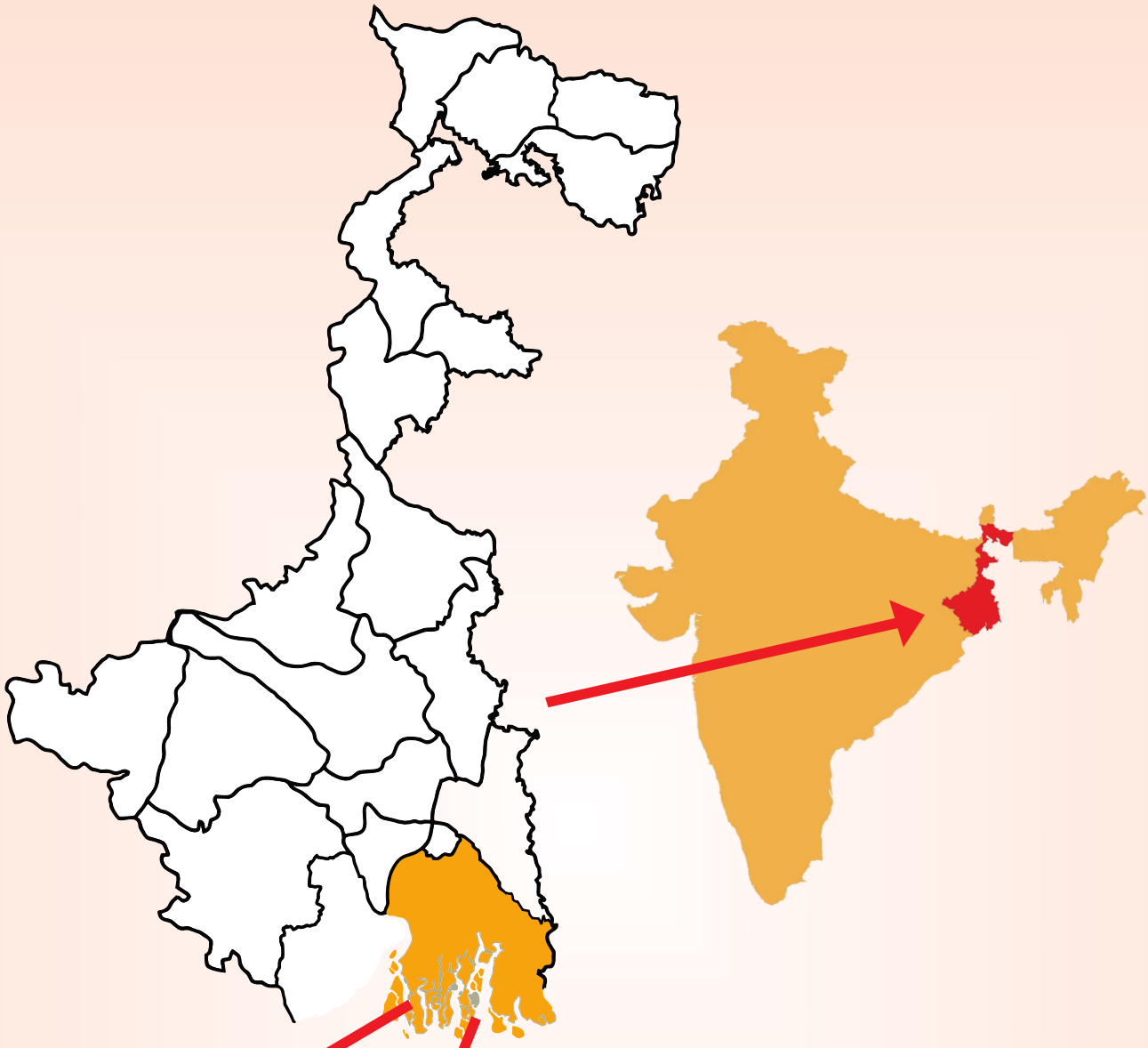


ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

Indraprastha Srijan Welfare Society

www.indraprasthasrijan.in



South 24 Parganas



Present area of intervention of ISWS

Message from the desk of the Secretary :

In the 15th year of its journey, it is my pleasure to share Annual Activities Report of ISWS for the year 2022-23. Focusing on vulnerable section engaged into the people-centred process, where the community people with active leadership is bringing themselves in a platform of participatory learning, leading totake action on accessing rights and entitlements being helpful to change their living condition.

The people particularly women and adolescents of fishing community, land less and marginal farmers, women headed families, unorganized labourer, widows and aged are suffering from gender-based discrimination and violence. They are still being backward, living with inequality and injustice are the cause of vulnerability. The identified issues of school dropout, early marriage, elopement, violation of child rights, livelihood challenges are very common. Natural calamities- flood, cyclone, draughts, climate change are frequently happened. It is now the major concern of all that the agro-based economy is severely affected amidst of pandemic for the last two years. Unorganized farmers with larger loan size, excessive cost of agriculture, pest attack and diseases, loss of micro-organism in soil and other insects increasing distress of the poor agro based community. Lack of awareness with poor economic condition is also the major concern with harmful impact of climate change.

Undergoing this process, community awareness, sensitization, collectivization and active participation in assessing vulnerability, thereafter collectively planning for way out the solution through some changes within a framework of rights and justice. Community feels necessarily to be organized, empowered to think and move forward to gain knowledge, learn, practice and take collective action accordingly for a lasting change.

We are conveying our sincere thanks to the community, staff, members, civil society, supporting partner and stakeholders for their wholehearted cooperation and support in this endeavour. Their support and cooperation are earnestly expected in future.



Palash Sinha
Secretary
Indraprastha Srijan Welfare Society

Genesis

The Indraprastha Srijan Welfare Society (ISWS) came in force in 2005 and later registered in 2008. Working in Pathar Pratima block catchment area with its mission of environment friendly farm base sustainable livelihoods of marginal farmers. Now the strategy is to collectivization, capacity enhancement, change of attitude and practices creating a safe space for empowerment of the community in this people centred process of development. It is to identify problems and resources with mutual sharing and understanding, there is planning by them how to work collectively and independently raising voices for exercising rights and entitlements with natural leadership for their own.

A. OPERATIONS :

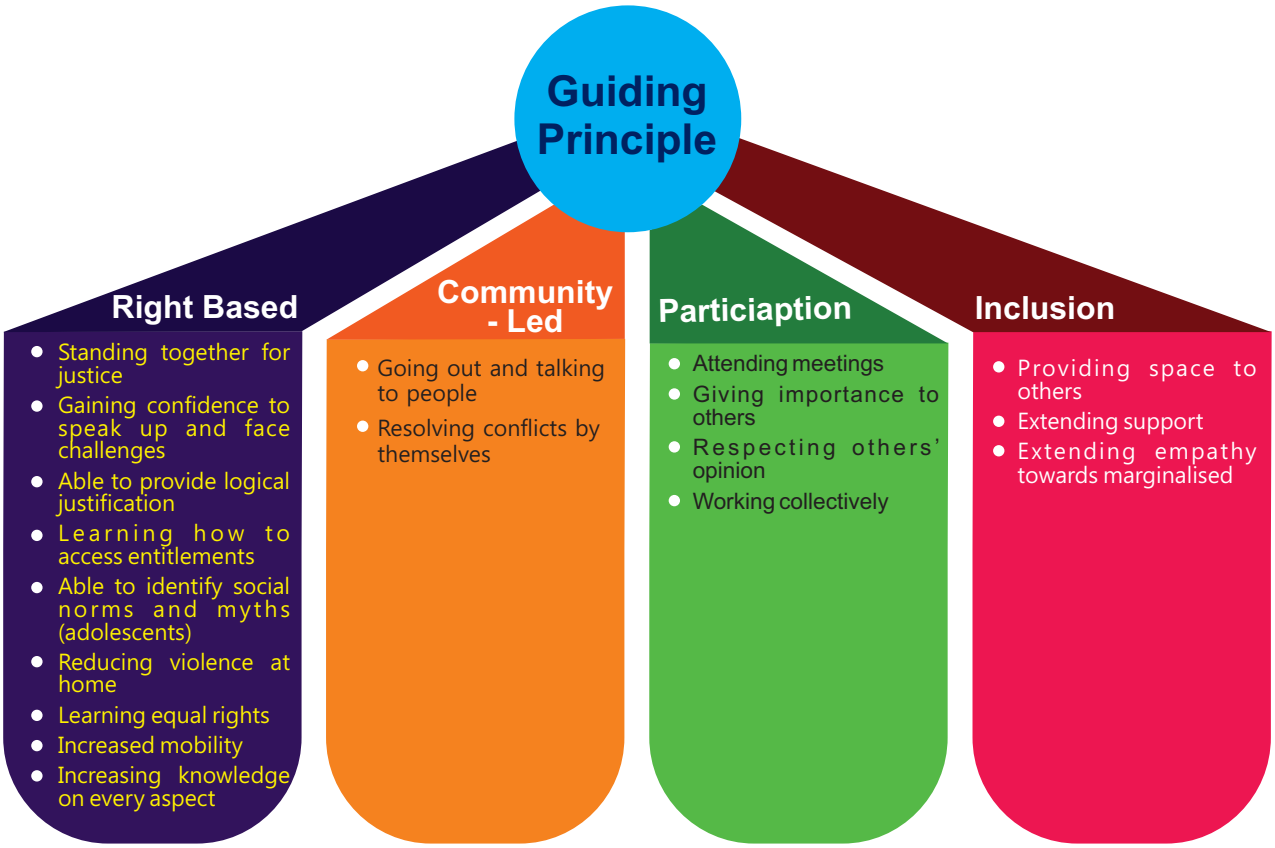
Area of Intervention :

No. of Families	No. of Villages	Name of Gram Panchayat	Block	District and State
470	8	Ramganga	Pathar Pratima	South 24 Parganas West Bengal
260	3	Brajaballavpur		
240	6	G-Plot		
6000	7	Digambarpur		

B. APPROACH :

The approaches are as per the following :

- Relationship building
- Gaining trust
- Peer group approach
- Continuous discussion
- Collective home visit
- Demonstration
- Encouragement
- Relying and have trust on them that they can do by themselves
- Rotational leadership development
- Engagement of other members of a family
- Collaboration



C. PARTICIPATORY STRATEGIC PLANNING BY THE COMMUNITY ITSELF :



D. THEMATIC INTERVENTION :

Child Protection : Meeting with the Adolescents both boys and girls collectives and process followed :

Focus area	Plan	Roles of collectives	Activities
School dropout :	• Reducing the rate of dropouts • No unsafe migration and • Reducing the child labour	• Will raise awareness among our friend circle • Increasing number of people in the collective • Unite and protest • Inclusion of left outs and vulnerable • No one should leave behind in the area	Awareness on migration and child labour and elopement More engagement of collectives in social action Participatory action research on identified issues Linking with Vocational training, Skill development training institutions etc.
Child marriage and early marriage, child trafficking	• No one gets married at a young age • No one drops out of education at a young age • Trafficking does not happen at all • Reduce elopement		More training and meeting about this topic, Wants mentor

Collectivization of adolescent collectives :

Name of the villages	No. of adolescent boys and girls separate groups formed	No. of adolescent mix groups formed	No. of Adolescents Covered	No. of meeting held
Ram Nagar Abad	1+1	5	164	160
Paschim Sridharpur	0	4	94	
Gurudaspur	0	3	54	
Total	**2**	**12**	**312**	**160**

In the process of collectivization and knowledge building, inputs given and action taken by them in a year of 2022-23 :

Process and activities	Individual and collective action
• Exercises on need and want and its difference, where the human rights is linked with need, • Identity mapping on the basis of human quality and characters, • Through ludo game, exercise and interaction on child rights and protection,	• Wall writing on the oath taking slogan on their aim in life by the adolescent groups • Visited to the office of local gram panchayat to gain knowledge on PRIs system, courage and confidence • Visited to the office of CWC to know its structure, roles and function in child rights protection

• Interaction and exercise on the concept of gender, sex, and sexuality, • Physical and mental change during adolescent period and related problems they face, what should be the process of resolution • Exercise and discussion on adolescent health and hygiene, • Exercise and discussion on gender and violence, • Exercise on gender discrimination, started since birth of a girl child or before. • Discussion of menstrual cycle and reproductive organ of both males and females for knowledge building and awareness, • Concept of masculinity and feminine mood, patriarchal system of gender etc. and its affects in girls and women life. • Equity and equality and where equity is needed, • Sexual abuse, sexual violence and type of violence and its root causes analysis, problem tree analysis through roles play, question and answer session. • Menstrual health survey by the adolescents etc, and analysis • Discussion on J.J. Act, POSCO • Scoring of the adolescent group members on their individual confidence, knowledge building and solution of problems by themselves, • Scoring of the adolescent groups on collectiveness, collective initiative, planning, and behavioural changes	• Participated in child parliament organised by the local panchayat • Participated the celebration of panchayat foundation day with performance of role play on the issue of child marriage and recognition needed for children in family and society through balloon game by the group • Plantation of trees and nurturing by the adolescent groups • Wall painting on the world environment day celebration with rally and slogan of saving our environment and planting trees. • Meet the local WATSAN committees for making it more functional • Participatory action research (PAR) on the identified issues of early marriage, which is ongoing with survey by the adolescent girls group. • Community led festive organised by the community farmers, women and adolescents' groups and the community people. • Poster setting on the save water and keeping clean of the surroundings of water body. • Individual behavioural changes by the adolescents breaking wrong belief on menstruation and related issues. • Changes in groups attitude and practices on gender equality. • Liaison with WATSAN committees for its proper and regular functioning.

Scoring of reflection of an Adolescent boys group :

Scoring of individual changes like problem solving, knowledge building, confidence and group changes on unity, collective initiative, planning, behavioral changes happened after joining the group.

The participants are given paper and sketch pen. They are facilitated how they will give score to them individually on development in increasing confidence, knowledge building, and action taken so far.

Giving some examples to the participants, they are instructed to give score 0 to 10 for each of the three components and after giving the score they were asked to explain the reason of such scoring for every component as given to.

Thereafter, they were also asked as a group to score on change like togetherness/unity among the group members, group activities done,

behavioural changes, and what score they aspire after one year for those changes in group. They were also planning to increase the score in future as how and where the group would like to go with further development after a certain period.

For individual scoring they were giving scoring for them individually, their average scoring of all the present members of the group were as follows:

- **Individual scoring exercise :**

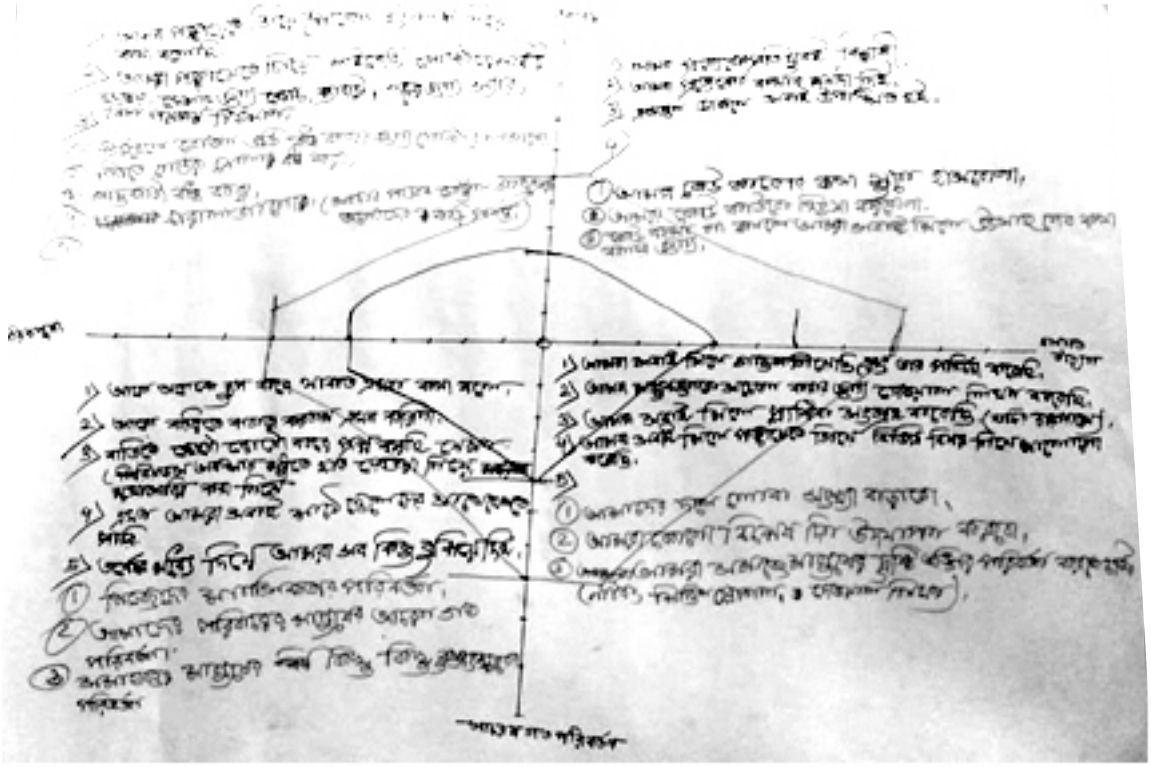
Components	Score (1-12)	Reasons
Confidence	**2.5**	Confidence increasing through exposure visit and taking part in discussion, cultural function, training etc. increasing courage to talk to others.
Knowledge	**2**	Getting different information and knowledge from the meeting session, child rights, how to encourage others to take part in meeting etc.
Conflict resolution	**2**	Trying to resolute conflict based on gender in family through sharing and understanding on gender discrimination prevalent in society.

- **Group scoring exercise at present and probable score after one year :**

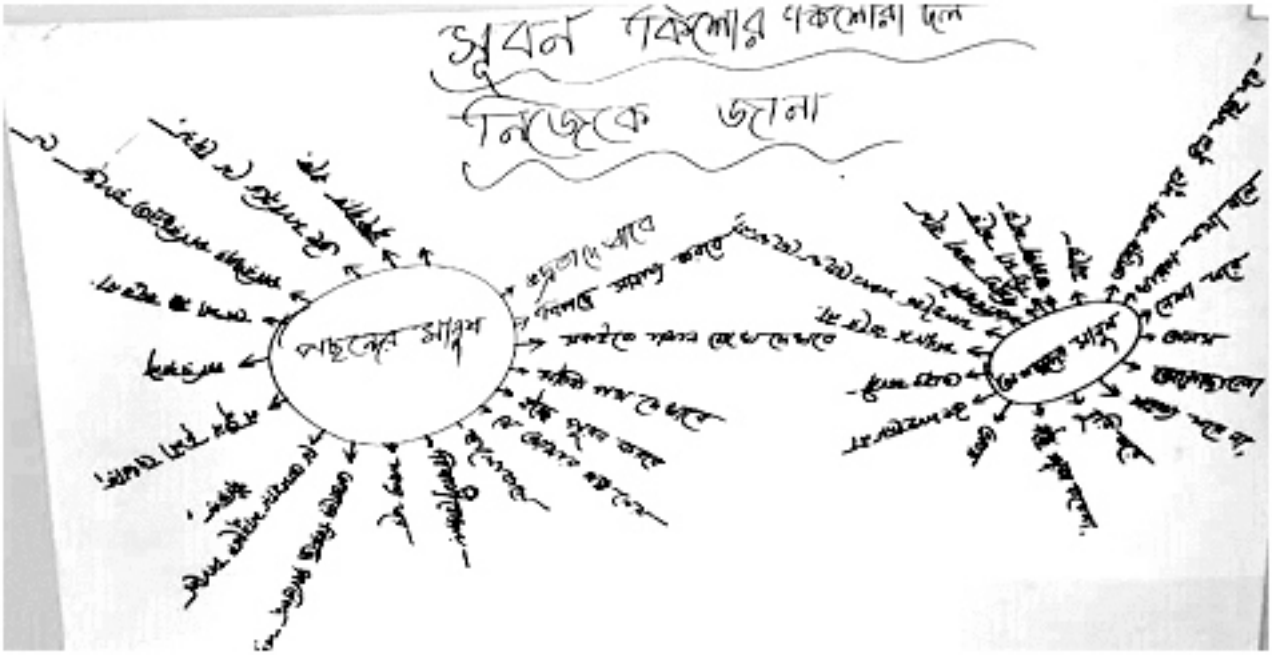
Components	Score (1-10) at present	Reasons	after one year	How
Unity	**2**	Mutual trust among the members, recognising other opinion, encourage others to be in the process	**6** (when more no. of people will join and practice the process with same identity to be continued)	Thinking to make other members be interested in this process of collectivisation, maintaining meeting time, increase mutual trust, change of attitude regarding violence
Planning	**2**	For development of sports infrastructure and skill development training-negotiating with panchayat	**7**	Protest child marriage, more plantation, more tubewell to be covered with stoppage of bottle uses,
Collective initiatives	**4**	Planting & nurturing trees and flower plants on both sides of the road, stopping use of bottle in tubewell, rally, talking to WATSAN committee for this, wall writing on some slogans on oath taking against early marriage, gender discrimination, organising plastic rejection campaign and collection of waste and sent to unit of SLMP of panchayat.	**6**	Celebration of memorable day /important day, assisting other members to take part in discussion giving their opinion,

Components	Score (1-10) at present	Reasons	after one year	How
Behavioural changes	**4**	Playing together with boys by the girls, talking to when face the happenings of gender discrimination, they are going out and doing other works like worshipping, touching bottles of pickles etc. Changing of mind set about the girls and women among the family members- thinking of equal treating for both boys and girls in terms of education, food, nutrition and entertainment etc. Eve teasing is tending to stop locally. Fearlessness comes up among them. Courageous to talk to the parents on issues and problems, they usually face. Joking and neglecting to the physically challenged is stopped rather recognised. Girls are now coming forward to play after making their parents understand for even little time. Girls have started to question about why they will not be able to go out and they were giving message why they will be always covered with dopatta? They were also sharing about what are discussed in the meeting and they are permitted to attend meeting.	**8**	Focusing on listening first, then give comment on the matter, protest on gender discrimination when face, trying of change attitude and behaviour of the members of the family making them understand through discussion with logic.

- **It was shown in cob web chart as follows :**



Relevant photographs :



Exercise on knowing yourself is in place by the adolescent group members



Exercise on child right violation and protection



An adolescent girl giving speech on the world environment day



Exercise on group work with active leadership



Analysis on gender equality



Exercise on violation of child rights and its protection



Analysis on gender equality



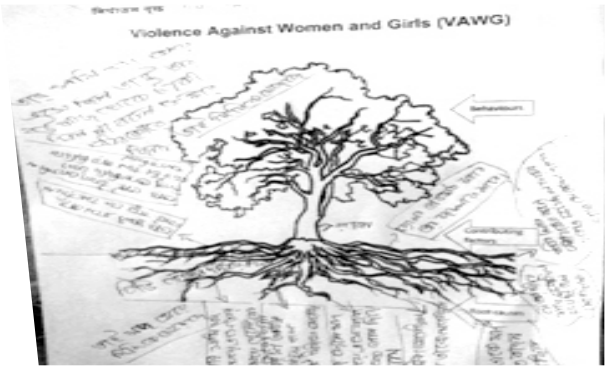
Exercise on violation of child rights and its protection



Celebration of 77th Independence Day by the adolescent groups



Celebration of 77th Independence Day by the adolescent groups



Exercise of problem tree on VAWG by the adolescent group

The other initiatives taken by the adolescent collectives :

• World environment day observation :

Our earth is at stake and gradually approaching towards the Dooms Day due



to rising of high temperature and climate change. Human beings and their misconduct with the nature are



responsible for these calamities and destruction. To save nature and to save our earth for future generation, all countries decided to observe 5th June as World Environment Day at Global Summit in 1974 to make the people aware and remind them to be careful and kind towards nature. Since then, people from all over the world have been observing the day in a befitting manner. ISWS has also observed the day in a different but attractive way.

Children, Parents, teachers, SHG members and some social activists gathered at the GP Office campus in the morning with festoons, placards and a banner depicting some touchy slogans on saving our earth. All adolescents and other participants marched for rally with slogans to convey the messages of protecting environment at every corner of the locality.

After Rally, some children participated in 'Sit & Draw' competition on environment



protection and some depicted amazing paintings highlighting the message 'Stop cutting trees & need



more plantations'. After these events, a small but interesting cultural program was conducted by the children. Many dignitaries like Pradhan, Upa Pradhan, Panchayat Members, ASHA and ICDS workers, members of Sangha (SHG federation), SHG members were present there to make the program a graceful one. All of them highlighted the necessity of planting trees and giving up bad habits of misusing natural resources. Respected Pradhan and Upa Pradhan urged to the children and youths to come forward and take the button of the society to be just and equitable to convince and motivate the ignorant people for not to be unkind towards nature. They suggested everyone always to carry bags while shopping or marketing in order to reduce the proportion of plastics on earth. Some children also kept interesting speeches on how to protect environment and reduce environmental degradation. Then plantation of trees done along the road for giving a message to all how important and necessary a tree is.

- **Community led festive :**



People from different corner including children, mothers, farmers, physically challenged persons and aged of vulnerable section of the society assembled at a place near Digambarpur Panchayat Office in the morning to celebrate their festival. It is their space to share their thoughts and ideas for a better society as they aspired. It is the platform created to show their performance of what



changes of attitude, learning and behavior occurred so far working with the project of 'Amplifying Community Voices'.

A decorated pandel with colorful flowers was erected in the ground to make it as a festive look. Five stalls were set up with issue based banners and leaflets by the self dependent and sensible women and farmers displaying home- made agro products, handicraft items, way out of preventing child marriage, child and women trafficking and livestock rearing method etc. with an aim to spread awareness and exchange of knowledge with others. Important quotes of great men of our soil were also portrayed inside wall of the pandel.

Many dignitaries like PRI members of Digambarpur Panchayat, Karmadhakhya- women and child welfare sthayee samiti - Parthar Pratima panchayat samiti, Karmadhakhya- Water and Irrigation sthayee samiti -Pathar Pratima Block, sahasavapati of Patharpratima panchayat

samiti graced the chairs of the program and applauded to the community people for their thoughts and efforts they put to reduce their vulnerabilities in their daily life.



At the end of inaugural program on stage and Stalls, everyone reached at venue to take part in the games and sports. There were pre-defined categorical games for all



like musical chair, candle lighting etc. for girls, memory race and three legged race for children, ball passing for women, skipping for boys, balance race and so likes. The objective of these games was to break the patriarchal norms like girls and women can be part of outdoor games. Another objective was to encourage those children or women who were introvert or never get a scope to perform openly. Winners of each event were rewarded with attractive victory trophy only to inspire and provoke them to be the best in their field.

After a daylong outdoor event, cultural program staged where collective members performed on recitations, songs and dances in the evening. In the mean time, collective members performed some issue based role plays like the way of resisting **eve teasing, child marriage, importance of taking elder care and affection**, impact of deforestation by the inhuman act etc. Thus they tried to depict the existing issues of society on stage and how the people are affected directly or indirectly by their own deeds. The audience appreciated every participant for their tremendous acting and expressions and initiating the auspicious step to make people realize about their inhuman and insensible practices. At the end of the cultural program, an attractive play **'Goriber Maa'** was staged by the women group members.

- **Rally on the plastics rejection and taking oath to be plastic free world :**

In collaboration with gram panchayat**,** the members of the adolescent collectives were planning on how to make the



community aware and active to stop using plastic carry bags. As per plan, they took part in a rally with touchy and meaningful slogans on the how to make environment clean and green bearing the posters covering a market area of hospital more in a morning. They were divided in to four groups wearing gloves and masks playing an important role of collecting garbage

from the shops of that market and put those in to a bag were sending to the solid



waste management unit run by the panchayat. Some saplings of fruits and other trees were distributed to the participants for plantation at their houses or close by locality on behalf of the panchayat along with little refreshment. Respected upa-pradhan of that panchayat was taking part in this occasion and giving his valuable message to the members of bazaar committee and shop-keepers to stop usage of plastic carry bags.

- **Celebration on children day :**

Like previous year, the Children's Day was celebrated with pomp and gaiety at Digambarpur Panchayat Hall in the presence of some delegates and cheerful children of the panchayat. The room was



decorated beautifully with colorful flowers and balloons and it made the room a festive look.

The whole day program was carefully steered by the children. Two of them took the role of anchoring, who were carrying the program forward with soft and decent voice. At first, all the guests and participants were felicitated with chandan and bouquet. Then Program started with lightening the lamp by the honorable guests and everyone amazed with the sweet inaugural song.

Every delegate pointed out how Pandit Nehru had a love for the children and his noble contribution for the children. Some were focusing on the liability and responsibility of the elders to aid in upbringing of the children. Then the



children staged an exciting and electrifying performance they had been working on for many days. Some performed on dance, some on songs and gymnastic. All audience cheered with joy and encouraged the performers by clapping. At the end of the program, everyone was distributed sweets and thanked for making the day a memorable one.

- **Exposure visit to the office of Digambarpur Gram Panchayat :**



Adolescent collectives of **'Amplifying**



Community Voices' conducted exposure visit at **Digambarpur Gram Panchayat** on 14.10.2022 to interact with the respected Pradhan and Upa Pradhan and others. The objectives of this kind of exposure are

1. To build a rapport with panchayat department
2. To know about the structure, roles and functions of panchayat
3. To be aware of the existing schemes and services available for the adolescents and how to access
4. To build self- confidence, courage and trust.

Twenty interested adolescent members of the collective from three villages - Ramnagar Abad, Gurudaspur and Paschim Sridharpur participated. Pradhan and Upapradhan welcomed them giving space and sphere to share and discuss as they cherished. After introduction from both ends, the respected Upapradhan wanted to know the purpose of visit and the queries they had. Detail information about PRI system and its structure, its roles and responsibilities, various departments along with the respective persons of Panchayat were shared.

The participants informed different type of existing social issues like cases of school dropout, Child labour, child marriage, destroying mangroves, wasting drinking water and alcoholism etc. as prevalent and asked how to minimize or remove these. In response, it was pointed out that the root cause should be analyzed and people should be brought to have senses as well. Adolescents should come forwards to take the charge of motivating the ignorant people and community having lack of awareness. The participants were also asked to identify and submit the names of the persons involved in axing down the trees and trading alcohol illegally.

While discussion was going on girls and women insecurity at evening time at secluded place, it was informed to identify those spots for actions like installing street lights tobe taken place.

The physically challenged persons have no handicapped certificate, they can also communicate with Kakdwip hospital with application for manobik pension as advised by the respected Upa-Pradhan. The participants also suggested to set up a library, from where students could borrow books or study there as require. They also pointed out the need of providing free coaching to the needy but meritorious students. In response, Upa-Pradhan said that the work of building a library was in progress and would be completed by the end of this year. Needy students may communicate with Pradhan and would be supported. Even those who were interested in training on skill development like beautician, tailoring etc. can also communicate with panchayat.

At the end, the respected Upa-Pradhan inspired everyone to be change makers spreading awareness, raising public voices against the injustice and wrong doing. Panchayat is always standing by them for support and cooperation. He also motivated to initiate small action collectively against the social issues. That

was first time and it had been a great opportunity for the collectives to interact directly with panchayat. They were much excited and gaining confidence.

- **Street play on positive parenting :**

To make the parents understand, aware and active on important roles to play in child protection specially during their adolescent period in family and society, as



necessary as for all round growth and development of a child specially girls. This will be the best interest of the child, as parents, they will be their friend, philosopher and guide, when many questions, curiosity about their physical and mental changes arise, but they could not have the space to share and discuss, they see and feel that they are alone, become isolate and start to think haphazardly and fall in trap.

In that time, they need friends, love and affection from the parents, relatives and others of a family, who will try to understand and guide them. And in that time mostly they are deprived due to many reasons. So parents should think over the matter very consciously and meaningfully. They should create an open and free environment, so as to encourage them to express their wishes and express without any hesitation before them, removing their fear, pressure and anxiety. As they wish, parents will spare time more for their child, listen to them, respecting their views. Parents should try their best to make them understand what is good and what can be evil for them in other ways patiently, placing them back upon their adolescent time. It will help them to think normally about their family members as their friend, trust them; they will get their answers of problems faced. It will be the best ways and helpful for a child to smoothly grow up respecting and controlling emotions and should be possible to have all round development.



Conducting a role play on the features and importance of positive parenting in a centre place of a village as needed. Understanding the facts and the real situation happening in society, the feedback were coming out from the community and parents and guardians started to think positive about importance and significance of good parenting for their children.

- **Adolescent representatives visited the office of CWC of sundarban region :**



Eleven interested representatives from among the adolescent groups of three villages of the Digambarpur Hub visited



the office of CWC and interacted. The CWC representatives asked their introduction mentioning name, class and aim in life and also interrogated the purpose of visiting CWC Office. Everyone replied in a very polite manner. They added that they had a number of queries like the structure as well as role and function of CWC and how the office could be helpful for the children. They were asked to place questions at a time so that they could give answer one by one with ease. They did so and the questions were like that...

1. Type of children are introduced to CWC. Type of food provided to them.
2. Do they have complete freedom and liberty at Home? Do they have the scope of schooling or study?
3. How long do the children stay here? Are the children punished if they waste food?
4. Do the children have the scope of visit to a place nearby?
5. Are the children who are staying in Children Home, allowed to go home?
6. Can children staying in Home, meet their parents as their wish?
7. Do the children have the scope of learning to dance, drawing, games and sports?
8. Does someone accompany the child on behalf of home while going to or coming back from school?
9. Who provide sanitary napkins for girls in time of period and how these are disposed?
10. Who provide clothes and other necessary articles to them?

At the end of the listing of questions, the respected Chairperson asked the children the full form of CWC. They answered correctly both in Bengali and English. Giving information that Child Welfare Committee consists of five members as per Juvenile Justice Act-2015. One of them is the Chairperson who is in lead and rest of the four members has the pivotal role to assist, guide and think for the best interest of the child. All members introduced themselves. All the questions were discussed to make the children understand better.

It was relating to child rights and child protection, role and function of a certain Govt. Department. Some adolescents experienced first time to talk directly with Govt. personnel. So it was to gain knowledge and build their confidence.

- **Adolescent group initiatives to make the local WATSAN committees functional :**

As per plan the adolescent group both boys and girls were sitting with the



members of WATSAN committee (Water

and Sanitation Committee) to make more functional and active for proper caring and maintenance in future, where the



adolescents agreed to assist and cooperate with them in protection of water bodies –tubewell and its surroundings, collection of subscription, convening meetings etc. In addition, the children group also took initiative on to setting a poster of do's and don't for the users to maintain sensibly.

- **Wall writing :**

Wall writing on their dream in life and oath taking were on the occasion of children days celebration : the following



narratives they made with help of panchayat person. They were collectively identifying the walls of road side and doing the work voluntarily as per plan. It was their collective effort bringing them together with bonding, friendship, cheerfulness etc.

1. "siksha, swasthya, pusti bhora, hobe moder gaon, Ei kajete sabai mile hat barie dao.
2. Balya bibaha, school chhut, korbo mora bandha, Parasuna karbo mora, Hobe nako dwandwa.
3. Parasuna korbo mora Mobile game khelbo na, College pora shesh na kore Lekhapora chharbo na.
4. Jukti tarke koibo kotha Jhograjhhati ar na Bhai bondhu roibo mile bibhed moder roibe na.
5. College pora shesh hole kajer sujog khujbo jibonsathi khujbo takhon swanirbhor jakhon bhabbo Etc. Etc.



- **Peer to peer support :**

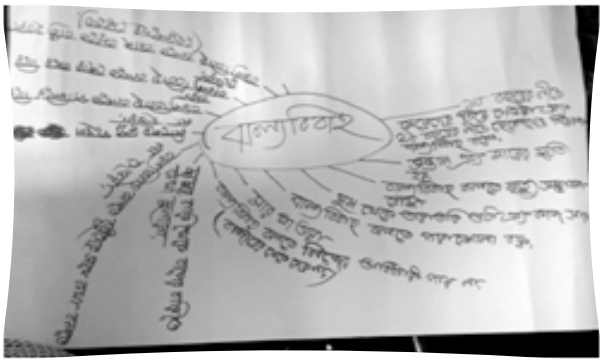
There is bonding and friendship made amongst the adolescent boys and girls. A free and open space created where they are feeling free to share their personal problems of education, abuse, what they could not have courage to share with parents or other family members. The peers are giving them mental support with courage and boldness. They are now feeling easy and giving attention to their study, as shared in a meeting. Children are giving support to the peers who are lagging behind in learning academically to avoid school dropout.

- **Participatory Action Research (PAR)- the steps followed by an adolescent group :**



After prioritizing the issue of early marriage, the questionnaire was developed and the data collection started by the PAR group members. They selected a sansad of Ramnagar Abad village where they are collecting data based on the questionnaire made. All the members were divided into three groups of 4 each and collecting data covering families parawise, where marriage happened during the last three years. Sometimes focus group discussion were also held to make understand the community about the necessity of such kind of survey needs their support and cooperation for data collection and conveying the proper information, as it is just for knowing the present situation of the problem of early marriage and its reasons.

The relevant photographs :



Finding out the causes of early marriage



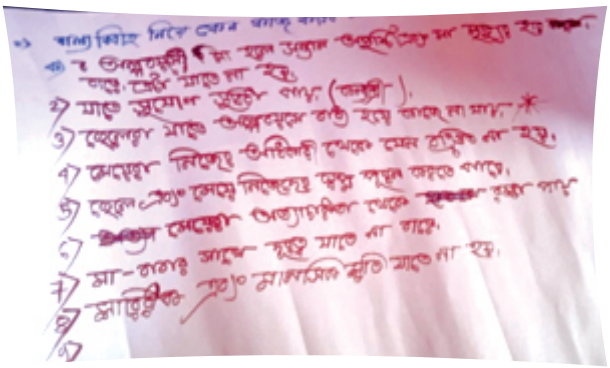
Categorization of identified issues for in PAR exercise



Exercise on pair matrix for finalization of issue for PAR exercise



Revisiting the listed issues by the group



Why do we work on this issue of early marriage?

Climate adaptive livelihoods : Activities with the marginal farmers and process followed :

Focus area	Plan and activities	Roles of the collectives
Expansion of integrated farming practices and getting an identity of an independent farmer:	• Group/ hamlet wise farmers training • Farmers awareness on adopting farming practices • Accessing the government schemes for concrete compost pit and others available to them • Exploring markets	• Convincing others to be part of the group, **handholding support**, ensuring members' participation, creating community **resource pool**

Focus area	Plan and activities	Roles of the collectives
Scaling up organic farming and traditional practices :	• Advanced training on new technique of organic farming, compost preparation and usage, machinery used and information collection and dissemination etc. • Marketing support • Developing farmers producer organisation	• Creating **models for practical learning**, using organic farming methods and encouraging others and extended family members to adopt, initiative on family farming, keeping update • Dissemination of training knowledge among other farmers • **Business led by the community** where they will take the lead to develop more group-based business, • Foster unity among the collectives
Alternative livelihood opportunities and market linkages :	• Mind mapping on their interest on economic activities • Knowledge and capacity building on government schemes and how to access • More specific training • Exploring markets • Skill development for market analysis • Providing market support	
Start business individually or in group and establishing direct value chain collectively evade middlemen	• Specific skill development on market analysis, demand and supply chain, product marketing etc. • Farmers training on advocacy • Staff training on rapport building with farmers	

Name of the villages	No. of farmers groups formed	No. of farmers Covered		No. of meeting held
		Male	Female	
Ram Nagar Abad	3	5	51	84
Paschim Sridharpur	2	4	30	
Gurudaspur	2	5	32	
Total	7	14	113	84

Process and activities	Outputs-behavioural changes
Compost & taralsar preparation & demonstration, how to access the benefit of concrete compost pit from panchayat Farmer's baseline on their present situation of the agri-plot, cost and production etc. Thinking on present situation of agriculture, problems and probable solutions Training and demonstration on indigenous vegetable seed collection and preservation process Training, handholding and demonstration on	Thinking and process started among the women farmers of the community Preparing compost, taralsar etc. and its uses by the farmers in nutrition garden Amrit pani, borax (sohaga) solution, neem oil and other pest and disease control system under Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practiced by the farmers at home. Nursery for vegetable saplings Nutrition garden

Process and activities	Outputs-behavioural changes
practices of nutrition garden in Rabi season, and nursery of sapling of vegetables making, monitoring and rearing technique of nutrition garden Preparation of neem oil and its usages Discussion on integrated pest management for pest control and disease management Training and demonstration on soil and its elements, borax solution etc Entrepreneurship development and marketing, Training and handholding on advocacy, making plan and how to materialise Exposure visit to intervention areas of BTS & MUKTI by the staff and community people (leaders) on repairing of river embankment with a new technique- experience sharing and future plan of action to be taken for advocacy initiatives.	Circle bed Grafting Collection of vegetable seed and preservation Contact with Panchayat and ADA office for inputs of agriculture and training support, support for concrete compost pit and land shaping programme. Contact with Panchayat for support for promotion of alternative livelihood options with skill training and support of seed money to start the business and input and output market Contact Neem Pith for soil testing and have the soil health card and compost or fertilizer recommendations

The relevant photographs are as follows :



Compost preparation at household level by a women farmer



Introduction of nutrition garden and its benefits



Nutrition garden is in place



Nutrition garden is in other place



Farmer working in nutrition garden



Demonstration of making taralsar by a women farmer



Compost preparation at household level by a women farmer



Training session on nutrition garden



Nursery for nutrition garden in rabi season



Training session on eco-farm management



Demonstration on nutrition garden in rabi season



Demonstration on nutrition garden in rabi season



Women farmer working in her nutrition garden



Women farmer group is in place of circle bed demonstration

Gender :

Focus area :	Aspiration and activities	Collectives role :
Creating self identity of recognition of self worth, challenging stringent gender norms, taboos and discrimination, zero tolerance domestic violence and atrocities	• Sensitization and awareness, training and community based discussion • Ensuring men's participation • Reach out vulnerable • Promotion of community leadership and capacitation with defined roles of organisation as mentor	• Applying learning at personal level, collective awareness, reach out larger audience and engage with them, conduct performative actions, active reporting and action against violence, protest collectively including others • Use learning from the training, get connected to alternative livelihood sources and market • Collective will raise awareness on gender equity • Collectively spreading awareness, convincing others, reaching out larger audience, conducting performative actions
Economic independence and self reliance to live with dignity	• Dissemination of information on handicraft and alternative livelihood options • Skill Training support • Marketing support	
Accessing equal rights and entitlements	• Increase awareness about rights • Trainings • Increase men's participation • Enhance skills for alternative earning sources • Engaging more with PRI and local and block level	
Increased ability to negotiate and participation in decision making spaces	• Gender sensitization • Training for men and women • Skill development for sustainable livelihoods opportunities	

Name of the villages	No. of women groups formed	No. of women Covered	No. of meeting held
Ram Nagar Abad	2	42	18
Paschim Sridharpur	2	38	
Gurudaspur	2	39	
Total	6	119	18

Inputs given to the women group and the results come out as follows :

Pprocess and activities	Results- individual and collective action
• Exercise on Gender norms in patriarchal society, thinking of women and division of labour and recognition • Exercise on Division of labour among boys and girls and attitudinal perspectives of the family members including parents • Exercise on Gender discrimination in family- who give maximum labour in a family and who enjoy the power of decision making • Analyzing the merits and demerits of a person, identify the qualities of self and how to transform the bad habits into a good. • Identify the position of women in society through power walk exercise, how women will be in position of power of decision making? • Exercise on division of labour in society between men and women which is gender related issues and discussion • Exercise on adolescents' issues.	Women leaders are seen proactive to ground rule setting, goal setting, building perspective on gender and behaviour change, positive parenting etc., they have started thinking on gender issues identifying the areas of discriminations. Also they are identifying the problems like unequal division of labour, through power walk exercise and analysis, thinking on how they can be able to get power, economically empower accessing the entitlements of social security schemes. **Collective effort taken so far by the women groups- in progress :** • **Peer to peer support among the women group members:** The **PEER** mothers are identifying the others who are habituated to practice the preference of boys to girls at household level and trying to motivate with peer pressure not to do such practice in future. They are also supporting others to reduce/stop this thing. • **A plan for their vocational skill development by the women group:** They have identified the trades of bori and papad making, garment making, incense stick making, soap making etc. Primary talk has been made with panchayat, if there has any scope for skill training or not. The resource organization of promotion of alternative livelihood is requested to provide such kind of vocational skill building facilities for the interested women. The line department at block level is also being contacted for having this facility. • **In addition,** Street play on positive parenting, Celebration of International Women Day, Community led festive is conducted with spontaneous participation of the community of all categories. • Thinking started among women and men about how to reduce gender-based violence and discrimination in a family.

• Celebration of International Women Day :

Women's day is globally celebrated to pay homage, to show respect and honor to the



women for their valuable contribution for the society and country as well. Another objective of this auspicious day is to motivate the women fallen behind and excluded from the main stream society to upraise their voice and strengthen will power. The theme for this year is **'Digit ALL : Innovation and technology for gender equality"**

Like previous year, women collectives got together and made a plan with shared

responsibility to celebrate the day to make it a special one.

Programme started in the morning with a Rally with blaring touchy slogans related to resist domestic violence and oppression, access rights and



entitlements, uplift the womanhood. All the participants irrespectively adolescents, women and also elders all around the three villages of Digambarpur Panchayat joined.

After Rally, participants and delegates assembled for a closed door program. They were all welcomed. The delegates were felicitated with flower bouquet and chandan. Then candle was lightened and the portray of Vidyasagar was garlanded to pay homage and tribute. The main programme was started with a dance performance by a little girl. The dignitaries were delivering short speech on the history and importance of this special day only for women and highlighting importance of the women empowerment breaking unjust social norms.

Krishna Pal, one of the members of women collective shared how she had been able to stand by the family in difficulties. So everyone needs to think to enhance their skills and techniques, learn to utilize time and existing resources.

Sharmila Guria, an elder woman recited and sang a song is praised and appreciated with clapping. Some adolescents performed dances in between speeches delivered. To inspire the women, a case story of a successful woman was played on the screen (Audio Visual) where a simple home maker becomes a successful entrepreneur with her faith on hard work and perseverance to achieve the goal. How gender disparity works in the society pulling the woman back from their upliftment was shown in the screen. Towards the end, the Secretary of ISWS delivered a valuable speech to inspire and motivate them to make better society as they have a pivotal role to play. At last, four women were felicitated with rewarding trophy for their tremendous journey from an ordinary home maker to a leadership. At last, everyone was thanked and congratulated for their spontaneous participation and immense contribution to make it a success.

- **Street play on women empowerment :**

It was also conducted on the street corner with community assemble of mostly women of middle aged. The play was on the life history of a typical woman of poor family. Her husband was drunkard and domestic violence in terms of physical and mental torture to wife was very regular. When the strong will power and hard labour have made her a successful entrepreneur after entering into a group of women empowerment and exposed to a series of meeting, training and handholding sessions. So it was an example of successful earning member as woman of a family and her valuable contribution to her family to manage was



a significant one. Among all human being, may be man or woman, have latent power can be developed giving them space, money, opportunity, courage and time for her changes. The resource is to be effectively utilized with own plan and required labour, which increases confidence. All women were invited to place their feedback about this change possible only with having strong will power and hard work.

Relevant photographs :



Exercise on division of labour among men and women-based on gender bias



Exercise on understanding of gender discrimination started from childhoods



Exercise on power matrix



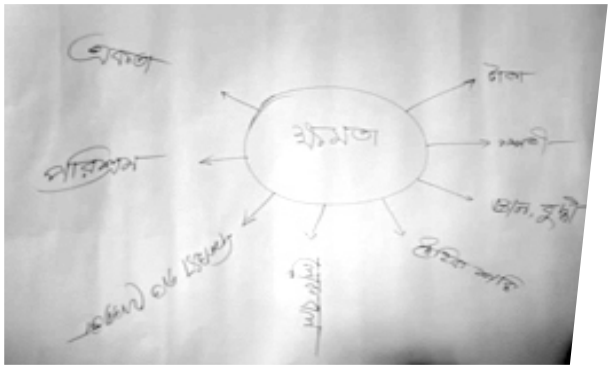
Exercise on power walk



Discussion of entrepreneurship promotion



Discussion on thinking started on perspective building on gender



Discussion on sources of power



Patents meeting



Work division among the boys and girls in a family and analysis

Community led advocacy :

Focus area	Plan	Collectives' role:
Accessing equal rights and entitlements	• Discussions to develop consciousness about rights • Trainings • Ensuring men's participation • Enhancing skills for alternative earning sources • Engaging more with PRI of local and block level	• Collectively spreading awareness, convincing others, reaching out larger audience, conducting performative actions • Active participation if collectives in advocacy training, sharing knowledge with family and community, being united
Proficiency in community led advocacy	• Helping in relationship building with government and engage meaningfully • Capacitating field on advocacy techniques and • communication with PRI and other stakeholders • Ensuring participation of block level officials • Project collaboration with like-minded organisations	

Training and capacity building for the collectives :

Inputs-process and activities	Expected Outputs- collective action
• Training at staff level and community level on how to identify and analyse the problems and prioritize the problems to address • How to collect the authentic data as required for addressing the issue/s • Identification of stakeholder whose support is needed for solution of problems • Different steps of advocacy along with its definition and importance	• Community understanding is in place on advocacy and agreed to work on it • Problems identified by the Group • Initiative taken for data collection and face challenges • Meeting on how to face the challenges seeking strategy • Discussion ongoing on these problems among themselves

Inputs-process and activities	Expected Outputs- collective action
• Group exercise on different steps after identification of problem to address • Follow up of the roles and activities of the collectives	• Trying to increase the number of supporters for addressing the issues • Collective actions taken on the social issues



Session on collective leadership and team work



Group exercise on planning for repairing of embankment for advocacy purpose



Meeting with upapradhan and others for strengthening VLCPC



Group exercise on planning for drainage for advocacy purpose



Followup meeting on plastic rejection campaigning in collaboration with panchayat



Provide skill training for women as alternative sources of earning

Calander of Capacity Building Process for Staff Learning and Experience Made Under Consortium (2022-23)

Date	Venue	Topics of training/ workshops	Facilitated by	No. of staff participated
21-22.04.2022	Hotel Floatel, Kolkata	Theory of change	NITII	All the representatives of OAK Partners
07.05.2022	Titan hotel Ramganga	Basics on Child Safeguarding Policy	PRAJAAK	ISWS and MUKTI Staff
15.05.2022	ISWS project office premises	Eco-farm management and sustainable agriculture	DRCSC	ISWS staff and farmers representatives
23-25.06.2022	Hotel Girish, Diamond Harbour	Positive Parenting	PRAJAAK	Staff of all the HUB partners
11-12.07.2022	Hotel Girish, Diamond Harbour	PAR training and project review meeting	PRAXIS	Representatives of all the hub partners
27-29.07.2022	Hotel Punyalakshmi, Diamond Harbour	J.J.B & POCSO	PRAJAAK	Staff of all the hub partners
12-13.08 2022	Hotel Sweety, Ramganga-advanced training	Eco-farm management and sustainable agriculture for staff	DRCSC	All the HUB partners
29-31.08.2022	Hotel Stadel Kolkata	Risk assessment and Child Safeguarding Policy	PRAJAAK & Headways	All the HUB partners
12-14.09.2022	Kolkata Baptist Mission	ACV project review and road map	PRAXIS	All the HUB partners
16.10.2022	ISWS project office premises	Eco-farm management and sustainable agriculture for farmers	DRCSC	ISWS
03-04.11.2022	Titan Hotel, Ramganga	Advocacy training	NCAS	All the representatives of hub partners and community representatives
23-24.11.2022	Hotel Girish, Diamond Harbour	Gender and sexuality-phase-II	Rupantaran Foundation	Staff of all the hubs of Sundarbans
12.12.2022	ISWS	Guidance on how to proceed further on women empowerment after need analysis	Rupantaran Foundation	Staff of ISWS
Monthly – started on 19.12.2022	Study Circle	Gender related issues analysis	Rupantaran Foundation	Staff of all the hubs of Sundarbans
28.12.2022	Titan hotel Ramganga	Concept of Masculinity and violence	PRAJAAK	Staff of ISWS, MUKTI
16-17.01.2023	VIVANTA, Kolkata	Review with learning and understanding and exploring scope of mutual cooperation – cross programmatic approach	OAK Foundation	All the OAK partners of India
19.01.2023	Titan Hotel Ramganga	Changes of adolescents	PRAJAAK	Staff of ISWS, MUKTI
21.01.2023	Vivanta	Theory of Changes	NITII	OAK Partners
28.01.2023	Kolkata	do	NITII	do

Date	Venue	Topics of training/ workshops	Facilitated by	No. of staff participated
15.02 2023	Office of BTS, Kultoli	Steering group meeting and group exercise of the progress and prospect of ACV project	PRAXIS	All the representatives of hub partners
24-25.03.2023	ISWS project office premises	Eco-farm management and sustainable agriculture for farmers- IPM, Grafting	DRCSC	ISWS field staff and farmers group members
27.03.2023 & 29. 03.2023	ISWS Office premises	Assessment and reflection of ACV project and its future planning	Sayantani-consultant Visited office meet the groups	All the representatives of hub partners
02.04.2023	Hotel Sweety, Ramganga	Exercise on role of resource organisation and steering group meeting	Sayantani-consultant	All the hub partners representatives
06.04.2023	DRCSC, Kolkata	Steering group meeting and discussion on future planning of ACV	PRAXIS and Sayantani	All the hub partners representatives

Basic Information of the Organisation :

• Contact Details :

Name	**Indraprastha Srijan Welfare Society (ISWS)**
Address of Regd. Office	Vill.- Indraprastha, PO- Biswanath Pur, PS- Pathar Pratima, Dist.- South 24 Parganas, Pin- 743349, West Bengal
Project Office Address	Vill.+P.O.- Gurudas Pur, PS- Dholahat, Dist.- South 24 Parganas, Pin- 743349, West Bengal
Phone	+91 9733625342
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Website	www.indraprasthasrijan.in
Name of the chief functionary	Mr. Palash Sinha, Secretary
Address	Vill. + PO –Dakshin Shibpur, Pathar Pratima, South 24 Parganas- 743349
Phone	+91 9733625342
Email Id	palashsinha92@gmail.com

• Registration Details :

Society Registration No. with Year	Reg. No. S/IL/51627 of 2008-09 under West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961
Date of Establishment	Ninth day of April, 2008
Registration under 80G of IT Act	No. DIT(E)/8E/60/2013-14/G-222/2021-23
Registration under 12A of IT Act	No. DIT(E)/8E/60/2013-14/S-114/2018-20
Registration under FCRA	Reg. No. 147111141 of the year 2014
PAN of the organisation	AAAA16707K
Registration number on CSR1	CSR00017764
Nature of the Organisation	Non-Government Organisation- cultural, economic, educational, social, environmental

- **Instruments of ISWS :**

Vision



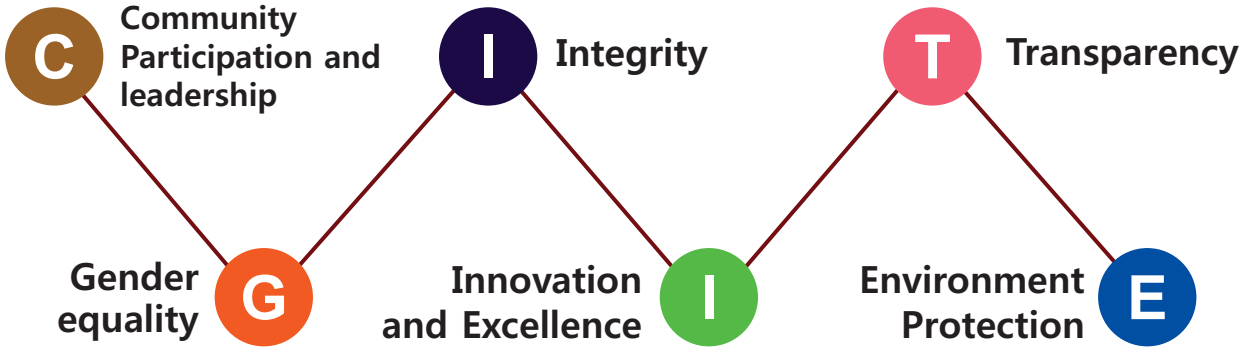
To develop self-sustained society with improved living condition of the marginalized with community leadership irrespective of religion, caste, sex, colour, creed is capable enough to raise voices on their rights and entitlements properly using local and natural resources.

Mission



Developing life and livelihood of the poor and marginalised to be sustainable strengthening people's collectives with natural leadership is able to bring about systemic and behavioural changes among community, stakeholders and duty bearers helpful to access rights and entitlements.

Core Values



Objectives of ISWS

- To capacitate community collectives with leadership focusing gender equality and rights enable them to raise voices to access the opportunities for better livelihoods.
- To promote **'Child Agency'** strengthening the village level child protection committee to work independently on child rights and protection.
- To promote agro-eco management system with climate adaptive practices along with environment regeneration and preservation of ground level water to ensure food and nutrition security.
- Promote community leadership focusing adolescents and youth on growing habits of health and hygiene and promote entrepreneur skills amongst youths conducive to generation of employment/self-employment.

Strategic Approach

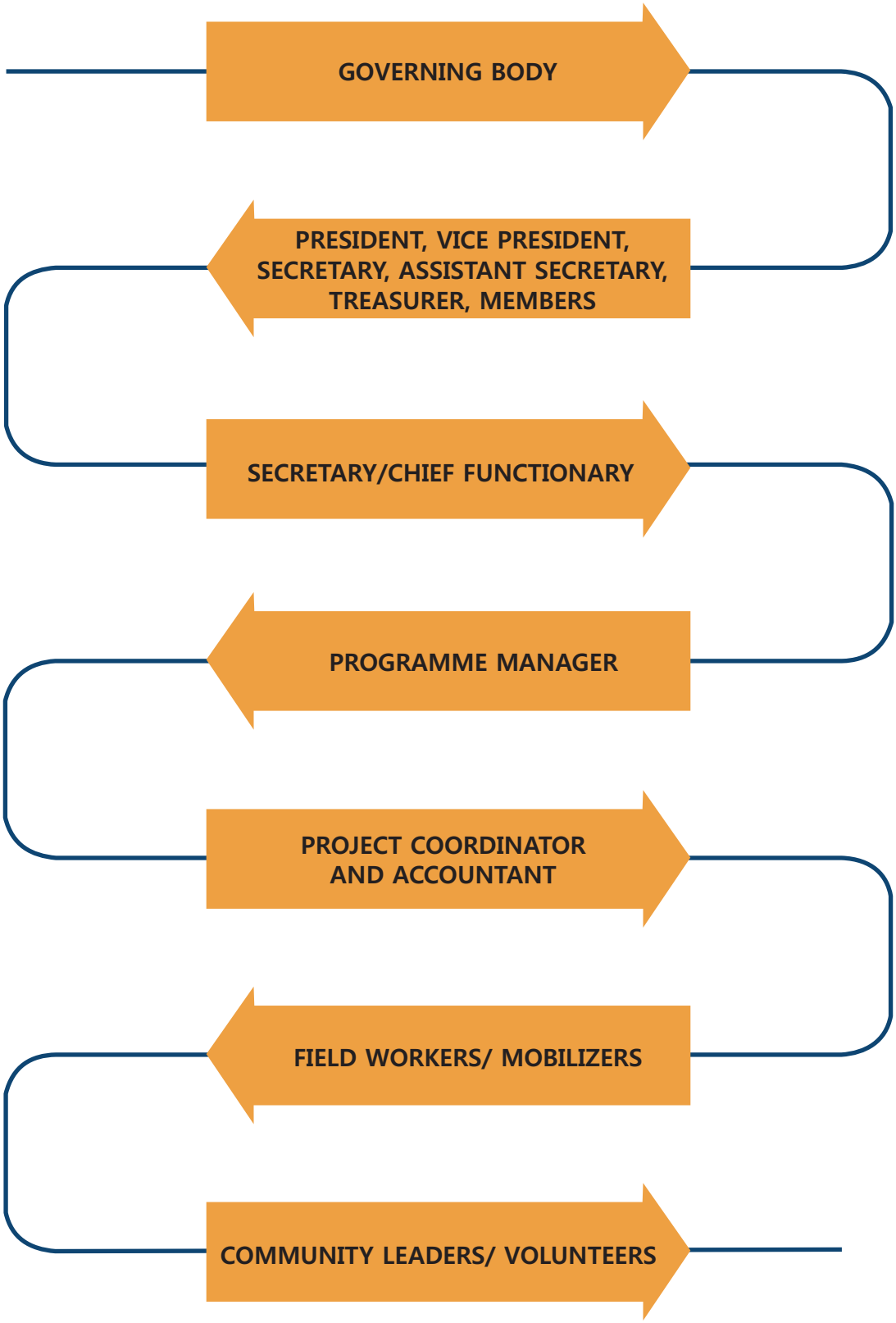
- Inclusion and creating an open space for community participation
- Community leadership development emphasizing gender equality
- Right based and people centred advocacy
- Adolescent Agency
- Social and Economic Empowerment- sustainable livelihoods

Thematic Focus

- Women empowerment with rights and equality
- Child rights and protection
- Sustainable Agriculture and Livelihood Promotion
- Environment Protection and Regeneration
- Food Security
- Water Sanitation and Hygiene

GOVERNANCE :

Organogram / Governance Structure :



MIS/ Monitoring System :

Staff and members of the organisation are adequately and currently informed about plans, methods, schedules, problems, events and progress on regular basis. The necessary instructions, knowledge and information are passed on for application to all concerned. It is clearly and timely presented so as to make misinterpretation or misunderstanding impossible. Proper and adequate communication is two-way passage flows from the bottom to upwards as well as from the top to down. Based on above mentioned guidelines and operational techniques/tools, it is under a programme manager, there is field coordinator and under which there are community mobilizers and volunteers work in coordination with respective upper-level staff as per their defined roles and responsibilities. As deliverables/ MIS, every community mobilizers report to the respective upper level and field coordinator reports to programme manager is conveyed on daily basis after collecting the report from the field. The community leaders voluntarily assist the field mobilizers and trying to take part in the discussion and sharing held on the issues faced. Staff meeting is organised monthly to review the past activities and planning for the next month and which varies from programme to programme as per their features and magnitudes. The programme manager, the upper-level management and administration also monitor the activities to review as per plan with plan of action for the next on regular basis. There are also separate departments like programme, accounts, documentation are assigned. The different team is mutually coordinated, interrelated and cooperative in every programme implementation of the organisation.

Process Documentation :

Under this project of Amplifying Community Voices, as the project is of pilot through a consortium mode, an association of the likeminded of both resources and implementing partner organisations committed to work together in their own separate geographical locations of sundarbans since 2020. It is a research work started right from the baseline survey using various tools of participatory vulnerability and capacity assessment (PVCA) to study the socio-economic situation, analysing the findings and then micro-level planning made by the community itself, and along with intervention started.

Regular practicing the process ongoing, making discussion livelier with community participation, more attractive and meaningful to the participants involved using different tools like chalk, colour, white board, markers, chart, sketch pen, sticky notes, poster, literature, short story, and technique like social mapping, scoring, ranking, livelihood matrix, role play, games, group discussion, question and answer session, storytelling, examples etc. relating to the issues and context.

The participants get more interested and enthusiastic through this practice regularly. They get more fun and there is scope of cross learning on the issues, context and the probable solution and at the same time risks and challenges and how those will be overcome. Slowly they practically feel need to build knowledge, becoming more courageous and confident to do something for their own. It ensures the community participation of all marginalised strata in decision making and engagement in the activity proactively, which reflects the changes in attitude and behaviour breaking the patriarchal norms and systems of the society. Attitudinal

changes are come out and thought process of changes are started from their own and the family. Collective actions are taken by them after planning on the small issue/s identified along with local resources available to be supportive. With natural leaderships from their own, with articulation of the rights and entitlements, collective voices are raised on to way out the solution analysing the stakeholders to access the schemes and services as per plan. Here the whole process is documented with feelings and opinions of the participants about the process, action taken and it is to be done regularly. The changes occurred in the journey of development of the organisation is also documented simultaneously.

Risk Management & Internal Control System :

For this, the organization has competent and committed staff strength with positive interpersonal relationship, working together in harmony, with devotion and conviction lead to meaningful endeavours. Maintaining morale and motivation of staff, regular training, and equality of opportunity for skill development, democratic decision making, process and smooth intra-organizational communication is practiced for harbouring work culture.

Next crucial functioning is coordination within the organization. The work atmosphere of the organization is assessed from the relationship and coordination that exists in the organization, among the staff members and between the staff and the management. Another aspect is the participatory decision making. Similarly, all staff have an equal commitment and joint sense of responsibility. It also creates a congenial atmosphere for creativity.

Human Resources and infrastructure of the organisation :

Organisation has equipped office premises and training centre with the capacity of 30 participants (non-residential) at its registered address. A team of 7 (3 Females and 4 Males) staff experienced in the field of social development are associated with this organisation.

PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT :

- **Future Projections :**

Creating enabling environment for the distressed community and capacity building of local and natural leadership to raise voices on their rights and entitlements is our mission. Community voices articulation and collectively to work extensively for better lives and livelihoods is a process oriented and to be practiced by them. The issues like climate adaptive agriculture and livelihoods and environment, water and sanitation, pollution and ground level water, health and hygiene and gender inequality and child rights and protection are being addressed with active participation of the vulnerable community. This is bringing about some changes in attitude and behavior.

Promoting child agency and strengthening village level child protection committee, there will be a safety net to protect child rights and exercise entitlements. The child safe guarding policy will guide us how to protect the child rights and promote child leadership to make them future responsible citizen.

The marginal farmers will be knowledgeable and skilled enough on organic farming, integrated pest management, nutrition gardening and doing such practices and then thinking for

scale up. The required infrastructure like land shaping for integrated farming, set up compost pit, design of nutrition garden will be converged with the schemes of the government through community led advocacy in line with human rights frame work. There will be more sources of alternative livelihood options before them with necessary market linkages. The farmers will be organized into farmers groups/ organization with capacity building on how to manage them and to get fair price of their produces avoiding the middlemen. The women will be reorganized and capable enough to work with own identity. They will be economically empowered practicing the source of alternative earning. It is aiming at building perspective and shifting narratives on gender equality. For this, fund mobilization is very much crucial and challenging in this time. Strategically it is proceeding ahead documenting the progress and achievements of current and past activities sharing and networking with the like-minded organizations and donor agencies, the universities, organizations both government and non-government and stakeholders asking for assistance of both financial and technical with extension of areas of intervention in a collaborative mode.

An Appeal

ISWS continues to take initiatives to offer opportunities to the vulnerable community of Sundarban area with sustainable agriculture and livelihoods promotion for more than a decade enable them to raise voices for their rights and entitlements. It is expected that you would be able to take part in one of many programmes as ongoing at present with also first-hand knowledge and experience in supporting this cause that we take in pride.

It is our mission that 'Developing life and sustainable livelihood model for the poor and marginalised community strengthening the people's collectives with awareness and their strategic empowerment on rights and entitlements linking with government schemes and programmes, able to adapt critical situation of natural disasters of climate change'.

In view of this, we rely on the generosity of an individual, community and organisation, network like yours, without which we could not be able to offer the process of changes for the community.

We hope your commitment to support our annual appeal for donation/contribution for this noble cause. Our goal is to leverage of Rs. Two crore and a half for this year. Your donation will be tax deductible under 80G of I.T. Act. Every donation / contribution, regardless of size makes a difference.

Thank you in advance for your support.



Palash Sinha
Secretary

Acknowledgement :

Heartiest Congratulations to our following stakeholders, partners, donors for 2022-23

1. OAK Foundation, Switzerland
2. PRAXIS, New Delhi
3. NCAS, Pune,
4. Rupantaran Foundation, Kolkata
5. PRAAJAK, Kolkata
6. Development Research Communication and Service Centre
7. Sundarban Social Development Centre
8. Mukti and Give India
9. Department of Health and Family Welfare, West Bengal
10. BDO, ADA, CDPO, BLDO, Pathar Pratima.
11. KVK, Nimpith
12. Government officials both State and Central
13. Local Panchayat Bodies and Functionaries,
14. Community
15. Individuals

We are grateful to all of you for your valuable contributions extended to us.



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Indraprastha Srijan Welfare Society

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