

EDUCATION COMMUNICATION AND DEVELOPMENT(EDUCATR) TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT

April 2021 – March 2022



Empowering women and Children towards Sustainable Development.....



Dr. R. Velmurugan Rajappa, Managing Trustee and Chief Functionary.....

Greetings to All

All development initiatives are more challenging every year and we experienced the same this year at the beginning of the reporting year. All our hopes shattered after June 2022 with the high prevalence of COVID PANDEMIC II WAVE.

However, we faced the situation with confidence and commitment and continue our development activities for the education of children, regular social and economical development activities for women, promoting environmental concern by taking our traditional organic farming with the support of women farmers. We continued online education, supporting and promoting inclusive education among children with disabilities, continuing skill development programme in computer for girls and young women, personal hygiene practice in our school and in the community and supported different suffering disadvantaged groups with rapid response to COVID II WAVE and distributed relief and rehabilitation with the support of our current donors and community people.

We are very happy to present this Annual Report (2021-2022) and the regular activities carried in our communities with the support of our Staff Team, Leaders of Women Self Help Groups, Volunteers and Community Leaders and Parents of our “Chakkravarthy Vidyalaya Nursery and Primary School run by EDUCATR.

Our Heartfelt gratitude to our donors – Guru Krupa Foundation – USA, The Pollination Project – USA, TZEDEK – UK, Association of Country Women Worldwide – UK, Stichting Bishop Bekkers – The Netherlands, EU CAN AID – Belgium and Shamdasani Foundation – Hong Kong.

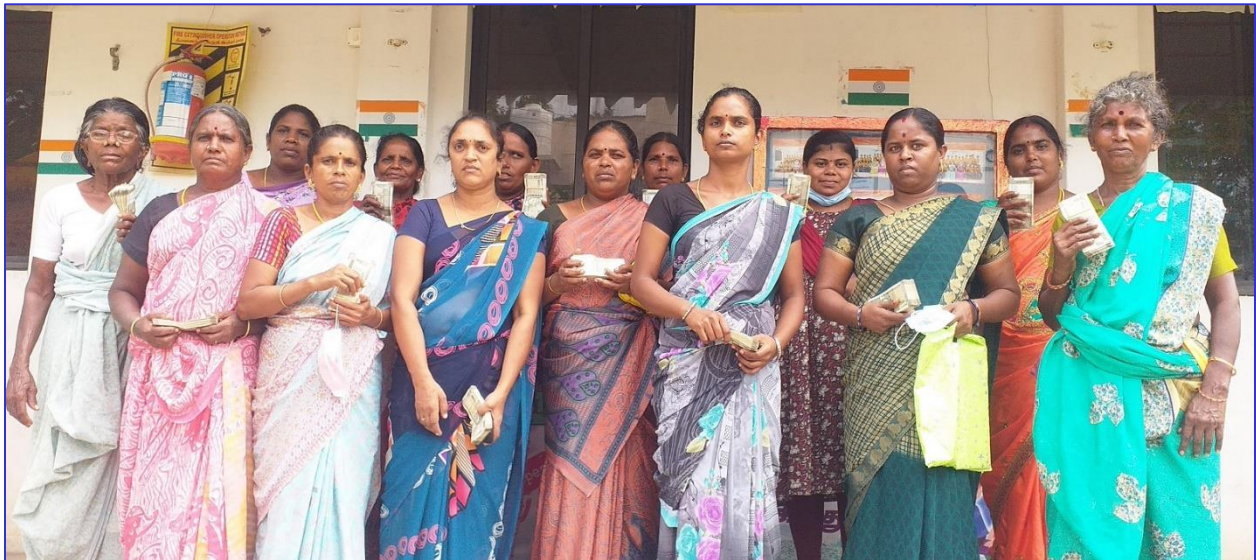
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Empowering women for their Sustainable living

Poverty is not just a socio-economic issue. It has many causes and consequences on the lives and livelihoods of the individuals, their families and societies at large. Due to the factor in society, women are especially vulnerable to poverty and economical constraints. Irrespective of wealth, gender inequality exists in all classes of society. The discrimination is more acute in poor families. In most of the poor families, women are wage earners. They work hard but do not eat enough food because of their low income. It is the same situation highly prevails in our working areas in Usilampatty Taluk. By our field-based interventions, we learned the Women Self Help Groups programmes have already brought people together and strong people's Institutions have been built around it. EDUCATR now work with 235 women groups with 3525 women members.

The details of women group as follow...



Total Number of Women Self Help Group	235
Total Number of Women Members	3535
Number of Taluk	01
Number of Block	03
Number of Panchayat	42
Number of Villages	103

Bank Linkage and Economical Assistance:

Women Self Help Groups Linkage with Nationalized Banks	Numbers
Indian Bank	122
CANARA BANK	48
ICICI BANK	65
LOAN OBTAINED	AMOUNT INR
Indian Bank	8360000
CANARA BANK	1440000
ICICI BANK	7500000
Total	17030000



Details of women target beneficiaries:

Women Beneficiaries	Numbers
Single Women	435
Women Farmers	1125
Women with disabilities	125
Women Street vendors	116
Economically disadvantaged women	1724
Total	3525

Skill Development Programme for Girls and Young Women:

EDUCATR provides skill development education in computer. The project activity has been supported by TZEDEK – UK in the year 2020-2021 for 90 young girls and women. We continue the skill training in computer since the infrastructure is available. During the reporting year we have supported and trained 32 young women and girls to complete their training in computer literacy and among them 26 beneficiaries got into better jobs and earn around Rs. 4000 – Rs. 6000 in a month. The sustained income supports the beneficiaries to meet their family needs and provide quality education for their children. Our Women Group members identify and support individual beneficiaries and refer to the centre to complete the course.



Empowering Women Farmers towards Sustainable organic farming agriculture:

With the support of EU CAN AID – BELGIUM, EDUCATR initiated the sustainable organic farming reaching to 31 women farmers. As the initial step, we taken the selected 20 women farmers and conducted 03 days field-based education and learning programme on vermin compost and organic fertilizer. The three days training programme conducted in one of the beneficiaries agricultural field and the education training classes conducted on preparing the seed beds, seed cultivation, vermin compost and preparing and using organic fertilizer. Women farmers are given the training to spray organic fertilizer by using sprayer in the field. All the selected 20 women farmers participated in the training programme.



Now the project has been successfully going on and all the 31 women started organic farming. To encourage them to get regular income for their production, EDUCATR has conducted two days marketing training and profit making on 27 and 28 Dec 2021 for all 31 women farmers. Now we have made a link with the organic purchase shops in Madurai and Theni, and they can sell their products for good value than the regular products. We have invited Mr. Jeeva raj, from Pudukottai to conduct the two days training and continue their organic farming as a best practice at this time. After the training the beneficiaries now have the direct link and sell their products for a fair price.



Similarly, EDUCATR has been supported by ACWW – UK to promote 44 women farmers and organic farming. The project has been stated on 12 Dec 2021 and it is ongoing. The details of project activities as follow...

One day training on Women leadership and Project Components



Initially EDUCATR identified and selected 44 potential women farmers to take up organic farming. The selected 44 women farmers are provided one day training on Women leadership and Project Components on 29 Dec 2021. We have updated individual case history records for all 44 women farmers.



been conducted on 12 Jan 2022

Two days training on organic farming and sustainable agriculture

Since most of the beneficiaries are either farmers or farming workers, we motivated them to take up organic farming cultivation and conducted two days training on organic farming and sustainable agriculture has

03 days field-based education and learning programme on vermin compost and organic fertilizer: To start organic farming each beneficiaries need to prepare organic manure through vermin compost at their respective land. EDUCATR has conducted 03 days field-based education and learning programme on vermin compost and organic fertilizer on 18, 19 and 20 Jan 2022.



One Exposure and learning visit programme to organic field

The organic farming and cultivation begin with the preparation seeds. To educate all 44 women farmers EDUCATR conducted one day field-based training on preparation of Seed Beds in the field on 04 Feb 2022. Though all 44 women beneficiaries are trained on organic farming, vermin compost and seed bed preparation to effectively carry out the organic farming, they need to have practical knowledge. Therefore, we have arranged an one day exposure visit on 03 march 2022 to KRISHA College of Agriculture and Technology, Usilampatty. The practical learning and experience of visiting organic field further motivated the project beneficiaries to take up organic farming cultivation



Enhancing Right to Education for Disadvantaged Children

Education, Communication and Development Trust (EDUCATR) as a community development organization works for the social and economical development of women and children since 1997. EDUCATR also runs a School in the name of “SAKKRAVARTHY VIDYALAYA NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL”. The school have been started in the year on 05 July 1995 with 25 students and at present 258 children (157 male and 101 female) study in the school. The school is situated in Usilampatty Block and cover 05 rural panchayats and 12 villages. The students come to the school from the radius of 15 KMs. The age group of students is from 03 to 11. Totally 258 students study at present. One school van pick up 54 (35 boys and 18 girls) students. 09 teaching staff and/ 04 non-teaching staff and totally 13 staff work in the school. The parents of our students are mostly dalit and single women, destitute women, parents who are working as daily coolies, scavengers/ and from slum areas.

EDUCATION COMMUNICATION AND DEVELOPMENT TRUST has already established a “Digital Classroom” to take up online education at this COVID PANDEMIC. Since the situation continue, we take up both regular and online education. The established “Digital Classroom” is more conducive right now and we needed only to take up service of computers, camera and digital screen to be order. The service and maintenance work has been completed on 28 Aug 2021 and made available for children as they come up for the new academic year. The education support for poor and disadvantaged children has been supported by **‘Guru Kirupa Foundation – USA’**.



Since the COVID PANDEMIC, our children do not have regular schooling. Whenever there is a possibility online education is conducted. Children are unable to move freely as before and

many children became dropout. To bridge the gap, EDUCATR has taken the initiative to conduct 10 Bridge School Education Centers to provide space for these affected children to continue their education, come out of their stress and engage in various creative learning. Totally 256 children benefitted through this programme.



EDUCATR has conducted three days training programme for the 10 Community Educators on 06-08 Sep 2021.



Details of 10 Bridge School Education Centers:

As Planned, 10 Bridge School Education Centers have been formed in 10 most backward communities. The center function in the evening for two hours to provide education and creative learning. The EDUCATORS are more active as they have been already trained. Now at present totally 256 children study. Since children do not have more opportunity revise their studies, the center helps them to continue their education along with creative learning. The

new 10 EDUCATORS are well trained to educate these rural children by understanding their situation and capacity. The details of Center as follow..



S. No	Name of the EDUCATOR	Educational Qualification	Name of the Center	No. of Children
01	R. Selverani	B.A	Karukkattanpatti	24
02	M. Subahsri	HSC	Maruthampatti	22
03	G. Kavitha	B.Sc	Nakkalapatti	26
04	R. Pandi Priya	B.Sc	Thoittappanayakkanoor	32
05	Pothumani	B.Ed	Poochipatti	26
06	S. Sowmiya	B. A	Kunjampatti	23
07	Muthupillai	HSC	Malaipatty	21
08	R. Kavitha	EEE	Vgurani	27
09	Maheswari	B.Com	Maiyanampatti	31
10	M. Karthiga	B.Com	Mamarathupatti	24
			Total	256



Since the COVID PANDEMIC, our children do not have regular schooling. Whenever there is a possibility online education is conducted. Children are unable to move freely as before and many children became dropout. To bridge the gap, EDUCATR has taken the initiative to conduct 10 Bridge School Education Centers to provide space for these affected children to continue their education, come out of their stress and engage in various creative learning. Totally 258 children benefitted through this programme.



EDUCATR conducted sports, talents shows and cultural events psycho social care programmes. 04 programmes that children who has lost their opportunities at this pandemic period are supported to show cause their talents through children events



We have witnessed children remain at homes most of the time. They come to school when school is open and continue online education when schools are closed. Understanding the situation whenever there is a possibility, we encouraged the children through cultural events and sports activities to expose their talents and come out of their stress. During the reporting period, we have conducted 02 children events with the children from the school and as well from Bridge School Education Centers. The event included cultural performance, sports activities and group activities.



Payment of School Fees: Most of our target children study in our school are coming from poor economical background. Their parents are daily workers and sustain their families with the low income. But during this COVID II WAVE PANDEMIC, they have lost their source of income and

hesitated to educate their children. With kind support from “Guru Krupa Foundation” we have supported 206 poor families by paying INR. 1400 for each child with the total of INR. 288400. The economical support made the poor parents continue to offer good and quality education for their children.



Educational Support for Poor and Needy Children:

Our partner, Shamdesani Foundation – Hong Kong every year support more than 50 poor and needy children to continue their formal education at “CHAKKARAVARTHY VIDYALAYA NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL. This year they have supported 52 poor and needy children by providing educational and sports materials to continue their education.



Relief and Rehabilitation in response to COVID II WAVE

Maintaining hygiene and prevention: EDUCATR have conducted a mass cleaning programme of the School building, class room, rest rooms on 24 Aug 2021 and ensured a safe place for children and teachers to start their formal education from 01 Sep 2021. We assigned external Health Workers to take up the mass cleaning with water wash and sanitizer.



Ensuring the preventive care during COVID II WAVE, EDUCATR provided 10 set of masks and sanitizer to 296 children and 10 EDUCATORS. When school is reopened and we started the Bridge School Education Centers, we have provided 10 sets masks to the children and teachers that they be safe and protected and follow hygiene practice since children are always vulnerable in a disastrous situation.



“Children at school following hygiene practice by wearing masks and apply sanitizer”



“Children apply sanitizer before entering into their classes”

Providing relief assistance such as food materials, masks and sanitizer for 206 parents for their family protection and sustenance at the loss of their livelihood at this COVID II WAVE



Since most parents of our target children lost their source of income during the COVID II WAVE PANDEMIC they suffered for their livelihood. With support received from “Guru Krupa Foundation”, we provided groceries, food materials such as rice, oil, masala powder, biscuits and cooking items that they are manage to for a month.



The support helped them to have good food for them and their children till the pandemic situation recovered. Each family has been provided the food materials kit purchased for INR. 820 at the total cost of INR. 820 x 206 families = INR. 186920.



COVID II WAVE Relief care assistance to Parents of Children with Disabilities: EDUCATR has been supported for the inclusive education of 72 children with disabilities in our school by "Stichting Bishop Bekkers – The Netherlands". All the parents have been provided relief materials and sanitizer for a month to overcome their family constrains.



COVID PANDEMIC support for Computer Skill Training Programme Beneficiaries: With the kind extended support from TZEDEK – UK, EDUCATR supported these 14 project beneficiaries with additional food supplies till the situation get improved. TZEDEK – UK, was more concerned about the project beneficiaries and supported them to recover from the pandemic with the economical assistance both at the first and second wave.



EDUCATR has organized a meeting with these 14 beneficiaries on 29 Nov 2021 at the training hall in Usilampatty. The programme was organized by Dr. R. Velmurugan Ph.D, The Managing Trustee and the event was facilitated by Mrs. B. Amutha Priya, programme Director.

EDUCATR distributed the sanitation kit consisting of masks, sanitizer, hand wash liquid, bathing soaps and detergent soaps. We also provided essential food supplies for their immediate survival to 74 target beneficiaries till the situation improves and they are back to their work. The project activity has been supported by 'The Pollination Project – USA. The Food supply consisted of 10 kg rice, 01 kg dhal, 01 liter cooking oil. The next challenge is proper distribution of these materials to the beneficiaries. Since we have the contact details with the materials suppliers, we shall inform the pharmacy store the pack the sanitation kit and the grocery shop to pack the food supply materials into individual pack and asked them to deliver the both items to our office. Following the present COVID – II rules, we informed the community stakeholders and gather the beneficiaries in one place following the social distance and wearing of masks. EDUCATR has successfully distributed the sanitation kit and food supplies to all 74 families.



Project Monitoring, Evaluation and Field Visit:

We always respect the hard work and commitment by our staff team who work collectively for the successful implementation of all programme activities. EDUCATR has a strong human resources of Managing Trustee, Programme Director, Six fulltime staff, 02 part time staff and 12 Volunteers. The team meets every weekend and first week of the month to plan and review their programme and work on the gaps of any unfulfilled. The team make the field visit and conduct community level meetings and review with the focused groups for effective implementation of the programmes.

Health Awareness Camp:

EDUCATR conducted one day health awareness camp on 18 June 2021 at Thottappanaikanur Village. The Chief Guest was Dr. Kannan Bharathy, Block Medical Officer, Primary Health Centre, Thottappanaikanur, Usilampatty Block. The purpose of the medical awareness camp is capacitate SHG members to take preventive care and improve personal hygiene practice. Totally 18 women leaders and 31 children participated in the health awareness programme. During the programme awareness information notices

distributed to the participants how to take care of the family members and their children during the pandemic situation and educate their girl children to take proper hygiene practice during menstruation.



Income Generation programme training to Women Self Help Groups:

One day training programme on income generation activity has been conducted for the members of Women Self Groups on 18 Aug 2021. Mr. Ayyanar from ICICI Bank was the resource person. He motivated the group to explore income generation programme with local available resources and marketing feasibilities. He ensured if the group members choose right income generation activities the bank will support them with loan to take up the activity. He also motivated the participants to think of innovative income generation activities that they can compete in the market and get sustainable income to support their families.



Special Medical Camp for Children with Disabilities:

One special medical camp for children with disabilities have been conducted at CHAKKARAVARTHY NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL. For the past two years, EUCATR has undertaken inclusive education for children with disabilities along with other children in our school. We invited Dr. Gowsalya to conduct the medical camp. Totally 52 children with disabilities have been given treatment and medical advice to their parents to take care of them.



Learning Exposure visit of college students:



One day exposure and learning visit has been conducted for the college students from Krishna Agri and Technologies College, Usilampatty. EDUCATR has made a Memorandum of Understanding with the

College to share the resources. They support us and provide training to our Women Farmers and Women Self Help Group members. EDUCATR support them and provided field based exposure learning for the college students. The event was conducted on 03 Dec 2021 and totally 135 students from the college made a visit to EUCATR office and the field and made interaction with our direct beneficiaries.

Our sincere thanks and gratitude to....

**Our staff team, children, programme beneficiaries, Women group members
and our international partners**

Guru Krupa Foundation – USA,

The Pollination Project – USA,

TZEDEK – UK,

Association of Country Women Worldwide – UK,

Stitching Bishop Bekkers – The Netherlands,

EU CAN AID – Belgium and

Shamdasani Foundation – Hong Kong.

With Kind Regards,

Dr. R. Velmurugan Rajappa

Managing Trustee

EDUCATION COMMUNICATION AND DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Annexure: I

Case study (Please provide at least two stories of your beneficiaries) :

Case Story 01:



Mrs. M. jeyalakshmi W/o Mani, age 35 is from Pootchipatty. Her husband is a daily worker. She has two children, a boy and a girl. They have little land and they use to buy chemicals and fertilizer from shop. They found they land is polluted. When they are invited for farming organic farming, she undergone the training and learned the organic farming methods. She applied the same in her land after receiving the seed grant. She is happy now and looking for good organic products. Now she has planted onion and ladies finger in her land and use only organic manure.

Case Story 02:

Mrs. Ramadevi, W/o sekar, aged 38 is from Kunjampatty. She has two children and her husband is the Auto Driver. He could not spend his time in their agricultural field. Therefore Ramadevi is looking after her land. For past two years, she stopped farming and cultivating her land, as she found it is not profiting and her husband sons discouraged her not getting into debts through agriculture. We found she is more interested to continue agriculture in her land but she could not a better way. In this situation she was met by the staff team and volunteers and explained about the organic farming. She showed her interest and participated the training programmes and exposure visit conducted by EDUCATR. Now she started her cultivating tomato and brijal in her land and uses only vermin compost she developed the preparation of organic manure. She feels very happy and other people inquire her how she develops her land with organic farming.



Annexure : II

Staff Profile

Our Board Members & Our Key staff

S.No	Name of Key Person	Designation	Qualification	Experience
1.	Dr. R. Velmurugan	Managing Trustee& Founder	M.A .B.Ed. Ph.D,	21 Years
2.	B. Amuthapriya	Programme Director	M.A.,	21 Years
3.	M. Premarani	Programme Coordinater	B.Sc.,	18 Years
4	A.Hentry Segayaraj	Document Officer	M.A.	10 Years
6	M. Manuelraja	Accountant	M.Com.,	10 years
07	S. Chelladurai	Computer Staff (Person with disabled)	BCS	6 years
08	S. Pushbavelli	SHG Supervisor	S.S.L.C,	5 years
09	T. pandiyammal	SHG Supervisor	+2	5 years
10	M. Kaleswari	Community Health worker	+2	5 years
11	R.Kannan	Community Health worker	B.Sc.,	5 Years
12	T. Pandiyammal	Community Health worker	B.A.,	5 years
13	A. Alagumalai	Office Assistance (Person with Disabled)	B.A.,	2 Years.
13	S. ASHA	SEWING TEACHER	+2	10 years
14	T. Tamilselvi	Computer Tutor	MCA.,	3 Years.