

MANJARI

Building ecosystems to support adolescent girls and boys

We will, We can

Project period: 2018-2023

Project area: Gumla, Lohardaga and West Singhbhum, Jharkhand

Supported by:



Adolescents in India account for 21% of its population out of which 120 million are adolescent girls (ORGI, 2011). Adolescent girls in India live in harsh conditions, where education and health are strongly influenced by social variables. This is in a context of patriarchy where girls and women are neglected, and are more vulnerable to illiteracy, hunger as well as diseases that afflict the population in general.

The eastern state of Jharkhand has close to 6.7 million adolescents (10-19) comprising about one fourth of the population. It is one of the first states to have a Youth Policy (2007). It is the only state offering adolescence education to its school going adolescents by integrating the "Uddan" programme into government school system.

In spite of these pioneering systemic efforts, due to dearth of opportunities young people, especially adolescent girls are unable to avail their basic rights and realise their potential. A large number of adolescents in the state are outside the formal schooling process.

Key Facts

• Neonatal mortality at 54.2% and infant mortality at 76.5% are highest among women aged less than 20 years, in the country.

• Only 75.6% rural adolescents are literate in comparison to national average of 83.7%

• 38% of women and 18% of men age 15-49 have never been to school.

• The 14.9% gap in literacy rate between rural and urban adolescents in the state is the highest in the country.

• Jharkhand has the third highest rate of child marriage in India. 32.3% boys get married before 21 years

• 16% of women and 25% of men age 15-49 have completed 12 or more years of schooling.

• Work participation rate among adolescent girls is 19.9% for rural females in comparison to national average of 16.8%.

• As per NFHS 4, 38% of women aged 20-24 were married before 18 years of age and 12% of 15-19 year olds were already pregnant at the time of the survey.

Our Objectives

Project Manjari enables adolescent girls to:



Complete
Secondary
Education



Delay Age
of Marriage



Delay Age
of First
Pregnancy



Increase
Agency

How does Manjari work

- Ensure effective implementation of government policies and programs by providing technical expertise. Conduct trainings for service providers, front line workers and peer educators to ensure quality implementation
- Equip peer educators with knowledge, information on available services, as well as entitlements enabling them to make informed decisions and take collective action. Select Peer educators from the communities, provide trainings, support transactions of sessions, provide training kits, provide handholding and refresher trainings
- Mobilize and sensitize the key stakeholders for a more equitable and adolescent friendly society. Form and strengthen School Management Committees, implement school development plans, orient & engage members of Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) on adolescent rights, laws, entitlements and schemes
- Establish a robust system for assessing activities, ensure effective implementation and produce evidence. Conduct a panel study and document processes, case studies, changes observed, undertake data collation, assessment & review. Disseminate evidence for a large scale outreach.
- Bring together Department of Women and Child, Health as well as Education to review activities, participate in the decision making process and suggest changes to better respond to adolescent needs. Regular review and orientation sessions of all key stakeholders from various departments, convergence meetings at District, Block and Panchayat level.



Our Reach

Project Manjari is being delivered in **33 blocks in three districts** of Jharkhand. It is expected to impact the lives of over **500,000 girls and boys** of 10-19 years through over 1850 schools and 4500 Aanganwaadi Centers (AWCs). This will be supported by a trained group of **6000 nodal teachers, 900 PRI members, 4500 Asha workers, 900 Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANMs)**, as well as over **1100 School Management Committees (SMCs)**.

Intended project outcomes

Project Manjari, is being delivered in **three districts of Jharkhand – Gumla, Lohardaga** (supported by Dasra Adolescent Collaborative) and **West Singhbhum** (supported by APPI). **By the end of 2023**, Manjari aims to reach **400,000 adolescent girls and 100,000 adolescent boys** of 10-19 years. The project **builds and assists** the eco-system to support adolescent girls for improved outcomes across **agency, health, education, and employability**, by leveraging available scalable platforms.



We are C3. Centre for Catalyzing Change. We are for EveryGirl. EveryWoman. EveryWhere.

We are a committed organization working in India to make sure no woman or girl is denied her basic rights. We design and implement interventions that work with the existing systems to deliver solutions at scale

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