

WORD: Women's Organisation for Rural Development

Koraput District, Odisha, India



ANNUAL REPORT – 2022-2023



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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

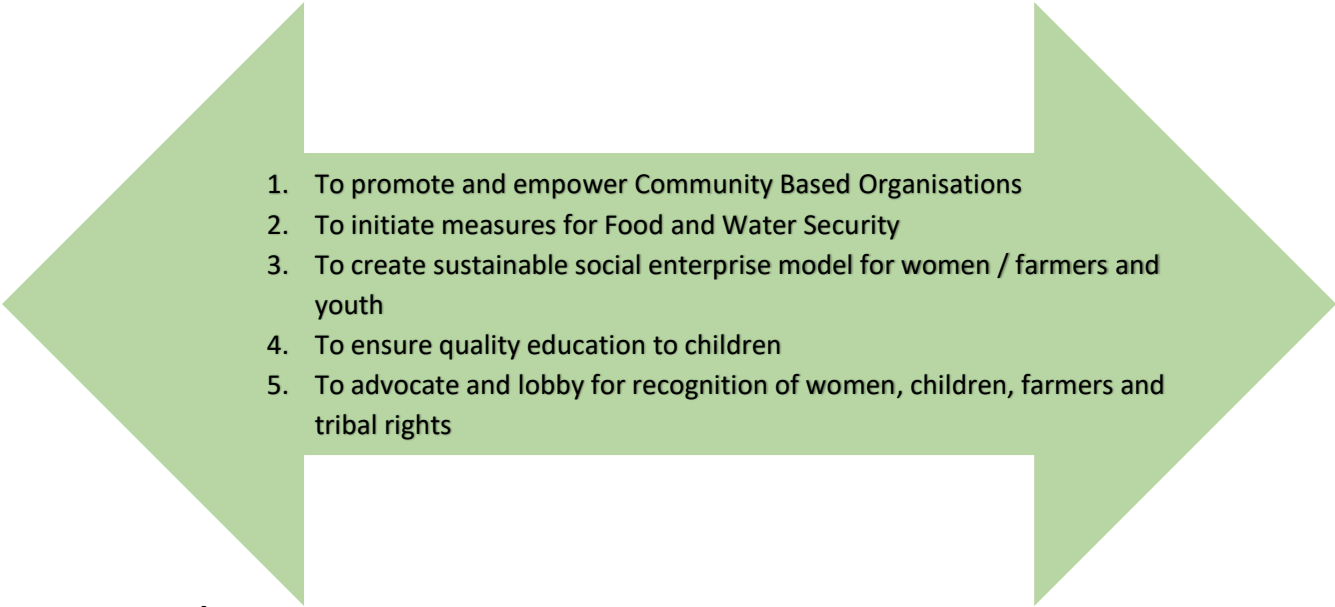
AREA OF OPERATION: ORISSA – KORAPUT DISTRICT- LAXMIPUR, NARAYANPATNA, SEMILIGUDA AND KORAPUT BLOCKS



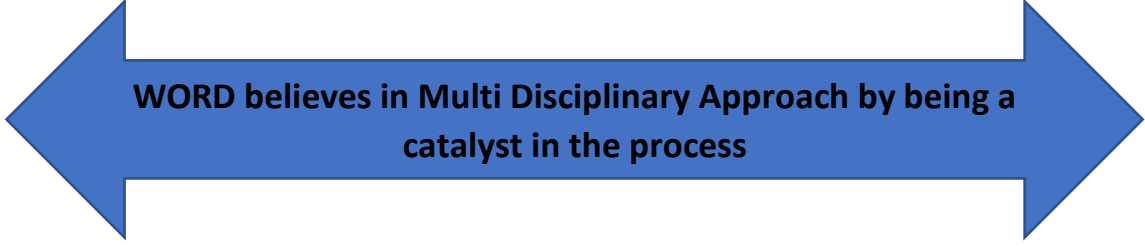
A photograph of three women standing in a lush green field. The woman on the left is older, with grey hair and a nose ring, wearing a purple and green patterned sari. The woman in the center is younger, smiling, with a bindi and nose ring, wearing a red sari with a colorful floral pattern. The woman on the right is also older, with a nose ring, wearing a red and yellow patterned sari and carrying a young child on her back. The background shows a green field, trees, and distant hills under a cloudy sky.

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 2022-2023:

- **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
- **Breaking the Silence – Addressing issues of 500 Mental ill and Epilepsy patients along with their 600 primary and secondary carers – supported by TLLLF through Carers World Wide, UK**
- **Scaling of Breaking the Silence project in Narayanpatna Block for 250 Mental ill and Epilepsy patients and their carers**
- **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**

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:

I am a young girl who have been very much interested to Study and pursue my career as



A teacher. The proposal for marriage has shattered all my dreams. I called childline and they supported me to stop the marriage.

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 this year and go for further studies



Achievements:

- Reached out to 9960 children during this year thorough childline-1098. 172 cases were registered. Out of which 58 children have been covered under Ashirwad Scheme in which children who lost their parents were supported.
- 11Nos. of Child clubs and 11 open house for children were initiated in this year
- Nine Child marriage, five child labour, 7 child trafficking cases were addressed and rehabilitated
- 24 children were provided Shelter support, 19 sponsorship and two children were helped to re-join school
- Medical support was given to 28 children
- 400 children, 25 teachers, 40 Anganwadi workers, PRI members and 1532 other stakeholders were sensitized on Childline services. Around 4875 people have been oriented this year.
- Created networking with panchayat members, youth clubs, SHG groups to address issues of Children
- Around 1780 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:

- Academic education to all children in the school with special focus on Std X students appearing for the first time for Board exam from school
- Online and offline educational support and guidance given by the academic team for retaining the learning outcome of the students
- Use of Multimedia for enhanced learning by students
- Training to staff on preparation of teaching/learning materials
- Training and hand holding support to adolescent children in school by capacity building programmes on Goal Setting, peer support, team building etc.,
- Participation in competitions of Block, District and State and bagged prizes
- 100% retention of all children of the school with zero drop out

Results:

50 children out of 55 children passed Board exam successfully and are first time learners in their families

All children passed out have been mainstreamed for further education in different schools

2 No. of children got scholarship under Borad of Elementary Education

Ms. Mommy Disari bagged third prize in the State level Yoga Olympiad held at Bhubaneswar

Three mentally retarded children bagged First, Second and Third prizes in the sports and cultural competitions held in the Block level



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.



Counselling to Pregnant women in Maa Gruha

Achievements:

- This year 264 expectant women availed the facilities out of which 226 ST and 44 SC women were covered
- Out of 264 women 160 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 254 live birth and 02 still birth of which 234 normal delivery and 20 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
- 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(NVBDP), 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 35900 patients during this year and given laboratory services to more than 32110 patients. Specialist services through Gynaecologist, Dentist and physiotherapist was also taken up for 6837 people. Free medicines have been provided to the patients. 685 pregnant women covered under PMSMA scheme for safe delivery.

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.

Personnel from NHM from State unit assessed UPHC for Kayakalp and also for screening under NQAS.

This year also UPHC-Jeypore LR got the Kayakalpa Certification and scored 92%.



3. Mental Health:

WORD has been working on addressing issues of mental health and epilepsy for 750 people and their carers in Laxmipur and Narayanpatna block of Koraput district.

Objective of the Project:

Transforming lives of 750 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
- Mainstreaming of stable PWMI and epilepsy patients into schools, colleges, livelihood interventions etc.,

Achievements:

- 50 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
- 400 People with Mental Illness and Epilepsy received health support services through camps and essential medicines and around 320 people are now stable and resume studies/work at home and in MNREGA work, livelihood programmes etc.,
- 18 children who had epilepsy and mild MI symptoms now stable and resume school
- More than 5000 people now aware on mental health and identification with simple symptoms and where to reach for support services
- 15 staff, 3 doctors, 20 health staff, 220 ASHA workers and 250 carer leaders have knowledge on mental health and referral services



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 Koraput 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, organized and positive engagements with Panchayats, government and other agencies.
- A model of vegetable farming-based livelihoods development of tribal and small farming households propagated
- Creation of Dhartini Producer company comprising of 1000 women for collective marketing.

Achievements:

- Approximately 1600 progressive farmers identified and capacitated on climate resilience agriculture practices.
- Vegetables worth Rs.40,00,000 sold by farmers including ginger, tubers and turmeric
- Vegetables worth Rs.20,00,000(approximately) consumed by families enriching their diet and nutrition.
- 25 Women Farmer Producer groups initiated and strengthened by WORD
- Market linkage worth Rs. 1.20 crore done by the Producer groups especially on turmeric, sweet potato and NTFP products
- 140 treadle pumps, 20 Rain water harvesting units and 25 seed banks established in various villages
- Government schemes on agriculture, horticulture and OLM worth Rs.40,00,000 mobilised into different villages
- Established three model farm units in the operation areas
- One market Facilitation centre established for collective marketing and leverage with traders/marketeers.
- One Producer Company established and registered



Fruits of Toil!!!



Adopting better package of practices



V. 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 youth, People with Disabilities and their Carers this year. With support from various institutions around 250 people were trained on various skills like food processing, leaf plate making, bamboo products making, terracotta, electrical training, backyard poultry training, masala making, brooms making etc.,

Objectives: To enhance the quality of life of vulnerable women, PWD and their carers through increased life skills, marketing and financial knowledge through employable skills program.

Out of 250 people trained this year 220 people have taken up production and earning an additional monthly income of Rs.6000 to Rs.15,000 per month.



Leaf plate making



Terracotta products



Electrical appliance repairing



Bamboo craft products

VI. Organisation & Team Development:

WORD emphasis on capacity building of the team and conducts various in service and outstation trainings/exposure. This year WORD conducted the review and planning process workshop at the start of the financial year and strategized the year planning. Training was conducted for the reflection and reprocess for the organization development.

Many sector specific trainings related to dealing with mental health, organic farming techniques, herbal garden initiation, 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.

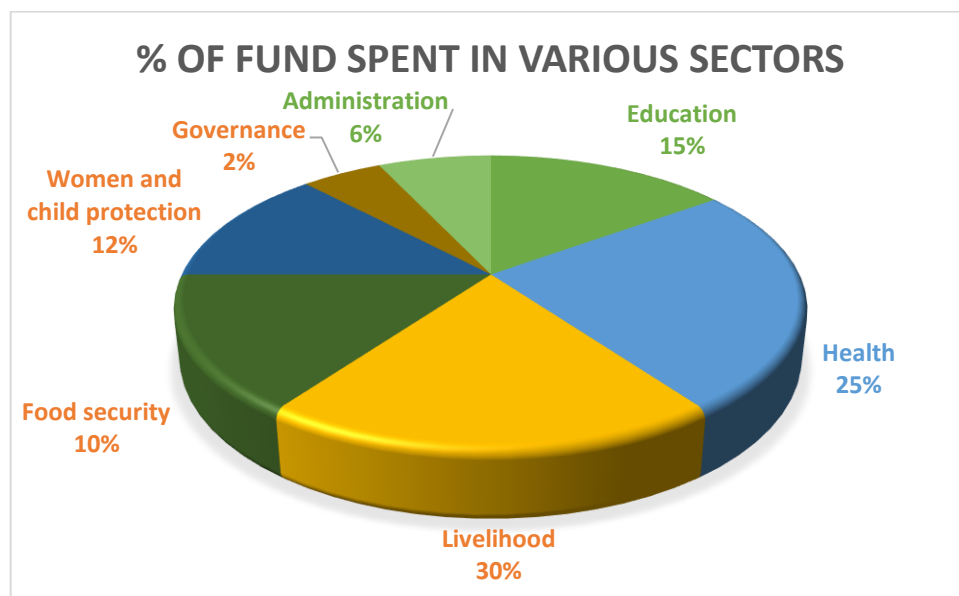
WORD received Kayakalp certification for the year 2022-23.



Team building exercise for staff and students



VII. Financial Details:



Conclusion:

The year has been rich of activities and experiences and reaching to the most vulnerable to bring about change in their lives. Various projects have achieved their milestones and it was all possible with the strong support of the communities, stakeholders, donors and Government machinery.

We thank one and all who have been with us in this journey!

Thank You!!!

Dr. Racheal Raykumari

Executive Secretary.