

2022 - A new beginning

Letter n° 43 - April 2022

Water for Life, Year II



The "Water for life II" project with our partners Gramium and SEVAI have been successfully completed. The project aims at promoting integrated rural development to create stable and sustainable economic activity. Through this project, 4 reservoirs were renovated to irrigate 1049 acres of cultivatable land. 10 drinking water pumps were installed in the villages. And through the creation of 90 SHGs (Self Help groups) and JLGs (Joint-Liability groups), 1043 women have been empowered so that they improve both their economic and social standing. 3250 trees are grown and planted thanks to organic compost, enabling reforestation and in better percolation of water into the soil. Farmers are trained to sustainable agriculture and use of water. Overall, a wonderful project with great success!

Busy Bees

NEW

Busy Bee program in Dindigul district of Tamil Nadu, is entirely funded by OFI. It aims at empowering tribal women with skills in beekeeping as a way of generating income. Under the project, ISSAI has created 50 Self Help Groups comprising 622 women. They received training on group activities and economic activities. 40 women trained on beekeeping and 80 bee boxes with live bee colonies and other tools were given free of cost to start their income generating activities. After a period of 2 months, the women could harvest more than 40 KGs of honey. ISSAI also helped the women in selling the produce in the wholesale market.



Nutrition, Education and sponsorship for HIV Kids



The project entirely funded by OFI aims at improving the quality of life of HIV children in Karur district of Tamil Nadu. Through the project, 250+ children get regular medical assistance, supplementary nutrition food and education. Regular medical checkups are conducted and advocacy and awareness programs are organized with direct and indirect beneficiaries. Apart from this, OFI will follow-up on the continuation of their education and provide scholarship for higher education as needed.

Know about our Women Empowerment Program and Joint Liability Groups (JLGs)

The aim of a JLG is to provide self-employment and generate sustainable income for the rural women. It is usually a group of 4-10 women who come together to borrow from a Microfinance Institution. The members in a JLG are from a similar socioeconomic background and usually from the same village. A JLG is different from SHGs in that the members share liability, or stand guarantee for each other. If any of the member's default, the other members need to pool in money to repay the loan. This ensures a greater effort on part of the members in loan repayment thus ensuring better accountability and security. This year, OFI finance the social workers and training for more than 300 women who benefited being part of the JLGs, and more than 1200 women who are part of the SHGs.



Construction of New Classrooms



Construction work of new classroom building at SEVAI Raja Aided Elementary School, Bichendarkoil in Tamilnadu. has started. Under the project, existing old building will be demolished and new classrooms are built. The project will benefit 125+ children mainly from the migrant community. The new classrooms will be ready by June 2022 in time for the beginning of the new academic year.

New Programs started in Q1, 2022

- ✓ **Water for Life, Year 3** - Watershed management, Women & Environment in Tamil Nadu
- ✓ **Femmes & Environment** - Women & Environment in Tamil Nadu
- ✓ **Project Tannir** - Watershed management, Women & Environment in Tamil Nadu
- ✓ **Education Support for ABC Schools** - Operation Expenses for 09 ABC Schools in West Bengal
- ✓ **Build a Future** - School Bus & Skill Development Program - In Bangalore

Sponsor a child's education

[MAKE A DONATION](#)

We solicit your support in sponsoring children infected with HIV to continue their education. [Click here](#) to know more and make a donation

THANK YOU TO ALL (individuals, foundations, institutional donors, OFI members) FOR MAKING THESE PROJECTS POSSIBLE through your [membership](#)