

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

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BREADS' Child Rights Education and Action Movement (CREAM) phase II came to a successful close in April 2020. The phases of the programme have been envisaged as a progression in child rights' education and action among vulnerable communities: from direct interventions with children locally, then including adults in the community, to working with government structures and systems to incorporate the advocacy activities of these educated stakeholders in phase III. Beginning from 1 October 2020, CREAM III involves the preparation of communities, both children and adults, to interact directly with government structures to ensure a systemic realisation of children's rights, more independently of Don Bosco support and intervention. This edition of Slice provides a glimpse into what CREAM II could achieve and what CREAM III hopes to achieve.

## CREAM II - Milestones achieved

The overall goal of CREAM II was the improvement of the situation of children's rights in ten districts in Karnataka:

- a. Children and adult stakeholders are committed to children's rights and child protection.
  - Children were capacitated and empowered to articulate and exercise their rights, participate in discussions, initiate advocacy and campaigns to restore their rights.
- b. Children and young people know their rights and are committed to demanding compliance with those rights
  - 203,321 children participated in 2864 three-day trainings on Child Rights and related issues
  - More than 500 existing and 765 newly formed Child Rights Clubs (CRCs) were instrumental in advocacy actions and movements in their communities. Working with key adult stakeholders, CRC members ensured 699 child marriages were prevented, 1413 children were rescued from child labour, 2532 children were re-enrolled to school, 261 child abuses cases were addressed, 13,427 instances of school infrastructure development were executed.
  - Human rights and child rights were taught in 765 government schools by Social Science teachers who are also in charge of the school CRC. Printed learning material on these subjects were distributed to the schools and teachers to enhance the effectiveness of the classes.
  - Intensive human rights education was provided weekly in 100 evening schools.
  - CRC network meetings at the district level played an instrumental role in discussing the major child rights violations and their addressal. Over the project period, 108 such meetings took place at the district, and 4 at the state level to discuss and organise advocacy actions. CRC leaders dialogued with the education department, Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (KSCPCR), Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA), etc. raising pertinent issues with them for resolution.







c. CRCs were closely linked with community structures and adult stakeholders' awareness of children's rights has increased.

- 24,192 adult stakeholders (teachers, officials of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI), youth, community leaders, government officials, police, and media personnel) were trained on child rights, making them aware of their responsibilities towards children and any violations of their rights.
- 14,215 women leaders (Self-Help Groups) were trained on child rights resulting in more effective identification and response to school dropouts, child abuse, and child marriage.

d. Village structures such as the social justice forum, SHGs, school committees, youth groups, task forces regularly engage with issues of children's rights and child protection.

• CREAM endeavoured to form village justice committees where possible. In its efforts to create/maintain community structures, 501 Child Protection Committees (CPCs) were formed in 10 districts, training 20,822 members. CPCs were also formed in the bus stations and railway stations for the vulnerable children from urban areas. The School Development and Monitoring Committee (SDMC) was involved in the CRCs and in child protection.



e. Children and adults jointly initiated more than 1000 events to protect and promote children's rights: district campaigns, mass rescue operations for child labour/school dropouts, prevention of child marriage, improvement of school infrastructure.

f. The number of school dropouts in the project regions have reduced.

• 100 evening schools were initiated under CREAM II in villages and slums benefitting 4000+ children, improving their academic performance, imparting child rights education, life skill training, providing entertainment, talent promotion etc. These tuition centres are instrumental in motivating children to reenroll in schools (2532 children were admitted), retain interest in studies and reduce dropout rates. School enrolment is 100% in all the villages where the evening schools function.

g. Authorities and relevant stakeholders at the district and state levels have an improved awareness of the rights of children and young people and are actively committed to child protection.

- Collaborated with the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) for teachers' training in 3 districts. Associated and collaborated with District Education Departments for government school teachers' training in other districts.
- 158 consultations/dialogues with government departments, PRIs, media, NGOs, community-based organisations, government officials etc.
- 582 dialogue/advocacy meetings were conducted with key government stakeholders that children interact with regularly: Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), Special Juvenile Police Units (SJPU), District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), CHILDLINE, KSCPCR, District Education Departments/DIET, Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU), Labour Department, Police, Health Department, PRIs.

- o 3823 CHILDLINE calls from children about rights violations
- o 552 instances of children contacting CWCs
- o 473 instances of children contacting CPCs
- o 379 instances of children seeking help from the DCPU, 153 instances with the Missing Child Bureau, 110 instances with the SJPU, and 15 instances with the AHTU.

h. District and state authorities supported programmes for the protection of children's rights.



- BREADS with the support of UNICEF published "Championing Child-Rights – a resource book on strategies to prevent child marriage" in 2018
- KSCPCR supported the publication of a child rights manual for distribution in government schools in Karnataka



## What do Children think about CREAM?



Tanisha (13) was the child representative from Karnataka to the National Parliament of Children conducted by Wada Na Thodo Abhiyan (WNTA) in 2019. A CREAM CRC leader from Bangalore, she found the sharing of experiences with children from across the country, as well as her introduction to the sustainable development goals, a huge learning opportunity. She particularly likes goals 1 (No poverty) and 17 (Partnership for the goals) because she sees how poverty causes a lot of discrimination even for children in a school, cutting them off from various opportunities in life. Goal 17 is important to her because she realises that people need to work together to achieve rights for a child. What comes through in her conversation is the aspect of empathy that is generated when we learn to appreciate human rights. While reasoning that it's the adults' duty to ensure child rights in society, Tanisha thinks that informed children would help that happen by knowing what constitutes a violation and the protective action to be taken. Therefore, child rights education programmes such as CREAM are very important to her.

## CREAM III – Enabling Community Negotiation of Child Rights with the State

CREAM III will extend activities from the current 10 districts to an additional 10 districts in Karnataka, with a focus on strengthening government departments and systems to adopt successful CREAM interventions and strategies for child rights promotion, such as Child Rights Clubs (CRCs), human rights education (HRE) in schools for children and teachers, the Child Protection Committees (CPCs) at village/panchayat levels and Makkala Grama Sabhas. Work in the new districts will be carried out under the supervision of the Don Bosco projects of the existing districts.



S.No.	Existing Project location	New districts
1	Mysuru	Chamrajanagar
2	Ramanagara	Mandya
3	Bangalore Urban	Bangalore Rural
4	Chitradurga	Tumakuru
5	Davangere	Shivamogga & Haveri
6	Ballari	Koppal & Gadag
7	Raichur	Bagalkot
8	Kalaburagi	Vijayapura
9	Yadagir	Extended taluks
10	Bidar	Extended taluks

Besides sustaining actions, structures and networks developed under phases I & II, CREAM III envisages the achievement of the following by 31 December 2022:

1. Formation of 500 new Child Protection Committees at the village/panchayat level.
2. Ensuring that CRCs are formed in at least 60% of the government schools of the project districts.
3. Ensuring the appointment of a designated teacher by government order to supervise the CRCs in the school.
4. Advocating with the Education department to print and distribute the manuals on CRC formation and the text book on child rights in all the schools in Karnataka.
5. Conducting of Makkala Grama Sabhas in 60% of the gram panchayats of the project districts.
6. Creation of strong collaboration with child-related bodies/departments: Women and Child Development and Rural Development departments, UNICEF, High Court Committees on Juvenile Justice.
7. Facilitating dialogues and workshops with 40 government stake holders and civil society groups to ensure visible impact in areas of education, child rights promotion and child protection.

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7. Facilitating dialogues and workshops with 40 government stake holders and civil society groups to ensure visible impact in areas of education, child rights promotion and child protection.
8. Strengthening of the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (KSCPCR) and District Child Protection Unit (DCPU).

## CALENDAR

### OCTOBER 2020

- Publication and dissemination of sector-wise Child Safeguarding Policies
- COVID 19 Relief work in Kerala and Karnataka
- Launch of CREAM III across 20 districts in Karnataka
- Special COVID 19 relief drive for Siddi tribals in Yellapura and Ankola forests of Karnataka

### NOVEMBER 2020

- Inauguration of skill training for Batch 13 in DB BEST Academy, Bangalore
- Children's Day celebrations across Don Bosco presences
- Child Rights' week observance across Don Bosco presences
- COVID 19 Relief work in Kerala and Karnataka

## NEWS

### Release of Child Safeguarding Policies for Bangalore Province

Fulfilling its role as the province Planning and Development Organisation (PDO) to provide clarity through relevant policies to help the Salesian Province of Bangalore accomplish its goals, BREADS Bangalore drafted ten versions of Child Safeguarding Policies (CSPs) as supportive references for child-related sectors in the province. In addition to Province and PDO guidelines,.... [more](#)



### Don Bosco Angamaly is a COVID 19 First-Line Treatment Centre

Don Bosco School, Angamaly is fully functional as a domiciliary COVID 19 first-line treatment centre from 2 October 2020. COVID 19 First-Line Treatment Centres are public health centres set up by the Government of Kerala to especially combat the COVID 19 outbreak and to strengthen medical infrastructure facilities. People who test positive for COVID 19 with the antigen.... [more](#)



### FCDP sets up COVID 19 help desk in Kollam

On 12 October 2020 Fishermen Community Development Programme (FCDP) Kollam and Theeradesa Mahila Society (TMS) started a COVID 19 help desk aimed at providing assistance to people who are severely in need because of the rapid spread of COVID 19. The help desk numbers 9895754970 and 0474-2750652 provide 24x7 services such as COVID 19 tests .... [more](#)



### Relief kit distribution in Bangalore

On 6 and 7 October 2020, BREADS Bangalore in collaboration with ResponseNet, Hilton Bangalore, Transform Plus, Rhoumai and Good Quest Foundation, distributed 330 ration kits in the low-income areas of MV Garden Ulsoor, and Anandpura in Jeevan Bheema Nagar. Each ration kit consisted of rice 5kg, atta 5kg, salt 1kg, rajma 3 kg, oil 750 ml, turmeric powder,.... [more](#)

