**Annual Report – 2013 -2014**

**Introduction:**

Kannur Association for Integrated Rural Organization and Support (KAIROS) is an NGO registered under the Societies’ Registration Act XXI of 1860 in 1999. KAIROS is the official organ of the Mission Diocese of Kannur for social development action. Since its inception, KAIROS has been focusing to create self esteem and self-reliance among its target groups, especially the Diocesan Dalits and fishermen, who are literally marginalized for centuries due to historical and political reasons. KAIROS involves in facilitating socio-economic development targeting the poor and needy irrespective of caste, creed and religion. The Governing Board is responsible for the policy decisions of the organization, while the Director, appointed by the Bishop of the Diocese, is responsible for the execution and administration of programs and projects. He has a team of qualified and dedicated social workers who are trained and experienced in mobilizing people, carrying out development activities in a result oriented manner with people’s participation.

KAIROS’ operational area covers two civil districts of northern Kerala and the organization is pledged for the up lift of Marginal Farmers, Tribal, Women, Children and Senior Citizens. We also conduct training and workshops and provide consultancy services to other NGOs, Panchayat Raj Institutions, Students, Researchers, Civil Society Organizations and other development agencies. We have formed and facilitated Peoples Organizations and in cooperation with them we implement several programmes like Sustainable Natural Resource Management, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry development programmes, Entrepreneurship Development programmes, Gender Development programmes, Tribal Development programmes, Housing and Sanitation programmes, Family Development Program (FDP), Child Development (Balavedi and Inclusive children’s parliament ) programmes, KAIROS Education Support Scheme (KESS), Community Based Rehabilitation programmes, Research and Documentation, Human Resource Development programmes, Health Insurance programmes, etc.

We are happy to present our annual performance report for the year 2013 – 2014 with an intention to reach the people what has taken place in the field of Social and Economic development by the intervention of KAIROS during the last one year. We hope that the readers will get an opportunity to measure the achievement of the socio-economic development organ of the Diocese of Kannur.

1. **Awareness Generation**

Programmes to create general awareness on the social issues that help discriminate people in the lowest strata is organized and conducted in different location of the jurisdictional area of KAIROS. In Such programmes government departments and institutions are invited to give classes on the specific issues that hinder the growth and development of the people especially the poor and marginalized. For example, development issues of women and girl children are handled in week end meetings of the Self Help Groups formulated and facilitated by KAIROS by eminent personalities working for the liberation of women and girl children. Constitutional rights of the women and girl children and their fundamental rights are discussed and debated in some federation level meetings. In the beginning of the monsoon, the topics were related to water borne diseases and precautions to be taken. Environmental conservation, Ill effects of alcoholism and drug abuse were subjects taken for awareness generation. During the reporting period here were many such classes conducted by individual groups. But given below are details of some of those important classes organized and conducted by KAIROS as part of its development interventions

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sl No. | Topics | Location | No. of Participants |
|  | Women Rights |  |  |
|  | Right to information |  |  |
|  | Interface with PRIs |  |  |
|  | Ways of Resource Mobilization |  |  |
|  | Importance of environmental conservation |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Total No. of participants covered | | |  |

**Photos of awareness Generation Programmes**

1. **Family Support**

KAIROS gives special support and care for vulnerable families in its area of operation. Around 200 families had been specifically selected for providing support for their overall development. Material as well as moral support had been extended to these families. For example, support is being given for the marriage of the girl children, Education (especially for Girl Children) housing, sanitation and even self employment schemes in the subsistence sector (Schemes which require less investment). Many families have been involved in self employment schemes with the financial support of the Banks as they were linked with such institutions. These families are leading a joyful life and their children are enjoying the luxury of the main stream social life. The Family Support Programmes created such a situation that these families are counted and considered and merged to the mainstream otherwise had been thrown in to the waste bin. Given below are some of the examples of the progress/success of the supported families.

**Add here some case studies of successful cases with photos**

1. **Education Promotion**

KAIROS is so particular that no children, especially from the poor families, are left uneducated due to lack of resources and motivation. The grown up generation of the community for which KAIROS is catering to is either undereducated or uneducated. KAIROS wanted to ensure not to continue this situation for the future generation. Therefore, education promotion coming under the priority programmes of KAIROS. Education Promotion Programme of KAIROS include, career guidance, in which students and parents are guided to select the most suitable course and institutions, Parental motivation is for making the parents understand the need and importance of education for building up a welfare society and financial support for continuing education. During the year 2013-2014 KAIROS has organized 6 career guidance (One each for a Region) vide which many students are admitted to Hotel Management Course. Tie up has been established with Don Bosco College, Vaduthala for admissions for technical education courses and vocational training. Small loans are being given to eligible students (from most backward families) who show extra intelligence and interest from the family support programmes of KAIROS in 2013-14 ……………….. students are given financial support from (Kolping) KAIROS

**Put Some Photos of Career Guidance Classes and other sessions**

1. **Health Promotion Programme**

In the light of deadly diseases that had been fully cleared from among the people of Kerala returns back, awareness Generation on health issues and health care gains more and more importance. KAIROS is in the forefront for creating awareness on tuberculosis and its preventive measures (via Akshaya programmes) HIV/AIDS prevention programmes, Alcoholism and Drug abuse prevention etc. These programmes have taken momentum among the people and many drug addicts and alcoholics have given up (of course there are cases of relapse). HIV/AIDS prevention programme are also have brought about results. The programme includes nutrition kit distribution, financial support for ART etc. Exhibitions, street theatre, seminars and sessions for High School and Higher Secondary School Students and general public, poster exhibitions etc. are some strategies adopted for the success of the programme. Regional Federations were responsible for organizing and conducting these programmes, as KAIROS fosters participation and decentralization in building a knowledge base for the people.

**PHOTO Please………………….**

1. **Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion Programmes**

In our sanitation programmes, environmental sanitation gets top priority. At the same time personal hygiene and domestic hygiene also are of importance. KAIROS targets complete sanitation in the rural areas, safe and environmental friendly waste disposal mechanisms are also under taken and promoted. For example, double pit latrines, Vermi Compost Pits, compost pits, etc are promoted as part of health promotion programme. As a part of our Sanitation & Hygiene Promotion Programme, we supported ----------------- families to construct vermin compost pits and safe latrines.

**Add Photographs of Vermi Compost Pits/Latrine**

1. **Entrepreneurship Development**

Entrepreneurship Development Programmes are aimed to explore the potential and entrepreneurial competencies of people who are intending to enter into the Income Generation Programmes (who wanted to involve in small business and light industries). KAIROS gets funds from National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) and partner organizations abroad. In the reporting year we have conducted two MEDP programmes for a duration of 15 days at two different locations – Mattool & Bekkalam for a total of 40 people (20 each for a place). This programme was for those people who are involved in tailoring and garment making. The training helped them to develop their business and increased the production and marketing. These women earn a descent livelihood now.

**Training Photo & Photos of Garment Shops**

1. **Income Generation Programmes**

KAIROS undertakes and promotes Income Generation Programmes (IGP) for economic development of the poor and marginalized that may supplement their social well being. Specific training are organized and conducted in animal husbandry, small business, organic farming, etc to help people involved in such activities with an intention to help them to improve their economic basis. Financial support was arranged with the financial institutions through linkages and lobbying. Institutional finance like finance from SHGs and their Federations, who channelize funds from the savings of its members, KSBCDC (State Government institution for backward class communities) etc. were also arranged. Mentoring and handholding support is extended to individual entrepreneur by the expertise and KAIROS staff in the field. In the reporting year, around ………………… such schemes are started and helped to be sustained.

**Photos of IGP**

1. **Environmental protection & Conservation**

Natural Resource Management (NRM) is one of the major and important areas of intervention of KAIROS and has a very good track record in the implementation of the sectoral programmes. As of now KAIROS is implementing two types of programmes in the sector – Watershed Management Programme under Western Ghat Development Programmes (WGDP) and Watershed Based Development Programme of National Bank for Rural and Agriculture Development (NABARD). The activities carried out during the last one year are manifold and be classified under three heads – activities for soil and water conservation, for Livelihood support and Capacity building of the watershed community. All these three categories of programmes led to sustainable Natural Resource Management which helped the people to understand the need of conservation. The conservation activities ensured adequate returns from their farm land. Provision was also set apart in the project to ensure the empowerment and sustainable livelihood of the landless and vulnerable sections like tribal and women. The Capacity building made the community to involve in the operation and management of what is being gained through the project.

Programmes like construction of contour bund, earthen bund, contour trench, column bund, stone pitched bund, diversion canal, drainage line protection, construction of check dams, head pond, farm pond, agro-forestry and agri-horti culture initiatives carried out in the watershed helped to conserve soil, reduced soil erosion, slowdown the running velocity of the water fallen on the slopes and conservation of water. The agri-horti cultural activities have also helped to increase the vegetative cover of the area and reduced water runoff along with fodder cultivation. The fodder cultivation has also increased availability green fodder for those who find out a means of livelihood from animal husbandry. In a way the agri-horticultural promotion programmes added to the biomass of the watershed with a variety of plants and climbers. This will definitely have a long term effect in the watershed.

1. **Micro Insurance**

The micro-insurance programme which includes mainly healthcare insurance has coverage of ------------- people in Life Insurance Company (LIC). The programme is very helpful to the poor families, and the families under cover get death claim. The annual premium for the health insurance policy is ……………… and a maximum of Rs. 30000/- is claimable on death of the person. Though there are a number of families left behind without enrolling in the insurance scheme, we could cover at least ……..% of the total targeted families of the SHGs fostered and promoted by KAIROS. In promoting Micro-Insurance among the members, the SHGs functioning in different regions are trying their best. The Village Coordinators in the regions take top most interest to create awareness among the members of SHGs and involve the Federations to take the lead role. Many Federations have done glorious job in both to make the members join the scheme and to settle the claims made with the insurance companies.

1. **KLM (Welfare programmes for the labours in the unorganized Sector)**

Majority of the people of the two districts (Kannur & Kasaragod) is daily wagers and traditional artisans. While the labourers in different sectors have their own organizations to take care of their interests, the people in the above said categories have no such backing of any kind of organizations. So, they are discriminated, have no way forward towards further development and sustenance. In a sense they are in the unorganized sector. KAIROS wanted to do something meaningful in the case of this category of people and decided to organize them and empower them to claim for their rights and privileges and make them competent enough with the organized sector. And the initiative is named as Kerala Labour Movement – in abbreviation KLM. KAIROS helped ……………. members of KLM, to get enrolled in Kshemanidhi and ………………….. in Sruaksha Swavalamban programmes of the government.

1. **Dream Home Scheme – Housing Project**

There are many people for whom a house is being a long cherished dream. For want of resources, many could not either construct or complete their dream home, so that they are destined to stay in poor living conditions. KAIROS have established a scheme to help such people in memory of the Legend Rev. Fr. Linus Maria Zucol S. J., who constructed 7000 plus houses and donated those houses to the poor and needy. Under the scheme KAIROS helped 9 families in the year with a total amount of Rs. 440000. The beneficiaries remember that this help was of great value and supplemented their effort to own a descent house for their living.

1. **Jalanidhi**

"Jalanidhi", is a World Bank-assisted "Kerala Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project" for sustained delivery of adequate quantity of water and sanitation services in rural areas of Kerala. KAIROS is selected as Supporting Organization (SO) by the state government authority (KRWSA), for implementing two JALANIDHI-projects in Kannur District – one in Kolayad Grama Panchayath (GP) and the other in Irikkur Grama Panchayat. The project ensure adequate and pure drinking water supply along with total sanitation, Ground water recharging, and GP infrastructure development aiming at its strengthening and Technical and general trainings to the project stakeholders. Normally the other projects are need based, but Jalanidhi is more demand driven than need based.

In Kolayad Grama Panchayath the total families covered under Jalanidhi Project is ……………. Which includes …….% of SC/ST families. In Irikkur, the scheme is a large multi BG scheme which covers a total of …………….. families with ………..% of SC/ST families..

**Conclusion**

Empowerment comes from People’s groups who seek to empower themselves through greater self-reliance. They have right to determine their own choices in life. They also seek to gain control and access to resources. Economic empowerment is one of the means to empower the grass root level population. Enhancing women’s economic productivity is an important strategy for improving the welfare of hundreds of households living below the poverty line. The existence of poor in a state of economic, political, social and knowledge disempowerment is known to be a major hindrance to economic development. Income generating activities will be considered as those initiatives that affect the economic aspects of people’s lives through the use of economic tools such as credit.

We are thankfully remembering the agencies and institutions which were instrumental for the achievements of KAIROS during the reporting period. If it is not for their support and guidance, these achievements would not have been happened. We expect the similar support, cooperation and guidance from those partners for the coming years also.

A few words of gratitude for the whole team of KAIROS for having been instruments for the transition taken place among the poor and marginalized, the new horizon of achievements in the socio economic development, and for the creation of the future generation who are ready to work for their own development.

Fr, (Dr.) Jilson Panakkal

Director, KAIROS