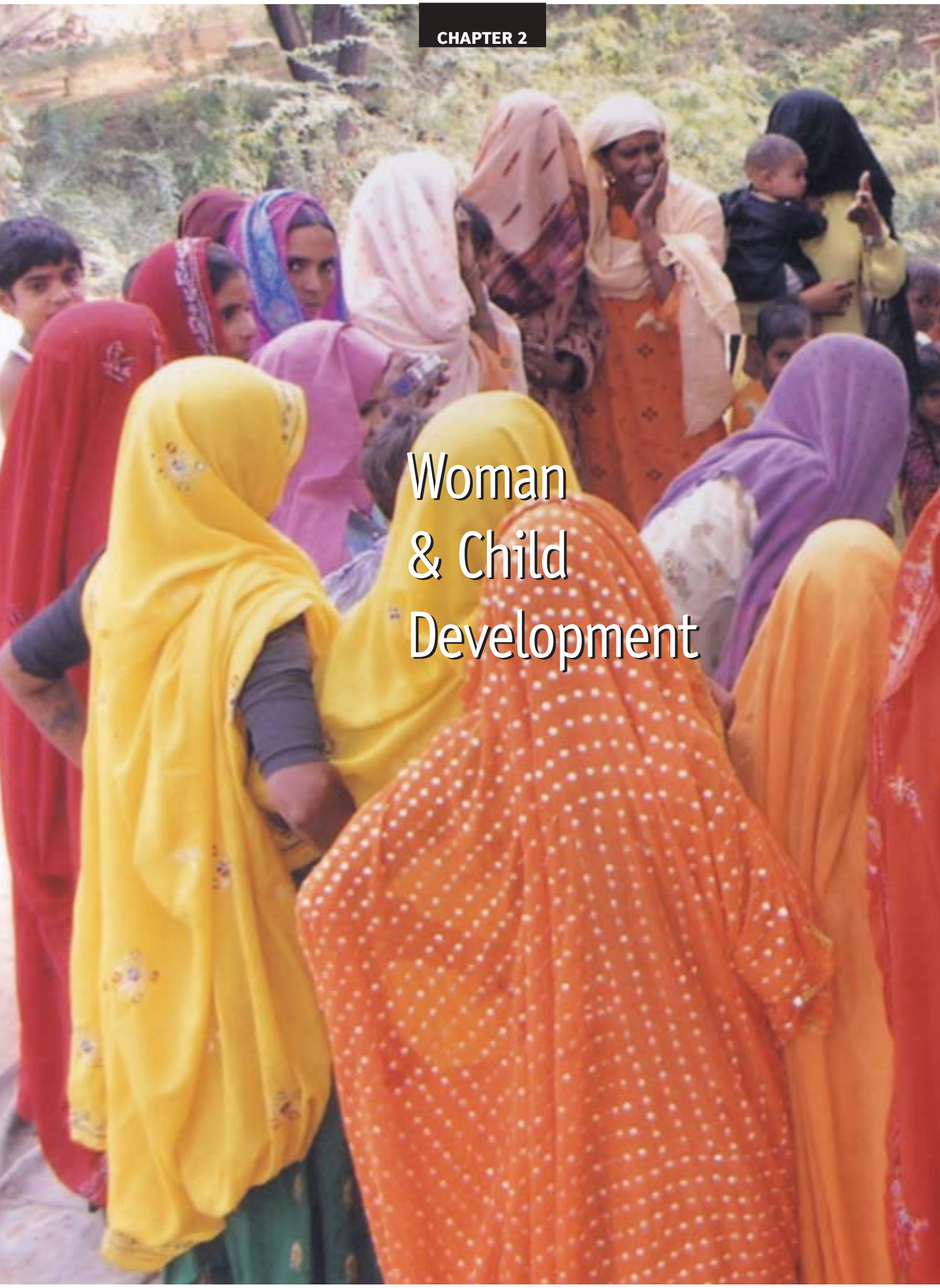
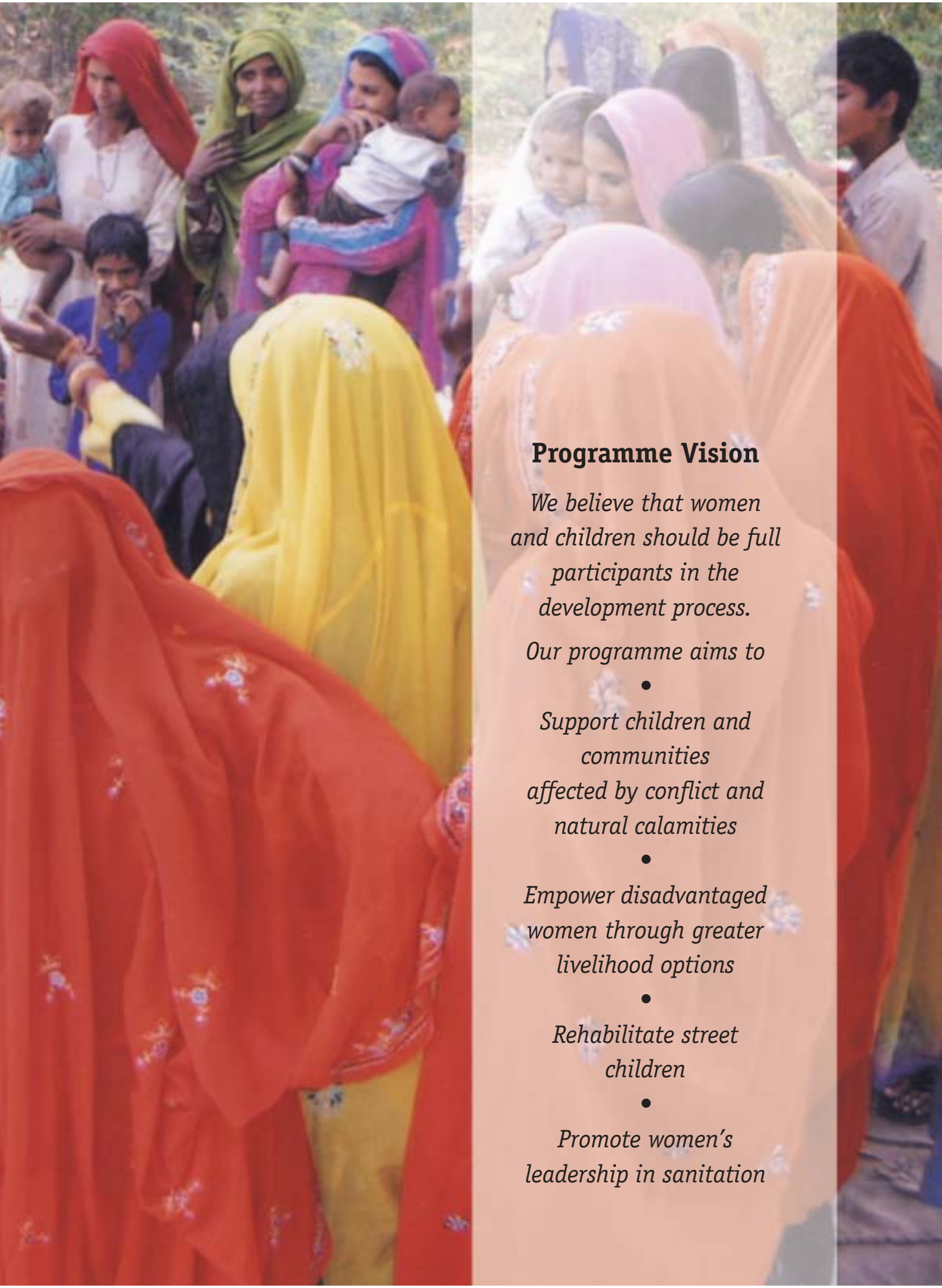
CHAPTER 2

Woman & Child Development





Programme Vision

We believe that women and children should be full participants in the development process.

Our programme aims to

- *Support children and communities affected by conflict and natural calamities*
- *Empower disadvantaged women through greater livelihood options*
- *Rehabilitate street children*
- *Promote women's leadership in sanitation*

Woman & Child Development

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2006 – 2007

INTERACT I
A total of 142 new children were identified this year, 9 from Chhattisgarh for the first time making a total of 780 countrywide.

INTERACT II
Provided support to 14 children for post-school education.

Riot-affected children – Gujarat
Continued educational support to 55 children affected by violence in Gujarat; assistance for higher education and medical care to five others.

Workshops for children in Northeast, A&N and Ahmedabad
Workshops organised for children in Manipur, Nagaland, Nancowry islands and Ahmedabad.

Elimination of Child Labour
Initiated a programme in district Sonebhadra, UP to restore rights of the child to education and development and initiate a process of elimination of child labour.

Support to street children
Continued support to the ongoing programme of safe shelter and rehabilitative skills to 50 children in Indore, 155 in Bhopal.

Skill building programmes
Partnered with organisations in A&N, Orissa and Uttarakhand to train women in various skills for micro-enterprise and added income:

- 105 women in food processing in A&N islands.
- 100 women in bamboo craft in Jajpur, Orissa.
- 120 women in scientific vegetable cultivation in Pithoragarh, Uttrarakhand.

Women and Sanitation
Collaborated with Gram Vikas to build toilets cum bathing units for 1000 households in Ganjam, Gajapati and Nayagarh districts of Orissa.

Dialogue with Planning Commission on policy changes needed to give greater recognition and encouragement to role of women and the voluntary sector in urban and rural sanitation programmes.

Support to aspirant women pilots
Scholarships of Rs. 2,00,000 each to three women trainee pilots at Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi, Rae Bareli.

Psychosocial Support Programme A&N
Refresher Training for 190 Site leaders for ongoing post-tsunami psychosocial support programme.

Psychosocial Support Programme J&K
Completed refresher training for 34 Anganwadi workers, 48 Multipurpose health workers and 54 teachers in Baramulla and Kupwara districts of J&K.

PROJECT INTERACT

INTERACT-I

INTERACT I, a major programme of the Foundation, reaches assistance to children who lose one or both parents to terrorism. The effort is to minimize the dislocation in their lives and to see that their education upto higher secondary level and personal development are not disrupted in any way. Currently a total of 780 children are being supported under the project.

The Foundation has been a pioneer in supporting children orphaned by terrorism

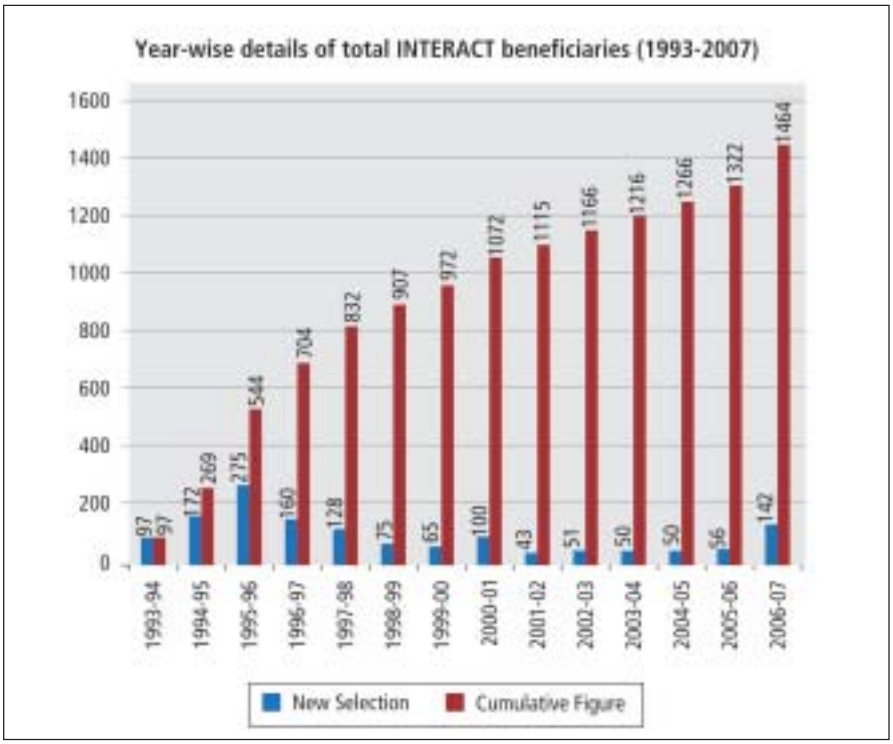
After a serious effort to track and locate orphaned children in terrorism-affected states of India through district authorities and others, the Foundation could reach assistance to 142 new children – the highest in the last ten years. Nine children have been selected from Chhattisgarh. This is the first time we have been able to reach Chhattisgarh.

States	No. of children
Andhra Pradesh	28
Chhatisgarh	9
J&K	86
Manipur	18
Nagaland	1
Total	**142**

INTERACT-II

The Foundation extends help for the higher education of children who have excelled at school. So far, 55 children have been given assistance for advanced courses. In the current academic year of 2006–2007, 14 children have been selected for support for the following courses.

Courses	No. of children
MBBS	2
B. Tech and other Engineering courses	4
B. Pharmacy	1
Computer course	3
Nursing and Midwifery	2
Bachelor of Arts	1
Bachelor of Commerce	1
Total	**14**



PROJECT INTERACT - I

CURRENT

States	Male	Female	Total
Assam	21	22	43
Andhra Pradesh	51	59	110
Chhattisgarh	5	4	9
J&K	131	127	258
Manipur	87	77	164
Maharashtra	1	4	5
Nagaland	37	28	65
Other States	23	6	29
Punjab	35	22	57
Tripura	29	11	40
Total	**420**	**360**	**780**

CUMULATIVE

Assam	34	47	81
Andhra Pradesh	119	102	221
Chhattisgarh	5	4	9
J&K	211	198	409
Manipur	148	122	270
Maharashtra	2	4	6
Nagaland	69	50	119
Other States	43	20	63
Punjab	143	82	225
Tripura	39	22	61
Total	**813**	**651**	**1464**

Out of these 14 children 4 are from Andhra, 1 from Assam, 3 from Jammu & Kashmir, 2 from Manipur, 3 from Punjab and 1 from Haryana.

WORKSHOPS FOR INTERACT CHILDREN

Manipur

A three-day workshop was held for children in Manipur from 26th to 28th February 2007 for quality interaction and learning through sharing. Forty children in the age group of 13-18 participated in the workshop.

There were a series of sessions on music, dance, mime show, art and crafts and graffiti writing. A national figure in yoga, Ms. R.K. Sylvia and her coach Mr. Lairenjam Meitei taught various yoga techniques to the children to help them keep mind and body healthy. This was a new thing for the children and they enjoyed it. The children were counselled on dealing with grief and anxieties. They were guided on career issues too.

The counsellor stressed the importance of a plan for the future, setting goals and working towards them. The children expressed their hopes and aspirations through graffiti. *"Thanks a lot for helping me at every step of my life,"* wrote Naorem Julia.

The workshop ended with an evening of cultural programmes attended by various dignitaries from Imphal.

A child writing graffiti, Manipur

Sylvia teaching yoga in Manipur

PROJECT INTERACT - II (HIGHER EDUCATION)

CURRENT

States	Male	Female	Total	Vocational Course
Assam	0	2	2	L.L.B, Computer Course
Andhra Pradesh	8	5	13	M.B.B.S, Engineering, B.Tech, B.Sc-Computer Science, B.Pharmacy
J&K	4	5	9	M.B.B.S, Engineering, B.Tech, B.Sc Multimedia & Animation
Manipur	2	1	3	Nursing & Midwifery, M.B.B.S, Bachelor in Arts
Other States	2	0	2	Nursing & Midwifery, Bachelor in Commerce
Punjab	0	5	5	Nursing & Midwifery, Computer Course
Total	16	18	34	

PROJECT INTERACT - II (HIGHER EDUCATION)

CUMULATIVE

States	Male	Female	Total
Assam	2	2	4
Andhra Pradesh	10	8	18
J&K	9	9	18
Manipur	3	1	4
Nagaland	1	1	2
Other States	2	1	3
Punjab	0	6	6
Total	27	28	55

Nagaland
A similar workshop was organised for the children of Nagaland from 5th to 7th March 2007.

Apart from music and dance sessions, which included traditional forms too, the children prayed and meditated for emotional healing. The counsellors helped them reduce their anxieties and stress.

The children were at their creative best in the art, craft and painting sessions, which included origami and pottery. They expressed themselves in many different ways through graffiti too. They enjoyed the film show which was specially organised for them.

The counsellors helped them on their career questions. They gave valuable inputs to the children in understanding their aptitude and choosing what they excel in.

There was a special session on health education, which focused on adolescent health and awareness on HIV/AIDS.

POST-TSUNAMI ASSISTANCE

Child-support Programme
Children who lost either or both their parents to the tsunami continued to be provided support and assistance so that their education was not disrupted in any way. They received an allowance to meet their school fees, books, uniform together with a maintenance allowance. A total of 175 children were helped as follows:

States & UTs	No. of children
Puducherry	
Karaikal	50
A&N Islands	
Car Nicobar	29
Nancowry	37
Katchal	27
Teressa	1
Campbell Bay	25
South Andamans	1
Andhra Pradesh	
Krishna	3
Prakasam	2
Total	**175**

A yoga session for INTERACT children, Manipur

A mime show by INTERACT children, Manipur

A painting session for INTERACT children, Nagaland

Workshop for tsunami-affected children of Andaman & Nicobar Islands

A three-day residential workshop was held from 5th to 7th March 2007 at Kamorta for the children of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. A total of 35 children in the age group of 13 to 17 participated in the workshop. Considering that the Nicobarese children are good in sports, the workshop began with relay, sack race, lemon & spoon race and maths race. This helped to break the ice and the children sang, danced and acted with gusto. They liked the painting session the most and exchanged hand-made greeting cards and friendship bands with each other. The children were in tears in the counselling session, which helped ventilate their pent-up grief.

On the third day a valedictory function was organised which was presided over by the Assistant Commissioner, Nancowry and his officials from the A&N Administration.

Nicobarese children in a sack race

A dance session at the Kamorta workshop

Psychosocial Support Programme in A&N Islands

In an effort to reach the tsunami-scarred community in the Andamans, especially children, the Foundation initiated a two-year psychosocial support programme to fill the gap of professional psychiatric help at the grassroots level.

A well-designed psychosocial outreach programme with components of training and counselling was initiated with the cooperation of the local administration and a team of 253 grassroots counsellors was created.

To increase the effectiveness of the programme, refresher training was organised in August 2006 for the entire team of site leaders and lead specialists. The Foundation acknowledges with gratitude the dedicated assistance of Ms. Shefali Tsabary in conceptualising the project and imparting training in 2005 and again in 2006 to all the personnel involved.

In the second phase of the programme, which began in September 2006 there are 190 site leaders spread over all the islands. The children have opened up to their counsellors and consult them on various matters. In addition to trauma, there are other adolescent problems, varying from examination stress, career worries, differences with the parents or drugs and alcoholism.

CHILD PROTECTION PROGRAMMES

Children forced to live on the streets by circumstance are vulnerable in every respect. They are deprived of the basic opportunities that help in survival and growth. There is a need for surrogate institutions to restore children's rights to survival, protection and development. The Foundation therefore has supported NGOs in the cities of Indore, Bhopal and Faridabad to provide safe shelter, security and basic necessities of food and clothes to such children.

REACH (Rehabilitation, Education & Assistance to Children on the Street), Bhopal

The Foundation has supported Nitya Seva Society for the last five years from 2001 to 2006. The NGO gave shelter to more than 1040 children during this period. Many were repatriated to their families. A total of 146 children have been sent to formal schools, 374 children learnt the use of computers.

The NGO organised vocational trainings in automobile repair, denting and

REACH children celebrating Independence Day at Indore

painting work, carpentry and polishing work, repairing electrical items, tailoring and sewing. They set up a PCO booth and a tea stall in the campus of the Railway Hospital, which is serving as a training ground for the children who are not willing to go to school. The children are given regular health check-up and are provided medical care, whenever necessary.

REACH (Rehabilitation, Education & Assistance to Children on the Street), Indore

Aarambh, since the year 2000 has provided security and safe shelter to street children together with a congenial environment to develop their potential and rehabilitate them into the community.

In 2006-07, 50 children were given shelter out of whom 45 are receiving formal education and the other 5 non-formal education and vocational training. In the last six years a total of 467 children [342 boys and 125 girls] have been benefited. The number of children repatriated to their families is 161.

Rehabilitation of Street Children, Faridabad

Karm Marg has been supported for three years to reach out to street children for shelter and rehabilitation. The children have been given training in various skills like woodwork, metal craft and screen-printing and are also being gradually trained in production and marketing to make them self-sufficient.

The production is done in their own campus and marketing is done through exhibitions and fairs. Some institutional linkages have also been made for the same purpose. In 2006, 45 children were provided shelter and skills.

Elimination of Child Labour, Sonebhadra, UP

The programme was targeted at the tribal community of Sonebhadra District in Eastern UP. The operational area consisted of 10 Panchayats in Dudhi block. RGF supported the initial intervention focussing on the three components of the right to development (education), right to protection (advocacy) and right to participation.

Widespread awareness on the value of education and a child's right to it as part of a normal childhood has been created. The project reported 100 per cent school enrolment and retention at three villages (Harpura, Baikhard and Amora). One hundred children enrolled themselves in regular as well as non-formal schools. So far, CBOs – the local community-based monitors have been active in all the project villages. One primary school has been opened. There are 5 Non Formal Education centres where 246 children are receiving education. Altogether, as many as 528 working children have been linked with formal and non-formal education.

The long-term goal of this project is to address the root causes of child labour and make pragmatic interventions into issues of survival, protection, development and participation.

Assistance for Riot-affected children in Gujarat

A total of 57 children, orphaned by the communal riots in Gujarat in 2002, are getting support for their education and maintenance. Three among them are getting medical assistance too. In addition to these 57 children, two girls are receiving assistance for an advanced computer course.

Workshop for the Riot-affected children

A three-day workshop was held in Gujarat from 16th to 18th October 2006, in which 55 children participated. It was organised to bring them some respite from their daily routine, draw them out of their shells, let them interact with others and share their joys and sorrows. The design of the workshop included art and craft, music, dance, drama, theatre, sports and counselling for vocational skills. The children enjoyed every moment and were full of energy and enthusiasm during all the activities.

Children in Gujarat learning tie and dye work

Displaying the results

ALTERNATE LIVELIHOOD FOR WOMEN

Rajiv Gandhi Mahila Vikas Pariyojana, UP

This programme, in collaboration with the Rajiv Gandhi Charitable Trust, has been able to create women's thrift and credit groups on a significant scale and conduct entrepreneurship development for them in Sultanpur and Rae Bareli districts of UP. Since 2002, as many as 2734 groups have been created with 1867 groups in Sultanpur and 867 groups in Rae Bareli. The break down is as follows. (Table A)

Currently the focus is on business development activities like rearing of farm animals, poultry, fruit processing, vermiculture as well as candle and pickle making. A number of groups have established small income generating activities. Alternate avenues of income have been opened and the women provided exposure to group dynamics and management through democratic processes. (Table B)

Income-Generating Programme for Women in Bokaro, Jharkhand

The Foundation gave support to Jan Chetna Manch, Bokaro, an NGO in Jharkhand to train women from marginalised farming families in various skills such as health food processing, soap making and sewing. A total of 30 women in the age group of 25 to 45 received training in small economic activities, entrepreneurship and marketing their products. It was also helped in production and developing marketing strategies.

Mudha making training in Rae Bareli

Grihasti Dukan at Bokaro, Jharkhand

Table A

Phase	Districts	No. of Blocks	No. of SHGs formed
Phase 1	Sultanpur	4	159
Phase 2	Sultanpur	9	450
	Rae Bareli	1	12
Phase 3	Sultanpur	9	500
	Rae Bareli	4	112
Phase 4	Sultanpur	12	758
	Rae Bareli	11	743
Total			2734

Table B

Phase	Districts	Savings	Loan amount	Income from micro enterprises
Phase 1	Sultanpur	2188978	3015730	645319
Phase 2	Sultanpur	3907855	3670520	879507
	Rae Bareli	89530	40300	708130
Phase 3	Sultanpur	3870211	3746650	1022832
	Rae Bareli	749137	303050	234500
Phase 4	Sultanpur	3141236	2216654	1098800
	Rae Bareli	3112976	2811855	250622
Total		17059923	15804759	4839710

Marketing was done basically through cooperative stores, called Grihasti Dukan which have been set up in 18 villages. In the food processing unit 7 out of 10 who received training are doing successful business. Similarly, 6 out of 10 in the soap making unit and 9 out of 12 from the sewing group have been able to use their skills to earn. Women who learnt food-processing skills are earning Rs. 600 per month.

Skill development for women in Bhatti Mines, Delhi

Our partner, Concern for Humanity, completed a one-year training programme in sewing and tailoring for young women in Bhatti Mines, a slum in Delhi. While 35 women have received training under this project, 3 could start their home-based tailoring units in the limited volume of business that the slum cluster provides. They earn around Rs. 300 to 500 per month.

Looking at the response from the women, the project has been extended for another year. At present training in tailoring and functional literacy is being given to 20 adolescent girls and women.

Livelihood Programme for Women through Vegetable Cultivation in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand

This is a programme to integrate women farmers and make their regular vegetable cultivation practices market-oriented and economically viable. Apart from obtaining a marketable quantity, the programme also provides attention to the quality of the produce by introducing a scientific package of practices and regular monitoring. It also has a provision to provide trade literacy to women and connect them directly to the market.

RGF has supported training, seed distribution, land preparation and marketing efforts. Till now, six groups have been formed and 1,00,000 plants developed and distributed among the members of the groups. Twenty acres of land are being cultivated for vegetables. 100 quintals of vegetables were grown, including capsicum, cabbage, cauliflower, tomato and brinjals. Out of this, 61 quintals were sold for an income of Rs. 58,845 for the federation of 80 women.

Women from Harari and Bhetadhanik villages tending to their vegetable gardens

All the participants in the project have grown vegetables at least five times more than before. A plant that gave 1 KG tomatoes now gives 5 KG. Each woman earned Rs. 200 to 300 per month on an average. Six SHGs have been formed in six villages and their total saving is Rs. 22,401, which helps them to take loans for various other income-generating activities. Looking at the response from the women and the outcome, the project has been extended for a year. It will include five additional villages as well as new components like vermiculture, literacy and health.

Livelihood programme through Bamboo Products in Jajpur, Orissa

RGF supported the Schumacher Centre for Development to generate livelihood options for a hundred landless women in Jajpur district of Orissa through bamboo products. The project was designed to introduce simple but appropriate technology to improve income from basket-making.

Improved tool kits were distributed to 8 SHGs, which make it easier to cut, slice and measure bamboo and increase the production rate. Systematic training was imparted to the beneficiaries on operating the tool kits. The women are gradually learning to operate them and this is helping them increase the number

The new tool kit

Basket making in progress

and quality of production. Instead of two in a day, the women can now produce six baskets and it is expected to go up to ten per day. They earn Rs. 15 from one basket now but with a growing market they will be able to earn between Rs. 90 and 150 per day.

The tool kits were selected from a wide range recommended by the National Mission on Bamboo Applications. IIT Mumbai has developed the one that has been distributed among the beneficiaries. Looking at the vast potential of the project, the National Mission on Bamboo Applications has identified the project for training interventions. It plans intensive training in other bamboo products including charcoal from waste bamboo.

Capacity Building through Training in Food Processing in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Food processing is a sustainable development initiative which provides a viable livelihood option. RGF supported a skill-training programme in food processing in A&N islands to create livelihood opportunities for the young men and women. Our partner Unnati has collaborated with the Department of Industries and Agriculture to use their infrastructure to train 105 women in various skills. Thirty have been trained in fish processing, 30 in canning and packaging of prawns, 25 in papad making and 20 in bakery and confectionery.

The post-training effort to begin production as a regular source of income is under way. Four SHGs in Diglipur have put their capital together and have begun production of processed fish and prawn products and have started supplying to the marketing outlet of the Industries Department. The SHG in Little Andamans has applied for loans to Khadi and Village Industries Commission and they will most likely be in a position to begin production soon. The Department of Tribal Welfare is processing papers for

Bakery Training

Processed products

a loan to an SHG in Nancowry in the tribal group of islands for a bakery unit.

Psychosocial Support Programme in J&K

Seventeen years of militancy in J&K has had a severe impact on the mental health of the people specially in the valley. The Foundation initiated an outreach programme to provide counselling to school children as well as at the community level. The programme aims to create a cadre of barefoot mental health counsellors and build their skills in identifying symptoms of trauma and to be able to offer basic counselling skills to help assuage them. Teachers, health workers and anganwadi workers have been identified for this purpose.

The programme was begun in district Budgam in 2000. It was extended to two other districts, Baramulla and Kupwara, in 2005-2006. Being close to the Line of Control, both the districts are severely affected by militancy and this is the region that was struck by the massive earthquake on 8th October 2005 causing considerable damage to life and property and post-disaster trauma.

The district administration gave full support in arranging the training programmes, which were held in March 2006. A total of 40 anganwadi workers, 48 multipurpose health workers and 60 teachers were trained from both the districts.

A two-day refresher training was organised in both the districts from 19 to 23 March 2007. Inspite of difficult weather a total of 34 anganwadi workers, 48 multipurpose health workers and 54 teachers participated. The training included understanding and identification of emotional and psychological problems such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and other long-term impact of trauma. It covered aspects of normal stress response, reactions and coping mechanisms and the need for intervention in detail. It dealt extensively on counseling skills through group activities and special interventions in individual cases.

Psychosocial counselling session in Baramullaa

Psychosocial counselling session in Kupwara

Child Counselling and Guidance Centre, Srinagar

The Child Counselling and Guidance Centre in Srinagar, manned by trained professionals, integrates counselling and treatment. It provides comprehensive, cost-free psychiatric care to children in a friendly and positive environment. Apart from this, our partner organisation Aman organises camps in distant districts where no psychiatric help is readily available and creates awareness on trauma symptoms and need for counselling intervention. As many as 389 patients received treatment at this centre in 2006-07. Seven outreach programmes including child and family therapy workshops were conducted in which basic information on trauma cases was provided, cases identified and primary treatment given. More than 200 people including children benefited from these programmes.

Project Caravan: Empowering Disadvantaged Community through Knowledge and Information

As a post-riot rehabilitative measure in Gujarat, RGF collaborated with the Society for Promotion of Rational Thinking [SPRAT] to establish a centre for information and learning at Vatva in Ahmedabad under project CARAVAN in January 2003. This was to provide educational services to children from the minority community. The community in Vatva has a very low literacy rate and suffers from various social and economic problems born out of lack of education and employment.

The centre has a small library and provides coaching to students of class 10 and 12. During the year a total of 30 students received coaching. A basic literacy programme called Talim is also conducted in the area and around 50 women received training under this programme. In all 90 students received coaching in the last three years.

Scholarships to women pilot trainees from IGRUA

The Foundation provides two scholarships annually to meritorious women undergoing training for a pilot license at Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi. So far, scholarships have been awarded to 31 women cadets. Most of the previous scholars are working as commercial pilots in various airlines.

This year three awards of Rs. 2,00,000 each were given to Ms. Shruti Sharma, Ms. Ramya Kirti Gupta and Ms. Merum Rashmi.

RGF Trustee Dr. V Krishnamurthy presenting the awards to women pilots

Community-managed Water Supply and Sanitation in Rural Areas of Orissa

Sanitation is a much-needed area of intervention to reduce the enormous disease burden in the country. Even today, almost 700 million people have no access to toilets, which is a major cause for many of our distressing health indicators.

The Foundation has been partnering with Gram Vikas in Orissa in its Rural Health and Environment Programme. It has supported building toilets cum bathing units in 1000 households in 9 villages of Ganjam, Gajapati and Nayagarh districts, which are isolated and extremely impoverished areas of Orissa inhabited by marginalised tribal groups and scheduled castes. Among the households covered, 57 per cent belong to the BPL catagories. Out of them 18 per cent are *dalits* and 14 per cent are *adivasis*.

The project recognises and focuses on a major concern in the everyday life of a woman. Apart from hygiene, it addresses her needs of privacy, security, dignity and health. It also recognises her potential role in creating a sanitation movement in the community. Gram Vikas follows an intensive social process of hygiene education, 100 per cent community coverage, and a high level of community participation with a pivotal role of women.

Gram Vikas also rejects the low-quality solution and believes that the cheapest solution is not necessarily the most effective one. It has shown that once people understand, they are willing to contribute to good quality units with running water connections, which saves women from fetching water from a distance. The systems of financial and institutional management at the community level have made a major contribution to sustainability and improving the quality of life in general.

People value this project initiative and the assets that are created through it, primarily because they themselves make significant contributions towards the costs involved. This sense of ownership ensures regular use and proper maintenance of the units and water supply infrastructure.

The first phase of the project concluded in March 2007 with successful coverage of 1000 households. The second phase, beginning in June 2007 will cover a further 1500 households in various districts of Orissa.

Building toilets-cum-bathing units in village Kerandimal, Orissa

Follow-up of the South Asia Workshop on Women and Sanitation

A two-day South Asia Regional Workshop on Women and Sanitation was held at the Foundation in March 2006 attended by activists, professionals and policy makers from across the region. Issues and constraints in the South Asian sanitation sector were discussed. It provided a perspective on the Indian sanitation reality along with national recommendations for India as well as the whole South Asian region.

The recommendations were presented in an Aide-Memoire to the Planning Commission for consideration in the 11th Five Year Plan.

The full Conference report with recommendations was made available to the South Asian Conference on Sanitation [SACOSAN-2] held in September 2006 in Islamabad. It will feature prominently again in SACOSAN-3 to be held in New Delhi in 2008.

SANITATION IN INDIA

Highlights from Aide-Memoire to the Planning Commission

1. The most fundamental recommendation is *recognition of sanitation as an essential pre-requisite to safe water supply and therefore to human development and poverty reduction*.
2. Any change in the appalling statistics of access to sanitation in India, particularly by the poor, will also depend on *bringing women and civil society into the centre of planning and decision-making*.....
3. Ensuring that women are heard and are able to lead a sanitation movement will require *institutionalizing women's role and authority*. There is experience on the ground (such as the Self-Help Groups and safai samitis now operating in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat and important examples in Bangladesh and elsewhere in South Asia) that offer experience that can be taken to scale, provided the *capacity-building* supports are made available to women leaders.
4. Prioritizing women's needs will also mean *changing the prescriptive, top-down models* that have been the hallmarks of official latrine construction programmes. The need instead is for *a range of models that can respond to a variety of demands, requirements and financial capacities. Dignity, privacy* and the importance of spaces for *bathing and washing* are all demand elements that need to be utilized.....
5. Sanitation and water supply are inextricably linked, even as they often require separate skills and specialisation. *Convergence* between departments, sectors and networks is thus an urgent priority because water cannot be safe without sanitation, and sanitation action requires water supply. Convergence with the National Health Mission and the National Urban Renewal Mission (see below) should be a priority. Synergy between the *Total Sanitation Campaign* (TSC) and *Swajaldhara* is often missing at state and local levels, while Swajaldhara and the *Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme* (ARWSP) share an uncomfortable relationship. Reviewing these programmes in the context of the 11th Plan is essential, with the active participation of all stakeholders.
6. *Urban sanitation* represents a challenge in its own right, demanding new partnerships, policies and spaces for cooperation..... The *NURM* can be the *umbrella for such inter-disciplinary/inter-departmental/government-civil society cooperation*. Using the NURM opportunity, the 11th Plan can create scaleable solutions based on *pilot schemes* in *selected locations*..... The NURM could also provide the space within which *civil society is given a legitimate role* in meeting the urban challenge.

   There are important *issues of equity* waiting to be addressed. The scale of subsidy which urban citizens now receive is in contrast with the self-help and resource mobilization responsibilities expected of rural communities.
7. Building up a reliable data base for the sanitation sector is essential to facilitate dialogue and decision-making as well as to monitor progress and disseminate information.
8. Financial supports that can help NGOs scale up their activities toward both sanitation and water supply are needed well beyond current levels... While there is acknowledgment that civil society must be the engine for sustainable change, the finance essential for local innovation and demonstration is most often unavailable...
9. School sanitation should be a major element in the 11th Plan. Schools can be a catalyst for the kind of awareness and behaviour change that the sector so urgently requires. This demands hygiene education, which is reduced to farce if schools lack toilets and facilities for hand-washing.
10. Hygiene education is the essential precursor to sanitation awareness and action. Yet this activity receives little serious attention. Capacity-building and financial opportunities are largely missing. Hygiene education is usually relegated to the clumsy label of 'IEC', which today can mean almost anything except a strategic approach to behavior change. The 11th Plan should see greater rigour apply to 'IEC' and to the understanding of communication as a strategic management resource. Hygiene education may then find an understanding of its wants/needs. An approach for hygiene education on a national scale should be an 11th Plan priority.
11. The shame of *manual scavenging* continues unabated, even as it is denied. Thousands of women, children and men are condemned to this inhuman and hidden practice A strong database is essential, as is the bringing together of scavenging communities with civil society and authorities that can serve them. Without acknowledgement to replace denial, support systems based on data, and a human rights perspective, the scandal of manual scavenging will not end. The 11th Plan opportunity should not be missed, so many decades after Gandhiji's efforts to erase this scandal.

In these ways, the 11th Five Year Plan could give sanitation the political will and the priority it has been denied for all these years. The Plan could also provide for sanitation a national momentum of the kind, which the 10th Plan gave to solid waste management.

WOMAN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

HIGHLIGHTS 1992 – 2007

PEOPLE AFFECTED BY CONFLICT

1993-present

Project INTERACT

- provide long-term support to child victims of terrorism across eight states – Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Nagaland, Punjab, Tripura Maharastra and Chhatissgarh.
- 1464 child victims provided financial support for school education, maintenance and trauma counselling. Selected 142 children this year for support.
- organised workshops in Manipur and Nagaland.
- supported 55 children to pursue post-school education in professional and vocational courses. Selected 14 new children for higher education under INTERACT II.

1995-2003

Counselling support to INTERACT children in Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir

- trained 20 para-counsellors.
- para-counsellors interact with children regularly and offer them and their families guidance on personal problems and other concerns.

Camps to share experiences

- women and children share their experiences and problems in Batala, Jalandhar, Karimnagar, Warangal and Srinagar.
- Conducted 'Exploring our World' residential workshop for INTERACT children in Jammu & Kashmir.

Response to disaster

- Supported the school education of 220 tsunami affected children from Pondicherry / Karaikal, Andhra Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- In A&N Islands, psychosocial training has been provided to 252 staff members from the Health, Education and Social Welfare sectors.
- Counselling Workshop organised at Karaikal for Tsunami affected children in January 2006.

2002-present

Psychosocial Support project

Pilot project of Psychosocial Support for people affected by violent conflict.

- initially in collaboration with UNICEF and at present with District Administration of Budgam, Jammu & Kashmir.
- trained 586 community level workers like teachers, doctors, paramedics, village level workers in counselling and theatre therapy.
- Psychosocial support programme has been extended to two more districts of Baramulla and Kupwara in J&K, for teachers, Anganwadi workers and Health workers.
- project creates a first line of defence against stress-related problems.
- produced a documentary film 'A Ray of Hope' highlighting the psychosocial support project & the impact of violence on the lives of people affected by conflict in J&K.
- provided practical inputs in counselling and issues of social significance to the Post graduate students of the Deptt. of Psychology and Social Work, University of Kashmir.

Developed Publications

- focused on psychosocial support issue.
- "Living again: counselling support for dealing with traumatised persons" and "Mental health concerns of people affected by terrorism".
- manuals on counselling for teachers and community level workers in Urdu and English.

People affected by violence in Gujarat

- launched a project similar to project INTERACT to support 74 children orphaned by communal violence in Ahmedabad in 2002.
- Provided assistance for higher education to two children.
- Provided medical assistance to two children.
- supporting a community centre at Vatva in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, for the socio-economic empowerment of minority communities affected by communal violence.

WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

1992-present

Scholarships to 31 women pilot trainees of the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi, Rae Bareli.

1992-present

Economic empowerment & livelihood projects

- for tribal women, women living in areas with few other employment opportunities, and those affected by terrorism, displacement or widowhood.
- benefit over 1982 women in different parts of the country, and 900 women in the North - East states.
- craft based pottery, bamboo work, durry weaving, screen printing, embroidery and beadwork projects.
- masonry training to rural women in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra.
- trained 80 women to help them gain better-paid jobs.
- Organic ginger processing and product distribution in Manipur.
- formation of 2734 Self Help Groups in Sultanpur and Rae Bareli districts, Uttar Pradesh. Providing vocational training and educational inputs for SHG members.
- Programme in Uttaranchal for farmers to make their regular vegetable cultivation practices market-oriented and economically viable.
- Project in A&N Islands for Capacity Building through training in Food Processing.
- Project on Livelihood programme through Bamboo Products for tribal women in Orissa.
- Project on Community Managed Water Supply & Sanitation in rural areas of Orissa.

Non-conventional occupations for women

- a Delhi - based project for providing scholarships to 50 women to do courses in small business management.

2003 - 2004

Income generation cum education programme

- for migrant women and rag pickers in slums of Delhi.
- for adolescent girls and widows affected by militancy in Budgam District of J&K.

Project 'Jagriti'

- building capacities of young women in educational institutes to combat sexual violence in Delhi.

Sanitation

- Two day South Asia regional workshop on Women & Sanitation has been organised in Delhi in collaboration with WSSCC, Water Aid India, UNICEF, and GRWHC in March 2006.
- Aide Memoire to Planning Commission on sanitation policy.
- Community-led sanitation project for 1000 households in districts Ganjam, Gajapati and Nayagarh in Orissa.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

1995-present

Project REACH, Madhya Pradesh

- shelter, education and suitable vocational training for over 500 street children in Indore and Bhopal (467 in Indore and 1040 in Bhopal).
- about 40 older children have gained employment.

2002-present

Economic self-reliance of street children

- Project in Faridabad district, Haryana with NGO Karm Marg.
- Impart vocational skills and education.

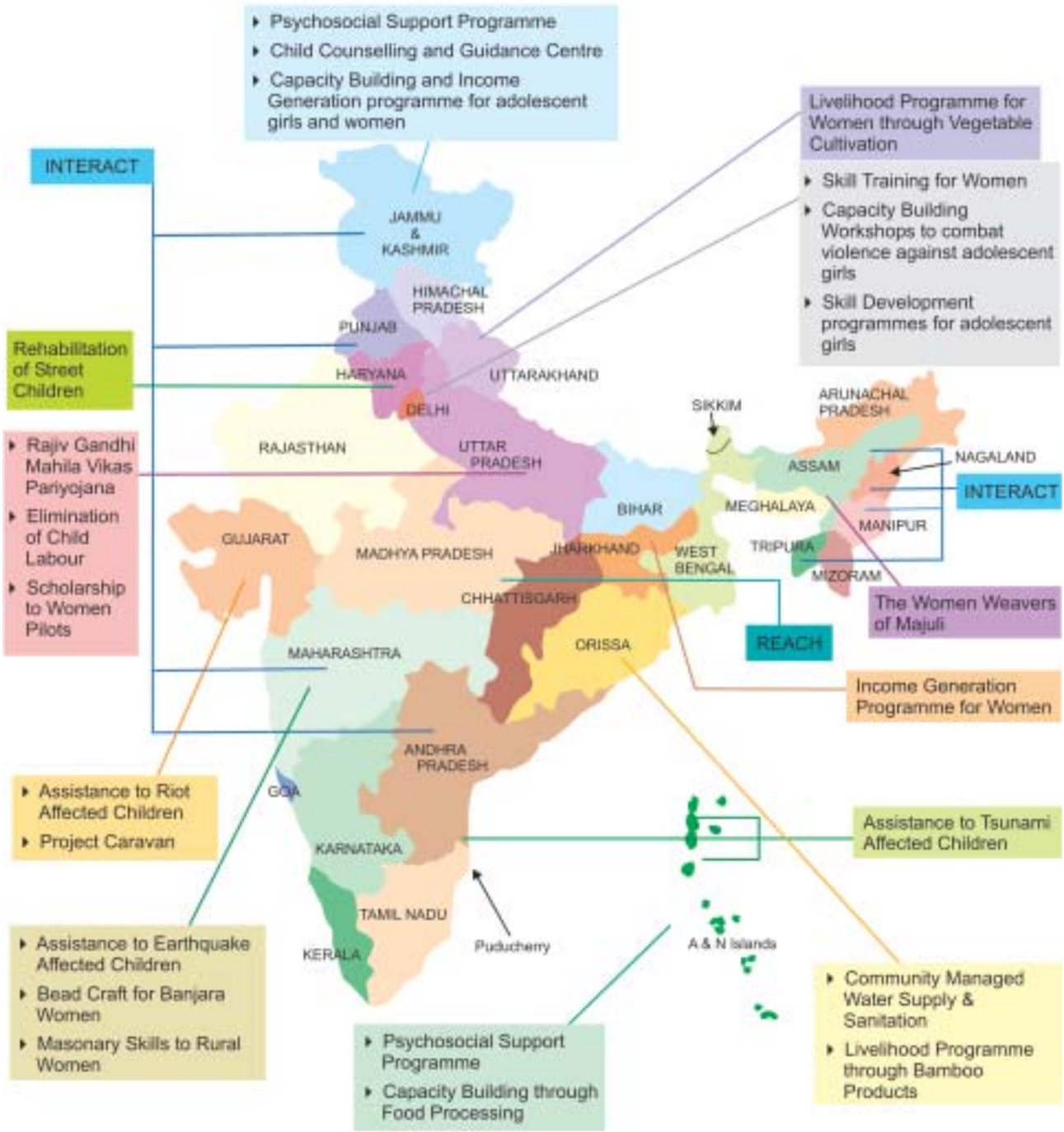
2000-present

Capacity building of mid-level NGO personnel working with street children

- develop self-learning courses in English and Business skills in collaboration with the Commonwealth of Learning, Canada and the Indira Gandhi National Open University.

2005-present

Child Counselling and Guidance Centre in Srinagar provided psychiatric care to 641 patients directly affected by conflict.

- Project for elimination of child labour focussing on three components- education, advocacy, and right to participation.

RGF's WOMAN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES IN INDIA