

WORD: Women's Organisation for Rural Development

Koraput District, Odisha, India



ANNUAL REPORT – 2021-2022



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ABOUT US:

WORD (Women's Organisation for Rural Development) is women initiated and managed organisation working in Koraput District of Odisha since 1991. WORD visualizes itself as a People's Initiative striving towards Justice, Peace, Equality and Fraternity.

The guiding principle of WORD is community empowerment by the people for their own development with gender as the transversal through all its process and projects.

WORD is a registered organization under Societies Registration Act in Koraput, FCRA and Income Tax 12 A and satisfies all the legal provisions of running a society.

WORD has good rapport with the community, other civil societies and government institutions and converge and synergize for the overall development of the communities in Koraput District.

VISION OF WORD:

TO STRIVE FOR A JUST AND EQUITABLE SOCIETY

WORD visualizes a Just and self-reliant society where all the members enjoy equal opportunities, rights, justice and participate for democratic decision making to resolve the issues of the society. A society in which the people can live with dignity challenging discrimination and exploitation and exercise their rights for the development of self and the society at large.

MISSION STATEMENT:

OUR MISSION IS TO EMPOWER TRIBAL AND DALIT PEOPLE TO ASSERT THEIR RIGHTS AND FULFILL THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

by

enabling all vulnerable sections of the society, service providers, stakeholders and policy makers to recognize and respond to the needs of the women, children, farmers, adolescent and youth to ensure better standard of living

Target Area:

AREA OF OPERATION: ORISSA – KORAPUT DISTRICT- LAXMIPUR, NARAYANPATNA, SEMILIGUDA AND KORAPUT BLOCKS

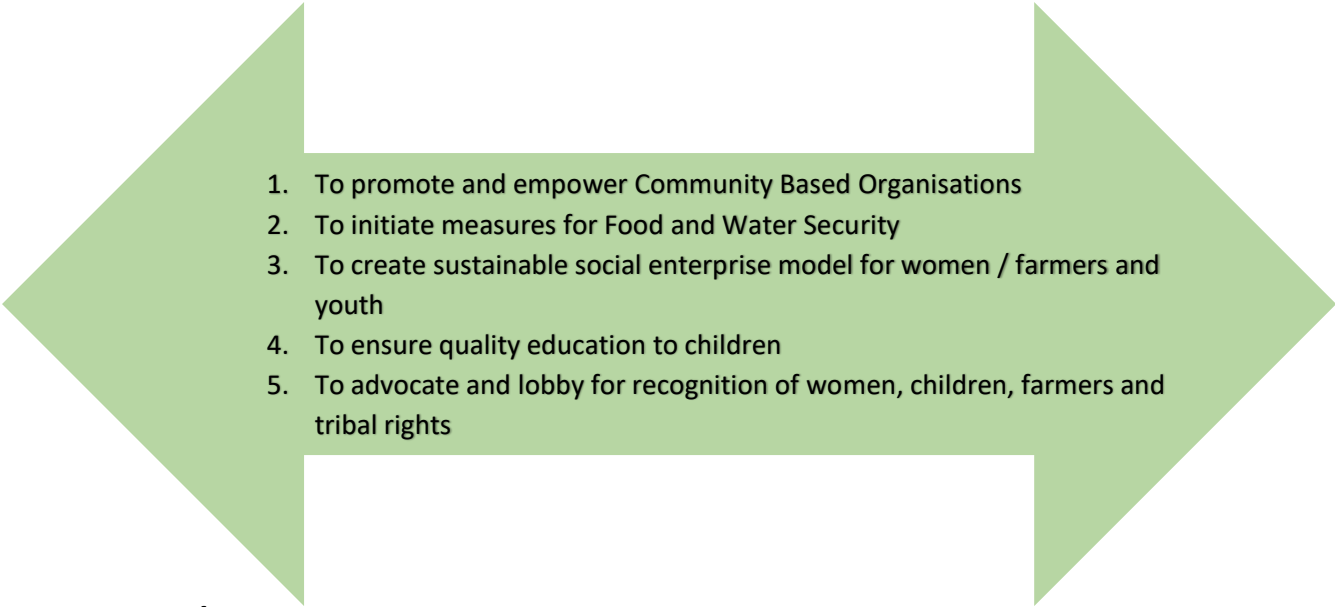


Target group:

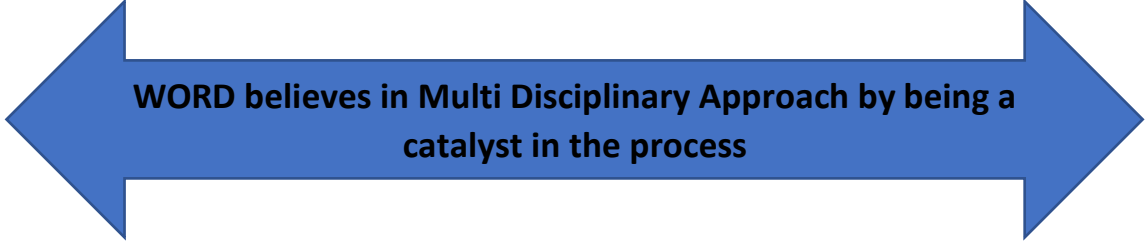


The target groups are the rural and marginalized tribal and dalits of which the most vulnerable being the women, children and marginal farmers. At present WORD is covering about 250 villages consisting of around 40,000 families.

Strategic Objectives:

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1. To promote and empower Community Based Organisations
 2. To initiate measures for Food and Water Security
 3. To create sustainable social enterprise model for women / farmers and youth
 4. To ensure quality education to children
 5. To advocate and lobby for recognition of women, children, farmers and tribal rights

Approach:



WORD believes in Multi Disciplinary Approach by being a catalyst in the process

Thrust Areas:



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Major projects undertaken in 2021-2022:

- **“Child Rights and Child Protection” – CHILDLINE 1098** for addressing issues of vulnerable children in the areas of child survival, child education, child protection and child growth and development. Supported by CHILDLINE INDIA FOUNDATION, **Ministry of Women and Child Development, New Delhi**
- **“Mainstreaming Children into Education” – ADARSH VIDHYALAYA** – catering to 280 children in residential school. Supported by **European Third World Association (ETWA)-Germany and NALCO FOUNDATION**
- **“Increasing of Institutional Delivery impacting to reduction of IMR and MMR – Maa Gruha”** in Laxmipur Block of Koraput district. Supported by **NHM, Koraput.**
- **“Initiation of Urban Primary Health Care through UPHC”** in Jeypore Municipality Supported by **National Urban Health Mission (NUHM), GOI**
- **A Voice for the Disabled and their Carers”** – supporting 500 People with chronic disabilities and their Carers – supported by **Maskati Trust and Carers World Wide, UK**
- **Breaking the Silence – Addressing issues of 500 Mental ill and Epilepsy patients along with their 600 primary and secondary carers** – supported by **TLLF through Carers World Wide, UK**
- **Economic empowerment through women led vegetable farming and marketing** – Supported by **OXFAM, India**
- **Climate Resilience Agriculture and Livelihood security in Koraput Block by Manos Unidas, Spain**
- **Sustainable Agriculture for improved livelihood and nutrition security in Laxmipur Block by SBI Cares**
- **Skills training for PWDs and their carers** – Supported by **GiftAble Foundation, India,**
- **Nursery Raising for Livelihood development of 42 vulnerable women through Utkal Alumina, Rayagada**
- **COVID support relief through Carers Worldwide to most vulnerable families**
- **Unconditional Cash Transfer to 300 most vulnerable families affected by COVID in Semiliguda and Laxmipur Block**
- **Pictorial designed Mobile van campaign on COVID preventive message and hand wash practices in four blocks and two Municipalities in Koraput district**

I. Child Rights & Child Protection:

Goal:

To ensure promotion and protection of Rights of Children Guaranteed by the Constitution of India.

Objective:

- To respond to children in emergency situations and refer them to relevant Governmental and Non- Governmental Organisations and link them to long term rehabilitation.
- To provide an opportunity to community to respond to the needs of children in difficult circumstances.
- Sensitize community, stakeholders and public towards the problems faced by these children
- To create a platform for networking amongst organizations and to coordinate with support systems which facilitate the rehabilitation for children in especially difficult circumstances;



Testimonial:

Thanks to Childline

for rescuing me

by stopping my

marriage at this young age...

My gratitude to District administration, CWC, CDPO madam and Police for counselling my parents so that now I am able to continue my studies! I will complete my school education this year...



Achievements:

- Reached out to 463 children in distress during this year thorough childline-1098 Out of which 416 children have been covered under Ashirwad Scheme in which children who lost their parents were supported.
- 8 Nos. of Child clubs were initiated in this year
- Seven Child marriage, two child labour, 6 child trafficking cases were addressed and rehabilitated
- 18 children were provided Shelter support and two children were helped to re-join school
- Health and nutrition need of 10 children were also met
- 400 children, 25 teachers, 40 Anganwadi workers, PRI members and other stakeholders were sensitized on Childline services. Around 1800 people have been oriented this year.
- Created networking with panchayat members, youth clubs, SHG groups to address issues of Children
- Around 280 calls received from public to Childline this year for addressing issues of children

II. Right to Education – Adarsh Vidyalaya:

Goal:

Increase access to quality education to vulnerable children in the remote villages of the district

Objective:

Ensure a positive, safe and stimulating environment for children for joyful learning, achieve their potential and become independent as lifelong learners

Major Interventions:

- Door step education was provided to the children visiting villages by the school team as the schools were closed due to COVID pandemic in the first phase of the year.
- Online and offline educational support and guidance given by the academic team for retaining the learning outcome of the students
- Use of DIKSHA App and supporting children for continued education
- Training to staff on preparation of teaching/learning materials and
- Training and hand holding support to adolescent children in school by capacity building programmes on Goal Setting, peer support, team building etc.,
- 100% retention of all children of the school after reopening of the school after COVID Pandemic.



Testimonial:

I am happy to come back to school after this COVID pandemic... I would have to go to work in the agriculture field if I did not attend School. Other-wise they



would have married me to somebody; says

Mamina Disari, a tribal student of Std.IX of Adarsh Vidyalaya

In School and Off School Teaching Process



III. Inclusive Health Care:

1. Maa Gruha – Maternity Waiting Home – Laxmipur

Right to Health is one of the fundamental Right of every citizen of this country. However due to lack of knowledge and ineffective functioning of the support systems; “Health for All” remains elusive.

WORD is implementing Maa Gruha project in Laxmipur Block of Koraput district with the support of District administration (District Mineral Fund) and NHM, Koraput to cater to the immediate needs of the expectant mother in the last stage of pregnancy.

Goal:

Reduce Maternal and Infant Mortality rate

Objectives:

To establish alternative support infrastructure for addressing communication problems in difficult tribal pockets for ensuring institutional delivery.

To increase institutional delivery in the difficult tribal pockets.

Salient Features of Maa Gruha:

- Accommodation facilities for expectant mothers & her escorts.
- Provision of food for expectant mothers, dependants & escorts.
- Lady Health Care Assistant for attending cases in shifts.
- Provision for shifting of cases from Maternity Waiting Home to hospital.
- Regular health check-up by doctor.
- Health education sessions through IPC & Audiovisual aids.
- Recreation facilities at Maternity Waiting Home like TV, mobisides etc.
- Client friendly environment & support.



Health Check up of Pregnant Women

Achievements:

- This year 277 expectant women availed the facilities out of which 226 ST and 44 SC women were covered
- Out of 277 women 145 women were High risk women and rest were from geographically vulnerable pockets
- The average distance in kilometers from health service was 15kms and hard to reach villages were 56 in number
- There were 257 live birth and 03 still birth of which 243 normal delivery and 18 Caesarean section.

2. Urban Primary Health Centre – Jeypore-LR- Health and Wellness centre..

Objectives of UPHC:

- To provide comprehensive primary health care to the urban population in general and particularly the urban poor.
- To achieve and maintain an acceptable standard of quality of care.
- To make the services more responsive and sensitive to the needs of the urban poor.

Services under HWC:

- OPD services
- Specialist OPD services on O&G, Dental and physiotherapy
- Diagnostic services
- Drugs – Free drugs will be available to the patients
- Referral Services – RMNCH +A services
- Family planning and contraceptives distribution
- Clinical/Institutional based services
- Immunisation service
- COVID vaccination
- Outreach services



Lab Services in Progress

- Undertaking National Health programmes for Communicable and Non communicable diseases like Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme(RNTCP), National Leprosy Eradication Programme(NLEP), National Vector borne Disease Control Programme(NVBDCP), Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP), HIV/AIDS etc., and Non communicable diseases like Diabetes, hypertension, pulmonary infection and others.
- Clinical and support services and referral of major cases will be done by the UPHC.
- Essential laboratory services
- Recording of vital events and reporting

Achievements:

The UPHC has catered to around 25,000 patients during this year and given laboratory services to more than 12000 patients. Specialist services through Gynaecologist, Dentist and physiotherapist was also taken up.

UPHC paid a pivotal role during COVID by providing vaccination to the target slums and villages under its operational area. Awareness campaigns and events were also organised on making people aware on COVID.

Important health days were observed for information, education and communication. Sessions on PMSMA, strengthening of Mahila Arokiya Samiti and observance of Swwachhta pakwada was also done during this year.

This year also UPHC-Jeypore LR got the Kayakalpa Certification and scored 87%.

3. Mental Health:

WORD has been working on addressing issues of mental health and epilepsy for 600 people and their carers in Laxmipur block for past five years.

Objective of the Project:

Transforming lives of 600 people with Mental illness and epilepsy and their carers through counselling, medication and support services

Interventions:

- Integration of the Carers Worldwide model on promoting support groups, accessing mental health services and improving livelihoods.
- Facilitating individual livelihood plans for carers and engagement in livelihood training and livelihood interventions
- Demystifying the myths around mental illness
- Access to mental health services and essential medicines
- Leverage with Government and health departments for social security and health support services

Achievements:

- 30 carers groups strengthened along with 13 cluster group and one Block federation of carers
- Part of the District Carers Association and Odisha State Level Carer Forum
- 248 People with Mental Illness and Epilepsy received health support services through camps and essential medicines and around 140 people are now stable and resume studies/work at home and in MNREGA work, livelihood programmes etc.,
- Eight children who had epilepsy and mild MI symptoms now stable and resume school
- More than 3000 people now aware on mental health and identification with simple symptoms and where to reach for support services
- 10 staff, 3 doctors, 12 health staff, 150 ASHA workers and 150 carer leaders have knowledge on mental health and referral services



Door step treatment of MI by DMHP team



Training for ASHA workers on Mental health

IV. Food, Nutrition and economic Security:

Koraput has a rich resource of land, water and soil for an agrarian economy. Paradoxically the food and nutrition insecurity of the rural population is very low. The reason for the same is lack of knowledge on climate resilience agriculture and obsolete methodologies in farming practices. In order to improve the food and income security in the operation areas two projects were taken up in Laxmipur and Semiliguda Blocks.

Main objectives of the interventions were:

- Enhanced the knowledge , information and capacity of farmers for increased production
- Organised collective and institutionalized market linkages for better price and value advantage in supply/value chain
- Improved annual income by enhancing access to existing and potential income and social security schemes and agriculture/land development scopes of government and other sources through informed, organised and positive engagements with Panchayats, government and other agencies.
- A model of vegetable farming-based livelihoods development of tribal and small farming households propagated

Achievements:

- Approximately 800 progressive farmers identified and capacitated in this year on climate resilience agriculture practices.
- Vegetables worth Rs.28,00,000 sold by farmers including ginger, tubers and turmeric
- Vegetables worth Rs.15,00,000(approximately) consumed by families enriching their diet and nutrition.
- 20 Women Farmer Producer groups and 15 Producer groups initiated this year by WORD
- Market linkage worth Rs. 80 lakhs done by the Producer groups especially on turmeric, sweet potato and NTFP products
- 140 treadle pumps, 10 Rain water harvesting units and 20 seed banks established in various villages
- Government schemes on agriculture, horticulture and OLM worth Rs.35,00,000 mobilised into different villages
- Established two model farm units in the operation areas
- One market Facilitation centre established for collective marketing and leverage with traders/marketeers.

Exploring the Unknown!!!

Badai Kirsani of Lungri is 30 years old women farmer living with her husband and three children in Lungri village. They are marginal farmers by occupation and own about one acre of land. They usually take up paddy cultivation in low land and ginger and millet cultivation in upland. They take up agriculture only during Kharif and Rabi season. During capacity building of the women farmers, they were counselled to take up off season cultivation of vegetables in Zaid season. Badai was influenced by this practice which may fetch her double income and she took up tomato cultivation for the first time in Zaid season. She invested Rs.4500 towards seeds, manure, fencing and other costs and irrigated with the treadle pump. She made a total income of Rs.9000 in less than three months. This has motivated her to try off season vegetables in the coming season as well. Her success has instilled confidence among other women also to try similar practices.



Nutrition Day celebration and awareness



Mixed Cropping by women farmers

Testimonial: of Bati Hantal, Maligunja village.

Agre sarkari kam mil-le khusi ari na mil-le misha chhadi deitirelu. WORD sanstha ra Sangeeta didi aka miting loge sarkari kaam kenti kari pai hoisi bujhaila. Tar pore ame mishikari sebak thane jai jai kari lakhe takar jami kaam karailu. Ghare basi raile na hoe, lagi kari kaam anbake podshi. Chasi gurup ra lok mane sarkari kaam an-bata sikhlu be. Ebe sabu lok bhutek para kaam karaibu

Meaning...

Earlier we used to be happy if we get a Government scheme and were leaving the matter as such if unable to avail. But sister Sangeeta from WORD told us how to avail Government schemes. After that we went to the PEO and got a land development work of INR one lakh. If we sit at home such works won't come, we have to keep on trying to get them. WFPG members learnt about it and all will do more works now."

Skills training and Production:

Agriculture is the major occupation of the people. However, in order to enhance the income in lean seasons of agriculture and also have additional income sources, various skills trainings have been organized for the communities especially the women. Emphasis was given to training of People with Disabilities and their Carers this year. With support from GiftAble Foundation training was given to 110 PWDs and their carers on mushroom cultivation, fruit nursery raising and vermi compost making.

Objectives: To enhance the quality of life of Persons with Disabilities and their caretakers and other vulnerable women through increased life skills, laws related to disability, marketing and financial knowledge through employable skills program.

Apart from this with support from other agencies, food processing, masala making, brooms making, masonry training, backyard poultry training, soap making etc., was also conducted in which 300 women and youth participated and received the training.

Out of 410 people trained this year 360 people have taken up production and earning an additional monthly income of Rs.6000 to Rs.15,000 per month.

The People with Disability who felt that their only source of livelihood is the pension from Government could now make income of their own and are more self-confident of their abilities.



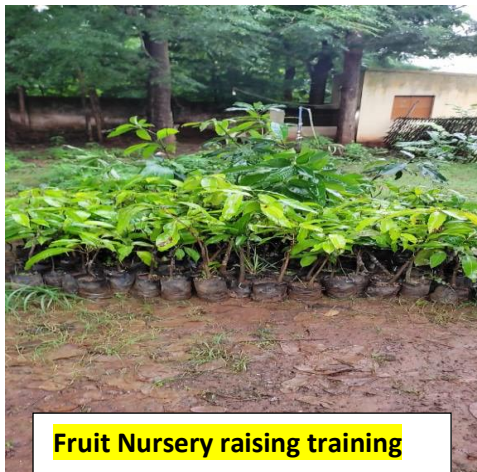
Rajani Bagh is a carer of Yok Bagh who is a Mental Ill patient since birth. She had no source of income as she has to be present entire time with her child and hence home-based training was organised for her on mushroom cultivation. After training how she has prepared 25 beds of mushroom and has already earned around Rs.10,000 in two months. She proposes to continue this every time and make at least Rs.6000 to Rs.7500/- per month which is a good blessing for her poor family



Hill Brooms Training



Vermi compost Production



Fruit Nursery raising training



Turmeric & Millet powder production

V. Nursery raising for environment sustainability and income generation:

South Odisha is endowed with rich flora and fauna but with large scale deforestation the forest coverage has reduced considerably. In order to support in the restoration of the forest and also to increase the income and employment opportunities of women, a special project on nursery raising and production was taken up. 42 women of Paikakupakhal village coming under the periphery village of Utkal Alumina being the most vulnerable were covered under this intervention.

Aim:

To create sustainable livelihood opportunity to 42 vulnerable women in the village of Paikakupakhal, Rayagada District

Objectives of the project:

- To establish a Nursery unit in one acre of land by raising 1,00,000 seedlings in a year
- To capacitate women on nursery raising and management of the nursery production unit

12 varieties of forest species were grown in around 120 beds covering around 1,20,000 nurseries of which around 1,00,000 nurseries were ready for planting and the women were involved in nursery raising training understanding the concepts, practical and knowledge on marketing of the nurseries. They nurseries were procured by UTKAL ALUMINA and utilized for afforestation in degraded forest lands. The women were also trained to work as a Self Help Groups and form Producer Groups to take up the process forward.



From Process to Produce

VI. COVID resilience Initiatives:

COVID has been taking a toll on the whole world and Koraput was not an exception. However, WORD with support from district administration and also kind support of donors and well-wishers was able to reach out to the most vulnerable community by giving direct financial assistance, food supplies, support in vaccination sites and in creating awareness on COVID and handwashing practices and use of masks.

Major interventions are:

- 500 packets of dry rations has been supplied to the most vulnerable unpaid carers in Laxmipur block in this period
- Reached out to more than 30,000 people including students, youth and women on creating awareness through mobile health van in four blocks namely Koraput, Semiliguda, Pottangi and Nandapur and also in two Municipality areas of Sunabeda and Koraput.
- Gave financial assistance under Mission Sanjeevani through Unconditional Cash transfer to 300 most vulnerable households in Semiliguda and Laxmipur for an amount of Rs.10,000 each.
- Supported the district administration in reaching of basic medicines for the People with Mental illness and Epilepsy and other chronic illness to the doorstep of the people during lockdown
- Support in vaccination camps held at Gram panchayat level and special focus on bringing People with Disabilities and their carers to the vaccination site.
- Supporting Block and district administration by volunteering to manage crowded places like banks, PDS sites, shops, markets etc.,
- Support in registering of migrants who have returned back to villages and follow up on their health status.



Mobile Van-Health Awareness on COVID



Orientation on handwashing practices



Supply of Dry ration to vulnerable households



Unconditional Cash Transfer to vulnerable

In her words:

" muin mari mari bachlini, ari ketek din bachbi a swas rog moke maraisibe boli bhabti raili matar moke WORD sansthar didi man mor na lekhi delai are das hajar tanka delai. Mor jiban banchai delai



Testimonial:

I am Majhi Lachi a widow living in the Bhtar Dusura leading a lonely life. I have chronic disease of "asthama" and had no money for treatment In the mean time through the WORD institution I was selected as the vulnerable widow to receive the UCT under E Sanjeevani. I received ten thousand and utilized the money for treatment in ASHA KIRAN HOSPITAL, Lamataput.



Distribution of Kits in Child care Institutions

VII. Organisation & Team Development:

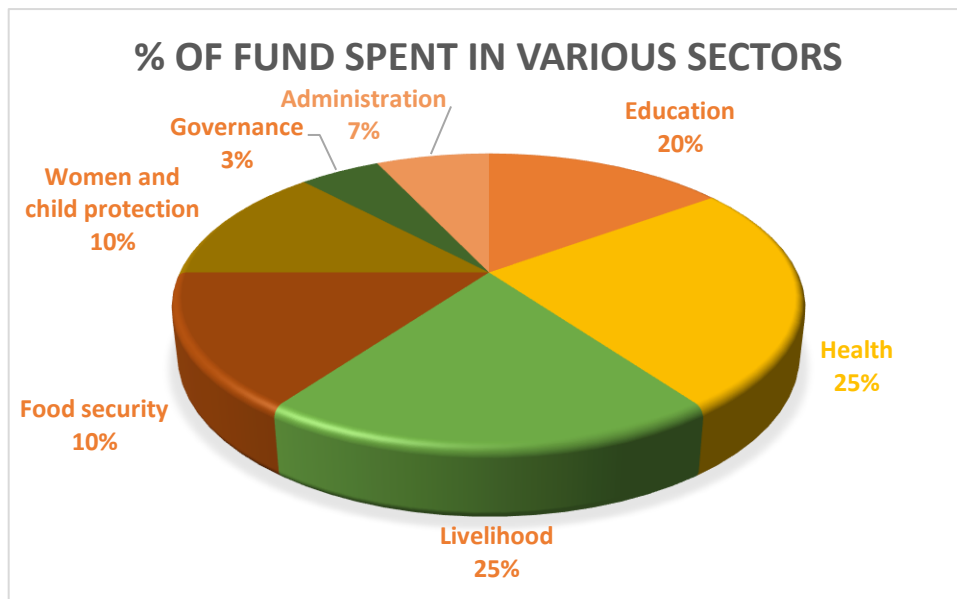
WORD always emphasis on the reflection and strategic planning of the organization and the team and every year conducts series of activities for staff, students and volunteers capacity building. This year also many trainings were conducted for team development. Team of WORD were subjected to a through reflection process in the beginning of the year and Organisation Development exercise was carried out. Each staff reflected on their achievements, challenges and way forward. SWOT analysis of the organization was also done.

Apart from this many technical trainings related to dealing with mental health, NCD services, producer group management, agriculture related trainings, child policies were also conducted to make staff more efficient and effective in their work. Teachers and students also underwent trainings on creation of low cost learning materials and building self confidence among students.

WORD underwent evaluations of two projects and also received Kayakalp certification for the year 2021-22.



VIII. Financial Details:



Conclusion:

It was an enriching experience for the team of WORD to work during the COVID pandemic and it is remarkable that WORD and the community has become resilient to COVID and were able to achieve good results.

It has all been possible with the sincere efforts of the team, the hand holding from different stakeholders, donors, well-wishers and support from the District and Block administration.

We look forward to a coming year with full of enthusiasm and commitment for the most vulnerable communities so as to reach the last mile of the endeavor.

Thank You!!!

Dr. Racheal Raykumari
Executive Secretary.