

THE 2021 DIGEST

Featuring Second Chance Education programmatic highlights and updates in India for the year 2021.



THIS ISSUE FEATURES

Spotlight: spice centre

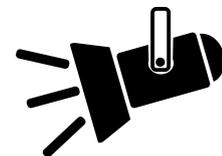
2021: year at a glance

Social media outreach

WHAT IS SECOND CHANCE?

In 2018, UN Women initiated the development of the Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) programme that would provide marginalized women who have lost out on an education with pathways to employment through a tailored learn-to-earn approach. The ongoing programme is aimed at empowerment of the most marginalized women who, owing to poverty and gender-based discrimination, have been denied access to opportunities at an early age.

The programme undertakes a holistic approach to empowerment using the pathways of learning, employment and entrepreneurship. The SCE programme enables and offers women opportunities to (1) re-enter into formal education, (2) undertake vocational education and (3) receive entrepreneurship training and skills and (4) potential employment. SCE offers a comprehensive solution by adopting a holistic approach, leveraging partnerships at all levels, using innovative pedagogies and finance to achieve its objective. SCE is being implemented in 12 districts across 4 states of India – Bihar, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan, covering 200 villages.



Inauguration of spice centre in Baran, Rajasthan



On 22nd December 2021, UN Women's Second Chance Education (SCE) programme team visited Kishanganj in Baran, Rajasthan.

UN Women's SCE India team visited the Women Empowerment Hub at Kishanganj (Baran, Rajasthan) where the Spice Centre supported by PNB Housing Finance Limited was inaugurated by Ms. Kanta Singh, Country Programme Manager, SCE programme India. The team also interacted with staff involved in the processing and packing of ginger and garlic products. Various other products like pickle, pulses and spices are also packaged and sold with the brand name - 'Katori'.

The Country Programme Manager also interacted with young girls and women, who used computers at the hub. They discussed ways in which the hub enabled them to enhance their digital skills and find jobs. The SCE team interacted with colleagues from Manjari Foundation (on-ground implementing partner), cadres, master trainers and learners within the education vertical.



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WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Women's Entrepreneurship Cell under the Skill Development, Employment and Entrepreneurship Department (SDEED), Government of Maharashtra focuses on increasing inter-departmental coordination and support for women's entrepreneurship, increasing women's representation in start-up and business ecosystems and building national and international linkages for women's enterprises and providing necessary mentoring and training support. A letter (dated 1st February 2021) addressed to Ms. Kanta Singh, Country Programme Manager, Second Chance Education (SCE), UN Women India, from Dr. Suvarna Kharat, Joint Secretary, SDEED, Government of Maharashtra acknowledges the UN Women SCE team's support in setting up the Women Entrepreneurship Cell under SDEED, Government of Maharashtra.



SOLAR HATCHERY UNITS AND WOMEN AUTO-RICKSHAW DRIVERS

Women are learning how to drive autorickshaws as part of the Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) Programme in Gaya (Bihar, India). This initiative has begun, with support from SCE India partner organizations PRADAN (Professional Assistance for Development Action) and PRAN (Preservation and Proliferation of Rural Resources and Nature).

In Rayagada district of Odisha (India), solar hatchery units have been set up, as a group enterprise activity.



2021: Year at a Glance



SKILLING AND PLACEMENT

This skilling programme for women was organized by B-ABLE India (BASIX-Academy for Building Lifelong Employability Limited) in collaboration with PRADAN (Professional Assistance for Development Action). The programme involved acquiring specialized skill-sets in - fabric assembly, design and tailoring. Upon successful completion, the women have been placed with various organizations such as Sahana Clothing Pvt. Ltd, Tiruppur (Tamil Nadu).



GROUP ENTERPRISE ACTIVITY

An off-farm produce group was formed in Rayagada (Odisha) in order to manage production, supply and distribution of Tamarind. This FPO (Farmer Producer Company) was also set up to build a linkage with the market, alongside establishing a sustainable business. In order to generate working capital, they have been working with Mission Shakti and ORMAS (Odisha Rural Development and Marketing Society). They are also in the process of procuring machinery and setting up a fully functional warehouse for better management.



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SPHURTI GUEST SPEAKER SERIES

The Sphurti Guest Speaker Series - is a platform that brings together best practitioners from skill development, vocational education, training, employment and entrepreneurship. This initiative has been launched by the Skill Development, Employment and Entrepreneurship Department, Government of Maharashtra, with the support of UN Women's SCE programme in India. Dr R.S. Praveen Kumar, I.P.S., Secretary of Social and Tribal Welfare Educational Institutions, Telangana - was the first guest speaker for the series. Mr. Subroto Bagchi, Chairman, Odisha Skill Development Authority (OSDA) was the speaker for Session 2 of the Series. Mr. Bagchi, spoke at length on 'Transforming ITI Education - Experiences from Odisha'.



Dr R.S. Praveen Kumar, I.P.S., Secretary of Social and Tribal Welfare Educational Institutions, Telangana, was the first guest speaker for the series. For his contribution to the global map. For his excellence award (2017) and OECD have documented

Session 2 :
'Transforming ITI Education - Experiences from Odisha'

Schedule :
8th June 2021 at 12.00 pm



Mr. Subroto Bagchi
CHAIRMAN (OSDA)

Mr. Subroto Bagchi is Chairman of the Odisha Skill Development Authority (OSDA) aimed at creating employable skills for 1.5 million youth by 2024. The architect of the brand Skilled-in-Odisha, Mr. Bagchi has transformed ITIs in Odisha into vibrant and thriving institutions and counts among his achievements for OSDA - a partnership with Singapore Govt to train 215 ITI and polytechnic teachers; the upcoming launch World Skill Centre in Odisha and a gold medal for the state in the recently concluded World Skills Competition.



THE MULTI-CROPPING ACE...



Meet Sita Devi, from Dighalbank block, Kishanganj District (Bihar), who has been cultivating a range of vegetables such as bitter gourd, cucumber, sponge gourd and chilies, in approximately 1.2 acres of land. She is our multi-cropping ace and #AgentofChange, as part of the SCE (Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning) Programme in India. She has also been able to sell her produce directly in the local market.



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SCE GLOBAL CONFERENCE: BIG PIVOTS AND SMALL ADJUSTMENTS DUE TO COVID-19



Theme: Delivering During a Pandemic



Session 1 - India Experience (LIVE): How the Implementing Partners (IPs) have pivoted to meet SCE beneficiary needs during the COVID crisis. Hear from the government, IPs and an SCE beneficiary. (4:30 pm - 5:30 pm IST)



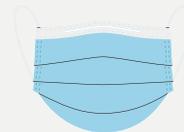
Session 2 - Roundtable on COVID-19: How they pivoted due to COVID-19. Presentations by...



This second mini-conference brought together UN Women and SCE Implementing Partners in Mexico, Chile, India, Cameroon, Nigeria, Jordan and Australia to discuss the big pivots and little adjustments that were made to the Second Chance Education Programme due to COVID-19. On June 23rd, as part of the theme - 'Delivering during a Pandemic', the session focused on the India experience - i.e., the way in which the SCE IPs in India pivoted to meet beneficiary needs during the Covid-19 crisis. The Panellists for this session were as follows - Roji Begum, Assisting the on-duty nurse, Amrit Dhara Hospital, Haryana (India), Vedprakash Sharma, Technical Support Partner, B-Able India, SVS Anupama, Project Coordinator, Aaina NGO, K.L.Gupta, Regional Director, NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling), Patna.



SCE COVID19 RELIEF EFFORTS



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SCE COVID 19 RELIEF EFFORTS

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Listed below are some of the relief measures undertaken by UN Women's Second Chance Education (SCE) Programme in India, in the wake of the second wave. These response mechanisms and measures are a part of the SCE programme's initiative to mitigate communities against the C19 second wave.

- 4000 medicine kits - distribution to persons who were Covid positive or with Covid-like symptoms.
- Distribution of 3050 dry ration kit packets for COVID infected patients.
- 931 oximeters - distribution to ASHA*/ANM* workers.
- 60 thermometers - distribution to ASHA/ANM workers.
- 455 face shields - distribution to ASHA/ANM workers
- Block wise awareness drives on vehicles with sound system (or public address system) - key messages: vaccination, identification and management of symptoms.
- 821 masks - distribution to ASHA/ANM and cadres.
- 300 gloves - distribution to ASHA/ANM and cadres.
- 16 community cadres were supported through insurance.

**An accredited social health activist (ASHA) is a community health worker instituted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) as a part of India's National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). *Auxiliary nurse midwife or Auxiliary nurse hybrids commonly known as ANM, is a village-level female health worker in India who is known as the first contact person between the community and the health services.*

AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

UN Women Internal Peg Snyder and Team Excellence Awards, 21 July 2021

The Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning Programme team in India, wins the Team Excellence Award for Transformative Impact.

TEAM EXCELLENCE AWARDS

UN WOMEN AWARD FOR TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT

WINNER

India Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning Team

- Empowering the most marginalized women who, owing to poverty and gender-based discrimination, have been denied access to opportunities at an early age
- Implemented in 22 districts across 8 states considered as high poverty, low gender equality indicators
- Worked at both the field level and with government to ensure a strong ecosystem
- Facilitating women's access to education, employment, and entrepreneurship
- Enrolled 1,619 women and girls in formal education against the target of 2,000; the programme has reached to 30,350 women and girls in entrepreneurship/self-employment against the targeted 5,000
- A total of 8,252 women are participating in the various form-based interventions under the programme
- 60 agri-entrepreneurs have been created to employ new age clean solar distribution technology
- To date 1,876 women have started their own business, of which 288 women are part of in total 68 group enterprises
- 1,833 women have pursued under different skill training options, of which 1,261 have completed training and 454 are placed in jobs
- In response to COVID 19, 16,000 women and rural women across 20 states, were empowered through the programme
- 200 members with an change agents, working to increase its outreach
- A total of 1,241 gender typing covering 2,187 women and girls have been conducted to create changes in attitude and behaviour, led to a visible change in the attitude of women and girls respectively in exercising their voice, choice and agency

Kinna Singh



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NIOS COMMUNITY RADIO PROGRAMME



Live Streaming - 02.07.2021_Community Programme_जलवायु परि



The NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling) community radio programme (via Radio Vahini) streamed live on 2nd July 2021. The session focused on the topic - जलवायु परिवर्तन का महिलाओं पर प्रभाव (The impact of climate change on women). In the context of the IPCC report released on 9th August and the growing scientific and physical evidence on Climate Change around the world, this radio programme contributes to the ongoing discourse. *Click on the screenshot to the left and tune in!*

THE ALL WOMEN BEE-KEEPER ENTERPRISE

A group of women started harvesting honey and ensured a steady source of income generation by selling the product in the local market. This group-enterprise has been established, operated and managed by an all women group, under UN Women's Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) Programme in India. As part of the programme, they received financial and technical support as well as skills training from partner organizations PRADAN (Professional Assistance for Development Action) and AKRSP (Aga Khan Rural Support Programme India). PRADAN is the lead implementing partner and AKRSP is a consortium partner for UN Women's SCE programme in India. As part of the training, the women were taken for exposure visits. They even received expert advice from scientists belonging to Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK). They also received guidance in order to link their produce with the markets and sell at profitable rates. *Read the full - story of change - in the July issue of the SCE India newsletter, by clicking on the images to the right.*



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RURAL SELF-EMPLOYMENT



This initiative is part of the collaboration between the Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) Programme and the SBI-RSETI initiative (State Bank of India - Rural Self Employment Training Institutes). Through this collaboration, SCE programme India candidates will benefit from Skill India certification, SBI certification and loan facility.

FIELD VISIT TO ODISHA

In Odisha, the SCE programme is being implemented at 3 districts in 4 blocks namely Dhenkanal (Kamakhyanager and Kankadahad), Rayagada (Kolnara) and Mayurbhanj (Thakurmunda). The programme is being implemented by PRADAN (Professional Assistance for Development Action) as the lead with consortium partners Aaina, Development Alternative, B-Able and Shristi in Odisha. During her first official visit to Odisha (21st to 23rd September, 2021), UN Women India Country Representative Susan Ferguson met with government officials and women on the ground, and stressed on the importance of education and skilling of women and girls for building back better.



Click on either one of the images above to read/access full coverage of the visit



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SCE PROGRAMME CANDIDATE - SRIMATI PINGUA

At 38, Srimati Pingua re-joined formal education through UN Women's Second Chance Education Programme, along with her two daughters. She recently passed her 10th standard examination, which marks the completion of secondary school in India, and received the certificate from UN Women Representative in India, Susan Ferguson, during her first official visit to Odisha. *Click on the image to the right, to read the full interview.*



FIELD VISIT TO RAJASTHAN

The UN Women India team along with colleagues from lead partner PRADAN (Professional Assistance for Development Action) visited Chittorgarh in Rajasthan (India) from 4th to 6th October, 2021. The field visit involved - interactions with the implementing partner organization team on the ground - Manjari Foundation, interactions with women and girls at the women empowerment hub in Chittorgarh, a visit to the spice enterprise/processing unit in Munga Ka Kheda village, interaction with women farmers, discussions with community and field cadres at the women empowerment hub, interaction with skilled candidates and individual businesses/entrepreneurs, visits to agricultural land and farmers' plots, among others.



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SCE PROGRAMME CANDIDATE - HIRA CHATIYA



Hira Chatiya, 32, is a farm educator with the SCE programme in India. She is from Munga Ka Kheda village, in Chittorgarh, Rajasthan. She has been associated with the Manjari Foundation (an implementing partner for SCE), in the agriculture sector, alongside undertaking NREGA work (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act). She has helped and worked with 65-70 local women, in her village. She has also assisted women with organic farming initiatives. She aspires to one day secure a government job or take up a full time teaching role in a school. *Click on the image to the left to read the full interview.*

#INTERNATIONALDAYOFRURALWOMEN

On the International Day of Rural Women (15th October, 2021), we celebrated and brought to the forefront three stories. The first image (to the right), is that of Nandini Mahanta from Thakurmunda in Odisha who went on to successfully set up her own plant nursery. The second image is that of Sukanti Mahanta, a farm entrepreneur, who also contributed towards community awareness on organic fertilizers. The third image is that of Laxmipria Mahanta, 30, from Urbengi village, in the Dhenkanal district of Odisha. She joined the SCE programme in India in January, 2020. Laxmipria Mahanta is a farmer, who largely grows seasonal crops. *Click on the first and second images to learn more about their inspiring journey(s).*



UN Women's Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning (SCE) Programme in India

"I have been able to improve on farming and cropping methods, alongside increasing the yield per year. The extra income has gone towards my child's education, housing, health and I have also purchased a plot of land in my name."

LAXMIPRIA MAHANTA

Farmer with the SCE Programme, Dhenkanal, Odisha, India

Second Chance

PHOTO CREDIT: UN WOMEN INDIA, /PRASHANTH YESHWANATHAN

UN WOMEN

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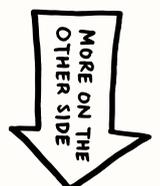
#WORLDTEACHERSDAY

On 5th October 2021, we featured Anju Salvi's (image to the left) story on our social media platforms. Anju Salvi is an SCE on-ground educator. She has successfully enrolled 90+ students into the programme, whilst being a hands-on teacher and forever learner. We salute women like Anju, who stride tirelessly towards a more gender-equal world. We also featured Ramat Khan, a Community Educator with UN Women's Second Chance Education programme. During the Covid-19 pandemic, Ramat continued to teach, sometimes via phone or home visits, while taking precautions to stop the spread of the virus. On World Teacher's Day, we celebrate teachers like Ramat Khan who are shaping the future of generations to come. *Click on either one of the two images to the left, to learn more about them.*



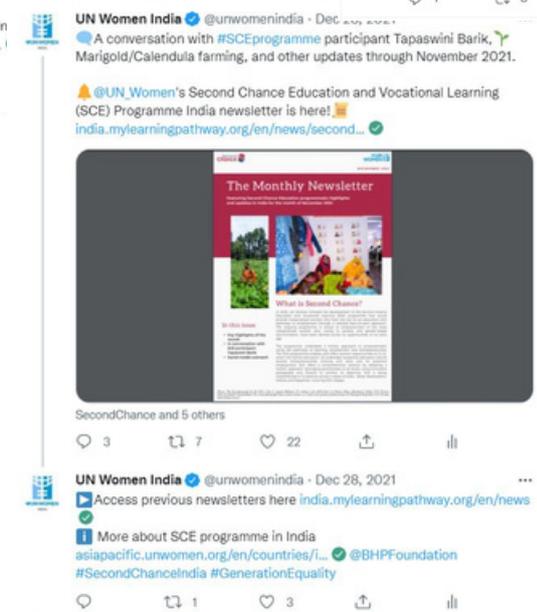
SCE PROGRAMME CANDIDATE - TAPASWINI BARIK

Tapaswini Barik, 22, from Odisha, is undergoing training and skilling, (at the Vigyan Bharati Charitable Trust Skill Development Cell, Bhubaneswar), through the SCE programme in India. She aspires to one day work in a hospital, as a full-time nurse and support her family financially. *Click on the image to the right to read the full interview.*



SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

Over 300000 Impressions on Twitter with 7000+ engagements and a reach of over 99000 on Facebook, for the year 2021.



FOLLOW OUR GLOBAL SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

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Facebook @SCEprogram 

Instagram @sceprogram 

Linkedin SCEprogram 

Also visit our learning platform <https://india.mylearningpathway.org/en>

Lastly, here is the SCE programme India webpage - <https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/countries/india/economic->