

Academy of Root Development (Australia) Inc 2013-14 Annual Report

Academy of Root Development (Australia) Incorporated has been established in Australia to source donations and on-going funding to support the social development of disadvantaged women and their families in India.

ARD(Australia)Inc has established an operational centre in Guraru Block, Gaya District, Bihar under the name of WEIV (Women's Empowerment in Indian Villages) to implement the programme.

As amended in the Articles of Association, all programme expenses are now administered by an appropriate bona fide organisation in India, as approved by the ARD(Aust)Inc executive committee from time to time.

In light of this, we have established a partnership with a long-standing social organisation called Lok Shakti Shikshan Kendra (LSSK). They auspice a number of internationally funded programmes and work in the fields of Women's Empowerment, Reproductive Health, Schools and Land Rights. LSSK monitors our program and reports to us monthly regarding both operational and financial matters, plus sends an annual audit to ARD(Aust).



International Women's Day Rally and March, Guraru 2014

In India:

The Indian Government in conjunction with the World Bank has launched the Bihar Rural Livelihood Programme (BRLP) that aims to reach 80% of the rural poor. This is a large programme, designed to take-over all established Self Help Groups.

During the months February through to July, all groups were successfully migrated into the government program. WEIV will now focus on implementing a Reproductive and Child Health Programme in the target area.

Baseline Survey (BLS)



In March 2014 WEIV staff were trained by Virinchi Services to conduct a Baseline Survey.

The BLS has four components:

Focused Group Discussions (qualitative data), where community members, in our case, the women, gather to share their experiences and their needs in the areas of Reproductive and Child Health. Problems encountered, possible solutions and challenges to implementing the solutions are noted for further analysis that will allow us to prioritise their needs and our strategies.

Village Mapping, first drawn upon the ground using coloured powders and then transferred to paper, utilises the local knowledge of the women to draw a map of the village, marking on it the homes of all residents, local infrastructure and community buildings. This establishes a data-base of all homes to enable WEIV to build a health census of the village.

The third component is the compilation of a Village Health Register, which makes note of the health indicators for each household in the village.

Using digital tablets to record the data (the fourth component), WEIV staff will subsequently conduct a questionnaire in a representative sample of these households to determine the specific health indicators. This will enable us to analyse the health factors of the village and devise appropriate strategies to address those needs (quantitative data).



WEIV staff have commenced the Baseline Survey to determine the current state of health of the women and children in the target area. This task will gather data across many health indicators and allow us to determine the best strategies to address the health needs of the community.

We have chosen to do the BLS to acquire valuable data on the physical layout of the village and the inhabitants' current health status and awareness, and further, by participating in the survey the women will become aware that a program of education and awareness is following and will look out for it.

Once all aspects of the Base Line Survey have been carried out in two Panchayats (local government districts) then 2 staff members will remain with these 2 Panchayats and begin to roll out the Reproductive and Child Health Program. Each Panchayat comprises approximately nine villages with approximately 200 households per village. The program is far-reaching and ambitious in scope and spread.

Approximately two to three years after the entire program has been delivered to all households, we will run a follow up survey to gauge the success of the program and to determine which areas still need to be worked with.

Wendy and Graeme visited the project in February/March 2014 and were present for the Baseline Survey Training that took place in our area office at Guraru.

They were fortunate to also be present for the rally and march that was held in Guraru to commemorate International Women's Day. The articulate speeches of the staff members were inspiring and a credit to the women's dedication and capacity. A comprehensive report with photos, as well as a video of the event, are available on our website.



In Australia:

The Lismore Carboot Market continues to be our major fundraising activity. We always welcome donations of books, CDs and DVDs and good quality women's clothing. A collection of jewellery and fabrics from India is always available from our stall on the third Sunday of each month at the Lismore Carboot Market.

We appreciate the help of all of the volunteers, including Jozie Callaghan, Linda Whitefeather, Bruce Ingwersen and notably Nicky Lumb who have all put in many years supporting the market stall. The monthly donation of organic free-range eggs by Simon Cripps-Clark of Organigrow has been a valuable contribution to the success of our market stall.

Monthly donations are our main source of income and we currently have 42 regular donors. Donations can be made by Direct Deposit into the ARD(Aust)Inc bank account with Summerland Credit Union BSB: 728 728, Account Number 22256190 or by secure on-line deposit using your card via eGive from our website www.ard-india.org



WEIV staff and trainers from Virinchi Services gather with Wendy and Graeme at the completion of the Baseline Survey Training session.

The ARD(Aust)Inc 2013-14 Financial Statements, as attached, were prepared by Irvin and Company, Accountants.

ACADEMY OF ROOT DEVELOPMENT (AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED
Profit and Loss Statement
For the Year ended 30 June 2014

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
Income		
Donations & Fundraising	22,236	33,298
Ipex	3,221	2,753
Membership Fees	30	10
Interest Received	620	540
	26,107	36,601
Expenditure		
Accountancy Fees	132	110
Administration Costs	195	213
Advertising/Postage/Stationery	105	163
Bank Charges	418	177
Market Expenses	-	751
Overseas Projects	28,643	28,399
Registration /Licences	96	51
Telephone	-	30
Travelling Expenses	-	1,815
	29,589	31,709
Loss before Income Tax	(3,482)	4,892

ACADEMY OF ROOT DEVELOPMENT (AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED
Balance Sheet
As at 30 June 2014

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
Equity		
Retained Profits	28,291	31,772
Total Equity	28,291	31,772
 Represented by:		
Current Assets		
Petty Cash Imprest	1,201	2,890
Cash at Bank - SCU Gift Account	1,792	269
Cash at Bank - SCU Access Plus Account	25,185	27,679
Cash at Bank - Travellers Card	-	437
Cash at Bank - Redi Access	113	497
	28,291	31,772
Total Assets	28,291	31,772
Net Assets	28,291	31,772