



KAIROS

(Kannur Association for Integrated Rural Organization and Support)

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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 Diocese of Kannur for social development interventions. 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, Panchayati 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 programs like Sustainable Natural Resource Management, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry development programs, Entrepreneurship Development programs, Gender Development programs, Tribal Development programs, Housing and Sanitation programs, Family Development Program (FDP), Child Development (Balavedi and Inclusive children's parliament) programs, KAIROS Education Support Scheme (KESS), Community Based Rehabilitation programs, Research and Documentation, Human Resource Development programs, Health Insurance programs, 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

Programs 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 programs 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

No.	Topics	Location	No. of Participants
1	Women Rights	Iritty & Payangadi	62
2	Right to information	Pilathara	35
3	Interface with PRIs	Mattul South, Mattul North, Kannur, Pilicode, Madai, Kurumathur	670
4	Importance of environmental conservation	Naduvil & Chapparappadavu gramapanchayaths	120
5	Village Development Perspective Plan	Christhukunnu, Madakampoil, Pappinissery, Anayandagiri, Payangadi, Embatte, Nellikunnu, Chalil, Kavumchal, Pilathara, Azhikode, Nadakavu, Pattuvam, Korangode, Vellarivayal, Vellarivayal, Malayampadi, Kanakapally	1000
6	Good Governance Training	Kavunchal, Kunhippara, Nellikkunnu, Azhikode, Kuttur, Kanhagad, Anayandagiri, Vellikkeel, Punchakkad	928
7	Civic Rights	Kolayad, Chalil, Mattul South, Mudikkanam, Kayapoil, Ulikkal, Payangadi	425
8	Family Counseling training	Taliparamba, Kannur	378
9	Career and placement guidance	Nadakavu, Iritty, Pazhayangadi, Madai, Taliparamba, Pilathara	410
10	Counselling Training	KAIROS Office	454
11	Core Development Committee Meeting	KAIROS Office	60
12	Dissemination On Govt Schemes	Embate, Thavam, Thayyil, Mangara, Kuttur, Chalil, Chempancherry, Anayandagiri, Chembrakanam, Keezhppally	928
13	Street Play	Kanhagad, Badiadukka, Keloth, Nileswaram, Kolayad, Iritty, Kolacherry, Taliparamba, Thalasserry, Mattannur, Burnacherry, Bakkalam, Chrupuzha	
14	Meeting with Officials	Neharu Yuva Kendra, Calicut Medical College, Kannur Medical	150

		College, Anjarakandi Medical College, Kannur Gov. Hospital, Kannur VCTC Centre,	
15	EDP Training	Mattul South, Vellarivayal, Trikaripur, Pilathara, Bakkalam, Kannadiparamba, Taliparamba	520
16	Leadership Training	Poovam, Keloth, ITC Pariyaram, Punchakkad	142
17	Skill Training on Organic Agriculture	Kunhipara	30
18	Skill Training on Value Added Products	Taliparamba	172
19	Training on Micro Finance	Anayandagiri, ITC Pariyaram, Kanhagad, Madai, Embatte, Keezhppally, Kolayad, Kavunchal	144
20	Training on Disaster Preparedness & NRM	Pilathara, Kannur	50
21	Training on Welfare & Development Schemes	Taliparamba	70
22	Training on staff system Strengthening	KAIROS Office	30
Total No. of participants covered			1308

2. Family Support

KAIROS gives special support and care for vulnerable families in its area of operation. Around 300 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 Programs 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.

Case study of Mrs. Khadeeja Rafeeqe

Poor people have often unstable and unpredictable livelihoods form a key dimension of their powerlessness. They work primarily in the formal sector, with no social protection, and frequently patch together several activities that are low paying, temporary, seasonal, backbreaking, dangerous and sometimes outside the law.



The real life story of Mrs. Khadeeja Rafeeqe

CR 1282 is very similar to the sentence mentioned above. She lived in a small rented house at Thayyil with her husband and three of her children. Her beloved husband Rafeeqe was a chronic heart patient and he was unable to do his job as a fisherman. The poor women was very desperate with the financial problems and illness of her husband.

She was so poor that she could not afford a good rented house. The family lived in a small rental house in the coastal side of Kannur. She adjusted with the pathetic ugly, untidy conditions. During the rainy season water was flown into their house. They did not have the basic facilities such as safe drinking water, latrine, electricity etc. They relayed on pipe water supplied by the municipality and it also reached them irregular. In this situation the family was not able to do any Income Generating Program due to lack of facilities.

A few years back they were living in a good house with rather good facilities. In order to raise money for her husband's treatment, she sold the house and the property.



3. 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 programs of KAIROS. Education Promotion Program 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 programs 15 students are given financial support from KAIROS during 2013-14.



4. Health Promotion Program

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 Axshya programs) HIV/AIDS prevention programs, Alcoholism and Drug abuse prevention etc. These programs

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 program are also have brought about results. The program 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 program. Regional Federations were responsible for organizing and conducting these programs, as KAIROS fosters participation and decentralization in building a knowledge base for the people.



5. Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion Programs

In our sanitation programs, 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 program. As a part of our Sanitation & Hygiene Promotion Program, we supported 48 families to construct vermin compost pits and safe latrines.



6. Entrepreneurship Development

Entrepreneurship Development

Programs are aimed to explore the potential and entrepreneurial competencies of people who are intending to enter into the Income Generation Programs (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 programs for duration of 15 days at two different locations – Mattool & Bakkalam for a total of 40 people (20 each for a place). This program 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.



7. Income Generation Programs

KAIROS undertakes and promotes Income Generation Programs (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 98 such schemes are started and helped to be sustained.



8. 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 programs. As of now KAIROS is implementing two types of programs in the sector – Watershed Management Program under Western Ghat Development Programs (WGDP) and Watershed Based Development Program 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 programs 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.



Programs 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 programs 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.

9. Micro Insurance

The micro-insurance program which includes mainly healthcare insurance has coverage of 675 active policy holders in Life Insurance Company (LIC). The program is very helpful to the poor families, and the families under cover get death claim. The annual premium for the health insurance policy is Rs.6000/- 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 12% 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.

10. KLM (Welfare programs 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 280 members of KLM, to get enrolled in Kshemanidhi and 399 in Sruaksha Swavalamban programs of the government.

11. Swapnaveedu – Dream 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 decent house for their living.

12. 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 1180, which includes 30% of SC/ST families. In Irikkur, the scheme is a large multi BG scheme which covers a total of 1677 families with .07% 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.



Rev. Dr. Jilson Panakkal
Director - KAIROS

