

A woman on the left, wearing a colorful floral sari, and a man on the right, wearing a red and black striped shirt and a checkered headscarf, are both pulling on ropes attached to a large, round, woven basket. The basket is partially submerged in a shallow body of water, and water is splashing out from it. They are standing in a grassy field with trees in the background under a blue sky with light clouds.

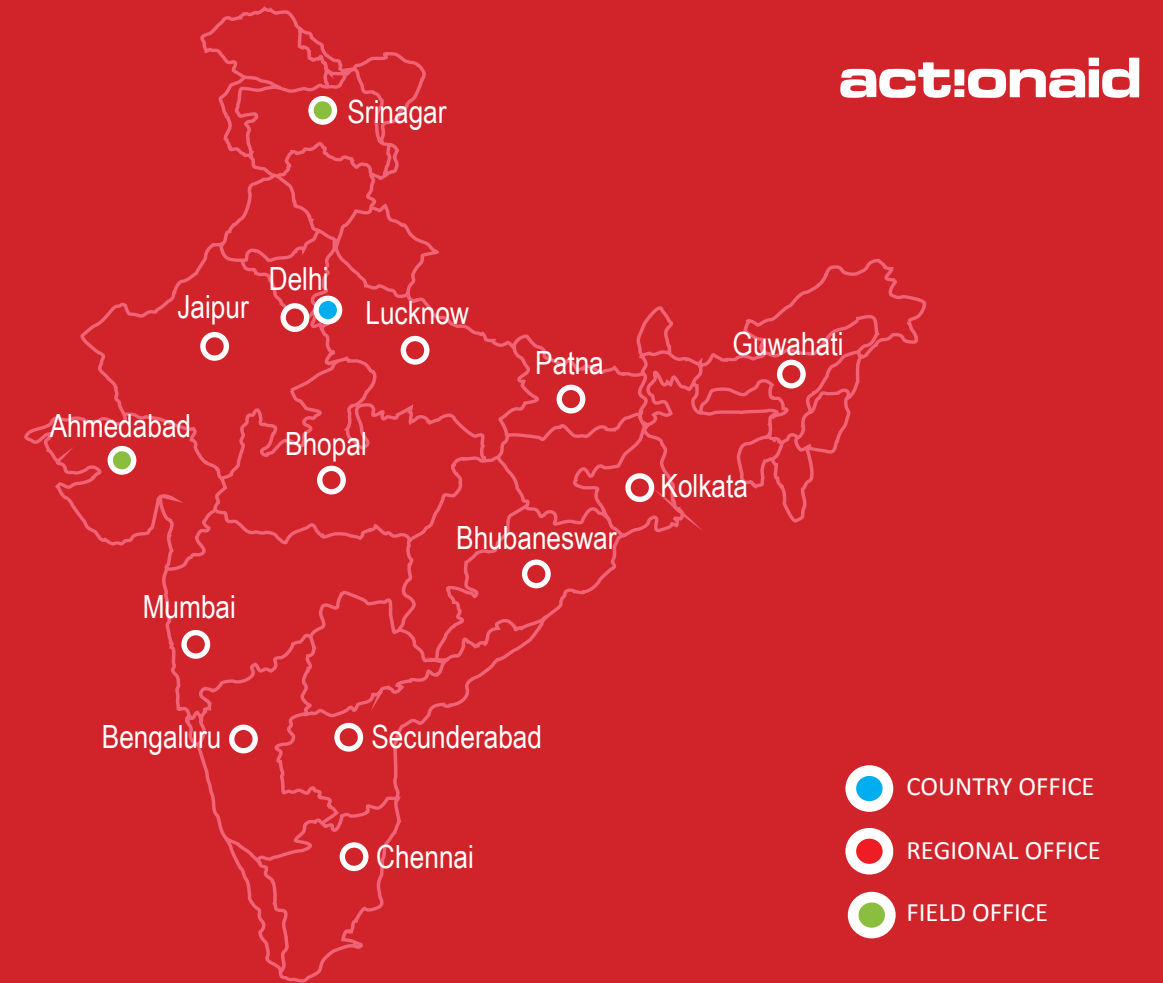
act:onaid

"POVERTY IS NOT AN ACCIDENT.
LIKE SLAVERY AND APARTHEID, IT IS
MAN-MADE AND CAN BE REMOVED BY THE
ACTIONS OF HUMAN BEINGS"

~ NELSON MANDELA

OUR WORK IS
SPREAD ACROSS
25 STATES AND
1 UNION TERRITORY,
TOUCHING **6 MILLION PEOPLE.**

WE WORK IN 317 DISTRICTS, INCLUDING 134 MOST
BACKWARD DISTRICTS OF INDIA.





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VISION

A world without poverty, patriarchy and injustice in which every person enjoys the right to life with dignity

MISSION

To work in solidarity with the poor and participate in their struggle to eradicate poverty, patriarchy and injustice

FOCUS AREAS

- » Promoting children's right to education, nutrition, protection and overall well-being.
 - » Promoting the rights of women and girls and in creating a safe and dignified environment for them.
 - » Providing legal and counselling aid to women survivors of violence and helping them restore a life of dignity and equity.
 - » Promoting Sustainable forms of Agriculture & supporting collectives of Women Farmers.
 - » Promoting Land Rights, Right to Livelihoods especially of Dalits, Adivasis and Women, particularly single women.
 - » Addressing Urban Poverty and creating inclusive and equitable platforms for urban poor and informal sector workers, particularly women.
 - » Building leadership and livelihood skills amongst the youth, in the communities we work with.
 - » Address the issues of distress-migration and eradicating Bonded Labour by developing community led mechanisms of monitoring and livelihoods.
 - » Promoting democracy and inclusive governance at all levels and encourage participation of marginalised and excluded communities in socio-economic sphere.
 - » Conservation of Natural Resources, Public Commons and Promotion of community-led mechanisms of monitoring and preservation.
 - » Humanitarian response during Natural Disasters and Conflict situations.
- In line with these thematic areas we are also engaged in two national campaigns namely:**
- » **Beti Zindabad!** - A campaign to promote gender equality and social justice.
 - » **People's Vision of the City** - a campaign to promote just, inclusive and equitable cities.



Sandhya (9) a class 5th student in classroom at the Panchayat Union Primary School. Sandhya's dream is to become an IAS officer. The photo is from Nemmeli Village in Tamil Nadu, where ActionAid began its intervention soon after the massive Tsunami of 2004. We are proud to say that every child in Nemmeli village attends school.

1

CHILDREN'S EDUCATION AND NUTRITION

- a. 30,000 children were enrolled into schools , 40% of them being girls.
- b. 1706 cases of malnutrition among children addressed.
- c. 1467 children rescued from child labour and reconnected to schools.
- d. 7176 children from marginalised background received scholarship for higher studies with 35% of them from Muslim communities.
- e. Around 1500 schools are being continuously monitored for basic amenities and quality of education.
- f. Successfully campaigned to make 350 Anganwadi centres effectively functional.
- g. School Management Committee were strengthened across all our operational areas aiming towards effective functioning of schools.



2

WORK WITH WOMEN & GIRLS-HEALTH, JUSTICE, LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT

Ruhana is 16 and one of the best students at a local computer class run by one of our partner organisations in Juhapura, Gujarat. Computer class in Juhapura is run by a local organisation where about 12 batches of 10-12 people learn M S Office, DTP and Tally for a nominal course fee of about 200 rupees. The class is open from 9 in the morning till 9 in the evening. Most of the students are young girls and boys from 10th to 12th standard who want to gain these skills to prepare them for their future working lives.

- a. More than 30,000 women are now part of collectives we support.
- b. 11,000 girls were trained on sexual health rights .
- c. 9,000 women were provided skills training – like craft making, weaving, Zardosi work, driving et al.
- d. 700 women survivors of violence received our support from various resource centres linked to ActionAid.
- e. Country's first One-Stop Crisis Centre has been set up by MP government in collaboration with ActionAid and similar tie-ups are happening in other states as well. In Uttar Pradesh, a similar initiative is now underway and is expected to open in 11 districts.

3

LAND & LIVELIHOOD RIGHTS OF SOCIALLY-EXCLUDED GROUPS



Kalyani is part of a women's collective of Oraon tribal women in Sundargarh, Odisha-who after getting land titles in their name, are now successfully running a farmers collective - practising sustainable forms of agriculture.

- a. We facilitated land titles to 50,100 persons, of which 12,000 are women.
- b. Over 2 lakh applications for land titles have been filed.
- c. 4457 Men and more than 3000 women are today practising sustainable forms of agriculture in the areas we work in.
- d. In Odisha alone, 2176 Single Women have been provided with homestead Land Titles in a joint initiative by District Authorities and ActionAid in Ganjam district.
- e. Around 58000 informal sector labourers have now access to social security schemes.
- f. Indigenous seeds are now stored in 200 villages promoting the practice of conserving seeds.

4

BUILDING LEADERSHIP SKILLS AMONGST YOUTH

Raji was married at 12 and had her first child at 15. With an ailing husband she found herself at crossroads at a very young age of 22. However, she has overcome all odds and is a leader in her community of fish vendors today and is now one of the active voices of an initiative supported by ActionAid in Jalaripalam, Vishakapattanam, AP.

- a. Around 19,000 youths from socially excluded communities have been trained in our leadership schools on various aspects of the constitution, law and principles of social justice.
- b. 5531 panchayat members were trained, 1080 of them being women.
- c. 250 community watch groups were formed for monitoring public services provided by government.
- d. We were successful in appointment of 132 dalit women cooks in schools in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Telegana and Uttar Pradesh.



Emergency Response Team at ActionAid Srinagar office in action at a health camp organised soon after the Kashmir Floods of 2014.

5

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE TO EMERGENCIES

a. Kashmir Floods: In the aftermath of the floods in Kashmir, we reached out to 6000 Households in 75 villages as part of our flood response work. We are now engaged in long-term rehabilitation work and livelihood support for the affected communities

b. Cyclone Hudhud: In the first 3 weeks, we reached out to 5000 people in 24 villages and 11 slums with immediate cooked food and first aid and provided dry ration, clothing, education kits, and livelihood support.

c. Assam/Meghalaya Floods: A total of 1,601 families have

received relief support in the form of blankets, bed sheets and household kits (utensils-saucepan, water pot, bucket, mug & plates), livestock support (piglets, poultry), farm equipments (machete, hoe & axe), farming assistance (seeds, land tilling and irrigation). The relief and recovery efforts have reached approximately 7,700 people in the region.

d. Cyclone Phailin Recovery Work: Our rehabilitation efforts in the aftermath of a devastating 2013 Cyclone Phailin facilitated by a consortium of NGOs led by ActionAid worked in 14 Development blocks in 4

Districts of Odisha targeting 30,195 households and 181,170 persons. 75% of the beneficiaries were people from SC/ST/OBC communities and largely landless people. 400 people were imparted skills training in masonry and carpentry. 750 women from these communities were part of the disaster preparedness and relief trainings.

ActionAid India has a two decade long history of responding to Natural and Human-made Disasters - whether it is Odisha Super Cycone of 1999 or Tsunami of 2004. Displayed here are the most recent efforts.

OUR STRENGTHS

Four decades of work in India and the wide reach across the country provide us a strong understanding of -

- a. Structural causes of poverty and its various manifestations.
- b. Government policies that benefit the marginalized and how to make their benefits accessible to marginalized groups.
- c. Empowering Communities. We work with the community to help them identify their most pressing needs and empower them to claim them.
- d. Designing coherent programmes through a bottoms-up approach and therefore rooted in ground realities and sound policy analysis, and implementing them efficiently and effectively.
- e. Selecting sound programme partners using rigorous

- » Developing CSR strategies for companies.
- » Empowering and working with the marginalised, women and children in areas that include education, urban and rural development, service delivery and nutrition.

processes –including financial and programmatic appraisals - and building their capacities where necessary.

- f. Reporting back on project results effectively, especially through the lens of the marginalized (to whom ActionAid holds projects primarily accountable).
- g. Strong linkages with ActionAid's International Federation, and ability to draw from that particularly in the context of implementing multi-country projects.

- » Project Cycle Management for internal and externally funded projects.
- » Delivering development goals for partners effectively and efficiently, ensuring best use of resources.

- h. Timely and sustained interventions with a strong ground connect during all the major disasters that have happened in the last decade.
- i. Helping strengthen existing policy and advocate new policies e.g. right to food, shelter for the urban homeless, rights of single women, laws for informal sector workers, rights to resources for tribal, right to education, rights for single women etc.

ACCOUNTABILITY PRINCIPLES

- a. ActionAid India is accountable primarily to women, men, youth and children living in poverty and their communities. All our programme, policy and campaign work is informed by voices, issues and concerns of people whom we work with on the ground. The other relations and engagements we have stem from this primary accountability as we seek the commitment to our mission by other groups.
- b. Proactively and innovatively making ourselves available to be scrutinized reviewed and questioned by those affected by and supportive of our work.
- c. Providing the means and information necessary for others to assess whether we live up to our promises and the decisions, how well we use the funding we receive and what impact we have as an organization.
- d. Ensuring that our organizational structure and ways of working promote shared responsibility for organizational effectiveness and contribute to learning and improvements.
- e. We are also accountable to all laws of the land and diligently ensure compliance to all necessary statutory provisions as per State and Central Government requirements.

DONORS' SPEAK

Extract from DFID's Annual Review

"ActionAid along with its CSO partners built evidence on the tardy implementation of the Bundelkhand Development Package through RTIs, community consultations and public hearings.

In response –

- a. state governments provided immediate support to the households where farmers had committed suicide;
- b. total package value was increased by Rs 2000 crores;
- c. stricter monitoring by the nodal department with details of disbursements listed on its website;
- d. Planning Commission requested ActionAid to advise on revamping the package."

Extract from European Union's Annual review

"The outputs planned have been appropriately delivered..."

"Despite the high number of stakeholders involved in the project implementation at various levels in India, the communication is efficiently conducted and the project coordinator is appropriately informed on the project developments, from the village level to the ActionAid office in Chennai. It is not always easy..."

"The project has undoubtedly helped to empower Dalit women in the 6 targeted districts of India and to strengthen their dignity."



A BETTER
WORLD IS
POSSIBLE

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ActionAid Association helps over 6 million of the country's poorest and most disadvantaged people in 25 States and 1 Union Territory in India.

ActionAid Association is registered in India under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 with its registered office at New Delhi. Registration number S-56828 on the 5th of October 2006.

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🕒 Monday - Friday,
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