

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE INDIA TRUST

Empowering the last, the least and the lost

MANDATE

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

VISION

Just societies ensuring fullness of life in harmony with creation.

MISSION

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

GOAL

Enhanced dignity of lives of vulnerable and disadvantaged communities in India.

VALUES

Justice, Transparency, Accountability, Equality, Dignity, Democracy, Inclusiveness.



Relief Distribution at Flood affected areas of Assam

Deuteronomy 15:11-

"For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.'"

1.	Message from the LWSIT Board President	1
2.	Foreword	2
3.	About Lutheran World Service India Trust	3
4.	Important Operations	3
5.	Geographic Focus	4-5
6.	The Core Projects	6-21
7.	Child Care Institute (CCI)	22
8.	Humanitarian Response Program	23-34
9.	Awards & Recognitions	35
10.	Collaboration and Partnership	36-39
11.	Community Resource Mobilization	40
12.	Photo Gallery	41-45
13.	Networks and Alliances	46
14.	Staff Capacity Building	47
15.	Strategic Plan Development	48
16.	Governance	49
17.	Internal Complaints Committee	49
18.	National Office Staff	50
19.	Human Resource Position	50
20.	Financial Updates	51-52
21.	Challenges	52
22.	Acknowledging Support from Resource Partners	53
23.	Acronyms	54
24.	Project Offices and Project Coordinators	55

MESSAGE FROM LWSIT BOARD PRESIDENT



GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM

Registered Under Societies Registration Act. XXI of 1860 Vide No. 273 J of 30-07-1921,
189/2012-13 dt. 6.9.2012 (Jharkhand)

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Ranchi
Date 24.06.23

Message from the President, Board of Trustees of LWSIT,



LWSIT Continued its sustainable development Projects in the year 2022 and it is committed to the cause of the poor, vulnerable and marginalized sections of society. LWSIT successfully completed the Strategic Plan Document for the period 2023-2027 with the participation of Communities, Staff, Board Members, Advisory Committee members and Partners.

LWSIT's Goal is "enhanced the quality of lives and standard of living of the vulnerable and the disadvantaged communities in our operational areas of India". LWSIT is working with its goal to achieve enhanced dignity of lives of the vulnerable and disadvantaged communities in India particularly of the Dalits, Tribes / Adivasis, Women and Transgender and people those are affected by natural and / or human-made disasters. LWSIT is moving in the right direction to achieve its goal.

We appreciate our donors partners in India and abroad for their continued support towards upliftment and sustainable development of the poor and needy people in India.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I congratulate the Executive Director Mr. Kishore Kumar Nag and the entire team of office and fields staff who have done their best/commendable services to further the ministry of LWSIT even in the midst of all challenges.

May God continue to bless LWSIT.

Rt. Rev. Johan Dang
President, LWSIT Board of Trustees
Moderator, Gossner Evangelical Lutheran
Church in Chotanagpur & Assam
Moderator

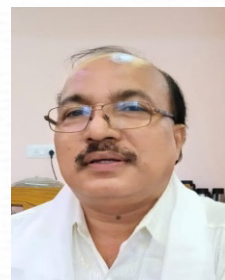
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran (GEL) Church
C.C. Office, Main Rd., Ranchi (Jharkhand)

FOREWORD



LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE INDIA TRUST

Empowering the last, the least and the lost



Foreword

I humbly submit this report with great joy and happiness and giving heartfelt thanks to God for His continuous blessings upon LWSIT and its work.

LWSIT had been engaged with the Dalit, Adivasi, Women, Children, Migrants, Poorest among the poor and Unorganized sectors through capacity enhancement and support action programmes and activities related to livelihood, community resilience gender & peace issues. Lutheran World Service India had been attempted to address the challenges posed by poverty and innumerable other threats. LWSIT empathized with the deprived and underprivileged sections of society and reminds each individual of their strength and self-worth.

LWSIT continued its activities and implemented Development projects such as DSSQC, CAP-R, GEP and STEER in the operational areas of Assam, Odisha, West Bengal and Jharkhand. Humanitarian assistance for the flood affected vulnerable people in Assam, and Humanitarian Assistance & Resilience building among people affected by severe flood in Odisha and Transboundary Flood Resilience Project in South Asia, India-Assam have been implemented. The Government supported projects like SUH (Shelter for Urban Homeless) and Open Shelter is continuing at Kolkata unit along with other CCI (Child Care Institute) and CEC (Child Education Centre). Swawalamban Project under WDU (Women Development Undertaking) was executed in Birbhum unit.

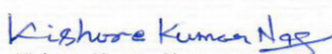
I would like to thank the State Government of Assam, Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal, and the Government of India for their cooperation and support extended to implement the Development projects and Humanitarian Assistance relief programs by LWSIT.

I sincerely appreciate and acknowledge the timely support of Our Partners - Normisjion including Digni and NORAD, Act Church of Sweden, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Japan Evangelical Lutheran Association and ACT Alliance.

My sincere gratitude to UELCI (United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India) and NCCI (National Council of Churches in India) for being the Settlers of LWSIT and for supporting its vision & Mission to serve the least privileged ones.

I am thankful to our President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and the Members of Board of Trustees, Members of Advisory Committee, and well-wishers who stood firmly with LWSIT.

I appreciate and thank all staff colleagues from the field and National Office for tirelessly worked together to bring out this Annual Report 2022.


Kishore Kumar Nag
Executive Director

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ABOUT LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE INDIA TRUST

Lutheran World Service India Trust (LWSIT) was registered as a National NGO on 4th September 2008 with the objective of owning and continuing the programs of LWSI, the country program of LWF/DWS, Geneva. LWSIT became operational as a National NGO since 2010 onwards. LWSI established its presence in India in 1974, in response to the refugee problems in West Bengal after the Bangladesh War of Independence. Over the years, LWSI expanded the scope of its work to other States in India and continued to work with the poorest of the poor and those affected by natural or human-made disasters without regard to race, sex, creed, caste, nationality or political conviction. LWSI rendered disaster relief and development assistance in the States of West Bengal, Odisha, Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Manipur and Kerala.

The Trust, as the successor of LWS India, has inherited a rich legacy of experience of implementing development projects in rural and urban areas as well as humanitarian response and disaster preparedness projects across India. LWSIT is well established in the Eastern region of India as an organ of transformation, currently working in partnership with over two thousand communities on issues of Sustainable Livelihood, Community Resilience, Education, Health, Gender and Peace & Reconciliation.

The United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India (UELCI) and the National Council of Churches in India (NCCI) are the key settlers of the Lutheran World Service India Trust, thus upholding the Trust's identity as a Christian ecumenical organization. LWSIT is a member of two prestigious International Networks such as ACT Alliance and Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) Alliance and a part of AZEECON regional network in Asia. It is also a founding member of SPHERE India and the Inter Agency Groups in several States including the States of Assam, Odisha and West Bengal.

IMPORTANT OPERATIONS

The year 2022 was the last year of implementing the five-year Strategic Plan Document (2018–2022). The mandate of Strategic Plan continued to give emphasis on selected six thematic areas such as; Sustainable Livelihood and Community Resilience as core result heads, Education and Health as convergence result heads, while Gender and Peace as cross cutting result heads. All result heads that LWSIT gives highest emphasis are aligned with the Global SDGs as given below;

Sl. No.	Strategic Focus	Related Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)
1.	Sustainable Livelihood	1- End Poverty in all its forms everywhere 2- End Hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
2.	Community Resilience	13- Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impact
3.	Education	4- Provide quality education for all
4.	Health	3- Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
5.	Gender	5- Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6.	Peace	16- Peace, Justice and strong institutions

GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS

The geographic focus of development operations during 2022 were in the States of Odisha, West Bengal, Assam and Jharkhand while responding to disasters on a pan-India program.

During 2022, LWSIT carried out nine projects with development intervention, one project titling as Transboundary Flood Resilience Project in South Asia and two humanitarian response projects. Long-term development projects such as STEER, GEP, DSSQC and CAP-R were the core projects of the organisation and addressed all the six thematic areas. Besides these, Civic Life was one of the thematic areas, which received priority in DSSQC Project. The Child Care Institute (CCI) and Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH) had a focus on education and civic life respectively. Rotary India Literacy Mission (RILM) and Children Education Centre projects focused on strengthening education program among dropout and laggard children. All of these projects are situated within the geographic location served by the organisation.

Besides, LWSIT has responded to flood response projects in Assam with support from ACT Alliance. In addition, there was flood response project implemented in Cuttack city, Kendrapada and Jajpur districts of Odisha with support from ELCA. The poor and vulnerable families those affected by high floods received relief materials in form of Food, Non-Food Items, WASH/Hygiene Kits apart from imparting trainings as well as awareness program on community based disaster preparedness to strengthen their capacity to face the disaster situation in future.

The Transboundary Flood Resilience (TFR) Project in South-Asia also implemented in Assam state of India for the third year of intervention with resource support from ELCA in order to build resilience among flood affected communities with effective early warning system apart from providing livelihood security for the women and youth. Besides, School DRR program was also implemented in the selected schools to enhance the capacity of students and teachers of flood safety measures.

MAP OF OPERATIONAL AREA



Odisha, West Bengal, Assam and Jharkhand

Table No. 1: Snapshot of Projects undertaken in 2022

Sl. No.	Project	State	Coverage		Population Reach		
			No. of Comm.	No. of Household	Rural	Urban	Total
1	STEER	Odisha & West Bengal	250	12,883	54,490	-	54,490
2	GEP	Odisha & West Bengal	75	14,446	-	58,979	58,979
3	DSSQC	Jharkhand & West Bengal	100	4,042	18,960	-	18,960
4	CAP-R	Assam	100	6,640	34,465	-	25,567
5	CCI	West Bengal	-	20	-	20	20
6	SUH	West Bengal	-	80	-	80	80
7	RILM – Asha Kiran Centre	West Bengal	30	750	750	-	750
8	CEC	West Bengal	4	30	-	30	30
9	SWAWLAMBAN	West Bengal	2	23	25	-	25
10	Transboundary Flood Resilience Project in South Asia	Assam	30	2,240	10,850	-	10,850
11	Flood Response Program through ACT Alliance RRF	Assam	13	812	3,515	-	3,515
12	Flood Response Program with support from ELCA in Cuttack city, Kendrapada and Jajpur districts	Odisha	36	1,774	7,177	-	7,177



Observation on 16 days activism against gender based violence at GEP project

THE CORE PROJECTS

Social Transformation, Economic Empowerment and Risk Reduction (STEER) Project

Supported by ELCA and Act Church of Sweden

The Social Transformation Economic Empowerment and Risk Reduction (STEER) Rural Project operates in Balangir, Jajpur, Kalahandi, Kendrapara and Mayurbhanj districts in Odisha and Bankura district in West Bengal state. The project started its intervention in 250 communities with 12,883 households, which covers 54,490 population. The project's goal is 'Dalit, Tribes/Adivasi's and other vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, without gender disparity, lead a life of dignity enjoying rights'. The Act Church of Sweden (Act CoS) and Evangelical Lutheran Churches in America (ELCA) have supported the project. The project targets those geographies with high percentage of Tribal and Dalit who are at the bottom-most stage of the majority of socio-economic indicators.

The various programs was undertaken on each of the six thematic and the project focused on strengthening of community based organization or groups, community based disaster preparedness, increasing agriculture production, diversifying farm and non-farm livelihoods, entitlements under Right to Education Act, health awareness and linkages with government service providers as well as water and sanitation. As part of the cross cutting theme of gender, activities included facilitating women's active participation in development initiatives and local self-government and enabling communities acknowledge and address issues of gender based violence. Strengthening peace committees and focusing on maintaining peace and resolving ethnic and communal conflict at local level is one of the thematic area under peace. Considering the prevalence of COVID-19 situation in last two years, the project also highly focused on prevention and control on coronavirus disease and community awareness on COVID-19 appropriate behaviour. Besides, the project worked for People with Disability (PwD) in convergent mode and focused to enable the PwD to obtain the new UDID card and disability certificate to avail the benefits of the schemes.

Based on these thematic focus areas, LWSIT has adopted two important approaches such as Gender Inclusive Right Based Approach (GIRBA) and integrated Approach in the interventions of development program with aim to improve the quality of life of the target populations



Awareness Program on Best Hygiene Practices in School

Table: 2 Program Achievement of STEER Project in 2022

Major Activities	Odisha			West Bengal		
	Comm.	Women	Men	Comm.	Women	Men
Livelihood skill development Training	32	95	33	14	40	0
Training on Sustainable Agriculture	58	115	133	9	37	14
Business and entrepreneurial Schemes (Individual I.G. support)	83	134	21	12	15	1
Business and entrepreneurial Schemes (Group I.G. support)	35	541	193	7	64	16
Support for commercial vegetable cultivation	35	69	56	13	22	46
Support for commercial cultivation of pulses and cereals	33	69	64	12	85	56
Land Development	20	5	20	0	0	0
Support for Individual Orchard (Homestead Fruit Tree Plantation)	31	149	56	14	0	0
Formation of Producer Group & Producer Group Federation (Cooperatives)	37	83	51	2	8	11
Construction of Vermin Compost pit	7	10	0	3	7	5
Organize awareness on DRR/ CCA	8	153	94	7	61	16
Formation & Strengthening of DMT	23	161	94	3	22	19
Skill development Training on community Based DRR	41	82	62	0	0	0
Support Solar Light	46	139	19	26	80	0
Awareness program on enrolment and RTE	27	358	252	11	98	39
Study Centers for Class V - VII Children	18	148	150	0	0	0
Training on Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive health Rights	34	216	30	12	25	26
Organize awareness programs on WASH for school children	109	1298	1428	18	203	60
Training for Task Force members on community based COVID 19 preparedness	39	148	54	0	0	0
Community awareness programs on prevention and control of COVID 19 pandemic	36	522	390	16	160	45
Training on increasing and strengthening leadership qualities of women	53	249	0	15	65	0
Training on community responses to gender inequality and gender based violence	68	212	84	10	43	0
Training on conflict management	30	62	56	6	13	12

Case Story-1 of STEER Project: Mushroom Farming - A Ray of Hope

The Mushroom farming has shown a ray of hope on Income Generation for the Group members of the Mati Maa SHG in Palsapada Community in the District of Kalahandi, Odisha. The avenue has



enlightened the group members and has been a source of additional income since inception. They hope to manage their livelihood through this in future as well. Inspired by LWSIT, mushroom farming has turned to be a ray of hope for the SHG members to earn livelihood with little efforts not away from home but at the doorsteps. Following the training on livelihood skill development organized in the area beforehand and guided by LWSIT, the Mati Maa SHG of Palsapada Community came forward to take up mushroom farming.

Mushrooms grown by SHG Group members in Kalahandi District

A meeting was organized prior to initiation of the avenue to chalk out the role and responsibility of the members. With the initial investment of Rs. 14,910/- for purchasing of all the required materials, the Group prepared the seedbeds.

The joys of the Group members were beyond control as they observed Mushrooms started blooming in the seedbed in just 20 days. With little efforts finally, they got 185 kgs of Mushroom altogether. Since this was first time in the locality, the mushroom was completely sold out. On calculation of the recurring expenses the net income was Rs. 18,300/- .

With the income, the group members purchased a sprayer for Rs. 1,500/-. In order to save for the future, the group deposited Rs. 6,000/- in the respective Bank Account. Further, they are in the process of investing the rest of the amount of Rs.10, 800/- for the next phase of mushroom farming, which would be taken up in 150 beds shortly.

The Group members feel extremely encouraged with the present success, which they had never imagined. They were earlier familiar with the deposit of subscription and growth of Group savings only. However, with this collective functioning, they have learnt how to enhance income through entrepreneurship development collectively which focuses Individual progress as well. *'You have not only opened our eyes & ears but have shown the way of life to us. We have lrrnt a lot and have the ray of hope. We will continue this avenue with this zeal further in future to step up the process of financial empowerment in the true sense of term'* says Ms. Satyabhama Pujari, the President of the Mati Maa SHG.



Women engaged in Mushroom Farming

Case Story-2 STEER Project: Fish Vending by Ms. Draupadi Bag

“This was my individual livelihood setup to manage my family with daily expenses when I was struggling to stand in the society. LWSIT showed me the path to start and enhance a sustainable livelihood at my doorstep to secure my livelihood”.

I’m Draupadi Bag and I belong to the poor & backward caste in the society. My occupation was a daily wage labour living in Kandhabahal Bastipada with my husband, two children and old Mother-in-law. Due to unequal daily wage and unavailability of work, I was struggling for my livelihood with crucial financial crisis. LWSIT came to

me and financially supported me to stand with a business, which helped me and mitigated my financial crisis. Now I am so happy that my family is secured with my livelihood.



Draupadi Bag selling fish in market place

Draupadi Bag is one of the members of Laxmi Shakti SHG belongs to the village Kandhabahal Bastipada, Balangir district. She was worried for managing basic amenities for her family members from daily wage, as she doesn’t have enough land for food production. Lending money from landlord or sometimes from the group was a common practice for her to meet the daily needs. The condition became worst during Covid-19 lockdown situation.

In the meantime, Ms. Draupadi placed her problem and requested to LWSIT for financial support to start a business. Then she along with her husband started fish vending in nearby market with an initial investment of Rs. 15,000.00 comprising of LWSIT contribution of Rs. 12,000.00 and another contribution of Rs. 3000/- .



Draupadi with her family in fish market

Now, she is very much popular as good fish vendor in this locality. She earns Rs. 400 - 500 per day. This income is being utilized for her daily family needs like food, health, education etc. and something saving for children’s future. Her plan is to expand the business with some more other variety of fishes, which is not available in local market, and earn something more from that business. This effort of Ms. Draupadi has changed her economic status and right now she is not facing acute financial crisis and at the same time, she has opened one bank passbook in her name to increase her savings to meet the unexpected needs of future. Ms. Draupadi spell out joyfully that *“I’m really thankful to the LWSIT as they helped me to uphold my livelihood and ensured food security for my family. Now, my family is safe and I can feed them properly*

Gender Empowerment Project (GEP):

Supported by Act Church of Sweden

The Gender Empowerment Project (GEP) is in its 2nd operational year in (2022) of the New Project Proposal period 2021-2023. The new phase of the project covered 75 Slums as communities to achieve the project goals for: "The Urban poor of Kolkata, Cuttack and Bhubaneswar, enhance gender equality in all spheres of life". The project intended to reach 14,446 households and 58,979 populations through operations in the 4 states.

LWSIT directly implemented the activities in partnership with community-based organizations, networking with different Govt. and non-Govt. agencies to achieve the Gender equality in every spheres of life. Women members newly formed total 47 Self-Help group. Actions were taken to strengthened 92 SHG, 5 livelihood groups, 2 TG groups, 2DWA group and 1 Women association Violence Against Women (WAWAW). 24 CBOs were further strengthened through awareness programs, trainings, linkage building with financial institutions and exposure visit programs.

During the year, the project addressed the problems on Gender inequality and Gender based violence prevailing in the operational communities. Unequal access to services such as primary health care, elementary education and unequal participation in social, economic and political life in the society. Project intends to strengthen the local institutions, group members aimed to elimination of all forms of discrimination on women, amplify their voices and participate in decision-making platforms, which marginalized people being discriminated for many years. Furthermore, women and youth were guided with career counselling and vocational guidance, employment creation, availing government social security schemes. LWSIT took initiatives to support 1500 flood-affected families based on their needs and emphasised to generate awareness to build resilience amongst the community members to reduce disaster risk reduction and combat the impact of climate change across the GEP projects in Bhubaneswar and Kolkata.

Ms. Sheela Mallick, the representative of ACT CoS visited the community to see the living condition of the poor and marginalized people in slum areas and the changes that Act COS created in the life of women through their support and the intervention of LWSIT. Also, the communication team from ACT CoS, Ms. Susana and Ms. Katrina visited the Community with Film Team from Chennai, to interact with right holders and observed the struggle life of the slum dwellers. The community was happy to see the visitors and thanked them for their throughout support



Observation of International Domestic Workers Day in GEP Project

Program Achievement of GEP Project in 2022

Major Activities	Odisha				West Bengal			
	Com m.	Women	Men	Other Gender	Comm.	Women	Men	Other Gender
Formation and Strengthening of livelihood groups	2	2	45	0	0	3	3	45
Customized vocational or skill training	13	10	9	2	2	3	7	42
Supports for the service center and livelihood groups	2	36	97	4	0	2	2	30
Group and Individual Business for Income Generation	36	33	108	0	0	25	8	48
Networking and linkage with banks, government and non- governmental agencies	2	10	51	2	0	2	9	99
Awareness on community resilience on climate change and Gender Based violence	10	10	211	0	0	6	6	113
Safe water available for urban communities	0	0	0	0	0	31	1	31
Solid waste management and clean water bodies and drainage systems	6	6	147	6	0	6	5	108
Campaign on safe dwelling places/Training on COVID-19 Management	3	5	99	5	0	2	4	54
Awareness building of parents to regularized school attendance of the children	6	6	170	0	0	4	4	76
Publication or Dissemination of IEC material to generate awareness on COVID-19	200	50	0	0	0	78	15	0
Sensitization Sessions for School Management Committee (SMC)	2	3	48		0	1	3	16
Training on Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (covering schools, collages also public platforms)	6	13	56	76	0	2	9	22
Training to community leaders on Covid management	13	25	299	5	0	7	12	22
Livelihood support to Covid affected domestic workers	10	10	10	0	0	5	5	5
Material Support to girl students of covid19 affected families for continuing higher study education	5	5	5	0	0	3	3	3
Providing women a free space to share and talk and raise their concerns	10	74	287	0	0	4	7	73
Sensitisation camps on gender disparity - involving men, women and transgender	4	4	50	11	47	3	6	68
Sensitization camp on gender equality focusing men as change agent	10	10	160	127	0	4	10	28
Workshop for Domestic Workers Association	2	33	165	2	2	1	7	48
Fact finding and case filing for any violence against women, girls and transgender:	2	42	51	3		0	0	0
Formation and strengthening of Self Help Groups	168	60	1107	10	45	52	10	572
Training on Legal Aid for Domestic Workers, rag pickers and daily wage earners	50	19	69	0	0	1	6	29

Case Story-1 GEP Project: Struggle of a Transgender person to create Identity as the staff in Odisha



Binod Sethi (Chuina) selling perfumes in her stall at an event

Chuina Kinner, real name Binod Sethi is the son the Iswar Sethi who is the resident of Nimasahi, Cuttack. He has two brothers and a sister. When he was in class VI, he realized women hood within him and was anxious about his Identity crisis. For his changed behavior, he has to face a lot of criticism and social, mental abuse from his friends, neighbors and his own home too. It was very difficult for him to bear all this and anyhow he was able to complete his matriculation. After that one day with so much grief and anger, he left his home, made contact with Suryanagar Transgender Community, and stayed with them. He then became 'She' and her name Chuina was given by her Transgender leader (Guru). She has started begging in the train and performed badhei in birthday and marriage ceremonies. It did not give her satisfaction and she wanted to live with self-respect in society with her identity, deprived from social, economic rights. Slowly she met LWSIT in a Self Help Group formation meeting. On that day a Paribartan TG - SHG was formed there with 10-transgender member including her and she became the President of that SHG. She is a very ambitious person and always wanted to do new things. Through LWSIT the group has established good networking with CMC (Cuttack Municipal Corporation). Through CMC at first, they received Rs.15000/- support and after that, six members of this group were engaged in driving of 6 battery driven sanitation vehicle.

But Chuina was not satisfied with this, and wanted to do something better. She has learned techniques of Perfume making and started selling it. She has been purchasing raw materials from Mumbai and accomplished the whole process of Perfume making in a rented house in Cuttack. She got free stall for selling in Baliyatra (festival of Odisha) with the help of LWSIT and able to make good profit in that fare. She then started selling her items in most of the fairs organized by Govt. agencies. She is able to give her stall in 7 to 8 fairs in a year and in this way, she has earned a good income. She has been giving her stall in different districts of Odisha and has received awards form district authorities. Now she is able to sale perfumes earning profit of Rs. 1000-1500 per day.

She has stopped begging totally and this endeavor has changed her life to a dignified one. She is only doing Badhei with her community people, as it is their primary profession. Her relation with her family is getting better day by day and now her family has started accepting her. She has started visiting her family in different festivals and functions. Chuina is giving all the credit to LWSIT for all this changes in her life. She said *"LWSIT has showed me the light and made me able to live a dignified life in society and supported me to create my own identity in the society"*.

Case story-2 GEP Project: Community Drive to Clean Environment and Build Resilience**Community keeping the area clean**

garbage disposal system was present. The people were resistant to change their behavior and attitude towards maintaining a clean environment, had no concern of living with clean environment and security of life. Thus, the cases of Dengue, Malaria, Diarrhea and jaundice was high and death cases due to Dengue, Malaria increased in this community, since this was a breeding ground for water borne diseases during monsoons.

After perceiving all these problems, LWSIT Kolkata unit organized 5 programs on community resilience on Solid waste management, Campaign on Safe dwelling places and Safe water available for Urban Communities for the slum dwellers involving the local leaders. The days of campaign observed with cleaning surrounding of communities, spreading bleaching powders in and around drainage, community toilets, and beside water bodies. This program created a positive response to maintain cleanliness and its importance because it helps to control infections and prevent contagious viruses to spread. Though the municipal corporation cleans the area in periodic basis, but that is not adequate to maintain the area clean, hence the members have taken responsibilities to clean water bodies, bathing place and drinking water sources together once in a week. This conscious effort of keeping community spaces clean and sanitary with the addition of individuals maintaining their own personal hygiene has significantly improved the growth of healthy families and quality of life.

**Community keeping the area clean**

Development Support Program for Stone Quarry affected Communities (DSSQC) Project

Supported by Normisjon

The Development Support program for Stone Quarry affected Communities (DSSQC) project of LWSIT is operational in Dumka district of Jharkhand and Birbhum district of West Bengal covering 100 communities, 4042 households and 18,960 population. It is operational with an aim to "Improved quality of life of the communities (Santhal and other weaker social groups) affected by stone quarries and stone crashing units in the project area. The project is implemented by LWSIT in

partnership with the Evangelical Social Action Forum (ESAF) with the funding support from Normisjon. The year 2022 was the fifth year of intervention of the project phase 2018 – 2023.

In 2022, the project continued to focus on the five thematic areas such as; Health, Livelihood, Environment, Education and Civic Life. Since the health, livelihood and environment was immensely affected due to stone quarries and stone crashing units, the project gave special emphasis to address the concerned issues of

occupational health hazards, degradation of land, declining agricultural productivity, air and water pollution along with the other two thematic area education and civic life.



Celebrating International Women's' Day in DSSQC Project

Under health, activities like awareness on RTI, STI, TB, ANC etc., promotion of kitchen garden, screening camps on RTI and STI were organized. Besides, the communities were sensitized and linked-up with the health workers and health care institutions for accessing government health care facilities. Agriculture being the major livelihood of the people, the project organized trainings, awareness programs. Exposure visits were also organized for the members of Farmers Interest Groups (FIGs) and Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs) followed by the support with improved variety of seeds of different seasonal crops, organic fertilizers, agriculture implements, creation of



Income Generation through agricultural productivity

irrigation facility etc. to increase the cropping area and agriculture productivity and increase family income. Under environment, the project supported communities to develop fruit orchards in the wastelands and make the unproductive lands into productive. The communities without power supply and the communities with poor electric supply was supported with solar light facilities to the girl students for their studies. The community based institutions like; SHGs,

FPOs etc. were strengthened through different capacity building trainings and exposure visits with gender balance representation for effective management of their institutions. The project also organized interface programs among the community based institutions and duty bearers and established linkages with PRI, different Govt. Departments and Banks for mobilizing resources and accessing their rights and entitlements.

Table No. 4: Program Achievement of DSSQC Project in 2022

Major Activities	Jharkhand			West Bengal		
	Comm.	Men	Women	Comm.	Men	Women
Awareness camp on RTI and STD	22	72	152	32	86	294
Screening & health checkup camp TB, RTI & Anemia	6	7	14	11	3	19
Screening and health checkup camp of STD	6	6	13	9	4	21
Awareness camps on CODID 19	7	23	33	8	27	84
Promotion of kitchen/nutrition garden in homestead land	7	0	35	13	19	46
Organized training for Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)	9	11	30	38	106	259
Exposure Visit for the farmers	13	14	11	18	22	14
Support FPOs with agriculture implements	24	94	248	30	163	255
Support farmers with seeds and organic fertilizers	28	49	302	25	62	263
Re-excavation of irrigation pond	1	18	2	-	-	-
Tree Plantation in waste land	1	0	10	2	0	20
Community Fruit Orchard	2	0	20	1	30	12
Support Solar lanterns to the girl students	21	0	125	9	0	30
Training for School Management Committees	15	56	101	20	37	75
Leadership development training	5	10	17	11	6	57
Organize interface programs among duty bearers and community members	14	20	28	12	22	91

Case Story – 1 DSSQC Project: “The Way to Self Sufficient”

With the support of LWSIT Surjamukhi Swanirbhar Dal was formed consisting with 12 women in Chakraipur Majhipara under Bharkata Gram Panchayat of Md. Bazar Block. Before LWSIT intervention there was no community based organization in the community. After LWSIT intervention, the group members gradually started to gain knowledge on different developmental issues by attending different trainings, awareness programs and took initiative to enhance the status of the women within the community by participating in various developmental initiatives. After completing 5 years of formation of group, the members felt that they have to initiate a group venture by utilizing their gained knowledge for some income by which they can become more self-sufficient. But they could not come forward due to lack of education, lack of courage, lack of idea and no experience for operating a business. At that time, Chobi Soren the leader of the group got an idea of Leaf Plate making business and initiated a group venture from her relative's place. Those group members also got training on this subject from a Govt. sponsored trainer. The enthusiastic Chobi collected all the relevant information regarding the venture from her relatives and after returning home she shared all the information with other group members and started discussion with the other group members as well as LWSIT staff for initiating this type of venture within their community. However, after hearing the requirement of large amount capital of Rs. 28,000/- and sparing lots of time for the venture the other group members was not ready to accept the proposal and gradually they denied. At last, the insistent Chobi took a decision to initiate the venture individually. With the help and support of her relatives she purchased a Leaf Plate Making Machine by expending Rs. 18,000/-, Purchased dry Sal leaf by Rs 5000/-, Plastic Rs. 4000/-, 2 no. of coils (machine parts) and 2 no. of scissors by expending



Income generation through Plate Making from dry leaves

Rs 500/- and started venture in her residence. In this situation she continued the business alone for a period of 6 months, but could not supply the Leaf plates as per the market demand due to lack of helping hand and labor.

In this circumstance, Chobi requested LWSIT to take an initiative for joining more women in the venture. On Chobi's request, LWSIT intervened in this matter and involved 30 women from 4 groups of the community on the basis of an agreement. The involved women get Rs. 12/- for making of 25 no. of Leaf Plate (25no. = one bunch) and daily every woman earns Rs. 120/-. Chobi has some recurring expenditure like purchase of dry leaves from the local market on weight basis; she pays the electricity bill in every month from the profit amount. Due to this reason Chobi took loan amounting Rs. 15,000/- from Bank. From the loan amount, she repaid some amount of the Machine price and rest amount she utilized for the recurring expenditures. From the profit amount, she also repaid the loan amount to the bank and took another loan of Rs. 25,000/- from the bank for the same purpose. Now Chobi's average monthly income is Rs. 6000/-. LWSIT has also organized training for the involved women of the venture with the support of the Block Women Development Cell for enhancing their skill.

Now the enthusiastic 30 women of the group were actively involved in this business and encouraging other women of the area for become self-sufficient through group. All the women of 4 groups of the community have been enlisted under Laxmi Bhandar scheme and got the benefit of the scheme. They have established an example within the area.

Case Story – 2 DSSQC Project: "MY LAND MY DEVELOPMENT"

Dharampur is mainly a tribal community under Mashra Gram Panchayat of Rampurhat-1 block in Birbhum district. Out of the 33 Total household, 27 households are having agriculture and agriculture labour as their primary occupation, rest 6 households depend on crusher work and daily wage labour. LWSIT through its intervention on various development sectors especially in the sector of Sustainable Livelihood have been able to bring changes in the community. Farmers of the community have taken up agriculture as their primary livelihood source by utilizing the land for multiple crop cultivation. At present, their dependency on crusher & mines is very low as compared to initial years of the project. Surudhon Kisku (36), Surjo Kisku (54), Chhina Tudu (42), Mongol Kisku (58) Bitishwari Tudu (44) Daud Kisku (35) are some of the prime example of active farmers' making

vast difference in the community by utilizing their land for sustainable agriculture practices. From mix cropping to dry land farming the Community farmers have shown the path/way for other communities to replicate this practices and proving that sustainable livelihood source can be attained without losing the land for mining activities. The community farmers are utilizing the farmland all throughout the year as per crop cycle. Crops and vegetables cultivated round the year done by the community farmers have also attracted buyers to purchase produce yield from the community. The farmers also sell their raw material in the nearby market such as Salbadra Haat, Nirisha Haat and in Maluti Haat. Their daily minimum income ranges from Rs. 50 to Rs. 250 depending upon the selling capacity of the individual farmers.

These sustainable livelihood practices have helped to increase their livelihood income and in return, people are enjoying a better environment in the community, which is fulfilling the Mission, Vision and Goal of LWSIT to empower the vulnerable, and the disadvantage communities to ensure ecological balance and overcome poverty thereby enhancing the dignity of lives of the people.



Livelihood source by utilizing the land for multiple crop cultivation

Community Action for Peace and Reconciliation (CAP-R)

Supported by Normisjion

The year 2022 is the fourth year of implementing the Community Action for Peace and Reconciliation (CAP-R) Project in Assam with a core focus on establishing peace between different ethnic groups like Bodo, Santhal and Muslim communities, which share a long history of mutual animosity, and conflict. LWSIT intervention in this area was initiated after the large-scale riots broke-out in the year 1996 between the Bodos and the largely marginalized groups in these areas- Santhals, Muslims and Hindu Bengali immigrants settled in these areas for generations. 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. The project document has been designed to implement the said project for a period of five years commencing from 2019 till 2023. The project worked with the goal – “Target communities live in peaceful co-existence with social and economic empowerment due to stewardship of environment”.

The primary focus population of the project consists mostly of the Adivasis, Tribes and Muslims who are landless, marginalized and underprivileged in 100 communities covering Kokrajhar and Chirang districts in Assam. The project while focusing on peace and reconciliation used its insights into the root cause of the unrest and violence in the region and simultaneously worked on the issues of sustainable livelihood, health and education. The trust of the work was on building capacities of communities on conflict resolution and promote rapport building between youths of different ethnic backgrounds. The remarkable achievement of the project was that there were no violent incidents in the project operational area after intervention of the project during the year 2022.

Besides, of this, the major activities implemented during 2022 include strengthening of village development committees (VDC), capacity-building support for effective functioning of VDCs, strengthening of the peace forums, forums were linked with the other peace forums promoted by the government, Quarterly Meeting for Peace Mediators' Forum/Gaonburah Federation, activating the central committee etc. Besides, sensitization camps on gender disparity by involving men and women, Leadership Training for the Gaonburah and religious leaders, campaign on Right to Food and social security schemes, awareness and sensitization program on health, public awareness and enrolment campaign on education, Networking and Rapport building with community leaders, CBOs, Youth Groups, and Peace Forums, etc. were also implemented. During the year, emphasis was given on engaging VDCs, Peace Forums and Youth Clubs at different levels to access their rights and entitlements. Youths, were supported with new livelihood entrepreneurship activities and engaged themselves in income generation for their family.



Farmers' Exposure Visit at Agri-Farm at Karigaon under Kokrajhar District

Table No. 5: Program Achievement of CAP-R Project in 2022

Name of the Major Activities	Unit Type	Total Unit	Achieved in the Year -2022		
			Community	Men	Women
A. Peaceful Co-existence					
Quarterly Meeting for Peace Mediators' Forum/GB Federation	No	11	72	217	97
Training on Conflict Management & Do No Harm	No	17	75	271	220
Training on community responses to gender inequality and gender based violence	No	5	14	48	112
Peace festivals	No.	2	64	226	316
The peace building activities for youth	No.	3	44	861	108
Leadership Training for the Gaonburah and religious leaders	No	11	51	182	139
The observance of significant day by interfacing with community groups	No	22	98	1009	1248
B. Sustainable livelihood and Economic Environment					
Sustainable agriculture training	No	6	44	136	25
Commercial Vegetable Cultivation	Acre	97	37	130	20
Commercial Cultivation of Pulses, Oilseeds and Cereals	No	39	21	126	84
Support for alternative livelihood opportunity	No	12	12	6	6
Training on animal husbandry	No.	5	43	120	93
Support with livestock	Group	51	22	48	83
C. CIVIC LIFE					
Training on organizational skills for the CBO and CBG leaders	No	5	35	68	67
Training on increasing and strengthening leadership qualities of women	No	2	6	3	64
Training on Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights	No	12	35	144	271
Public Awareness and enrolment campaign on education	No	10	10	143	151
Village development and CBO development plan	No.	99	99	1451	2122
Sensitization programmes on gender disparity	No.	7	10	98	150
Training of elected representatives (legislative) about the roles and responsibilities of LSG	No.	3	10	50	
D. COMMUNITY RESILIENCE					
Tree plantation on wasteland	Sapling	4000	8	191	102
Training on climate change adaptation and mitigation	No	6	20	66	86
Skill Development Training on Community Based Disaster Risk reduction	No.	2	20	56	28
Advocacy for Community Based Disaster Management Plan	No.	4	16	86	46
Distribution of equipment of renewable energy sources	No	13	4	5	8

Case Story – 1 CAP-R Project: Amicably Ended Early Marriage



Members of VDC, Khairabani Village, who resolved the issue of early marriage

Kairabani village was adopted by LWSIT in the year 2019 and the Village Development Committee (VDC) was formed. The village consists of 27 households with a population of 90 people including men, women and children. Most of the villagers are farmers and Daily wage earners. Most of the people are uneducated and they believe in traditional laws and do as their grandparents did. Many give in marriage to their children at an early age. Most of the boys and girls are dropouts from schools as they reach classes IX and X. They leave schooling and go to other states in search of labour works. Some get married early. All these happened due to lack of proper awareness and guidance.

In the years, 2021 and 2022 LWSIT organized several awareness programs on gender disparity and right base Issues .Through these programs Community Leaders gained good knowledge on different social Issues. The Community has now taken resolution to stop early marriage in the village.

A girl by the name Moni Hasda aged 16 years of Kairabani was eloped by Nirmal Mardi aged 17 years of Dakin Moinaguri under Kokrajhar District. Kairabani Village Development Committee immediately took initiative, brought back both the girl and the boy, and had a meeting along with their parents. They separated the boy and the girl amicably advising them not to get married before they attain the age of marriage. Same incident happened when a boy and a girl came to Kairabani village from Labdanguri in Bijni. On being asked, they replied that they planning to get married. From further enquiry about their details, it was found that both of them were less than 18 years of age. The Kairabani VDC held a meeting with both parents and separated them peacefully. They agreed to wait until they attain their age of marriage. The efforts of Kairabani VDC and the Peace Mediator Forum to stop early marriage in their village is commendable.

Case Story – 2 CAP-R Project: Resolution of religious differences in the community


A meeting in Pathorbari Village for resolution of conflict

India has many religions characterized by diversity of beliefs and practices. Even a state like Assam is multi-linguistic, multi-ethnic and multi-religious society. This phenomenon of diversity of religious beliefs and practices is also seen in the villages but people are mostly living together in peace and harmony. India, it being secular state, the majority of the people enjoys freedom of religion and beliefs. The state necessarily protects its citizens and treats all religions impartially. However, sometimes due to fear, contempt, mistrust and to certain extent political influences, there arise conflicts or differences in the community. The people of LWSIT operational communities also face such inter-religious differences within intra-community or intra-village. In most of the cases, the differences or disputes are primarily of personal, land, property in nature; livestock trespassing to interest, sometimes these types of conflicts are given religious colors especially if the village/community has diverse cultures/religions.

One such incident of conflict occurred due to personal interest in one of the operational communities of LWSIT. Pathorbari, is a community inhabited by Adivasi group who belongs to both Hindu and Christian faiths. On any normal days they work together in the fields, resolved their internal problems amicably. However, since last part of December 2021, some inmates of the village who had a personal enmity due to property (land) dispute spread some rumors about religious conversion from Hindu. The problem persisted and escalated and the community was divided into two religious groups. The harmony and peaceful co-existence of the community was in danger because of the quarrel between the two people.

However, the village head, VDC and religious leaders from both sides gathered and discussed the matter in the meeting. The problem was finally resolved in November 2022 as both side reconciled and understood that it was due to rumors and personal interest.

CHILD CARE INSTITUTE (CCI):

Supported by JELA & ELCA

LWSIT gave emphasis in the holistic development of girl child through Child Care Institution (CCI) since 2013 for the under privileged children of communities across Kolkata, Ultadanga and surroundings. The project functions in the campus of Kolkata unit, Address: at 33/7, Muraripukur Road, Kolkata – 700067. LWSIT received approval from the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of West Bengal and it cater to the needs of girl children, who are in need of care and protection, children into begging, street children, orphan, trafficked, run away children, children of migrant population, domestic as well as the children of sex workers etc. The CCI is providing care and protection to 20 girl children within the age group of 6 to 14 years with specific objectives; To provide shelter, educational opportunities, better health and nutritional care to girl children. Lifeskill trainings are provided to the children to face any challenges in life and reduce their vulnerabilities.

The Children were very happy to resume their School after 2 yrs. of interval. 18 children appeared the final examination and all of them was promoted to the next class with good academic marks. To ensure travel security pooled car services were provided for pick and drop of children from school. To ensure quality education private tutors were selected for helping children in daily education curriculum. 9 Routine health check-up was organized for general health check-ups and treatment. 12 students were referred to the Govt. Hospital for extensive health treatment. Some major cases diagnosed were Fever, Cough and Cold, rashes, cardio logical problems and menstruation related problems. Alongside, awareness were created on Child rights and on hygiene through games and physical activities. During the year CCI Children attended various extracurricular classes such as Marshal Arts, Art& Craft and Moral classes. This extra-curricular class helps to improved physical fitness, superior mind-body coordination, and self-discipline among the children. Out of 17 students, 8 of them have carry out final Test for next grade and all of them succeeded from Yellow belt to Green Belt and obtain certificate. LWSIT organised a daylong educational excursion for CCI student in Science city campus, in Kolkata. Children had a great day with excitement beyond daily routine boundaries. Three visitor's programs were arranged by LWSIT with CCI children along with other delegates. Also, different days celebrations were observed in the CCI Campus

In collaboration with Govt. Women's and Children's institution, the License of CCI was renewed under licensing rule 1958. Social welfare officer made monitoring visits from Women and Child development dpt. of the Government of West Bengal and were satisfied with the CCI Campus as per govt. rules.



Children at CCI celebrating Environment Day with Paintings

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PROGRAM IN 2022

In India, there has been an increasing trend of climate-caused disasters since last few years such as floods, cyclone and drought, which is affecting the most vulnerable individuals, marginal and small farmers, coastal and riverine habitations, women, children, PwD and elderly persons to the great extent. This has happened due to the increase of global temperature, sea level rise, melting of glaciers, etc. In the year 2022, five tropical cyclones formed over the north Indian Ocean. Extremely Severe Cyclonic Storm 'Asani' (May 7 to 11), Severe Cyclonic Storm 'Sitrang' (October 23 to 24) and Severe Cyclonic Storm 'Mandoug' (September 29 to October 4) were amongst them.

It is worth mentioning that, the Government of India adopted a multi-hazard and multi-sectoral approach to disaster with a focus on prevention, preparedness and mitigation. It has enacted Disaster Management Act in 2005, a National Policy on Disaster Management in 2009 and in 2015, adopted three International Agreements including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Sustainable Development Goals 2015-2030 and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. In this context, LWSIT's various program interventions had a strong connection in addressing the national and international agenda. With a mandate of responding to disasters in pan-India, LWSIT responded to the needs of different people affected by floods in Kokrajhar and Chirang districts of Assam, while it also provided relief assistance to the flood affected people in Cuttack, Kendrapada and Jajpur district of Odisha. Besides, LWSIT has also implemented the Transboundary Flood Resilience Project in South Asia for the third year of intervention where LWF Nepal and RDRS Bangladesh are also part of this Project supported by ELCA.

Humanitarian Assistance for the flood-affected vulnerable people in Assam

Supported by ACT Alliance (RRF 10/2022)

The two waves of floods in Assam, which started in June 2022 caused massive inundation and damages to lives and property. The floods affected around 5,542,053 people in 5,577 villages under 121 revenue circles in 32 districts. The devastating floods left behind a trail of devastation and destruction. The people took shelter on roadside with bare minimum support from local administration. The rains and water levels gradually receded leaving their agricultural land making it unfit for cultivation. The Gratuitous Relief (GR) supplied by the local administration was insufficient to meet the basic needs of the communities. The state faced constant waves of floods in a single year and experienced the third wave, which caused further challenges to the lives of people living along flood-prone villages.

The floods severely damaged the houses, crops, stored food grains and water sources. Access to clean drinking water, electricity and roads were severely affected due to inundation. The affected people took shelter along the roadside and in schools. The regular education of children was affected due to the flood, leading to lesser intake of food particularly among children. As the houses were severely damaged, recovery, reconstruction, and returning to normalcy took a long time.

The areas identified for intervention situated in two districts, namely Kokrajhar and Chirang where LWSIT has its presence through its long term development project. The immediate needs as identified are; (1) Food assistance for survival (2) Provision of NFIs to improve better living condition (3) Temporary shelter materials (4) WASH/Hygiene Kits to protect from further infection and also to prevent from COVID-19 infection and lastly (5) linkage with government department to avail compensation.

Table No. 6: Details of Program implemented in 2022

Activities	Unit	Assisted Quantity	Family Coverage
Distribution of Food Materials:			812
Par-Boiled Rice (Atop/ Raw Rice) - 10 kgs per family	Kg	8,120	
Pulses (Dal) - 2 kg per family	Kg	1,624	
Cooking Oil - 1 litre per family	Litre	812	
Soya Chunk - 1 kg per family	Kg	812	
Iodised Salt - 1 kg per family	Kg	812	
Turmeric powder (1 pkt/ 100 gms per family)	Pkt.	812	
Distribution of Non-Food Items (NFI):			
Sleeping Mat (1 pc per family)	Piece	812	
Bed Sheet (1 pc per family)	Piece	812	
Mosquito Net (1pc per family)	Piece	812	
Woollen Blankets (1 pc per family)	Piece	812	
Shelter and Settlement:			
Silpaulin Sheets (15'x12' with 120 GSM) for temporary shelter	Piece	812	
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH):			
Dignity Kit/ Hygiene Kits for women and adolescent girls - Bathing Soap, Washing Soap, washing powder,	Kit	812	



Flood affected families of Assam receiving relief

Case Story 1: Smt. Some Islary recovered from the ruins



Some Islary with both her Daughter-In-Laws and granddaughter

Smt, Some Islary, wife of Late Baitheng Islary is a residence of Sudempuri village, P.O Patgaon, Dist. Kokrajhar BTR Assam. She has four family members comprising of two Daughter In-laws and a Granddaughter.

Smt. Some Islary lost her husband 20 years ago. She has to take care of her son. Unfortunately, she also lost her son about 7 years ago. After the death of her son, she had to take care of her family. However, she does not have enough income to run the family. She is a landless, woman headed family and does not have any homestead land nor any cultivable agriculture land to earn any income. Somehow, she manages to maintain her family by running a small tea stall in local market and generate some income to feed the family members.

While Some Islary was suffering from lack of employment opportunity and was having very less income generating from selling tea, she faced a big challenge as the flood disaster ruined her house, which got damaged and destroyed all her household materials including food rations as well as documents. Even she lost her ID card and Ration Card for which she is unable to get any support from the Govt. Dept. The family was very helpless.

Under such circumstances, Lutheran World Service India Trust (LWSIT) stood with her and provided relief assistance in the form of food materials such as Rice, Pulses, Soy Chunk, Edible Oil, Iodized Salt and some spices. Besides, LWSIT also provided them with Sleeping Materials in the form of Bed Sheet, Sleeping Mat, Woolen Blanket and Mosquito Net to ensure descent living condition of the family. Similarly, WASH/Hygiene Kits and a high quality big size Silpaulin Sheet also provide by LWSIT, which helped the family to use. All these materials provided to Smt. Some Islary in time has really recovered to some extent from the loss she incurred due to high flood in the month of July – August 2022.

With the relief materials received by Islary, she was elated and expressed her happiness for the support. She said *“Let Almighty God bless this Organization as I could be able to survive because of their timely support. I’ll never forget and will continue to pray God for their betterment”*.

Case Story 2: Komal Owary and his family happy with Relief Materials



Komal and his family with relief materials

Sri. Komal Owary is a landless laborer who is a resident of Banglajhora village in Kokrajhar district of Assam. He is 55 years old. He lived with his wife and a son who is studying in Class VI. Since Komal does not have any landed property, he depends on daily labor works and earn very small income to manage his family. With his small income, he has to buy the food, medicines and clothing as well as educational expenses for his son. Komal's wife is a homemaker and take care of the household chores.

While the plight of poverty experienced by Komal and his family members, the high flood caused during the month of July – August 2022 further weakened the family condition as they lost everything. Their house was damaged, all the sleeping materials also washed away and the food

materials which they stored for their consumption during lean period also destroyed due to flood water inundated into their house. As the stagnation of floodwater remained in his house, the family members were compelled to leave their house and took shelter in relief camp until the flood- water receded. Consequently, they were very helpless and were desperately looking for external support.

Under such circumstances, the humanitarian organization like LWSIT stood with the family and provided immediate relief assistance in the form of food materials such as Rice, Pulses, Soy Chunk, Edible Oil, Iodized Salt and some spices. Besides, Lutheran World Service India Trust also provided them with Sleeping Materials in the form of Bed Sheet, Sleeping Mat, Woolen Blanket and Mosquito Net to ensure descent living condition of the family. Similarly, WASH/Hygiene Kits and a high quality Silpaulin Sheet (big size having 15 feet length x 12 feet width) also provided by LWSIT which helped Komal and his family for use. This has ensured basic need of a family at the aftermath of flood disaster.

Sri Komal, his wife and son were very happy and expressed their satisfaction for the relief materials they have received from LWSIT by which they could survive and ensure a decent living condition in their village. With lot of satisfaction, Komal expressed his gratitude towards LWSIT and praise God for the timely relief support he received from this humanitarian agency. With lot of joy he said, *"The work of LWSIT NGO be reached to many unreached areas and let this organization provide many underprivileged families those are still suffering"*

Humanitarian assistance and resilience building among People affected by severe floods in Odisha

Supported by ELCA

The year 2022 witnessed a strong flood in Odisha where several slums of the twin cities i.e., Cuttack and Bhubaneswar was under water, which has affected the regular life of people. Water logging was there in the communities as Mahanadi River swells after incessant rains and there was no scope for releasing the water. The rainwater gushed into the houses causing submergence of houses. People were forced to take shelter on the riverbank. Consequently, the Cuttack city experienced flash floods and the road communication in most areas of the city was paralyzed. In one point of time, 40 gates were opened out of 64 gates of Hirakud Dam. The water released from the Dam caused floods in several districts of Odisha such as; Kendrapada, Jajpur, Cuttack, Bhubaneswar (Khordha), Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Balasore, Bhadrak, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar with other districts. People were staying in dark at night with family on the river banks without having food and other basic facilities. Over 200,000 people in 1,366 villages and 9 urban local bodies in 10 districts along the Mahanadi basin was affected by the flood triggered by a week-long, depression-induced rainfall.

Considering the need of the flood affected communities where LWSIT has its presence through its development interventions, it was necessary to provide relief assistance to meet the survival needs and also build capacity among the people to face the disaster in future. In this context, LWSIT implemented the humanitarian response program with the Project Goal, of Contributing to reduce the sufferings of 1,600 flood-affected households by meeting their immediate survival needs of food, security, hygiene kits, temporary shelter of 165 households as well as build resilience of 24 communities to cope and manage the future flood disasters in Cuttack, Kendrapada and Jajpur districts of Odisha. Besides this, 6 trainings were conducted on DRR, Do No Harm and CHS Commitments to Community Leaders, SHGs, Youths and Transgender persons. Also, awareness program on Disaster Preparedness, DRR and DM Act was organized for community members, traditional leaders, SHG Members and Transgender persons. All the programs have immensely benefitted to the flood affected families, which helped them to build back better situation



Relief Materials received by Women headed families in Cuttack Slums

Table No. 7: Details of Program implemented in 2022

Activities	Unit	Assisted Quantity	Family/ Community Coverage
Distribution of Food Materials:			
Boiled Rice - 10 kgs per family	Kg	16,000	1,600 Family
Pulses (Dal) - 1 kg per family	Kg	1,600	
Cooking Oil - 1 liter per family	Litre	1,600	
Soya Chunk - 1 kg per family	Pkt	1,600	
Iodized Salt - 1 kg per family	Kg	1,600	
Spices Pkts (Chilly, Turmeric, Cumin and Coriander, etc..)	Kit	1,600	
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH):			
Dignity Kit/ Hygiene Kits for women and adolescent girls - Bathing Soap, Washing Soap, washing powder, Anti-septic Liquid, Sanitary Napkin, etc.	Kit	1,550	1,550 Family
Shelter and Settlement:			
Silpaulin Sheets (15'x12' with 120 GSM) for temporary shelter	Piece	165	165 Family
Strengthen Community Preparedness and DRR:			
Training on DRR, Do No Harm and CHS Commitments to Community Leaders, SHGs, Youths and Transgender	No. of Training Program	6	24 Community
Awareness on Disaster Preparedness, DRR and DM Act to community members, traditional leaders, SHG Members and Transgender persons	No. of Awareness Program	12	

Case Story 1: "Surya built self-confidence to deal with disaster"

Tarinigada slum community of Cuttack City, is located at the bank of River Kathajodi. This Kathjodi River is always being a threat to this community particularly if there are high rains at the upper catchment area, which caused flood situation through various main Rivers of the state of Odisha. These rivers also caused threat to the grand old city Cuttack that is surrounded by major two rivers such as Mahanadi and Kathjodi. People residing within the Cuttack city are most vulnerable and prone to flood disaster more often. Most of the houses are thatched and covered with tarpaulin sheets, as most of the people are poor and deprived from basic amenities like water, sanitation, road and drainage facilities. Every year during rainy season, more or less flood situation arises but the floods in 2022 crossed all the record and affected almost all families. Under such circumstance, Surya Tudu, an Adivasi woman experienced the hardest situation as created by flood. Surya was really going through multi vulnerability situation as she had disability and fractured her leg due to a



Surya received the Relief Material

road accident. Her husband also left her. Earlier, she was working as a Domestic Worker. Nevertheless, at the time of flood situation, Surya was staying with her two small children and no one was there to look after them. So, she has to support her family by herself only. When the floodwater entered the house in July – August 2022, she had somehow shifted the household materials to the bank by asking some help from her neighbors. During the flood situation, Government has provided cooked food for only four days, which was not sufficient for the family members to survive, but there was no such financial support provided to cope up and recovered from the flood situation. Surya was also in a very acute monetary shortage due to her disability and does not have money to buy food materials for survival.

In the meantime LWSIT has supported her with various food materials those are culturally acceptable to the family. These includes; Boiled Rice, Arhar Dal, Mustard Oil for cooking, Soy Chunk, Iodized Salt and several Spices. Besides, LWSIT also provided her with WASH/Hygiene Kit materials for the use by her and her children. The food

materials provided by LWSIT could help Surya and her two Children to consume for a period of more than one month and it was a big help for her. She was desperately looking for such help, which she could get from LWSIT.

Surya learned that, the flood situation in future may be severe than this year, but she will better prepare to face such disaster and carefully follow the Government guidelines as issued from time to time. In future, she will take care of her belongings; she should also save some money for the lean period. She will talk to her neighbors and people around her about her learnings.

Surya said that, *"Although I had fear to face the flood disaster earlier, but now Lutheran has taught me what I must do at the onset of such flood situation and how to take care of my children and belonging. I will never feel alone and I will take the help of others to withstand at any disaster situation. Of course, there was fracture in my leg due to accident, but that will not prevent me from work as I was working as a domestic worker. Now, a log of self-confidence is build and I will stand in my legs within very few days. I'm thankful to Lutheran World Service India Trust as they have provided me the food materials and hygiene kits at the time of need without which it would be very difficult for me to survive at difficult times".*

Case Story 2: “Chhaila Dehuri – A Dalit Woman shaped her family”

Chhaila Dehuri, is a resident of Dhaudiapda Dehursahi under Badachana block in Jajpur district of Odisha. She is a hard working person who takes care of her family having her husband and two sons and two daughters. She belongs to a Dalit family.

The family is suffering from poverty and deprivation. They do not have adequate income to construct a pucca house; hence, they are bound to live in a mud-thatched house. The family was also deprived of not getting any support from the Govt. to build a structured house for dwelling to take care during any flood situation. The flood caused in July – August 2022 has ruined the family of Chhaila as the mud-thatched house was badly damaged and was not in a condition to live in unless it is covered. Therefore, sometime the family felt it is the curse of nature for them that they live in such condition. As they are living very close to the river, they are prone to floods almost every year. So, the severe floods has broken down the backbone of the most of the families of Dhaudiapada Dehursahi including Chhaila Dehuri. The house those were made by mud and branches of the tree, were washed out by the floods last year. Considering the very bad situation of Chhaila, the Gram Unnayan Committee approached LWSIT to provide any relief support particularly Silpaulin Sheet which can be covered the house and protect the family from further sufferings. LWSIT is working in this community for last five years and formed a Gram Unnayan Committee for overall development of this community. In view of the situation faced by Chhaila and her family, LWSIT provided a high quality Silpaulin Sheet with specification of 15 feet x 12 feet having 120 GSM. This support was very immense to the family and it was observed that, the family was so happy to cover their house immediately and stay there without searching a place to shift further. The timely support provided by LWSIT is highly satisfied by the people of Dhaudapada Dehursahi community and they expressed their gratitude to LWSIT for such assistance.

With joy and happiness of tears, Ms. Chhaila said that, *“Today we could able to live in our own house because of Lutheran staff. If we would not receive this one piece of Silpaulin Sheet, then we had to search for a new place to stay for many days until we arrange money and buy the materials to cover our house. Now, we don’t have to depend on anybody else. God has listen to our prayer to help us when we are going through a very difficult situation after flood has ravaged our house. Let this Lutheran Sanstha help many more people in our village and others also”.*



Chhaila Dehuri covered her house with the Silpaulin Sheet supported by LWSIT

Transboundary Flood Resilience Project in South Asia, Assam State in India

Supported by ELCA

The year 2022 is the third year of implementing Transboundary Flood Resilience Project in South Asia by LWSIT. The aim of this Project was to contribute towards increasing flood resilience of local communities in India, Nepal and Bangladesh by exchanging and replicating transboundary experiences. The specific objective of the Project was to increase the capacity of communities to cope with the flood situation in the Brahmaputra River basin in India and Bangladesh, while it is the Gandak/Narayani river basin in Nepal. It was observed that, with real time Early Warning System (EWS) on the probability of flood situation, communities were able to take appropriate flood preparedness and mitigation measures and increased their coping capacity through diversified livelihood options, strengthened transboundary knowledge and practice on flood disaster risk reduction and development through exchange of information and replication of learning.

The 20 operational communities was educated on the cause and effects of flood disaster and climate change; they were also trained on preparedness and the mitigation measures. Community level groups and households were assisted with various livelihood options and they were linked with market, financial institutions and insurance schemes. Program interventions and learning of this Project has been documented in English and local language (Assamese) and shared with various stakeholders for their information and replication. Besides, a video documentation was also done capturing the good practices of flood preparedness and resilience, which draw the attention of all concerned stakeholders.

This Transboundary Flood Resilience Project is one of the best Programs supported by ELCA which has already benefitted several thousands of people especially those living in flood prone areas and the level of awareness and sensitization gained by them has reaped results. There is very good impact on the people of 20 targeted communities as some of the other adjacent communities have approached LWSIT to adopt their communities and provide them capacity-building support on CBDRR for better preparedness in future. It is also observed that, because of LWSIT support towards livelihood security, the youth and women members have stopped migrating to other states for search of employment, as they are happy with the income they earn through various livelihood security measures.



Networking with Communities and Govt. Officials in Assam

Table No. 9: Details of Program implemented in 2022

Name of the Activities	Unit Type	Achievements				
		Total Unit	Comm .	M	F	Total
Formation and Strengthening of Community Based Disaster Management Task Force (CBDMTF)	No	16	15	329	333	662
Awareness on community based disaster preparedness, DM Act, climate change, etc.	No	30	30	601	774	1,375
Capacity building training on DRR and Do No Harm	No	16	15	321	321	642
Demonstration of Mock drills	No	21	15	896	806	1,712
Emergency Preparedness Kit (First Aid, search and rescue materials)	No	15	10	2400	2328	4,728
Community Contingency Plan document preparation	Communi ty	16	15	393	429	822
Cluster level DRR Forum meetings on disaster preparedness with CBDMTF, VCDC, Peace Committee and Gaon Burah	No.	6	15	146	85	231
Formation and strengthening of transboundary citizen forum/Transboundary Collective Action Network	No	1	15	66	3	69
Sharing of knowledge and information at local, national and regional level	No	1	15	60	80	140
Revive traditional variety of crops as best suited to local climate (Red Rice- Ahu Dhan, Bao Dhan), Jowar, Bajra, Barley, Pea nuts, rajma etc)	Family	145	15	145	-	145
Support of livestock to women headed families (Pig/Goat)	Family	114	15	-	114	114
Alternative livelihood support to Youth for income generation	Family	38	25	38	-	38
Awareness on Disaster Preparedness to school students and teachers	School	15	15	385	392	777
School vulnerability mapping	School	15	15	359	378	737
Formation and training of school disaster management team	School	13	13	411	437	848
Simulation/ Mock drills involving school students	School	14	14	529	697	1,226
Preparation of school disaster management plan	School	7	7	265	370	635
Training for teachers on Disaster Management	School	6	6	20	-	20

Case Story 1: "From being Helper to a Proud Owner of Bicycle Repairing Shop"



Albert is busy in repairing the Bicycle

Albert Tudu lives with his wife and young son in Kurshakati village under Gossaigaon Sub-division. He worked as a helper in a bicycle repairing shop under one Saijul Ali in Srirampur market. As an intern in the shop, he was paid Rs 60/- per day which was increased to Rs. 200/- by the time he left after working for four years.

In the year 2022, he requested for the support of Bicycle Mechanic Shop through the CBDMTF to LWSIT and he was selected for the same and got the support. He took a small room at the Srirampur Bazar on rent for Rs. 700/- per month and opened his own Bicycle Mechanic Shop. He is doing the jobs like fixing tyres/tubes, ball bearings and all kinds of repairs. He earns around Rs. 500/- to 700/- per day from repairs, fixings and sales of parts. The amount that he earns through his hard work is enough to spend for the needs of the family and the balance amount is being saved. He deposits Rs. 200/- to 500/- per week in the thrift saving group as well put the changes (coins) in the Piggy Bank (Pot) at home.

"I feel proud now that I am independently running a small enterprise that gives me freedom and self-respect. I will use the savings from the income for my children's education and essential needs of the family" said Albert.

This initiative by Mr Albert Tudu has stopped him from going migration to other places. Albert is now very thankful to LWSIT and ELCA that, because of this activity as supported to him has ensured regular and steady income source for the maintenance of the family. He has a plan to upgrade / upscale the shop by investing more repairing equipment and spare parts. He has also a plan to employ a helper to fix tyres and tubes and other minor jobs. In this way, one more person can get the employment opportunity through Albert, which is very encouraging.

Case Story 2: Youth Volunteers as AAPDA MITRA (Friend in Need at the time of Disaster)

In case of any disaster or emergency, before any government machinery & support reaches or outside help gets galvanized/organized, the Community has to respond immediately. As the Community plays the very important role as First Responder, it is critical that there is adequate awareness and preparedness at the community level especially amongst the people residing in the most vulnerable areas of the country.

Floods have been a recurrent phenomenon in Assam and LWSIT operational communities besides conflicts that had happened in the past. The flood causes huge losses to lives, properties, livelihood systems, infrastructure and public utilities.

When a disaster happens, volunteers from the affected communities are normally the first to act. The impact of volunteers in disaster response can be tremendous; as the extent of damage in terms of economic and human loss is drastically less if the initial response to a disaster is fast. Therefore, LWSIT's Transboundary Flood Resilience Project in Assam with collaboration of ASDAM trained six youth volunteers who are from the flood prone communities. They have been trained in certain basic skills in disaster management in order that they are able to respond in an informed and prompt manner as well as assist the concerned agencies in rescue and relief operations.

These six youth volunteers attended 12 days residential training on Disaster Management with Search and Rescue conducted by ASDMA at Mirza, Guwahati with the help of NDRF from 10th to 21st June 2022. All the six youths completed the training and received Certificate as AAPDA MITRA. The training provided them some basic skills in disaster management, rescue techniques, making rescue kits/equipment using locally or easily available materials in the community like bamboo poles, thick blankets, footballs, ropes, used water disposal bottles and first aid like bandages etc. The volunteers are involved with LWSIT as Volunteers of Disaster Rescue Team and they conduct the various Demonstration of Simulation/Mock Drills involving School students and community people. The Govt. of Assam is also involving them in their activities for starter of Orunodoi/Arunodoi scheme survey.



Volunteers of AAPDA MITRA practicing the Rescue and Evacuation techniques

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS



The TFR Project has received the ACT Alliance Climate Resilient Award 2021, which was declared in early 2022. This is a huge achievement for the project as the project spread the message of good practices at the global level through ACT Alliance.

Since 2011, ACT Alliance at the global level has recognized the examples of good practices by its members throughout the world on climate change adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction. The ACT Alliance Climate Resilience Award provides a unique opportunity for the members to highlight and showcase the innovative climate change adaptation, resilience building and disaster risk reduction projects around the world. In this context, LWSIT India along with LWF Nepal and RDRS applied for this Award by submitting the information related to an unique project title 'Transboundary Flood Resilience Project in South Asia'. This project demonstrated various approaches to climate change adaptation, resilience building and disaster risk reduction. ACT Alliance received 14 applications from different countries, out of which this Transboundary Flood Resilience Project in South Asia was selected and received the award from ACT Alliance Secretariat. The Award carries the cash prize of US\$ 6,000/- along with a Certificate in recognition of the good work done for the community people by the member organizations. The award has really given high motivation to the people of vulnerable communities with whom LWSIT works and to all the Staffs who were involved in the project design, implementation and monitoring of the program for its success.

COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIP

During the year 2022, LWSIT strengthened its collaboration and partnership with various resource agencies, Government departments and philanthropists who extended their support for program implementation of various projects in order for betterment of poor, vulnerable and underprivileged sections of society. The details of these programs are reflected hereunder:

Asha Kiran Project by (RILM):

Supported by Rotary India Literacy Mission

LWSIT implemented Asha Kiran Project with support from RILM, which was commenced from 1st November 2021 and completed on 31st October 2022. Under this project, the children within the age group of 7–14 years comprising of both boys and girls were identified from the underprivileged communities from the rural areas in Shikaripada block of Dumka district of Jharkhand state. The three main objectives of the project was (1) to create and sustain the interest in education among the children those are out of school, dropouts or laggards, (2) to enhance relation and capacitate the schools to provide required and additional support for admission and retention of all the children those who have never attended the schools or dropouts and (3) to encourage the parents to send their children to schools and to follow up the regular attendance in schools. At the end of the project period, assessment was done on 750 Children who have been mainstreamed in the formal schools and that they are continuing the education in their respective schools.

The children of this project belong to Adivasi/Tribal, Dalits and Socio-Economic Backward Caste communities. Some of the communities are situated at very remote locations, while some communities are inside the forest and face challenges in terms of communication to main road. Most of the parents of these children are landless labourers, agricultural workers, unskilled labour workers, marginal and small farmers, and they lack money to support the family and education of the children. Due to lack of awareness, they do not give priority on education for which they do not send their children to schools, though they understand that their children are dropouts. More importantly, the parents are totally ignorant about the nature of laggard children. The children who are studying in Class VII even lack the knowledge of Class III or IV education. This also caused the children to dropout making its rates very high as most of the parents are unable to provide proper educational support to their children particularly because there is no such coaching/ tuition to enhance the knowledge and learning skills due to very low income in the family.



Children are studying in Asha Kiran Centre

SWAWALAMBAN Scheme

Supported by WDU

In 2022, the Batik Print Training program for women (Vocational Training) under SWAWALAMBAN Scheme was implemented in Birbhum district of West Bengal. The program was supported by Govt. of West Bengal through the Dept. of Women Development Undertaking. 25 women from underprivileged communities comprising of Tribals and Dalits attended the Batik Print Training program for four months with effect from 19th July 2022. Out of 25 Trainees, 18 persons belongs to Schedule Tribe (ST) and 7 persons belong to Schedule Caste (SC). The training program was conducted at Rural Development Centre of LWSIT in Sukna village of Charicha GP, Md. Bazar Block in Birbhum district. This was hands on training imparted by the trained resource person. In order to record the attendance of Trainees, the Govt. of West Bengal introduced AADHAAR Enabled Biometric Attendance System (AEBAS) for taking regular attendance of the participants. The trainees learnt about the selection of cloths, colour mixing and prepare combined colour, use of wax and paraffin, use of brush, various designs of Batik and process of tracing of designs on the cloth. After training, all the Women participants could able to make Handkerchief, Blouse, Scarfs, Table covers, Saree, Churidar, etc. which were appreciated by the District Magistrate, Add. District Magistrate (Development), DSWO and other govt. Officials. Also, during the time of training, the overseas guests from Normjisjon visited the training venue and appreciated the efforts of women trainees while they engaged in the training program. The training program was successfully completed on 18th November 2022. Post training, assessment was done and it was found that, most of the women are using their new learning skills of Batik Print to generate income to support their families.



Batik Printing Training in Birbhum district

Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH):

Supported by Social Welfare Department

Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH) is a sub-scheme under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), the scheme seeks to provide shelter to the urban poor. The current scheme is supported by Controller of Vagrancy (CV) dpt. Govt. of West Bengal. LWSIT is one of the approved Organization to conduct SUH programs in Ultadanga, 33/7 Muraipukur Road,

Kolkata - 700067, providing service to 80 homeless inmates (40 Female and 40 male). In the current reporting year, LWSIT has catered the needs of 80 Homeless inmates through SUH Project and provided adequate service as per guideline by the SUH scheme. LWSIT ensured that all inmates avail all the basic amenities like, individual bed and bedding sets, Potable drinking water, proper sanitized and functional latrines, First Aid and Primary health facilities, Protection through CCTV Camera, Sanitization of shelter, Dining and Cooking facilities, De-addiction and Recreational Facilities.



Environment Day Celebration at SUH Project

LWSIT has taken special initiative to collaborate with Kolkata Municipal Corporation for renovation of the two shelters. As a proposed plan, two Building is sanctioned to accommodate more inmates and to give them dignified life through proper shelter as recommended by Supreme Court of India. As Homelessness is one of the worst forms of marginalization, most homeless individuals suffer from malnutrition, extreme poverty, inadequate affordable housing, high levels of inequality, and discrimination. Most of the inmates are from the background of poor and deprived family, neglected from care and support, victims of domestic, physical and mental violence that has forced many to flee from their families. LWSIT staff conducted regular survey in the catchment area to shelter the homeless population at SUH Project in Ultadanga, Kolkata.

Open Shelter Project for Girls'

Supported by Women and Child Development & Social Welfare Department

In 2022, LWSIT staff conducted survey in the area of Ultadanga and found many children who need special service for care and protection. It was found that out of the 20 children, 17 were engaged in laborious job helping mother and family for making bottle cap, garments thread cutting etc. Most of the parents have no concern for their children's development hence children goes unnoticed for their holistic development. To address this concern for child development, LWSIT approached to Directorate of Child Rights and Trafficking, Dept. of Women and Child development, and received approval from Project Approval Board (PAB) under the Chairpersonship of the Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD). On 22nd December 2022, the Open Shelter Program was inaugurated in the presence of Mr. Supriyo Sarkar Deputy Director, Mr. Nadim District Co-ordinator,



Inauguration of Open Shelter Project

DCPU and Executive Directorate of LWSIT along with other officials. LWSIT receives supports and in cooperation from DCRT and DCPU dept. to operate the open shelter program in Ultadanga campus for exclusively development and protection of the children from vulnerable situation, risk and abuse.

Presently, the shelter is running as per the schemes Mission Bathalya, by ministry of women and child development, Govt. of India, To secure a healthy & happy childhood for each and every child in India, ensure opportunities to enable them to discover their full potential and assist them in flourishing in all respects, in a sustained manner. 25 girl Children between 6 to 14 yrs. Of age are attending the open shelter on daily basis from 3 contact points of Ultadanga and are accessing the benefits of services like; Nutritious food for 4times, Health service, extracurricular activities such as Art and Craft, Yoga & mediation.

Children Education Center (CEC)

Supported by Saviour Foundation & Dreaming Bees Foundations

LWSIT emphasized on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 4) on Quality Education. In this context, LWSIT ensured inclusive and equitable quality education as well as promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. In order to improve the quality education, LWSIT promoted Child Education Centre (CEC) since 2018 to mainstream 30 dropout and laggard children, aged between 5yrs. to 14 yrs both (Boys and Girls) in Ultadanga campus. To reach the objectives towards providing quality education (bridge course) and enrolment of the children to school or have been dropped out of school, are send back to school after required pre enrolment education. Children are taught through joyful learning and extra-curricular activities to enhance the mental growth/development and resilience in order to adapt to any circumstances, maintain good health and hygiene practices.

Radical changes have been observed among the children like concentration in education; as all children have secure pass marks and were promoted in the next class. Throughout the year, there were 192 tutorial classes, 26 Art and craft class, 22 physical activity classes for the children. The Dance Movement Therapy (DMT) sessions were introduce for psychosocial counselling, Apart from this, home visits of children, School monitoring, quarterly exams were done. Parents were sensitized on COVID-19 managements, importance of the education and child rights and protection issues periodically by displaying IEC materials.



CEC children are happy to receive play materials



CEC children celebrating Environment Day

RESOURCE MOBILISATION AT PROJECT & COMMUNITY LEVEL

As always, LWSIT encourages communities to contribute towards community asset building from their own sources and through resources generated from various schemes as available from different Line Departments of the Government as part of community empowerment process. The following table provides a snapshot of the resources raised by communities by their own efforts and with the support of LWSIT staff during the year 2022:

Table No. 10: Resources Mobilised at the Project and Community Level

SI No	Name of the Programme	Cost Sharing by Individual/ community (Rs.)	Independent Investment by individual/ Group (Rs.)	Local Resources mobilised through GO/NGO		Total
				By LWSIT	By CBO/ Group	
1	Assam	7,88,813	51,52,000	50,11,843	64,58,302	1,74,10,958
2	Balangir	2,81,634	3,18,000	16,46,000	52,24,680	74,70,314
3	Bankura	2,12,834	1,74,000	1,85,000	9,00,000	14,71,834
4	Kalahandi	2,09,590	25,47,000	16,61,000	27,15,000	71,32,590
5	Kendrapara	1,87,327	5,48,000	10,000	19,72,000	27,17,327
6	Mayurbhanj	1,80,010	90,00,000	1,09,900	80,00,000	1,72,89,910
7	Birbhum	1,82,210	1,76,500	-	46,21,820	49,80,530
8	Bhubaneswar	2,64,104,00	-	21,00,000	1,39,93,665	1,60,93,665
9	Kolkata	1,36,089	1,60,000	53,800	18,85,000	22,34,889
	Total	20,42,418	1,79,15,500	1,07,77,543	4,38,85,467	7,68,02,017



Solar Lantern Distribution in Bankura

PHOTO GALLERY



Training on Do No Harm Approach



Bali & Dasmal with their Child



Santali Dance during Peace Festival



A Bodo family transporting relief materials



Distribution of Fruit Saplings for Orchard Cultivation

PHOTO GALLERY



A Woman in Cuttack Slum with Relief Materials



A family received Silpaulin Sheet



Interfaith Dialogue for Peace building in GEP Project, Kolkata Unit

PHOTO GALLERY



Fancy Items support for Livelihood



Distribution of Solar Light to students



Community consultation for SP Document



Mushroom grown Training in community



Solar Light Support to a Girl Child

PHOTO GALLERY



Silpaulin Sheets distributed for temporary shelter



Football Match for Peace Building in the Community

PHOTO GALLERY



Adolescent Girls' Training



Fencing for Forest Conservation



Staff Retreat & Capacity Building Program



Advance Christmas Celebration at Assam Unit

NETWORK & ALLIANCES

AZECON (Asian Zone Emergency and Environment Cooperation Network)

LWSI/LWSIT is the founding member of AZECON – a regional network at South Asia and South-East Asia comprising of the member organizations, which are current, the country programs and former associated programs of LWF/DWS Geneva. However, due to outbreak of COVID-19 Pandemic situation from 2020 until early 2022, there were no such programs organized. Even, the Annual Summit 2022 was not possible to organize due to lack of financial resources.

Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) Alliance

LWSIT is a full member of CHS (Core Humanitarian Standard) Alliance, which emphasized on the Quality and Accountability of its member's work. During the year 2022, LWSIT participated in couple of online survey for the Annual Report of CHS Alliance by filling the information as required. LWSIT also contributed on final Strategy of CHS Alliance for the period 2022 – 2025. Besides, another important online survey also done which is related to CHS verification for national actors and its benefit. On 22nd August 2022, there was online dialogue held to understand the use to 9 CHS Commitments by LWSIT. ED and Emergency Manager attended this online meeting, while the Training Lead of CHS Alliance facilitated the process.

ACT Alliance India Forum

During the year 2022, LWSIT participated and shared its view on the several online meetings organized by the ACT Alliance India Forum Coordinator. These includes, flood response program in Assam with support from ACT Alliance, follow up of annual activity plan of the Forum, future planning of the Forum, etc. Besides, there was also meeting related to reporting of program accomplishment of COVID-19 Pandemic response program which was implemented through ACT Alliance Appeal-IND211. There was a Safeguarding Workshop organized by ACT India Forum which was held in Bhopal for two days (26th – 27th May) 2022 with financial support from ICCO-Kerk-in-Acte and the workshop was facilitated by the resource persons from Change Alliance (Christian Aid).

Sphere India

LWSIT is the founding member of Sphere India (a National coalition of humanitarian agencies) and adopts Sphere principles, processes and standards in programming especially during humanitarian responses. As a humanitarian and development organization, LWSIT always follows the rules, regulations and guidelines as adopted by the Sphere Network. In 2022, LWSIT attended several online meetings related to disaster risk reduction and climate change. There were several webinars organized by Sphere India on various thematic areas, in which staff of LWSIT attended. LWSIT also submitted information, several case stories and photographs related to evidence based best practices as part of COVID-19 Response program for documentation by Sphere India.

Inter-Agency Group (IAG)

During 2022, LWSIT continued to be the part of Inter-Agency Groups in several States across India. IAG is the State level network involving both International and National NGOs. LWSIT is the founding member of IAG Odisha, West Bengal, Assam and Tamil Nadu, and it represents in other States as per the requirement. The IAG platform provides an opportunity to discuss issues related to coordination, collaboration and sharing of the best practices among humanitarian actors and strengthens relationships with respective State Governments including Sphere India at the National level. LWSIT regularly attended the meetings organized by State IAGs in different States. As required, LWSIT shared various information, case stories and photographs of COVID-19 response program for publication by IAG Odisha.

STAFF CAPACITY BUILDING

In 2022, a Staff Retreat Program was organized at Shrigo Hotel, Gangtok in which staff members from all the nine Project Units and National Office as well as Board Members was present. Total 35 persons, including 29 Staff Members and 6 Board Members, attended the program. The Staff Retreat Program was held for three days (13th – 15th May 2022) and was inaugurated by the LWSIT President – Moderator John Dang. During the Retreat Program, one of the External Consultant was invited to give reflection on Governance and related matters. Besides, the in-house resource persons conducted two topics that were more important. The topic includes (1) Gender Mainstreaming and Analysis: Understanding Gender, Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming, Gender terms and definition, etc. and (2) Fund Raising for Sustainability: Sources of funding for LWSIT Fund Raising Strategy: Institutional donors, Private/ Corporates, Individuals, Foundations, Govt., Social Media, etc. Group activities involving all the staff members were done for better clarity and understanding.



National Level Staff Retreat Program held at Gangtok, Sikkim

Apart from the Staff Retreat, three training programs were conducted under the special Project of the Staff Capacity Building program, which was supported by the Act CoS. These included; Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation with integration of DRR which was organized at Bhubaneswar. The three days training program commenced from 23rd March to 25th March 2022, in which 26 staff members (14 Female and 12 Male) participated covering all the 9 Units and National Office staff. Besides, the training on Peace and Reconciliations was organized at National Office, which was facilitated by two resource persons from Hennerly Martyn Institute, Hyderabad. 29 Staffs (15 Female and 14 Male) covering all the nine Units and National Office participated in the training program which was organized for three days (14th June to 16th June 2023). Similarly, training on GIRBD (Gender Inclusive Rights Based Development) was organized at Bhubaneswar that was facilitated by the external resource person, where 23 participants (14 Female & 9 Male) from all the 9 Units and National Office participated. This training program was held for 3 days commencing from 21st to 23rd July 2022.

All the training programs were extremely beneficial for the staffs participated and everyone did follow up training/ workshop at local level, which has percolated down to the community level. The concerned Project Coordinator and Community Officers from respective Project Units have conducted the echo training at the project level for remaining staff of the Project Unit and Community Guides. All the Project Coordinators, Community Officers and Community/ Village Guide conducted the workshop and sensitization program, in which they have shared various topics of all the training programs with community leaders, women SHG members and community people for their understanding and usefulness.

DEVELOPING STRATEGIC PLAN DOCUMENT (2023- 2027)

In 2022, LWSIT initiated the process and developed the Strategic Plan (SP) Document for a period of five years, which is effective from 1st January 2023 till 31st December 2027. The SP Document is the guiding document for whole of LWSIT which include Board of Trustees, Staff, people of partner communities i.e., Dalit, Adivasi, Tribal, Women, Transgender, Youth, PwD and Children, Resource Partners and other Stakeholders. The specific objective was to revisit the Mandate, Vision, Mission, Goal and Core Values of LWSIT and to make necessary changes as required, also to analyse the external environment, particularly the post-COVID situations and continue to address contextually the prevailing problems and challenges faced by the partner communities. Participatory methodology was adopted by LWSIT throughout the strategic planning process, which was facilitated by an external Consultant.



Partners consultation for SP Document

In this context, an orientation to the core team of LWSIT was held introducing the strategic planning process and its importance and methods of conducting it using various tools. There are series of workshops conducted in 2022 during which various aspects of Strategic Planning process were discussed and tasks were assigned to the Staff to gather information and provide summary of information to the Consultant for his review and feedback. In this process, Board Members, Advisory Committee Members, Staff, community people, other stakeholders and resource partners were involved and contributed to develop the SP Document. Stakeholder analysis was done and identified as Primary Stakeholders, Secondary Stakeholders and Tertiary Stakeholders, and to understand their degree of interest, degree of influence, stakeholders expectation and needs as well as attitudes towards the performance of LWSIT. External Environment Analysis was done using Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal and Environment Analysis (PESTLE) to assess the challenges that LWSIT is likely to face and address them through effective measures. Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) analysis conducted to assess the internal strength of the organisation and opportunities to grab to enhance the strength and reduce the weaknesses. Exercises on the Results Framework was done to arrive at the intended impact, strategic aims and turning strategic aims into key result areas. There are Six Strategic Aims were identified with Key Results Areas/ Outputs. Target Groups were also identified with whom LWSIT will work. Analysis was done and the aligned programs were set in Strategic Plan Document in line with SDGs. There are programs related to 12 SDGs that will be implemented by LWSIT in the next phase of strategic period.

GOVERNANCE

Details of Board of Trustees

Sl. No.	Name of Board Members	Designation
1	Rt. Rev. Johan Dang	President
2	Rev. Dr. Asir Ebenezer David	Vice President
3	Rev. Dr. A. Joshuva Peter	Secretary
4	Dr. Tomy V. Prothesis	Treasurer
5	Mrs. Aleyamma Thomas	Trustee Member
6	Rev. Madhukant Masih	Trustee Member
7	Ms. Suramya Smriti Kujur	Trustee Member
8	Dr. Benita Prince	Trustee Member

Details of Advisory Committee

Sl. No.	Name of Committee Members	Designation
1	Mrs. Basanti Biswas	Chairperson
2	Mr. P.J. Chacko	Member
3	Prof. Biju Paul Abraham	Member

INTERNAL COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE (ICC)

The Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) of LWSIT has continued to work at various levels of the Organization, which is mandated to examine and respond to grievances raised from members of the partner communities as well as the staff of LWSIT. Complaints can be taken up and investigation may be done depending upon the nature of complaints at different levels. The following table provides details of the Internal Complaints Committee and its focal point during 2022.

Details of Internal Complaints Committee as of 31.12.2022

Name of Member	Designation	Contact No.	Email ID
Ms. Ritu Shrimali (Focal Point)	Dy.Finance Manager	7980174403	complaints.national@lwsit.org
Mrs. Basanti Biswas (Member)	Board member	9830042447	bbiswas.india@yahoo.com
Fr. K. L. Jose (Member)	External Legal and Spiritual Representative	9836488205	lawyerjose@gmail.com
Mr. Bibekananda Biswal (Member)	Manager Emergency & Prog. Development	9831277852	bnb@lwsit.org
Mrs.Valsala Sathyadas (Member)	Executive Secretary	9903157781	valsala@lwsit.org

NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF

Name	Designation	Email ID
Mr. Kishore Kumar Nag	Executive Director	edkishore@lwsit.org
Ms. Valsala Sathyadas	Executive Secretary	valsala@lwsit.org
Mr. Bibekananda Biswal	Manager – Emergency and Program Development	bnb@lwsit.org
Ms. Nibedita Pattanayak	Finance Manager	nibedita@lwsit.org
Ms. Ritu Shrimali	Dy. Finance Manager	rs@lwsit.org
Mr. Mojaffar Molla	Asst. Manager – Procurement & Finance	molla@lwsit.org
Mr. Santosh Kumar Das	Program Coordinator – STEER & CAP-R Project	skd@lwsit.org
Mr. Somenath Ghosh (till 25 th August 2022)	Program Coordinator – DSSQC Project	sg@lwsit.org
Ms. Polly Mondal	Program Coordinator - GEP	polly@lwsit.org
Ms. Deepa R. Gomez	HR Coordinator	drg@lwsit.org

HUMAN RESOURCE POSITION

Sl. No.	Location	Male	Female	Total
1	National Office	11	7	18
2	Social Transformation Economic Empowerment and Risk Reduction (STEER) Project	12	7	19
3	Gender Empowerment Project (GEP)	1	8	9
4	Development Support program for Stone Quarry affected Communities (DSSQC) Project – Birbhum district of West Bengal and Dumka district of Jharkhand	7	2	9
5	Community Action for Peace-Reconciliation (CAP-R) Project in Assam	11	2	13
6	Transboundary Flood Resilience (TFR) Project in South Asia, Assam, India	3	1	4
7	Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH), Kolkata	5	2	7
8	Child Care Institute (CCI), Kolkata	-	1	1
	TOTAL:	50	30	80

FINANCIAL UPDATE

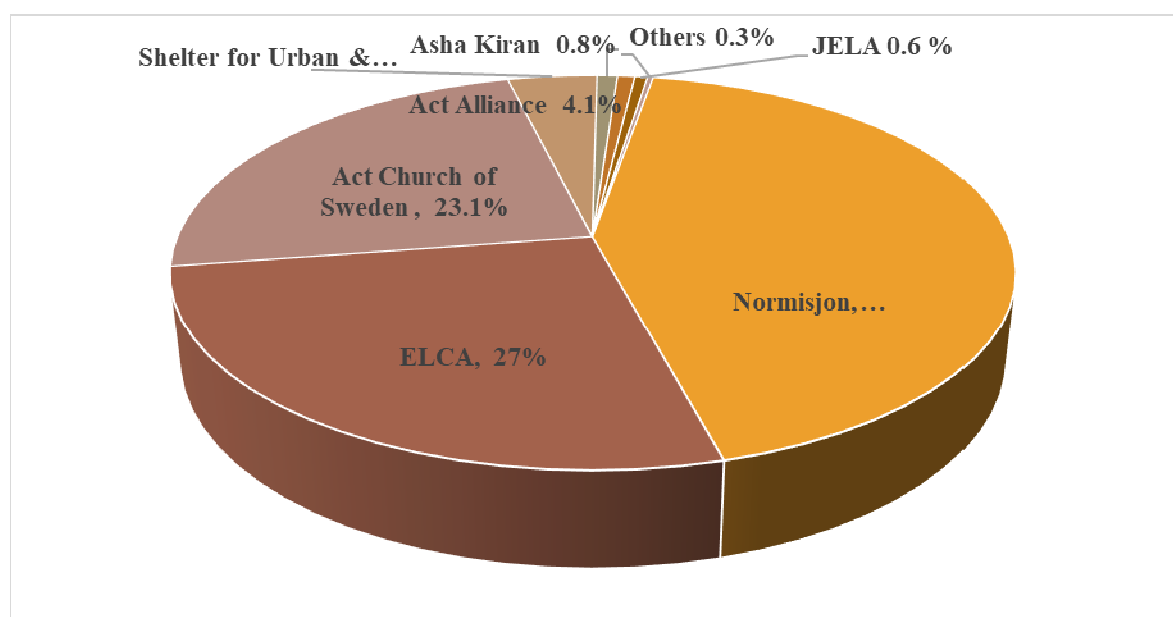
Income of LWSIT During the Year 2022

Particulars	Amount (in INR)	%
Foreign contribution - Development Programme	6,79,54,976	86.8%
Foreign Contribution - Emergency Response	58,53,723	7.5%
Government contribution	7,75,950	1.0%
Community contribution	25,74,388	3.3%
Local contribution - Other Projects	7,15,500	0.9%
Other Income	6,020	0.0%
Interest income	4,43,603	0.6%
TOTAL	7,83,24,160	100.0%

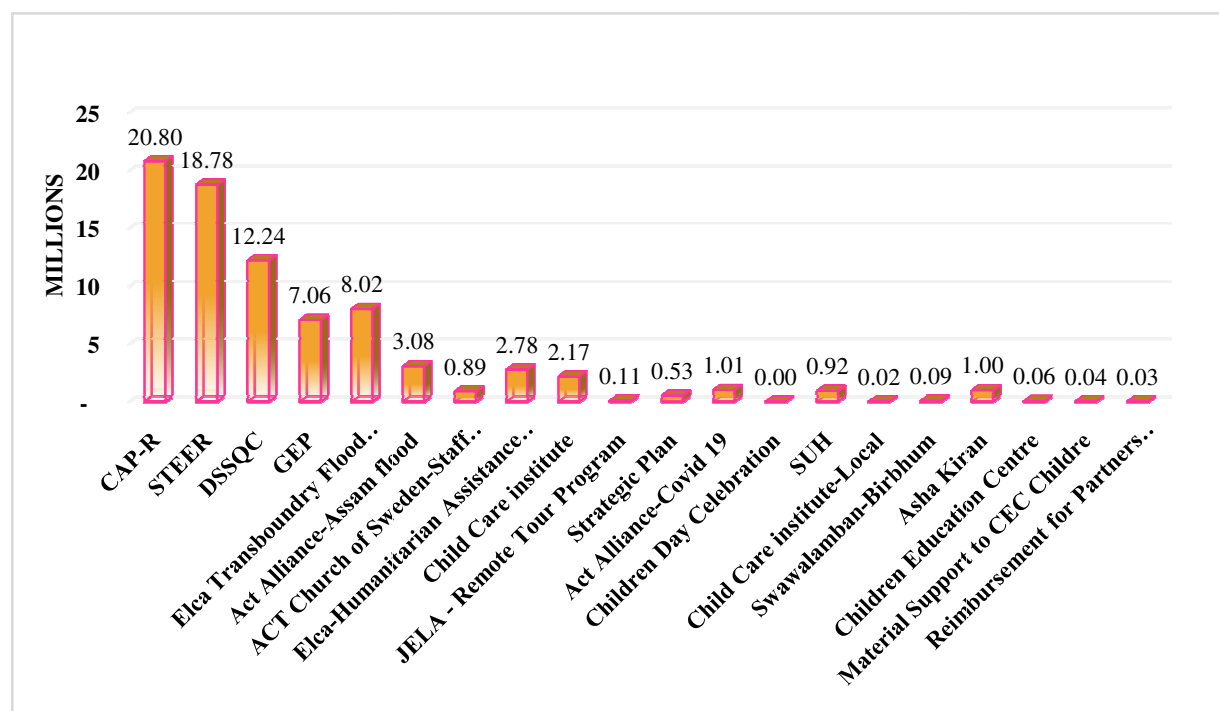
Resource Partners - 2022

Name of Resource Partners	Amount (INR in Million)
Normisjon	32.40
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	20.16
Act church of Sweden	17.74
Act Alliance	3.08
Government of West Bengal	0.70
Asha Kiran	0.60
Jela	0.44
Others	0.19
TOTAL	75.3

Contribution from Resource Partners 2022



Project Wise Expenditure 2022



CHALLENGES

LWSIT experienced few challenges during the year 2022, but such challenges were overcome by adopting mitigation measures as appropriate to the situation. Moreover, there were two major catastrophic events caused such as Floods in Assam and Floods in Odisha, which hampered the regular program intervention in these states. Places affected by high floods in Kokrajhar and Chirang districts of Assam were assisted with humanitarian assistance program to recover the people from the flood situation. The Odisha floods badly affected the Cuttack slums and communities in Kendrapada as well as Jajpur districts, and put major challenge to implement the development program through its GEP and STEER projects respectively. Under such circumstances, LWSIT provided relief and recovery assistance to the people including training and awareness program to build back better situation.

The other challenge was related to exchange loss particularly while converting money from SEK to Indian Rupee. This exchange loss affected the program by which some of the planned programs were not possible to implement on time.

During the heat wave in summer particularly the month of April until mid-June, it was very difficult for the project staff to go out and implement the planned activities. Sometimes, the temperature went up to 45 degree making it difficult for mobility by the staff.

Renewal of FCRA Registration for LWSIT was one of the major concern for the Organization. In the month of November 2022, LWSIT received the FCRA Renewal Certificate from Ministry of Home Affairs, which ensured the continuation to serve the underprivileged people in the country.

ACKNOWLEDGING SUPPORT FROM RESOURCE PARTNERS AND FRIENDS

The year 2022 was good for LWSIT as it received financial support from its resource partners mostly on time though there was some unprecedented situation towards last quarter of the year when the funds were received with a delay from banking procedures. The programmatic achievements as described in this Report are the results of collective and collaborative efforts of many stakeholders those who are directly or indirectly associated with the Organization. Various program achievements were recorded in all the four major Core Projects (STEER, GEP, CAP-R and DSSQC), Emergency Response Projects and Government funded Projects as well. Normisjon, Act Church of Sweden, ELCA and JELA Foundation provided the financial resource support for development projects.

The financial resource support provided by Act CoS towards Staff Capacity Building project was used during the year 2022.

The funding support was received from ACT Alliance RRF mechanism for responding to Assam Floods through the project title "Humanitarian assistance to people affected by floods in Assam". Besides, financial resources also received from ELCA for responding to the needs of people those who were affected by floods in Odisha (Cuttack, Kendrapada and Jajpur districts) through the project title "Humanitarian assistance and resilience building among People affected by severe floods in Odisha".

The financial resources provided by ELCA was also used to continue the program implementation of a unique project titled 'Transboundary Flood Resilience Project in South Asia, Assam State of India'. This project is being implemented through consortium mode where LWF Nepal, RDRS Bangladesh and LWSIT India is also a part of the project.

Saviour Foundation and Dreaming Bees Foundation supported for Children Education Centre program, while RILM provided financial and technical support towards implementation of Asha Kiran Project covering 750 Children in Jharkhand state. Financial resource support was also received from the Government of West Bengal such as; WDU (Women Development Undertaking) and SUH (Shelter for Urban Homeless).

The five year Strategic Plan of LWSIT was developed for the period 2023 to 2027 which was supported by the resource partners Normisjon, ELCA and Act CoS who have contributed to meet the required expenses.

So, LWSIT put on record with acknowledgement and appreciation to all the resource partners for their timely support, for which it remains grateful to all of them for their continued support and trust upon the Organization to serve the underprivileged populations in the country during the year 2022.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome	LWSIT	Lutheran World Service India Trust
ASDMA	Assam State Disaster Management Authority	LWF	Lutheran World Relief
ANM	Auxiliary Nurse Midwife	LWR	Lutheran World Federation
ASHA	Accredited Social Health Activists	MC	Management Committee
AZEECON	Asian Zone Emergency and Environment Cooperation Network	MCH	Mahulpahari Christian Hospital
CAP-R	Community Action for Peace-Reconciliation	NCCI	National Council of Churches in India
CBG	Community Based Groups	NGO	Non-Government Organisation
CBO	Community Based Organisation	NRM	Natural Resource Management
CCI	Child Care Institute	NO	National Office
CEC	Children Education Centre	No.	Number
CHS	Core Humanitarian Standard	OD	Organization Development
Act CoS	Act Church of Sweden	OTELP	Odisha Tribal Empowerment and Livelihood Program
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility	Pc.	Piece
Dept.	Department	PMF	Peace Mediator Forum
DMT	Disaster Management Team	POSH	Prevention Of Sexual Harassment
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction	PRI	Panchayati Raj Institutions
DSSQC	Development Support Programme for Stone Quarry Affected Communities	PwD	Person with Disability
DWS	Department of World Service	RCM	Rice Crop Manager
ELCA	Evangelical Lutheran Church of America	RTE	Right to Education
FC	Foreign Contribution	SBA	Swachh Bharat Abhiyan
FFW	Food-For-Work	SC	Scheduled Caste
FIG	Farmer Interest Group	SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
FPO	Farmer Producer's Organisation	SHG	Self-Help Group
GBV	Gender Based Violence	ST	Scheduled Tribe
GEP	Gender Empowerment Project	SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
GIRBA	Gender Integrated Right Based Approach	STEER	Social Transformation, Economic Empowerment and Risk Reduction
GO	Government Organisation	STI	Sexual Transmitted Infection
Govt.	Government	SUH	Shelter for Urban Homeless
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus	TFR	Transboundary Flood Resilience
IAG	Inter-Agency Group	ToT	Training of Trainers
ICC	Internal Complaints Committee	UELCI	United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India
INR	Indian Rupees	UCT	Unconditional Cash Transfer
IRRI	International Rice Research Institute	VDC	Village Development Committee
JELA	Japan Evangelical Lutheran Association	WAWAW	Women's Association on Violence Against Women
KG	Kilogram	WDU	Women Development Undertaking
LWF	Lutheran World Federation	WBSCCL	West Bengal Swarojgar Corporation Limited
LWSI	Lutheran World Service India	WED	World Environment Day

PROJECT LOCATIONS OF LWSIT OPERATIONAL AREAS

Assam: Mr. Sushil Narzary Project Coordinator CAP-R Project C/O. Mrs. Rashmi Narzary Rajapara, P.O. Gossaigaon District - Kokrajhar (BTAD) Assam - 783 360 Mob. No. 70861 40747	Balangir: Mr. Manoranjan Behera Project Coordinator STEER Project AT- Jhankarpada P.O. Kantabanji District- Balangir Odisha - 767 039 Mob. No. 94386 45629	Bankura: Ms. Sangita Adhikari Project Coordinator STEER Project House of Sailen Shane, (1 st Floor) Shanapalli, P.O. Kenduadihi District - Bankura West Bengal - 722 102 Mob. No. 98363 17157
Bhubaneswar: Ms. Piyush Das Project Coordinator Gender Empowerment Project Plot No: N1 - 204, IRC Village, CRPF Square, Bhubaneswar, Odisha - 751 015 Mob. No. 94370 29767	Kolkata: Ms. Polly Mondal Project Coordinator Gender Empowerment Project Ultadanga Complex 33/7, Murari Pukur Road Kolkata , West Bengal - 700 067 Mob. No. 70030 36345	Kalahandi: Mr. Satya Shree Nayak Project Coordinator STEER Project C/o. Prakash Chandra Pattnaik Ramnagarpara, P.O. - Bhawanipatna, District-Kalahandi, Odisha - 766 001 Mob. No. 94371 96261
Kendrapada: Ms. Pratima Sau Project Coordinator STEER Project House of Dharanidhara Dash AT- Patraraj Pur PO- Balichandrapur Dist. Jajpur, Odisha- 754 205 Mob. No. 89173 08973	Birbhum: Mr. Siddhartha Sankar De Project Coordinator DSSQC Project NELC Complex (S P More) AT - Lal Kothi Para, P.O. Suri, District - Birbhum West Bengal - 731 101 Mob. No. 62952 97975	Mayurbhanj: Mr. Lalatendu Kumar Pathy Project Coordinator STEER Project C/o. Tikayat Deo At/ Silapunji, P.O. Bangiriposi Dist. Mayurbhanj Odisha - 757 032 Mob. No. 99373 22700



Staff Capacity Building Training



ELCA Delegates visit in CCI Project



Normisjon Delegates visiting Birbhum Units

OUR PARTNERS



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



NETWORK MEMBERSHIP ORGANISATIONS



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