



EdelGive
Foundation

An Edelweiss Initiative



EMPOWERING WOMEN TO TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES

AN ACCOUNT OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Credits

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EdelGive Foundation

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About EdelGive

EdelGive Foundation the philanthropic unit of the Edelweiss Group was established in 2008, well before the current Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) mandate. Since inception, we have worked towards being a bridge between the users and providers of philanthropic capital and knowledge by bringing the skills, resources and talents of the for-profit world to the not-for-profit world. This is complemented with employee engagement initiatives wherein our employees contribute their expertise and in turn help our partners by guiding them for organisation's capacity building.

The Foundation brings a venture capital approach to managing our grants and building grantees' capacity to use funds efficiently and maximise impact.

EdelGive funds programme of exceptional grassroots organisations that are doing path breaking work in social development. Presently, we support more than 50 projects in education, livelihoods and women's empowerment in 13 Indian states.

About At The Same Table

A platform for NGOs and philanthropists to come together for an open discussion on issues that concern our society. This no strings attached, open and free speech forum encourages debates on core themes and results in rich learnings.



Introduction to the report

The issues of women and young girls are of immense interest to EdelGive Foundation for discussion, action, reflection and investment in the process of empowerment. To engage and critically reflect on some of these issues in our communities and the country at large, the Foundation takes pleasure to present and highlight some of the contemporary gender issues in this second edition of its white paper series.

Presently, the Foundation has a strong portfolio of exceptional grassroots Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) working for women's empowerment, particularly safety, security, prevention of violence and economic empowerment of women. Our partners follow rights-based approach to develop women's participation in governance and development processes.

Collectively, this portfolio has over 200 years of experience in working with women, ranging between 3-30 years of service. Some of them have been a significant part of the women's movement in the country. Core expertise of the group includes social mobilisation, institution building, capacity enhancement, education and health services, financial inclusion, developing contextual leadership among women and working with the justice system. The portfolio serves young girls, adolescents and older women.

The report captures some of the critical issues of women and intends to inform and engage with more organisations and like us to be part of the journey towards a more equitable and gender just society.

Women's struggle



Throughout history, women have been treated as second class citizens. Confined to the four walls of their houses, they mostly engaged in childcare and household activities, while men were primary breadwinners. They were denied basic rights such as the right to vote, the right to inherit and own property and were forbidden from entering certain places because of their gender. With the advent of the first wave of feminism in the 1910s, circumstances began to change. This however, did not mean the end of women's struggles as even today women in certain parts of the world are considered their father's/husband's property and are denied their basic rights. Additionally, issues of unequal pay, little political power, limited maternal healthcare benefits and domestic and sexual violence plague women in all societies.



A subset of the first wave of feminism was the issue of inheritance and property rights. Traditionally, sons inherited their father's property, while various archaic laws prohibited women from inheriting their family wealth. In 1988, Sharad Joshi announced the Lakshmi Mukti Karyakram which advised husbands to transfer pieces of land to their wives. In 2005, the Indian Supreme Court amended the Hindu Succession Act of 1956 which had hitherto give not daughters, inheritance rights in ancestral properties.

The 1950s saw the advent of the sexual revolution. Inspired by it, prominent American feminists such Betty Friedan and Gloria Steinem emphasised the importance of reproductive and sexual rights. This is widely regarded as the second wave of feminism. In India, Raghunath Karve's magazine, Samaj Swasthya advocated reproductive rights for women. In 1972, The Indian Government passed the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act.

Another pressing issue of the second wave of feminism was marital rape. While the Soviet Union was the first country to criminalise marital rape in 1922, there was a lot of work that needed to be done towards the issue. Under section 375 of the Indian Penal Code, marital rape is only a criminal offence if the wife is under the age of 15 years. Marital rape survivors in India can only have their husbands prosecuted under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act of 2005 which only offers a civil remedy for offenders.

With women gaining basic rights across the world, the third wave of feminism focused more on freeing women from societal stereotypes of what it means to be a woman.

Despite the progress made by women across the world, rural India still remains far behind. Most of the women in rural India have very little say in the household. Preference for a male child is very strong and female feticide and infanticide is persistent, despite legislation against it. Political power in villages is largely concentrated in the men folk. Honor killings are common especially in the northern India. Rape and domestic violence is also very prevalent in both rural and urban India.

So while there has been a lot of progress made towards women's issues, the modern woman is far from being equal to her male counterpart.

Timeline of women movement

First Phase : Basic Fundamental Rights

- 1848 First school for girls started by Mahatma and Savitribai Phule
- 1856 Widow remarriage legalized
- 1860 Abolition of Sati
- 1878 Bachelor's of Art (B.A) degrees offered to women by university of Calcutta

Second Phase: Political Rights

- 1918 Women's India association formed
- 1921 Madras gives women the right to vote in local elections
- 1935 Electoral votes for women
- 1952 Women vote in Lok Sabha elections
- 1966 Indira Gandhi elected president

Third Phase: Activist Based Feminism

- 1971 Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act passed
- 1976 Equal Remuneration Act
- 1992 National Commission for Women (NCW) established
- 2005 A civil remedy offered for marital rape survivors
- 2016 Delhi HC declares that the eldest female of a family can be its 'Karta'



Landmark legislations for Women in India

Year	Act	Description
1860	Indian Penal Code	The Indian Penal Code has legislation on rape, forced abortions, dowry, prostitution and adultery
1874	Married women's Property Act	Protects a married woman's property from her husband and other relatives
1929	Child Marriage Restraint Act	Set minimum age of marriage for girls at 14 years
1950	Indian Constitution	States that women are equal before law
1956	Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act	Protects women from illegal flesh trade
1961	dowry Prohibition Act	Prohibits the practice of dowry
1961	Maternity Benefit Act	Maternity benefits for working women
1971	Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act	Legalized abortions for up to 20 weeks
1976	Equal Remuneration Act	Equal pay for equal work
1990	National Commission for women Act	NCW represents the rights of women in India and provides a voice for their issues and concern
1994	Prenatal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation & Prevention of Misuse) Act	Bans prenatal sex determination
2005	Protection of women from domestic violence Act	Provides a broader definition of Domestic Violence and provides a civil remedy for marital rape survivors
2010	Prohibition of Sexual Harassment at Workplace Bill	Seeks to protect women from sexual harassment at places of work
2012	Protection of Children from Sexual Offences	Addresses sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children

Issues of women



The major issues pertaining to girls and women are related to gender-based violence, access to education, equal pay, and exclusion from decision making process both at personal and political levels. A culture of patriarchy oppresses women using female infanticide, child marriage, dowry, domestic violence, unequal treatment in the family, genital mutilation, rape, and ignorance of property rights.

Literacy and education

Illiteracy is the mother of all ills as it leads to issues like poverty, unemployment, child labour, female foeticide, overpopulation, amongst others. Literacy of girls is vital not only for social justice but also because it accelerates social transformation. Higher literacy and educational achievement leads to greater development, awareness and empowerment of women and girls. Even after 70 years of independence our female literacy rate is only 65 percent. Largely due to parents' socioeconomic status and lack of education, religion, distance to school and cultural attitudes. Poor school environments, early marriage and the dowry system also cause low literacy among girls. While adult women take care of children and cooking, their daughters too have to bear the parallel burden of household responsibilities. School dropout rates are high among girls as only half of them reach senior secondary levels which further reduces to less than one fifth when it comes to higher education. The figures imply that more than four fifth of eligible women in the age group are not attaining higher education.

Health

The health of Indian women is intrinsically linked to their status in society. Women in India are subjected to selective malnourishment from birth. The strong preference for a male child in several states promotes illegal sex determination and female foeticide. Many women lack autonomy in reproductive decisions. The most common gender specific cause of death in India continues to be the maternal mortality. While women in India face many serious health concerns, we would like to highlight some key facts related to their health. In addition, women are more vulnerable to poor health due to early marriage, anemia, poor nutrition and poor availability of health services in the country.

Challenges before women's health

Serial	Key highlights	Source
1.	Nearly 30% of women are married before their legal age of marriage	MoHF, Annual Report, 2013
2.	There are only 940 women per 1000 men. However, the sex ratio among children less than six years of age has worsened in the last decade to 914 per 1000 males.	-Do-
3.	Nearly half of all women in the age group of 15- 49 (48%) are either too thin or overweight/obese.	-Do-
4.	Of great concern is the persistent level of malnutrition with over 40% of children and 36% of adults women classified as undernourished.	-Do-
5.	More than half of women (55%) are anemic	(NFHS-3)
6.	Only 51% of women receive three antenatal check-ups	-Do-
7.	Nearly 22% children are born without medical support	MoHF, Annual Report, 2013
8.	Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR), 212	Census, 2011

Poor health can have a cascading effect on women's lives. For instance, poor nourishment during childhood and adolescence can lead to unfavorable reproductive health starting from early adulthood. There is a need for emphasis on comprehensive and gender sensitive primary healthcare to address women's diverse health needs, strengthening public healthcare and making health systems gender sensitive.



Menstruation and female hygiene

A large population of the country does not have access to toilets and sanitation facilities. Many social and cultural taboos are associated with sanitary practices particularly for young girls, making them even more vulnerable. Girls receive inadequate education on menstruation. Cultural practices, hygiene routines, and community attitudes related to menstruation limit their use of toilets, particularly during menstruation. The onset of menstruation also restricts mobility in many families. These restrictions on self expression, schooling, mobility, freedom and space have far reaching and deleterious impact on girls and women.

Women and work

Women workers in general constitute a marginalised category in the work force with rural women occupying a lower position than their urban counterparts within them, Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) are even more marginalised.

A total of 20.5 percent women were employed in the organised sector in 2011 with 18.1 percent working in the public sector and 24.3 percent in the private. More than 70 percent women are working mainly as housemaids or servants. Unpaid work, predominantly performed by women, is estimated at 39 percent of GDP. Women's workforce participation has also declined from 35 percent in 1990 to 27 percent in 2013. The causal factors could be under-recording of women's employment status, decline in women employment and increase competition by men.



Gender and poverty

Women experience poverty differently and more acutely than men due to their assigned gender roles and culturally constructed subordination. Women (and girls) are naturally assigned to domestic roles and this limits their access to formal education and knowledge. This, along with deep-rooted social and family hierarchies, not only limits their access to material resources (such as land and other family assets), but also to social resources, i.e. participation in economic, political and social decision-making.

The broader concept of poverty must include both economic and social autonomy and gender violence. The current method of poverty assessment in India takes the measure at the household level and hence ignores the magnitude and variances within household. All members of the family are assumed to have same needs irrespective of age and gender. In any poor household, children and women experience poverty with higher levels of austerity. Hence, the debates around poverty are not informed about the women's experience of poverty.

Financial inclusion of women

Patriarchy has put a check on women's potential, capabilities as well as self-confidence because of their financial dependence on men. It is only when women participate in decisions regarding credit and savings, that they will optimise their own and household's welfare leading to financial sustainability and empowerment.

Provision of financial services to the poor can be very beneficial to poverty reduction and growth. Research in India found that a one percent increase in the number of rural bank branches led to a drop in poverty of 0.34 percent and an increase in output of 0.55 percent, mainly because access to finance made it easier for poor people to diversify out of agriculture.

Apart from inherited social disadvantages in a patriarchal structure, other contributory factors include limited access to assets and other resources, and low level of education and skills. A higher level of education and employable skills for women workers is a sine qua non for improving their levels of income.

Political representation of women

Political empowerment of women is the key to their social and economic progress. The recent Constitutional amendments (73rd and 74th amendments) have significantly impacted the political participation of women. This has enabled several women to enter politics. However, the representation of women in state and central government is limited. The lack of representation of women in decision-making positions results in women's agenda not getting reflected and addressed in policies and programmes.

Women's participation in formal politics in India reveals that there has been a marked increase in their voting turnout and election campaigning. While there have been significant gains in these two areas, women continue to be under-represented in legislative bodies both at the national and state level.

Barriers to women participation, specifically in running for political office include illiteracy, household responsibilities and discriminatory attitudes towards them as leaders.

Female Foeticide

It is one of the extreme manifestations of Violence against Women (VAW). Child sex ratio (0-6 years) declined in the Census 2011 enumeration from 927 to 914 indicating the gravity of the problem. Parents find it futile to invest in the life of a girl child because of prejudices and extreme poverty. Killing of a girl child at birth is still an accepted social practice in certain parts of the country.

Rape and sexual assault

Sexual violence can cause severe and irreparable damage to physical and mental health of the victim. In India, sex crimes against women and girls are mainly manifested in the form of rape, molestation, sexual harassment, eve teasing and trafficking of girls for sexual exploitation. The VAW has been incessantly growing as evidenced in the National Crime Bureau (NCRB) records. It is believed that only one percent of such crimes are actually reported, largely due to ill treatment at police stations, a biased judiciary and lack of support around women. The increase in violence is common in both private and public spaces across culture, class, and ethnicity. Deep seated patriarchy, gender biases, cultural practices, and shared misogynist beliefs are some but not the only underlying reasons.

Trafficking

India is a source; destination and transit country for men, women and children trafficked for the purpose of forced labour and commercial sexual exploitation. Women and girls are trafficked for the purpose of flesh trade within the country and often exported to other countries for commercial purposes and domestic work. A large number of NGOs in India are working to prevent trafficking with some success. Poverty, is the main reason for trafficking. The major sectors employing trafficked people in India are commercial sex work, bonded labour, domestic work, entertainment, begging and other exploitative activities. There are robust laws to prevent and punish trafficking in the country. However, the legal framework is infected by corruption, an overburdened judiciary, and poorly resourced protection officers.

Honor killing

Reasons for honor killings include socio-cultural complexities, inter-caste marriages, pre-marital relationships, marriage among descendants of same lineage, and religious differences. Honor killings occur when women decide to take decisions about themselves in opposition to the structures of the society.

Law versus society

Human rights when coded, and given a legal frame, make a significant stride in the change process. However, without social acceptance, the enforcement of the statutes is very difficult. Though many issues could be brought under legal scrutiny, there are many social practices and cultural elements that cannot be legally coded and enforced. Even the most progressive legislation will fail to result in real change on the ground if people are not convinced that new laws are fair, if they are not aware of them, or if the means of rights enforcement are inaccessible. Multiple interventions are required to deal with issues involving gender justice.

Women, society and violence

United Nations defines 'Violence Against Women' (VAW) as, "Any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life."

VAW is partly a result of gender relations that assumes men to be superior to women. Given the subordinate status of women, much of gender violence is considered normal and enjoys social sanction.

Forms of violence experienced by women throughout their lifespan

Phase	Types of violence
Pre-birth	Sex-selective abortion; battering during pregnancy; coerced pregnancy.
Infancy	Female infanticide; emotional and physical abuse; differential access to food and medical care.
Girlhood	Child marriage; genital mutilation; sexual abuse by family members and strangers; differential access to food, medical care and education.
Adolescence	Violence during courtship; economically coerced sex (e.g. for school fees); sexual abuse in the workplace; rape; sexual harassment; arranged marriage; trafficking.
Reproductive Age	Physical, psychological and sexual abuse by intimate male partners and relatives; forced pregnancies by partner; sexual abuse in the workplace; sexual harassment; rape; abuse of widows, including property grabbing and sexual cleansing practices.
Elderly	Abuse of widows, including property grabbing; accusations of witchcraft; physical and psychological violence by younger family members; differential access to food and medical care.

A total of 3,37,922 cases of crime against women were reported in the country during the year 2014 as compared to 3,09,546 in the year 2013, thus showing an increase of 9.2 percent during the year 2014. These crimes have continuously increased during 2010 – 2014.

In a study done in India, among 10000 women, 26 percent reported having experienced physical violence from spouses during their lifetime. National Crime Records Bureau figures for 2014 show that a crime is recorded against women every three minutes. As a result of violence, women suffer social isolation, unemployment, income loss, poor self-care and fail to provide childcare, which is a grave concern.



VAW intersects with multiple forms of discrimination. While VAW is universal, its manifestations and women's personal experiences of it are shaped by factors such as economic status, caste, class and religion. Advancement in technology has also brought about new forms of VAW. Early detection of sex of the child has given rise to increasing instances of female foeticide. Easy access to information and communication technologies is causing crimes like cyber or phone stalking and leading to increase in demand for pornography.

There is a need to break the silence and ensure that VAW is not just a woman's issue but primarily a political, social, economic and cultural issue that concerns men as well. As fathers, husbands, brothers, and sons, men and young boys should be part of the solution, involved in eliminating VAW. Responses to VAW need to be holistic, integrating informal and formal approaches at both the individual and systemic level.



Approaches to women empowerment

Empowerment of women is crucial for the development and social progress. It implies women acquiring the power to think and act freely, exercise their choice and fulfill their potential as equal members of society. The process of empowerment can be viewed as a means of creating a social and political environment conducive to women's mobility and progress towards greater gender equality.

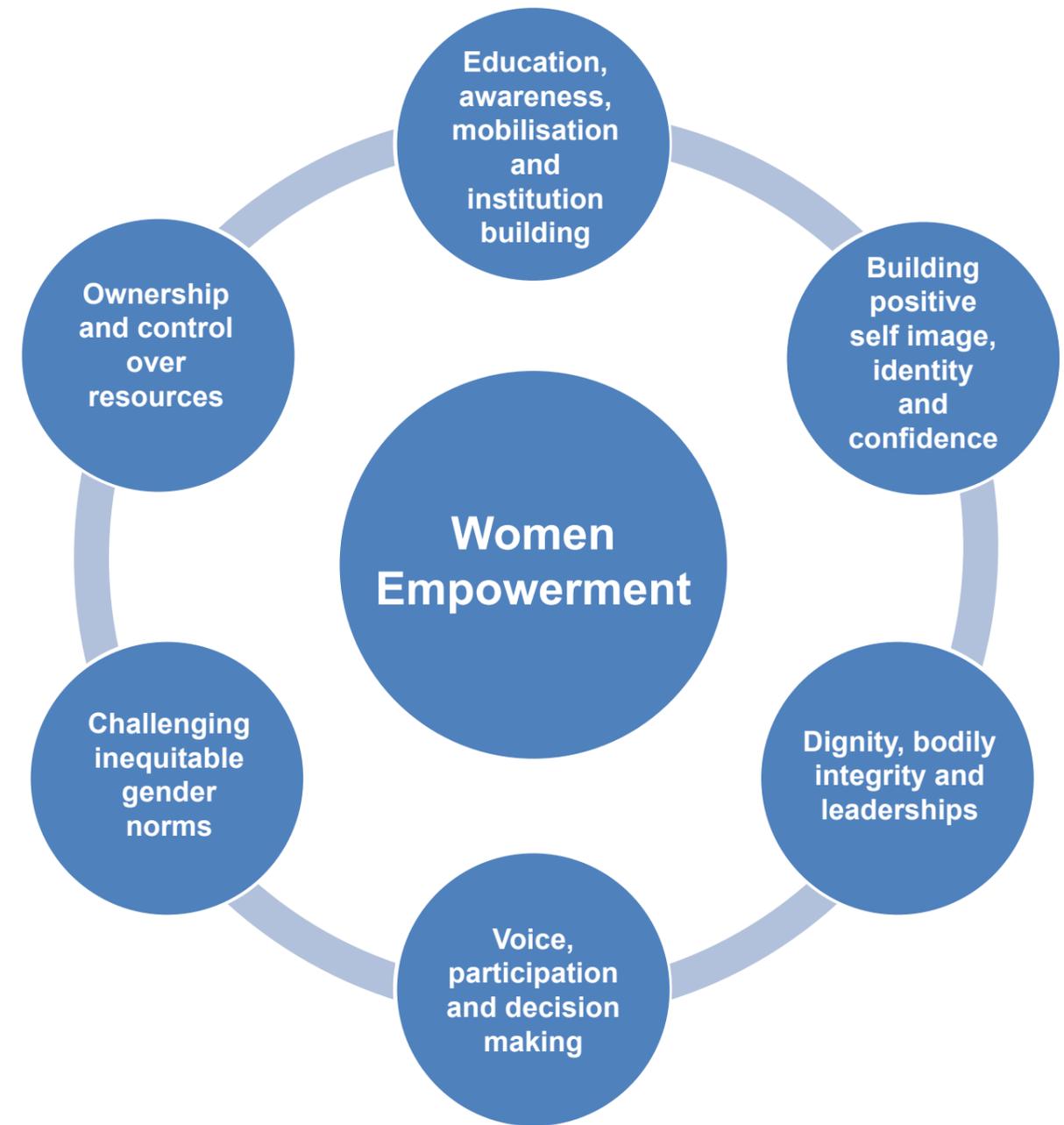
Multiple approaches to address the women's issues are at work in different settings with their own success and challenges. Grassroots NGOs are doing exceptional work with communities in enhancing access to quality education, health, nutrition, government entitlements, financial literacy and other services.

There are also a range of NGOs and grassroots leaders who are engaging with communities following rights based approach. Such approaches shift the primary role of development agencies and funding partners from being implementers of projects to facilitators in people's movements for change. It is about inclusion, and giving everyone their right to participate. It requires extensive consultation with women themselves, research on their felt needs, evolving strategies, examining challenges, negotiation between women and development agencies. It also involves addressing the immediate needs of women, with a focus on resolving their strategic and long term needs with self-reliance and a bottom-up approach of development.

Rights based approach demands dual role of the social development organisations to systemically raise the collective strength of people and ensure that their demands are effectively supplied by the institutions responsible for it, including the government bodies. A mere provision of the services and social safety schemes and empowerment agenda does not necessarily translate into empowerment. EdelGive Foundation has consciously identified and developed partnerships with NGOs following a right based approach in the process of empowering women.



Women empowerment framework



EdelGive's women empowerment framework

EdelGive's portfolio of women empowerment has been able to bring a collective of women led organisations, working towards transforming their lives through social, economic, political and legal empowerment of women.

I. Social empowerment

- a. Promotion of women's education and awareness
- b. Enhancing participation and decision making of women
- c. Promoting individual and collective leadership roles for women
- d. Challenging social and cultural norms against women

II. Economic empowerment

- a. Financial autonomy to women
- b. Promoting women entrepreneurship
- c. Securing assets for women (land rights, entitlements and savings)

III. Political empowerment

- a. Social mobilisation, collectivisation and organisation building for marginalised women
- b. Demanding rights and entitlements for women by women
- c. Challenging gender equations

IV. Legal empowerment

- a. Protection of legal rights and prevention of VAW
- b. Legal literacy and legal support
- c. Advocacy for women's rights

Each of the partners being unique in their approaches complement the overall idea of reaching the poorest among women, and the most vulnerable. All these partners involve the communities in dialogue, action, and continuous reflection on strategies to challenge gender norms and prejudices. Our partners build women's capabilities of self, and of collectives to reshape gender norms and make communities inclusive, equitable and just for women.

Framework of identification and partnership

- Supporting the immediate cause of women
- Building support systems for women for immediate access
- Building women led processes and institutions
- Questioning inequitable gender norms
- Sensitising stakeholders for promoting safety and security of women
- Systemic reforms to address VAW
- Strong women leaders working on women's issues

EdelGive and women empowerment

EdelGive Foundation believes in a rights based approach rather than a services based one. An extremely important issue in policy making is what is called the last mile problem. It refers to the broader social change that needs to be brought about for effective policy change and implementation. The last mile problem cannot be solved at a centralised level. It is a problem of effective public management. Every community has its own social structures in place. The organisations that work at grassroots levels are able to understand them and tackle the last mile problem. In the field of women empowerment, the last mile problem is intrinsically prevalent. The issue with most rural areas is not that there are no resources available for women; it is that the villagers don't believe that women empowerment is an essential issue. What use is building a public school if the parents of young girls do not believe in educating their daughters? How can financial instruments help women if their husbands do not let them go to the bank and reap the benefits of these instruments? What good could domestic violence helplines do if a patriarchal society prohibits women from calling them?

The Foundation focuses on VAW, entrepreneurships and developing women leaderships.

EdelGive Foundation anticipates, acknowledges, and strategises to make continuous inroads towards gender justice. We reach out to unreached women through great leaders who engage continuously in challenging the gender inequities within their minds, homes, communities, and regions. The Foundation has been focusing on VAW, women entrepreneurship and developing women leadership at homes, in institutions, and communities. It has been thoughtfully delivering programmatic support to grassroots organisations to undertake path breaking interventions and challenge practices that are unfavorable to women and girls.

EdelGive has been supporting women as beneficiaries, entrepreneurs, catalysts, and leaders. Women leaders change their roles from house makers to bread winners and hence decision makers at home, from followers to controllers. We have been working with women in catalytic roles as activists and leaders who drive gender justice. We invest in capacity building, literacy, providing platform for leadership and putting women into new roles which are traditionally male domains. We acknowledge the intersection of gender issues which forms a strong lens in design, development and implementation of programmes for education, livelihood and watershed management, which are part of our current portfolio. One of the strongest forms of discrimination of young girls is not giving them opportunity to get educated. Therefore, EdelGive invested in the girl child education through partnerships with Samaritan Help Mission, Ibtada, and Nishtha to initiate the empowerment process among girls at a young age.

EdelGive takes pride in its partnership with Mann Deshi group of women who own and manage India's first and Maharashtra's largest microfinance rural financial institution which has received a cooperative bank's license from the Reserve Bank of India. The partnership programme enables rural poor women in bettering their lives through finance, enterprise and knowledge. The other core of our work has been around prevention of violence of woman by providing grants to Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiatives, Majlis, Committee of Resource Organisations for Literacy, Area Networking, and Development Initiatives (Anandi), and Kutch Mahila Vikas Sansthan.



Investing in women empowerment

CSR investments are indicative of the priority areas assumed by corporates. Health and sanitation lead spending (26 percent) followed by education (24 percent), environment (11 percent), rural development (9 percent) and women empowerment (4 percent). The interventions were mostly carried out in the surrounding areas of the main operational regions, particularly in villages situated closer to the factory location.

Looking at the severity of the women's issues it is imperative to invest more in women's issues. Interventions that involve women and girls need higher priority by CSR implementers.



Partnerships

Association for Advocacy & Legal Initiatives (AALI)

Lucknow U.P

Organisation objective

The organisation's vision is to strive for an egalitarian social system which recognizes women as complete individuals and equal human beings, through proactive advocacy and work on the issues and concerns of women, especially from marginalised and deprived communities. It also seeks to promote and protect the women's social, economic, and political rights guaranteed in the Constitution of India and in international human rights treaties. Competency in the field of law, particularly the criminal justice system and human rights, gives the organisation an edge over others.

Context

Uttar Pradesh (U.P) is becoming known for its escalating VAW and girls in the form of rapes, gang rapes, sexual assault, domestic violence, honor killings, acid attacks etc. As per the estimates of the National Crime Bureau, six incidents of rape and nearly seven dowry deaths per day is what defines the state of women in U.P. The regressive outlook of the State government on the rights and positions of women as evidenced by both its callous actions and remarks made by its ministers on several occasions makes it harder for women to attain an equal social status.



EdelGive intervention

AALI works to promote gender-based justice by empowering marginalised women, especially survivors of human rights violations including VAW, in U.P and Jharkhand through direct intervention, capacity building and research. It is working to develop grassroots leadership amongst marginalised women in Azamgarh district of U.P through legal rights training, direct intervention and socio-legal support, socio and medico-legal support, psychological counseling, shelter, welfare, vocational skills development, education and other measures. AALI conducts legal training workshops to develop the capacity of diverse stakeholders i.e. police, medical/health officers, doctors, judicial officers etc. on gender issues, women's rights and related laws. The programme also includes practical research studies on the issues of acid attacks in U.P and witch hunting in Jharkhand.

Organisation highlights

- U.P Department of Family and Health Welfare has recognised AALI's work and technical strength and collaborated on a workshop organised for doctors to build a sensitive response in the cases of VAW.
- The One Stop Crisis Centre setup by the U.P Women and Child Development department has engaged AALI as their technical advisor to respond in the cases of VAW.
- AALI is being seen as a key organisation in national discourse of women's human rights.
- AALI is being asked to bring the agenda of women issues which can be incorporated in the parties manifesto during elections.
- The Survivor's network is an exemplary achievement where the survivors are helped to break myths that, "They are not alone" and "It's not their fault".

Partners

Save the Children, UK | Fund for Global Human Rights | Global Fund for Women |
Niwano Peace Foundation | Oxfam (India) Trust

Year of registration	Registration	80G Certificate	FCRA	Annual Budget (Lacs)	CSR Eligibility
1998	Trust/4492/9251	58-59/446/90/2007-08/TECH	041980031	113	✓



Area Networking & Development Initiatives

(ANANDI)

Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Organisation objective

ANANDI is working towards changing the nature and direction of systemic forces which marginalise women and engages with low income groups such as tribals, migrant families, salt pan workers, farm and construction labour and fishing communities for their empowerment. It works for advancing rights of women and intervenes in structures/institutions to make them gender responsive and accountable to address inter and intra household inequities.

It works towards empowering women leaders to strengthen governance of livelihood based women's community organisations. They provide support for capacity building of women farmers to improve livelihoods, reduce vulnerabilities for food and livelihood security with dignity.

Context

ANANDI works in Panchmahal and Dahod districts which have large Adivasi population dependent on agriculture. Post construction of Panam Dam, their main occupations agriculture and animal husbandry were badly affected due to water logging in the farms during monsoon and winters. Hence, majority of population lives below the poverty line. Indebtedness, workers' migration, and further destruction of natural resources by over fertilisation and uncontrolled deforestation make the situation worse for the families.

EdelGive intervention

ANANDI works with women farmer's cooperatives to enhance transparent and democratic functioning creating opportunities to improve incomes and provide food security to marginalised women farmers. It also supports them through technical knowledge and skills on sustainable livelihoods and works towards building their identity, increase their access, control and ownership over resources and entitlements and strengthen women's voice and agency to advocate for their rights.

Organisation highlights

- The Time Magazine chose ANANDI as one of its 29 Asian Heroes in 2002-2003.
- The Vishwa Vatsalya and Sant Bal award Foundation Trust, Ahmedabad, in recognition of the excellent work done by the organisation on building rural women's awareness.
- Nagardas Doshi Smarak Nidhi Chalala awarded ANANDI for rural women's awareness.
- Young Gandhian's Award to ANANDI member for excellent work in rural development, 2011.
- Police Suraksha Setu – Panchamahaal District for Women's Empowerment – 2014.

Partners

Oxfam India Trust | Paul Hamlyn Foundation | Child Rights & You |
Terre Des Hommes – CC | FRHS - GOG (NRHM) | Terre Des Hommes – PSF | Action Aid |

Year of registration	Registration	80G Certificate	FCRA	Annual Budget (Lacs)	CSR Eligibility
1995	Society/ Guj/ 5189-AH-D	DT(E)/80G (5)/1224/06-07	041980031	195	✓



Committee of Resource Organisations (CORO) for Literacy

Mumbai, Maharashtra

Organisation objective

CORO has demonstrated sustainable change by promoting 'Grassroots Leadership' in Maharashtra. The organisation's objective is to promote integrated community development via rights-based social change amongst marginalised communities. They facilitated the creation of Mahila Mandal Federation along with actively taking action towards Violence against Women (VAW).

Context

The patriarchal system adversely affects the lives of women residing in rural and urban Maharashtra. Women are not only discriminated based on gender, class, caste but also based on their marital status. There is a high prevalence of VAW and no support systems are available to raise voice against it. Legal provisions are of little help considering access, time involved, lack of support, uncertainty of implementation etc. CORO works relentlessly to address this toxic system of physical and mental violence.

EdelGive intervention

In Marathwada region, CORO works with single women networks to bring changes among single women at a personal level (Identity, purpose, perception, confidence, consciousness), and create individual and collective leadership of single women. It works on multiple single women issues like improving their status (social, political, economic etc.), preventing VAW, and annihilation of social stigma against them.

Organisation highlights

- CORO helped in the formation of the Mahila Mandal Federation (MMF) (1995), an independent organisation of community women .
- CORO has been a research partner with organisations like ICRW, Population Council, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Instituto Promundo and published 'Yari-Dosti' & 'Sakhi-Saheli' handbooks, GEMS Campaign Guide, GEMS Diary for students, Research Brief on GEMS programme etc.

- CORO provides resources for a Gender Sensitisation programme Meena Raju Manch implemented in 23000 schools in Maharashtra.
- Right to Pee (RTP) campaign for free, safe, clean urinals for women in public spaces, has secured budgetary provision in the MCGM budget towards women's public toilets.

Partners

Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives | Bain & Company | International Center for Research on Women | Leader's Quest | Tata Trusts

Year of registration	Registration	80G Certificate	FCRA	Annual Budget (Lacs)	CSR Eligibility
1990	Society/MS/ MUM/270/ 1990/G.B.B.S.D	80G/3025/ 2006/2006-2007	041980031	468	✓



Ibtada

Alwar, Rajasthan

Organisation objective

Ibtada envisions a society where poor and deprived social groups are economically, socially and politically empowered to take part in development processes and have equal rights and access to resources. The interventions include working on elementary education for girls, life skills, computer education and career facilitation for girls. It also works for savings and credit based women's institutions, and women livelihoods.

Context

Ibtada operates in Alwar district of Rajasthan. Most part of the area falls under Mewat, a Meo Muslim dominated geography. Years of social alienation and economic deprivation has had a negative impact on the local community, especially on women and girls. The region suffers social and economic backwardness due to lack of resources, awareness, education, health and on account of poor gender status.

EdelGive intervention

the beginning

Ibtada is working with women groups to access benefits of government schemes for them, through sensitization of the Panachayati Raj Institution (PRI), capacity building of key leaders to access their entitlements, and increasing awareness among community regarding government schemes, rights and entitlements. It is helping SHG members to access government schemes by preparing a network of leaders to negotiate with government functionaries and PRIs.

Organisation highlights

- First Runners up by Kubera Edelweiss, Social Innovation Honours (Edelgive Foundation), 2009 for Girl Child Education.
- Girls Education Impact assessment Award by Harvard South Asia Institute 2016 (in partnership with Tata Trust).

- 9000 plus girls in mainstream education with 5000 plus in post elementary education.
- First generation Muslims girls educated and reached college level.
- The Krishi Sakhi and Pashu Sakhi model of Ibtada is well recognised and replicated by many NGOs and govt agencies.

Partners

Save the Children | Heifer Project International | Sir Ratan Tata Trust | IDFC Foundation | EMpower USA

Year of registration	Registration	80G Certificate	FCRA	Annual Budget (Lacs)	CSR Eligibility
1990	132/ALW/97-98	80G/2004-05/2240	125420021	373	✓



Kutch Mahila Vikas Sangathan

Kutch, Gujarat

Organisation objective

Kutch Mahila Vikas Sangathan (KMVS) was founded in 1989. Since then, it has organised poor rural women to question and address gender inequities within their minds, homes, communities and regions. Through a range of strategic interventions it has fostered the leadership of women to transform their condition and impact their economic, political, social and cultural status.

Context

The growing status and transforming identities of women in Kutch, across class, caste, religion and geographies are at odds with the growing inequities, increasing sectarianism, aggressive culture of commerce and consumerism, and perverse forms of patriarchy - all of which manifest in the increase in VAW. Cases of VAW in Kutch have risen three fold in the past five years alone. Thus, despite growing awareness amongst women, greater access to laws, and better laws against gender based violence, concerns around safety and security of women and the girl child are growing manifold in a rapidly changing context.

EdelGive intervention

The KMVS is working towards safe district for women and girls in Bhuj. It is setting up 'Hello Sakhi' safety centres in Kutch to service and respond to women in Kutch, building capacities of lawyers, para legal workers, staff members of police stations and shelter homes, protection officer, counsellors and staff of help lines 181 and 1098 for responding to the victims of gender based violence through one stop crisis centre. It provides counselling support to victims. Simultaneously, it is strengthening collaboration of KMVS with District Legal Service Authority (DLSA) which has helped many women members through mediation centres, sensitizing and feminizing the existing social justice committees, Sanjeevani Samtis and School management committees with support from Elected Women Representatives (EWRs), which are standing committee but largely impervious to gender issues. It is enhancing capacities of EWRs to understand legal instruments, and access socio-legal help through 'Hello Sakhi' helpline whenever required. The EWRs would be trained and supported to map all existing, perceived or potential forms of abuse or violence in their constituency, enabled to develop an index of safety for women and girls.

Organisation highlights

- KMVS has been pioneer in building collaborative models with government institutions like- contextual curriculum and learning process for adolescents, health clinic for women and running helpline for victims of domestic violence.
- In the journey of two decades KMVS has been initiator and collaborator of mainstream feminist movements and movements for establishing community radios.
- KMVS has been awarded Five national level recognition for its efforts.
- First organisation in region to promote women owned and managed producer company.

Partners

Tata Trust | Rotary-USA | Global Fund | NABARD | UNWOMEN- Fund for Gender Equality

Year of registration	Registration	80G Certificate	FCRA	Annual Budget (Lacs)	CSR Eligibility
1989	Society/ F/168- Kutch	CIT.R-1/Tech. /80G/2012- 13/1582	042050043	197	✓



Majlis

Mumbai, Maharashtra

Organisation objective

Majlis' all-women team of lawyers and social activists have been working on issues concerning women's legal rights and access to justice by helping women access their rights through legal support in court, training of key stakeholders, policy interventions and public campaigns. The aim is to provide dignity and support to women victims of violence. It also works closely with the Government of Maharashtra to ensure implementation and accountability of all state stakeholders.

Context

Women in urban slums are exposed to multiple vulnerabilities. Many of them experience violence and remain silent in absence of a responsive system of justice. They are discriminated against on multiple aspects such as caste, class and gender. All these aspects get intertwined to complicate their position and condition.

EdelGive intervention

Majlis is providing support in effective implementation of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (DV Act) in Mumbai District. It handholds the Protection Officers to help them with the guidelines recommended in the DV Act to execute their social, legal and management and awareness roles as per the protocols and best practices recommended by the DV Handbook.

Organisation highlights

- Over the past 25 years, Majlis' team of women lawyers and social workers have helped over 50,000 women victims of violence exercise their rights.
- RAHAT rape victim support programme was Started in 2012, as a collaboration with Mumbai Police to provide social and legal support to victims of rape. To monitor the effective implementation of the DV Act within Maharashtra, the Commissionerate of Women and Child Development, Pune and Majlis have entered into a collaboration called MOHIM.

- Outcomes of this project-

1- The Maharashtra State Handbook Protocols, Best Practices and Reporting Formats (DV Handbook) approved by Bombay High Court and Government of Maharashtra

2- Training and handholding Legal Aid Lawyers to work closely with Protection Officers

- Trained over 1200 Police officers, 300 judicial officers, 500 lawyers and prosecutors.

- Awards received:

1- Mother Theresa Memorial Award for Social Justice- 2012

2- Kelvinator Gr8 Women Award - 2012

3- Woman of Steel Award by Pearl Weave - 2009

4-The first Neerja Bhanot Bravery Award- 1992

Partners

Tata Trust | International Development Research Centre | ActionAid Association | Oxfam India | Savannah Wisdom

Year of registration	Registration	80G Certificate	FCRA	Annual Budget (Lacs)	CSR Eligibility
1991	Society/206/1991 /G.B.B.S.D	80G/3025/ 2006/2006-2007	083780545	272	✓



Mann Deshi Foundation

Satara, Maharashtra

Organisation objective

The Mann Deshi Foundation (MDF) works in conjunction with the Mann Deshi Bank by providing a variety of non-financial services to their clients aimed at improving the quality of life for rural women and their families in India. The MDF's mission is to promote the development of poor and vulnerable women and their families by promoting business skills and training, property rights, leadership and technology. The MDF aims to better their lives by providing health awareness and encouraging joint ownership of their property; the MDF works to develop the intangible assets that will move women in the right direction towards rural economic empowerment.

Context

The retail vegetable business in weekly market is run mostly by women in the above areas. These women take loans from money lenders at the start of the day to fund their daily purchase for business. The rate of interest for this loan is much higher, up to 10 percent daily. This high interest rate was decreasing the profit margin that vendors were earning. High cost credit options also result in disengagement from credit markets. It was needed to provide these women with short term and hassle free loan in market itself as the women couldn't visit banks daily. The loan that money lenders were offering was without any collateral and also it was available to them comfortably in the market. To increase their profit; it was needed to provide them with low interest loans by offering same easiness which was offered by money lenders. This suggests that the right low interest Credit product can enhance microenterprise performance.

EdelGive intervention

With EdelGive's support, the organisation has successfully piloted, implemented and helped in scaling the 'Doorstep Cash Credit Programme' to the women vendors in hard to reach area, for supporting women entrepreneurships. The revolutionary 'Doorstep Cash Credit Programme' has caught the attention of many in the recent times and has supported women entrepreneurs in the region. The project ensures delivery of cash credit to the doorsteps of women engaged in business activities with dynamic locations and uncertain profits.

Organisation highlights

- Social Impact Award, 2013 - L'Oreal Paris Femina Awards.

- 'Beti' Movement Award, 2010-Ninth GR8 Women Awards celebrates its work for second time.
- EdelGive Social Innovation Honors, 2010 - EdelGive Foundation for impact on livelihoods of women in Maharashtra.
- CII-Bharti Woman Exemplar Award, 2006.
- Jankidevi Bajaj Award for Rural Entrepreneurship, 2005 - Indian Merchants' Chamber, a national award for expanding women's rights, education, and social status.

Partners

HSBC | Cherie Blair Foundation | British Asian Trust | UNICEF | NABARD

Year of registration	Registration	80G Certificate	FCRA	Annual Budget (Lacs)	CSR Eligibility
1991	Trust/4523/4494/SAT/MAH	Pn/CIT-111 Tech/80G/28/ 2011-12/2915	83970038	766	✓



Milaan

Lucknow, U.P

Organisation objective

Milaan, a youth-led organisation, aims to educate, enable, and empower children and young people, especially adolescent girls in rural India. Milaan is a platform and facilitator for adolescents to explore themselves and the social fabric to unleash their potential to be an agent of change in their own lives and for those in their communities. It works towards designing innovative solutions to deliver access to quality education, especially in rural areas, for adolescent girls, enabling them through life-skill based education to actively participate in decision making, impacting their lives and the communities and building leadership skills in adolescent girls in rural communities and amplifying their voices as change makers.

Context

The status of girls, particularly adolescents in India, especially those from vulnerable and marginalized communities, is in a dismal state. Adolescence is a time of psychological risk and heightened vulnerability for girls. Prior to adolescence, many girls are able to voice their feelings and demonstrate a strong sense of self. When they reach puberty, however, they may be torn between pressures to conform to a dominant cultural ideal of “selfless” femininity and womanhood or to move toward maturity through separation and independence. There is risk in conforming and losing one’s voice as well as important relationships. They are further hampered because there is enormous resistance by adults to listen to girls, especially marginalized girls. As a result, adolescent girls often lose their voices. While for boys, adolescence means greater possibilities and a broadening world, for girls it means greater limitations. On the whole, adolescent girls, especially in socially and economically backward communities, spend less time in school than boys, perform a disproportionate share of domestic work, have less mobility outside the home and fewer acceptable public spaces for leisure activity, and claim fewer friends, mentors, and social outlets.

EdelGive intervention

With EdelGive’s support, Milaan is working for identify, investing in, and incubating in girl leaders as change-makers. It enables girls in communities of the selected Girl Icon Fellows through comprehensive life-skills training covering issues such as active citizenship, adolescent health, social inclusion, etc. Milaan, simultaneously engages with the fellows to intervene in the social issues of their communities through action projects.

Organisation highlights

- Swarachna Learning and Resource Centre was initiated in partnership with community in Amberpur village of Sidhuli block of Sitapur, U.P.
- Partnered with the District Administration of Sitapur to design, develop and implement a holistic school development program in 236 high priority school in Sitapur, U.P.
- In 2015, Milaan was the finalist to the global “With and For Girls Collective Award” and “The Dasra Girl Power Award”.
- In 2015, partnered with Department of Secondary Education, U.P to launch the Girl Icon Fellowship Program, 2-years long leadership development program for adolescent girls (12-18 years) who have demonstrated willingness and ability to challenge social barriers that restrict unleashing of girl’s potential in their communities.
- Scaled the Girl Icon Fellowship Program from 10 fellows in U.P to 100 fellows in 2 states of U.P and Madhya Pradesh.

Partners

Dasra | Community: The Youth Collective | Give India | Pratham | The Foundation for Freedom

Year of registration	Registration	80G Certificate	FCRA	Annual Budget (Lacs)	CSR Eligibility
2007	Society/ S/ 60105/2007	DIT(E)/2010-11/M-1766/862	231661498	87	✓

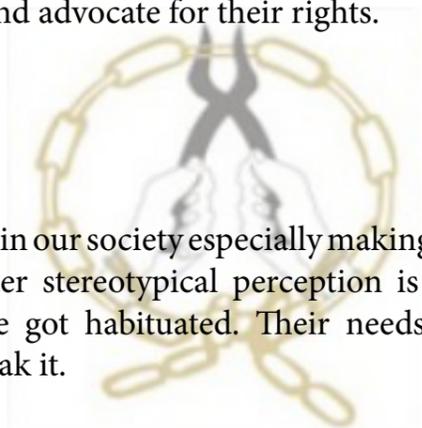


Nishtha

North 24 Parganas, West Bengal

Organisation objective

Nishtha campaigns against child marriage, trafficking, domestic violence and gender discrimination has endeared the organization in government and non-government circles by its inherent qualities. To address these issues several women's community groups has been formed by Nishtha which create influential new social networks in the rural areas, have empowered women to mobilize their communities to take action to improve their environment, speak up against violence, and advocate for their rights.



Context

Gender biasness is prevalent in our society especially making the females in the rural community more vulnerable. The gender stereotypical perception is so ingredient in our system, that unconsciously females have got habituated. Their needs to be a strong outward force of intervention required to break it.

EdelGive intervention

With EdelGive's funding, Nishtha is providing support to girls at risk to continue their education. It is organising girls in groups to increase their collective strength and courage. Nishtha provides inputs to increase the knowledge level of girls about their basic rights, on reproductive health and hygiene and understands the gender based discrimination to challenge the patriarchy. It organises the mothers of the supported girls into women's group so that they can be well informed and can stand by their daughters to ensure their education and counter gender based violence. It is working for increasing the awareness of parents, stakeholders, and community on importance of mainstream education to create an environment more conducive for the education of girls in the project area.

Organisation highlights

- Forming groups and empowering the group leaders with information, knowledge and training so that they can form groups in their area and pass on their learning.
- Enabling girls to negotiate with elders their community and local stakeholders for their social and legal rights.

- Through continuous awareness and sensitisation programme reduce child marriage, school dropouts and trafficking.
- Increase awareness on reproductive health and hygiene and its long term effects.

Partners

Empower | Goldman Sachs | Global Fund for Women | Rotary Club | Overseas Women Aid

Year of registration	Registration	80G Certificate	FCRA	Annual Budget (Lacs)	CSR Eligibility
1983	Society/ S/41821	DIT (E)/SE/ 204/97-98/5487-89.	147110101	406	✓



Olympic Gold Quest (OGQ)

Mumbai, Maharashtra

Organisation objective

OGQ is a programme of the Foundation for Promotion of Sports and Games, a not-for profit company with a commitment towards bringing the best of Indian athletes closer to the top line of players from all across the globe by helping them win accolades at the Olympic Games and other competitions. The organisation was founded by Indian sporting legends, Geet Sethi and Prakash Padukone, with an aim to create a level playing field for our athletes and enable them to be competitive at the highest level of their sport.

Context

Female athletes in India have it much worse than their male counterparts. They have lesser resources available to them; they are paid less and get less recognition. It becomes incredibly hard for female athletes from low income families to fund their own training and career owing to the existing gender biases in Indian sport.

EdelGive intervention

EdelGive Foundation started supporting Foundation for Promotion of Sports and Games's OGQ Programme since 2010. EG has supported training costs of athletes like MC Mary Kom, Gayathry Govindraj, P.V. Sindhu, Ayonika Paul and Pooja Ghatkar, and also supported junior athletes like Madhu Vedan and Thotyola Tangkhul.

OLYMPIC GOLD QUEST

Organisation highlights

- Five out of the eight medal winners for India at the London 2012 and Rio 2016 Olympics were athletes supported by OGQ.
- Athletes supported by OGQ have won several medals for India at the CWG as well as the Asian Games in 2010 and 2014.
- OGQ has started a Junior scholarship programme where athletes in the age group of 11-20 years are being identified, groomed and supported for the 2020, 2024 and 2028 Olympics.

Partners

Genpact | Mafatlal Group | Novartis | Parle Products Pvt. Ltd | Godrej Consumer Products Ltd.

Year of registration	Registration	80G Certificate	FCRA	Annual Budget (Lacs)	CSR Eligibility
2001	Section 25 Company/38(25/N)/2/2001/2529	DIT (E)/80G(5/971 /2008-2009	083781091	851	✓



Samaritan Help Mission (SHM)

Howrah, West Bengal

Organisation objective

SHM works to provide developmental opportunities to the poor and needy slum children with emphasis on young girls. It provides them with quality education and imparts life skill education, so as to explore and develop their hidden talents and capacities.

Context

Tikiapara Slum of Howrah in West Bengal is notorious for drug pedaling and other nefarious crimes. Low literacy rates, limited livelihood options like rickshaw pulling, construction laborers and ill habits of drinking are common problems. The area is characterized by poor living conditions, having the worst effects on women and children. It also lacks proper functional schools. The current effort for SHM's project is directed to schools and health and livelihood opportunities for women.

EdelGive intervention

The current support is directed to the schools that ensure quality English education for the underprivileged children from pre-primary to Class IX (recognised by West Bengal Board of Secondary Education). Extra-curricular activities like music, sports, physical training, study tours, participation in various quizzes, debates and competitions are well integrated in the school curriculum. The students get introduced to information technology and learn through digital classrooms and online classes.

Organisation highlights

- Samaritan Mission School (High) started with only six students and at present there are 834 students getting quality English education.
- Initiated English Access Micro-scholarship Project of US Department of States for betterment of English speaking and writing power of the young boys and girls of Tikiapara. About 200 students are getting benefitted under this project. The successful beneficiaries will have a chance to visit US after completion of the project.

- Revved century-old Howrah I. R. Belilios Institution, a government aided school with 10 students and 16 teachers to Rebecca Belilious English Institution at the same campus in association with Howrah City Police and Belilios Trust Estate. More than 2500 students are getting quality primary education in English in the new school.
- Upgradation of the vocational training unit of Samaritan Help Mission from conventional tailoring training center to industrial tailoring training center with assistance from Cognizant Foundation to level up the financial condition of the impoverished adolescent girls and women of Tikiapara slums. About 200 impoverished adolescent girls and women are getting training per year.

Partners

DITO Foundation | KPMG Foundation | US Department of State | TATA Trust | EdelGive Foundation | Volkart Foundation

Year of registration	Registration	80G Certificate	FCRA	Annual Budget (Lacs)	CSR Eligibility
2001	Society/ S/11/4754	DIT(E)/8E/369/ 04-05/1343-1345	147000199	206	✓



Organisation objective

Since 2003, Sshrishti has been running effective programmes in the education and development space with their major target group being women and children who are part of the underserved communities of Delhi and Uttarakhand. In the education sector, the NGO is working with children of migrant laborers, children living in slums and from economically weaker sections who do not have access to quality education.

Context

The provisioning of quality education in India remains most severely constrained by both the lack or inaccessibility of schools and learning centers, and the apathy of private and public education. While the state continues to make strides in improving accessibility – in a manifest increase in the number of public schools, in securing participation of private schools in educating the marginalised etc, there remains a persistent neglect of learning outcomes, especially those of children from slum and squatter settlements, from our most impoverished communities.

EdelGive intervention

EdelGive has supported the NGO, to construct a classroom for children. With the support, Sshrishti could start provisioning adequate nutrition to its student, providing one nutritious meal a day. Sshrishti's commitment to quality education has also meant an enhanced emphasis on teacher training and periodic curriculum review. Special workshops have been conducted for teachers, especially for improving English language communication and classroom efficacy. Concerted efforts towards teacher-training and a critical review and revision of our curriculum has meant better learning for the students. Sshrishti has also been able to provide uniforms to its students with an objective of inculcating discipline among students, and fosters cleanliness and hygiene.

Organisation highlights

- Sshrishti wins the Indian Ngo Award as the best NGO in the North (small category) in 2010 from Resource Alliance and the Rockefeller Foundation.

- Women empowerment programme in the form of Mahila Panchayat for grievance redressal of victims of domestic violence was launched in 2013 with the partnership of Delhi Commission for Women.
- Winner of one of top four NGOs in India from Resource Alliance, Edelgive Foundation and Rockefeller Foundation in 2013–14.

Partners

Australian Embassy | Target | KPMG | Give India | Tata Institute of Social Sciences

Year of registration	Registration	80G Certificate	FCRA	Annual Budget (Lacs)	CSR Eligibility
2007	Trust /10978	DIT(E) /2009-10/734 DEL- SE20096-21062009	231660881	137	✓



Utthan

Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Organisation objective

Utthan was founded in 1981 and its first interventions were directed at initiating sustainable processes of empowerment among vulnerable communities to struggle for their basic rights. The major focus groups have been women, youth, Dalit, religious minorities, Adivasi, other poor and marginalised sections of the society including children. It has also facilitated establishment and growth of a large number of institutions such as women's village level sangathans, federations, youth groups, area resource groups and several committees.

Context

The area is lacking in many development indicators primarily due to high poverty and lack of education, and families struggle to secure livelihood. Water crisis in the region, makes available land unfit for agriculture and hence families migrate to urban centers, therefore, affecting children's education and causing vulnerability to families behind.



EdelGive intervention

With the support of EdelGive, Utthan is investing in conservation of soil and water by using community centred gender sensitive approach. The NGO uses 'Ridge to Valley' concept to retain soil moisture, reduce soil loss and maximize water harvesting. Increase cropping intensity of agriculture land by converting waste land and from a single crop to double-cropping farm land and utilisation of land according to its capacity for realising its production potential on a sustainable basis. Utthan invests in creating awareness about water crisis and the action needed for regeneration of natural resources e.g., agriculture and water conservation.

Organisation highlights

- Women's economic empowerment was continued to be strengthened through micro credit and its efficient working through Microsoft programme.
- Swa Bhoomi kendras (centres) have been established in both coastal and tribal areas for helping women access land ownership and for getting guidance on making it more productive.

- Nyay samitis (to combat violence against women) have been running strongly taking assistance from the youth groups established for enhancing democratic processes, peace and justice.

Partners

Oxfam India Trust | Association for India's Development (AID) | America India Foundation (AIF) | Indo Dutch Programme on Alternatives in Development (IDPAD) | International Development Research Centre

Year of registration	Registration	80G Certificate	FCRA	Annual Budget (Lacs)	CSR Eligibility
1981	Trust/F/757/ Ahmadabad	DIT(E)/80G(5) /1106/2007-2008	041910022	340	✓



Vacha Charitable Trust

Mumbai, Maharashtra

Organisation objective

VACHA's vision is of a world without exploitation, oppression, discrimination and injustice against women or any other section of society. VACHA facilitates 21st century life skills to marginalised adolescents with special focus on girls and gender. These skills can be broadly categorised as information, skills and opportunities. VACHA is working towards preventing girls from dropping out of education, creating safe learning and interacting spaces for adolescent girls in communities and driving advocacy in communities for gender justice.

Context

Vacha works with adolescent girls in the age group of 10 to 18 years, living in basti (slums) in Mumbai and surrounding areas. These girls face discrimination on many fronts: gender, poverty, migrant status and/or being a part of linguistic or religious minorities. They live in poor conditions and use public toilets, which have safety and hygiene issues. They face extreme pressures to drop out of school after class 8 or 10 (when school tends to cost more) to get married or help out at home.

EdelGive intervention

With EdelGive's support, VACHA is running girls' centres in the communities that serve as community spaces for girls. VACHA trains girls in communities and give them scope for participation in community life. The girls are engaged through health and gender fairs, workshops and film screenings and discussions. They partner with local schools and other educational establishments. VACHA forms support group of youths and adolescent boys and train them to become gender sensitive to serve as change agents or partners in creating a community that is safe for girls. Simultaneously, VACHA is forming a support group of local community women and training them to act as the local contacts to monitor and act on issues related to girls in community

Organisation highlights

- Dasra Girl Power Award 2014 in Life Skills Category for its work with adolescent girls.
- Vacha was one of the 12 global winners of Girl Effect Challenge, Global Giving in partnership with Nike, for work with adolescent girls in 2010.
- Vacha is an active member of the Mumbai-based Right to Pee campaign, an alliance of 32 organisations advocating for safe, clean, free and adequate public urinals for women.
- Vacha is member of the advisory committee of State Resource Centre for Women of the Govt. of Maharashtra.
- Vacha girls have negotiated and advocated against early marriage and for continuing education. In the past 4 years, 98 percent of Vacha girls have evaded marriage till the before age 19-20 and 96 percent have completed education till class 10.

Partners

EMpower | Friedrich Ebert Stiftung | Star of Hope | ONGC | COMO Foundation

Year of registration	Registration	80G Certificate	FCRA	Annual Budget (Lacs)	CSR Eligibility
1990	Trust/ E- 12703	80- G/ 2878	083780525	130	✓



Annexure

Literacy of Girls

Chart 1- Sex Wise Percentage of Literacy

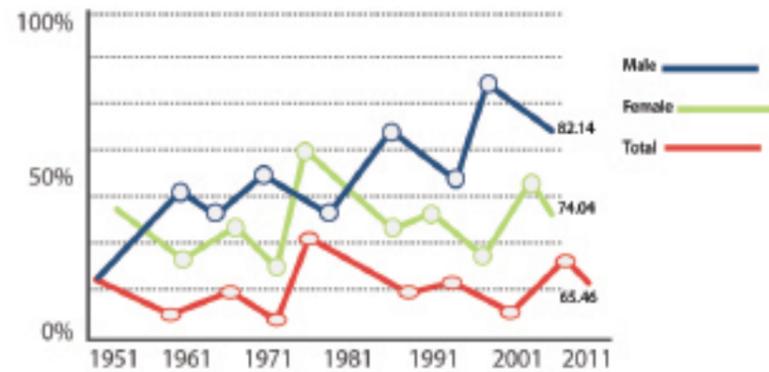


Chart 2- Female Literacy in Rural and Urban India

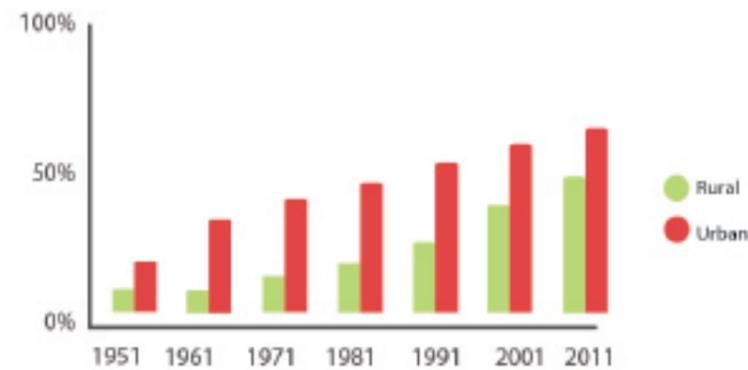


Chart 3- SC/ST Literacy Rate



Source: Census of India

Chart 4- Gross Enrolment Ratio

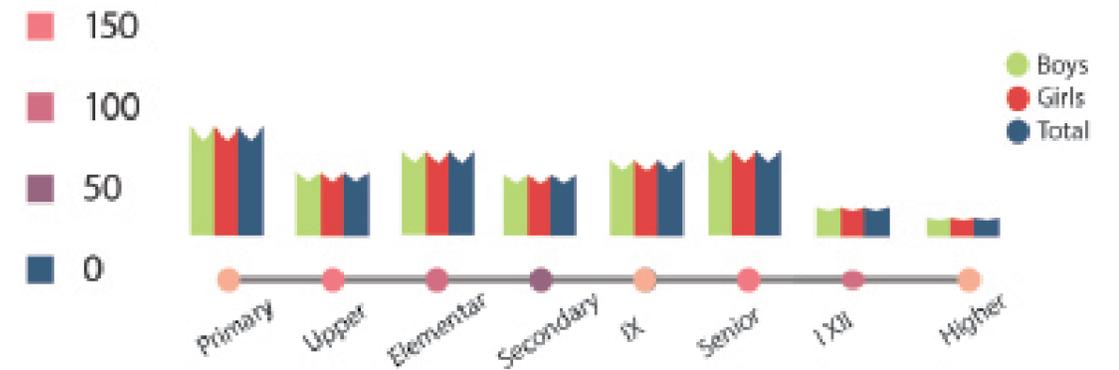


Chart 5- Gross Enrolment Ratio in Higher Education



Chart 6- Average Per Day Wage in Rural India

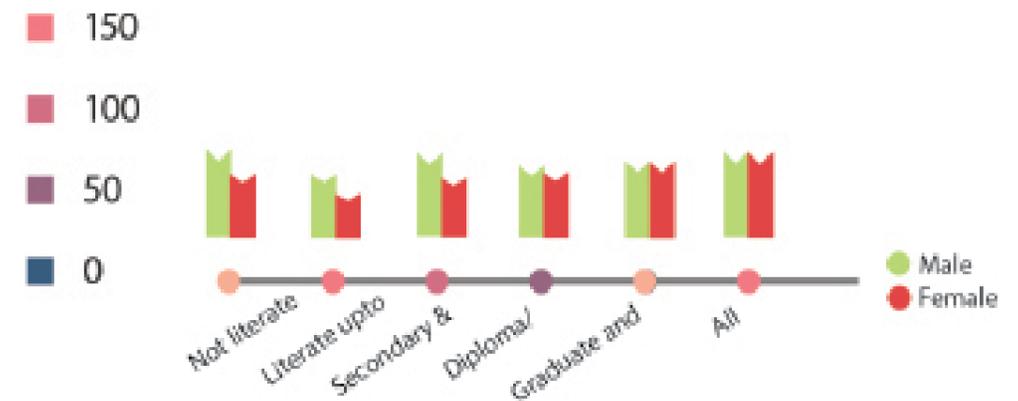
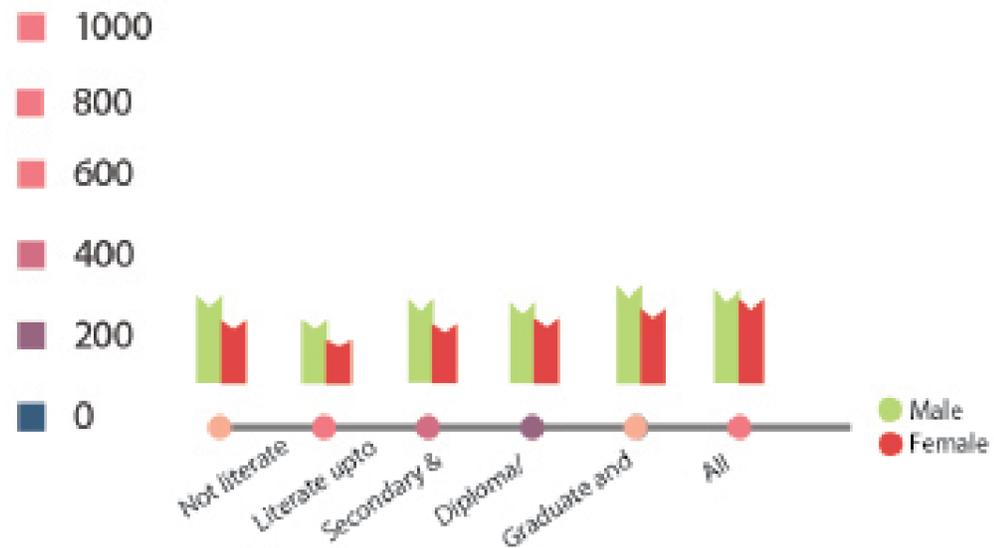


Chart 7 - Average Per Day Wage in Urban India



Source: Average per day wage/salary earnings of regular wage/salaried employees of age 15-59 years by broad education category, during July 2011-June 20

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JOIN THE CAUSE

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