

SABALA



An Organization for women Empowerment

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2019-20



CEO SPEAK



Every passing year, I feel proud seeing the shift in the role of women in the society and at grassroots level mainly. 34 years ago I founded Sabala when the times were harsh for women and intervention was needed. When I look back and look at the present, it makes my work and the work of my team completely worth all the hardship we have faced growing up and growing old.

The last 1 year has been very special to us at Sabala because it is for the very first time we did a digital literacy program for women to make them acquainted to smartphones to prepare them for a better future. We also did Soccer training for rural children including the school dropouts in association with Siemens Gamesa.

Sabala also carried out skill training and workshops leading to livelihood activities for women continuing what we have been doing for the last 2 decades.

My heartfelt thanks to all the funding agencies, CSR companies, entire team of Sabala and of course the beneficiaries of our work for their kind cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

DR. MALLAMMA YALAWAR
CEO

INTRODUCTION

SABALA is a non-profit development initiatives established in 1986. It is registered under Karnataka Societies Registration Act 1960, bearing No.72/86-87.

SABALA since 1986 is working for the development of rural community (Dalits, Devadasis, Lambanis, Shepherds and minority) with special focus on women empowerment. It also has registered with Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India for receiving Foreign Contribution. Its FCRA Number is 094470006. SABALA is governed by a Governing Council, which provides policy guidelines.

SABALA aims to empower the Women and marginalized communities to have access to sustainable economic, social, political, cultural and educational development in rural areas. Keeping this in mind, SABALA has started organizing people's organization that should be owned, controlled and managed by them. SABALA has given more focus on creating alternative employment opportunities by identifying and developing traditional skills, capacity building, forward and backward linkages.

SABALA's business wing, Sabala Handicrafts that has always worked on ethical path got itself as certified as Fair Trade Organization in 2006 by Fair Trade Forum India and in 2016 by World Fair Trade Organization. Mrs. Mallamma Yalawar, CEO ,SABALA has been actively participating in the network and has served the organization as treasurer for 4 years and now is the treasurer of World Fair Trade Organization- Asia.

Mission

Better ourselves to serve better through training, teamwork and total commitment to our goal and vision.

Goal

Educate, organize and develop unorganized sector with focus on women for sustainable development.

Vision

Empowerment of women and other marginalized communities to have access to sustainable development opportunities

The main objectives of the organization are to empower women of marginalized community by organizing their own societies, developing leadership quality, and creating opportunities for sustainable livelihood.

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN LAST 34 YEARS

Impacted lives of over 50,000 people.

Women Empowerment

- Domestic violence
- Mother & Child Healthcare
- Selection of gender and gender Discrimination
- Child marriage
- Checking heavy migration of people of Lambani (Banjara) community
- Empowering the Muslim women on their Quran and constitutional rights – 72 groups of minority women

Initiations

- Initiated Chaitanya Mahila Sahakari Bank Ltd. an all women bank with reserve bank license in 1995.
- Initiated a Craft Development Centre for livelihood activities for women in 1998.
- Setup Geetanjali Model School in 2000
- Initiated Sabala Heritage Home for craft tourism in 2013.
- Started a marketplace named Kala Sante, an annual event for artisans in 2015

Land and Farming

- Watershed management program in 4009 hectares of land
- Constructed 110 Low Cost Houses for earthquake victims
- Initiated lobby and advocacy for regularization of Bagurahukum - patta for 6000 acres of land

Skill Training and Livelihood

- Over 1000 women have received skill training.
- Over 150 women are regularly earning livelihood with Sabala Handicrafts.

Education

- Non-formal education for school dropouts, re-admitting 1200 children back in school between 1991 and 1995
- Civil services coaching centre for underprivileged students after class 10 since 2015

Associations, Affiliations and Partnerships

- Member of Fair Trade India and World Fair Trade Organization (WFTO)
- Member of Export Promotion Council Handicrafts (EPCH)
- Member of South India Producers Association (SIPA)
- Member of FEVOURD-K

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE YEAR

During the year, Sabala initiated different activities targeting women and children and witnessed digital literacy for women and encouraging children in sports, skill training along with livelihood activities and training programs that were conducted beyond our working areas.

1. Skill training and design development workshop

20 women of Banjara colony, Vijayapura were given training for 2 months in jute bag making. After the successful completion of training, the women are engaged with Sabala Handicrafts for regular work.

Jewelry design & development workshop was conducted for artisans in Sabala's craft development centre and Ms. Vasudha, designer from NIFT developed a collection for domestic market. Currently, over than 30 artisans are involved in jewelry making. Sabala intends to organize design workshop every six months.



Outcome

20 unskilled women are now skilled and are earning livelihood regularly.

Funded by

Self funded



2. Craft Exhibitions

Sabala participated in EPCH's IHGF Delhi Fair in October and exhibited products developed in design development workshop. Sabala was successfully able to engage with new buyer securing new orders. The business activity is supporting over 150 women including women skilled in weaving, embroidering, leather work and sewing to earn their livelihood regularly.



Outcome

Regularly attending the fair ensures regular orders and regular livelihood to 150 women involved.

3. Education Project

Sabala, under its umbrella runs a civil services coaching centre for students after class 10 along with their intermediary and under graduate studies. Currently 30 students are preparing for civil services entrance exams. They are equipped with separate classrooms and library. Regularly experts are called in for guest lectures. This project is funded by Rahman Foundation USA.

Outcome

Every year the project supports 10 underprivileged new students to pursue their dreams of becoming a civil servant.

4. Relief work to flood affect areas in Athani Taluka

During the year, several villages of Athani Taluka were severely affected by floods and Sabala made its efforts to provide some relief to over 500 families including food, clothing, blankets, toiletries and sanitary napkins for women.

Outcome

Over 1800 people of 500 families got immediate relief during the tough times.



5. Geetanjali Model School activities

Under the umbrella of Sabala, Geetanjali Model School started in 2000. Currently it has 120 High School student and 100% results in 10th Board Examinations this year. The school, to achieve its objectives to produce not just literates but educated individuals. The school conducts training year on year for students, teacher and parents. The school also organizes several activities like education tour, sports competition, essay competition and teachers training. Students secured several awards and certificates.

This year the school organized exhibition and procession by students and teachers on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanthi. The exhibition witnessed a display of 75 posters prepared by 100 students to create awareness on various topics including girl child education, save girl child, environment and pollution. Mr. Mahesh Bhat from Vijaya Karnataka Kannada daily newspaper was inaugurated and Nodal officer from DDPI office was the chief guest. More than 2000 people visited the display and the presentation by the students.



Teachers training was organized for two days with Mrs. Mukta from Bangalore on communication, relationship with students, colleagues, parents and management.



We constructed two classrooms and a library for high school this year. Now school has sufficient classrooms, audiovisual room, science lab and library to better facilitate for the current students and also to accommodate more students. The school is financially independent.

6. Women Empowerment through Digital Literacy.

Digital Literacy program was initiated in 436 villages. 116 Internet *Saathis* were appointed to train 82,000 women and target was achieved successfully. During the project period several training were conducted with help of experts provided by Voice Foundation, Chennai. Certificate distribution event was organized in the presence of Dr. R Sunandamma, Registrar at Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women's University and Board member of Sabala, Mrs. Maitra Patil, Manager, Chaitanya Mahila Sahakari Bank Ltd. and Treasurer of Sabala. Through their speech they motivated *Saathis* to continue their good work. On the same day financial literacy programme was organized and orientation was given to the women.

The project was completed in 8 months and the second phase began. It is a livelihood programme for *Saathis* who have spent their valuable time and traveled everyday to 3-4 villages to teach 700 beneficiaries. 50 *Saathis* were selected for getting HP printer on 60:40 contribution and work from their home to earn regular income.



Outcome

82,000 women in north Karnataka can now use smartphones.

Funded by

Tata Trust and Google

7. Soccer League Programme

The soccer league programme was for entire year and was implemented in 5 villages of Babaleshwar and Gadag wind farm sites of wind energy project of Siemens Gamesa. A coach was appointed in both the sights and regular coaching was organized for the students aged between 10 and 15. School dropouts were also given a chance to learn and participate in the competition. Baby league was organized at Bableshwar and 75 students participated from Babaleshwar, Khandaki, Karjol, Tonshyal and Mulawad villages.

The National level competition was organized by Siemens Gamesa at Nellur, Andhra Pradesh and 45 students participated from Babaleshwar and Gadag site.



Outcome

320 number of students were trained on soccer all year long and an awareness of importance of co-curricular activities and possibilities of making career was created among children and parents.

Funded by

Siemens Gamesa India Foundation

8. Samruddi Project-women Empowerment through organization and micro enterprises

This is a CSR project and is planned for 5 years in 5 villages of Babaleshwar wind farm site. In first year of completion, Sabala has identified 2000 women who are in need of alternative employment opportunity and own enterprises. PRA exercise was done to understand the needs, literacy level, resources and skills availability.

Grand inaugural function was organized at Mulawad village and 425 women participated from Mulawad village, Mulawad Tanda and Karjol village.

All the govt. line department heads, Lead Bank Manager and NABARD officer and RUDSETI directors participated and Mr. Laxminarayan, DSP from Vijaypura was the Chief Guest. Mallamma Yalawar, CEO, Sabala briefed about the project and how different departments can participate in the implementation to empower these 5 villages' women. Inaugural function was organized in all villages and local Gram Panchayat members, presidents PDO, Govt. department's representatives participated. 85 SHGs were organized and small savings accounts initiated. Village level and block level networking was initiated. Due to COVID 19 planned activities are not completed.



Training on Project Objectives

A Training programme was organized for 30 women from 5 villages to explain the objective of the project, what we are doing in 4 years and what we are not doing. Phase out method, project implementation method and role of women was explained. We have made them understand the theme of the project out come after 4 years of project period.

Outcome

This is a 5 year project that will benefit 2,000 women in getting trained on alternative employment opportunities and setting up their own enterprise.

Funded by

Siemens Gamesa India Foundation



9. Exposure visits

Exposure visits were organized for women SHG members. A visit to Swayam Siddha organization at Kolhapur in Maharashtra and Sabala Handicrafts units at Vijayapura were a part of the visits. The visit to Swayam Siddha organization included training and orientation, field visits interaction with entrepreneurs, packaging, how to keep margin in micro enterprises, marketing techniques and participation in events. The women also visited nursery centers run by women. At Sabala Handicraft the women learnt about production process, manufacturing of bags, cushions and mats.

Outcome

25 women who were a part of visits learnt not only about the possibilities of running their home based business but also gained confidence seeing the other women do it.

Funded by

Siemens Gamesa India Foundation



10. Women's Day celebration

Celebrated International women's day on 11th March at Babaleshwar. Over 1200 women participated in the event from Karjol, Tonshyal, Mulawad, Khakandaki and Babaleshwar. Handicraft exhibition was organised as a part of it make the women understand and make aware of the skills women have. Chief Guest was Shri. Laxminarayana DySP, speaker was Ujwala Sirnadagouda, Professor in Anjuman Law Collage and Board member of Sabala Organisation along with Smt. Nirmla from DDPI office and Smt. Gauramma Bhodihal, President, Gram Panchayat. Mr. Arunprasad and Mr. Praveen shinde from Siemens Gamesa were present. All the guest spoke about importance of international women's day and role of women and how she can empower herself by using the opportunities. The programme was successful and all women were happy.



Before the event, sports activities were organized in all these villages to motivate women and participate in the program effectively. Prizes were given in cash and 15 women got cash prizes. Lunch was arranged to all the participants and guest.



Outcome

Such celebration boost women's confidence and moral and give them an opportunity to celebrate womanhood.

Funded by

Siemens Gamesa India Foundation

11. Workshops and seminars

Dr. Mallamma Yalawar CEO of Sabala, delivered a talk as guest speaker in the state level "Rape free India" seminar organized by Kailash Satyarthi Trust and FEVOURD K at ISI Bangalore. More than 60 NGOs and 30 social workers were present.



District nodal officer of Beti Bachao Beti padavo programme had organized exhibition of crafts for all Government schools and some private schools. It was organized at Agastya foundation, Vijayapura and Dr. Mallamma Yalawar was invited to be the guest.

Participated in Good Governance workshop organized by FEVOURD K and Dhvani foundation at Gadag Krishi Vidnyana Kendra for two days.



State level women's wing of FEVOURD K met at Sabala organization to plan the activities of women NGOs working in Karnataka. Dr. Sabiha B., Vice Chancellor of Karnataka State Akkamahadevi women's University and Dr. Sunandamma, Registrar advised the participants. Concept is written by Mallamma Yalawar and submitted to FEVOURD K.

Another talk was delivered by Dr. Mallamma as resource person on Eco friendly product making workshop organized by Vikasana, Mandya and presented story of Sabala Handicrafts and its growth. Project coordinator of Sabala Mr. Jeevan Vare was also a part of it.

Dr. Mallamma also participated in workshops organised by Dhvani Foundation on Development of Strategic Planning for FEVOURD-K at ISI, Bangalore

12. Visitors

Sabala always has patrons visiting. This year we had visitors from UK and USA to experience our craft tourism. They enjoyed the traditional food of Vijayapura and visited Ainapur Tanda to learn and enjoy the local culture and traditions. They enjoyed the traditional dance of the Lambani community. They also purchased handicraft products and antiques directly from the artisans.



Conclusion

Sabala successfully completed 34 years of its service in social sector, especially in women empowerment. We have started working with CSR companies and have long term vision. Team of Sabala is thankful to all stakeholders, supporters and well-wishers.

Sabala looks forward to more projects benefiting more and more people in the coming years.

M/s SABALA, Samatha Building, Keerti nagar, B. Bagewadi Road, Vijayapura- 586 101
Karnataka, India

www.sabalaindia.org | sabalango2020@gmail.com | +91 9448118204