

**2020-21**

# **Annual Report**

## **Performance Review**

### **Service To Humanity**



From shed to concrete house



Construction of Dwelling units for poor people



Awareness program for women



**VOC**



**RDC**



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## **Vision Statement**

- Establishing social order for the betterment of life of the poor and the oppressed women and children living in rural and urban areas
- Creating equal opportunities for the economically and socially down trodden communities in the society for ensuring social justice to them
- Providing quality education to the deprived children and youth with special emphasis on girl children
- Educating and Training the least privileged women for employment in village and cottage industries for enabling them earn income and live dignified life.

## **Mission Statement**

- Performing schemes and programs for educating the rural poor women and youth for identifying their rights and privileges and work ceaselessly for achieving their aims and objectives.
- Creating awareness about augmenting water through various natural resources and creating social forestry for quality air and enabling healthy living conditions of rural people
- Establishing institutions for providing the best class education for the children of the rural poor children and youth and help them take up higher education and secure better employment opportunities
- Promoting health care of the rural poor people by establishing clinical centers involving naturopathy and ayurvedic treatment and installing herbal cultivation facilities involving the rural people
- Establishing rural based small and cottage industries for engaging the rural poor women and youth for getting gainful employment

## Message from the President

Greetings to all friends and Patrons,

It is indeed, a great pleasure for me to present the annual report and performance review of our VOC Rural Development Center for the year 2020-21 against the backdrop of a most tedious and complex situation in our country and else in the world. I am very happy to mention here that despite all odds, we could steer through and bring out success in our programs.

I must place on record my heartfelt appreciations to all our team members who carried out all program schedule meticulously braving the Covid 19 conditions, of course, complying with all necessary and mandatory precautionary measures prescribed by the Government.

It is needless to mention here that the Corona conditions have overturned all conditions for human living to a very disadvantageous position necessitating measures for mitigating the pathetic living conditions of poor and the marginalized people languishing in rural areas. To larger extent, we have addressed problems with much care and concern.

My earnest wish is that displacement in the life of people on account of the Corona environment will end soon and life of normalcy will return soon for the peace of all the suffering.

I extend warm greetings to all with the hope of revival for the betterment of the poor and the oppressed people toiling in the country, especially the villagers.

***Mrs. S. Latha***  
***President***  
***VOCRDC***

## **Message from the Secretary**

I extend my warm and sincere greetings to all our team members and other participants of our programs.

VOCRDC gratefully acknowledges the services of our committee members and other field level functionaries who have tirelessly worked for successfully implementing our programs and made them resounding success despite the disadvantageous situations that was prevalent on account of the Corona disturbances.

We have been successfully achieving our targets and providing the necessary input to various youth and other anxious women who have volunteered for participating in our education as well as entrepreneurial programs and shown lot of improvement in developing their knowledge and skills.

We have approached with lot of care and concern while carrying out our programs given the threat and danger of working in a Corona environment. We have followed all guidelines prescribed as regards to safety measures for preventing possible attack of the deadly disease environment.

We thank all our team people and volunteers for their immense contribution in making our programs successful.

With warm greetings,

***R.S. Ramasamy***  
***Secretary***  
***VOCRDC***

## Our sustained journey for change

In this year 2020-21 we were made to face lot of challenges on account of Corona attack. This unexpected attack of the Covid 19 has shaken the entire world bringing lot of destruction in terms of loss of human life and rampant unemployment and human suffering. The sudden outbreak of the disease caught every nation and every citizen unaware without giving a clue as to how to face the condition and how to counter its terrible effects. In the beginning, no one understood this disease as a similar condition was never prevalent in the globe on earlier occasions.

The trails of the Corona conditions created havoc in Indian economic situation compelling the government to announce lock downs to make people remain indoors in order to avoid the spread of the disease. The disease caused heavy casualty throughout the globe as it spread very fast causing heavy loss of human lives.

As in rest of the world, in India also the disease spread very quickly making the governments announce safely precautionary methods for escaping from this deadly disease such as lock downs in phases. People were advised to remain indoors to spare from its attack resulting in large scale displacement and unemployment of the organized as well as the unorganized sector workers who mostly depended on their daily wages or weekly earnings for running their families.

In order to cope up with these negative conditions, we had to slow down our program activities for some time until the situation eased out and concentrate on providing relief to the most vulnerable poor community. As our programs involved giving employment during the adverse Corona conditions, we have carefully carried out our programs providing minimum employment to the workers so that their families do not go on hunger due unemployment.

### Distribution of Corona relief materials to the workers and other poor



Our priority during the lockdown period was to provide the minimum amount of food items required for sustenance of very poor families and families of our team workers as immediate relief and save them from hunger. We understood that families were starving on account of close down of establishments and severe loss of employment opportunities,

especially the lowest category of people in the society were suffering heavily for



food and nourishment. We realized our responsibility to keep these workers and other people living in similar poor conditions and arranged to provide to them food articles that would keep them going through the tough Corona lockdown situation. In addition to this, there are other poor people in the Vadipatti area who needed food support during the lockdown period. Our organisation provided to them food items and other protective gadgets and helped as many as 300 people living in five villages around Vadipatti village.

### Implementation of carefully select programs

Despite setback caused by the Corona conundrum in rural environment causing disruption of support for the poor and low income category of people, following the government guidelines for safety precaution we could successfully carry out the following programs in slow pace so that development of the projects and provision of relief works is not hampered.

#### 1. Shelter for slum dwellers

We have identified 35 families in Vadipatti who were living in slum area lacking in hygiene and sanitation and braving hot sun and shower conditions drenching out completely during rainy season. Though there were over 250 such living hutments in that area, we selected 35 cases whose conditions were very pathetic requiring urgent replacement of their living hutments. We had planned to provide to them concrete structure of living units so that they will not be able to



face disruption on account of rain and sun shine henceforth. With their whole hearted support, we carried out the construction work with minimum numbers of masons and ensured that the construction work does not stop abruptly. As we could complete the construction work for 27 houses, in the case of the remaining people the work was in the stage of 60% to 80%.

Those completed houses have been handed over to the respective beneficiaries for immediate occupation.

The people for whom the houses were built extended the best possible cooperation in all construction related works. This helped us continue the construction work without any disruption. On securing these houses as their



privileged possession, it brought a big sigh of relief to these people who could have never ever dreamt of living in such a safe and peaceful condition.

## 2. Enhancing the augmentation of safe and pure drinking water

One of the most common problems in the living area of poor people is their source of drinking water about its quality they do not get bothered. Without caring for the condition and quality of the water they drink. All people start using water collected in tanks and puddles without verifying its quality and fitness for human consumption. On account of this, they are most often subjected to viral fevers and other diseases spreading through water.

With the total cooperation of the local people of Kachai Katti village, we approached the government authorities and sought their help and guidance for desilting and removing the garbage around the area. The Block development officer was a very nice man and he immediately sanctioned a tank deepening scheme for the village and provided funds for the scheme. We approached our Donor for getting sanction of funds for planting high rising trees that does not weather frequently. We



procured these high raising saplings and got them planted around the tank that would guard the purity of water. Trees and bushes were raised around the tank and water in the tank was cleaned thoroughly making it a big storage spot and providing clean and healthy drinking water to the villagers around.

## 3. Awareness program for women and family people in villages

In a rural background it is the women who play the predominant role in taking care of all needs of the families. They do the budgeting and procure all essential items required for the daily needs of their families. In addition to this, the women engage in various income



generation activities for earning additional income in support of the main bread winner of the family. As women are playing major role in nurturing the children and running the families, they need to be provided with all information relating



to the rights and privileges so that they will constantly strive for acquiring what is their legitimate rights. In addition to these, the women actively participate in rallies and processions demanding all their rightful needs from the government. Further to these, there are many other health and hygiene related problems which the women are facing for which they need to be counseled and guided so that they will confidently face all problems.

It is therefore essential that women are provided on regular basis all inputs required for their personal maintenance as well as catering to the needs of the family members. Through various resource persons, we conducted two awareness programs for the village women and other family members focusing on their day to day problems and the remedial measures which they have to adopt for sorting them out. Our awareness programs were well attended by large number of interested men and women people.

#### 4. Rural entrepreneurship for income generation



Women in villages constantly engage in various types of activities for fulfilling the requirement of their families. One such activity is the selling of fresh vegetables and fruits grown in their own fields or purchased from the others fields. These women are selling essential vegetables required for cooking at cheaper rate. Because they sell these

vegetables in the open, they are able to minimize their cost and are able to sell them for lesser price. Moreover, as these vegetables are fresh from fields, people buy them with much interest. We have provided to 16 women seed capital required for purchase of required vegetables as well as other materials for setting up their petty shops. These women sit at road sides and street corners selling these items. They are able to earn small income through sale of these items and utilize the money earned for their family expenses

In addition to this, there are other women who prepare food items at homes such as idly, dosa, vada, poori, chutney, sambar etc. and sell them out in streets. As these items are cheaper when compared to regular hotels, villagers buy and consume these food items with liking. We encourage women doing this type of activities by providing to them input capital for purchase of essential items. The small incomes earned by these women are very useful to them to expend for their home needs.

## **5. Creation Development of Estuarine Ecosystem**



It is a matter of social importance and effective utilization of waste land management to effectively convert the vast estuarine area adjoining the coast in the district into a rich ecosystem by raising appropriate plantation. This would on one hand purify the atmosphere and on the other hand act as a shield and protection from the sea rise and high tides lashing into the land causing destruction

during monsoon season. The whole of the Cuddalore district is bordered with this type of coastal environment which could be turned into an useful thing.

With the cooperation of the natives and the active partnership of government agencies we could mobile eleven-participant networks and other companies in the area and local authorities

1. Panchayat raj establishments,
2. District administration, three.
3. Forest department,
4. Tamil Nadu tourism development department
5. Pollutants management department,
6. Schools and college students
7. Researchers and other Nature fanatics, Conservationists Environmentalists

With the involvement of all these agencies we successfully inaugurated the coastal estuarine ecosystem development program on 15<sup>th</sup> April to 22<sup>nd</sup> during the year 2020. This way district and village conservation & tracking committees have been formed in three estuary villages which was overseen by the District conservation & monitoring committee (DMC) headed by the District Collector and other senior officials of the Collectorate.

### **OUR BUDGET AND OUR EXPENDITURE :**

On account of tough challenge due to Corona we faced constraint for funds, as many donors were under strain to support many programs throughout the globe. They also faced difficulty in mobilizing funds for supporting our organisation because of relief materials and monetary assistance were to be spread for local needs as well as to the areas where the situation was very serious necessitating immediate and urgent relief.

Despite these odds we could carry out all our majority programs successfully, especially the construction of dwelling units for the poor and marginalized people and the distribution of Corona relief materials. We marched with determination and made ends meet. We could minimize to a greater extent the onslaught of the effects of Corona and safe guard people of the lower strata.

## CONCLUSION

The success of every program depends on the participation of the team of workers and the public for whom the relief materials are distributed. Our team of employees and other workers extended excellent cooperation in scheming out the programs and finishing them successfully.

We hope to take up what is left in the next year and keep going with determination implementing all our programs one by one successfully. While I thank all our team members and worker for their unstinted cooperation, I exhort them to continue their support in days to come.

Let us continue our march towards our goal and destination.

***The journey to prosperity is hard and tough  
But it translates the society into an environment of longstanding achievements***

With greetings and good wishes

**Secretary**  
**VOC RDC, Vadipatti,**  
Madurai District,  
Tamilnadu,India