

ANDREWSPALLI CENTRE FOR INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT



**ANNUAL REPORT
2023-2024**



INTRODUCTION

At Andrewspalli Centre for Integrated Development, we are dedicated to making a meaningful impact across three crucial areas: Education, Livelihood, and Environmental Preservation. Our mission is to empower individuals and communities through transformative educational opportunities, support sustainable livelihoods, and foster a deep commitment to preserving our planet for future generations.

Education: We believe that education is the cornerstone of a brighter future. Our programs are designed to provide quality education and learning resources to underserved communities, equip learners with essential skills, and create pathways to academic and professional success.

Livelihood: Economic stability is vital for thriving communities. We work to enhance livelihoods by offering vocational training, entrepreneurship support, and resources that help individuals and families build sustainable income sources and achieve financial independence.

Environmental Preservation: Our planet's health is our collective responsibility. We engage in conservation efforts, promote sustainable practices, and raise awareness about environmental issues to protect natural resources and combat climate change.

Through collaboration with local partners, volunteers, and supporters, Andrewspalli Centre for Integrated Development strives to create lasting, positive change. Join us in our journey to uplift communities, protect our environment, and build a better world for everyone. Together, we can make a difference.

BACKGROUND OF THE ORGANIZATION

A group of professionally trained social workers, while operating in the rural areas surrounding Bolpur town in West Bengal, noticed that despite the presence of several NGOs, many underserved communities, particularly those from underprivileged, backward, and tribal backgrounds, were not receiving even the most basic necessities for their survival. This observation led them to establish a forum to address these pressing issues, culminating in the formation of the Andrewspalli Centre for Integrated Development (ACID). Over time, ACID has become a prominent development organization focused on improving the conditions of marginalized, tribal, and other disadvantaged groups in the Bolpur and Illambazar regions.

Subsequently, ACID expanded its efforts to the impoverished and vulnerable Sundarbans region, particularly in the AILA-affected Hingalganj Block of North 24 Paraganas district. The organization now addresses critical areas such as "Disaster Risk Reduction," "Climate Change Adaptation," "Humanitarian Response," "Strengthening Livelihoods," "Child Education," and "WASH" (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene).

The primary goal of the Andrewspalli Centre for Integrated Development is to meet the needs of socially and economically disadvantaged rural and urban families who lack essential food, clothing, and shelter. ACID emphasizes a participatory approach to ensure the sustainability of its initiatives.

VISION AND MISSION

Vision - Our vision is to nourish and empower people by making them self-reliant and self-respectful. The organization has been working marginalized to bring sustainable changes through its various interventions especially in West Bengal, more specifically in Five Gram Panchayats of Hingalganj Block in North 24 Parganas and in Birbhum.

Mission - The mission of the organization is to create a self-reliant rural community through participatory approach, work with marginalized communities with a special focus on women and children and conduct various programs for marginalized communities on social economic and political influences, which kept them deprived by identifying their own abilities.

GEOGRAPHICAL EXISTENCE

Acid has its headquarter at Andrewspalli (West), Santiniketan, District Birbhum, West Bengal. ACID is currently active in two locations :

1. Tribal Villages under Ruppur and Bilati Gram Panchayet, Bolpur and Illambazar block respectively.
2. Dulduli, Sahebkhali, Jogeshganj, Gobindakati and Kalitala Gram Panchayets under Hingalganj block, North 24 Parganas.

INTERVENTIONS

The organization has been actively engaged with underprivileged and marginalized communities to foster sustainable improvements, particularly in West Bengal. Its efforts aim to develop self-reliant rural communities through a participatory approach, with a particular emphasis on women, children, youth, and vulnerable groups. The organization undertakes various programs in areas including social mobilization, child education, health and hygiene promotion, climate change and environmental protection, livelihood development, skill enhancement, entrepreneurship, and humanitarian response and preparedness.



SOCIAL MOBILIZATION

Social mobilization is a key focus area for ACID. In the 2023-24 fiscal year, ACID undertook several initiatives including organizing meetings for parents and community members, child cabinet sessions, and gatherings of Learning Centre Management Committees. Additionally, the organization conducted annual sports events for children, a football tournament, cultural activities, door-to-door visits, and awareness rallies in Hingalganj Block of North 24 Parganas, as well as in Bolpur-Sriniketan and Illambazar Blocks of Birbhum District.

SL.NO	EVENT	NUMBER	ISSUES
1	PARENTS MEETING	87	PROGRESS OF THE CHILDREN, ATTENDANCE
2	COMMUNITY MEETING	32	HEALTH AND HYGIENE PROMOTION, CHILD PROTECTION, ENVIRONMENT PRESERVATION, GOVERNMENT WELFARE SCHEMES
3	CHILD CABINET MEETING	60	PREPARATION OF ACTION PLAN FOR THE YEAR, CHILD MARRIAGE, CHILD PROTECTION, CLIMATE CHANGE, SOCIAL ACTION ETC.
4	MEETING WITH LEARNING CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	82	RUNNING OF LEARNING CENTRES, COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION, SOLVING LOCAL ISSUES.
5	AWARENESS RALLY	8	CHILD PROTECTION, ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS, HEALTH AND HYGIENE, WOMEN EMPOWERMENT
6	SPORTS AND GAMES	2	CLIMATE CHANGE, PHYSICAL FITNESS
7	CULTURAL ACTIVITY	12	DAYS OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE.

GALLERY



CHILD EDUCATION

ACID has supported 411 children from vulnerable and marginalized families in the Birbhum and North 24 Parganas districts by enhancing their educational opportunities through a Community-Based Approach. This support includes regular tuition, quarterly distributions of educational materials and books, periodic mock tests, and the introduction of worksheets to assess learning levels. This initiative operates 10 Learning Centres staffed by 26 qualified teachers, including three specialists in Mathematics and English. The program benefits children from 10 villages across 6 Gram Panchayats in Birbhum and North 24 Parganas districts. The activity centers are open Monday through Saturday, providing 3 hours of instruction each day.

SL.NO	ACTIVITY	NUMBER	NO.O F BENE FICIA RIES	REMARKS / ITEMS GIVEN
1	REGULAR TUTION SUPPORT TO THE CHILDREN	6 DAYS IN A WEEK	411	REGULAR CLASSES USING ACTIVITY BASED AND JOYFUL LEARNING METHODS
2	PROVIDING UNIFORM KIT	1	326	SCHOOL UNIFORM, BAGS, SHOES AND SOCKS
3	PROVIDING EDU. MATERIALS	4	411	PENS, PENCILS, EXERCISE BOOKS, DRAWING BOOK, COLOUR PENCILS, GEOMETRY BOX, ETC.
4	LESSON PLAN & USING TLM	EVERY WEEK	411	TRAINING FOR LESSON PLAN CREATION AND PROVIDING TLMs
5	CELEBRATION OF IMPORTANT DAYS	IMPORTANT DAYS	411 STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES	REPUBLIC DAY, INDEPENDENCE DAY, NETAJI'S B'DAY, GANDHI JAYANTI, CHRISTMAS, ETC.
6	TAKING REGULAR MOCK TEST	1/MONTH	411	REGULAR STUDENT EVALUATION BASED ON ICCP MODEL
7	SPECIAL CARE FOR 10th & 12th CLASS STUDENTS	THROUGHOUT THE YEAR	20	19 CHILDREN SUCCESSFULLY PASSED

GALLERY



HEALTH AND HYGIENE

The organization provided health and hygiene awareness and support to underprivileged, vulnerable, and marginalized communities in Hingalganj Block through a Community-Based Approach. Key activities throughout the year included quarterly health check-ups for children conducted by a qualified physician, community health camps, health and hygiene promotion workshops, regular handwashing initiatives, and the distribution of hygiene kits to children.

SL.NO	ACTIVITY	NUMBER	NO.O F BENE FICIA RIES	REMARKS / ITEMS GIVEN
1	DISTRIBUTION OF HYGIENE KIT	1/QUARTER	326	DETERGENT POWDER, BATHING SOAP, TOOTHBRUSH, TOOTHPASTE, HAND WASH, SHAMPOO SACHETS, SANITARY NAPKINS FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS, ETC.
2	SUPPLEMENTRY NUTRITION SUPPORT	1/QUARTER	284	DIRECT BENEFIT TRANSFER OF INR 1,050 PER FAMILY PER QUARTER.
3	HEALTH CAMP FOR CHILDREN AND DISTRIBUTION OF MEDICINE	7/QUARTER	326	HEALTH CAMP ORGANIZED BY QUALIFIED PHYSICIAN AT EVERY LEARNING CENTRE, RECORDING HEIGHT AND WEIGHT IN HEALTH CARD, MEDICINES DISTRIBUTED TO THE CHILDREN AS PER THE PRESCRIPTION OF THE DOCTOR.
4	COMMUNITY HEALTH CAMP AND MEDICINE DISTRIBUTION	7	1850	REFERRAL OF SERIOUS PATIENTS TO GOVT HOSPITALS AFTER PRIMARY CHECKUP AND MEDICINES DISTRIBUTED TO THE PATIENTS AS PER THE PRESCRIPTION OF THE DOCTOR.
5	AWARENESS ON HYGIENE	28	750	AWARENESS ON PERSONAL HYGIENE, NUTRITION VALUE OF VARIOUS FOOD, BENEFIT OF USING SANITARY NAPKIN, ETC.
6	NUTRITION GARDEN	3	284	PROVIDING VEGETABLE SEEDS, ORGANIC FERTILIZER, AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT.

GALLERY



ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

ACID has made significant efforts to address climate change through a variety of initiatives, including rallies, awareness meetings, door-to-door campaigns, wall paintings, tree planting, and the use of organic fertilizers. The Child Cabinet members, parents' groups, and Learning Centre Management Committees have been educated and trained on these issues using a participatory approach. Additionally, children are actively involved in the ongoing effort to collect plastic waste in plastic bottles.

SL.NO	ACTIVITY	NUMBER	NO.O F BENE FICIA RIES	REMARKS / ITEMS GIVEN
1	PLANTATION OF TREES	1	326	2 SAPLINGS GIVEN TO EACH SPONSERED CHILDREN
2	ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND CLIMATE CHANGE TRAINING FOR BOTH CHILDREN AND THE COMMUNITY.	7	500	ALL CHILD CABINET MEMBERS AND PARENTS WERE COVERED UNDER AWARENESS SESSIONS AND TRAINED ON CLIMATE CHANGE.
3	AWARENESS ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND GLOBAL WARMING	7	700	COMMUNITY AWARENESS SESSIONS WERE CONDUCTED ON REDUCING THE USE OF ELECTRICITY, PLASTIC, AND WATER WASTAGE.
4	COLLECTION OF PLASTIC AND PROMOTION OF SAFE WASTE MANAGEMENT	7	326	USE OF PLASTIC WASTE AND BOTTLES IN VARIOUS CONSTRUCTION AND DECORATIVE PROJECTS AS PART OF RECYCLING EFFORTS.

GALLERY



LIVELIHOOD, SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Livelihood intervention is a key focus area for the organization. ACID assists extremely poor and vulnerable households through a variety of livelihood activities, including the integration of government schemes and entitlements. In the 2023-2024 period, Andrewspalli Centre for Integrated Development worked to enhance 21 existing Self-Help Groups (SHGs) with 312 women members and 7 Farmers' Groups with 77 marginal farmers across Kalitala, Gobindokati, and Jogeshganj Gram Panchayats in Hingalganj block, North 24 Parganas. These SHGs and Farmers' Groups were initially established and supported through the organization's previous initiative, Water for Food, in India's coastal areas. All SHGs were connected with clusters and accessed financial benefits through the Anadadhara program of the Government of West Bengal.

Additionally, the organization distributed seven types of vegetable seeds to 326 extremely poor families for growing nutrition gardens on their homestead land during the summer, rainy, and winter seasons. Along with seeds, they received organic manure and gardening tools. Training was also provided by a trained horticulturist on advanced kitchen gardening techniques using compost and organic manure. Many families successfully cultivated nutritious gardens, using the vegetables for family consumption, while 168 families sold surplus produce at local markets ("Haat"), generating extra income to support family expenses and children's education.

SL.NO	ACTIVITY	NUMBER	NO.OF BENEFICIARIES	REMARKS / ITEMS GIVEN
1	FOLLOW UP ON 21 EXISTING SHGs	1/QUARTER	312	THE SHGs ARE FUNCTIONING WELL AND ARE ABLE TO CREATE ALTERNATIVE INCOME SOURCES.
2	FOLLOW UP ON 7 FARMER'S GROUP	1/QUARTER	77	THE FARMERS ARE PROPERLY IMPLEMENTING THEIR TRAINING AND ARE YIELDING A GOOD HARVEST.
3	ENTITLEMENT AND CONVERGENCE WITH GOVT. SCHEMES	1	389	CREATING AWARENESS AND LINKING ALL SHG, FARMER'S GROUP MEMBERS AND THE CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILY WITH GOVT. SCHEMES
4	DISTRIBUTION OF 7 TYPES OF VEGETABLE SEED	3 (SUMMER, RAINY, WINTER)	326	THE CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES BENEFIT FROM THE SELF-CULTIVATED NUTRITION GARDEN.

STORIES OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- ACID has also undertaken initiatives to empower marginalized women through entrepreneurship. In Bolpur, six women were trained in handicrafts and assisted in establishing their own businesses at “Sonajhurir Haat.” These women are successfully managing their enterprises and earning approximately INR 5,000 per month.
- Additionally, ACID has trained three women in sewing and provided them with sewing machines to establish their own home-based businesses.
- Srijoni Silpogram, an art and cultural platform located at the Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre complex in Santiniketan, allocated a stall to ACID at the “Chander Haat” handicraft market to support business startups for women trained in handicraft production by ACID. Two beneficiaries of the SAMRIDDHI project from Binuria village established a stall at Srijoni Silpagram’s Chander Haat and have begun earning approximately INR 7,000 to INR 9,000 per month from their stall.

GALLERY



CASE STUDY #1

TITLE - EMPOWERING FAMILIES THROUGH SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE: AKASH SARDAR'S SUCCESS STORY

Akash Sardar, a student at the Dakshin Gobindakati Learning Centre, comes from an economically disadvantaged Scheduled Tribe (ST) family. Despite their extreme poverty, Akash's family has embarked on a transformative journey towards economic empowerment through sustainable agriculture, facilitated by Andrewspalli Centre for Integrated Development (ACID).

Twice a year, ACID provides Akash's family with inputs for their nutrition garden and technical guidance. This support has enabled them to cultivate nutritious vegetables on their homestead land, ensuring vital sustenance for their family.

Encouraged by the success of their winter vegetable harvest, Akash's family decided to expand into commercial vegetable farming during the summer. They leased 10 kathas of land adjacent to their home and invested their time and labor into the venture, avoiding external labor costs.

Their dedicated efforts have yielded promising results, with an anticipated profit of INR 10,000 for this season. This success not only enhances their family income but also serves as a powerful example for the organization, supporting agencies, and benefactors.

Akash Sardar's family exemplifies the transformative potential of sustainable agriculture in improving the lives of economically disadvantaged communities. Through proactive engagement and commitment, they have secured essential nutrition for their family and moved towards economic self-sufficiency. Their achievement highlights the significance of community-based initiatives in fostering resilience and prosperity among marginalized families.

CASE STUDY #2

TITLE -EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: A CASE STUDY OF MADHABKATI LEARNING CENTRE

Madhabkati Learning Centre exemplifies the powerful impact of community engagement on sustainable development. From the project's inception, parents have played a crucial role, contributing not only space but also labor for constructing classrooms, with additional support from generous donors. This case study highlights the collective efforts of the community in overcoming challenges and driving progress.

Parents' involvement went beyond financial support; they actively participated in building classrooms, while external donors provided essential amenities like fans to improve the learning environment. The establishment of the Learning Centre Management Committee (LCMC) enabled community members to engage in decision-making processes, which enhanced the centre's management efficiency and responsiveness.

A significant challenge was the lack of adequate sanitation facilities. This issue was addressed through the collaborative efforts of the LCMC, with support from the Panchayat representative. Community-driven initiatives, coupled with Panchayat assistance, led to the construction of a basic toilet facility to meet immediate needs, with plans for further development.

Madhabkati Learning Centre demonstrates the transformative potential of community engagement in achieving sustainable development. Through effective governance structures and proactive problem-solving, the community has created a supportive environment for education and well-being. This case study underscores the essential role of grassroots participation in fostering resilient and thriving communities.

CASE STUDY #3

TITLE - OVERCOMING ADVERSITY: TRISHA MANDAL'S RESILIENCE IN EDUCATION

Trisha Mandal, a dedicated student at the Sardarpara Learning Centre, faced a significant challenge when her mother abruptly left with her younger sister, leaving her alone. With her father working as a wage laborer in Tamil Nadu, Trisha's education was disrupted, leading to her withdrawal from both school and the learning centre.

In response to Trisha's situation, the child cabinet members and teachers provided ongoing support, while the Andrewspalli Centre for Integrated Development (ACID) took action by engaging with her family and school. They offered emotional reassurance and advocated for Trisha's continued education.

As a result of this collective intervention, Trisha has made impressive progress. She has successfully resumed her attendance at both the learning centre and school, demonstrating notable improvements in her academic performance and emotional well-being.

Trisha's story underscores the profound impact of community support and intervention during challenging times. Through compassionate engagement and dedicated advocacy, Trisha has shown remarkable resilience, highlighting the crucial role of sustained support in maintaining educational continuity and fostering emotional strength in vulnerable children.

CASE STUDY #4

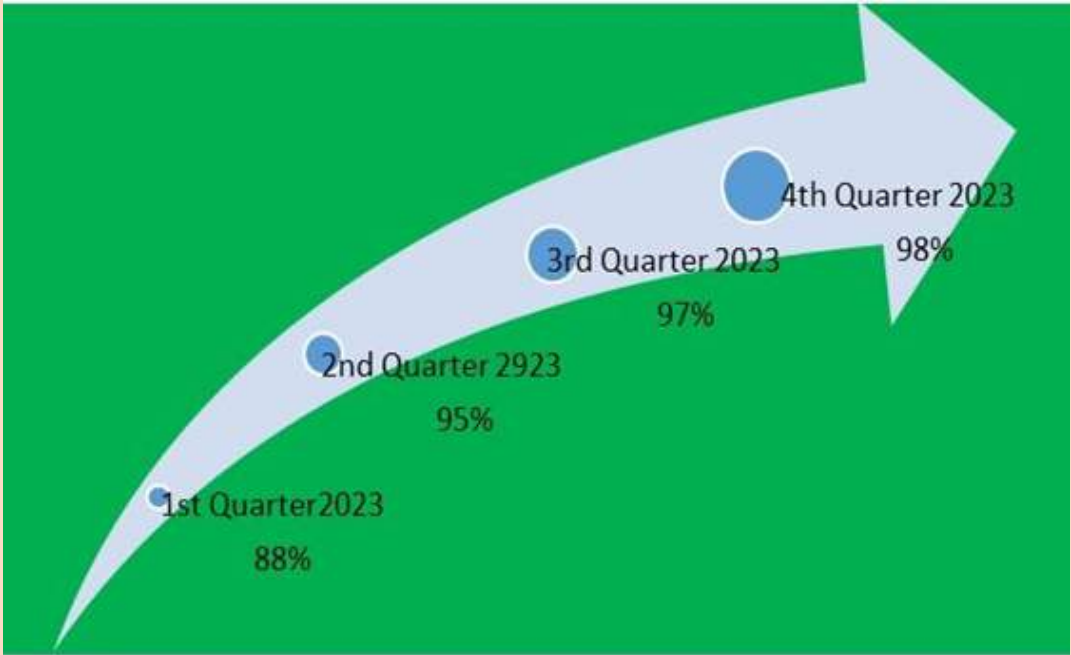
TITLE - BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPMENT

The Sahebkhali Gram Panchayat's School-Age Development (SAD) project in Romapur Village illustrates the vital role of community involvement in sustainable development. Andrewspalli Centre for Integrated Development (ACID) facilitated this by organizing monthly parent meetings and establishing a Learning Center Management Committee (LCMC) with parents, teachers, and community leaders. This approach decentralizes management and empowers local stakeholders.

The active participation of the LCMC and parents has led to notable improvements, such as additional classrooms, better sanitation facilities, and maintained solar systems. These efforts have increased children's attendance and strengthened teacher-student relationships, fostering overall development.

The project's success demonstrates how community engagement drives sustainable progress, making Romapur a model for grassroots-driven development and holistic growth.

Progress of attendance in 2023



GALLERY



THANK YOU