

PROMOTING QUALITY EDUCATION AND NUTRITION IN 54 TRIBAL VILLAGES

districts of Pakur and West Singhbhum, State of Jharkhand, India

Project Location

The project is being implemented in 54 villages of Pakur and West Singhbhum districts, State of Jharkhand, India

Duration

1st January 2021 to 31st
December 2023

Budget 2021 - 2023

299 277€ (total budget)
89 783€ to be financed by
AEIN through donations.

The project is cofinanced at 70%
by the Luxembourg Ministry of
Foreign and European Affairs.

Local partners

The project is being implemented
by two local partners - Ekjut and
Paharia Seva Samiti (PSS)



Context

The target villages, completely neglected by the public authorities, are located in a region of dense forests of the Rajmahal hills, where the indigenous people work in agriculture, mostly as day laborers. They used to live on collecting forest products, but deforestation has forced them to turn to cultivation and then borrow money from money lenders to buy seeds at a high interest rate. The decrease in forest areas, drought and the lack of efficient irrigation are all factors that contribute to keeping populations in extreme poverty. The targeted beneficiaries don't have enough food and may go hungry, especially during the monsoon season. Literacy among the tribal community is 10% while the national average is 73%. Teachers rarely go to the village schools and while they do manage the school records, quality teaching is non-existent. Being on hills and having poor accessibility, inspection by authorities rarely takes place. In some schools where the teachers are more regular, midday meals are served to the children, however very few children come to take these meals, some only come at the time of the meals and not for the class.

Main project objectives

Education : At least 60% of 1043 Paharia (tribal) children have access to quality education by the end of 2023.

Health: At least 50% of 2053 children in 0-5 years' age group have improved their nutritional status by the end of 2023.

Direct Beneficiaries

Education:

- 240 children in the age group 6-14 years (50% girls) will benefit through village study centers
- 856 children in the age group 4-5 years will benefit from better trained Kindergarten teachers and better functioning Kindergartens
- 803 out-of-school children identified – they will be supported through counseling and re-enrolment to formal education system.
- 323 stakeholders (304 School Management Committee members + 19 teachers) benefiting through training & sensitization on Right to Education compliances and education
- 648 youth aged 15-20 years through capacity building in relevant themes – gender, democratic rights, participation, active involvement in accessing government schemes and learning about bureaucratic practices

Health:

- 180-240 malnourished children in 0-3 years' age group through direct crèche intervention (each crèche will have 15-20 children)
- 1197 children under 3 years of age will have improved nutrition status through community mobilization and strengthening of existing health systems
- Participants in PLA (participatory learning and action) meetings – 8700 pregnant women, lactating mothers, women with children in 0-5 age group, members from tribal communities



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AEIN collects public and private funds to finance development projects designed and carried out by local organizations. AEIN's main areas of intervention are: education, health, ecology, agriculture, rights and income, and primarily targets the most vulnerable groups: women, children and tribal communities.

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