YOUR STEP WAS OUR LEAP

HOW OXFAM INDIA UTILIZED THE FUNDS RAISED AT OXFAM TRAILWALKER 2016-2017

While Oxfam Trailwalker event is one of the most challenging fitness tests and a very successful team building experience for Oxfam India, it is that initiative which puts more muscle behind our work on reducing Inequality & Injustice in the world. By agreeing to Walk, Volunteer & Partner with us you have contributed to the most marginalized communities of India.

YOU ARE A CHANGEMAKER NOW!
BY 2020, INEQUALITY TAKES CENTER STAGE OF THE DEVELOPMENT DISCOURSE LEADING TO INCREASED PUBLIC FINANCING & PEOPLE’S ACCESS TO UNIVERSAL, FREE & QUALITY HEALTH-CARE AND EDUCATION.

Outcomes

1. Government takes positive steps towards bringing fiscal policy reforms towards addressing the inequality & building a more equal opportunity country.

2. Strengthened public health & education system through enhanced peoples’ participation in planning & decision making in Oxfam India’s focus states.

3. Increased regulation & accountability of private sector in education & healthcare through effective legislations & its implementation.

Oxfam India’s Impact

Total

Health: 56,118
Education: 1,13,851

Female

Health: 27,558
Education: 55,657

In the year 2016-17, we had 83,215 female beneficiaries from a total of 1,69,969 beneficiaries.
**Education**

Education at Oxfam India (OIN) is about advocating and campaigning for the educational rights of the marginalised sections, with special emphasis on the girl child. Through our various programmes we strive to achieve the goals of universal, inclusive and quality elementary education. We do evidence based advocacy focusing on the realisation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 (or ‘Right to Education Act’ also known as RTE).

Promoting community participation towards improving the delivery of Government education programmes has been a key focus area in 2016-17. As part of our efforts, capacity building trainings, orientations and awareness campaigns have been undertaken by School Management Committees (SMCs) to help them perform their role effectively. SMCs have further been trained in preparing and implementing school development plans. As a founding member of the National RTE Forum, Oxfam India has used this platform to engage with policymakers on New Education Policy and other issues in 2016-17. Oxfam India has also engaged with the schooling system to create opportunities for a creative learning environment.

**KEY HIGHLIGHTS**

- Oxfam India is very actively involved with state level RTE forum. In Odisha, around 100 plus CSOs, teachers’ unions, etc. are part of the forum. The recent new education policy was discussed in detail and the list of suggestions was submitted to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India.

- Over 20,000 SMC members were engaged through the state forums on advocacy and awareness on compliance of RTE Act. SMC federation has been formed in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh.

- More than 700 participants from across 19 states took active part in the National stocktaking Convention of RTE forum which

---

> **20,000**

SMC members engaged on advocacy and compliance of RTE

> **700**

Participants from 19 states at the National Stocktaking Convention

> **420**

Meetings with government officials and elected representatives

> **2,545**

Memorandums submitted to the government

> **250**

State level consultations and workshops
was partly supported by OIN.

- Our partners and community groups were successful in facilitating around 420 meetings with government officials, elected representatives at all levels (block, district and state). These meetings created pressure on the departments leading to influencing over 230 elected representatives who are now speaking about quality of education and its access to the most marginalised children.

- 2,545 memorandums were submitted to the government (by the partners themselves or on behalf of a group).

- About 250 state level consultations and workshops have been conducted at state levels with stakeholders.

- 720 grievance redressal complaints were filed in various schools, of which over 125 grievance cases have been resolved. Partners and the community members are using the RTE compliance parameter framework developed by partner NGOs to assess the functioning of the schools. This has greatly helped as evidence to file cases of grievance with the concerned authorities.

- In Chhattisgarh, RTE forum for revived after 2 years by the efforts of OIN.

- The suggestions and recommendations to Draft National Education Policy 2016 were submitted to the MHRD at national level and through state RTE forums to education departments.

Tangible Impact

We were able to orient around 2200 SMC members and community members on RTE compliances. Of all the SMC members in the project intervention villages, more than 50% of SMC members are women. These SMC members, particularly women members, are continuously focusing on girl’s enrolment, retention and quality education. Based on the orientation and constant follow up, 742 SMC were regularised in various intervention areas. 74 school development plans were prepared with active participation from SMC and community leaders. This also made us successful in making 529 schools functional in terms of quality education, infrastructure, MDM, etc. Due to the active role played by SMC, community-based organisations and the community, all the intervention schools in our intervention areas in Bihar and Jharkhand are free of violence.

Advocacy

- Parents and SMCs of six blocks submitted letter to Chief Minister through District Magistrate for effective implementation of Allahabad High Court’s order for universalisation of elementary education in UP. 300 SMC members submitted post cards to demand for election of new SMCs in UP.

- In several districts of UP, representatives of political parties contesting in Vidhan Sabha election received people’s manifesto on education and gave commitment to put education on priority in their development agenda.

- Social audits facilitated in 55 schools have increased accountability at all levels and brought more transparency in resource utilisation and functioning of schools.

- In five educationally backward districts of UP, (263 out-of-school girls have been mainstreamed into regular schools by mobilising government officials, community members, etc. for promotion of girl child education.

- In UP, 200 ‘Child Collectives’ are tracking irregular and out-of-school children on regular basis and supporting parents and teachers in enrolling them in the school.

- In Delhi and Bihar, 107 and 300 teachers were trained respectively during the reporting period on quality education and child centered teaching methodology and innovative methods. This, in turn, will help improve the learning level of children.

In UP, 200 ‘Child Collectives’ are tracking irregular and out-of-school children on regular basis and supporting parents and teachers in enrolling them in the school.

In Delhi, we have reached out to disadvantaged and vulnerable groups through adopting innovative and engaging technique like street plays and community events. This has greatly helped in engaging with the groups and reaching out wider community members who are not part of SMC but have equal stakes in the education system.
Health

BROAD STRATEGIES

- Generate greater understanding on the issue of fiscal justice and progressive taxation within the civil society.
- Enhance the capacity of and provide support to civil society organisations (CSOs) and networks to carry out programmes, campaigns and advocacy on health issues.
- Engage with academics, research institutions, think tanks and media to generate evidence and highlight the issues in larger public domain.
- Run public facing campaigns on progressive taxation, access to medicines, private healthcare sector regulation etc.
- Engage with programme planners, policymakers and government agencies to learn about the recent developments and to also influence them in the favour of our demands.
- Engage with the private healthcare sector to promote regulation of private sector.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- National seminar on PPP in healthcare: In collaboration with the health network Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (JSA), we organised a national seminar, bringing together research and experience on PPPs in health sector. Focus of the seminar was on the modalities and implications of outsourcing of government health services and facilities in the context of public health outcomes. Findings of the four case studies we had conducted on PPP healthcare projects in were shared in the seminar, along with similar experiences from West Bengal, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh.
- Nearly 80 people from 20 states participated in the day-long seminar held by Oxfam India for analysing the role of PPP in healthcare.
- Video documentation of Delhi's Mohalla Clinics: In order to better understand and share with others, the outcome of increased investment by the Delhi government in healthcare, we carried out a video documentation of the health sector reforms initiated in the state. We got permission from the Delhi government to shoot inside Mohalla Clinics (Clinics offering free essential healthcare services) and interview programme staff. The 12-minute documentary will be used in the Even It Up campaign to highlight the importance of investing in primary healthcare.
- Increased interaction with VHSNC: Awareness meetings with the Village Health Sanitation & Nutrition Committee (VHSNC), adolescent groups and women’s groups have been conducted at all villages. Active VHSNCs have led to better convergence between the Health, and Women and Child Development departments, who are jointly responsible for providing village level health and nutrition services.
- Case Studies for UHC indicator: Oxfam, along with other several global organisations, has been advocating that the indicator to evaluate progress towards Universal Health Coverage...
(indicator 3.8.2) must measure the number of people making excessive out of pocket expenditure (OOPE) for health, rather than looking at the number of people covered by health insurance. In order to support Oxfam’s global work on UHC related Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator advocacy, we collected case studies of people who had incurred OOPE while seeking healthcare from the government health system, despite having insurance cards. Eight such case studies were collected from the Kalahandi district of Odisha. While collecting the case studies, we found that people were neither getting free healthcare services despite having BPL status nor were they able to avail the benefits of government insurance schemes for reasons such as insurance cards not being renewed, finger prints not matching etc.

- 8 case studies were collected in Odisha to highlight that health insurance does not always translate to financial protection, as part of Oxfam India’s UH indicator advocacy.

- The case study findings were shared with the concerned authorities and have led to improved outcomes for the communities.

- Assessment of free medicine availability: We partnered with healthcare network JSA in Chattisgarh to assess the availability of medicines in public health facilities and engage with the state government about increasing people’s access to free medicines. In doing so, we built capacity of CSOs on how to conduct survey to assess the quantity of medicines available at health facilities. In Odisha, 20 community-based monitoring and reporting programme on availability of free medicines & health facilities were established, apart from case study documentation on effective functioning of government healthcare schemes. In Bihar, constant advocacy by women’s groups has led to improvement in supply and availability of medicines at both the Public Health Centres (PHC) based in the project area.

Audit of patient welfare funds in Odisha: Issue of audit of Patient Welfare Committee funds at government health facilities was raised with the Health Department in Odisha. The Chief Health Officer of the District in one of our project area agreed to our recommendations. As a result, audit of one of the facilities, CHC Junagarh is being undertaken for the first time in three years. Further, the detailed information will be digitised and shared with government authorities for improvement in services.

NEARLY 80 PEOPLE FROM 20 STATES PARTICIPATED IN THE DAY-LONG SEMINAR HELD BY OXFAM INDIA FOR ANALYSING THE ROLE OF PPP IN HEALTHCARE

8 CASE STUDIES WERE COLLECTED IN ODISHA TO HIGHLIGHT THAT HEALTH INSURANCE DOES NOT ALWAYS TRANSLATE TO FINANCIAL PROTECTION, AS PART OF OXFAM INDIA’S UHC INDICATOR ADVOCACY.
Inequality campaign

As of 2016, the richest 1% now has more wealth than the rest of the world combined. The economic inequality is reaching new extremes and undermining global efforts to end poverty. At Oxfam we believe that inequality is not inevitable; rather it is the result of national and intentional policy decisions.

At the national level in India, Oxfam’s inequality campaign focuses on:

- Evidence based advocacy for increased social spending on public services such as education, health and social protection as spending by the Indian government in these areas is woefully low vis-à-vis established benchmarks.
- Influencing the Government to adopt progressive taxation policies in which corporations and the richest individuals are taxed more in order to redistribute resources in society and ensure that increased share of direct taxes are spent for social development.

The primary focus of Oxfam’s campaign against rising inequality has been to increase public concern about the gap between rich elites and the rest. During the year, Oxfam India has widely disseminated the inequality policy brief “An Economy for the 99 per cent”. At the grassroots level, Oxfam India team has met and discussed with the poor and vulnerable and captured their stories.

Oxfam India Media Team reached out to more than 100 top Indian & foreign media channels/publications a week prior to the “An Economy for the 99 per cent” report launch. The team provided embargo copy of the report, summary, methodology as shared by the global team. Apart from the global material, we provided India’s National Wealth & Income Data, India specific highlights and recommendations to the Indian government.

This helped the media prepare infographics and focus on India related inequality figures. It also gave the media time to reach out to us for clarifications and quotes.

APART FROM OUR REPORT BEING COVERED BY LEADING NATIONAL DAILIES INCLUDING THE TIMES OF INDIA, HINDUSTAN TIMES AND TOP NEWS CHANNELS, REGIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND ONLINE MEDIA, OUR CEO MS. NISHA AGARWAL WAS ALSO INTERVIEWED BY THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA FOR HER INSIGHTS.
BY 2020, MORE POOR AND MARGINALISED WOMEN WILL CLAIM AND ADVANCE THEIR RIGHTS, AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IS LESS PREVALENT.

Outcomes

1. Enhanced realisation of gender mainstreaming across Oxfam India’s work.

2. Reduced social acceptance of violence against women and girls within private spaces at individual, community and institutional levels.

3. Improved positioning of Oxfam India on Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) within private spaces in South Asia.

Oxfam India’s Impact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3,23,727</td>
<td>1,92,181</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADVANCING GENDER JUSTICE
Working towards ending domestic violence

Despite 20 years of the UN General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) continues to remain a gross violation of human rights and one of the most persistent forms of gender inequality and discrimination.

In India, women face some form of violence almost from 'womb to tomb'. Though all forms of violence are a grave concern, domestic violence is particularly so as it is perpetrated within the 'safety' of homes.

Oxfam India and its partners are currently working on the issue of domestic violence in five states of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh. Over the past six years, Oxfam India and partners have undertaken the following:

- Building political will: Advocated for the better implementation of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 at the state and national levels.
- Empowerment of women: Reached out to over 42,000 women directly as support in cases of violence.
- Strengthening of specialist women’s services: Established 17 support centres in police stations, 8 support centres in non-governmental organisations, 3 networks to provide support services.
- Changing social norms, including behaviours and practices: Worked with over 642 informal groups of women, men, boys and girls within communities to prevent violence and campaigned largely on changing individual knowledge and attitudes.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Gender campaign ‘Bano Nayi Soch’ to change mindsets

In order to address the issue of patriarchal mindsets, attitudes and behaviours of duty bearers as well as the society in general in 2016-17 Oxfam India launched the campaign ‘Bano Nayi Soch’ on social norms underpinning domestic violence. The campaign has been launched in the states of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh. The launch events witnessed impressive local participation and wide coverage both in the electronic as well as print media. In Uttar Pradesh, renowned Bollywood celebrity Ms. Shabana Azmi, launched gender campaign ‘Bano Nayi Soch’ from Azamgarh.
During our campaign, a wide cross-section of society including youth, men and government officials signed a pledge on gender social norms.

**MAMI Best Film on Gender Equality Award**
Organised by the Mumbai Academy of the Moving Image (MAMI), the Mumbai Film Festival previews new films of all genres from around the world. This year, Oxfam India partnered with Mumbai Film Festival for instituting a new award – ‘Oxfam Best Film on Gender Equality’ and for a panel discussion - ‘Women in Cinema’. The objective of introducing these categories was to establish that there is a need to challenge and change gender based social norms that perpetuate violence against women and promote gender inequality. At the event, our CEO, Ms Nisha Agarwal, as well Oxfam Global Ambassador Rahul Bose, a leading actor, addressed the audience on Oxfam India’s work in gender justice as well as our interventions in other areas. The discussion ‘Women in Cinema’ was moderated by Rahul Bose and Ms. Nisha Agarwal was part of the panel. The discussion was very engaging and covered by print and electronic media. As part of the event, Oxfam India also organised a brunch attended by 150 women.

The definition of violence against women and girls in this paper is the same as the UN definition "violence against women" means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.”
from the film fraternity. At the brunch, we showcased a film on our work in advancing gender justice and also took bytes from celebrities, which we can use in our future campaigns.  

**Lead Partner to Global Citizen India**

Global Citizen is a community of people coming together to learn and take action on the world’s biggest issues. In India, the three issues of Quality Education, Gender Equality, and Water & Sanitation have been shortlisted by Global Citizen as key focus areas. Oxfam India has been selected as Global Citizen’s lead partner for promoting gender equality. Our work has been published on the Global Citizen website and has generated significant awareness.

The Global Citizen Festival is held to raise funds for organisations and projects that align with Global Citizen’s focus areas. At the Global Citizen Festival held in India for the first time in November 2016, Oxfam India was selected as the beneficiary of sale proceeds from a significant block of tickets for the popular UK band Coldplay’s concert. We also developed a digital wall at the Festival talking about gender inequality and engaged in real time with our audiences through our campaigns #Enough – end violence against women & girls and #BanoNaviSoch.

**Ground-level change**

- 1,657 partner and community representatives (with 855 women participants) were trained on women’s rights and gender justice including VAWG during this period in 92 training workshops.
- Under ‘Creating Space’s project of Gender Justice, Oxfam India along with the partners have formed 300 groups reaching out to 6000 young people in 100 villages of 4 states. The effort is to engage better with men, adolescent boys and girls to and bring a shift in their attitudes and behaviours in social norms.
- As part of the National Youth Engagement Programme, 500 young Jagriks between 14-30 years enthusiastically embarked on a reality check of our Constitution. Jagriks were required to complete 6 Fundamental Rights tasks or 6 Fundamental Duties tasks over the 5 weeks’ period.
- Oxfam India worked with government departments to ensure they take actions to address the gaps identified at relevant policies & laws pertaining to violence against women and girls in private spaces. 167 actions were taken by trained government officials to extend support services for women and girls survivors of violence.
- 765 community based institutions and 152 education institutions initiated dialogue which is linked with existing social norms.
- 512 survivors are getting support through our support centres and other initiatives.

**STATE-WISE KEY HIGHLIGHTS**

**A. Bihar**

- 17 partner organisations of Jumav Manch Network (women’s rights network) have undergone trainings on Transformative Leadership for Women’s Rights (TLWR) , gender equality, mainstreaming disability etc.
- In Bihar all the 25 partner organisations are using the tools developed by Oxfam India at state level. Besides, they have also received some tools from regional and national level. Booklets on PWDVA 2005, “Hamara Adhikar”, Roles and responsibilities of PRI member’s leaflets on VAW and postcard and sticker on VAW issues were developed .

**B. Uttar Pradesh**

- 26 civil society organisations have shown their commitment to deal with the cases of PWDVA in coordination with Azamgarh-based support centres. A district level network of women rights organisation has also been formed in Azamgarh to deal with the issue of domestic violence. The process of creating an informal state level network on ‘Violence against Women and Girls’ was initiated by Oxfam India.

**C. Odisha**

- In Odisha, state-level alliance meeting was organised in which activists and network members from different districts participated on the issues of violence against women and girl with focus on PWDV Act and CEFM.

**D. Jharkhand**

- A policy was made/issued by the Jharkhand government (Jharkhand Women Policy) for addressing violence against women and enhancing services for female survivors of violence.

**Way Forward**

Going ahead, Oxfam India would focus on creating more conversations within communities and individuals on joining the movement on changing social norms. It would endeavour to bring about a different narrative that provides the space for women to demand their due right to life without dignity while men act on the need to give up their existing privileges for a more egalitarian society.
While there has been some progress in health and education, and even in reducing violence against women, there has been little or no progress in measures of women’s “empowerment” such as representation in national or state level politics, in voice and leadership in the corporate sector, or in achievement of property rights.

Nisha Agrawal
Chief Executive Officer
Oxfam India

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.
HOPE TO SEE YOU AGAIN IN OXFAM TRAILWALKER 2017-2018!