

PROJECT PROPOSAL



Weekend Schools for vulnerable children in Maikudi, V Ammapatti and Kottaipatti areas in southern Tamil Nadu

Submitted to
ASSEFA Torino, Italy

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ASSEFA *Association for Sarva Seva Farms*
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1. Title of the Project

Weekend schools for vulnerable children

2. Name of the Agency Applying for Grant:

ASSEFA is a Gandhian Organization working for the welfare of the rural communities since 1968 in rural India. Multi-faceted social welfare programs are implemented for holistic development of the rural communities. These programs include

- Integration of land, water, livestock and agriculture
- Dairy based livelihoods promotion
- Children education
- Community health and
- Social security for women and other vulnerable
- Gender Equality

As on date, ASSEFA has supported over one million families across eight states in India (*Bihar, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharastra, Karnataka, Pondicherry and Tamil Nadu*) with the help of thousands of workers and volunteers.

The proposed project seeks to improve the children from vulnerable families in an holistic manner in the backward areas of Tamil Nadu, India.

3. Responsible person of ASSEFA:

Mr. S Loganathan,
Executive Director, ASSEFA,
279, Avvai Shanmugam Road, Royapettah, Chennai – 600 014,
Tamil Nadu, India
E-mail: assefaho@gmail.com, Tel No: + 91 44 28133203 / 28130026

4. Program Coordinator

Mr. Alagumari
Program Incharge
ASSEFA Thirumangalam
Madurai.

5. Target Population

Children aged between 8 to 16 years old from socio-economically vulnerable families.

6. Description of the Project

a) Project Rationale:

During the recent visit to these areas, as part of assessing the impact created in the global pandemic – Covid 19, the parents demanded to start a weekend school for the children. Majority of the people are depended upon agri and allied based labour work for their livelihoods.

The children study in the nearby government schools. However, due to pandemic, schools are closed indefinitely. The government is also not clear as to when the schools are to be opened.

The parents informed that they get income whenever they attend the work. Hence, they attend the works during the weekends too. During these days, they leave their children either at the custody of the neighbours or alone.

Hence, they requested ASSEFA to engage their children in a useful manner. In such case, they need not worry about the safety of the children.

In addition, the Covid-19 has taught us that the future is going to be uncertain and unpredictable. Children of today need more than what textbooks offer to live happily in an increasingly bleak future.

Hence, children need to have key knowledge, skills and mindsets that will help them overcome and sustain whatever uncertainties that the future may hold. The inputs we give should cater to the growth of their head, heart and hand.

This project aims at strengthening the above aspects by teaching appropriate skills through weekend schools.

b) Project Location:

The project is proposed to work in

- Maikudi and V Ammapatti in Madurai District and
- Kottaipatti in Virudhunagar district.

The nearest town is Madurai located within 50 kms radius from the project areas.

c) Proposed Activities:

It is proposed to engage children other than regular curriculum, focused to equip them in development of head, heart and hand.

Activities aligned to Head:

- Basic English Literacy (Speaking, Reading, Comprehension, Writing)
- Basic Computer Literacy (MS Office, Internet)
- Games like Chess, Board games etc.,

Activities aligned to Heart:

- Stories of what compassion, grit, hard work looked like around the world in the times of CoVid-19
- Local crafts
- Arts (Painting) and Yoga

Activities aligned to Hand:

- Basic sports like running, kho kho, kabaddi, Volleyball etc.,
- Basic repairs of motor, fan, electricity etc.,
- Basic organic farming
- Basics of cooking

d) Expected Results:

This project is envisaged the following results.

- 300 children will be actively in Weekend schools.
- Children will be trained in additional knowledge – English, operating computers, skills such as handicrafts, yoga and meditation and practical learning in farming, cooking...
- The learning from this project intervention will enable ASSEFA to develop similar model to benefit more children in other areas.

7. How do we implement the project?

In each area, ASSEFA will engage a program incharge to plan, design programs, enroll children and execute the programs. Depending upon the curriculum, professionals will be engaged on consultancy basis. A senior worker will be engaged as project coordinator to provide necessary support services to each area.

8. How do we monitor the project and report to funding agency?

ASSEFA Head Office will review and monitor the progress of the project on regular basis. The project team will send the progress report along with financial statement of accounts and photos as per the requirement of the funding agency.

9. Period of the project?

The project period is for **ONE YEAR** from the date of receiving the grant.

10. Budget

The total budget works out to Rs. 913,500 (Euros 11.418,75)

Budget includes:

- Materials for children – skill, cultural and
- Physical developments (3*Rs.100,000) = Rs 300,000
- Program incharges salary (3*Rs7,500*12 months) = Rs. 270,000
- Resource persons cost (3units * Rs.100,000) = Rs. 300,000
- Coordination cost (5%) = Rs. 43,500

Map showing Project areas

