



ANNUAL REPORT 2017



LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE INDIA TRUST

Empowering the last, the least and the lost





Vision

Just Societies ensuring fullness of life in harmony with creation

Mission

LWSIT empowers the vulnerable and the disadvantaged communities to ensure justice, ecological balance and overcome poverty

Mandate

To bear witness to the Indian Churches' commitment to accompany the poor, the marginalized and the excluded in their quest for justice, full realization of human rights and life with dignity in harmony with ecology

Core Values

Justice, Accountability, Equality, Dignity, Democracy, Inclusiveness

Goal

Enhanced dignity of lives of vulnerable and disadvantaged communities in India

Message from President



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN INDIA

Regd. Under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 (Regn. No. 13 of 1933-34) and under the Bombay Public Trusts Act 1950 (Regn. No. F/715(N))

QUADRENNIAL THEME: TOWARDS JUST AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

PRESIDENT: The Most Rev. Dr. P. C. Singh | VICE-PRESIDENTS: Rev. Dr. D. R. Sadananda, Ms. Aleyamma Thomas, Mr. Liju Jacob Kuriakose

TREASURER: Rev. Dr. A. G. Augustine Jeyakumar | GENERAL SECRETARY: Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad

REFORMATION FOR TRANSFORMATION

2017 was a landmark year as we celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. Martin Luther's experience of deprivation as a child and a monk, his encounters with the homeless poor of Wittenberg, and his observation of corrupt business practices and failed political leadership played significant roles in his sensitivity to the scriptures and the history of ecclesial care for the poor. The Ninety-Five Theses reveal Luther's early concern for the poor, who were frightened into buying spiritual favors for themselves or their dead relatives. Rather than spend effort or money on spiritual exercises that might win one God's favor in the afterlife, human energies could be directed toward alleviating present suffering.



2017 has also been a year of reformation for the LWSIT. After have gone through an evaluation, we were engaged in starting to give expression to our Country Strategy Plan for the period January 2018 to December 2022. The reformation, that we have been endeavoring to bring about, envisages our commitment to the transformation of people's lives, particularly the least, the last and the lost. It was decided to observe the period from 4th September 2017 to 4th September 2018 as "LWSIT Decennial Year" with various activities focusing on 'Building Communities of Rights and Justice. Thus LWSIT continued to focus on

- Gender Empowerment
- Sustainable Livelihood and Food Security
- Education
- Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change and Environmental Protection
- Peace and Reconciliation
- Community Health including water & sanitation
- Strengthening Peoples' Institutions

Such a commitment also called for structural changes. For example, to ensure more and closer monitoring of the project implementation it was proposed to bring in a structure of regional offices at three geographic locations. It was also resolved to recruit new experienced and qualified persons. At the same time the Organizational Development process was initiated and completed. Two new policies namely Interns Policy and Social Media Policy were put in place. So also existing Anti-Sexual Harassment Policy was revised.

Relationships with churches have been further strengthened during 2017. Discussions were initiated with Arcot Luther Church, Evangelical Lutheran Churches of Himalayan States, and Northern Evangelical Lutheran church, so that LWSIT could provide them technical assistance.

Thus LWSIT continues to persevere in its service to God, humans and all creation!

Roger Gaikwad

Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad,
President, LWSIT

*For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith:
as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*

Roman 1:17

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Foreword



One more year of activity passed by. The year 2017 was full of events. It was the year of the great reformation. The year 2017 was the decennial year of LWSIT too. Commemorating both events of historical significance to LWSIT, LWSIT Day was observed simultaneously in Kolkata and in 10 field locations. The meaningful existence of LWSIT for the last 43 years was acknowledged and the changes brought about in the world social order following the reformation was very well commemorated on the occasion. LWSIT as an important agent for change in the contemporary society bearing the messages of the reformation was emphasized during the occasion of LWSIT Day. Further, the commitment to continue to engage with different sections of society as a true witness of the reformation was renewed during the occasion of LWSIT Day.

All staff members and communities got engaged in developing continuation project proposals for STEER, GEP and DSSQC. These have been submitted for the consideration of resource partners. In line with the strategies of these new project proposals, initial measures of sustained capacity building measures were initiated. The year decided, after considering peace and gender as cross cutting themes, to pay more attention on gender and peace in all the operations of the organisation.

The strategy of working with local congregation started implementation. Discussion with NELC and ELCITHS proceeded quite well and discussion on partnership with these two local churches progressed in the year under report.

This report is submitted to communities, staff members, overseas and national resource partner and all well-wishers of the organisation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

Shaju V. Joseph
Executive Director

1. About Lutheran World Service India Trust



An awareness comp on Rastriya Swastha Bima Yojana (RSBY)

The Lutheran World Service India Trust (LWSIT) is a national non-governmental organisation promoted by the United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India (UELCI) and the National Council of Churches in India (NCCI). Got formally registered in 2008, the organisation was established with the objective of continuing the work of the Lutheran World Service India (LWSI), the India program of the Lutheran World Federation/Department for World Service (LWF/DWS). LWSI started its operations in India in 1974 in response to the refugee problems in West Bengal after the Bangladesh War of Independence. LWSIT renders disaster relief all over India and development support in the states of West Bengal, Odisha, Assam and Jharkhand. The Trust has rich legacy of implementing programmes for rural and urban development, disaster preparedness and disaster response across India. LWSIT is operating in the Eastern region of India as an organ of transformation and is currently working in partnership with over thousand communities on sustainable livelihood, community resilience, education and health with gender and peace as cross-cutting themes. LWSIT is a member of ACT Alliance, Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) Alliance, AZEECON. It is a founding member of SPHERE India and is a member of Inter-Agency Groups (IAG) in several states in the country.

2. Highlights of the Year

The Board of Trustees got replacement of one member when two of its members completed their terms during the year under report.

The reduction in the volume of funding resulted in reducing the staff size nearly by one third.

New project proposals to continue the on-going three projects, viz. STEER, GEP and DSSQC were developed with the participation of all levels of staff and stakeholders. All the three project proposals were submitted by the end of the year. The preparations for developing new MIS for the new projects was initiated and the design for comprehensive baseline study using census survey

method got finalised. The agreement with the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) for extending technical support in holding the baseline study was finalised.

Following the adoption of the new strategic plan (SP) all project and activities got revised within the broader frame work of the SP. Separate project was implemented with the support of the Church of Sweden to strengthen the capacities of LWSIT to work in peace building fronts. Efforts were made to mainstream gender justice into all the projects being implemented by LWSIT. One of the staff members attended the international orientation on taking up the monitoring of CEDAW report in India.



Decadal observance of the LWSIT Day



Training on staff capacity building

Observance of LWSIT Day and launching of the decennial programme on 4th September 2017 was an important event. Two special programmes to commemorate the 500th year of the Reformation were launched on that occasion.

Organisational Development (OD) exercise was undertaken guided by an external expert. Discussions, individual interactions and group exercises were undertaken as part of the OD at National Office and Units levels. The final report of the OD is awaited.

The following new partnerships were initiated in the year under report.

- Asha Kiran with the RILM
- THALI with CINI
- Skill development for the youth with government of West Bengal
- NELC to utilize the space in Suri Mission campus
- Teaching kitchen in urban locations of Kolkata with NNEP Project, University of Cambridge
- Promoting stress resilient varieties of paddy with IRRI
- Stitching Peter de Koning to support CCI in Ultadanga

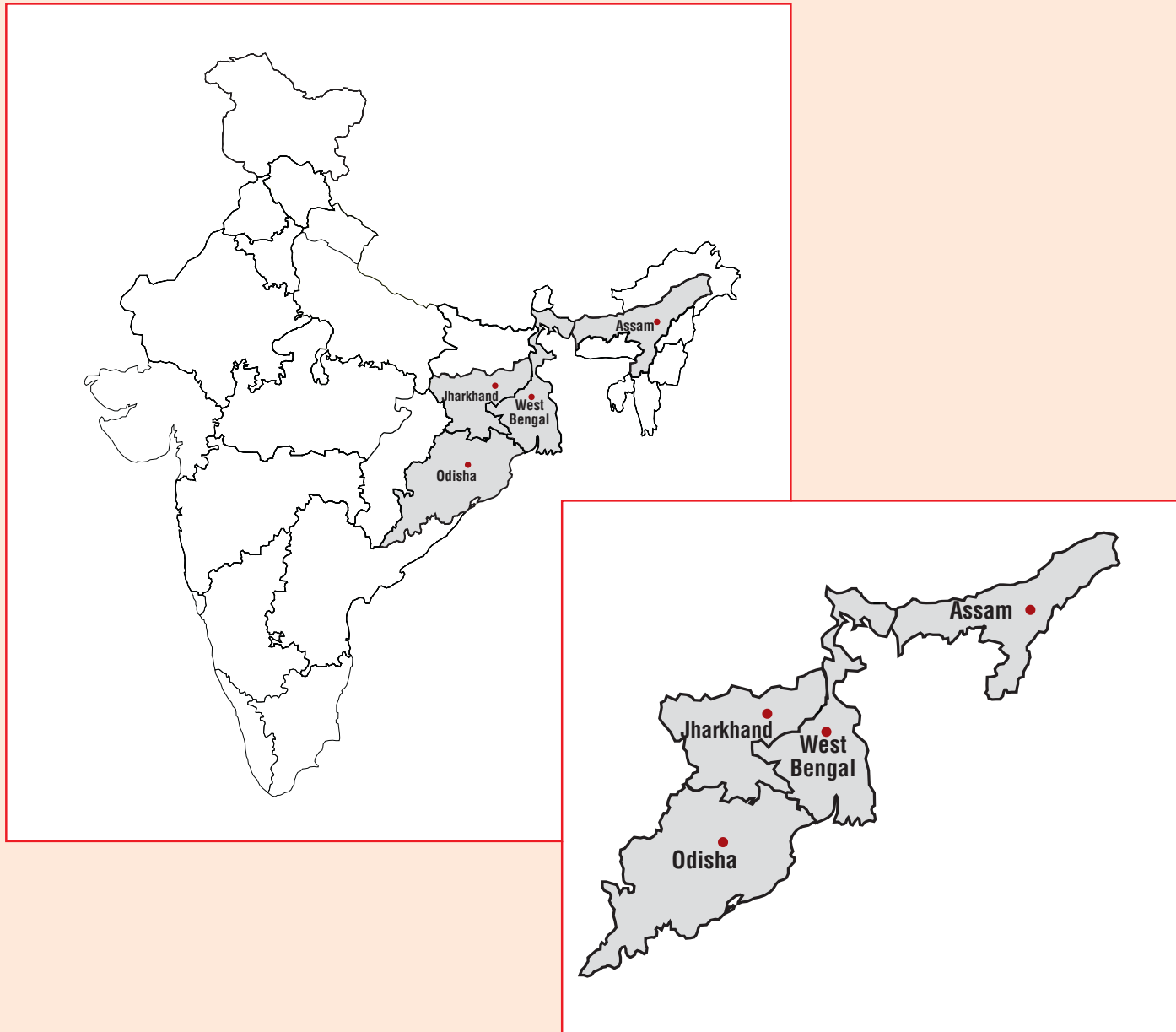
3. Important Operations

LWSIT implemented 14 projects during the year under report. All these projects contributed in varying degrees to the six result areas in which the organisation endeavours to remain focused. Overview of the various projects implemented by LWSIT in 2017 is provided in the table below:

Table No. 1: Projects Under Implementation in 2017

Sl. No.	Project	State Covered	Communities	Reach of the Projects			
				Households	Population Rural	Population Urban	Total
1	Social Transformation, Economic Empowerment & Risk Reduction (STEER)	Odisha, West Bengal	332	14324	67972	0	82628
2.	Development Support Programme for Stone Quarry Affected Communities – DSSQC	West Bengal, Jharkhand	130	4924	22632	0	27686
3.	Gender Empowerment Project – GEP	Odisha, West Bengal	75	6389	0	34100	40564
4.	Socio-Economic Empowerment for Peace and Reconciliation Project – SEEPRP	Assam	87	5926	28433	0	34446
5.	Strengthening Seed System of STRVs, Targeting Rice-fallows and Raising productivity and profitability of rice-based cropping systems through Rice Crop Management - IRRI	Odisha	310	12675	61727	0	74712
6.	Odisha Tribal Empowerment Livelihood Programme (OTELP)	Odisha	76	3280	12652	0	16008
7.	Asha Kiran	Assam, Odisha, West Bengal, Jharkhand	0	600	0	0	600
8.	Open Shelter for Girl Children	West Bengal	0	18	0	0	18
9.	Women on Wheels	West Bengal	0	82	0	0	82
10.	Shelter for Urban Homeless	West Bengal	0	70	0	70	140
11.	Skill training for the Unemployed Youth	West Bengal	0	90	0	90	180
12.	Domestic Workers' Union	Odisha	42	1500	0	1500	3042
13.	Flood Responses	Assam, Bihar, West Bengal West Bengal	108	7764	33277	0	41149
14.	Tuberculosis Health Action Learning Initiative	West Bengal	0	0	0	3102	3102
	Total		1160	57642	226693	38862	324357

Map of Present Operational Areas



4. Activities and Result

4.1 Sustainable Livelihood

Sustainable Livelihood was placed as one of the core result areas in 2017 underpinned by a commitment to contribute to eradicate poverty and end hunger. The work done by LWSIT in this thematic area contributed to **SDG 1 – End poverty in all its forms everywhere** and **SDG 2 – End hunger, achieve food security and**

improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. LWSIT, adopting rights-based approach, emphasized on both farm and non-farm livelihood options for both rural and urban communities. Apart from extending direct support the organisation worked in convergence with the relevant government departments and empowering community institutions to secure resources for sustainable livelihood.

Table No. 2: Key Activities Under Sustainable Livelihood

Sl. No.	Activity	Events Organized and Individuals Reached									
		Assam		Jharkhand		Odisha		West Bengal		Total	
		No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach
1	Awareness Sessions on Right to Food	0	0	1	64	92	2927	9	312	102	3303
2	Self Help Groups Organised	235	1970	70	784	100	1264	198	2243	603	6261
3	FIGs organized	0	0	30	467	5	72	92	1497	127	2036
4	Forest Protection Group Organized	0	0	6	0	16	0	26	0	48	0
5	Entrepreneurship Development Training	0	0	1	20	0	0	3	37	4	57
6	CBOs assisted to take up Income Generating Activity	8	0	0	0	27	0	0	0	35	0
7	Vocational Training	1	8	2	64	68	382	5	104	76	558
8	Training on Agri-inputs for Farmers	3	88	1	31	41	1163	17	590	62	1872
9	Organised on-farm Demonstrations	0	0	6	127	14	350	10	200	30	577
10	Seed Banks	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	20	0
11	Interface Programs	0	0	1	0	23	0	4	0	28	0
	Total	247	2066	118	1430	406	5808	364	4783	1135	14664

Empowering the last, the least and the lost

The major achievements of the organisation in the area of sustainable livelihood are the following:

- 16327 households accessed food security and social security schemes like Targeted Public Distribution, Antyodaya, Annapurna etc.
- 424 forest-dwelling households secured right over 725 acres of land.
- Recorded five per cent increase in the yield of paddy benefitting 1822 (1242 male and 580 female) cultivators.
- 13,808 farmers diversified crops and switched from mono crop to multi-crop practices.
- 127 Farmers Interest group (FIGs) were formed to empower marginal and small farmers for their increased participation in planning, marketing, technology dissemination and agro processing.
- Two Farmer Producer Organisation (FPOs) with 92 among the above FIGs were formed.
- 57 per cent of the 854 Self Help Groups were involved in micro-credit for livelihood related activities.
- More than 500 households increased their income by INR 1500 to INR 3000 per month.
- 2296 acres of land was released from mortgage.
- 79 SHGs got linked with the State Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM) in Assam.
- More than 60 per cent of the communities used common property resources for productive purposes.
- 100 youth both men and women enhanced their vocational skills, 74 among them started earning and 66 urban women among them earned INR 1500 per month.



Demonstration of stress tolerant paddy cultivation - IRRI Project

New way of cultivation of paddy

Jagabandhu Swain is a small farmer from Ramdaspur village in Jajpur district of Odisha. He had, for the last 25 years, been cultivating in traditional method leading to very low yield in production. Few years back he started the practice of the method of trans-plantation using certified seeds. Though he accepted new method, he did not follow line sowing nor gave proper dose of fertilizers in the field. So his production continued to remain low. After LWSIT introduced Rice Crop Manager (RCM) supported by the IRRI, he received RCM recommendation for one-acre land for rice cultivation. He followed the recommendation and applied precise requirement of fertilizers as suggested. The result was 17 quintals of rice, three quintals more than what he received from other field where the RCM recommendations were not followed.

Special Initiative: Shelter for the Urban Homeless

The urban homeless in India is one of the most vulnerable yet the most ignored and neglected among the marginalised poor. In response to the needs of the urban homeless in Kolkata, with an estimated homeless population of hundred and fifty-thousand persons, LWSIT maintains a Shelter for Homeless with support of Government of West Bengal. The project aims to ensure access of the urban homeless population to a shelter with basic amenities to enable them lead a life of dignity. During 2017, the shelter in Ultadanga, in Kolkata, was home to 38 men and 35 women. The majority of these were elderly homeless with no support systems.

Food distribution to the urban homeless - SUH Project

4.2 Community Resilience

LWSIT works to enhance the capacities of its partners to address the challenges being raised by Climate Change. The activities of LWSIT in this regard contribute to the achievement of **SDG 13 which urges immediate action to combat climate change and its impact**. It envisages resilient communities as the result of its intervention in this area.



Table No. 3: Key Activities Under Community Resilience

Sl. No.	Activity	Events Organized and Individuals Reached									
		Assam		Jharkhand		Odisha		West Bengal		Total	
		No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach
1.	Forest Protection Groups Organised	0	0	6	172	16	721	26	801	48	1694
2.	Land Development and NRM activities (Acres)	0	0	6.3	30	203	175	8.7	19	218	224
3.	Irrigation facilities made available (in acres)	3	8	0	0	8	22	0.5	2	12	32
4.	Observance of Environment Day	4	496	1	55	8	958	6	412	19	1921
5.	Awareness sessions on Climate Change	0	0	1	44	85	2746	27	723	113	3513
6.	Observance of Disaster Risk Reduction Day	3	373	0	0	2	207	0	0	5	580
7.	Training on Warning Search Rescue Operations	0	0	0	0	8	267	1	16	9	283
8.	Community Plantation - Orchard	7	7	0	0	21	85	1	20	29	112
9.	Homestead Fruit Tree Plantation	0	0	0	0	0	0	400	100	400	100
10.	Awareness Sessions on Disaster-Preparedness	2	44	0	0	36	1330	6	200	44	1574
11.	Families receiving solar lantern and Mitigation	0	0	70	70	80	80	0	0	150	150
12.	Flood response – Assam, Bihar and West Bengal	3	3718	0	0	0	0	1	1000	6	4718
	Total	22	4646	84.3	371	467	6591	477.2	3293	1053	14901

- Includes the results of intervention on Bihar

Special Initiative

Torrential rain falls during the monsoons in the foothills of the Himalayas and the adjoining districts of Bihar resulted in floods affecting over seventeen million people in nineteen districts of the state. Over five-hundred deaths were reported. West Bengal also suffered from flood though to a lesser extent. Flooding in Assam was regarded as the worst in three decades. Over three million people spread over twenty-five districts of Assam were affected by the incessant rains with a recorded death toll of 112. LWSIT was able to respond to the needs of the affected

communities in Assam, Bihar and West Bengal with the support of its partners. The response was undertaken in close coordination with local District Administrations and local NGOs.

Some important results created by the intervention of LWSIT for building resilient communities are the following:

- The practice of diversified cropping patterns began to get established in the project area
- Almost two-third of the 462 rural communities in Odisha and West Bengal got involved in environmental protection and regeneration activities.

- More than 90 per cent of the disaster-prone communities of rural Jharkhand and West Bengal got well equipped to cope with and respond to disaster.
- 68 communities had created emergency disaster response fund.
- More households started using solar lanterns promoting use of renewable energy thereby reducing consumption of fossil fuel
- Two hundred and seven acres of waste land was bought under green coverage through tree plantation
- 67.44 acres of uncultivable land was converted to productive land and this protected the land from acquisition for stone quarry and crusher units



The Dhuliapat Forest Federation was formed in 2016 in Keonjhar district from among the representatives of three adjacent forest communities of Kalanda Chuliasahi, Rugudihisahi and Jadibahal as a result of the awareness raising on climate change and deforestation carried out by LWSIT. Each day five families were entrusted with the responsibility of guarding 600 hectares of forest spread over an area of three kilometres. The results of their efforts were visible within a year. Local families were able to gather substantial amount of minor forest produce after several years. A household was able to earn Rs. 3000 on average per month for three months of the year. The officials of the Department of Forest have also been impressed with this achievement and have promised to support Dhuliapat Forest Federation with equipment for forest protection activities. This Forest Federation also serves as a model for the other communities in the neighbourhood. Five nearby Forest Protection groups have also begun to take their responsibility of protecting the forest seriously, taking up both protection and regeneration activities earnestly.

Forest Federation protecting forest rights

Empowering the last, the least and the lost

4.3. Education

LWSIT considers education to be a systematic process through which a child or an adult acquires knowledge, experience, skill and sound attitude. Education is considered as a basic right of every child. LWSIT focuses on SDG 4 to ensure quality education for all. The Right to Education Act is another guiding document

for undertaking activities in education. The strategies adopted towards attaining this goal is to strengthen the School Management Committees, ensuring total enrolment, increasing the number of years in school and providing support to first generation adult learners.



Rally lead by children on Children's Day

Table No. 4: Key Activities Under Education

Sl. No.	Activity	Events Organized and Individuals Reached									
		Assam		Jharkhand		Odisha		West Bengal		Total	
		No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach
1.	Awareness Programmes on Education for parents	33	0	0	0	137	0	29	0	199	0
2.	Observance of Literacy Day	11	0	1	0	8	0	4	0	24	0
3.	Interface programmes with Govt Education authorities/SMCs	34	0	0	0	54	0	12	0	100	0
4.	Training for NFE and Pre-School Teachers	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	0
5.	Operational Child Development Centres	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	34	1	34
6.	Operational Community Study Centres	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0
7.	Operational Asha Kiran Centres	2	33	3	90	14	408	3	90	22	621
8.	Public Awareness Programmes on	0	0	2	110	128	2341	39	691	169	3142
	Total	132	33	6	200	341	2749	88	781	567	3797

Special Initiative:

Asha Kiran: The Asha Kiran project was initiated in July 2017 with support from Rotary India Literacy Mission for the benefit of out-of-school, drop-out and weak students. With an objective of total literacy and quality education, the project worked with 621 irregular and drop-out students. The focus was on strengthening the school education system through community mobilisation, advocacy with government line departments, interface meetings and parent-teacher meetings. Simultaneously, 21 study centres offered bridge course and classes were held for children to enable them develop their reading, writing and comprehension skills as per the standard generally expected of their age, thereafter

mainstreaming them into the formal education system.

The work of LWSIT in the area of education resulted in the following major achievements:

- 90 per cent enrolment in project areas of Assam, 97 per cent in urban areas of Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and Kolkata, 98 per cent in Birbhum and 99 per cent in rural in Odisha.
- In the same areas, 84 per cent of the students received text books and notebooks, 79 per cent received uniforms, 3080 students received scholarships and 1345 students attending the ninth and the tenth standards received bicycles.
- The Open Shelter for Girls catered to the needs of 18 girl



Special emphasis for education

children coming from difficult background.

- Enhanced the facilities for 18 girl children in the CCI by improving their play/study rooms.
- Submitted the application for registering the centre under

the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000.

- Through the Asha Kiran or **Ray of Hope** project, 256 out of 621 students were mainstreamed into the formal education system.

'A Ray of Hope'

Rabindra aged nine-year-old was studying in standard three at the village school of Tentulipada in Budhidhar Gram Panchayat, Junagarh block. Due to lack of attention and interest from both parents and teachers, he discontinued with his studies. In spite of repeated home visits by the school teachers and members of VEC were not interested.

The Asha Kiran centre was started in Tentulipada in Budhidhar Gram Panchayat, in the month of June 2017. The regular visits of the instructor to the house of Rabindra motivated his parents to send him back to school and enrolling him in the Asha Kiran Centre. And young Rabindra continued to study. As a result of regular attendance in the centre and reading books and writing the home work given by the instructor he started taking own interest in studies. Following his behaviour changes towards learning, the instructor and his parents decided to send him to school and enrolled him once again in the school into the same class in the month of October-2017. Now he attends the school with great interest. They understood the importance of education and thankfully say that the Asha Kiran centre showed the path for continuing education of rural drop out children. Apart from this, LWSIT is organizing parents meeting and meeting with school teachers. Parents are now well motivated and they have changed their mind in positive way and started sending their children to schools and Asha Kiran Centre.



Asha Kiran Center for drop-outs children

4.4. Health:

The focus on work in the area of health was ensuring access to affordable and quality health care by the right holders contributing to **SDG 3 - Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all**. The organisation worked through a convergence mode in both rural and urban areas while focusing on primary health care

Table No. 5: Key Activities Under Health

Sl. No.	Activity	Events Organized and Individuals Reached									
		Assam		Jharkhand		Odisha		West Bengal		Total	
		No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach
1	Sanitation Awareness Camps	32	703	0	0	106	1593	37	981	175	3277
2	Nutrition Demonstration programs	46	1465	0	0	0	0	0	0	46	1465
3	Health Awareness Camps	5	0	2	0	48	0	48	0	103	0
4	Observance of Nutrition Week	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Observance of World Health Day	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
6	Training on Adolescent Issues	23	0	0	0	14	0	3	0	40	0
7	Awareness Camps on HIV AIDS	22	841	3	88	23	988	5	227	53	2144
8	Observance of World AIDS DAY	1	0	1	0	3	0	3	0	8	0
9	Interface with CBO /SHG members and front-line service provider like ASHA, ANM and AWW.	0	0	2	0	15	0	9	0	26	0
10	Awareness on Reproductive sexual health	0	0	0	0	90	0	5	0	95	0
	Total	129	3009	8	88	301	2581	110	1208	548	6886

Special Initiative

THALI (Tuberculosis Health Action Learning Initiative) Project: The project aimed at achieving rapid, sustainable results on TB control in Kolkata and was part of a larger USAID funded project working on improving TB control measures. LWSIT partnered with CINI in implementing this project. The major activities implemented with the support of twelve Touch Agents spread across 12 wards or divisions in Kolkata Municipal Corporation were building community awareness on tuberculosis, identification of positive cases and ensuring treatment through referral.

The following are the major achievements in the area of health:

- 1864 out of 4020 crusher workers were using adequate protective gears while working in the quarries
- 81 cases of respiratory Tract Infection (RTI) accessed health care services
- 1258 crusher-workers got enrolled into the Provident Fund and Pension Schemes
- Rates of immunization of children were near total in all communities except in Assam
- Rate of institutional deliveries was on the rise

consequent to the collaboration of communities with ANM and AWW.

- 410 households got linked with the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and installed own household toilets and this generated wide interest in sanitation indicated by the increase in demand for individual household toilets.



Demonstration on preparation of nutritious food

4.4. Peace

LWSIT understands peace as a situation where different ethnic, social and religious groups live with complete sense of security ensured by mutual respect, trust and cooperation. While the SEEPR project in Assam had peace as the central theme, peace was a cross-cutting theme in all projects of LWSIT. The work of LWSIT in peace contributed to SDG 16 – **Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.**

Table No. 6: Key Activities Under Peace

Sl. No.	Activity	Events Organized and Individuals Reached									
		Assam		Jharkhand		Odisha		West Bengal		Total	
		No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach
1	Awareness on Peace and Reconciliation	59	2033	0	0	63	1721	16	353	138	4107
2	Cultural Program with all Stakeholders of the Conflict Area	1	281	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	281
3	Training on Conflict Management for Peace Mediator and Gaon Burahs	10	256	0	0	7	237	11	47	28	540
4	Youth Camp on Peace and Integration	13	1799	0	0	0	0	3	74	16	1873
5	Quarterly Meeting with sub-divisional level peace forum	8	211	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	211
6	Quarterly Meeting with Gaon Bora	17	502	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	502
7	Peace Seminar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Peace Rally	1	300	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	300
9	Peace Convention	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Peace Committees Formed	0	0	0	0	6	223	0	0	6	223
	Total	109	5382	0	0	76	2181	30	474	215	8037

Special Initiative

The Integrated Peace Building Project: Funded by the Church of Sweden aimed at building the capacity of the staff and community leaders in peace building measures. The Henry Martin Institute, Hyderabad extended technical guidance in implementing this project. Conflict mapping, exposure visits, training and development of IEC material and a training manual were the activities undertaken.

Major achievements of the organisation in the area of peace are the following:

- More than half of project communities got involved in Peace Building activities.
- Six peace committees were formed at the panchayats level to facilitate conflict resolution.
- The 18 peace mediator fora, the five Gaon Burah Federations and the three sub-divisional peace fora continued to contribute to peace building measures.
- The situation of violence remained under control in Assam in spite of various incidents potential enough to trigger off violence.



Initiative for peace building programme

Peace mediation

People of Chirang district of BTAD, Assam, in the last three decades, suffered from tremendous hardships consequent to the movement for separate state. And counter action by the State actors to maintain law and order in the area only added to the sufferings of the people in Chirang district. Tensions increased and further widened the divide on ethnic lines as aftermath of Santhal-Bodo conflict in 1996 and 1998. In 2014, some local leaders and headmen of the villages (both Bodo and Santhal) surrounding Champaboti area of the district decided to form peace committee to restore trust and confidence in the communities. Thus, Champaboti Peace Mediators' Forum was born out of yearning for peace; and with the focus that together peace is possible. The initiatives taken by the peace forum facilitated by LWSIT has truly bore fruit as mentioned by the members of the forum.

"In December 2014 because of the militant attacks in the district, we were displaced from homes and stayed in relief camps due to fear of attack. There was tension and mistrust amongst the two communities. However, we decided to stay in the same relief camp put up at Champaboti Bazar and instilled hope and unity among the people. Young men from both the communities guarded the villages together so that miscreants (from both side) cannot attack us".

"Our initiative to stay together in the same camp with common relief committee and members from Bodo-Santhal and different religious backgrounds was very much appreciated by the district administration".

"We also convinced the people to return to their respective villages and within a month all families returned"

In the recent past, 18 Peace Mediators' Forum jointly and collectively organized sports tournament, cultural activities and melas or pujas and brought people of both communities closer. The result of the peace initiatives taken by these leaders and members of the peace forum still holds as there is better understanding amongst the communities. Culture of peace and peaceful co-existence is sustainable when we understand each other's common goods, put away differences; and respect one another.



Peace building initiative through sports

4.6 Gender Justice

Gender injustice is a barrier to human development and it breeds suffering resulted by violation of human rights. The realisation of gender equality and gender justice in the activities of LWSIT contributed to the achievement of 5 of the SDGs which aims to *achieve gender equality and empower all women, girls and transgender persons in all spheres of implementation and reporting.*

Table No. 7: Key activities Under Gender

Sl. No.	Activity	Events Organized and Individuals Reached									
		Assam		Jharkhand		Odisha		West Bengal		Total	
		No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach	No of Events	Reach
1	Gender Sensitisation/Awareness Programs	10	362	0	0	117	3839	25	467	152	4668
2	Observance of Women's Day	3	415	1	180	8	881	6	959	18	2435
3	Observance of Elimination of Violence Against Women's Day	2	189	1	298	11	1242	3	783	17	2512
4	Observance of Girl Child Day	2	295	1	145	8	837	4	308	15	1585
5	Observance of Human Rights Day	4	245	1	47	2	321	2	82	9	695
6	Training of Women Leaders	11	129	1	30	10	250	7	192	29	601
7	Interface Programme with Govt Line Depts and VDCs	6	171	2	64	6	238	8	234	22	707
8	Cases of Violence against Women Handled by Project Promoted Groups	0	0	0	0	22	36	0	0	22	36
9	Gender Training for CBOs and CBG representatives	0	0	1	30	15	740	7	257	23	1027
10	Gender Training for PRI members and duty bearers	0	0	0	0	15	439	0	0	15	439
11	Gender Sensitization for Men	0	0	0	0	53	1152	12	295	65	1447
12	Formation of Women's Federation Panchayats level - No. of Groups	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	5	0
	Total	38	1806	9	794	271	9975	74	3577	392	16152

Empowering the last, the least and the lost

Special Initiative:

Domestic Workers Union, Cuttack: LWSIT worked in partnership with Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) to establish a domestic workers union in Cuttack, where one of the major livelihood options for women living in slums is domestic work. Domestic workers are offered very little respect from employers and are not protected by government. The project worked with domestic workers in 42 slums of Cuttack.

The major achievements of LWSIT in the area of gender are:

- Formation of a union of domestic workers
- Domestic workers got equipped with skills for care-giving for the elderly and the infirm.
- Established linkages between WAVAW (Women's Association on Violence Against Women) and the Odisha State Commission for Women, local Police and human rights activists of Bhubaneswar.
- WAVAW dealt with 14 cases of gender based violence
- Measures were taken to get WAVAW registered as a State level forum for working on gender-based violence
- 64 women were elected as representatives of the local self-government.
- 40 per cent women community leaders participated in the gram Sabha, and gram sangsad meetings



Press meet on international women's month

Is women's place only at home?

Traditionally, outdoor sports are a taboo for Indian women. While progressive urban households do encourage girl children and women to engage in outdoor sports, it is rare for women and girls from rural households to enjoy the same encouragement, consequent to a mind-set which insists that “a woman's place is in the home”

However, seeing some interest in the sports among girls in the Md Bazar Block of Birbhum, West Bengal, the LWSIT project unit decided to use football as a means of challenging stereotypes and facilitated the formation of a football team in the Jethia village in 2014. Later more teams were formed and in 2016, Dewanganj Mudipara formed its own Women's Football team consisting of 19 adolescent girls from the Oraon community. In 2017, this team took part in both the district and the State-Level Women's Football Tournaments for the Jangal Mahal Cup. Not only was the team placed second in the tournament, the captain, Jhumki Mudi was nominated the Woman of the Series, while team member Sonali Mudi was nominated Woman of the (Final) Match! Being a part of the football team has enabled team members to get some financial benefits through Prize Money of Rs 125,000 apart from fifteen bicycles, an LCD TV and a Motor Cycle. More importantly however, it has encouraged the team-members to continue their education and resist child-marriage.



Victorious moment for the womens football team



Stakeholder consultation meeting

5. Community Resource Mobilisation

Table No. 8: Resources Mobilised by the Partner Communities during the year 2017

Sl No.	Project Unit	Cost Sharing by Individual/ communities	Independent Investment by CBOs and groups	Local Resources Mobilised through GO/NGO		Total in INR
				By LWSIT	By CBOs and Groups	
1	STEER - BALANGIR	2,04,800	7,68,000	5,00,000	9,01,000	23,73,800
2	STEER BANKURA	1,17,148	92,000	5,47,460	17,05,000	24,61,608
3	STEER KALAHANDI	2,40,183	8,40,000	77,400	53,50,000	65,07,583
4	STEER KEONJHAR	1,64,040	3,48,000	2,23,189	23,51,960	30,87,189
5	STEER KENDRAPARA	1,35,900	40,16,000	17,77,250	46,00,000	1,05,29,150
7	GEP BHUBANESWAR	2,68,038	90,000	2,70,000	18,00,000	24,28,038
8	GEP KOLKATA	1,26,573	37,500	6,75,131	3,25,000	11,64,204
9	DSSQC - BIRBHUM	2,93,732	23,09,755	2,59,400	50,50,000	79,12,887
10	SEEPR- ASSAM	6,54,878	-	-	7,30,00,400	7,36,55,278
	TOTAL	22,05,292	85,01,255	43,29,830	9,50,83,360	11,01,19,737



Distribution of paddy thresher to the farmers



Womens' participation in vocational training for Beautician Course

Power to change

After suffering several years from a water scarcity in the summer months, the VDA at Beguniabandh Village under Brahmangaon Panchayat, Bangriposi block under Mayurbhanj district of Odisha realised that they had the power to change the situation. They successfully had their demand for the renovation of the village tank passed at the Gram Sabha meeting and later pressurised the Block Development Officer (BDO) to intervene when bureaucratic hurdles resulted in the work being delayed.

By the end of 2017, not only was the tank renovation complete making the daily two-kilometre trek for the women a thing of the past, it also provided employment of approximately seventy days for sixty households through MNREGA. For LWSIT however, the greatest sense of satisfaction comes from the words of Ms Sita Mausi “We feel very happy when we come to the tank. We have done everything on our own!”



Tank Excavation under MGNERGA

6. Staff Capacity Building

Community Managed Climate Change Actions: As the network focal point for AZEECON, LWSIT organized a Training of Trainers (TOT) on “Follow-up session on engaging learning communities for food security and livelihood programs in the context of Climate Change” in April 2017 in Kolkata which was attended by 16 persons out of whom three were from LWSIT.

Disability Mainstreaming: Two staff members of LWSIT attended EETV (Exchange Exposure Training Visit) on Disability Mainstreaming organized by LWF Nepal

Gender Inclusive Right Based Development (GIRBD): Two staff members attended a special ToT on GIRBD held in Bangladesh

Human Rights Advocacy: Two staff members attended EETV on Human Rights Advocacy (Non-confrontational, Evidence-Based, Solution-Focused Policy Dialogue to advance Human Rights) held in Myanmar

Conflict Sensitivity: Two staff members attended Conflict Sensitivity and Do-No-Harm in Emergency Response, held in Indonesia.

Humanitarian Human Resource (HHR): Two of the staff members attended the three-day conference on HHR Asia, organized by CHS Alliance at Bangkok.

Core Humanitarian Standards: Two of the staff from LWSIT attended a training program on Core Humanitarian Standards in Bangladesh which was organized by the Regional Emergency Hub of LWF.

Training on Peace: A five-day training on Peace was organised in collaboration with Henry Martin Institute of Hyderabad at National office in Kolkata. The training was held in October and was attended by 15 Project Coordinators and four National Office staff. The training analysed the causes and consequences of conflicts and methods of addressing the same.

Training of Trainers on Peace at HMI: Fourteen community officers were trained as trainers on Peace and Mediation at HMI.

Echo Training on Peace: Trained Community Officers facilitated ten echo-training workshops for unit staff and community guides and volunteers. A total of 55 project staff and 60 community leaders were trained in these workshops.

Community Mobilisation Training: A five-day training on Community Mobilisation was organised at the National Office in November. This was attended by a cross-section of staff from different projects as well as representatives from different departments from the National office.

Workshop on Finance and Accounts: A four-day workshop was organised in November which was attended by Accounts Officer of the Units, Project Co-ordinators and the National Office Finance Team. In addition to the basic accounting methodology used at LWSIT, the workshop also included discussions on various organisational policies and matters related to human resource management.

Exposure Visit to SEWA: One staff member attended an exposure visit to SEWA (Self Employed Workers Association), working with poor self-employed workers belonging to the unorganised sector.

7. Governance and Management

LWSIT is governed by a Board of Trustees responsible for deciding on the strategic direction of the organisation and the overall policies which guide the working of the organisation. The Board met four times during the year.

Table 9: Details of the Board of Trustees for 2017 (As on 31st December 2017)

Sl. No	Board Member	Position on LWSIT Board
1	Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad	President
2	Rt. Rev. Johan Dang	Vice President
3	Rt. Rev. O. Michael Benhur	Treasurer
4	Prof. Biju Paul Abraham	Trustee
5	Mrs. Josephine Joseph	Trustee
6	Rt. Rev. Dr. P.C. Singh	Trustee
7	Mrs. Basanti Biswas	Trustee
8	Dr. Christy Ponni	Trustee
9	Mr. Shaju V. Joseph	Ex-officio Working Secretary to the Board of Trustees

The Procurement Policy for which revision had been initiated during the previous year was approved by the Board and adopted by the organization in 2017. Policies on Communication, Staff Welfare, Consultancy, Depreciation, Capitalisation, Intern and Social Media were introduced during 2017.

The day-to-day business of the organisation is vested with the Executive Director. The Management Committee (MC) consisting of five staff members supports the Executive Director in the day-to-day business of the organisation. The members of the MC are

appointed from among the senior staff of LWSIT. The MC met 26 times during the year.

Internal Complaints Committees (ICC) that had been constituted earlier at different levels as part of the Complaints Response Mechanism continued to function. The Board-level ICC met once during the year in June. A re-orientation workshop at National level was held in August. The list of names and e-mail Ids of the focal points of ICCs at different levels is given below.



Participation of LWSIT members in Annual Azeecon Meet

Email IDs of the Internal Complaints Committees

Sl. No	Level of the ICC	Email Id of Focal Person
1	Board	complaints.board@lwsit.org
2	National Office	complaints.national@lwsit.org
3	West Bengal Projects	complaints.wbproject@lwsit.org
4	Central Odisha Projects	complaints.centralodisha@lwsit.org
5	Western Odisha Projects	complaints.westernodisha@lwsit.org
6	Assam Project	complaints.assamproject@lwsit.org

8. Networks and Alliances

AZEECON (Asian Zone Emergency and Environment Cooperation Network): LWSIT has been acting as the Network Focal Point of AZEECON since January 2017. Five of LWSIT staff attended the AZEECON Summit (Annual Planning and Review Meeting) held at Vientiane, Laos. Hiring a person to mobilize resources for AZEECON, conduct of Mid-Term Review of AZEECON Strategy, addressing the Rohingya crisis through collective efforts by LWF Myanmar, RDRS Bangladesh and LWSIT India with possible support from resource partners etc. were some of the important decisions of the summit. The events calendar for AZEECON for 2018 was finalized.

Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) Alliance: LWSIT is a full member of Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) Alliance and follows the Core Commitments. LWSIT participated in the online survey for the annual report of CHS Alliance. As a follow-up of training programmes attended by LWSIT staff, it was decided to conduct in-house echo training for the Project Coordinators and other staff in the organization to make them conversant with the CHS commitments and its applicability in the program.

ACT Alliance Advisory Group - HPPG (Humanitarian Policy and Practice Group): LWSIT is a member of HPPG Advisory Group of ACT Alliance. In the first week of March 2017, the advisory group

meeting was held in Germany which was attended by one of the staff from LWSIT. Besides, LWSIT representative attended skype meetings as and when held during the year.

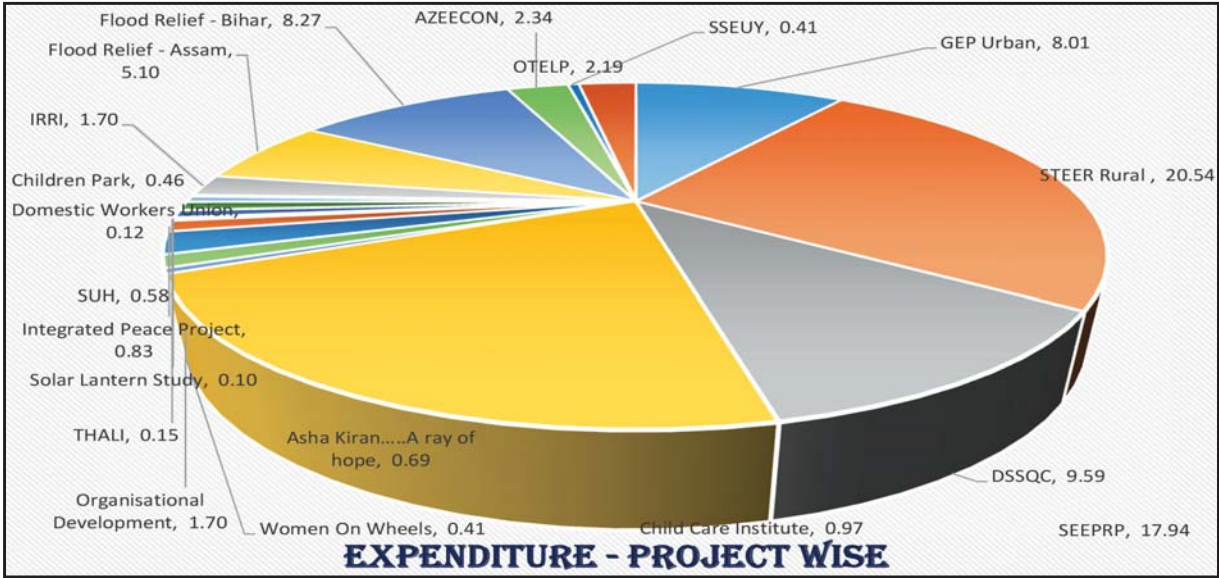
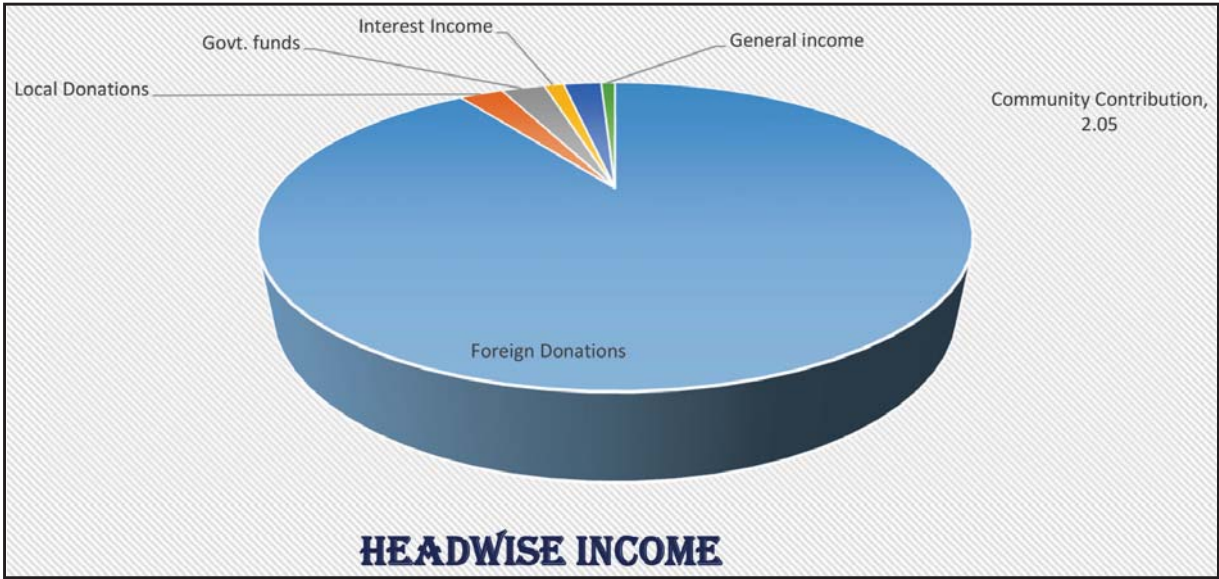
ACT Alliance India Forum: The annual ACT Alliance India Forum meeting was held on 28th April 2017 at Alappuzha, Kerala. The Executive Director and Emergency/DRR focal point of LWSIT attended the meeting and shared the updated works of Organization. LWSIT supported in developing plans to respond to floods in Assam, Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha and Tamil Nadu.

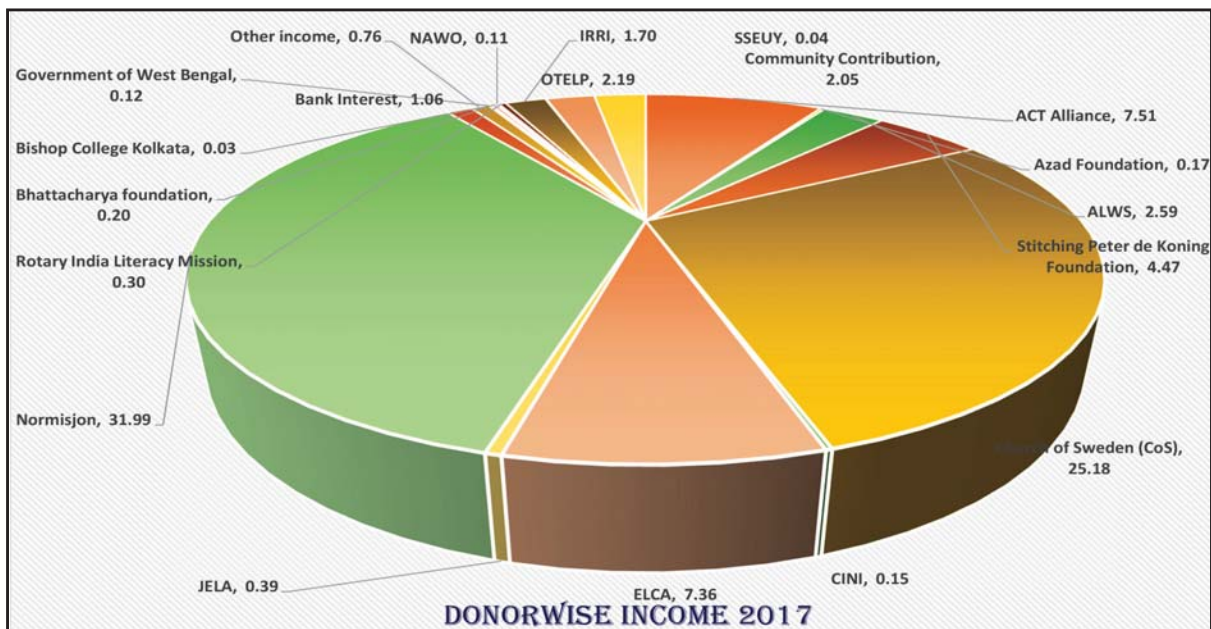
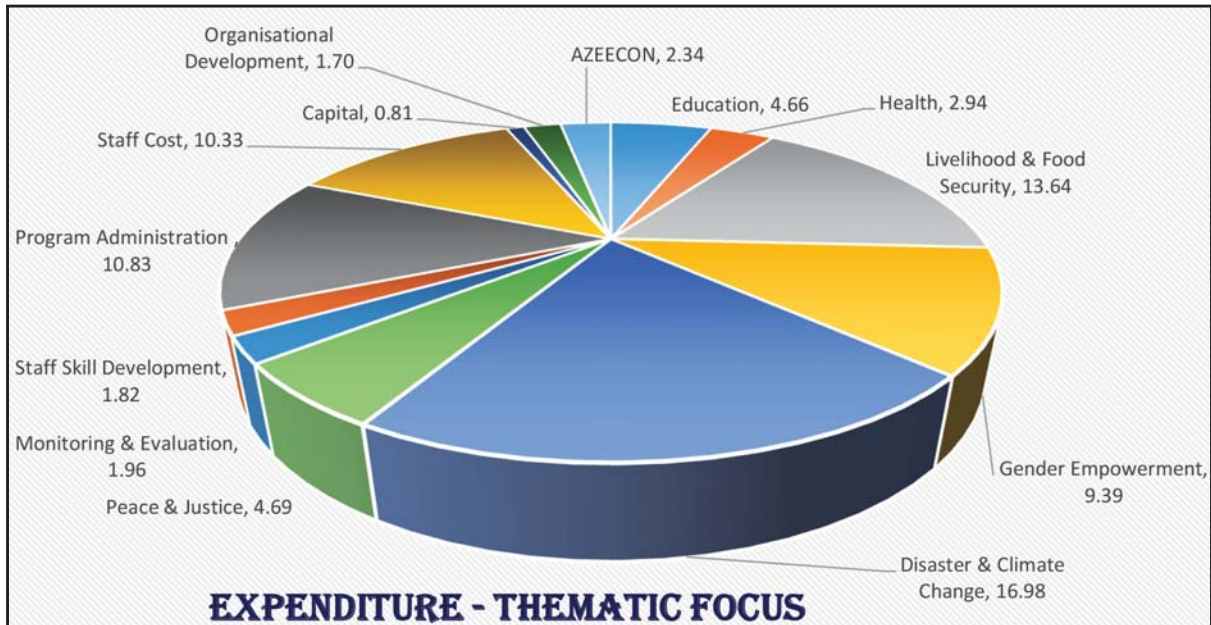
Sphere India: LWSIT is a founding member of Sphere India (a national coalition of humanitarian agencies) and adopts Sphere principles, processes and standards in programming with particular reference to humanitarian response.

Inter-Agency Group (IAG): LWSIT has been part of Inter-Agency Groups being formed in several states across India. LWSIT is the founding member of IAG of Odisha, West Bengal, Assam and Tamil Nadu. In 2017, LWSIT attended the general body meeting of IAG Odisha. The state-level meeting organized by IAG Assam at the onset of severe floods in Assam for planning of the emergency response programme was attended by LWSIT.



9. Financial Update





10. Challenges and Way Forward

The biggest challenge in the year was the reduction in funding almost by one third. Consequently, the expenditure and staff got reduced considerably and hence maintaining efficiency of operations was a big task. The funding scenario is not promising and the opportunities are getting dwindled year after year. The shift from development to investment funding is taking place all over the world and equipping the organisation to address this new situation is a challenge indeed. Increasing intolerance and intensifying communal hatred can affect field operation, though so far it has never affected.

The organisation found it difficult to identify hands suitable to work with it. On most of the occasions the recruitment ended up with not getting suitable persons to fill the vacancies. This is indicative of the changes taking place in the larger society.

Sustainability of both the operations and the organisation is another challenge. With the resources drying up and the cost of operation increasing, sustainability becomes near impossible.

The efforts made in the last year to forge partnership with local churches will continue.

The need to increase local funding from governments, institutions and individuals requires more attention. The resource mobilisation unit within the organisation requires strengthening and units need to be encouraged to mobilise resources from district and sub-district level sources.

Human resources strengthening is a very urgent task. National office requires more technical strength in all frontiers of operations.

Identification of suitable hands and maintaining such hands are to be considered as a priority. HR practices and HR team will be strengthen in the coming years.

Diversification of programme operations and strengthening the technical knowledge of the entire team is another important future direction. Specialised teams will be created in six thematic areas and in the area of community mobilisation for the purpose of equipping the organisation for diversification of programme interventions.

Expansion of overseas resource donor base is very much important. Shift from development funding to invest funding and within investment funding network-based funding are the new emerging trend. The organisation need to address this shift effectively.



WAVA members are raising hand against gender based violence

11. Acknowledging support from partners & friends

The work and achievements outlined in this report are the result of the collaborative efforts of several stake-holders. Funding support for development programmes was provided by Church of Sweden, ELCA, Normisjon, Stitching Peter de Koning Foundation, JELA, Azad Foundation, CINI, Rotary India Literacy Mission and IRRI. Bhattacharya Foundation supported the construction of a Children's Park at the Kolkata Centre and SEWA both financially and technically supported the work of organising of Domestic Workers. Financial support was also received from the Government of Odisha and the Government of West Bengal for the OTELP Plus

and the SSEUY projects respectively. The latter also supported the Shelter for the Urban Homeless Project.

The humanitarian response to several waves of floods in Assam, Bihar and West Bengal was supported by Stitching Peter de Koning Foundation, ACT Alliance, ELCA and Normisjon. The organisation development process was supported by the Church of Sweden. The work of AZEECON, for which LWSIT was the focal point during 2017 was funded by the Church of Sweden and the Australian Lutheran World Service.



Guests (Local MLA & Gossaigaon Town Committee Chairman) & Participants during International Day of Peace – 21-09-2017

12. Human Resources

Table: 10 Staff Position as on 31 December 2017

Location	Male	Female	Total
National Office	17	10	27
STEER - Rural Project Units	25	9	34
Gender Empowerment Project (GEP) - Urban Units	4	6	10
DSSQC Project	8	2	10
SEEPRP Project	6	1	7
OTELP Plus Projects	5	-	5
SUH & CCI Project	4	2	6
Total	69	30	99

13. Contacts and addresses

12.1 National Office Staff as of 31st December 2017

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Email
1	Mr. Shaju V. Joseph	Executive Director	director@lwsit.org
2	Ms. Valsala Satyadas	Executive Secretary	vs@lwsit.org
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4	Ms. Suchita Lal	Finance Manager	sl@lwsit.org
5	Mr. Bibekananda Biswal	Manager - Emergency and Programme Development	bnb@lwsit.org
6	Mr. Mukunda Sutradhar	Programme Co-ordinator – GEP, DSSQC & SEEPRP	ms@lwsit.org
7	Mr. Santosh Kumar Das	Programme Co-ordinator – STEER (Rural)	skd@lwsit.org
8	Ms Sunita D'Sa Prabhu	Coordinator – Research and Resource Mobilisation	sdp@lwsit.org
9	Ms Deepa R Gomez	Human Resource Coordinator	drg@lwsit.org
10	Ms. Natasha J. Dutta	Assistant Manager – Content Development	njd@lwsit.org

Lutheran World Service India Trust ■ Annual Report 2017 ■ Photo Gallery



Women group in Arhar crop cultivation



Youth engaged in banana cultivation



Connecting people to nature in World Environment Day



Transparency in Relief Distribution 2017 aug assam



Girl child education in tribal community – the need of the hour



Girls received bi-cycle under the Govt



Lutheran World Service India Trust ■ Annual Report 2017 ■ Photo Gallery



Nursing training for adolescent girl



Distribution of water filter under OTELP Plus project



Movement against alcoholism



Observance Day for elimination of violence against women



Santal women performing dance during-Sports Tournament



Signature Campaign-International Day of Peace-2017



Unit Offices

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired Immune- Deficiency Syndrome	MCH	Mahulpahari Christian Hospital
ANM	Auxiliary Nurse Midwife	MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise
ASHA	Accredited Social Health Activist	NCCI	National Council of Churches in India
ASRLM	Assam State Rural Livelihoods Mission	NELC	Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church
AZEECON	Asian Zone Emergency and Environment Cooperation Network	NFE	Non-Formal Education
CBG	Community Based Group	NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
CBO	Community Based Organisation	NRM	Natural Resource Management
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
CHS	Core Humanitarian Standard	OTELP	Odisha Tribal Empowerment and Livelihoods Programme
CINI	Child in Need Institute	PRI	Panchayati Raj Institutions
CoS	Church of Sweden	RILM	Rotary International Literacy Mission
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility	RTEA	Right (of Children to Free and Compulsory) Education Act
DSSQC	Development Support Programme for Stone Quarry Affected Communities	SBA	Swacch Bharat Abhiyan
ELCA	Evangelical Lutheran Church of America	SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
ESAF	Evangelical Social Action Forum	SEEPRP	Socio-Economic Empowerment for eace and Reconciliation Project
FC	Foreign Contribution	SEWA	Self Employed Women’s Association
FIG	Farmer Interest Group	SHG	Self Help Group
FPdK	Foundation Peter de Koning	SMC	School Management Committee
FPO	Farmer Producer Organisation	SPKF	Stitching Peter de Koning Foundation
GEP	Gender Empowerment Project	SSEUY	Society for Self -Employment for Un-employed Youth
GO	Government Organisation	STEER	Social Transformation, Economic Empowerment and Risk Reduction
Govt	Government	STRV	Stress Tolerant Rice Variety
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus	SUH	Shelter for Urban Homeless
HMI	Henry Martin Institute	TB	Tuberculosis
HPPG	Humanitarian Policy and Practice Group	THALI	Tuberculosis Health Action Learning Initiative
IAG	Inter-Agency Group	ToT	Training of Trainers
ICC	Internal Complaints Committee	UELCI	United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India
IGA	Income Generating Activities	VDC	Village Development Committee
INR	Indian Rupees	WaSH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
IRRI	International Rice Research Institute	WAWAW	Women’s Association on Violence Against Women
JELA	Japan Evangelical Lutheran Association	WB	West Bengal
LWF	Lutheran World Federation	WoW	Women on Wheels
LWSIT	The Lutheran World Service India Trust		

Our Partners



Foundation Peter de Koning



Bhattacharya Foundation

Lutheran World Service India Trust is a member of

actalliance



AZEECON



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