

## **1. Current status of Strategic Plan**

### **The context – responding to resurgent India**

India has made considerable economic and social progress since independence. Hundred of thousands of people now enjoy healthier and longer lives and have greater access to basic education. India's economy is racing ahead; the stock market is buoyant and foreign exchange reserves are growing at unprecedented levels. The information and communication technology revolution has positioned India as one of the world leaders in the ICT sector. The vibrant civil society and robust democratic tradition has enabled the population to participate actively in decisions affecting their lives. However, India's high economic growth rates of the recent past have not been matched to their investment levels in the social sector. Important policies and programs, aimed at improving people's lives, have led to significant progress in certain key social indicators, including life expectancy and literacy rates, but translating these policies into measures that improve social services and empower communities, children and women throughout the country is the key challenge for the years to come. This is more urgent because investment in the social sector brings the additional benefit of accelerating and sustaining economic growth. The benefits of the economic transformation taking place in India have not been equally shared and disparities are growing.

India is a country of contrasts and great complexity. The enormous challenges for development are the marked disparities amongst different geographical regions, between social groups, among different income levels and between the genders. Even within the states there are marked differences. Female literacy rates in the State of Maharashtra, for example, range from 83 percent in the district of Mumbai to 46 percent in Nandurbar. Similarly, while the average child sex ratio for Maharashtra is 917 females per 1000 males, it ranges widely between districts: 974 in the district of Godchiroli to 850 in Sangli (Census data). Malnutrition afflicts more than half of all rural children even as problems related to obesity threaten their more affluent peers. While India boasts of state of the art hospitals offering some of the best medical care in the world, there are communities where a health worker has not been seen for years. The growth of modern infrastructure in cities contrasts with the most basic needs: only two out of every three urban households have water taps and three out of every four have toilets. The Indian Institutes of Technology provide world class education to thousands, while over 190 million Indian women remain illiterate. Gender disparity is evident as almost twice as many girls compared to boys are pulled out of school, or never sent to school.

With children accounting for nearly one-third of this vulnerable section, the challenge posed to any development planning is quite large in nature. In this scenario, the children are doubly vulnerable and it is borne out by the fact that 43 percent of them are malnourished. And yet also, the number of Indians being added on to the list of millionaires in dollar term is on the rise.

The Indian economy has been among the world's best-performing economies for a quarter century, and the country has emerged as a significant donor in its own. However this performance of Indian economy failed to translate into the government's commitment towards children of India constituting 42% of India's total population. Although, government has increased its efforts which reflect in schemes like Mid-day meal scheme, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Integrated Child Development Service, but important sectors such as Child Protection continues to be neglected. Over the years there has been

abysmal decrease or stagnancy in budget for children; from a share of 5.28% in 08-09 to 4.32% in interim budget 09-10<sup>1</sup>. The lack of commitment by the government towards children of India poses a big challenge for development organizations such as ChildFund India that is working for children in the country for almost six decades.

Currently India is also facing huge internal challenges with secession movements by Maoist groups, particularly in the states of Chhatisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Jharkhand and Bihar. The Maoists have come up as another threat disturbing normal day to day life by their frequent strikes and regular violent attacks. All these acts impact children by creating panic and also affect ChildFund India operations in these regions.

The challenge now in front of ChildFund India is to ensure child safety and protection in such conflict situations and to bridge these widening disparities so that all India's children are able to achieve their basic rights of survival, development, protection and participation

### **The Concern – Impacting the Lives of India’s Most Vulnerable Children**

ChildFund India is committed to assist children who suffer from wide range of deprivation with perpetual violation of their rights. These deprivations are seen in terms of hunger, disease, lack of care, poor living conditions, lack of basic services, and lack of opportunity for development. These deprivations have negative effect on the child and affect their overall development.

ChildFund India is mandated to help and improve the lives of the deprived, excluded and vulnerable children and promote societies whose individuals and institutions participate in valuing, protecting, and advancing the worth and rights of children. With this mandate ChildFund India has designed its National Priority Programs (NPPs) to address the age appropriate needs and vulnerabilities through sector wise intervention in the areas of basic education; early childhood development (ECD); health and sanitation; livelihood and economic enhancement; nutrition and building as well as promoting child agency.

#### **Healthy and secured infants /ECD, health and nutrition program**

Poor prenatal care and unattended birth with little follow up or emergency care result in high maternal mortality and infant mortality. ChildFund India through its ECD, health and nutrition program has endeavored to improve the maternal and new born care in the reporting period through following interventions

- A total of **2929** village level camps have been conducted which provided counseling to Pregnant Women and Lactating mothers on ANC, NC & PNC. Through these camps altogether **34392** mother and children have benefited.
- ChildFund altogether organized **2691** PD hearth sessions to rehabilitate the malnourished children and to improve child caring and feeding practices in the area.
- Inputs were also provided on the nutrition requirement of mothers and children.
- Growth card of all children was being monitored on regular basis in the community in the partner organization areas.
- Child caring sessions have been conducted to create awareness among the caregivers on feeding, caring, health hygiene and health seeking practices and to improve health status of less than five-year old children.

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<sup>1</sup> HAQ study on Child Budgeting

Early childhood development centers have been established for providing care and protection to the children. Altogether ChildFund established **617** ECD centers. These centers provided protective environments to the children while their parents were at work. They helped to develop children's ability to learn through explorative games and built relationships with care givers as well as provided an environment conducive for cognitive, psychosocial and physical development of all under-5 children in the area. ChildFund India has also been successful in handing over its 35 ECD centers to the ICDS Department and has collaborated with the department to ensure quality in functioning of ECD centers and in opening up of new centers in the area where the coverage is not adequate.

Active networking and collaboration with the Government Health Department in the Eastern region resulted in Government Department's providing training to ChildFund India's field staff as well as mothers and caregivers on IMCI (Integrated Management of Childhood Illness)

### **Regional Events**

In the east zone, ChildFund India celebrated **World Breast feeding week** from 1-7 August, 2009 throughout the program area covering 7,118 mothers to emphasize the importance of colostrums, early breast feeding and continued breast feedings for the children.

In the south, 28 partners took active part in the **National Pulse Polio Program** organized by Government of India in December 2009 & January 2010 to ensure that about 45,000 eligible children in the communities are vaccinated against polio.

In the North under **Community Based Rehabilitation** program "**SAMBHAV**" 35 children were provided therapy, 20 received tri-cycles and 45 received hearing aides under centre based special education and therapy program, and 215 differently abled children were mainstreamed into formal school.

### **Educated and confident children / Basic education**

Quality basic education is also an important area of concern as due to lack of quality education, children dropout rate is high. If we look into the statistics we see that the primary school enrolment ratio for both male and female children is 90% and 87% respectively, but majority of them drop out as a result of which the secondary school enrolment, ratio falls as low as 59% and 49% respectively<sup>2</sup>. ChildFund India through its National Priority Program (NPP) on basic education is committed to provide quality basic education to reduce the dropout numbers and increase the interest of children in education. The education programs of ChildFund India are focused on: facilitating access to education services with equity to all children, ensuring good quality of education so that children do well in studies and also learn life skills, building the capacity of families, communities and their institutions to respond to the educational needs of children.

To achieve this ChildFund India has employed several approaches to sustain the interest of children and to enhance the educational opportunities provided to the children in the communities in which we work.

During this year ChildFund India undertook the following activities:

- 400 Reading Skill Improvement (RIP) centers were organized which benefited 8,000 children who had difficulties in reading and learning

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<sup>2</sup> Unicef Report -2003-2008

- School Quality Improvement Plan initiated and is currently underway in about 900 Schools across the country
- Child Resource Centers (CRC) have been established at 110 (Jhabua -9, Karnatka-14, Kurnool -7, Tamil Nadu-51, Udaipur -14 and Allahabad -15) project locations in the country. These CRC's have provided opportunity to the children for enhancing their knowledge on child rights and also developed their reading and writing skills.
- In East Zone, under "Back to School Program" for 'HO' tribal girls 25 adolescent dropout girls were successfully mainstreamed in local government schools through special coaching class, life skill training, and 3 months RIP program.
- An article on ChildFund India literacy program was carried by a website. [http://www.sarkaritel.com/news\\_and\\_features/july2009/thumbs\\_up\\_women\\_literacy.htm](http://www.sarkaritel.com/news_and_features/july2009/thumbs_up_women_literacy.htm)
- In South, ChildFund India carried out career counseling and counseling for removing fear among children in facing exams to ensure better performance of children in basic education. During career counseling sessions, children were introduced to many more courses where they could opt for higher education and aspire for their dreams.
- In Andhra Pradesh State, collaboration with the State Government resulted in 400 government teachers receiving training from ChildFund India partners and technical teams on psycho-social support, and practical lessons on how to deal with the children in their day to day interaction.
- ChildFund India celebrated Global Action Week a **Campaign on Education for all** with the partners and conducted various programs to create public awareness, for making education a right and entitlement for all children at the district level. In this campaign education specialist, professionals, activists, government officials, and youths joined together to promote education for all. Nearly 8,000 people participated in the event.

### **Skilled and involved youth / Livelihood and Economic Enhancement**

ChildFund India strives to enable youth to have the capacity to improve their lives, so that they become successful young adults, parents and leaders. During the present fiscal year, ChildFund India carried out Employable Skills Program for 2,400 youths and adolescents. These 2400 youths were identified from the rural background from ChildFund operational area and after successful technical training, personality development and soft skill enhancement they received 100% employable opportunities of good standards and hand holding support for a considerable time. Out of these about 40% of youth are female. Generally it has been found that 60% of trained youth has sustained their employment opportunity with further growth and made it their livelihood option. Some of the detail is highlighted in the bullet point below for reference.

- At Kalyani, Udaipur and DISHA, UP 150 youth were trained in Hospitality, construction, stitching, computers. The employment sustainability was around 60% in Udaipur, whereas it was low at DISHA. The handholding support for considerable time was also extended to placed youth at Udaipur.
- At Daltonganj area CPOs like Don Bosco were having their vocational skills training centers and every year they engaged few youth in computer basics and embroidery, knitting, and stitching. At CPOs, such as UCK, SPK, Vedic and Carmel about 150 youth are getting trained through ITIs for about 6 months program in mechanical, lathing and fitting. Few youth are also doing knowledge based correspondence program with IGNOU. Few youth have also attended short term training on driving, carpentry, stitching, tailoring. At Carmel, girls are getting support in fashion designing. The retentions of jobs and own business is about 60%.

- In employability skill for youth program, recently 52 youth (including 27 girls) got good placement in MFIs (Adhikar, BASIX, Sambandh) in the state of Orissa. The minimum package of salary is around Rs 3000.00 per month with additional incentives and good HR policy. Around 80 more youth will be employed in the Micro finance and Rural Development sector in the area after completing their skill trainings.
- In Udaipur area 2nd batch of 42 youth had got opportunities in IT sector for sustained employment.
- At Jolikote 40 youth got employed after their skill enhancement in mechanical, fabricating & fittings in the year 2010.
- In South Zone about 92 youth are being trained at present in various traits and are likely to get a good employability opportunity soon.
- In UP & UK this year around 500 youth are planned for such programs and it is being implemented in the field.

### **Life skill training**

Life skill training was conducted for 1,500 youth across the program areas on self recognition; self awareness; understanding adolescents; values clarification; responsible sexual behavior; sexual abuse; communications; coping with emotions; relationship; reaching goals and trust building.

### **TIP Project**

The *Trafficking in Person* project of ChildFund is underway in Rajasthan. This project funded by Department of State, US Government has completed the baseline assessment on the extent of child trafficking and debt bondage in the target communities. The base line findings shows that 39% of children from Jhadol, kotra and Gogunda blocks are trafficked to Gujrat for working in the exploitative cotton fields. The project has organized networking workshop involving more than 30 local NGOs as well as 3 Block level task forces have been established in Jhadol, Kotra and Gogunda Blocks to identify and rescue victims.

### **Humanitarian Response in South India**

Under *Humanitarian Response* in South India, about 2,000 children have been benefited by various activities -- Psychosocial trauma counseling; health awareness; joyful learning; skill trainings; child rights awareness; and about 1000 adolescent girls have been given awareness on health and hygiene. Under the emergency response program, 8 Child Centered Spaces (CCS) have been established and training on child protection has been imparted to the community volunteers. Three Child Well Being Committees have been formed in 3 CCS villages; training on child care practices has been given to mothers who had 0-3 year's old children. A total of 25 houses have been repaired in the area. Altogether construction of 38 toilets for the flood victims has been completed, 24 drinking water units benefiting 500 people have been constructed and distribution of basic household utensils to 100 families has been done.

### **Disha (Child Labor Rehabilitation Program)**

Disha Children's Program is another intervention in which ChildFund India (Society) has been targeting 5,000 children living in the urban slums and working in the hazardous glass and bangle industry in Firozabad district of Uttar Pradesh. The project has successfully mainstreamed 1,500 child labors into formal schools after being rescued from child labor. Through ChildFund India's intervention, malnutrition among the enrolled children has been significantly reduced due to provision of supplementary nutrition in the program. In all mohallas Children's Clubs have been formed, till date Disha has formed 19 Child Clubs with 407 (203 boys & 204 girls) active members.

### Link Workers Scheme (HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Program)

Under the *Link Workers Scheme* ChildFund India (Society) has reached out to 37,289 vulnerable men and women in rural areas with, information, knowledge and skill on STI/HIV prevention and risk reduction. The project is getting support from National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) under GFATMR-7 and is being implemented in three districts of Andhra Pradesh State namely Khammam, East Godavari and Nizamabad since January 1, 2009. During this year, the project has formed 298 information centers, 200 red ribbon clubs, 304 condom outlets, and have provided STI treatment to 907 high risk groups.

### Country Information Sheet 2009-2010

Sponsorship NSP&Grants	Direct beneficiaries	Indirect beneficiaries
Sponsorship	346,010	276,808
Trafficking In Person	180 development professionals	6000
Link Workers Scheme	44,684 people referred for HIV testing and various services like ART	300 villages
Bridge course	150 girl child	150 families
Humanitarian response in South India	3500	17500
ECCD Resource Centre NSP No.10MO31	673 children and 41 staff	673 children and 41 staff
Gift of Love and Hope <sup>3</sup> , NSP #Z10-13	426	426
Gift of Love and Hope ,NSP #Z10-07	12 families	23 families
Gift of Love and Hope ,NSP #S9-018	28	2289
Gift of Love and Hope ,NSP #F10-01	180 girls	180 girls
Gift of Love and Hope ,NSP #S10-01	38 families	164 families
Gift of Love and Hope ,NSP #10M020	14416 (families and children)	16259 (families and children)

### Program Activity Sheet<sup>4</sup>

Items	Total Number of Activities	Number of Children Benefited
Total ANC and PNC camps conducted	2,929	34,392
Total PD Hearth sessions organized	2,691	40,375

<sup>3</sup> Gift of Love and Hope – Children and families have benefitted through saplings, black boards, garden irrigation, bicycle, water filters, water tanks, drawing kits, books, simple computers, solar lanterns and school water tanks

<sup>4</sup> This does not include Tamil Nadu Data

Total ECD centre supported	617	23,065
Total trainings conducted for Balwadi workers	251	21,877
Numbers of RTI and STI camps for adults	369	17,847
Total RIP centers started	500	10,196
Total schools under SQUIP	207	16,887
Total Children CLUBS	921	27,366
Total teachers trained	947	45,499
Total employable skill training to youth	235 <sup>5</sup>	2400

### **The content promising the Bright Future**

As a child development organization, ChildFund India is directly reaching to more than 1.02 million children in India. It has given more emphasis on "Child and Youth Agency" as a National Priority Program since last three years. "Child Friendly Village" and "Child Led Projects" have been initiated across the project locations by imparting series of capacity building program for the grass roots level field staff/NGO staff members and strengthening the children and youth clubs to participate in the program planning and implementation process. There are 921 children clubs and 2,145 youth associations and child well being committees formed in all the program locations by the year 2009-10. In some of the operational areas, the partner NGOs have focused on "Child Protection" by consulting with children on child protection issues and initiated Child-Led projects in the states of Karnataka, Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh.

Series of orientation programs have been organized for the Chief Functionaries and staff members of partner NGOs on "Global Strategy, Core Outcomes, Area of Excellence and the changes in the organization" for bringing program quality and more accountability for the interventions.

In addition to Bright Futures pilot area at Malkangiri, ChildFund India program team has successfully facilitated the Area Strategic Planning process with active involvement of children, youth and other stakeholders in 3 more program areas at Daltonganj, Udaipur and Jhabua during the period December 2009 to May 2010. In the preparatory process, all the field team members participated.

The ASP process had taken more than six months starting from the baseline study (covering 570 household surveys each in these three areas using Lot Quality Assurance Sampling method); secondary data analysis; consultation with children and youth, consolidation and prioritizing the issues affecting children and further sharing with the stakeholders.

The ASP process had given enough scope to engage the internal team to understand and learn from the experiences of children and youth during the process of field consultations, community reflections and program planning and budgeting. The Project Design Documents (PDDs) for children in the age groups of 0-5 years, 6-14 years and 15-24 years

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<sup>5</sup> Does not cover all India figure

have been developed and finalized in line with the core programs and outcomes, which are going to be implemented from the coming fiscal year 2010-11 in the above said three areas.

The continuous effort for enhancing the participation of children and youth would bring some positive changes in the programming and adopting innovative child friendly tools for field consultation, prioritization and program planning and also integrating "Sponsor Relations and Program" to address the issues of children and youth in different development stages.

## **2. The Commitment - Mobilizing Indian Resources for Indian children**

ChildFund India held a number of meetings with donors/NGOs/corporate bodies in pursuit of mobilizing resources and building relationships. Some of these organizations were DFID, US EMBASSY, ICICI Foundation, UNIFEM and Water Aid.

Several proposals were also developed and submitted during the reporting year. A proposal was submitted in response to UNIFEM's call for proposal on "Gender Equality" for \$4.5 million.

Another proposal was submitted to European Commission for \$650,000 (500,000 Euros) on Education through a consortium led by Center for British Teachers (CfBT).

At national level proposal was submitted to **Andhra Pradesh AIDS Control Society** – a Government enterprise on expanding the current Link Workers Program to 12 additional High Risk Districts in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

This year, ChildFund India participated in the **Sunfeast World 10K Marathon** which was held in Bangalore on May 23, 2010. All staff members participated in the run as a mark of solidarity and image building. ChildFund India will be using funds raised through this event to provide quality care and support to the children living with HIV/AIDS and those working as child laborers.

Some of the technical resources have also been mobilized by our area office through the government. In Andhra Pradesh State, collaboration with the State Government resulted in 400 government teachers receiving training from ChildFund India partners and technical teams on psycho-social support, and practical lessons on how to deal with the children in their day to day interaction.

ChildFund India has developed a draft outlining its growth strategy for the FY2010 – FY2013 with inputs and guidance from Regional Office, the same will be finalized.

### **Web Development**

The new ChildFund India website template has been prepared and a demo version of the website homepage will soon be shared for review and comments. The new website will host monthly and bi-monthly special appeals; be networked with the new SRIS software; provide the opportunity of video conferencing of sponsored child and the sponsor; hosts audio files in addition to videos and photo galleries in a multimedia format; provides option to donate and support online through an in built payment gateway system and furthers the objective of building a global and consistent ChildFund brand identity.



### **Posting special appeal on the website**

The special appeal section will host an appeal exclusively for a cause and all donations received through that section will be utilized for the advertised cause only. For e.g. the template attached shows a special appeal on the right bottom for raising funds exclusively for children living with HIV/AIDS and those working as child labourers.

### **Developing Bank Contacts**

We are presently working out the best option for receiving donations/funds online via internet transfer facility. Since, the payment gateway facility provided by banks is expensive, other service providers like CCAvenue and Pay Pal are also being considered and the best option suitable to our requirements and volume of transactions is being worked out.

In addition, as part of our Fund-Raising strategy, we shall contact Banks to provide service for ECS payments to be directly credit to ChildFund India's account from the sponsor's account and provide advertising space for raising donations for ChildFund India in their website and other marketing platforms.

## **3. Networking with Government and other NGOs**

Networking meetings were held with various agencies, government departments, international NGOs, donor agencies, CSR organizations and other civil society organizations to enhance the image of ChildFund India, leverage resources and influence policy decisions.

### **Participation in conference/workshops/meetings:**

- South India Regional Conference - Responses to Sexual exploitation of girls: The Child Protection Coordinator participated in the conference that was organized by VIVA network group, Delhi, with the support of other organizations namely, Oasis, Lifewords, International Justice Mission, Caruna, CFCD, INSA and World Vision.
- Network meeting of funding organizations: The Livelihood Coordinator participated in the meeting held in Bangalore in July 2009 to discuss and brain storm on the issue of community based rehabilitations, which was also attended by World Vision and many CBR partners. ChildFund India has put a point of mutual cooperation among the agencies on the issue of children's rehabilitations.
- A two-day State Level Education Workshop was organized for Allahabad partners by ChildFund. The representatives from SSA, UNICEF, Care India, CRS, Nalanada Resource agency also participated.
- Two ChildFund India staff participated in a meeting on Humanitarian Pandemic Preparedness that was organized by InterAction and Vietnam Red Cross from September 14-16, 2009 in Hanoi, Vietnam.
- The Daltonganj Area Manager participated in the State level Workshop on "Malnutrition among children in Jharkhand" on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009 in Ranchi. The workshop was jointly organized by NFI, MCH-STAR, UNICEF and Government of Jharkhand.
- The Program Coordinator – Health from South Zone Office attended a two-day convention on Early Childhood Care and Development at Goa that was organized by National Campaign for ECCE Right and the convention.
- The Zonal Manager participated in the one-day workshop organized by Save the Children on Child led DRR in New Delhi. The Allahabad Program Coordinator participated in a one-day round table conference organized by Save the Children and UNICEF on the Child Protection issues in emergency.

- The National Director and the Program Coordinator – Partner Support participated in Right to Education Act Consultation organized by India Literacy Project on May 13, 2010.

#### **Networking meetings/visits – attend/hosted:**

- ChildFund India hosted two meetings of Sphere India for South India flood response for information sharing and coordination. The meetings were attended by NIMHANS, Caritas, World Vision, Every Child, IGSSS, CRS and many other state level organizations.
- The ChildFund Program Coordinator participated in the meeting conducted by the Government of Karnataka and Karnataka Commission for Protection of Child Rights in Bangalore.
- The Deoghar Area Office organized a meeting with District Labor Commissioner, PRADAN and BASIX to share information about ChildFund India's work and proposed program at Deoghar on Child labour and Trafficking.
- The National Director also with the select staff had networking meetings with National Aids Control Organization (NACO), HIV Alliance, European Commission, EFICOR, Care India, Oxfam India, Save the Children and Christian Aid to understand the areas of collaboration, trends in development sector and changing operating scenario for civil society institution in India.
- The Udaipur Area Manager and the Allahabad Program Coordinators held several meetings with ICDS Director to discuss about handing over of ChildFund ECD centers to Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS). A decision has been made to handover ChildFund ECD centers to ICDS department and to open new ICDS centers in the areas where coverage of children is not adequate.
- The National Director and the Program Director met the Senior Social Development Advisor of DFID during March 2010 and briefed about the ChildFund India Programs and discussed on current available opportunities to access DFID funds.
- Ms. Malini Tolat from Grameen Foundation, Washington visited India's LEEP programs in two of the ChildFund affiliated projects.
- The Office Administrator, Christian Children's Fund of Canada visited National Office of ChildFund during February 2010 to learn more about ChildFund India's administration system and the best practices.

## **4. Contribution to Regional Programming**

The ChildFund India staff participated and contributed in various meetings held at regional and international level.

#### **Participation in Meetings – Regional / International**

- The National Director participated in all the Regional Managers' Meetings held on quarterly basis.
- The Finance Director participated in the Regional Finance Meeting held in Jakarta from August 24 to 27, 2009.
- The SR Coordinator and the Area Manager attended the Sponsorship Forum Meeting at the Bangkok Regional Office. The Meeting was organized with the objective to align sponsor relations and program areas in ChildFund Asia Region.
- The National Director attended the M & E Workshop in Bangkok from March 2-5, 2010.
- The Program Team comprising of the Program Director, National Coordinator – BF and Livelihood Coordinator participated in the Program Quality discussions in Bangkok from March 8-11, 2010.

- The Information and Communication Officer participated in the Global Communications Workshop that was held at the International Office, USA, from March 8-12, 2010.
- The National Director participated in the Sponsorship Work Group Meeting from March 22-23, 2010.
- The National Director visited ChildFund Sri Lanka to participate in Micro Finance Meetings.
- The National Director participated in the MPA and Sponsorship meetings held at the International Office from 14-19 June, 2010.

#### **Facilitated / hosted – Training/meetings**

- The Senior Accounts Officer facilitated HQMS training for ChildFund Thailand from August 19 to 22, 2009.
- The ChildFund Area Manager conducted training on nutrition for ChildFund Sri Lanka staff in Colombo from October 18-25, 2009.
- The Program Team helped and provided important information on LEEP & RLF programs to the Senior Micro Enterprise Development Specialist at International Office for making a presentation for SEEP Network in USA.
- ChildFund Alliance Communications and Fundraising Conference and SR Working Group Conference were held in Chennai, from February 8-11, 2010. The ChildFund India had the privilege of hosting the ChildFund Alliance Conferences wherein more than 30 members, along with select staff from ChildFund India participated. The participants visited one of the ChildFund India Community Partner Organizations (CPO), namely KKSS located in Chennai.
- The Regional HR workshop was hosted by ChildFund India at its National Office from March 8-9, 2010. The HR Vice-President, HR Director from International Office; Regional HR Development Manager and HR Managers of India, Philippines and Sri Lanka Offices participated in the workshop.
- The Information and Communication Officer (ICO) visited Philippines from June 01 to June 07, 2010 to support the Regional Communications Manager – Asia, in organizing a media workshop and provide training to the area staff and children/youth participants to operate still / video cameras / audio recording equipment and to conduct interviews. The ICO also mentored several groups of children during the course of the activity and provided continuous counseling and technical support apart from doing the process documentation of the activity.

## **5. Current Socio-Economic and Political situation**

The new fiscal year saw the new government, with congress party coming to power. Under the leadership of the new government several pending laws and legislations were passed for improving the conditions of the poor and the marginalized children. Among them was the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 which created a framework for legal entitlement for all children in the age group of 6-14 years to education of good quality based on the principles of equity and non discrimination. For agencies like ChildFund India, this is a good opportunity to ensure that the government enforces this Act in all sincerity. This also offers a wonderful opportunity to collaborate directly with Private and Public Sector players as the Government has acknowledged the role of these players in materializing these rights.

The year also saw heavy floods due to five-days of torrential rains in northern Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra States which displaced almost 1.5 million people in

these states and killed almost 300 people. ChildFund responded promptly to the emergency situation with its relief and rescue operations. The relief operations are already over and ChildFund has started rehabilitation of the flood affected victims.

The Indian economy has shown clear signs of recovery with growth rate of 7%. However, now the major area of concern is the food price inflation which has touched 15%. This food price inflation hits the poorest the hardest and threatens to widen the gulf of inequality and perpetuate poverty.

During the fiscal year the country also witnessed series of Maoist attacks on the innocent people and *Bundhs* and strikes called by them which disrupted the routine work in many of the ChildFund intervention areas, though there had been no attacks on the ChildFund partner or staff's working in the Maoist affected area. Maoist violence was seen in five states covered by the zone namely Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal. In the month of February, Naxalites massacred 11 innocent villagers and burnt their houses in the Korasi village (Jamui district) which is one of the Project villages. As a result of this incident almost all the villagers of Korasi migrated to a safer place. Programs were very badly affected due to the incident. Regular strikes by the naxalites as well as the political parties in the eastern region have resulted in interruption in the ongoing programs followed by lack of monitoring. On the other side, this year also saw draughts in the States of Bihar and Jharkhand and floods in Orissa. The progress of the target community got adversely affected due to the failure of Kharif and Rabi crop. The political instability in Jharkhand further affected development of this state. Absence of Panchayat Raj System affected delivery of development activities at the grass root level. Jharkhand is the only state in India where the Panchayat elections have not been conducted.

## **6. Highlights of major developments, outstanding successes and special events of the past year**

- **Rebranding:** The name launch event for ChildFund India was held at Bhubaneswar, Bangalore and Delhi on December 8, 15 and 22, 2009 respectively. The event was graced by Community Partner Organizations, media, representatives of development organizations and other dignitaries. All the three events got wide coverage through print and electronic media, wherein prominent national and local newspapers covered the event.
- **Three areas go live:** With the pilot BF experience of Malkangiri area, similar preparatory arrangements were made in another three areas - Udaipur, Jhabua and Daltonganj which have completed the transition period by undertaking the baseline survey with all the target groups of children and youth, field consultation with different age groups of children, youth and the other stakeholders while developing the Area Strategic Plan during December 2009 to May 2010. These three areas have also developed suitable project design documents with three-year budgeting using Financial Indicator Tool system and began implementation process through the local entity "ChildFund India Society" from June 2010. This initial planning process has ended with meaningful involvement of children and youth and other key stakeholders in the whole area. In other two areas, Deoghar and Rajkhariar similar steps are taken to complete the transition period by end of December 2010.
- **Transition of ChildFund India to an Indian entity ChildFund India Society:** ChildFund India Society has been created as an independent Indian entity for establishing a local

identity. The transition of ChildFund India to an Indian entity ChildFund India Society is still in process. The local entity will be able to access local resources and will establish diversified partnership. ChildFund India Society will have independent governance as an Indian entity and will endeavor for creating local credibility and accountability. The approval from ChildFund India Society Board and ChildFund India has been received. MoU and rules & regulation of the Society have been revised. Banking operations and financial systems have been developed. ChildFund India Society has initiated program implementation through different cluster offices. For the new role, staff members have been recruited; role and responsibilities of some existing staff and the department have been redefined.

- **National Office Assurance – February 15 – 26, 2010:** The Assurance audit was done by RSM International Auditors Team appointed by the International Office. The Auditors were happy with the systems and processes overall and have recommended improvement in some areas. Detailed reports from the Auditors are awaited.
- **Value Workshop:** As part of rolling out the Engage, Inspire and Celebrate Workshops, the Values workshop was conducted for all the staff members in three phases.
- **Piloting Child Status Index tool:** Child Status Index tool was piloted in India for the first time. ChildFund India is the first country to successfully complete the pilot. To test the tool and to do orientation and field exercise on piloting, Ms. Gabrielle Boutomy, Impact Assessment Specialist from International Office visited India. The field testing was done from April 12 to 23, 2010 at one of the Community Partner Organizations (CPO), Balaji Bala Vikas - RASS, Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh State. A total of 30 participants from select CPO's from the States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka and some ChildFund India staff participated in CSI piloting process. The process was lead by Bright Future Coordinator of the National Office. The findings of the tool were collated using the SPSS tool and was shared in the National Office. The basic purpose of the pilot was to acquaint the internal team members on the CSI tool and make a field test of the tool in assessing the child situation and their vulnerability.
- **Restructuring roll-out plan:** The outcome of the restructuring exercise was arriving at a structure both at the National Office as well as at the Cluster Offices. The structure was formally shared with all the employees of ChildFund India. The destination will be reached at different phases taking into account the priorities and needs. As a roll-out schedule, the following at the field levels were planned:
  - Phase I of clustering to be operational by June 2010
    - 6 clusters: Malkangiri, Dhar, Jhabua, Jhadol, Kotada, Latehar
    - Covering 10 partners; all cluster jobs to be part of Society Structure
  - Phase II of Clustering by December 2010
    - 5 Clusters from Deoghar, Raj Khariar; all cluster jobs to be part of Society
  - Simultaneous roll-out of MPA in other areas starting June 2010, including application of MPA principles for stand-alone partners.
  - At the same time, the process to streamline the Central/National Office through the required recruitment process has been planned.

It is our endeavour that with all these processes, we aim to achieve a strong local entity to carry out the mission and work of ChildFund India.

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