

SUSTAINABLE ECOLOGICAL THEME PARK FOR STREET CHILDREN

Annual Activity Report -2006

Project Title	:	Project of Sustainable Ecological Theme Park for Street Children
Project No	:	2004 - 538
Project Executing Agency	:	Social Awareness and Voluntary Education (SAVE) Tirupur.
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1. Total beneficiaries during the period

During this reporting period, altogether **260 children benefited from the Net4kids** support. Among them 92 children were provided with vocational trainings of screen-printing, envelope making, computer training and paper carry bag making. 23 children were taught computer skills. 92 children were reunited with their parents and 40 children were enrolled in formal schools.

TARGET GROUP OF CHILDREN

- ❖ Street and Runaway children
- ❖ Orphan and semi-orphan children found in the streets and slums
- ❖ Abandoned children at bus stand and railway station.
- ❖ Children from broken families
- ❖ Child laborers

2. IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES DURING REPORTING PERIOD

During the reporting period, the team rescued 255 runaway children from the Tirupur railway station and the bus stand. These children were taken to the shelter homes and to the Ecological Park. Since, the construction works were still underway and was not fully completed in Ecological land, the children were placed in different places. The details of the implemented activities are elaborated hereunder.

a) Shelter for children

SAVE runs three shelter Homes at Alagumalai Eco park for children, Rayapuram home for the run away children and transit home for children at SAVE premises. Totally 260 children were brought to the three homes. Among them 182 children were brought to the home for the run away rescued Street children, and 40 children including 13 girls and 27 boys were admitted in the Child Labour Residential home at the SAVE premises and 38 children 20 girls and 18 boys were sent to Alagumalai Ecological Park.

In these Homes the children were provided counseling by the counselor coordinator. The social and psychological causes and needs of these children were identified along with the documenting of vital information about the children. Through counseling, the children were guided to overcome their past bitter experience and to look at the life with positive thrust and focused future.

Food, accommodation and medical care were provided to children during their stay. Recreational facilities both in-door & outdoor games were made available to them. Through recreational activities their mind and body was kept afresh. The habit of learning was inculcated among them.

ii). EDUCATION

Play way methods and simple teaching techniques were used to motivate and to involve street children in the educational process. Every day 6 hours of learning class activities were conducted for the children who were under the age group of 6 and 14. Two teachers took special care of the children to develop their literacy skills. Most rescued children didn't have the elementary education in spite of the same all of them were provided basic education to learn numerical and literacy skills. The following is the detail of the education program implemented.

- To provided basic education, the children are taught numerical and literacy skills to 260 Children. Among them 40 children were provided non formal education in residential school.
- To provided formal education in Govt. School from 2nd to 8th std to the children in the Age group of 8 – 15 years for 20 children who were enrolled in Govt. primary schools and 18 children were admitted in Higher Secondary School at Perunthozhuvu.
- Proper classroom techniques were adopted with play way methods by the special school teachers and coordinator.

III). HEALTH CARE, NUTRIOUS FOOD AND COUNSELING

The children's health needs are attended by a medical doctor and a nurse through periodical medical check ups and timely treatments. Serious cases are immediately referred to the Govt. hospital and to private hospital as per the gravity of the nature of the illness. During this reporting period Dr. Paul and Nurse Ms. Philomina Shakila provided special medical attendance and treatment to 52 children as they were fell ill. The nurse makes weekly visits to the centres for regular medical checkup. Health education and HIV/AIDS awareness programmes were conducted among the children by the counselling team.

Counseling was carried out among children for their quality life and hygiene practices. The children started adopting these practices. The children were motivated to develop skills to overcome the psychological stress and depression. Recreational facilities and physical health were the important components in the daily activities of the home to enable the children to ventilate their depressed feelings.

- Provision for Food & Shelter to those vulnerable and runaway children.
- Providing nutritious food and accommodation to 260 children during the year 2006.
- Good space to live and nutritious food to recover the health.
- Physical care by way of proper medical checkup was adopted by the medical team
- Recreational facilities provided to all children with indoor and outdoor games.
- Recreation activities were carried out by a trained staff on daily basis on Caroms, Chess, Ball, Ring & Skipping.

iv) VOCATIONAL TRAINING

During the reporting phase, the children in the shelter home were not only had the education with the books but also had the opportunity to learn vocational skills and other learning training. It helped them to learn new skills, exhibit their talent and interest. It oriented them towards their future prospect on the following:-

- Basic computer knowledge
- Tailoring
- Screen printing
- Paper carry bag making
- Envelope making

The children above 15 years, who were runaway children and they had attained a stage where they can be educated along with other children were provided vocational trainings to enlarge the scope of self employed as well as job oriented income generation skills. 92 children were benefited from the various trainings.

- 92 children were provided vocational training to those abandoned rescued children at shelter home. They got exposure on self employment as well as job oriented skills for better job opportunities.
- The different types of trainings such as screen-printing, envelope making, computer training and paper carry bag making were provided and they have developed self-confidence.
- 23 children were taught computer skills, basic knowledge on computer was imparted.

V) REUNIFICATION WITH PARENTS

After identifying of the family background of rescued children, proper intimation was given to their parents. In the reporting phase, 97 runaway children were reunified with parents by communicating with them through postal letters, telegrams and phone calls. These 97 children were reunited with their parents after counseling to the parents as well as to the children. SAVE keeps track of these reunited children through regular contacts and through visits. Among the 97 reunified children 52 children are continuing their education and other children in the age group of 15 – 18, are working in different employment sectors.

- Follow-up activities were carried out for 97 reunified children.
- Information was given to parents when the children enter into Shelter Home through phone contacts or letter correspondence about their safety.
- They had the opportunity to regain the dignity in society. Children those reunified with parents are continuing their school education and the philosophy of SAVE is 'Home is the best place to live' is ensured.

b. Temporary Shelter Homes

During the reporting period, 38 children were staying in the temporary shelter at Eco park for the children as the new building for children was yet to be completed. They were provided with proper care and nutritious food and accommodation to 38 children and also formal schooling in the nearest villages.

40 children were staying in SAVE premises as Bridge School Children and 182 children were staying in Rayapuram Transit home as runaway home children, where children keeps on moving away as reunification to the families takes place.

It has helped Good space to live with nutritious food after rescue from the risk of trafficking. There is a total $38+40+182 = 260$ children who have benefits from the project.

THE PROGRESS OF THE PLAN IN ECOLOGICAL PARK FOR CHILDREN

(a) Development of Land

Land clearance is done with support of volunteers and children. Temporary shelter had been Constructed of new building, bore well, recycling paper plant, grain farm, organic manure, Gymnasium and place of sports activities are part of this project.

(b) Agro Forestry

To promote culture of environmental living among the children Mango, Casuarinas, Bamboo, Guava, Coconut Trees, Sapodilla, Gooseberry, Pungai, Teak, Plan tom, Pomegranate and neem planted and growing as green cover. Total of 950 seedlings spread over in 6 acres of land.

(c) Shed for recycling paper plant

A shed with the size of 44" x 33" was erected and machineries have to be installed to start the production of paper boards.

(d) Grain Farm

The cultivation of grains and maize crops used as fodder to cows.

(d) Organic Manure

Cow tong and Bio wastes are converted as manure for the agriculture purpose and cultivation of crops by using w arms.

(e) Gymnasium and Sports Activities

To make the children relaxed and to improve physical condition. Equipments such as hand bar, Slope Surface, Ladder, Swing, Seesaw, Pull –ups, Merigo Round, Spring duck installed in the play ground.

(f) Special events

Special events were organized for the children. Drawing competition, Culture events, Children's Day on 14th Nov, Human Rights Day on 10th December organized to allow the children's participation. Sensitization about child trafficking to auto drivers, bus drivers, vendors and local stake holders were organized to establish contacts and inform to SAVE incase of child found unaccompanied or lonely in public places.