



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



This issue of ALEGALU carries an innovative news from the field. The achievement of the woman empowerment program is the inauguration of the State level women federation, named as MAANINI. The name suggests that every woman is a person with dignity. Its dignified person.

Inorder to achieve dignity of life to all women empowerment is undeniable. Women's development is fundamental to the progress of society. Empowering women through education, economic opportunities, and equal rights not only enhances their quality of life but also benefits families, communities, and nations.

When women thrive, they contribute significantly to economic growth, social stability, and the overall well-being of society. Therefore, investing in women's development is not just a moral imperative but a strategic approach to achieving sustainable development and prosperity for all. Let us work together to create a world where every woman has the opportunity to reach her full potential.

I thank all those who have contributed to ಅಲೆಗಳು. Let this learning continue and share the knowledge anchored in community experience.

GENDER TRAINING



Gender training program was successfully conducted at CMSSS, CODP, DKRDS, led by resource person Sr. Nancy Lobo. The event saw active participation from 116 women from different clusters and federations. This program was designed to foster greater understanding and awareness of gender issues, aiming to promote equality and inclusivity. Sr. Nancy, with her expertise, provided comprehensive insights into gender concepts and encouraged open discussions among the participants. The training marked a significant step towards sensitizing the group on gender-related matters, empowering participants with knowledge and skills to advocate for gender equality in their respective spheres.



MISEREOR_KKF CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP IN PUNE



The three-day capacity-building workshop held in Pune aimed at enhancing the understanding and implementation of safeguarding measures among 40 participants from various organizations across India. Sessions covered contextual and legal frameworks, cultural nuances, and practical exercises, facilitated by experts from the Karl Kubel Foundation for Child and Family. Activities included group discussions, case studies, and the development of actionable plans tailored to each organization's needs. The workshop fostered collaboration, sharing of best practices, and equipped participants with the tools to ensure the safety of vulnerable groups in their projects.

FIELD EXPOSURE

On 06th April 2024, the Kross staff engaged with one of the partner organizations CODP at Thalapady, Mangalore, for a dynamic interaction. 40 women from SHGs participated, marking a significant stride in the Women Empowerment Project. The team had an opportunity to interact with the women in the field, this engagement provided valuable insights into the challenges faced by the women and highlighted the importance of providing targeted support and resources.



In the afternoon, the KROSS team participated in an interactive session with another partner organization at the Kaup Farmers Producer Co. Ltd, SAMPADA Udipi, exchanging knowledge and experiences on organic farming practices. The session enriched the team's understanding of best practices, market dynamics, and opportunities in the organic farming production. Overall, the field visit was instrumental in deepening KROSS staff's understanding of grassroots-level challenges and opportunities in organic production, paving the way for future initiatives aimed at empowering SHG women in the state.



INAUGURATION OF THE STATE LEVEL FEDERATION



The inauguration of the State Level Women Federation at KROSS on March 26, 2024, marked a significant milestone in the women empowerment program. The event began with a solemn prayer and a video presentation showcasing the journey of women, followed by speeches from esteemed speakers who inspired participants with their vision for a more inclusive society. The ceremony included the lighting of the lamp, the unveiling of the federation's logo, and the administration of an oath to members, instilling a sense of duty and responsibility. In the afternoon session, Dr. Isabella Xavier emphasized the importance of collaboration and networking among women federations. The event concluded with the delineation of office bearers' roles and responsibilities and the formulation of action plans for future endeavors. Overall, the inauguration served to foster solidarity and determination among participants, laying the groundwork for concerted efforts towards advancing women's rights and well-being in society.



SAMRUDI RURAL UPLIFTMENT FOUNDATION REVIEW MEETING

The review meeting for the SAMRUDI rural upliftment foundation program, held on April 30, 2024, saw the participation of seven representatives from partner organizations. Beginning with a prayer, the session focused on transparency and collaboration. Rev. Fr. Richard Pais of KROSS highlighted achievements, challenges, and future directions, inspiring all attendees. Presentations of Samrudi reports facilitated insights into project progress, followed by a fruitful exchange of experiences and best practices. The afternoon session featured practical sessions on digital skills and loan repayment procedures, empowering participants and ensuring clarity. The meeting concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks, emphasizing appreciation for the collaborative spirit and shared commitment.



MONITORING FIELD VISIT

The KROSS WEP Program coordinators Sr. Nancy Lobo and Mrs. Laina. V Lasrado conducted a monitoring field visit to SAMPADA, Udupi on 18 th and 19 th April 2024. They interacted with 3 SHG's, 4 GRF's, 1 TLF and 4 women engaged in Income generation program for economic development. The Director, field coordinator and animators supported them in the two days' visit.





Cluster level trainings on climate change were conducted at four different clusters: BDDS, BMSSS, DKRDS, and SMSSS, bringing together 148 women participants from various federations and clusters. The sessions featured expert speakers, interactive discussions, and group activities aimed at enhancing understanding and action on climate change. Participants actively engaged in formulating an action plan tailored to their respective contexts. These trainings provided a platform for knowledge exchange, collaboration, and empowerment, equipping participants with the necessary tools to address climate-related challenges in their SHGs.



ORIENTATION ON SAFEGUARDING TO THE POINT PERSONS AND WEP FIELD STAFF

Orientation on Safeguarding to the Point persons and WEP field staff An orientation on safeguarding and its measures was conducted for the Safeguarding Point Persons and the WEP Field staffs across four different clusters. The sessions took place on the 03 rd of May at BDDS, Ballari, the 16 th of May at DKRDS, Belthangadi & BMSSS, Bangalore, and the 17 th of May at SMSSS, Shivamogga. These orientations aimed to equip the women participants and the point persons with the knowledge and skills necessary to ensure safety and protections of vulnerable groups in the respective clusters. The training sessions were well received, fostering a deeper understanding of safeguarding principles and practices among the participants.



GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

The Governing Board Meeting convened at SMSSS, Shivamogga on June 03, 2024, with 14 partners and external expertise in attendance under the Presidentship of Bishop Most Rev. Dr. Francis Serrao SJ., Bishop of Shivamogga. The meeting was held to review the progress taking place at the regional level on the ongoing program. It served as a platform for program coordinators to present their reports, facilitating discussions on ongoing initiatives and future plans.

Interactive exchanges among partners fostered collaboration and collective problem-solving, enriching the dialogue with diverse perspectives and experiences. The meeting also provided an opportunity to address any concerns or issues raised by partners, fostering a culture of transparency and accountability.

In conclusion, the Governing Board Meeting at SMSSS facilitated meaningful discourse and decision-making, laying the groundwork for continued collaboration and impact in the communities served by the organization.



COMMUNITY ISSUES RESOLVED

The SHG members of Palavanahalli, Nyamathi and Masadi Panchayats took up the issue of lack of drinking water taps in Kodachagondanahalli village of Palavanahalli Gram Panchayat and Gollarahalli village of Masadi Gram Panchayat. Also to construct Anganawadi building in Takkanahalli village of Masadi Gram Panchayat. They appealed to the local MLA to resolve both the issue immediately. As a result MLA ordered the respective GPs to arrange drinking water tap for 300 houses in Kodachagondanahalli village of Palavanahalli Gram Panchayat and 250 houses in Gollarahalli village of Masadi Gram Panchayat. All the 550 houses received water tap each under Jala Jeevan Yojana and also new Anganwadi building in Takkanahalli village of Masadi Gram Panchayat, is constructed.

The villagers appreciated the works expressed their gratitude SMSSS for the constant support.

