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Impact Assessment Report (Web Version)



SBI LIFE



Arpan

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ANM	Auxiliary Nurse and Midwife
BMC	Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation
CSA	Child Sexual Abuse
CAWC	Crime Against Women Cell
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
LFA	Log Frame Analysis
MSCERT	Maharashtra State Council of Education and Research Training
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
PSE	Personal Safety Education
POCSO Act	Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012
SHG	Self Help Group
TOC	Theory of Change
WCPB	Women Crime Prevention Branch

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According to UNICEF “ India has the largest adolescent population in the world, 253 million, and every fifth person is between 10 to 19 years.” The National Policy for Children, 2013 defines children as any person below the years of 18. The policy had further identified Survival, Health, Nutrition, Education, Development, Protection and Participation as the undeniable rights of every child and has also declared these as key priority areas. However, if we consider one of the recent reports published by National Crime Records Bureau, it has reported a total of 1,49,404 cases of crime against children registered during 2021, showing an increase of 16.2% over 2020 (1,28,531 cases). This therefore indicates that awareness on prevention of Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) should be of high priority to safeguard the children in our society.

To address this specific cause, SBI Life supported Arpan’s (registered NGO based in Mumbai) core focus of building capacities of crucial stakeholders who would be the primary drivers in facilitating and awareness on Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) within their communities in they FY 2020-21. This area of interventions aligns with SBI Life’s education CSR thematic area. This further corresponds to activity (i) of schedule VII of the Companies Act, 2013 and globally targets SDG 16 & 17. SBI Life supported the program for financial year 2020-21 for INR 1,00,00,000.

An impact study was conducted to find out the effect of the intervention in creating awareness on CSA through training of various stakeholders across government and non-government organisations. A logical framework analysis was laid against the expected theory of change, to understand the parameters, indicators, output, outcome, and overall impact. A mixed method approach was deployed to collect and analyse qualitative and quantitative data. The total sample size for the impact study was 289 administered in the state of Maharashtra. Give conducted in-depth KIs with the other stakeholders vital in determining the impact of the project’s interventions.

We found that the project had a multi-layer intervention in creating awareness on CSA as seen in the figure below:



Figure: Multi-layer intervention of CSA in Maharashtra

The project has been able to achieve the following objectives per the table given below:

S. No	Intended/Planned Objectives	Achieved
1	Organizations with trained stakeholders incorporated preventive and support measures in their settings	The key stakeholders trained from MSCERT, NGOs and Women Crime Prevention Branch have made prevention of child sexual abuse as a core focus. The key stakeholders have trained both their fellow colleagues in their respective organisations/ schools and conducted awareness training for students in different schools across the districts such as Thane, Pune, Buldhana, Akola.
2	Stakeholders incorporated CSA prevention curriculum in their respective schools	The Personal Safety Education (PSE) content is incorporated as part of the MSCERT book for Child Rights and Safety section called 'Balkaanche Hakka ani Surakshitata
3	Children with the knowledge and potential skills in preventions of CSA	Awareness was created for 18292 students by the key stakeholders who were trained by Arpan.

The break-up of students per target group reached through the intervention is provided in the table below:

S. No	Target Group	Students Trained
1	MSCERT	14,832
2	Non-Government Organisations	1,360
3	Women Crime Prevention Branch	2,100
Total		18292

The following are the key findings based on the interactions with the key stakeholders:

1. The introduction of the Personal Safety Education (PSE) program as part of the education department's module on 'Child Rights and Safety' through MSCERT's partnership with Arpan has resulted in training sessions being conducted for the students monthly in 56.5% of MSCERT-trained schools. At least 33.3% of the schools also creates awareness amongst parents during parent-teacher meetings, including extending it to community members with the help of local government representatives. It shows that post training, the MSCERT schools have integrated the PSE program into their education system and few of the schools are also taking the initiative to bring a more systemic change with the help of the local government bodies.
2. Collaboration with NGOs such as Ekam Foundation, Spark A Change Foundation, and Navjeevan Centre has enabled Arpan to conduct PSE training in Mumbai and Thane, addressing issues such as child labor, child marriage, child trafficking, substance abuse, and caste discrimination. This highlights the relevance and effectiveness of the PSE program in addressing diverse challenges faced by communities. One such instance stated by the SHG members from Navjeevan Centre emphasising the benefits of attending the training had helped them to curtail a child abduction case (Case study in Page 27) in Ulhasnagar.
3. Women Crime Prevention Branch, Mumbai had highlighted the need for Arpan to include measures in preventing online sexual abuse as part of the training module. They believe that live examples would help them in building a comprehensive understanding of this subject matter, which would aid in reducing the ill effects of CSA as part of cybercrime. Assessment findings reveal that while most non-profit organizations showed high recollection of the course content, 87.2% of MSCERT trainees feel they can only moderately recollect, indicating potential fading of retention value over time. This emphasizes the need for continuous training and development of strong

knowledge bases among stakeholders to effectively advocate for CSA prevention and sustain the impact of the program. Especially since the training sessions conducted by Arpan for all the target groups were for 1 to 3 days only. The trainees expressed that a longer duration of physical training would be more enriching, indicating the need for extended training programs.

In conclusion, the results emphasized that the frequency and duration of the current one-day training sessions may not be sufficient to develop the requisite disposition and expertise among PSE trainers and may hinder sustained long-term impact. This raises concerns about the effectiveness of the training approach and the need for refinement to ensure lasting outcomes.

Arpan's agility in iterating their program design based on stakeholder needs can be acknowledged and has the potential to address concerns related to retention value and training approach in the future. This highlights the importance of adaptive and responsive program design to meet evolving needs and challenges. However, to manifest a better impact, it will equally be important for Arpan to improve their monitoring and feedback system. Currently, the organization relies on a bulk emailer system shared with trainees after completion of the training, which may not be sufficient. Additionally, the organization needs to develop a more robust plan of action to ensure that each stakeholder who has been trained implements a quality PSE program in their respective ecosystem. Enhancing the monitoring and feedback mechanisms can further strengthen the effectiveness and sustainability of the program going forward.

Field Pictures



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