FFID – CHETNA OCIP – FELISSIMO

Peace-By-Peace (PbP): 'A Collaborative Program Towards Supporting Smallholder Cotton Farmer Households

From South Odisha and North Telangana'

ANNUAL REPORT

01ST APRIL 2017 – 31ST MARCH 2018

Submitted to: **Felissimo Corporation**

Submitted by: **Forum For Integrated Development (FFID)**

Submitted on: **15th April 2018**

1. PROJECT AT-A-GLANCE

Report Title	:	Peace-By-Peace (PbP): 'A Collaborative Project For Supporting Small holder Tribal Cotton Farming Households
Report Type	:	Annual Report (01st April 2017 – 31st March 2018)
Submitted To	:	Felissimo Corporation, Japan
Submitted By	:	Forum For Integrated Development (FFID) – Grant Recipient
Beneficiary	:	10,232 Smallholder Cotton Farmers (pre-dominantly tribal) of Chetna Organic
Project Location	:	South Odisha & North Telangana
Type of Fund	:	Yearly Grant
Reason	:	(i) Transitional Support Towards Organic and (ii) Education Support
Supported By	:	Felissimo Corporation, Japan
Amount Received	:	JPY 151,63,703 (in two installments, figure includes balance of previous year)
Amount Utilized	:	JPY 150,68,627
Balance Amount:	:	JPY 95,076
Reporting Date	:	15th April 2018
Author/s	:	Y M M Srikar and Arun Ambatipudi (with inputs from field)

2. CONTEXT

FFID-Chetna (India) is implementing Peace-by-Peace cotton project in South Odisha and North Telangana with the support of Felissimo Corporation, Japan. The project facilitated by JICA, was started in the year 2009 as a pilot in 10 villages of Adilabad district in North Telangana covering 500 smallholder (predominantly tribal) cotton farming families has also been extended to 03 districts in South Odisha. Now the project has reached to 281 villages has impacted the lives of 10,232 smallholder-farming households. (See Annex-1 for project area details)

Review visit by the representatives from Felissimo & Toyoshima during December 2018 has further stabilized the decision for extending the project for few more years to reach out to the newer areas to spread Sustainable Agriculture Practices. During the visit representatives have interacted with the farmers, students and teachers in different areas and stated that the progress made till date is positive and it is helping the smallholder households to witness the change in their lives. Before the start of the visit Chetna team has presented a PPT on progress of activities implemented during 2017-2018.

The broad areas supported by Felissimo during the year 2017-2018 are

(i) Transitional Support to Organic Cotton Farmers and
(ii) Education Support.

Present report tries to represent the impacts and outcomes of the project implemented during the year.

3. SEASONAL CONDITIONS AND CROP STATUS

Conditions were conducive for cotton cultivation in both the areas during 2017-2018. The area of cotton has increased in Telangana to 19.09 lakh hectares in 2017- 2018 from 12.4 lakh hectares in 2016-2017. In Odisha the area has increased to 55000 hectares from over 45000 hectares in 2017-2018. Especially in Telangana the area has increased tremendously, as there was increase of raw cotton price during previous year. It is also observed that the

majority of the soya bean farmers have also shifted to cotton as the market price of Soya bean has depreciated compared to cotton.

Rains in equal intervals have helped the farmers to re-build their confidence on the season. Timely actions by Chetna technical team on management practices have motivated farmers to take measures to safe guard the standing crop. More importantly the yields of the farmers have also increased to 8 quintals from 6 quintals in both the areas. However instability of cotton prices have created a disorder among the farming community. Farmers who sold their produce early have realized that they are in loss as the prices have soared after some time.

4. STATUS OF ACTIVITIES UNDER PbP PROJECT

Some of the activities planned during 2017-2018 were implemented in 08 blocks in Adilabad and Asifabad districts of North Telangana and 06 blocks of Kalahandi, Bolangir and Rayagada districts in South Odisha. During the year the project could reach out to 10,232 farming households.

All these areas are least focused by the government and other allied agencies, as it is difficult to reach out due to poor infrastructure, transport and communications facilities.

4.1. Target Cotton Farming Households (Breakup)

Total households covered during the year 2017-2018 are as below.

State	District	Cluster	Blocks / Mandals	Target HHs
TELANGANA	**Adilabad**	Utnoor	Utnoor, Narnoor, Gadiguda	962
	Asifabad	Asifabad	Asifabad, Kerameri, Jainoor, Sirpur (U), Lingapur	2931
ODISHA	**Kalahandi**	Bhawanipatna	Bhawanipatna	1,286
		Gollamunda	Gollamunda	1,412

		Lanjigarh	Lanjigarh	1145
	Bolangir	Kantabanji	Semla	996
	Rayagada	Muniguda	Ambodala & Bissam Cuttack	1,500
TOTAL	**05**	**07**	**14 (314 villages)**	**10232**

Table: 1.1

A total of 10232-smallholder cotton farming households was covered from 314 villages spread across 14 blocks/mandals from 07 operational clusters of 05 districts from 02 states/regions. From Utnoor/Lanjigarh/Muniguda blocks a total of 1000 farmers were added under IC1. All these farmers will be progressing to IC2 during the next year.

4.2. Key Components for Support under PbP

Two key components planned and implemented during the year 2017-2018 are as below.

A. *Transitional Support to Organic Cotton Farmers*
B. Education Support

4.2.A. Transitional Support to Organic Cotton Farmers

The report tries to describe the activities implemented and the progress made under transitional support to organic cotton farmers during the year 2017-2018. It also tries to present the analysis of the impacts it has created among the farming households.

Chetna has played an important role to improve the livelihoods of 10232 (9232 old & 1000 new) small farmer households through capacity building on Sustainable Agriculture Practices (SAP).

Brief of the activities implemented are given below.

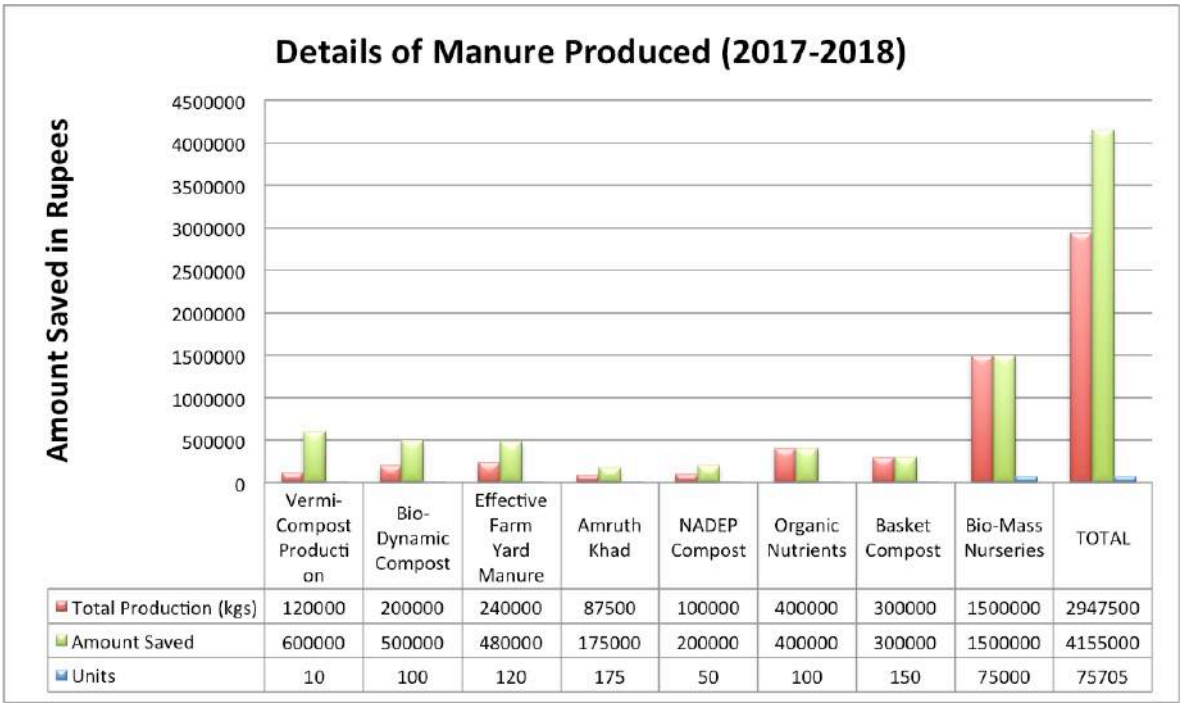
4.2. A.1. Critical Support for Soil Fertility & Plant Protection

Agriculture under rain-fed conditions was perceived to be miserable due to infertile soils, lack of irrigation facilities, incessant rains and also due to lack of

knowledge on cultivation under rain-fed conditions. Small and Marginal farmers who hold majority of lands under this conditions struggle to improve the fertility of the soils. The major impedance observed is lack of technical knowledge and financial support to over come. Subsidies from the government and MNC's are pushing the farmers further into the lurch to continue with conventional practices adding to degeneration of soils. Experiences of the farmers in these areas are demonstrating clearly that there are numerous challenges to cultivate in rain-fed areas. Most of the farmers from these areas have reported that the cost of production has been increasing invariably, where as the yields are decreasing, forcing the farmers to withdraw from farming as it is no more sustainable.

Chetna farming models have established a wider platform for SFHH to participate-learn-experiment to adopt the modules. Farmers have appreciated the efforts of Chetna as they have helped most of the SFHH to over come the challenges they are facing.

During the year Chetna has demonstrated and motivated the farmers to adopt following methods to improve soil fertility and crop productivity. Total outreach, details of the units and total savings under each component are given below.



	Vermi-Compost Production	Bio-Dynamic Compost	Effective Farm Yard Manure	Amruth Khad	NADEP Compost	Organic Nutrients	Basket Compost	Bio-Mass Nurseries	TOTAL
Total Production (kgs)	120000	200000	240000	87500	100000	400000	300000	1500000	2947500
Amount Saved	600000	500000	480000	175000	200000	400000	300000	1500000	4155000
Units	10	100	120	175	50	100	150	75000	75705

Table 1.2

Figure 1 Biomass Nursery

As shown in the table 1.2 various kinds of organic preparation units were set up to demonstrate the methods of soil improvement at eco centers and farmers fields. Trainings and exposure to the areas have helped SFHH to replicate the models in their farms. Studies have shown that the famers could reduce the investments to a large extent with preparation of manures and botanicals. Farmers from various remote villages have stated that their yields have improved comparatively in 2017-2018.

During the year, 10 units of Vermi-Compost, 100 units of Bio-Dynamic Compost, 120 units of Effective Farm Yard Manure, 175 units of Amruth Khad, 50 units of NADEP Compost, 100 units of Organic Nutrients, 150 units of Basket Compost and 75000 plants of Bio-Mass Nurseries were set up (*refer*

Figure 2 Vermi-Compost Units

table no 1.2). Out of the above units a total of 29500 tons of manure was produced and the same was used in 75705 acres, reducing the cost of farmer's cultivation to the tune of INR 41,55,000 (JPY- 68,44,324).

Demonstrations have helped farmers to replicate the models in their farms. Most of the farmers could raise enough manure by which the yields have increased to 8 quintals per acre from 6 quintals, which means the incomes of farmers have increased by 25% per acre.

Figure 3 Dabolkar Method

Identification of wasteland and converting them into cultivable lands through 'Dabolkar ' method has continued during the year. Motivated with the success of the method many farmers from the project area are adopting the technic. This year Chetna, has facilitated to identify 60 needy farmers to develop their livelihood by bringing in 30 acres of land under cultivation through soil fertility enhancement. Vegetable cultivation, fodder cultivation was promoted in 60 plots of 0.5 acres. Apart from this 20-25 Kg of mixed seed (5 varieties each of Cereals, Pulses, Oilseeds, Legumes and Spices) were sown in the land. After 45 days of crop the plants are ploughed back into soil, this has helped in improving the soil fertility remarkably within a short period. This method is playing critical role in improving fertility in the fallow lands, which are mostly gifted by the government to the landless laborers for livelihoods. In many places the lands are left as fallows as they require high investments to remove the rocks, shrubs, stubbles and to level the lands to bring it under cultivation. In most cases the lands are infertile and are not cultivable. This method has really brought respite to many farmers.

Soil tests are playing important role in understanding the soil types/textures and deficiencies in various areas. During the year 150 samples of soils were

collected from both the areas and were sent for testing to reputed labs in the region. The reports are also helping in analyzing the impacts created by the project for last several years. Demonstration of sample collection in the villages is helping the farmers to learn the methods of collection and about the measures of overcoming the deficiencies. Basing on the reports farmers was encouraged to deposit tank silt/organic manures/liquid manures etc.

Figure 4 Soil Sample Collections

4.2.A.2. Training & Exposure

Chetna believes in building the capacities of farmers because knowledge enhancement plays an important role in bringing expected change in living standards. Chetna has played prime role to improve the technical knowledge of SFHH on sustainable agriculture practices to reduce the cost and to enhance the productivity.

Figure 5 Mid-Season Training in Progress

During the year Chetna, has facilitated to build the capacities of 100 staff *(mix of community level field staff, block/cooperative level executives and regional staff)* all these members have undergone Season-long residential trainings on Pre-Season, Mid-Season and Post Harvest Season. Chetna has developed "Training of Trainers" (TOT) and "Training of Facilitators"

(TOF) models to execute the trainings. The models have helped in enhancing the knowledge of the staff and master farmers; all these trainees have taken the responsibility of organizing trainings at village level.

Chetna has developed training modules based on the experiences of the staff and the farmers in addressing various issues of farming in rain-fed areas. Apart from this, training material from like-minded NGO's was adopted to bring in efficiency on the subjects. Apart from classroom trainings, practical trainings were also given to the trainees. Classroom trainings and practical trainings are designed to complement each to bring in efficiency. Some of the concepts included in TOT / TOF were (i) Land Preparation, (ii) Basal Dressing, (iii) Seed Collection, (iv) Seed Treatment, (v) Sowing, (vi) Inter-Cultivation, (vii) Nipping, (viii) Top Dressing, (ix) Weeding, (x) Botanical Extracts Preparation, (x) Liquid Manure Preparation and application etc.

During the year Chetna has facilitated in organizing exposure trips for 110 farmers associated with PbP project to model farms and eco centers to change their perspectives on organic farming. Farmers have visited Pragathi Eco Centre at Ragapur, Madding Eco Centre at Madding and CORCC (Chetna Organic Research & Conservation Centre) at Lanjigarh.

Figure 6 Exposure Visit to Eco Centers

The visits have helped the farmers to understand various methods of soil and moisture conservation methods, composting methods, Sustainable Agriculture Practices (SAP) and other allied activities.

4.2.A.3. Eco-Centers & CORCC Development

Eco centers are inspiring SFHH to learn and experiment on SAP activities. During the year 4 Coop level Eco-Centre's (Pragathi, Bhawanipatna & Golamunda clusters) and the CORCC (Lanjigarh) have demonstrated different types of activities, which are low cost and are easily adoptable. It is observed that most of the activities demonstrated in these farms are reflected in the farmer's farms, some times it has also spread to other areas from the SFHH farms.

Figure 7 Eco Centre Plan for Year 2017-2018

All the four eco centers have been upgraded with better units to make it more convenient-accessible and educative to the farmers. Different kinds of agri-implements are displayed with more focus on women drudgery reduction to help women understand the importance and usage of implements. Existing structures were repaired and new structures have been established to showcase different kinds of methods to farmers. Activities like tank silt; soil and moisture conservation, seed banks, vegetable cultivation, horticulture promotion, rainwater harvesting and etc., were implemented.

Small and marginal farmers from all the clusters were given an opportunity to visit the eco centers to witness about different kinds of demonstrations on improving productivity. During the year nearly 1200 farmers have visited different eco centers,

Figure 8 Display of Vermi Units at Eco Centre

among these nearly 650 farmers have implemented one or the other methods of SAP.

Efforts to identify local seeds under extinction have continued during the year, village wise meetings were organized in all the clusters, especially with women farmers to identify the seeds under extinction. Most of the women have identified seeds, which are important for food security and also have nutritional value to combat most of the diseases the children and women are affected with.

Figure 9 Women Representing Seed Mela

Chetna has facilitated to organize seed melas to promote exchange of local seeds in the clusters. Women from various villages were motivated to attend the mela to use it as a platform for initiating discussion on importance of local seeds. Most of the women have exchanged the seeds and were able to take a decision to multiply and conserve the seeds at household level. Chetna has identified the potential farmers from different villages and they were given training on multiplication and conservation of seeds. All these farmers were provided with different kinds of seeds to take up multiplication in their farms.

During the year Seed multiplication was taken up in eco centers and in few farms of the farmers. Particularly Non-GMO seed varieties like Jaganath, Srikant, Monica, AV-2, AV-10, Shankar, Konark, Suraj was taken up. Other crops under millets, paddy and red gram varieties like Maruthi, PRG 1431, ICPL 87119 were carried out. Apart from these different crops like green gram, black gram, ragi, sun hemp and vegetables were also taken up for multiplication.

4.2. A.4. Farmer Level Eco Centre

During the year 4-farmer level eco-centers were established by identifying progressive farmers in each cluster to promote SAP activities across the villages. Progressive farmers with commitment and dedication to promote organic farming was identified and they were included in the season long trainings organized by Chetna. In all these farms Chetna has established demonstration units such as compost structures, SWC units like trench cum bunding structures, farm ponds etc. All these methods are helping farmers to reduce the cost and enhance production in all the crops. Attracted to the methods many farmers from the surrounding villages are coming for exposures and learning from the farmers to initiate the practices in their farms.

Figure 10 Tank Silt Applications at Eco Centers

4.2.A.5. CORCC Development

Demonstration established at CORCC is helping the SFHH to learn SAP activities more efficiently. Reflections of the exposure facilitated by Chetna have been witnessed in many villages as the farmers have transferred the learning's in their farms. Apart from research on Non-GM cottonseeds, seed multiplications of millets, paddy, vegetables, red gram, black gram and green gram were taken up. Seeds generated from the eco center were conserved with proper care and they were further distributed to

Figure 11 Water Pump with Solar Irrigation

the progressive farmers to take up multiplication in their farms to reach out to farmers in those areas.

During the year entire center has been electrified with solar energy, now the bulbs and the fans in each room of the center has been electrified with solar energy. The center is also having the lampposts, which have been electrified with the solar power. The staff is able to utilize the lights in the night to attend to some of the important works. Demonstration on SAP activities has motivated nearly 376 farmers to visit the center to get exposed to innovative methods.

4.2.A.6. Promotion of Diversified Cotton Farming Systems

a. Development & strengthening of seed banks

Seed plays an important role in agriculture, non-availability of local seeds is pushing farmers into market driven approaches to meet their requirements. Promotion of hybrid seeds by the government has diluted the age-old systems of seed conservation. It is observed that the society had lost many important indigenous seeds and others are in the verge of extinction. Chetna has been making all the efforts to conserve indigenous seeds in various areas. During the year following activities were taken up to conserve the seeds.

Figure 12 Display of Local Seeds

Sl #	Location of Seed Bank	Managed by	Activities taken up during the year
1	CORCC, Lanjigarh cluster	COFA	• Multi-location seed trials in light soils were taken up with 25 entries. • Could produce 586 Kgs of seed cotton from 10 best varieties.

			• Demonstration with 10 entries was taken up with best performing seeds of last year. • Vegetables like brinjal, tomato, leafy vegetables, chilly (open pollination variety) were taken up for multiplication. • Produced 75 kgs of brinjal, 64 Kgs of tomato, 10 kgs of chilly. • 20000 kgs/litres of Manures/Botanical extracts were produced and used on different crops. • Electrified the center with solar energy, bulbs, fans and lampposts are powered with solar energy. • Animal Husbandry Management activities are being taken up to educate farmers. • Rodent & Moisture proofing has been done in the seed banks. • 45 varieties of aromatic and non-aromatic paddy, 4 varieties of ragi, 12 varieties of pulses 8 nurseries of 30000 plants of biomass and fruit saplings were raised. • 4 varieties of millets, 2 varieties of Leafy vegetables were multiplied. • Trainings for farmers on pre-season, mid-season and post harvest season were conducted for 375 farmers.
2	Golamunda Cooperative	Basumatha Coop	• Demonstrations of vermin-composts, NADEP Compost, Basket Compost, Generation of organic nutrients were taken up. Research on Non-GM cotton was taken up in the center. • Seed trials on cotton, vegetables, ragi, millets were taken up in the farm. •
3	Pragathi	Pragathi	Research of cotton varieties were taken up in the centre to demonstrate the

	Eco-Centre, Ragapur, Sirpur (U)	Coop	performance of different Non- GMO seeds During the year varieties such as Mallika, Bunny, Jeevan, Vasantha were taken for trail. Apart from these seed trials on vegetables pulses were taken up. Various Soil and moisture conservation activities were demonstrated to showcase to the farmers on judicious usage of water.
4.	Madding Eco Centre Bawanipatna	Mathrubumi Coop	• Conservation of 15 varieties of millets was taken up to multiply it further during the next year. Pulses such as red gram, green gram and black gram was multiplied and conserved in the center. • Cultivation and conservation of vegetable seeds such as brinjal, tomato, green peas, cucumber etc. was taken up. • Multiplication of finger millets, guli ragi was taken up.

a. Seed kits Support for diversified farming

Figure 13. Vegetable Cultivation

Chetna has distributed different types of vegetable seeds to farmers to promote diversity in farming. During the season 7500 farmers from both the regions have received seeds such as tomato, chili, brinjal, Okra, eggplant, peas and other kinds of creepers. The activity has been promoted in all the tribal villages, as they are malnourished due to low consumption of vegetables and fruits. Farmers particularly women were encouraged to take up this activity as inter-crop, mixed crop or as pure

vegetable cultivation. Promotion of vegetable cultivation has helped the farmers to fetch additional income apart from meeting the consumption requirements of the family.

b. *Exposure to Seed Melas (Festivals) and other National Level Events*

Figure 14 Display of Local Seed

Chetna facilitated to organize Seed Melas in different clusters to encourage farmers to believe in indigenous seeds. Different kinds of seeds, which are in the verge of extinction, have been mobilized from different sources and have been put in the forefront to educate the farmers. Farmers from conventional areas were also invited to take part in the mela. Most of the farmers have understood the importance of seeds in agriculture and decided to promote indigenous seeds in their villages. Momentum to multiply and conserve the seeds in the remote villages has been set in all the clusters.

C. Custom Hiring Centre

Two custom hiring centers have been set up to reduce drudgery of women. Implements such as water pushcarts, winnowing fans, weeders, sickles, water drums, etc. Women are hiring the implements from their SHGs and using them in the farms and returning it back to the group to make it available for other members to hire them. Studies have shown that women are able to save nearly 20% of their time by usage of agri implements; with saved time the women are able to spend quality time with the families.

Figure 15 Women using Weeder

4.2.A.8. Promotion of Integrated Farming Systems in Organic Cotton

Integrated farming was promoted to bring balance in farming methods of the SFHH. Mono-cropping practices to produce commercial crops have affected the integrity of agri-allied farming systems. To encourage farmers Chetna has facilitated to promote goatry, poultry, back yard kitchen gardens etc. Promotion of these units has helped the farmers to re-strategize their agriculture plans. Some of the activities implemented during the year are as follows.

a. Goatry

To encourage women farmers 10 units of Goatry was promoted in Telangana and Odisha. Each unit containing 1 male and 4 female were distributed to women headed families to raise them by that they earn extra income for the family. All the women were able to take care of bringing up the goats in efficient manner.

Figure 16 Women with Goats

Now each unit has been increased to an average size of 13. Which means the size of the goats have increased to 130 from 50, women are appreciating the effort and are very happy to continue the activity.

b. Backyard Poultry

Figure 17 Back Yard Poultry

50 women headed families were supported to initiate back yard poultry to create alternative source of income to sustain their families. During the season 25 units of poultry was distributed to women, each unit was consisting of 25 birds with mixture of male and female. All the units are doing well and most of the birds have started laying eggs, at the moment the families are consuming eggs supplementing to the nutrition of children.

c. Backyard Kitchen Gardens

Figure 18 Kitchen Gardens

Women headed families fulfilling the criteria of raising backyard kitchen gardens were identified and were encouraged to grow vegetables in the back yard. During the year 100 women were supported with vegetable and fruit seed kits to initiate gardens to meet their dietary requirements. All these women were oriented on importance of organic methods of growing

the plants. Most of the families could harvest vegetables like tomato's, okra, eggplant, chili, leafy vegetables, creepers and fruit plants such as guava, mango, pomegranate, papaya etc. The plantation has helped the families to consume vegetables and also to generate income form selling the surplus in the markets.

4.2.A.9. Incubation Support to the Farmers in Transition

1000 new farmers have been identified and were encouraged to register under IC1 during the season. All these farmers are committed to convert into organic farming to reduce their input costs, which have been detrimental to the yields. These farmers were given an opportunity to participate in the trainings such as Pre-season, Mid-season and Post harvest season. The field staff is documenting practices of all these farmers and they are being motivated to continue. Now the farmers have completed the 1st year successfully, they will be entering into IC2 during the next year.

Figure 19 ICS Training

4.2.A.10. Soil Tests

Soil samples of the farmers who have converted into organic have been collected and were sent to appropriate labs to understand the soil structure in different pockets. Analysis of 50 samples shows that the

Figure 20 Soil Sample Collection

area majorly has the deficiency of nitrogen and potassium. The farmers were educated on the measures to overcome the deficiencies through SAP practices. Technical team of Chetna is monitoring the situation regularly and helping the farmers with measures to overcome.

4.2.B. Education Fund Support

a. Scholarships

Figure 21 Scholarship Distributions

30 youth from disadvantaged communities were supported during the year to pursue further education in different streams. The objective of the activity was to help the students, who are above to drop out from education due to financial problems. During the year most of the girls have received the scholarship to pursue trades such as computer applications, agri-diploma courses, education diplomas etc.

b. Vocational Training

Figure 22 Vocational Training

Youth from disadvantaged communities were provided an opportunity to build their skills in different trades to become employable in various platforms. During the year 50 youth were identified and they were motivated to enroll in different training institutes to pursue trainings. All these

50 youths have received certificates from institutes for completing the courses successfully. Most of them have found placement and are able to earn sufficiently to meet their family requirements.

Child Rights Campaign

Figure 23 Child Rights Campaign

To encourage parents to send their children to schools, Chetna has facilitated to organize child rights campaigns in the remote villages by identifying the areas where the drop out rate is high. Building awareness on child rights, importance of education etc, has helped to motivate most of the families in both the states. During the year 20 campaigns in Telangana and Odisha was organized in both the areas in which 10331 members from different streams have participated to make the campaign successful. Chetna has prepared IEC material to educate people in different areas. Door to door campaigns were done involving teachers, leaders, SHG members etc.

c. School Level competition

Figure 24 Encouraging Girls To Play

Different kinds of sports and indoor games were organized for the students to enhance the sports caliber among the students. Para teachers and MAAD teachers have helped the students to practice different kinds of games

basing on the individual students interest. School level competitions were organized and the winners were given awards during school day. Some students were encouraged to participate in district level sports. Few students have also shown interest in participating in science exhibitions organized by different schools.

d. Science, Agriculture & Cultural Exhibition

Figure 24 Cultural Program at School

Demonstration of science experiments, participation in exhibitions on science, MAAD activities on music, arts, agriculture and dance are helping students immensely to develop a perspective on socio-political circumstances of the region. Students are able to understand their culture in deep to practice and protect it from further dilution. Chetna has facilitated to organize school level exhibitions with the help of local teachers on science; culture and gender dis-course. Students have performed music and dance with focus on organic farming to educate children. To all these activities students from different schools were also mobilized.

e. Bridge Schools

2 centers for school dropouts were organized at babijari and Shivanara villages to help children mainstream into regular schools. During the year 44 boys and 16 girls

were identified and they were involved in bridge school. Out of this 25 students were mainstreamed into the regular school during the year 2017-2018.

f. Providing MAAD/Para-teachers in regular school

To promote MAAD activities and to assist regular teachers in extending quality education to students, 17 teachers were appointed during the year 2017-2018. All these teachers were given orientation on role of MAAD/Para teachers in the schools. All the teachers have extended their support to meet the requirements of the students and school management. At the same time the students have also shown interest to develop their skills on all these aspects. Many children have performed on different platforms and won accolades from the government officials. These activities have also motivated the children to attend the school regularly.

Figure 26 School Kitchen Gardens at Ashram High School, Mahagaon

h. Co-curricular Activities & Socially Useful Purposive Works (MAAD Concept)

Figure 27 Debate Competitions for Students

Workshops on gender discourse, human rights, cultural and political affairs; debates and essay writing competitions were organized in schools to develop knowledge of the students on various aspects. These activities become even more

important as most of the schools are from remote areas and they do not have access to daily news. These events have helped the children to gain knowledge on many issues and helped them to interact with the resource person boldly. Competitions like essay writings, debates, were also conducted. The platform has helped in generating social awareness among the children. During the year schools were also supported with basic equipment's like speaker sets, mikes, music players, etc to engage children on extra curricular activities

i. Life skills development for children belonging to cotton farmers families:

Figure 28 Girl with her own Enterprise

Girls from cotton farming households were given tailoring training to develop their skills to adopt alternative livelihoods. 45 interested girls from remote villages were identified to undergo training in a professional manner. All these girls were given certificates after the course, most of the girls have availed bank loans to start their own enterprise. Boys and Girls were also placed in ITDA and other skill development training institutes to improve their skills.

Annex-1

The following table provides the details operational areas for the year 2017-2018:

State	Districts	Cluster	# Villages	# Farmers covered in 2017-18	# Villages having OFT farmers	# OFT certified farmers by Mar-18
Telangana (Erstwhile part of AP)	Adilabad/Asifabad	Utnoor	184	4705	178	3893
Odisha	Kalahandi	Bhawanipatna	21	1,997	21	1286
		Golamunda	19	1,693	19	1412
		Lanjigarh	19	1327	19	1145
	Bolangir	Kantabanji	20	657	20	996
	Rayagada	Muniguda	51	2700	24	1500
TOTAL			**314**	**13079**	**281**	**10,232**