

# Annual Report

Financial year :. 2016 ~ 2017

## Rural Education and Action for Liberation

### REAL



No.21 (Appt 1B), Shahul Towers, Anna Nagar Main Road, Pondicherry – 605 005.

☎ : +91- 413-2203662 📠 : +91-94433 41472

✉ : [realvpm@yahoo.co.in](mailto:realvpm@yahoo.co.in), [realvpm@gmail.com](mailto:realvpm@gmail.com), [reallawrence1989@gmail.com](mailto:reallawrence1989@gmail.com) 🌐 : [www.realvpm.org](http://www.realvpm.org)

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## Director's Note

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Dear Well-wishers,

Rural Education and Action for Liberation (REAL), marching to the successful 28<sup>th</sup> year, learning faster and rising forward and focusing children and deprived women in remote villages. To improve their life styles and promote education, rights and protection is the prime goal since its inception. REAL has been reaching out to 50,000 beneficiaries every year. During this year 2016 -17, REAL continues to implement projects on Community Development, Women Empowerment, Children rights and Child protection, Health Awareness, Water and Sanitation, Infrastructure developments like construction of school building, housing for the rural poor, up gradation of school toilets etc. Further, the organization has done remarkable work in the area of Disaster Management among the flood affected communities in four districts of Tamilnadu.



REAL has implemented rehabilitation program for the flood victims in Cuddalore and Chennai Regions through establishment of Child Friendly Space (CFS), Upgradation of school toilets and renovation of school buildings, WASH facilities and promoting awareness about Disaster Risk Reduction among communities and school children on mitigation, preparedness and response.

Further, the organization constructed the Prefabricated (ferro cement based) Individual Household Toilet (IHT) for the target communities by linking them with Government agencies for subsidy and reduced open defecation in the villages. The prefabricated toilet is an innovative idea and design, affordable, good quality and easy installation. It is found to be replicable in anywhere. As a result, the leading organizations in India such as Save the Children, WASH Institute and Water for People and internationally Population Services International (PSI) –Ghana were acquired knowledge and technical assistance for manufacturing prefabricated toilet from REAL. The major accomplishment during this year was, one of our intervention village was declared as “Open Defecation Free”, having promoted 100% individual household toilets.

In order to ensure the regular income and engage poor rural women in entrepreneurship activities, REAL runs a Khova Unit (milk by-product) and Cashew Processing Units in Ennayiram and S.Puthur regions respectively. At this time of sharing our activities for the financial year 2016 – 17, we remember with gratitude all the members who accompanied us in our journey in moving towards our vision. Through this report, we sincerely thank our funding agencies, State and Central Government for enabling us to support the cause we strive for in the targeted 335 villages of our operational areas.

Thanking you and with regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Lawrence'.

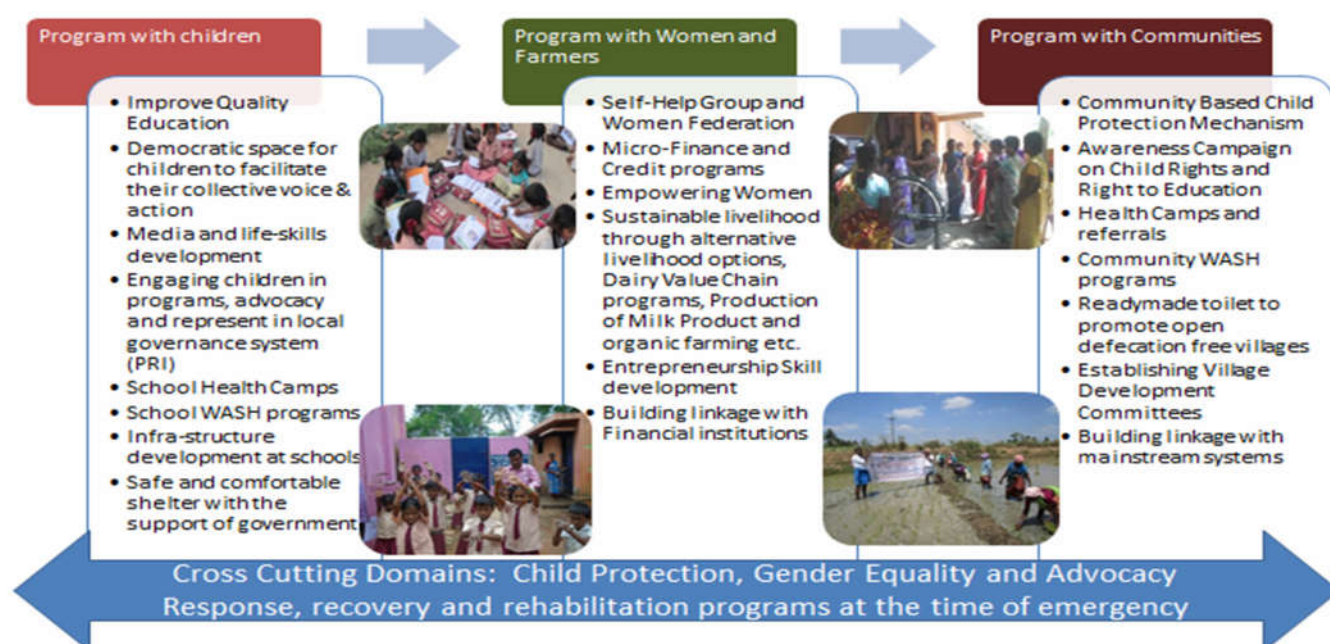
**A.LAWRENCE**  
President cum Director.

## About REAL

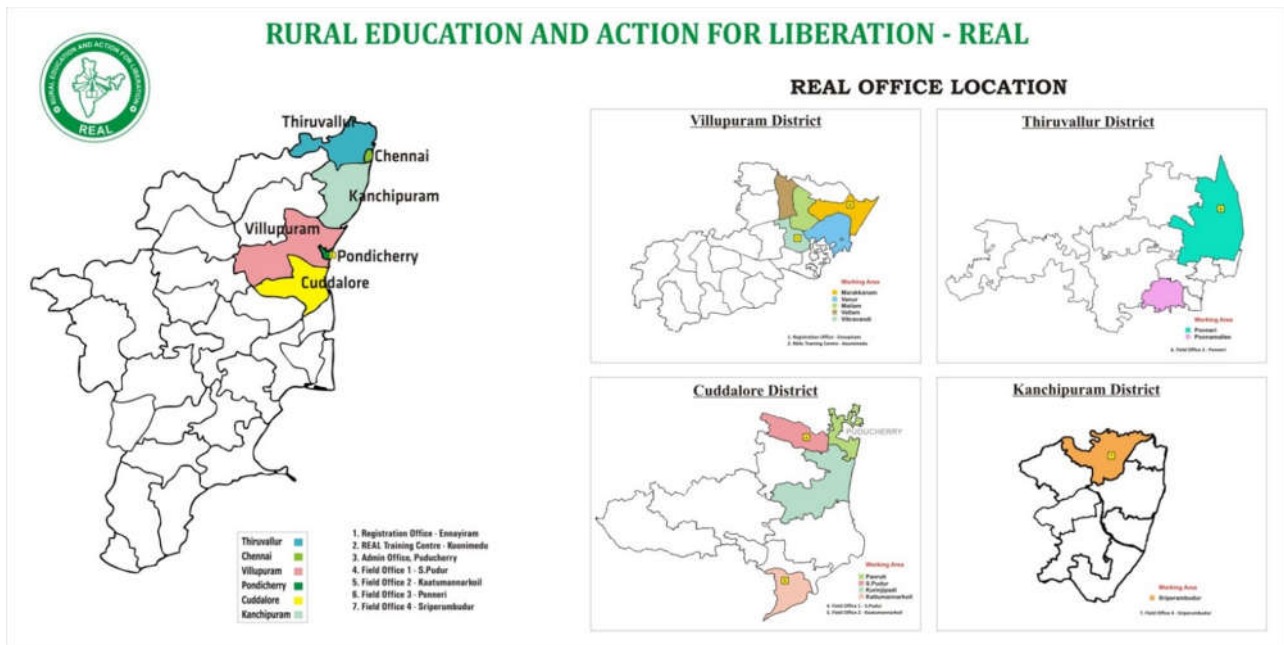
REAL is a registered, not for profit, humanitarian organization founded in the year 1989. It strives to support the marginalized and vulnerable population especially women and children in remote villages. REAL programs are comprehensive and holistic in nature.

**Purpose:** To assist and help women and children to free themselves from poverty, misery and ignorance. Our Strategy is to organize, capacitate and network with Government for sustainable development, Motivating landless women and small farmers to increase their income through organic cultivation methods, Develop sustainable Livelihood by enhancing people's knowledge, skills, attitude, aptitude and values.

## KEY PROGRAMME POTENTIALS OF REAL



## Our Focus Areas



Our Outreach			
District	Block	No. of Panchayats	No. of Villages
Villupuram	Vikravandi	18	19
	Mailam	18	18
	Vallam	17	14
	Kanai	2	2
	Marakanam	14	38
	Vanur	12	19
Cuddalore	Kattumannarkoil	67	148
	Kurinchipadi Block	6	10
	Cuddalore	10	27
	Panruti	10	17
Chennai	Velacherry	1	4
	Saidapet	1	3
Kanchipuram	Sriperumbudur	2	5
	Poonamallee	1	5
Thiruvalluvar	Kumudipundi	1	1
	Sozhavaram	2	4
Pondicherry UT	Manadipet	6	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>188</b>	<b>340</b>



## Project Highlights

### Children Rights and Child Protection in Villupuram District

**Project Period: January 2015 to December 2017**

The KKS supported “Children’s rights and child protection” project is much needed and appropriate project in the district of Villupuram, State of Tamil Nadu, India. The project has made substantial improvement in last three years by building capacities of children, women and community in terms of child rights and protection. As a result, the SHG women took up child protection issue as one of agenda and ensuring the protection of child rights in their respective villages. SHG/ federation supporting the women in the community for creating awareness and income generating activities.

The other key milestone of this project is that, the number of school dropouts is lowered; child friendly platforms established at the village level enable the children to express their views and opinions, various committees formed by project monitor the child abuse / harassment cases if any. The project has also built relationship with various forums such as district administration, child protection unit and PRIs for taking up of the issues pertaining to children and women in the target area.



#### Highlights:

- 2,112 women were capacitated on children’s rights and protection through two refresher trainings (six batches)
- 475 SHG women accessed credit of Rs.13.435 million for various income generating activities and other purposes from NABFINS.
- Total of 67 (33 boys and 34 girls) students appeared for 10<sup>th</sup> class public examination were assisted by the project. All of them were promoted to higher classes.
- 579 milch cows were purchased with the loan assistance of ADFT and NABFINS. Also, supported for the establishment of 23 feed shops, 208 fodder backyard, 125 azolla cultivation and 55 fodder plots in the project villages.

## Sustainable Livelihood Enhancement through Value Chain Approach to Women and Small Farmers

**Project Period: April 2015 to December 2018**



The donor, KKS – Germany supported another project, aimed at addressing the aspects of long term sustainability of livelihoods through implementing activities that promote value addition. Agriculture is the primary occupation of the targeted 15 communities in Cuddalore. Nearly 70% of the population in these villages depend on agriculture and allied activities. The project helped them with knowledge on latest technology on agriculture, use of organic inputs and promoting investment in agriculture through grant support. The farmers and women are organized at village level as groups and

federated them regionally to enjoy the benefit of collectivization.

The project has organised series of capacity building programs for farmers such as Farmers Field School (FFS) training, Integrated Crop Management (ICM), Crop Insurance, Climate Change etc. so as to promote sustainable farming and organic ways of mitigating the risk in agriculture. The identified rural poor women were supported through entrepreneurship activities for instance banana fibre extraction, cashew processing and organic vegetable cultivation. Village Resource Centre (VRC) established to support the needy farmers to access organic manures and equipment's at lowered cost.



### Highlights:

- As many as 26 different kinds of events including training programs, exposure visits, meetings etc. have been facilitated during this year.
- As a part of institution building 37 farmers clubs and 59 women SHGs were formed in 15 villages.
- About 100 small and marginal farmers and landless women sought assistance for the organic farming, organic production unit and vegetable garden and goat rearing.

## Creating Enable Environment for children to realize their rights and full potentials in 15 villages of Villupuram District

**Project Period: January 2015 to December 2017**

With the generous funding assistance from Manos Unidas, Spain the project has been implemented in selected 15 villages in Villupuram District of Tamilnadu State. The goal of this project is that, the “children and youth from marginalized and excluded families realize their rights and full potentials through sustainable livelihood for their parents and small landless farmers.

As part of this project, various employability skill trainings such as four wheeler driving, computer, sewing, beautician and food processing courses were offered to the needy young men and women in the 15 target villages. The parents of the disadvantaged children, were provided fund and credit support for income promotion activities, capacitated on organic cultivation activities and established kitchen garden at the backyard of the houses. A total of 1,646 people (265 farmers, 141 children and 1,240 community members) in 15 project villages were impacted through the above mentioned activities. Cumulative of 4,143 people were directly impacted from this project during this year.



The project continued to run the supplementary education classes and various children clubs such as CRC, Eco, CRPC, CP and Farmers’ club established last year. The project also continued to build the capacity of children, women, SMCs and farmers in the communities.

### Highlights:

- Enrollment of 196 out of school children into regular schools.
- 150 children were capacitated on various media skills including comics, photography, print media & folk dance.
- A total of 120 young men and women were offered employability skill training and placed in jobs.
- Metallic Seed Storage bins were distributed to 75 needy farmers in 10 project villages
- A total of 15 child abuse related issues such as child marriage, child labour etc. were resolved successfully by the club members



## Developing Sanitation Market – EF Lite

**Project Period: April to September 2016**



With the support of Water for People (WfP), REAL established two full-fledged prefabricated latrine production cum sales unit at Koonimedu and Kattumannar Koil. It is an innovative and low cost technology and replicable in anywhere. It has been widely accepted by various private organization and government district administration. The key advantages of the prefab toilet include; it save time and money; reduces need for skilled labour; various models; high quality etc. Each unit is equipped with necessary tools, machineries and manpower. The unit has the production

capacity of 20 toilets per month.

In order to sustain the toilet production and promotion, the organization supporting the entrepreneurs who engaged in sanitation business and established network of suppliers and built the technical capacity of local mason, labour and suppliers. Also, created financial linkages for customers particularly SHG members to avail sanitation loan for construction of household toilets.

### Highlights:

- A total of 1,228 SHG members, youths, school children, PRI leaders and villagers were sensitized about importance of sanitation, hygiene and toilet use
- Identified and supported six entrepreneurs / POPs who engaged in the sanitation business and established network of suppliers to meet the toilet demands and project sustainability, 235 prefabricated and 608 hollow block toilets constructed in 4 regions.

## Repairs & Renovation of School Buildings

**Project Period: April 2016 to March 2017**



It was accepted globally that, the school is an important institution for the growth and well-being of every children. Especially, the primary school education is foundation for the children. Further, the physical learning environment of the school includes; good infrastructure, ventilation, lighting, toilet facility, availability of water etc. are vital for every school. It gives the good learning atmosphere and creates interest among the children to learn and continue their studies. The R.C. Primary Schools of Keezhvailamur, Anilady, Peria Thachur and Sathankuppam villages are remotely located in Cuddalore and Villupuram Districts. Both the districts are socio-

economically backward and prone to natural disaster every year. With the generous funding assistance of GVR and Habitat for Humanity, the renovation of school infrastructure including class rooms, kitchen and sanitation area was completed.

The work includes;

- Complete cleaning of school building and
- Removal of stickers / papers from the wall.
- Clearing of debris and wastes from the campus
- Water wash of entire building
- Primary white wash and Colour coating

In addition to that, the donor (GVR) sponsored 65 cots, mattress and pillows to the orphanage home in Sathankuppam village, Cuddalore District.



## Health, Learning and Equity through WASH in Schools at Sengadu & Kiloy Panchayats of Kanchipuram District

**Project Period: April 2016 to September 2016**



With the generous funding assistance of KNO-Hyundai Steel under their CSR wing and with the technical assistance of PLAN India, REAL (Rural Education and Action for Liberation) constructed and up-gradated “WASH facilities in selected six schools with stakeholder’s involvement. Improving physical environment of schools like repairing of toilet blocks with running water, Repair/Construction of Hand-Washing Facility, Restoration of Water Facilities – Construction /repairing of water tanks, Rain water harvesting, Wall Writings / paintings at school premises about water, sanitation and hygiene, fixing of Solar

system with pump for water lifting and Installation of RO Systems were completed in all six schools.

As part of this project, sensitization and orientation trainings on safe hygiene practices, handwashing, and toilet use were organized for the school children, teachers and SMC members. The children clubs are formed at the school level to monitor and maintenance of the facilities created with the support of the school authorities and SMC.



### Highlights:

- The children in all six schools are having functional toilet and water facilities
- Six WASH committees established at school level and ensuring the use and proper maintenance of the facilities.
- Total of 110 teachers were capacitated on ‘hygiene education’ and volunteered to monitor the school WASH program and conduct sanitation classes for other children in the school
- 532 school children in six schools were oriented on safe hygiene practice, hand wash technique and toilet use

## Strengthening the Employability Potential of Young Men and Women from flood affected slums in Chennai

**Project Period: April 2016 to September 2016**



In order to build the vocational skills of the most disadvantaged and flood affected 100 young women and men in the selected 5 slums in Saidapet and Velacherry, IBM a leading multinational technology company generously funded for a short term project through PLAN India from April to September 2016. The objective of the project is to augment the income generating capacity of 100 young men and women through skill trainings and job placements in the formal and informal sectors. Through a rapid assessment survey and as well joint consultation with the community and target audience, five vocational trades – Tailoring,

Beautician, Driving, A/C & Refrigeration & Catering Course were recommended which have potential and demand in the local job market and self-employment opportunities.

The IBM supported project provided affected communities with opportunities to acquire training, apprenticeships, and placement in jobs. Also, created self-employment chances and improved their long-term employability and transform them into productive member of the society.



### Highlights:

- A total of 114 potential young men and women against the target of 100 were identified, selected and enrolled for different employability skill trade depends upon their interest.
- Total of 96 youths ensured jobs with 12 various institutes in and around Chennai city. While the remaining 18 of them started earnings through self-employment.
- Prior to that, all potential candidates were providing orientation training on career guidance , counselling and Life Skill Education (LSE)
- 10,000 Life Skill Education Pamphlets and 2,000 booklets on Financial Literacy were published and distributed.

## Flood Response Supported by Save the Children



Cuddalore district was among those most severely affected by flooding. 11 out of 13 blocks in the district suffered extensive damage. Save the Children, an international humanitarian and child centric organization came forward to rescue and provided relief materials including food items, hygiene and educational kits to the flood victims in several affected districts of Tamil Nadu. In furtherance to this, REAL collaborated to initiate the project “South India Flood Response – 2015” in the flood affected urban slums in Cuddalore District since November 2015. The project has

been implemented in several phases supporting with establishing child friendly spaces, cash for work support, providing safe water container to families, restored water sources & renovated school toilets, established hand wash stations, etc.

The current phase of the project has started in October 2016, the key focus of the project includes WASH infrastructure in schools, construction of low cost individual toilets, disaster mock drill training for children groups, strengthening of community groups as task force.



### Highlights:

- 5,150 safe water containers were distributed in 17 villages.
- Restored water sources & renovated 22 schools toilets.
- Established Hand Wash Stations in 14 schools
- Implemented Comprehensive school safety program in 25 schools
- Task Force Kit provided to 25 schools and
- Established School Level Disaster Management Resource Centres in 2 schools.



## Dairy Value Chain Programme

The department of Animal Husbandry/ district planning office in Cuddalore district and REAL has joined hands to implement the project titled, “Enhancing Household Income through Dairy Value Chain Approach” in Kattumanarkoil Block through a fund support from State Planning Commission, Tamil Nadu. The project aims at substantially increasing the number of milch animals in Kattumanarkoil block, with opportunities for realizing increased incomes for the project participants through improved animal husbandry practices and enhanced access to services and market in Kattumanarkoil block of Cuddalore District where the intensity of the issue of poverty is higher.



Under this grant, the project established feed shops, fodder plots and milk collection centers with project fund support. Established linkages with bank and financial institutions and availed the credit for purchase of milch animals. All the milch animals were insured and insurance premium was paid out of the project fund. Also, built the cadre of para-veterinarians who is providing services at the door step as and when required.

### Highlights:

- 635 beneficiaries were linked and availed the credit support from NABFINS and ADFT for the purchase of milch animals
- All 635 animals were insured as to mitigate the risk.
- Centralised “Milk Testing Centre “has been established and accessed by the beneficiaries.
- Number of Azolla units (125), fodder backyard plots (31), community fodder plots (4) and feed shops (8) established and functioning in the villages and thus improved the income of the families.

## **Micro Credit Assistance Program**

Microcredit is the extension of very small loans (microloans) to impoverished borrowers who typically lack collateral, steady employment and verifiable credit history. It is designed not only to support entrepreneurship and alleviate poverty, but also in many cases to empower women and uplift entire communities. In REAL, microcredit is part of the several community developments, particularly women empowerment program.

### **Microcredit Portfolio**

Particulars	Villupuram District		Cuddalore District		Pondicherry	Total
	Ennayiram	Koonimedu	K.M.Koil	S.Puthur		
Self Help Groups						
Total Groups	282	99	270	182	26	859
TotalNo.of Members	4613	1536	4352	2881	449	13831
Total Savings	892.23 L	79.4 L	211.74 L	60.53 L	16.93 L	1260.86 L
Federation						
No.of Federation	4	4	3	2	1	14
No.of Groups linked to federation	217	115	173	67	26	598
No.of members linked to federation	3957	1633	987	1087	449	8113

Currently, there are 859 groups spread over 231 villages in the districts of Cuddalore, Villupuram and Pondicherry. Other than the credit assistance, the beneficiaries were capacitated on number of skill building trainings on a regular basis to improve their functioning in savings and credit and to venture into income generation programs as individuals and as a group.

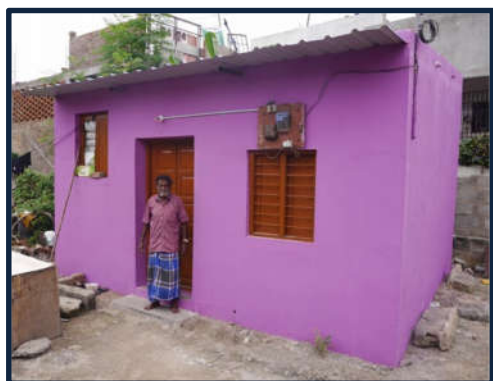


Apart from the linkages with nationalized banks, REAL also promotes possible linkages with various other financial institutions like Rang De, Agricultural Development Finance – Tamil Nadu (ADFT) and NABFINS (NABARD Financial Services).

Finance Institutions	Type of IGP Support	Region	As of March 2017				
			Members Supported	Loan Closed	Loan Amount	Amount Repaid	Loan Outstanding
Rang De	Goat rearing, agricultural activity, small business & cow purchase etc.	S.Puthur	1074	213	100.90 L	57.59 L	43.30 L
		K.M.Koil & Srimushnam	74	-	7.50 L	0.5 L	6.99 L
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1148</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>108.40 L</b>	<b>58.10 L</b>	<b>50.29 L</b>
ADFT	Purchase of milch animals	Srimushnam	239	73	48.50 L	27.67 L	20.82 L
		Ennayiram	100	29	25.00 L	23.88 L	1.11 L
		<b>Total</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>73.50 L</b>	<b>51.56 L</b>	<b>21.93 L</b>
Nabfins	Goat rearing, agricultural activity, small business & cow purchase etc.	K.M.Koil	507	325	2101.06 L	1694.17 L	406.88 L
		S.Puthur	78	0	295.60 L	125.81 L	169.78 L
		Ennayiram	189	134	793.25 L	603.21 L	190.03 L
		Koonimedu	34	11	178.40 L	110.98 L	67.41 L
		Pondicherry	13	0	47.70 L	11.94 L	35.75 L
		<b>Total</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>3416.01 L</b>	<b>2546.13 L</b>	<b>869.87 L</b>

## ***Housing Construction Support Program***

### **Repairs and Renovation of houses and school building affected by flood in Chennai**



Renovation of houses with apt retrofitting is the most viable means of intervention to safeguard the families from the vagaries of natural calamities which is a recurrent phenomenon in Nallur region, Kanchipuram District. Hence, REAL intends to help the neediest families and schools affected by the flood to repair and renovate with the support of Habitat for Humanity. The renovation of this structure helps the affected communities to safeguard their lives and livelihood.

The project selected 10 poorest of the poor beneficiaries who live in the below poverty line and are unable to repair their damaged dwellings due to want of financial assistance. The work completed include Tiles over roofing, Elevation of Brick Wall & plastering work, Cement Flooring, Fixing of Doors and Replacing Windows, Electrical & Painting Work.

### **Swarna Pragathi Housing Program:**

In order to promote better housing in Ennayiram and Kattumannar Koil Region, REAL facilitated loan support of Rs.1.725 crore to 93 beneficiaries under Swarna Pragathi Housing Scheme. Repayment is regular and continuing.

#### Highlights:

- 10 Families who had been living in damaged houses have become the owners of safe and improved home
- 2 new houses constructed for the affected victims.
- 5 schools were renovated (toilet, electrical & plumbing, wall paintings.
- 93 beneficiaries acquired loan support through Swarna Pragathi Finance are able to meet their housing

## REAL Training Centre

REAL established a well-furnished residential Training Centre at Koonimedu in 2006. The Training Centre is equipped with all training facilities including conference hall, LCD, audio-video devices, OHP, Television. Hall with a capacity of 50 people at a time. The centre also has the facility of boarding / lodging. The cost is very nominal and even subsidized for the development sector. During the year, organizations like FSL India and Arunodhaya Centre had utilized the facilities. Further, REAL also organized several trainings and meeting for self-help groups, federation leaders, staff team and children



### Highlights:

- 753 members had visited the center during various meetings and trainings during this fiscal year.



## ***Volunteers Support during the year***

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### **Volunteers from Habitat for Humanity India**

A group of 120 volunteers from Korea visited REAL through Habitat for Humanity India and got involved in the housing construction work in Nallur Region, Kanchipuram District. The volunteers enthusiastically assisted the labourers in construction related tasks including carrying and shifting of materials like cement, brick and sands.



### **Volunteer Consultant:**

Mr.Ray Brillinger, Volunteer Consultant from Canada assisted in guiding the Management Staff at Admin office, in revising of various proposals and writing of annual report as per donor requirements.



### **German Volunteers:**

Every year, REAL receive volunteers from Germany to work as an intern in the projects for about six months. Ms.Rosa and Ms.Ruth, BBP Volunteers of Year (2014-2015) from Germany visited REAL during March 2017. They had made field visits to all branch locations and discussed with their students to whom they engaged with teaching English and arts class. They had participated in the marathon race event and world water day. Also, Ms.Marieke and Mr.Mark, visited REAL activities in S.Puthur Region and take part in education awareness campaign in Pondicherry.



### **Student Internships**

During this year, a group of Nine students from St. Joseph's College of Arts & Science – Cuddalore and Tamil Nadu National Law College, Trichy actively involved in internship program for four weeks. They supported for organizing various meetings and trainings in the field. They were also mutually learned about various project activities during their internship.

## Project Visits

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### Visit from KKS – Germany:

Dr. Sigrid, Coordinator, Development Cooperation, KKS – Germany along with Mr. Suhas, Monitoring Officer, KKF, Coimbatore made their annual monitoring visit to the project site dated Oct 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016. As part of the visit, they had interacted with SHG, IGP beneficiaries, Child club members, Federation members and Khova unit beneficiaries.

During 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> December 2016, the project had the benefit of the visit by Ms. Heike Salvador, the Coordinator Development Cooperation - KKS Germany who was accompanied by Mr. Suhas Nair. She inaugurated the Cashew Processing Unit and visited farmers' field, discussed with women and farmers group and had a detailed discussion with the project staff team, review of budget and finance.

### Visit from Plan India:

The PLAN India team includes; WASH Technical advisor, WASH Program Coordinator and Senior Manager, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) have made two monitoring visits to the field during the month of August 2016 and April 2017. The purpose of the visit was to orient the staff team on the project, understand the existing WATSAN situation, interaction with children and teachers and to provide technical support on WASH construction activities

### Visit from Water for People:

As part of their 'monitoring visit', Mr. Steve and Mr. Samrat Gupta, from Water for People visited pre-fabrication toilet production units at Koonimedu and Kattumannarkoil Region on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016. They interacted with the masons and labours in the unit. Further, discussed with women federation members and appreciated for their interest in learning the new technique and contribution to stop open defecation in the rural villages.



### Visit from Save the Children:

On 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017, The District Collector of Cuddalore accompanied by various district government officials made a trip to the Vasanankuppam village and witnessed the individual household toilet construction work in the entire village (100%) and declared as ODF village. Ms.Ipsita from SC and REAL team were present during the event. During the month of May, the regional team from Singapore, Mr.Kevin, Mr. Tom and Mr.Murali, Deputy Director –DRR along with Ms.Ipsita visited the project villages and observed the work done under the ‘South India Flood Response-2015’ of Save the Children.

### Visit from PSI, Ghana:

On 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017, Mr.Dana Ward, Mrs.Getrude Kangah and Mr. Bernard Elegbe, Coordinator from Population Services India, South Africa visited precast fabrication units at Koonimedu and discussed with technical workers, project team and beneficiaries upon sanitation production units and Ferro cement production in action.

### Visit from ADFT:

Mr.Sukumar (Consultant) from ADFT visited Periathachur and Ennayiram village dated June 6<sup>th</sup> 2017 in order to take stock of loan given by ADFT and utilization of loan for the agreed purposes. During the visit, he interacted with the beneficiaries in the project villages and randomly verified the income generation activities i.e, milch animals, goats and businesses.

### Visit from NABFINS:

Mr. Sathya Moorthy – Financial Coordinator and Mr.Rajesh, Asst. Manager from NABARD visited eight SHGs in both project and non-project villages on May 12<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> June respectively. The purpose of the visit was to review the SHG activity, loan repayment and to assess group progress and performance in order to receive increased loan amount. Also, assessed IGP needs of the group.

### Visit from Swarna Pragathi:

Swarna Pragathi is an organization providing financial assistance to the SHG women for construction of houses. Mr.Murugan and Mr.Jerald visited the houses built using the Swarna Pragathi loan support in the following villages: R.C. Melakonchai (3), Perani (6), Periya Thachur (3) and interacted with the beneficiaries and staff about the status of loan repayment and if there are any further loan requirements.

### Visit from GVR – USA:

Mr.Jeff Waites, Director – Global Village Renewal (GVR) visited project areas of Anilady and Keezhvailamur for the purpose of constructing and renovating school building, toilets and kitchen during the months of April and November 2016

## Visit from Government Departments:

Mr. Jayaseelan, I.A.S, Sub Collector from Villupuram inaugurated the Khoa Production unit at Ennayiram on March 11<sup>th</sup>. After the inauguration he visited one of the Child Activity Centre at Ennayiram and interacted with the children and staff and learned about the various activities implemented in the region. He congratulated and appreciated the work done by the REAL team.

Mr.Mohan, Joint Director and Mr.Selvakumar, Assistant Director from Dept. of Animal Husbandry visited the activities of dairy value chain project in Kattumannar Koil Region on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and Mr.Siva Gnana Bharathi, DPO – District Planning Commission, Cuddalore District visited in the month of November 2016. They interacted with project beneficiaries of milch animals, azolla cultivation, feed shops, fodder units etc and monitored the progress upon the activities.

Mr.Ramalingam and Mr.Ravisankar from Dept. of Agriculture take part in an innovative event “Farmers Field Day” held on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017 in order to motivate the farmer and to help them learn from each other. Through this, successful farmers were recognized and by learning from them other farmers were motivated to adopt organic agriculture.

## *Special Events*

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### World Toilet Day

REAL organized a ‘Walk Show’ on November 19, 2016 on the eve of ‘World Toilet Day’ to create better awareness on sanitation and hygiene. The theme for world toilet day for this year (2016) is ‘toilet and jobs’ focusing on how sanitation, or the lack of it, can impact people’s livelihoods. The walk show was inaugurated by Director of REAL and addressed the gathering; said the importance of hygiene and sanitation at school and community level. He said, one in ten people do not have toilet and defecate in open. Also, diseases transmitted mostly due to poor sanitation and hygiene practices. Total of 95 students (girls 58, boys 37) and 10 teachers were actively participated in the walk show.

### Health Camp:

During the year, this project organized three block level one-day health camps covering all 15 villages (in three batches). A team of 3 doctors (2 general medicines and 1 specialist) and 4 para- medical staff (nurse, laboratory technician and pharmacist) from Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) and Sri Venkateshwara Medical College provided medical assistance for general ailments such as fever, cold, cough and eye testing. A total of 917 people (395 male and 522 female) benefitted from these camps. 113 of them were referred for higher level treatment in PIMS and the nearby Government Hospital. The health care service was well received by the community people.



### World Water Day

On 22nd March 2017, REAL & Save the Children observed “World water Day” in Cuddalore District of Tamil Nadu. As a part of this, a purified 250 LPH reverse osmosis drinking water system was installed in Cuddalore Anna Sports Stadium. The drinking water plant was inaugurated by the District Collector in presence of 200 Children. Ms.Ipsita Das & Jockim Jacob from Save the Children, Mr. Lawrence, Director from REAL and Staff members took part in this Occasion.

Moreover, another program was organized on the same day in Pondicherry wherein **Honorable Chief Minister of Puducherry, Mr.V.Narayanasamy** was the Chief Guest and other dignitaries were also participated. On that Occasion, Habitat for Humanity introduced Housing Micro Insurance product to the community people. NABFINS issued loans to the Self-Help group members. REAL-KKS Children performed cultural programs on “Child Rights and importance of Water and Sanitation”

### Annual General Body Meeting:

Women SHG Federation members have conducted their annual general body meeting on March 30, 2017at Thirunandhipuram Village. The agenda of the meeting was to share and review the last year performance, financial review and drafting action plan for the next year. 350 members participated in the meeting and shared their federation achievements. The special invitees for the meeting were: Mr.Vikraman – Asst General Manager (NABARD), Mr.Johnson – Manager (NABFINS) along with REAL Team and PRI Leaders. They encouraged women to take up and broaden their business ventures into bigger level to improve the economy.

### Video / film show

A short film on "WASH in All Schools why not" and ‘handling of drinking water –do’s & don’ts was screened for the children in all six schools. This film presented various aspects of WASH in schools including - field challenges in absence of WASH in schools, benefits of adopting WASH in schools. The movie showcased situations how the girl's education suffers due to non-availability of the separate toilet in schools. After the show, the project team answered the questions raised by the children and teachers. Total of 257 children (134 boys 123 girls) and 14 teachers from Six target schools in Sengadu and Kiloy Panchayat were viewed this film show.



### Children's Day and Puppet Show

On November 14th children's day, the project team organized puppet show in all six participating schools in Sengadu and Kiloy panchayat of Sriperumbudur. Total of 267 children (144 boys and 123 girls) and 20 teachers from six schools were benefitted through this program

### Global Hand washing day

Celebrated annually on October 15<sup>th</sup>, dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding about the importance of hand washing with soap as an easy, effective, and affordable way to prevent diseases and save lives. REAL organized an event at school level where more than 200 children washed their hands with soap. The team raises awareness about benefits of washing hands with soap.

### Clean India Campaign:

As a part of Clean India Campaign, REAL organized an awareness program in Thirubhavanai village. **Ms. Kiran Bedi, Governor of Puducherry** and other government higher officials of Puducherry government were present in the programme. A total of 27 CAC children participated and anchored the programme. The defects of open defecation were shown through a folk art (villupattu). Ms. Kiran Bedi appreciated the children for their performance and anchoring the show. She said the message on usage of sanitation was clear and the community people will be motivated for construction of household toilets. Sanitation loans were given to few SHGs members during this event.

### Republic day

The 68<sup>th</sup> Republic Day was celebrated with enthusiasm by the school children, teachers and project staff in all six schools in Sengadu and Kiloy panchayat on 26th January 2017. The respective village panchayat heads, freedom fighter and parents were special invitees for the program. The concerned school Head Master presided over. The chief guest hoisted the national flag and spoke to the gathering about the sanctity of the great nation. Cultural activities were held and the gathering was treated with dance and musical feasts. Followed that, KNO supported project organized various competitions such as speech, essay and drawing competitions and topics given was related to components of WASH. Total of 32 children in all six schools were selected as winners and received prizes from the project.



### Marathon Race for a Social Cause:

On 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017, SPI Global organized Kids Marathon with target, “Run for a Cause.... Give Children a Voice, Be that Voice”!!! Stop Child Abuse!!!. Through REAL Organization, nearly 200 children (09 to 14 years of age) from the 3 regions of Cuddalore, Koonimedu and Ennayiram participated enthusiastically in the running event. Also, the programme highlighted by forming human chain along with SPI team and general public. Necessary refreshments were provided by SPI team for the children who were in the event.

### REAL Anniversary Day

Owing to 28<sup>th</sup> year anniversary celebrations, REAL organized various events in the branch offices like distributing metallic storage bins and meeting with farmers in Koonimedu region, federation meeting and distributing cakes to federation leaders in Kattumannar Koil region, organizing training program for soil test and collection report in S.Puthur Region and organizing capacity building trainings to women federation members in Ennayiram Region. The day is filled with complete programmes in all the regions and shared the prospects of REAL to the project beneficiaries.

## News Clippings



## Thanks to our Partners

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## Our Team



### Registered Office

Ennayiram,  
Pidaripattu (PO),  
Periyathachur (Via),  
Villupuram District

### Training Centre

No.10, Dharga Street,  
Magbera Beach,  
Koonimedu,  
Tindivanam TK

### Field Office Location

REAL Gubaran Street, S.Puthur, Cuddalore District	REAL Santhai Thoppu Opp. to MBC Girls Hostel Kattumannarkoil, Cuddalore Dt – 605 651	REAL, Andersonpettai, Sriperumbudur Block, Kancheepuram District.	REAL No.17 Dhandapani Street, Ponneri Taluk, Thiruvallur District
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