BREADS

Bangalore Rural Educational and Development Society

building the future together

Annual Report

2020-2021

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Director's Message

Fr. Rubin Mathew SDB
Executive Director

COVID 19 made 2020-21 momentous for numerous reasons. One of the striking aspects of its impact was that it was an equaliser in a world otherwise inured by inequity. The virus affected all, without discrimination. That people with more resources eventually coped better was inevitable but not guaranteed.

The Salesian Strenna, *Moved by Hope*, is a fitting description of BREADS' approach in 2020-21, to bring hope to vulnerable communities and individuals, by tirelessly supporting them in various ways to cope with the pandemic. As this report will reflect, COVID 19 also greatly impacted the ongoing work of BREADS, thereby affecting the lives of the various stakeholders involved. Moving through the first and second waves of the pandemic, learning as we navigated the unknown, we were strengthened by the experience, and so continue to hope that the virus becomes less virulent, allowing people especially the children, to resume their lives, even as these communities figure out a new normal.

The BREADS team was greatly supported in this movement by its partners—institutions and individuals—who generously contributed their time and resources to help their fellow beings, even while they managed the impact of the pandemic on their own lives. I thank each one of them and the staff of the various Don Bosco partners for their solidarity during this time of need.

The pandemic reminded us that humans are equally fragile and need each other to be saved. Our strength is in our solidarity; but we are as strong as our weakest link and therefore, the need to ensure equitable development for all.

Bangalore Rural Educational and Development Society (BREADS) is the planning and development organisation of the Salesians of Don Bosco, Province of Bangalore, India. Over 28 years in the development sector, BREADS has implemented more than 500 projects with its 44 Don Bosco partners for the sustainable development of marginalised people with a specific impact on more than 10,00,000 children, women and youth in Karnataka and Kerala.

BREADS addresses the individual and community needs of the marginalised with a long-term vision. One of its objectives is to facilitate citizenship and nation building by empowering children and adults through education and skilling to become responsible citizens with access to their rights. Another focus area of BREADS involves climate concerns, including promotion of sustainable agriculture, climate action, and clean energy. The achievement of the sustainable development goals aligns with these two broad areas of its work in tackling poverty by transforming the poor into agents of change in their own lives, using a rights-based approach.

BREADS is a trust (1138/94-95), also registered under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, 2010. Contributions to BREADS are exempt from tax under sections 12A and 80G of the Indian IT Act 1961.

Vision

An inclusive community based on rights, equality, justice, and peace

Mission

To transform the poor and needy as resources and agents of change through educative presence and accompaniment

1 Partnering in Solidarity

As the planning and development organisation (PDO) for Karnataka and Kerala, BREADS played a key role in coordinating and networking with all the province communities to respond to the COVID crisis. As per the 14/0020 General Administration protocol, BREADS was present on the ground, working together and providing effective support to its partners and beneficiaries, through transparent sharing of information and resources.

BREADS welcomed partners: forming a local platform called *Corona Care Bengaluru* with other NGOs (ECHO, Good Quest Foundation, AIFO, Project Vision). It partnered nationally with Bosconet and ResponseNet and contributed to the international Don Bosco Solidarity COVID 19 relief work. BREADS mobilised resources among the local communities-garnering funds, talents, and other resources-to support COVID relief efforts.

Corona Care Bengaluru volunteers deliver meals at the doorsteps of quarantined people.

Even while emergency relief was on, plans for longer term interventions began to be formulated and executed to ensure that people could think of transitioning to a more normalised life. BREADS reached out to over **7** lakh people in Karnataka and Kerala during the pandemic.

2 Safeguarding Children—Policies for Salesian Sectors

A PDO's role is to provide clarity and definition through relevant policies and regulations to help the congregation accomplish its goals. Straddling the worlds of secular and congregational developmental work, BREADS tried to find common ground—a commitment to the realisation of the wellbeing and rights of children envisaged by both Don Bosco and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

BREADS compiled **10** Child Safeguarding Policies as supportive references for formation houses, institutions engaged in child and youth ministries, and for the Province itself. The policies define and customise structures and processes of care and protection in keeping with State and Church requirements. The policies were developed in a consultative and participatory manner with various stakeholders on the ground, including children themselves.

3 Working towards a Salesian Answer

To create a documentation system that could support it to assess, redefine, and restructure the existing Salesian answers to our existing developmental context, BREADS started the implementation of Salesforce—a well-known CRM platform. Four apps were created: Education Sponsorship, Project Management, Interns & Volunteers, Skill Training—to both streamline organisation processes and support the research and analysis required of the PDO role.

4 Transitioning in Growth—Leadership Changes

From its inception in 1993, BREADS has had a long journey of growth. Through this journey, various Directors have charted its course, building upon the fruits of the labour of those gone before. Fr Joy Nedumparambil SDB during his Directorship from 2009-2021, played a stellar role in the growth of BREADS.

With characteristic enthusiasm, Fr Joy directed hundreds of projects that positively impacted more than 10 lakh children, youth and communities on the margins of society: through education, skilling, employment and empowerment. Lakhs of people were helped during disasters: floods of 2018, 2019 and the COVID pandemic. By creating infrastructure, strengthening organisational structures, and enhancing human resources through policy formulation and capacity building across Don Bosco presences in Karnataka and Kerala, Fr Joy ensured that BREADS became noted and highly appreciated as an innovative, competent PDO by funding agencies, partners, and in Salesian circles.

On 24 May 2021, Fr Joy passed on the baton to Fr Rubin Mathew SDB, who served as Assistant Director of BREADS from 2019, managing DB BEST Academy in Bangalore and overseeing skill training projects across Kerala and Karnataka as Regional Coordinator for DB Tech. Fr Rubin has ample experience in the social development sector and NGO management. He worked for **6** years on child labour eradication in Davangere. He holds a master's in Social Work from Roshni Nilaya, Mangalore; a diploma in Human Rights from the Centre for Human Rights Studies, Zurich; and is trained on Child Rights and Child Policies from NIPCCD.

Fr Deepu Mathew SDB, who took office as Assistant Director of BREADS, is also experienced in the development sector and has a master's in Social Work from Roshni Nilaya, Mangalore.

BREADS looks forward to continued growth under their leadership in serving the best interests of the marginalised children and communities with whom it partners.

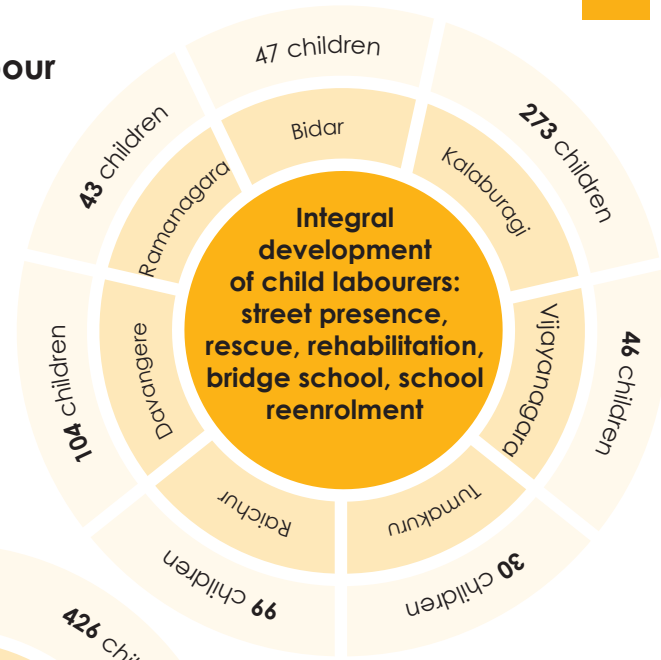
From Confinement to Opening Up

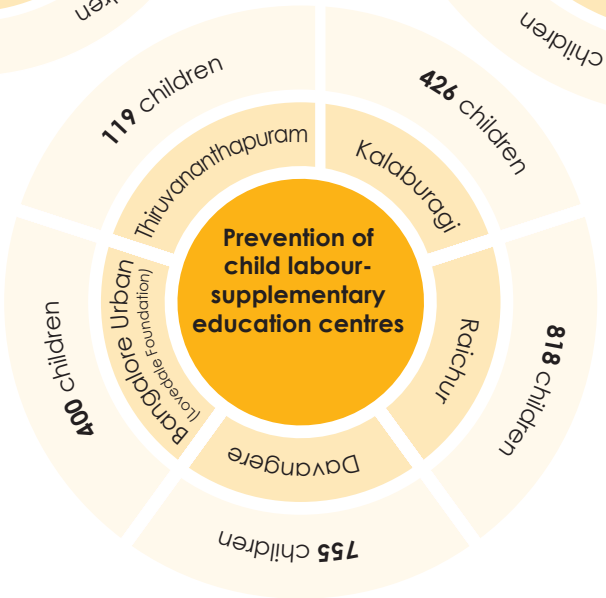
2020-21 was a year of confinement for most people around the world. In India, 1.5 million closed schools impacted 247 million children enrolled in elementary and secondary schools. Increased incidences of child labour, child marriage, and unhealthy behaviours were disturbing trends that could be directly linked to the closure of schools and the lack of engagement in learning processes because of the stark digital divide in India.

With the lack of incomes and livelihoods and adults stressed out about survival, children get automatically assigned to finding ways to supplement the family income—working, begging etc. Aware of the need to protect children from child labour NOW more than ever, BREADS and its partners tried to create spaces for children to engage in continued learning by providing school fee subsidies, devices to access online learning, and enabling Don Bosco institutions to provide online learning for rural students. BREADS reached out to tribal children in forest areas with books and stationery to help them practice their learning until schools reopened, and supported the education of children of migrant labourers who lost their livelihoods. These small steps created vital safe spaces for children wherever possible.

Sponsorship of children's education and living expenses continues to be a solid preventive intervention in safeguarding a child's well-being within the institution of the family as far as possible. BREADS acknowledges with gratitude, the many sponsors who opened their hearts so that alternative futures could be opened for children at risk.

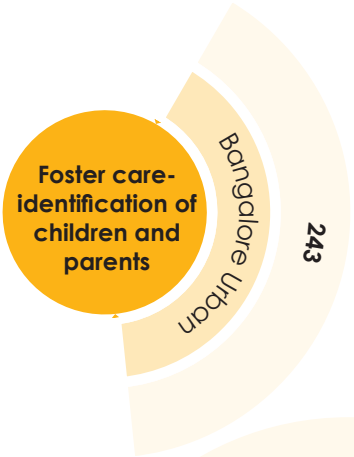
Interventions to prevent Child Labour

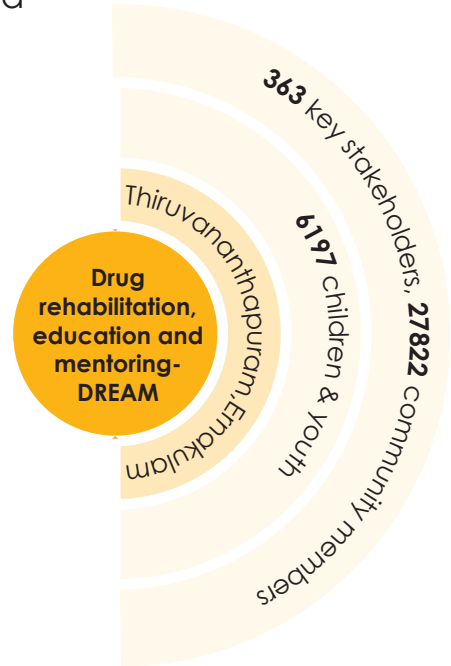




Empowering Children

Total **25** projects impacting **15,478** children and **169,981** adult community members.





Project strategies

Location

Beneficiary Stakeholders

1 Opening New Avenues of Growth—Laura Bhavan

The inauguration of Laura Bhavan in Bablad, Kalaburagi was a welcome opportunity to look beyond coping with COVID 19 to calibrating our long-term goals to include its impact.

This well-equipped child labour rehabilitation centre enables the rescue and rehabilitation of around **50** girl child labourers in a healthy environment suitable for their overall development. A result of the partnership among Don Bosco Programme for Young at Risk (PYaR), BREADS Bangalore, Don Bosco Mondo and Sternstuder e.V., the new infrastructure enables DB PYaR to plan, design and implement community outreach programmes for child labour eradication, school dropout prevention and community empowerment focusing on girls and women.

2 Opening Safe Spaces for Children to Dialogue—CREAM-II

The Child Rights Education and Action Movement (CREAM), BREADS' flagship programme for promoting child rights in **10** districts of Karnataka, successfully completed its second phase (2016-2020). CREAM's strategy to empower children specifically, as ambassadors of child rights, enabled them to raise their voices in defence of their peers when needed, and to express their views on matters that concern them. Using the platforms of child rights clubs (CRCs) and their federations, CREAM was successful in powering up a generation of informed, vocal, confident children, unafraid to stand up for their rights. CREAM II trained more than **200,000** such children, forming **765** new CRCs, strengthening **500** old CRCs, and organising **681** Children's Special Grama Sabhas where children could influence decision-making processes and the State agenda for child rights.

CREAM II worked extensively towards enabling adults to understand and respond to issues of child protection and child rights, so that they could create appropriate responsive mechanisms, structures, and systems for child protection in society. It successfully trained **38,000** adults including government officials, community leaders, school teachers, and youth. **501** local child protection committees (CPCs/Task forces) were formed and strengthened, and more than **300** Self Help Groups (SHGs) were empowered to play vital roles in child rights promotion in the community. These sensitised adults and empowered children became instrumental in identifying and preventing school dropouts, child labour and child marriage: **1413** instances of child labour and **699** child marriages. They also intervened to ensure improvements in educational and community infrastructure—more than **13,358** instances—in the project period.

An external evaluation conducted by CMS per the OECD-DAC criteria found that CREAM II was highly relevant, effective, impactful as an initiative. Sustainability was being addressed through the institutionalising of child protection mechanisms and structures wherever possible.

BREADS published **3** reports in summarisation of the CREAM II initiative: Impact Report, Programme Report, and the External Evaluation Report, summaries of which are available at: **https://breadsbangalore.org/archives/6300, https://breadsbangalore.org/archives/6313, https://breadsbangalore.org/archives/6306.**

Building on this foundation of capacity and awareness, CREAM III (2020-2023) aims to institutionalise many successful strategies of intervention so that the community becomes the meeting ground where the State and the citizen can concur about the realisation of child rights locally. The work of strengthening government and local representative bodies has begun.

Children of CREAM

If child rights education and advocacy are both the means and the end of the CREAM programme, the children of CREAM are the most powerful testimonials of its success. Interaction with them highlights the fact that educated and empowered children are indeed the most effective way to foster child rights in a community/ society in the long term.

Tanisha was the child representative from Karnataka to the National Parliament of Children conducted by Wada Na Thodo Abhiyan (WNTA) in 2019. She found the sharing of experiences with children 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, she 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.

3 Mining Opportunities for Development

COVID also infected the children's world with new inequalities in education when it forced classrooms online. There is a big urban-rural digital divide in India even though there's been quick growth of rural internet users. ICUBE 2020 reports: 43% of the total Indian population used Internet at least once in the past month (June-Sep 2020). Of them, 67% were urban users and 31% from rural areas. Internet usage especially in rural areas is driven by mobile phones as broadband is largely unavailable.

*Around **450** children in the quarries and slums around Bangalore were adversely impacted during the pandemic. Their parents could barely afford their basic upkeep, so smart connected devices were out of the question. As part of its regular intervention with these children and among other activities, BREADS' partner Lovedale Foundation conducts supplementary classes with nutrition support. The staff kept up the classes during the pandemic taking all the relevant precautions, and these classes became the mainstay of the children's education until the schools could reopen. Fortunately, the children and staff avoided infection and the classes saw 100% attendance. Nutritional levels of children are monitored, and malnourished children are making steady progress towards health. The quarry worker families were also educated about COVID—precautions, responses and how to keep up their immunity.*

Similarly, despite being a containment area, the volunteers in Karimadom Colony, Thiruvananthapuram Kerala, were able to restart and continue classes for the children in batches, ensuring a bit of normalcy for them in a locked-down life.

Don Bosco Schools were supported with technology to continue online classes during the lockdowns, benefitting thousands of children in semi-rural areas.

II From a Backyard to a World Stage

Hospet in Vijayanagara, India is a world away from Lyon in France, in every way. Yet, they have a connection: Azaadi, a Lyon-based sustainable fashion project rooted in human rights principles that aims to share the beauty of Indian culture and its artisan knowledge. Azaadi (meaning freedom), collaborates with the Hospet centre for Youth Empowerment through Skill (YES centre), working with the local young women trainees to produce a line of apparel for a global market.

The project skills **70** *young women yearly through 6-month courses in garment making for the fashion industry, teaching entrepreneurial and life skills, with the aim to build their capacity to start their own microenterprises. The women are also trained in disaster management response and mitigation. Over* **3** *years,* **210** *women will be directly impacted while the indirect beneficiaries of this initiative would be* **800+** *family members.*

The onsite interaction of the French founder/designer in the design and production process of the Azaadi products, facilitates the exchange of ideas and expertise, and very importantly, exposes the local artisans and trainees to global trends and production quality requirements. In this way, the YES centre provides a unique opportunity for its trainees, for it is in the interacting of cultures and peoples that minds are opened to new possibilities and worldviews. So, can young women from a small town in North Karnataka be part of the French fashion scene? YES, they can!

4

Skilling Youth to Make a Life

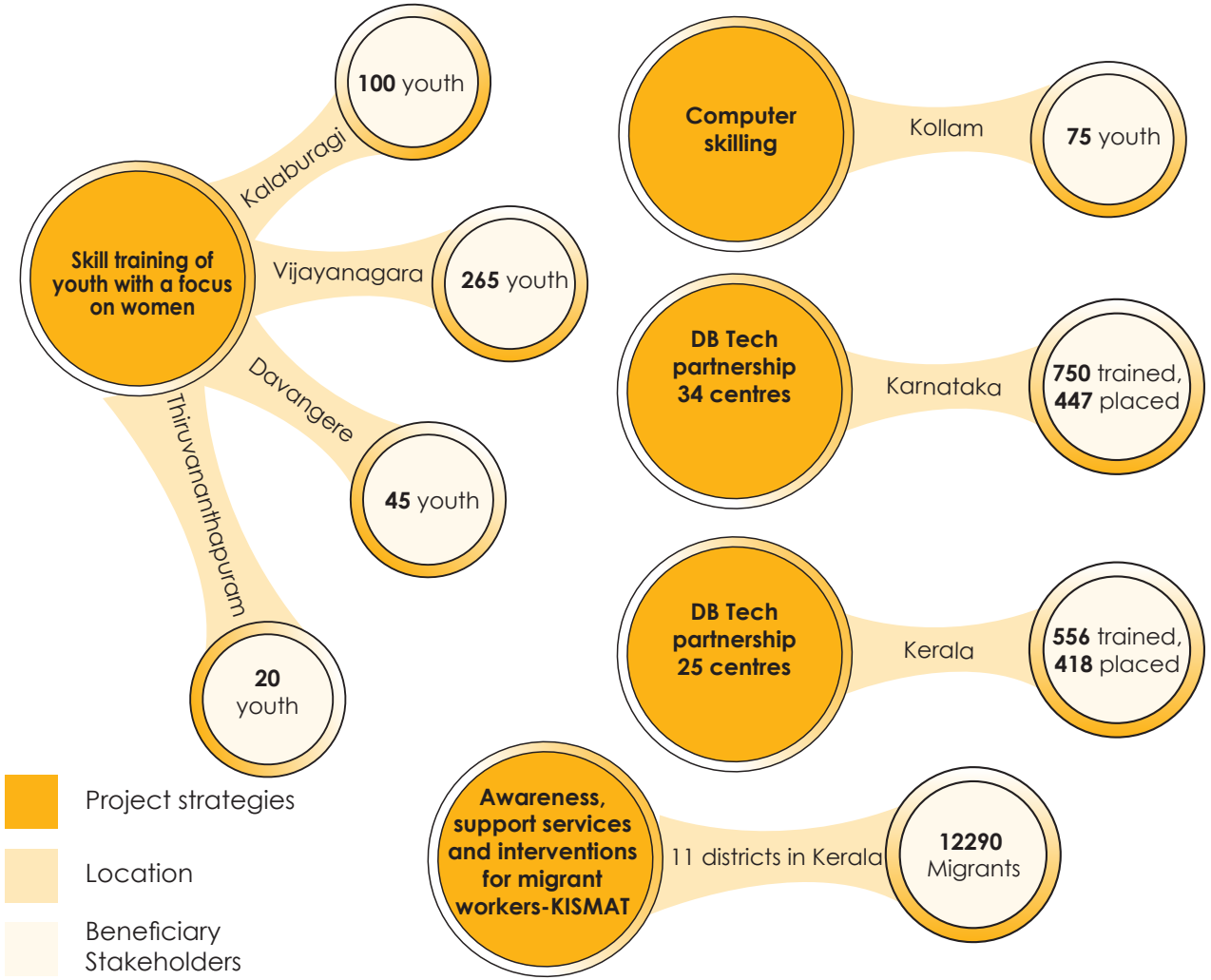
BREADS works with thousands of young people through and with its various partners, both Salesian and corporate. Using Don Bosco's tried and tested methods and medium of skill training in various domains, the aim remains to equip young people to learn to navigate life: with technical skills backed with other life skills. COVID had immense impact on numerous industries, especially the hospitality and retail sectors, which in turn reflected on the job market. To tide over the situation, wherever possible, BREADS shifted focus to other booming sectors such as BPO, packaging and delivery services, to support youth to find employment during the downtime. BREADS continues to foster partnerships with industry representatives to calibrate appropriate training inputs to ensure that the youth have relevant skills in an everchanging world.

BREADS' Employment and Skill Training (DB BEST) Academy in Bangalore could train 3 batches of students despite the lockdowns during the year. Against the odds, DB BEST was able to place 45% of its trainees in jobs.

DB BEST Academy

Hospitality	Trained 22, placed 7
Retail Management	Trained 38, placed 15
Business Process Outsourcing	Trained 61, placed 33

Total **7** projects impacting **14,222** youth



5 Dreaming beyond Drugs—DREAM

BREADS and its Don Bosco partners initiated the Drug Rehabilitation Education and Mentoring (DREAM) programme in Kerala to create awareness about substance use among school and college children and support those in need to break out of addictions.

As part of the pilot programme, an assessment study was conducted among **1800** school children (10-18 years) and their families, to identify patterns of substance use if any, including type of substance and frequency of use. The study also examined causal relationships between substance use and other factors such as family background, education, adult role models, etc. The findings were worrying: 28.7% of the children had used drugs at least once and 4.6% used them repeatedly. A culture of drugs was highly prevalent in their localities: 85.8% were aware of the availability of drugs, 68.9% knew friends, relatives, companions who were users of drugs. 41.3% of children stole cash to maintain their habits. Gateway drugs were the route to substance abuse. What starts out as recreation with peer influence gradually descends into an existence rendered meaningless without drugs. Urgent promotive, preventive, and curative steps needed to be taken to address the situation.

DREAM
Drug Rehabilitation Education and Mentoring

The experience and learnings of the pilot programme are taking shape in an expanded outreach across **10** districts in Kerala, to thousands of young people affected by substance use, giving them a reason, and the support through psychoeducation, counselling, and community support, to dream beyond drugs. A residential deaddiction centre at Thiruvananthapuram will also be one of DREAM's interventions between 2021-2025.

6 Migrating to Security—KISMAT

BREADS initiated the Kerala Interstate Migrants Alliance for Transformation (KISMAT) in 2018 to explore and effectively address the needs of migrant workers in Kerala, reaching around **700,000** migrants so far, through **12** migrant help desks across **11** districts. These help desks educate and support migrants to access their rights from the State, facilitate decent living standards in the new geography, and their right to a decent livelihood.

KISMAT conducted a study, '*The Life and Labour of Interstate Migrants in Kerala*' among **1500** interstate migrant workers from all the **14** districts of Kerala, to assess their conditions of living and livelihood. It was also an attempt to identify spaces for inclusion for otherwise overlooked groups such as the interstate migrants: men, women, and children.

The study revealed that economics and survival were the driving forces behind the migration of interstate migrants: poverty, homelessness, and landlessness. They came to Kerala with dreams of improving their life situation, in which they are largely successful, therefore perpetuating migration. Most migrant labourers were young, male, temporary workers, either unskilled or semi-skilled, who felt fairly rewarded for their work. They were mostly unaware of their rights and entitlements in areas of health, wages etc., and therefore were prey to fraud by contractors/employers. However, the more effective labour laws in Kerala ensured that most migrants were not cheated of their wages. Migrants did not join labour unions or use health insurance. Worksites were relatively safe and had basic facilities and some migrants received skill trainings. While the overall experience of most migrants in Kerala, their work and life in the state were positive, the need for awareness on various aspects of health, labour, and entitlements in general, was amply demonstrated.

Using the study findings to inform its work, KISMAT continues its second phase of operations from 2021, to create more sustainable approaches of empowering migrant workers and their families. BREADS also plans to initiate a pilot programme of KISMAT in 2021, in Bangalore, in partnership with Bosconet.

III

From Vulnerability to Empowerment—Enabling Women

7

Nurturing Lives with WELivE

Bina lives alone in QSSS Colony, Kollam, Kerala. A widow, she had no means of subsistence since her children left home. Adept at cooking but with no other skills, she had neither the notion nor confidence that she could still make a living at the age of fifty-nine. With the help and financial seed capital support from the WELivE programme, she started a thattukada (evening snack stall) in her home. Her home is a small shed, where during the day, her bed becomes the table or storage area for the shop. Local Don Bosco partner FCDP also helped her with an interest-free loan as initial investment. She now earns her daily living by preparing tea and snacks for the local people.

Women Empowerment through Livelihood and Entrepreneurship known as WELivE, is an initiative by BREADS Bangalore especially for women, who are marginalised on counts of poverty, gender, caste, and opportunity. WELivE promotes sustainable income and social empowerment for **2000** rural women in Karnataka and Kerala through entrepreneurship development initiatives such as organic farming, animal husbandry, poultry farming, small businesses etc. This initiative of BREADS in partnership with local Don Bosco institutions became particularly relevant during the COVID 19 pandemic, when access to livelihoods and incomes became severely impacted.

In Sulthan Bathery, Kerala, a tribal Paniya community comprising 16 families, lives near the Don Bosco College. Traditionally highly marginalised and impoverished, they usually work as labourers but lost their livelihood during the pandemic. WELivE explored many possibilities with the community members but due to the lack of space in their homes, they could not take up poultry farming or organic gardening. In a gesture of support to the community, the neighboring Don Bosco College offered their premises for one year to start a small fish farm. Eight women and eleven youth worked enthusiastically to dig the ground and construct a small fishpond. They are learning the processes of fish farming and are watching their fish grow.

WELivE becomes the vehicle for such communities to explore options and take up opportunities to learn new skills, which naturally translate into a sense of empowerment at individual as well as social levels. That empowerment can be accompanied by financial and practical benefits is even more attractive.

8 Empowering Women through Information and Agency—WECAN

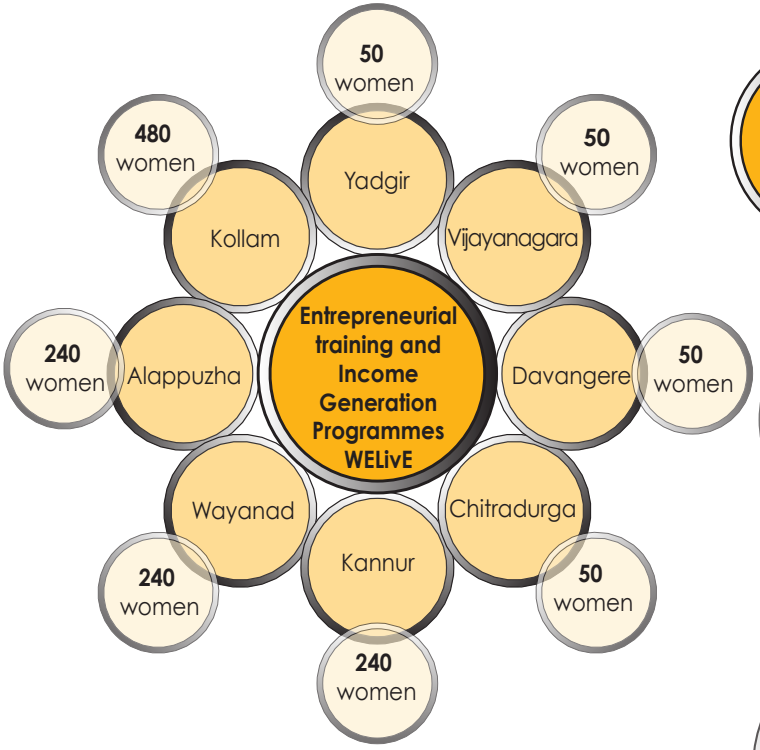
Recognising the need to combat the inequitable expressions of a patriarchal society in India: the violence against women, gender discrimination, child marriage, dowry system, sexual harassment, and lack of access to financial assets, BREADS initiated Women Empowerment through Collective Action and Networks (WECAN) in **four** districts of Karnataka. Its objective is to train and foster women and women-led groups to become agents of change, impacting the lives of other women and girls in their communities.

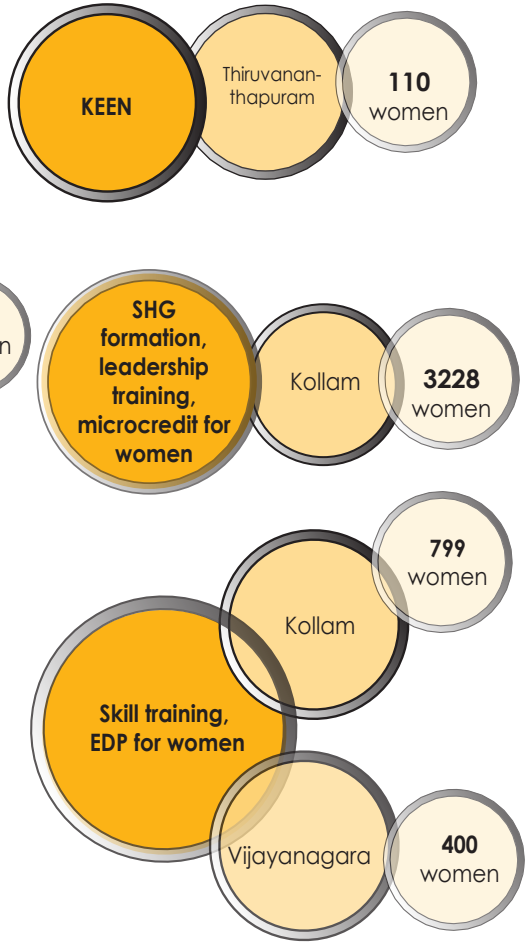
Ramavva (name changed), a poor and illiterate daily wage worker in Wadigera, Yadgir, a single parent to 3 teenage daughters, struggled to make both ends meet. She suffered daily abuse by her drunk husband who finally abandoned them to marry another woman. He refused Ramavva the financial support she desperately needed. Concerned about their mother, her children called CHILDLINE Yadgir, and reported the situation. After finding out the facts, the WECAN staff supported Ramavva with legal assistance and a complaint was registered in the local police station. Later, the village elders summoned both Ramavva and her husband to a hearing. Ramavva was adamant in her demand for justice. The village elders decided that Ramavva's husband should provide equal shares to both partners, which he obeyed. Ramavva currently lives a peaceful, violence-free life in a different village, assisted by the family support to which she is entitled.

9 Rising to Life's Challenges—KEEN

Karimadom Education and Empowerment Network (KEEN) in Thiruvananthapuram was severely challenged during the pandemic, with the Karimadom colony being repeatedly made a containment zone. The people resiliently adapted to the situation, making a living by producing and marketing cloth masks, cloth and paper bags, innovating according to the market. As soon as the lockdowns were eased, they restarted their tuition centres for children, and skills training for the youth, the KEEN laundry and the LED bulb production.

Total **5** projects impacting **52,723** women



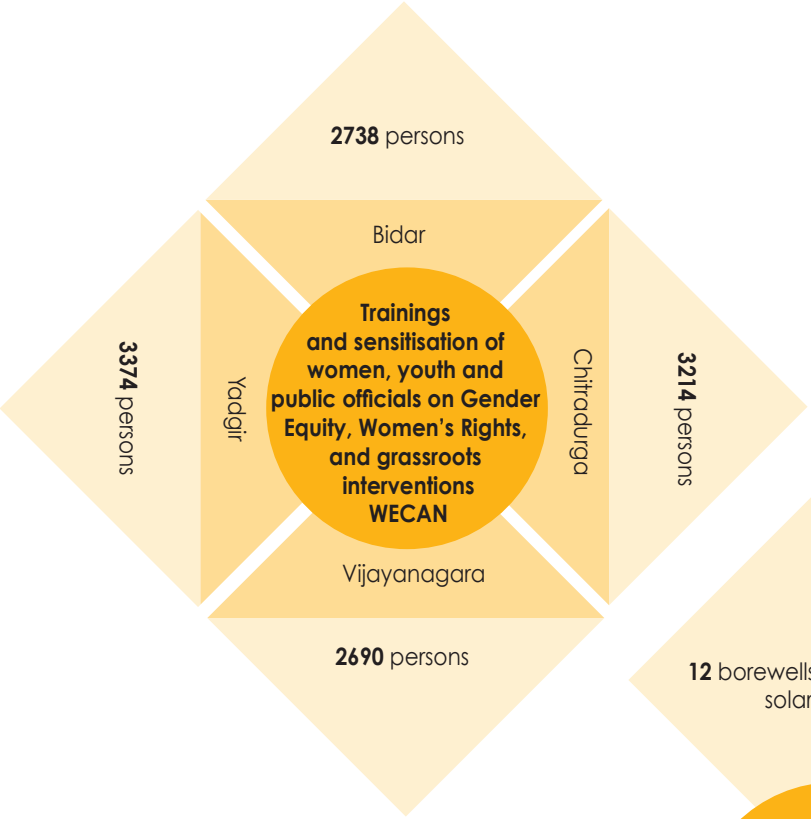


Project strategies

Location

Beneficiary Stakeholders

Empowering Communities



Multipurpose hall and marketing outlet for the fishing community supported by JuWe, Switzerland

Infrastructure

12 borewells, **5** institutional solar systems

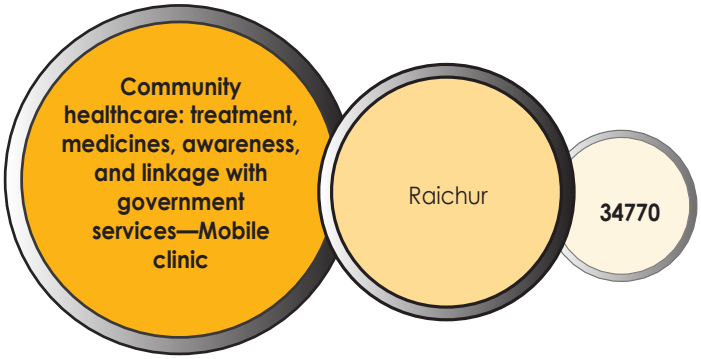
Water & Energy initatives

10 Driving Well-being in Rural Communities—Mobile Clinic

The mobile clinic was highly impactful in **20** villages of Devadurga taluk, serving people with free consultations and medicines, especially when local health services were overburdened due to the pandemic. The clinic took basic healthcare right to their doorsteps, helping them avoid risk of infections in hospitals. Collaboration with government services, health workers and volunteers helped in spreading awareness.

BREADS collaborated with Triquetra Healthcare & Technology Pvt Ltd to pilot the use of AI-based technology to support healthcare management on the ground through the mobile clinics. The TRIAS app supports accurate recording of medical data, and the internet of medical things (IOMT). Interesting that cutting-edge technology can reach the remote villages of Devadurga, where HDI indices are among the lowest in Karnataka.

- Project strategies
- Location
- Beneficiary Stakeholders



IV

From Egocentrism to Inclusion

The COVID 19 pandemic and the effects of Climate Change that we witness, constantly bring our attention to the need to reassess our life perspectives and choices based on their impact on the ecosystem. BREADS has been promoting various eco-friendly activities through its programmes in schools and communities. Unfortunately, the **113** ECO Clubs by the children of government schools in Karnataka, that had been formed and were flourishing before the pandemic were non-functional in the reporting year because of the lockdowns and closure of schools. Other livelihood-linked programmes continued to grow.

The WE-AUTO initiative in Kerala continues to promote clean transport while also empowering women with a means of livelihood. The organic farm at Hassan continues to flourish, producing organic products such as moringa powder and dry ginger. They plan to market more products based on seasonal produce such as turmeric, mangoes and other fruits. They also continue their training and awareness programmes, training **947** local farmers. WELivE promotes sustainable livelihoods among communities. It aims to train **500** women in cultivating their own organic kitchen gardens.

In Edackad, Kerala, in a community of homestead farmers who followed regular chemical-based farming techniques, ***60*** *women from five SHGs were selected for training on organic farming—its benefits and methods. They are also being trained on the preparation of organic manure and pesticides, as soil fertility and high productivity are viable ways to ensure food security among rural communities. After the training, the women collected seeds and seedlings to start off their crops with the organic methods. Everyone is watching the growing crops with great interest.*

V

From Despair to Hope—Responding to Disaster

It is fair to say that the reporting year began with the COVID chaos, throwing people into widespread panic and despair. In India, though initially a health crisis, its consequences directly impacted livelihoods and incomes, and within a short while, it spiraled into a crisis of hunger and malnourishment for many communities, especially the children, women, and migrants. As the second-highest infected country in the world, India suffered massive impact during both the first and second waves of the pandemic, in terms of infections and deaths.

COVID 19 has triggered incremental cycles of distress and poverty among already-deprived communities and individuals. The situation is improving after the easing of COVID lockdown restrictions, but severely stressed families do not have any buffers and cannot recover easily from such setbacks. Besides, the virus is completely unpredictable and therefore, no positive futures may be confidently posited. A very distressing fact is that the improvements in health and education made over the decades, are being neutralised or destroyed by the effects of the pandemic. Amid this despair about the shaky present and uncertain future, it was the sharing of human solidarity that brought hope to millions.

BREADS with its Don Bosco partners were on the ground as soon as they could get permits, reaching out in various ways as described later in the table. The early months were tremendously challenging as we learned to negotiate various obstacles: restrictions on movements, procurement and safe distribution of supplies

Numerous campaigns were organised, and diverse partnerships forged for COVID relief as well as other relevant issues.

Some highlights:

- Supporting migrant workers with government and local community through KISMAT. Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oqx34dp8-ps.
- Supporting stranded and on-road migrants with food and transport services. Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RvxJaR-G6OY
- Supporting tribals in forest areas with local NGOs and the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (KSCPCR).
- Partnerships to help children access education during the lockdowns by various means.
- Delivering meals for COVID-affected people in partnership with local NGOs through *Food at your Doorstep*.
- Making oxygen available through concentrators at home and a mobile oxygen unit.
- Supporting young COVID Warriors to volunteer their services in 3 Bangalore hospitals.
- Partnerships with NGO networks to support *Young Voices*, encouraging CREAM child leaders to participate in the debate over the legal age of marriage for girls during the lockdown.

COVID 19- Emergency Response

As on 4 November 2020

SN	Activity	Kerala	Karnataka	Migrants (Kerala)	Total
1	Don Bosco houses engaged in COVID 19 relief	20	20	0	40
2	Food kits distributed	3246	17837	2430	23513
3	Ready-to-eat food distributed	10238	480740	0	490978
4	Beneficiaries of ready-to-eat food	2559	120185	0	122744
5	Beneficiaries of food kits	16368	76546	10242	103156
6	Beneficiaries of cooked food	940	50016	59400	110356
7	Beneficiaries of school fee subsidies/education material	74	374	314	762
8	Beneficiaries of smart phones/televisions for online learning	63	43	57	163
9	DB institutions equipped with audio-visual rooms	10	7	0	17
10	Beneficiaries of online learning in DB institutions	9300	4630	0	13930
11	Face masks produced from all Don Bosco centres	54300	195370	0	249670
12	Beneficiaries of toiletries and hygiene kits	0	2800	0	2800
13	Beneficiaries of counselling services	0	0	2100	2100

VI

From Individualism to Solidarity—Interns and Volunteers

The COVID pandemic and the lockdowns placed severe restrictions on movement around the world, which caused a whole gamut of activities to move online. While there were no foreign volunteers in India physically, there were numerous volunteers online and offline, especially from among the youth.

Volunteers offered their time, presence, talents, and other resources to mobilise resources and reach them to those in need. They took care of the sick in hospital, provided food and medical supplies to the quarantined at home, reached supplies to tribals in forest belts. They supported campaigns, set up COVID care centres and carried oxygen to those in need, offered psychological support and many other services. The pandemic became a catalyst for a massive outpouring of solidarity once people got over their initial fears for their own wellbeing.

During April 2020 - March 2021, **five** students from five colleges, from various streams of education: Management, Social Work, International Relations, interned at BREADS.

Thank You !!

Thank You !!

VII

Acknowledgements

2020-2021 was a year that saw an outpouring of support of all types—financial and non-financial—around the world, and in BREADS as well. We thank each of you: our funding partners, individual donors, project partners, well-wishers, volunteers, and friends! Together, we were able to spread a safety net of goodwill and support for lakhs of people.

- Accenture, Bangalore
- ALTEN Calsoft Labs, Bangalore
- Associazione Padre Renzo Zola, Italy
- AXA Business Services Pvt Ltd
- Bachmann-Foundation, Switzerland
- Bangalore Salesian Society, India
- Benevity Causes, UK
- Bosconet, New Delhi
- Casa Salesiana Beato Michele Rua
- Clifton Diocese, UK
- DBOI Global Services Private Ltd., Mumbai
- Deutsche Provinz Der Salesianer Don Boscos
- Development Association of Active Volunteers (DAAV), Belgium

Don Bosco Missions, Germany

- Archdiocese of Cologne
- Kindermissionswerk
- Kolping Family Busenbach
- Mr. and Mrs. Hauber
- Schlayer Stiftung
- Stiftung Lebensräume für Mensch und Natur
- Verein Projektpartnerschaft Dritte Welt e.V.

Don Bosco Mondo, Germany

- Don Bosco Mondo e.V.
- Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
- Horst und Karin Gellert Stiftung
- Klaus und Gertrud Conrad Stiftung
- Leopold Bachmann Stiftung
- Mascheski Foundation
- Stiftung Winkler

- Don Bosco Salesians, UK
- Don Bosco Tech India Network, India
- Don Mascuillo and Friends, Italy
- Enfance Tiers Mode, (ETM) Belgium
- EKIALDE Sun Energy Pvt Ltd, India
- Foundazione Don Bosco Nel Mondo, Italy
- Functional Vocational Training and Research Society, India
- German Consulate, Bangalore
- Giovanni Masciullo, Italy
- Give Foundation, India
- GlobalGiving, USA
- Guidestar, India
- Impact Guru Bangalore
- Jugend Eine Welt, Austria
- Jugendhilfe Weltweit (JuWe), Switzerland
- Kath Kirchengemeinde, Germany
- Kerala Aid Trust, Malta
- Kindernothilfe E.V, Germany
- Kluber Lubrications Pvt Ltd, India
- Misean Cara/Irish Aid, Ireland
- Missio, Munich, Germany
- Missio Paepstliche Missionswerke, Austria
- Missioni Don Bosco, Turin, Italy
- Mission Procurator, Belgium
- Mission Procurator, Netherlands
- Missionprokur De Salesianer, Germany
- Missiones Salesianas, Madrid, Spain
- Nanj Solar Ltd, India
- NASCOM Foundation, Bangalore
- Orange County Resorts and Hotels, India
- PwC Private Ltd., Bangalore
- Quest Alliance, Bangalore
- ResponseNet, India
- Salesians (SDB Trustees) of UK
- Salesian Mission USA
- Salesian Missions, Australia
- Salezjanski Wolont Ariat Misyjny, Poland
- SPYS, Malta
- St. Boniface Parish, Wirges, Germany
- SWADESH Foundation, India
- The Hongkong Shanghai Banking Corporation, India
- Via Don Bosco, Belgium

Thank You !!

VIII

Statement of Accounts

BANGALORE RURAL EDUCATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY
75, NORTH ROAD, BANGALORE - 560 084

Ref No: 613

Consolidated Society (Trust) Account

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31.03.2021

Particulars	Receipts	Payments
Opening balance	7,95,83,626.27	
Foreign contribution / Grant received	10,21,02,479.15	
Local contribution / Grant received	1,18,53,100.54	
Bank interest	50,55,310.29	
Social		
Assistance for poor and needy		50,35,916.00
Welfare of children and skill training		4,96,83,505.45
Women empowerment/welfare		51,13,879.82
Community welfare		34,01,524.00
Agricultural activity		19,97,800.00
Relief and rehabilitation of victims of natural calamities in Kerala and Karnataka		34,65,000.00
COVID 19 relief work		1,10,33,883.15
Educational		
Construction and maintenance of schools		62,06,132.50
Loans and recoveries , other remittances	9,75,162.00	4,26,203.00
Closing balance		11,32,05,834.33
Total	**19,95,69,678.25**	**19,95,69,678.25**

BREADS

Bangalore Rural Educational and Development Society

building the future together

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