Enactus of Arryabhatt College on training members of the community in Tie-Dye products.

Way Forward

The last reporting period has been an inspiring time for innovating and finding the path in a post-covid scenario. the learning will be taken ahead and in the coming the organisation focuses on Sustainable farming and livelihood initiative in West bengal and digital literacy and equity in Delhi alongside building a robust method of combatting trafficking by training grassroots change agents to generate a community-wide gatekeeping with the intent to safeguard.

Testmonials from Visitors

Every year STOP is privileged to host people and supporters from various backgrounds who are in solidarity with the movement to end all forms of violence against women and children as well as Human Trafficking.

"Amazing work! Keep on doing what you do. Looking forward to working together to protect women and children"
-Claude Rochon (High Commision of Canada, New Delhi

Thank you for explaining the excellent work you do!
-Margaret MacLeod- Foreign Services Officer, US Dept. of State (High Commission, New Delhi)

A wonderfully organized setup providing livelihood to abused and trafficked girls and helps them in their repatriation. Great to know about them, and glad to be in association with STOP.

-Satwant Sayan, President Rotary International Delhi Medium Dist. 3011

Truly humbling experience seeing all of you doing such a wonderful amount of work.

-Dr. Vishwanath Bhattacharya, Consultant NHS (Gov UK)

Financial Report

