



END TERM EVALUATION STUDY OF PROJECT 'STRENGTHENING CHILD RIGHT AND IMPROVED EDUCATION TO PREVENT CHILD LABOUR IN RAJASTHAN

Final Evaluation Report



KARVY ||| **INSIGHTS**

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Executive Summary

The context and scope of work

1. *In Banswara district, a fifth of the total population lives in poverty, with around 72% of the population in the project area belongs to the marginalized Scheduled Tribes community. Human Development Index (2007) score of the district was the second lowest in Rajasthan.*
2. *Large numbers of families migrating to Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra in search of work. High poverty levels not only compel adults to engage in distress migration, but also forces them to send their children for work.*
3. *Children are also forced to migrate with their parents and relatives, sometimes on their own or along with other children to work as labour or to support parents/relatives in taking care of younger siblings. This has resulted in never getting enrolled, becoming irregular in school, and dropping out of school*
4. *Save the Children's Project "Strengthened child rights and improved education to prevent child labour in Rajasthan" was initiated in February 2014 with an objective to create an enabling environment which ensures promotion of children's rights leading to prevention of child labour and migration to Gujarat from two Blocks of Banswara district in Rajasthan state of India by the year 2017. The project is also called Child Rights for Change (CRC).*
5. *The specific objectives of the project as follows:*
 - *Increased protection against abuse, exploitation and violence in the villages: prevention from migration for work;*
 - *Improved quality of education with focus on learning at pre-school and elementary level;*
 - *Enhanced access to social protection schemes for improved income of poor families.*
6. *The project was implemented in 200 villages of Ghatol and Gangad Talai Blocks with financial support from IKEA Foundation and implementation support of two local NGOs- CULP and VAAGDHARA. The project also collaborated with various Government departments and programmes such as Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) and Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) to strengthen the programme implementation.*
7. *The specific objectives of this research were as follows:*
 - a) *To assess whether the project achieved through the achievement of the project's outcomes with special focus on the quantitative targets of the project.*
 - b) *To understand the efficacy of the design and strategies of the project from the relevance and sustainability lenses. The intent is to identify the successful strategies where the activities have contributed successfully to the project outputs and outcomes. Additionally, to also assess activities and areas which require further strengthening.*
 - c) *To conclude whether the strategies were adequate to develop a sustainable model in the community; to what extent the benefits of the programmes or the project are likely to continue after the donor funding is ceased.*
 - d) *Recommend way forward for future programming*

Impact against committed KPIs

8. *The end line commitment was to remove 80% of 6-17 year-old children from child labour, including children who work for any person who is not the member of his or her household and children who work for 2 or more hours on all 7 days. Out of the 966 children aged 6-17 years who used to be engaged in child labour at baseline (across these 587 households visited during end line), 803 (or 83%) were not engaged as child labour by someone outside their own family.*

Of the 806 cases, only 30.8% (248 children) are engaged in household chores for at least 2 hours each day and for every day of the week. This essentially means that the effective rate (incidence) of child labour across the 30 representative project villages was 42.5%. Here we would like to state that, having a KPI of 80% reduction in child labour in a three-year time span was too ambitious to begin with. The achievement of the project in itself is laudable.

9. *The end line commitment was that 75% of children (6-17 years) who were migrating from project areas at baseline are prevented from migrating. Out of these 966 children, 81.6% (793 children) did not migrate outside of their block during the last one year for work, either alone or with their family. Of the (163 out of these 966 children aged 6-17 years) who were presently engaged as child labour., 82.2% had migrated outside of their block at least once during the past one year for work.*
10. *The end line commitment was that 65% of children aged 12-18 years are trained in life skill and are practicing safe and healthy living. Out of the 411 such children aged 12-18 years who participated in this survey, their exposure to life skill training was nearly 100%. The impact of the training on making children aware of their rights seem to have been fairly successful with 2 in 3 recalling that the Lalita and Babu discourse was about understanding their rights.*
11. *The end line commitment was that 80% (160) of 200 villages have a functional and sustainable Child Protection Committee (CPC) and that 80% CPC members and PRI members trained on their roles and responsibilities, child rights, protection and migration. The assessment found that every village had a CPC and all CPCs had Action Plans in place. 1 in 4 had taken affirmative action against child labour cases.*
12. *The end line evaluation revealed that 64% of CPC members who participated in the survey could correctly state all the above 4 roles & responsibilities, while all CPC members (100%) could recall at least 3 of the 4.*
13. *The end line commitment was to make 80% of CGs functional and sustainable as per the guidelines issued to this effect by the project. 28 out of the sampled 30 CGs had held at least 12 meetings in the past one year while the balance 2 had held 10 each. There was also enough anecdotal evidence of affirmative action in collaboration with the CPCs to address specific child labour issues on case to case basis by each CG.*
14. *The end line commitment was that 90% of children aged 6-10 years are enrolled in primary schools are currently studying; and 80% of the children aged 11-14 years had successfully completed primary education (passed grade 4); and 70% of the children aged 15-18 years had successfully completed middle school (passed grade 8). Against these commitments, the end line survey results yielded 91.2%, 96.6% and 85% respectively.*
15. *The end line commitment was to make 80% of all children aged 4-5 years and enrolled in the AWC ready for entry in primary schooling across all 200 project villages. Against this commitment, out of 30 AWCs where the School Readiness Assessment tool was administered, in 24 at least 50% of the children who participated had scored in excess of 12 (out of a maximum of 18) in the assessment scoring. In fact, the average assessment score was 73% across all AWCs combined.*

In terms of the core indicators of making 80% of all children aged 4-5 years ready for school, out of the 411 children who were assessed, if we assume that scoring 70% or above makes them school ready, a total of 302 or 73.5% of them were ready for making the transition.

16. *The end line commitment was 80% of SMC members will be trained on school monitoring in all 200 schools; and SMC meetings are conducted regularly in 200 schools with executive body meeting once a month with required quorum; and all SMCs keep record of child tracking in 200 schools; and all SMCs prepare Annual School Development Plan.*

Each of the 30 schools visited in the intervention area had a SMC. All of them had a functional SMC with 22 out of 30 meeting at least once a month. If we take quorum to be 2/3rd, then 87% (or 26 out of 30) had a full quorum in all three times they had last met.

In 20 out of 30 schools could produce the minutes of meetings for last three occasions. However, with respect to coverage of SMCs members through trainings on preparation of School Development Plan and school monitoring, there was significant under achievement with only 107 out of the 457 members across the 30 SMCs. having received such training. Around 2/3rd of the SMCs could produce records of child tracking, while 8 more did report they had such a list but could not produce the same upon request.

17. *The project intended to improve the quality of ECE in 189 AWCs and out of those, 20 AWCs were to be developed as Child-friendly AWCs for working as model for other AWCs in the vicinity. At end line, the AWC assessment protocol was administered to each and every AWC within the sample villages and it was found that all the AWCs had T/L materials available in situ, but in 8 out of 30 AWCs, their present condition was bad. However, this could be a result of over usage as it was reported by 93% of the AWWs that they used these materials almost daily to teach to the enrolled children.*

All AWCs had a mothers group and this group met on a monthly basis. Across these 30 AWCs, average enrolment was 61 among the younger age group and 29 among the older age group (combined average of 90) but attendance at the date of the survey was 21.5%.

18. *The end line commitment was that 50% of all eligible households will have access to at least one social protection entitlement across all project villages. Of the total of 420 adults (one per household) who were administered the protocol designed to elicit information of this thematic from the target population, 95% were aware of at least one scheme they could avail, close to 81% had reported that their primary source of information regarding social security schemes was either the project worker or the regular meetings or social mobilisation camps under the project.*

However, awareness of the Right to Information, awareness was abysmally low, viz. 0.7%. This could be a function of the fact that the majority of the respondents (63.8%) were either illiterate or having studied till below primary level. We are assuming that individuals with below basic education (4th standard) education are highly unlikely to be able to understand and execute an RTI query.

19. *There is no specific milestone attached to the livelihood thematic. The Project had implemented an awareness generation campaign across 4 project villages out of the 200. Three out of these four villages were taken as part of the sample 30 villages where this evaluation exercise was conducted. 97% of the respondents assessed had claimed that they were aware about the various agriculture and allied sector schemes (e.g. animal husbandry and dairy development), with nearly 90% of the households had at least one member who had already benefitted, benefitting from any one of these schemes or have at least applied and got sanction to receive benefits. There were only 9 cases where eligible people had not applied because they did not know how to do so.*

With respect to extent of awareness of different relevant schemes and being able to correctly state the key features of each scheme, the qualifying criteria used for evaluation is being able to correctly recall at least 60% of all key features of each scheme. Across schemes, awareness level of most of scheme features was ubiquitously high.

20. *The end line commitment was that all children between 0-5 years living in the 200 programme villages receive birth certificates. Out of 462 children aged below 5 years who were listed, birth of 451 (97.6%) children were registered and 385 (85.3%) got their birth certificates.*

In conclusion, while the commitment for 100% compliance among 0-5 year olds have fallen short by 14.7%, there is a significant improvement over baseline within that age bracket

Way forward

Up front, we would like to conclude that this project perhaps suffers from having its fingers in too many pies. Our view is that it is trying too many things at once and the need of the hour going forward is to isolate those interventions that have worked really well and scale those up during the new phase of the project.

Going forward, the focus of this Project needs to be along the following lines:

Child protection

- *Expansion of CGs and VCPCs to cover all villages in intervention area*
- *Extensive training to all members*
- *Full coverage of Bal Suraksha Peti initiative*
- *Complete registration of all erstwhile families who migrated for work so as to facilitate tracking*
- *Rejuvenation of Panchayat CPCs*
- *Vertical integration of VCPCs with PCPCs and CWC at district level for concerted action*
- *Formalise horizontal integration of SMC's work on OOS children with VCPCs to joint action*
- *Target to achieve CLF status for at least 50 villages by next 2 years*

Child education

- *Counsel all SMC bodies in all schools in study area on child labour law and their role in reducing OOS children due to child labour*
- *Creating tracking formats which can be used to monitor attendance of children and the dropout situation*
- *Give them a bigger mandate to counsel and enforce errant parents to comply with the law.*
- *Expand life skills training to cover all villages*
- *Expand on current cadre of trainers from within community*
- *Ensure coverage of at least one child from each HHD*

Livelihoods and CSSS

- *Aggressive awareness generation of available government schemes and programmes that provide alternate employment and social security*
- *Create help desk to facilitate access to information as well as procedural matters for application*
- *Expand on initiative to get all families to have Aadhar cards, bank accounts under JDY to access DBT of schemes*
- *Registration of all labour contractors and migrant families to ensure tracking and minimise exploitation of distress migration*

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SECTION 1: PROLOGUE

Problem Statement

Over the past two decades India has put in place a range of laws and programmes to address the problem of child labour. Child labour cannot be dealt with in isolation. It is intrinsically linked to socio-economic factors. More specifically, there is a need to work with employers and the private sector to assess and address the impact of their supply chain and business practices on children.

The factors that contribute to child labour – including “hazardous” child labour –include the poverty and illiteracy of a child’s parents, the family’s social and economic circumstances, a lack of awareness about the harmful effects of child labour, lack of access to basic and meaningful quality education and skills training, high rates of adult unemployment and under-employment, and the cultural values of the family and surrounding society. Often children are also bonded to labour due to a family indebtedness. Out of school children (OOSC) or those children at risk of dropping out can easily be drawn into work and a more vulnerable to exploitation. Girls, especially those from socially disadvantaged groups, tend to be at a higher risk of being forced into work.

Some of the other reasons behind children being forced into work include:

- Poverty and a lack of livelihood options lead to a child’s “need” to contribute to the family income
- Due to conflicts, droughts and other natural disasters, and family indebtedness
- Rural poverty and urban migration also often exposes children to being trafficked for work.

Children are employed because they are cheap and pliable to the demands of the employer and not aware of their rights. The risks that these children face can have an irreversible physical, psychological and moral impact on their development, health and wellbeing.

Child Right for Change Project

Child Right for Change (CRC) project is under implementation since February 2014 in 200 villages of three Blocks – Ghatol, Gangad Talai & Bagidora - of Banswara district in Rajasthan. The project, also known as ‘Child Rights for Change (CRC)’ project, covers 4-year period (2013-2017) and is being implemented in partnership with two NGOs, namely, VAAGDHARA and CULP. The two partner NGOs implement the project in 100 villages each. The project also has two technical partners Ajeeevika Bureau and PRADAN to support work on migration and livelihoods respectively.

The development objective of the project is to “Create an enabling environment which ensures promotion of children’s rights leading to prevention of migratory child labour” in the Banswara district of Rajasthan. The project is primarily focusing on preventing child migration and child labour prevalent in the district through an integrated approach of developing and strengthening child protection system, improving the quality of education (ECCE and elementary education for 6-14 years’ age group), improving the linkages



and access to benefit of social protection schemes, and livelihood enhancement programme in 20 out of total 200 project villages. The project also aims to significantly contribute to the strengthening of child protection mechanisms at community level.

Scope of the evaluation

The purpose of the current end term evaluation is to understand that how far the project has been able to achieve the stated objectives in terms of the quantitative targets set by the project on key indicators and brought real changes in the lives of the project communities and children. The evaluation is also expected to identify the successful strategies, areas where the progress is not satisfactory and recommend the way forward for future programming. The specific objectives of this research are as follows:

1. To assess whether the project achieved through the achievement of the project's outcomes with special focus on the quantitative targets of the project.
2. To understand the efficacy of the design and strategies of the project from the relevance and sustainability lenses. The intent is to identify the successful strategies where the activities have contributed successfully to the project outputs and outcomes. Additionally, to also assess activities and areas which require further strengthening.
3. To conclude whether the strategies were adequate to develop a sustainable model in the community; to what extent the benefits of the programmes or the project are likely to continue after the donor funding is ceased.
4. Recommend way forward for future programming

As the baseline and mid line figures of key outcome indicators are available, it is ideal to collect data of the same indicators from the sampled intervention villages. This approach will help in measuring the changes (positive or negative) over a period of time.

Village Selection Procedure

The village selection strategy adopted to sample 15 villages from each block has been described in points below.

Step 1: First of all, the sample of 30 villages were distributed into two parts, 15 from one block and 15 from the other. Within each block, the sample was selected purposively based on the following criteria:

Step 2: Each list was divided into quartiles based on number of children involved in child labour (only children who were engaged in working for others outside of their home).

Step 3: From within all villages that were placed above the median (based on child labour prevalence at baseline), villages that had a running livelihood programme and a child friendly AWC were purposively selected. Thereafter, the remaining shortfall from the quota of 15 were selected using PPS SRS using prevalence of child labour as the population criteria.

Sample distribution and Research Protocol

In order to collect information for each of the provided outcome indicators from target groups, various quantitative research tools were developed and required sample size for each of the questionnaire were also been worked out. Following table provides information about the name of the research tools used in the field and the total sample size achieved from 30 villages:

	Outcome Indicators	Name of Tool	Sample Size	SS / village
1	All children will possess Birth Certificates (0-5 years of age)	Birth Registration	400	13-14
2	% of children aged 6-18 years who were migrating from project areas in Banswara of Rajasthan is prevented from migrating to Gujarat and other places	Birth Registration, Child Labour and Child Migration Schedule	(400 - 600)	13 – 20
3	% of the children aged 6-18 years who were engaged in labour outside their own households within two blocks of the project area is removed from labour	Birth Registration, Child Labour and Child Migration Schedule	(400 - 600)	13 – 20
4	% of children aged 6-18 years and engaged in labour in their own households for 2 or more hours on all days in a week.	Birth Registration, Child Labour and Child Migration Schedule	(400 - 600)	13 – 20
5	% of the children will be equipped with pre-school readiness skills and transit into primary education (3-6 years)	IKEA School Readiness Assessment Tool	400	13-14
6	% of children aged 12-18 years equipped with life skills and will practice safe and healthy living	Life Skill Schedule	400	13-14
7	% of the household would have access to their social protection entitlements	Social Security Scheme (SSS) Schedule	400	13-14
8	% of the households would be made aware for using Right to Information to seek information and services on social protection schemes			
9	No. of Children's Groups functional	Children's Group Schedule	30	1
10	No. of Child Protection Committees functional	Child Protection Committee Schedule	30	1
11	No. of model AWC improved and made child-friendly	AWC Assessment Schedule	30	1
12	No. of Anganwadi workers trained on preschool education and assessment			
13	% of the total households would be made aware of the agriculture and allied sector schemes such as animal husbandry and dairy development	Assessment Tool	120	30-40

Research Tools

Following table describes the types of tool used for the evaluation, their corresponding target respondents and place of interview.

	Schedule Name	Target Respondent	Place of Interview
1	Birth Registration, Child Labour and Child Migration Schedule	Any adult member of the household (Preferably head of HH) covered during Baseline Survey	Household of the respondent
2	IKEA School Readiness Assessment Tool	5 years plus children enrolled with AWC with the ascent from AWW	AWC
3	Life Skill Schedule	12-18 years old children who had been trained in Life Skills	Household of the respondent
4	Social Security Scheme (SSS) Schedule	Any person who has applied or got benefit under any of the 10 schemes will be interviewed	Household of the respondent
5	Children's Group Schedule	2-3 members of Children's Group preferably president and secretary of the group	Household of any one of the respondents or any other common place like school, Panchayat Ghar etc.
6	Child Protection Committees Schedule	2-3 members of Child Protection Committee preferably president and secretary of the group	Household of any one of the respondents or any other common place like school, Panchayat Ghar etc.
7	AWC Assessment Schedule	Anganwadi Worker	AWC

SECTION 2: IMPACT EVALUATION PROTOCOL

Impact evaluation of the project needs to be constructed at two levels, viz.

Level 1: Outcome verification based on top-line performance indicators as defined in the Project Communication Document; and

Level 2: Evidences generated on the ground through case studies, key community informant interviews and discussions with programme staff and partners.

However, what must be clarified and stated in clear terms at the very onset is that the present evaluation was all about measuring impact through an objective comparison of achieved outcomes vs. intended outcomes. This was not a process monitoring exercise and hence, the report does not deal in documentation of activities undertaken under the project, nor does it seek to comment on the efficacy of the implementation design.

This current section elaborates on the findings from the quantitative survey among different target group segments which are linked to the performance indicators of Level 1.

The top line performance indicators

The top line performance indicators as defined in the Project Communication Document are central to the measure of implementation efficacy and impact of the project itself. Broadly, these rights based performance indicators can be categorized into four types, viz. child protection, child education, social protection and livelihoods.

Key thematic	Intervention areas
Child protection	Birth registration
	Child labour
	Child migrants
	Life skill
	Child Protection Committee (CPC)
	Children's Group (CG)
Education	School readiness skill
	Child friendly Aanganwadi Centres (AWC)
	Well-functioning School Management Committees (SMCs)
Child Sensitive Social Protection	Awareness of and access to social protection schemes
Livelihood	Awareness of and access to primary sector linked schemes of the government

The following section elaborates on each of the thematic areas and specific intervention areas for each.

CHILD PROTECTION

The key performance indicators under this segment, their working definition, the end of project milestone committed to the donor, and the equivalent research protocol used for verification have been elaborated below.

Theme: Birth Registration

Relevance and working definition

Birth Certificate is used as an admissible document of evidence for name, age, parentage and nationality of a person in matters related to any claim of rights and entitlements including in the legal process of court proceedings. Birth registration is a right of the child as per the RBD Act and UNCRC (Article 7). It also provides accurate data on population that helps the government assess the need of the people and to plan welfare schemes more effectively for them. Birth certificate helps to get access to school, PDS and many social protection schemes and is an admissible document for proof of identity necessary for getting a driver's license, Aadhar card and passport.

Apart from the above, Project CRC shall use the birth registration and certificate as an evidence to work on child labour, migration, child marriage and juvenile delinquency for protecting rights of children.

Registration of all birth, whether live or still, should be registered as per the Registration of Birth and Death Act 1969 (RBD Act). Birth registration without the birth certificate has no meaning for the child concerned. The Birth of a child can be registered and certified at any point of time as prescribed under the Rule. The CRC IKEA project follows the same definition and processes as mentioned in the law. However, the project's focus has been primarily on registration than certification as once registration is completed, getting birth certificate becomes easy.

End of project milestone commitment

The project intended to ensure that all children between 0-5 years living in the 200 programme villages receive birth certificates by September 2017.

Measurement protocol

1. Proportion of children aged 0-5 years who have birth certificates among all children of same age identified through listing of households within 30 sample villages
2. Proportion of children aged 6-14 years who have birth certificates among all children of same age identified through listing of households within 30 sample villages

Theme: Child Labour

Relevance and working definition

Child labour has significant impact on development of children. Involvement of children in labour not only prevents them to exercise various rights such as protection, education, but it also has serious psychosocial impact on children. As a result, children in labour are denied access to opportunities for development and participation, they imbibe the value of a servant and remain alienated from concepts of equality and freedom. When abused, beaten, sexually harassed, driven away without being paid, and find no one to protect them, they gradually accept a life without voice. They tend to become silent sufferers.

Reducing child labour is one of the most important objectives of the project. The 'development objective' of the project mentions to "create an enabling environment which ensures promotion of children's rights leading

to prevention of migratory child labour” in the Banswara district of Rajasthan. The project revolves round issues of child labour and it addresses those factors which are responsible for making children work at the cost of their education, leisure, health and safety. Child labour is the central theme of the project and success of the project shall primarily be measured against the number of child labour rescued or rehabilitated or prohibited from entering into labour force.

The Rajasthan Standard Operating Procedure on Child Labour seeks to rescue and rehabilitate child labour under the age of 18 years (with reference to Juvenile Justice Act 2000). The CRC project, however, inspired by the spirit of Convention on Rights of the Child, has taken a pro-active and pro-child stand and defines child labour where a child works more than 2 hours a day, all seven days a week. The simplified definition being used by the project involves

- 1) Those who work for the household other than theirs for economic gain
- 2) Those who migrate and involved in paid or unpaid work
- 3) Those who work more than 2 hours on all weekdays

The project has focused on the age group of 6 to 14 years for programming purposes because the CRC project has no provision to bring children back to school who are above 15 years.

End of project milestone commitment

The project intends to prevent or remove 80% of 6-17 year-old children (i.e., 44957 as per baseline survey estimates) from child labour by September 2017. The target includes total number of children who work for any person who is not the member of his or her household and children who work for 2 or more hours on all 7 days.

Prevention or removal of child labour will be considered in the cases of 1) child is stopped from migrating; 2) released from employment; 3) Enrolled in the school in case of never-enrolled and dropout children and 4) reduced the number of hours of work in their own households.

Impact Measurement Indicators

1. Proportion of children in the sample villages who used to be engaged in child labour during baseline but have ceased to work for others outside of their household during baseline and also do not engage in household chores 7 days a week and at least 2 hours every day
2. Proportion of children in the sample villages who used to be engaged in child labour during baseline (any form) but have ceased to do so at end line and who are also currently going to school

Theme: Child Migrants

Relevance and working definition

Moving, voluntarily, from original place of stay to another in search of better livelihood or income opportunity is called migration. It may be ‘temporary’ or ‘seasonal’ or ‘semi-permanent’ and ‘permanent’. Thus Child Migrant is a child (below 18 years) who on his own, or with friends and/or family or with the help of a middleman migrates to another place voluntarily or under compulsion for employment or income. Such children often stay away from their home and school for a specific period of time and work in hazardous and improper working conditions with low wages to support their family income or to fulfil their desired life. This is against the spirit of laws relating to labour and education.

Unsafe migration in the context of children, is a migration of children at the cost of their health, education, leisure, safety and development and where they are vulnerable to neglect, abuse and exploitation at the hands of the middlemen, contractors, employers, co-workers and others.

End of project milestone commitment

75% of children (6-18 years) who were migrating from project areas at baseline (5662) are prevented from migrating by September 2017.

Impact Measurement Indicators

1. Proportion of villages (from among the 30 sample villages) where the village-wise list of names of children prevented from migrating is available with CPC or Joint Monitoring Committee or CG.
2. Proportion of all children in the sample villages who used to be engaged as child labour during baseline but have not migrated to outside of their block in last one year in search of livelihood
3. Proportion of all children in the sample villages who are currently engaged as child labour (working for others outside of their homes) who have not migrated to outside of their block in last one year in search of livelihood

Theme: Life skills

Relevance and working definition

Even though children can and often do form their opinion and views on matters related to their life and society, however, they often find it difficult to express them freely and properly before adults. Therefore, they seldom take part in the decisions making process that affect their lives. Children are not empowered enough to stand up for a cause or to safeguard their rights and interest. Life Skill education has the potential to address this issue. The *Lalita* and *Babu* module of Life Skill Education implemented in CRC project is based on the founding principles of UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and intends to make children aware of gender discrimination by adopting a perspective based on equality, justice and rights. The *Lalita* and *Babu* method offers children an opportunity to discuss about important issues around demystifying gender discrimination and its root causes, strengthen their self-esteem, make them aware on their rights and become active agents of change. It inspires and gives them opportunity to express their views and opinion on any given matter and to respect other's views as well.

End of project milestone commitment

The project intends that 65% (i.e.17957) of children aged 12-18 years are trained in life skill and are practicing safe and healthy living by September 2017.

Impact Measurement Indicators

1. Proportion of children aged 12-18 years in the 30 sample villages who have received training on life skills through the project
2. Proportion of those trained who could spontaneously recall both the main thematic areas of the training (gender equality and child rights)
3. Proportion of those trained who could spontaneously recall that the training included discussions on gender equality
4. Proportion of those trained who could spontaneously recall that the training included discussions on child rights
5. Proportion of children exposed to life skill training who are happy with the content of the training
6. Proportion of children exposed to life skill training who are happy with the quality of training discourse
7. Proportion of children exposed to life skill training who expressed confidence and positive self-efficacy towards ability to discuss gender issues with others
8. Proportion of children exposed to life skill training who self-reported to being aware of their rights as children

Theme: Child Protection Committee

Relevance and working definition

Protection of children can be best ensured only by the community in which children live, because their children's problems are best known to them. Violations against children take place practically everywhere. It is the residents of a community or village who get to know about such violations immediately, even before police or any other authorities get to know about it. Besides, it is the community members who get to know of a potential violation against a child and hence he/she can prevent such a violation. For example, if marriage of a child is planned, it is the community members in the neighbourhood who gets to know about it immediately and could find ways of preventing such marriage or report to concerned authority. Further, if a child is involved in labour or is out of school, it is the members who live in that community or a school teacher or children who get to know about it immediately and could counsel the child or his/her parents to get the child out of labour and send him/her to school. Moreover, the solution proposed by members of the community will be better accepted and respected, rather than any external body.

Child Protection Committee (CPC) is a forum of 15-20 adult individuals from local community (*community member, adolescent children, Government functionaries and elected representatives of PRI*) set up at village level to promote and protect rights of children through use of law, legal process and institutional mechanisms. They are to meet at regular intervals, discuss issues of children in their village and listen to the complaints and suggestions of children to help them. They work for protection of all children in the community against any form of exploitation, abuse or violence and to ensure positive and happy environment for children wherein all children's well-being, safety and rights are protected. Rajasthan Government has formed CPC at Gram Panchayat level as mandated under Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS). It has also issued a guideline in December 2012 regarding formation and functioning of CPC.

Roles & responsibilities of the CPC includes 1) periodic meetings on the issues related to protection of child rights; 2) identifying vulnerable children and protecting them from any possible violation of rights; 3) coordinating with various groups/mechanisms such as CG/ PLCPC/ SMC/Child line; and 4) building a vision for creating a child-friendly environment in the village

End of project milestone commitment

- Child Protection Committee (CPC) established and strengthened to prevent and respond to child protection issues in all 200 project villages
- 80% (160) of 200 villages have a functional and sustainable Child Protection Committee (CPC).
- 80% CPC members and PRI members trained on their roles and responsibilities, child rights, protection and migration

Impact Measurement Indicators

1. Proportion of sample villages that have a functional CPC
2. Proportion of CPCs that have women members holding an office bearer post
3. Proportion of CPCs within sample villages that have held members' meeting at least six times in last one year
4. Proportion of such meetings where participation/attendance of members have been 70% of more (3 out of 30 had less than quorum)
5. Proportion of CPCs within sample villages that could provide minutes of their last three meetings
6. Proportion of CPCs within sample villages that have Annual Action Plans prepared
7. Proportion of CPCs within sample villages who have taken definitive action against at least two issues identified in their Annual Action Plans

8. Proportion of CPCs within sample villages where issues that have been specifically brought up by CGs have been taken up for redressal
9. Proportion of CPCs within sample villages where members who participated in the survey could correctly identify all four of the roles and responsibilities of the CPC

Theme: Children's Group

Relevance and working definition

Plethora of research on children's issues in India have all come to the same conclusion - in our society the rights of children get violated. In most places, children do not have a forum to speak out about those incidences. To this effect children groups have been envisaged to work as an effective platform for children to receive age appropriate information on their rights and provide a platform to express their views on issues that affect them.

The promotion of children groups in villages is meant to promote participation and channelize the inputs of children in decision making process. Children's Group (CG) is a forum of the children, by the children, for the children which is managed by the children - where children can express their opinions, share ideas, interest and remain united as well as act for the cause of their rights. The CG plays an important role in building awareness on rights and responsibility in the family, community, school and above all it helps discussing the cases of child rights violations that many a time didn't get reported and discussed in the family, community or school. The CG also provides opportunity for children to interact with key stakeholders, duty bearers and most important the children. This arrangement provides a platform to children for learning, share their perspective to the duty bearers, stakeholders and learn age appropriate information from each other and inculcates values of democracy and human rights in them.

Ideally, all the children of a village are ex-officio members of the Children's Group; however, keeping children's safety and convenience in mind, the project focusses primarily on 9-18 year-old children to participate. This is called the General Body of Children's Group. The Group select/elect 15-20 members from among them to be the member of a core group (also termed as Executive Committee or Secretariat, etc.) that would lead and manage its mandate. It is supposed to sit regularly to discuss and raise issues that matter to them and devise ways to address them with the help of CPC and other child protection mechanisms.

End of project milestone commitment

The project has a target to make 80% of CGs (i.e., 160 CPCs) functional and sustainable by September 2017 as per the guidelines issued to this effect by the project.

Impact Measurement Indicators

1. Proportion of sample villages that have a functional CG(s)
2. Proportion of CGs within sample villages where at least 40% of the membership is of girls
3. Proportion of CGs within sample villages that have held members' meeting at least once a month in last one year (avg.no. of meeting 12 and 10)
4. Proportion of such meetings where participation/attendance of members have been 2/3rd of more
5. Proportion of CGs within sample villages that could provide minutes of their last three meetings
6. Proportion of CGs within sample villages that have Annual Action Plans prepared
7. Proportion of CGs within sample villages who have taken definitive action against at least two issues identified in their Annual Action Plans – by issue and by solution
8. Proportion of CGs within sample villages where members who participated in the survey could correctly identify all three of the roles and responsibilities of the CG

CHILD EDUCATION

The key performance indicators under this segment, their working definition, the end of project milestone committed to the donor, and the equivalent research protocol used for verification have been elaborated below.

Theme: Transition to higher grades

Relevance and working definition

One of the key interventions of this project was to ensure continuity of education, especially for those children who are prone to displacement due to migration, resulting in dropouts and education discontinuity. Focus interventions have been made through schools, through CGs and CPCs to promote the importance of staying in school, especially focusing on the parents who are forced to allow this discontinuity for the sake of augmenting meagre family incomes. The key metric here was to ensure that children aged between 6-10 years enrol in government schools and continue their studies in the primary sections while children aged 11-14 years successfully transition to middle school from primary and children aged 15-18 year successfully transition from middle to secondary level without dropping out of school.

End of project milestone commitment

Children attending government primary school will successfully complete primary/elementary levels (there was no fixed target given as a KPI). For our working purpose, we have defined achievement as

- 90% of children aged 6-10 years are enrolled in primary schools are currently studying
- 80% of the children aged 11-14 years had successfully completed primary education (passed grade 4)
- 50% of the children aged 15-18 years had successfully completed middle school (passed grade 8)

Impact Measurement Indicators

1. Proportion of all children aged 6-10 years who are enrolled in primary schools are currently studying
2. Proportion of all children aged 11-14 years had successfully completed primary education (passed grade 4)
3. Proportion of all children aged 15-18 years had successfully completed middle school (passed grade 8)

Theme: School Readiness Skills

Relevance and working definition

One of the outcomes of project under component of improving quality of early childhood education is to equip the children (3-6 years) with school readiness skill. School readiness skills are those which indicates about a child's ability to demonstrate foundational skills and behaviour in key areas of learning such as motor skills, language skills, social skills, life skills etc. These are mainly those skills which makes children ready for attending schools and learning further.

School readiness of children is affected by the early care and learning experiences they receive. Early childhood lays the foundation upon which academic success builds. The research in brain development emphasizes that early learning (especially from birth to five) directly influences a child's ability to learn and succeed in school.

One of the strategic approaches of the project to deal with the issue of child labour is to improve the quality of school and preschool education. The assumption being children who get quality education from early childhood are more likely to complete their school education without being a drop out. Giving adequate focus

on during early years of children is vital as several researches have indicated that pre-schoolers who attend high quality programs -

- Show greater understanding of verbal and numerical concepts.
- Are more socially competent.
- Show ability to stay with an activity longer.
- Are more likely to make typical progress through the primary grades.

To impart this training to small children, all Aanganwadi workers (AWWs) are trained on pre-school education, building/learning environment in schools (BLES) & school readiness by the project team.

End of project milestone commitment

The project intended to improve the quality of delivery of preschool education to children as an outcome of which children aged 5-6 years enrolled in Aanganwadi Centres. The commitment is to make 80% of all children in that age group ready for entry in primary schooling across all 200 project villages.

Impact Measurement Indicators

1. Proportion of AWCs within sample villages where 50% of more children who participated in the assessment exercise using School Readiness Assessment Tool have an achievement score in excess of 70%
2. Proportion of all children aged 4-5 years and enrolled in the AWC ready for entry in primary schooling (scoring 70% or more in the assessment)

Theme: Well-functioning School Management Committees (SMCs)

Relevance and working definition

School Management Committees (SMCs) are executive bodies constituted in every primary and upper primary school as per Article 21 of the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009. The executive body of SMCs consists of a variety of stakeholders including parents/ guardian of children, teachers, elected representatives, children or community members with various roles and responsibilities entrusted to them. It is crucial to have well-functioning SMCs in the schools with ensured participation of stakeholders in order to make schools effective.

One of the outputs of project under component of improving quality education is to strengthen School Management Committees (SMCs) to enable them engage consistently with school, monitor their functioning, track retention of children and participate in preparing & implementing school development plan.

End of project milestone commitment

- The project intends to improve the quality of education in primary and elementary schools by strengthening SMCs to make them well functioning. The project had following targets
- 80% of SMC members are trained on school monitoring in all 200 schools
- SMC meetings are conducted regularly in 200 schools with executive body meeting once a month with required quorum
- All SMCs keep record of child tracking in 200 schools
- All SMCs prepare Annual School Development Plan

Impact Measurement Indicators

1. Proportion of sample schools that have a functional SMC

2. Proportion of SMCs within sample schools where executive committee has met every month in last one year
3. Proportion of SMC meetings where attendance of members had been 66.6% or more (26/30)
4. Proportion of SMCs within sample schools which preserve minutes of their meetings and could produce such minutes for last 3 meetings
5. Proportion of SMCs within sample schools that have Annual School Development Plans prepared
6. Proportion of SMCs where at least 80% of the members have received training on preparation of School Development Plan and school monitoring (out of 457 members across the 30 SMCs, only 107 – 23.4% had received training on school monitoring)
7. Proportion of SMCs which maintains records of child tracking and this was verified upon visit

Theme: Child friendly AWC

Relevance and working definition

One of the significant objectives of Aanganwadi centres (AWCs) is to ensure children in acquiring early childhood education (ECE) and assist them to learn various skills such as motor, language, social, emotional skills etc before they make entry to the primary school. A quality ECE is essential for holistic development of children from formative years.

The purpose of establishing child-friendly AWC is to introduce such features in the AWCs that ensures wellbeing and rights of the child as a pre-learner. The functioning of AWCs should make it possible for all children to access ECE, survive from one to next grade, complete the cycle on time and learn all the age appropriate skills. To this end, Child-friendly AWCs helps children in achieving their full potential.

The criteria for AWCs to be declared child friendly include:

- AWC is provided with teaching/learning materials
- AWW is trained on Child-friendly teaching methods
- BLES illustration is done in Aanganwadi Centre
- Child-friendly teaching is practiced at the centre
- Mothers Group meets every month and minutes are available
- 70 percent attendance of children on working days
- AWW's is applying school readiness tools for children

End of project milestone commitment

The project intends to improve the quality of ECE in 189 AWCs and out of those, 20 AWCs are to be developed as Child-friendly AWCs for working as model for other AWCs in the vicinity.

Impact Measurement Indicators

1. Proportion of AWCs within sample villages where 50% or more children who participate in the assessment exercise using School Readiness Assessment Tool have an achievement score in excess of 70%
2. Availability BLES illustrations at the AWC
3. Availability of T/L materials meant for child friendly discourse at the AWC and are in usable condition (verified upon visit)
4. Proportion of AWWs who are using the child friendly teaching methods (using T/L materials) regularly (almost daily) to teach the children enrolled in the AWC
5. Proportion of AWCs who feel that the teaching method to be appropriate and useful
6. Proportion of AWCs where there is a mothers' group meeting every month and minutes are available

7. Proportion of AWCs where attendance of children aged 6-59 months on the day of visit is at least 50% of the current enrolment

Child Sensitive Social Protection

Theme: Access to Social Security Schemes

Relevance and working definition

Child Sensitive Social Protection (CSSP) is investing in social protection for the benefit of children by reducing their vulnerabilities or shocks or burden of family on children. While social protection is important for societies in general, it also reaches the most vulnerable children and families as it increases capacity of households to take care of their families. The effects of social protection in improving the well-being of vulnerable children and their families are impressive. For example, *Palanhar* programme of Rajasthan Government for orphan and other vulnerable children helps them substantially to take part in education and live in a protective environment.

The Project has considered 10 social protection schemes for linkage, as follows

1. Scholarship to Tribal Student (Girls) to encourage them for Higher Education
2. Pre-matric Scholarship for children from SC and ST, OBC.
3. Post-matric Scholarship for children from SC and ST, OBC
4. CM Scooty distribution schemes for tribal girls
5. SC/ST Hostels by department of social welfare
6. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS)
7. Palanhar yojna- Foster care
8. Re -marriage of widow and women who went for NATA
9. Widow pension
10. Old age pension

On behalf of the project, the convergence has been to generate awareness and facilitating linkage of eligible people for accessing these schemes through social mobilization camps for mass linkage of people; and making the local constituency aware of the process and importance of filing application of Right to Information (RTI) to get information in case of delay, non-approval, etc.

End of project milestone commitment

50% of all eligible households will have access to at least one social protection entitlement across all project villages. As per the baseline household survey, there were 46218 households in the area (200 villages) and 23109 households should be linked with one or more of 10 selected social protection schemes.

Impact Measurement Indicators

1. Proportion of all eligible households who are aware of different social security schemes available for them to apply for benefits
2. Proportion of aware respondents who cited the project sources (mobilisers and meeting) as their source of information on these schemes (self-reported attribution)
3. Proportion of eligible households where at least one member has benefitted from any scheme (currently or in the past), or have applied for benefits and the application stands sanctioned
4. Proportion of respondents representing eligible households who are aware that they can file an application under Right to Information (RTI) Act to get information in case of delay, non-approval of application or sanctioning of scheme

5. Proportion of households who had not applied for benefits under a scheme despite being eligible and had stated that they had not done so because they lacked awareness of process of application as the reason

LIVELIHOODS

As part of the rehabilitation process for households that were migrating to outside of the district in search of a livelihood at certain seasons, as well as those who were forced to engage their children in work in order to supplement meagre family incomes, the Project took special initiatives to make households who do have some agricultural land aware of agriculture and allied sector schemes that they could benefit from, either through better credit access, better quality input, more scientific processes, entrepreneurship, or simply a better mix of activities and produce that have higher demand.

The key schemes that are part of this discourse include:

Name of scheme	Scheme features
Kisan Fasal Bima Yojana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All farmers having their own land can apply for this scheme (99%) Landless labourers doing labour on others' farms cannot apply for this scheme (98%) Landless labourers doing share cropping are eligible for this scheme (95%) It is mandatory for Kisan Credit Card Holders to apply for this scheme (100%) Application for this scheme can be obtained and submitted to any nearest nationalised bank (93.1%) Application can be submitted online (12.9%)
National Horticulture Mission (Bagwani)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Skilled and unskilled persons are eligible for this scheme (98%) Person can apply for this scheme in horticulture or agriculture department of district (99%) Under this scheme person can develop new gardens and renovate old gardens (73.3%) Organic farming and beekeeping is allowed under this scheme (11.9%)
Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (Jevik kheti to barawa dene ke liye)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To get the benefit under this scheme at least 50 farmers should form a cluster and they should have 50 acre or more agriculture land (94.1%) Under this scheme every cluster will get a sum of Rs 14.35 Lakhs in 3 years (83.2%) Under this scheme for seed procurement and transportation of crop every farmer is being given Rs.20,000/- per acre in 3 years (87.1%) To avail benefit under this scheme farmers can meet any senior officer of Agriculture department (88.1%)
Rashtriya Khadya Suraksha Mission – Pramanit Beej Utpadan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All farmers are eligible for this scheme (99%) In this scheme SC/ST farmers given priority on the basis of their proportion in the district (92.1%) This scheme does not promote any variety of grains (81.2%) This scheme promote a particular variety of listed pulses for 10 years (19.8%)

Pashudhan Bima Yojana	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This scheme is meant for milch and non-milch cattle and buffalo (89.1%)• Cattle already included in any other Bima Yojana will not be considered for this scheme (26.7%)• Pashudhan Bima Yojana is done for a period of 3 years (81.2%)• Assessment of the insured money for the cattle is done on the basis of maximum present market value (26.7%)• To avail benefit under this scheme one can go to department of animal husbandry (94.1%)
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End of project milestone commitment

There is no specific milestone attached to this thematic. However, having these discussions in open forums in each of the project villages is part of the Project initiative. Thereafter, if agrarian households (especially those who had had history of migrant child labour) express interest, they are given special support and handholding to ensure benefits are realized.

Impact Measurement Indicators

1. Proportion of all eligible households who could recall of at least three agriculture & allied sector schemes available for them to apply for benefits
2. Proportion of aware respondents who cited the project sources (mobilisers and meeting) as their source of information on these schemes (self-reported attribution)
3. Proportion of eligible households where at least one member has benefitted from any scheme (currently or in the past), or have applied for benefits and the application stands sanctioned
4. Proportion of households who had not applied for benefits under a scheme despite being eligible and had stated that they had not done so because they lacked awareness of process of application as the reason
5. Proportion of aware respondents who could correctly recollect most of the scheme features (were able to correctly state 60% of the features of all schemes recalled)

SECTION 3: ASSESSMENT OF PROJECT IMPACT THROUGH PRIMARY SURVEY

This section presents the interpretation the primary data collected from the ground using both quantitative and qualitative research protocols. Research protocols and instruments were developed to capture data pertaining to each of the impact measurement indicators discussed in the previous chapter. It may be noted that while a majority of the indicators are value based, i.e. they were captured through a structured quantitative survey among different TGs, a large part of the evaluation involves open-ended discussions with parents of children who used to migrate for work, community elders, committee members, AWWs, project staff and the NGO partners' outreach team, and other key stakeholders.

Outcome Indicator 1: Birth Registration

Indicator	Measure	Achievement
All children between 0-5 years living in the 200 programme villages receive birth certificates	Proportion of children aged 0-5 years who have birth certificates among all children of same age identified through listing of households within 30 sample villages	85.3%
	Proportion of children aged 6-14 years who have birth certificates among all children of same age identified through listing of households within 30 sample villages	27%
	Proportion of children aged up to 14 years who have birth certificates among all children of same age identified through listing of households within 30 sample villages	30%

To get an idea of the registration of birth of below 5 years children, in 30 sample villages, all those households were approached where less than 5 years children were available. A total of 418 households were found where 462 children aged less than 5 year were listed. Of these 462 children, birth of 451 (97.6%) children were registered and 385 (85.3%) got their birth certificates.

The end line survey data suggests that availability of birth certificated in the age group of 6-14 years was 27%. The corresponding proportions (of children in different age groups who had a birth certificate) during baseline were 16% for 0-5 age group, 20% for the 6-14 age group and 23% among the 15-18 age group. In conclusion, while the commitment for 100% compliance among 0-5 year olds have fallen short by 14.7%, there is a significant improvement over baseline within that age bracket. The project tried to ensure that all new born children (born during project period) get their birth certificate. The process was complex for the children who were up to 5 years at the time of baseline survey.

Outcome Indicator 2: Child labour

Indicator	Measure	Achievement
Remove 80% of 6-17 year-old children from child labour, including children who work for any person who is not the member of his or her household and children who work for 2 or more hours on all 7 days	Proportion of children in the sample villages who used to be engaged in child labour during baseline but have ceased to work for others outside of their household during baseline and also do not engage in household chores 7 days a week and at least 2 hours every day	57.5%
	Proportion of children in the sample villages who used to be engaged in child labour during baseline (any form) but have ceased to do so at end line and who are also currently going to school	85%

It may be reiterated that all the 587 households visited across the 30 sample villages were those which had an identified child labour issue during baseline, i.e. they had children who were engaged in paid or unpaid employment for others outside of their home, or had been engaged in household work for more than 2 hours a day for all 7 days in a week.

The total number of children aged 6-17 years who used to be engaged in child labour at baseline (across these 587 households visited during end line) was 966. Out of these, 803 (or 83%) were not engaged as child labour by someone outside their own family while 163 children were employed in this manner.

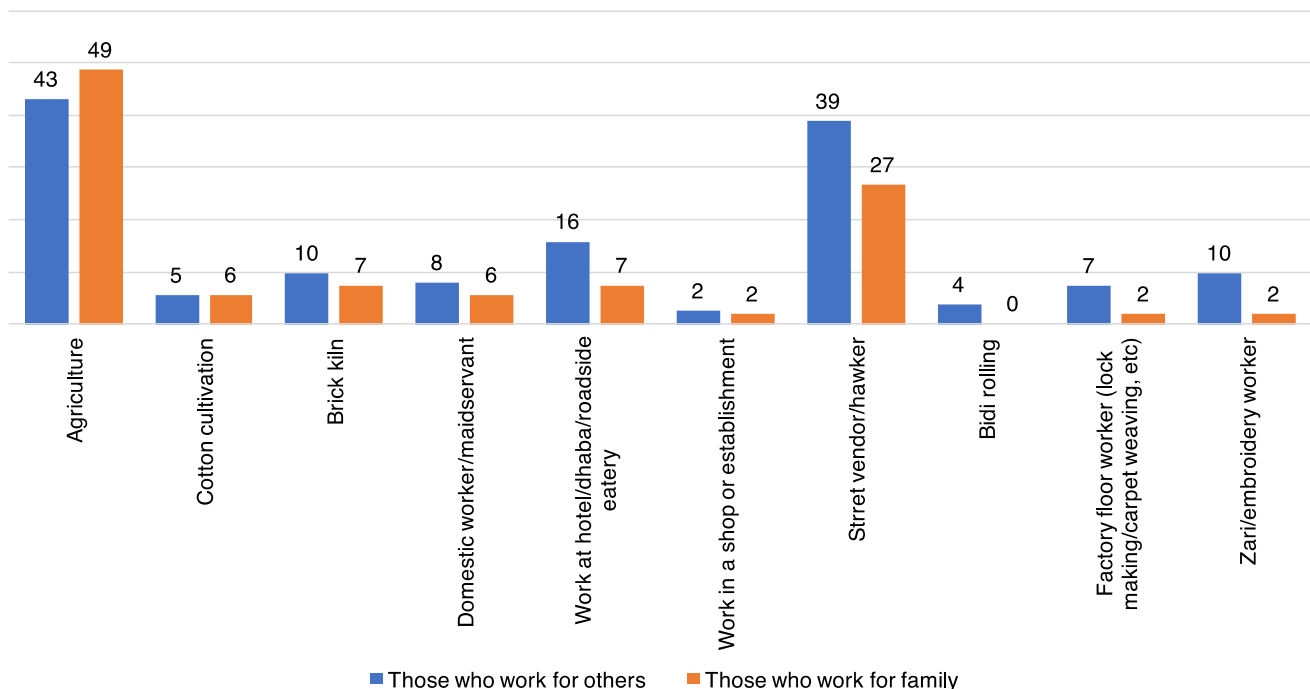
Of the 83%, the end line data indicates that only 30.8% (248 children) are engaged in household chores for at least 2 hours each day and for every day of the week.

In conclusion, one can summarise that the trend that was observed during baseline regarding large scale child labour incidence within the project geography seems to have been reversed significantly, even if the 80% reversal target over baseline incidence has not been achieved. More importantly, over and above that, most of these children seem to have been integrated back into the education system.

Here we would like to state that based on our experience in social sector research and evaluation of numerous donor funder projects, having a KPI of 80% reduction in child labour in a three-year time span, especially in a predominantly tribal, backward area with very limited economic alternatives, was too ambitious to begin with.

Among the children who continue to be engaged in child labour outside of their homes, the forms of engagement (*expressed in percentage form*) are as follows:

Figure 1: Forms of child labour



For all those children who continue to be engaged in economic activities, both for their own family as well as engaged by others outside of their family, 88.5% are engaged seasonally while less than 12% work throughout the year. Regarding remunerations, 96% of these children seem to be employed formally (but usually without contracts) since they get paid in money by their employers. The rest get paid in cash as well as kind.

Box 1: Best practices snapshot – Making a village free of child labour

When the project began in the year 2014, it started with a promise of reducing the number of child labour by 80% in the project villages. For Banswara, a district with poor value of human development indicators, the target was quite ambitious. Though, in the beginning Child Labour Free (CLF) villages was not anticipated, it evolved in due course of implementation of various tasks or activities.

It all started from a process of mobilising community around the rights of children and identification of issues prevalent in the area of intervention. Since seasonal or throughout the year migration, engagement of children as unpaid workers at home, dropping out from school etc. were among the major issues, community members were sensitized to the ill-effects of child labour/migration and how it proves to be a barrier in the development of children turning them vulnerable for whole life. The understanding of the ill-effects of child labour within a community further deepened with establishment of village-level child protection committees (VCPC) and Children's groups (CG). These groups used to meet on a monthly basis to bring out issues, discuss on the solutions, and take action. The school management committees were also strengthened to do regular school monitoring and ensure that school functions. These activities were part of the design of the project and they were instrumental in galvanising the community around a thought that children should complete their education first. Many of the members of VCPC were illiterate and were able to relate to the difficulties they were facing in their lives.

Even though the people agreed that children should be in school, absenteeism used to be high. What good change happened was reports of such children started reaching to the VCPC from CG members, PRI members and also through teachers. In earlier days, there were hardly any communication between the community and teachers. VCPC members have also now started visiting houses of such children to know the reasons for absence and also to counsel parents. In case the family was identified as eligible for any social protection schemes, their application for schemes were facilitated by project team and several VCPC members also started taking up this work later on after getting exposure to the process.

Though members of VCPC were getting reports of the incidences from sources, it was difficult for them to get information regarding all children. Due to scattered habitation in most of the villages, it was difficult to ensure that all children of school going age were going to school. To overcome this situation, Child Tracking Registers (CTR) were introduced in the village which contain the information regarding each child of the village between 3 to 18 years. Operationalising the CTR assisted members to know about the status of every child in the village and take action when required. In villages where VCPC become actively engaged with PRIs, a community based norm was developed and disseminated among community members. In few GPs, the sarpanch had come forward and announced a penalty or fine on parents in case of engagement of children in labour. Additionally, there were some innovations such as election of officials of VCPC by votes given by children, installation of Bal Suraksha Peti, etc. that took place in several villages which further mobilised the community around issues of children.

As a result of tracking of children and taking action to place out of school (OOS) children back in school, it was found by the project team that several villages have reached to a stage where no OOS child was remaining. With the objective of recognizing the efforts made by the VCPC and felicitating them, it was thought that administration should be involved in acknowledging their achievement. The same was informed to key departments related to children especially ICPS and structures like Child Welfare Committees etc. and officials were requested to make visits to the villages to verify and declare as CLF villages. The officials visited to the villages, interacted with community members, members of VCPC & CGs, teachers and PRI members to

ascertain that there was no child labour in the village. They also validated their observations with Child Tracking Registers and made transect walks and finally agreed to declare these as child labour free villages.

Later on, in a district level event, these villages were declared as CLF villages by Zila Pramukh, Asst. Director, ICPS and Chairperson of Child Welfare Committee in presence of more than 80 participants including various government officials, member PRIs, teachers, members of VCPC and CGs, media and other community members.

All the villages declared as CLF has installed a signboard mentioning that the village particular is declared child-labour free and child-labour is not permitted here.

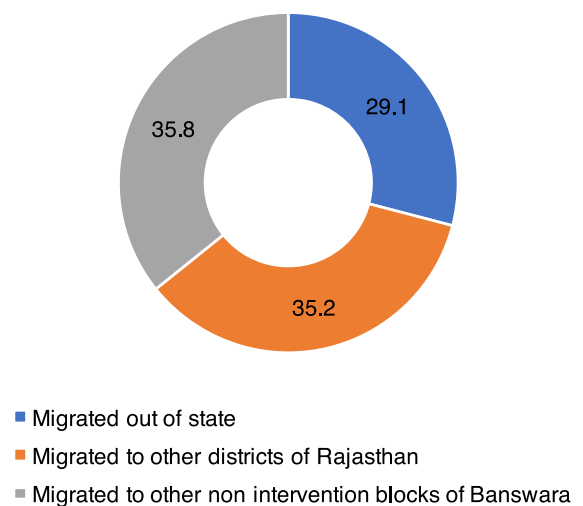
Outcome Indicator 3: Child migration

Indicator	Measure	Achievement
75% of children (6-17 years) who were migrating from project areas at baseline are prevented from migrating	Proportion of villages (from among the 30 sample villages) where the village-wise list of names of children prevented from migrating is available with CPC or Joint Monitoring Committee or CG.	
	Proportion of all children in the sample villages who used to engaged as child labour during baseline but have not migrated to outside of their block in last one year in search of livelihood	81.6%
	Proportion of all children in the sample villages who are currently engaged as child labour (working for others outside of their homes) who have not migrated to outside of their block in last one year in search of livelihood	17.8%

There was no clear data available as to who among the 966 children contacted during the end line survey had been seasonal migrants during the baseline. Therefore, the questions pertaining to whether or not such children had migrated to outside of their block for work related reasons even once during the last one year were posed to all 966 children (and their caregivers in case of age below 10 years) who were engaged as child labour during baseline.

Out of these 966 children, 81.6% (793 children) did not migrate outside of their block during the last one year for work, either alone or with their family. On the other hand, 163 out of these 966 children aged 6-17 years were presently engaged as child labour. Among these children, as high as 134 (or 82.2%) have migrated outside of their block at least once during the past one year for work. From the data, it is clear that the children who continue to engage as child labour by working for people other than their immediate families continue to be prone to seasonal migration in search of livelihood. In all probability, their movement will be synchronized with other labour movements from south Rajasthan to other more developed states/districts, usually facilitated by a labour contractor. The trend has reduced over what was measured during baseline but the project still has some ways to go before the menace is completely reversed. The usual place of migration during the past one year is depicted in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Place of migration



The top 5 reasons for cited by the families whose children were subject to seasonal migration during the past one year were as follows:

For better wages	25.7%
Migrated in summer vacation to generate money for school expenses	23.4%
Social/familial problems	18.3%
Peer influence	11.9%
Augment family income	7.8%

Box 2: Case Study from Budha Village

Activities Performed by CG, Budha Gaon, Banswara since its formation

- Freed 12 children from labour activities and migration
- Got Rs.25 Lakh sanctioned for the development of play ground in the village and made arrangement of drinking water with the help of GP & VCPC
- Group met district collector and submitted letter for the appointment of teachers in their village school as the school is having 5 teachers only while the school is up to 12th standard.
- Submitted letter to district collector for repairing the roof of some classes which are in very bad condition and can collapse any time during rainy season.
- Submitted letter to DC for opening of one more Anganwadi Centre in their village and repairing of roof of school classes which are in very bad condition and can collapse any time during rainy season.

“We came to know about children who were not coming to school from classmates and we go to his/her school to know the reason why they are absent. But during summer vacations, children usually go out of village either to their relatives or to work. We cannot get correct information from their parents whether they have gone to relatives or they have gone for work because parents do not tell right thing because of fear of police”..... CG Budha Village

Box 3: Case Study from Budha Village

It's worth sitting down to listen to the members of Children Group in Budha village of Banswara district. With raised confidence, they are using all means to prevent violation of rights of children especially child labour. They counsel children as well as parents to not indulge their children in labour but send them to study. They also use Bal Suraksha Peti (A box installed by CPC for children to put written grievances) or the forum of gram sabha in case they need any help for children. They also take help of Child Line 1098 in case of urgency or no solution arrives from local mechanisms established for child protection.

Two children were involved in labour in our village and a member of children group informed us about it. We did a meeting of members and met with the children. We counselled children to not to waste their life in labour and instead study and move forward in life. We met their parents and asked how our village would be child labour free if you involve your children in labour. We told if you don't withdraw your child from labour, we will intimate ChildLine (1098)..... Nilesh Kumar, member, Children's Groups.

Outcome Indicator 4: Life skills

Indicator	Measure	Achievement
65% of children aged 12-18 years are trained in life skill and are practicing safe and healthy living	Proportion of children aged 12-18 years in the 30 sample villages who have received training on life skills through the project (411)	96.6%
	Proportion of those trained who could spontaneously recall both the main thematic areas of the training (gender equality and child rights) 123 recalled gender/269 recalled rights	19.7%
	Proportion of those trained who could spontaneously recall that the training included discussions on gender equality	30%
	Proportion of those trained who could spontaneously recall that the training included discussions on child rights	65.5%
	Proportion of children exposed to life skill training who are happy with the content of the training	86.6%
	Proportion of children exposed to life skill training who are happy with the quality of training discourse	96%
	Proportion of children exposed to life skill training who expressed confidence and positive self-efficacy towards ability to discuss gender issues with others	79.1%
	Proportion of children exposed to life skill training who self-reported to being aware of their rights as children	92.7

“Jeewan jeene ka Adhikar, Vikas ka Adhikar, Suraksha ka Adhikar, Sahbhagita ka Adhikar”

.... Response from FGD participants among CG members at Budha, when asked about their understanding of rights

Total children aged 12-18 years who participated in this survey was 411. However, while their exposure to life skill training was nearly 100%, their ability to spontaneously recall the main thematic areas of the discourse, viz. gender equality and child rights, was limited (less than 1 in 5). However, probed/prompted recall yielded better results. On the other hand, the general feedback was that the structure, content, and delivery of the course was well appreciated.

The impact of the training on making children aware of their rights seem to have been fairly successful with 2 in 3 recalling that the Lalita and Babu discourse was about understanding their rights. Therefore, the inability of most to spontaneously recall both thematic areas of the discourse hints at the requirement of refresher training and perhaps a more regular follow-up.

Box 4: Case Study from Khodalim

In Government senior secondary school of Khodalim there were twelve class rooms out of which eight rooms were not safe for students as several cracks in walls and roof were there. It was difficult to run a school with limited number of classrooms with enrolment of 295 children. Teachers were also facing the problem but not getting a green signal for maintenance or constructing new rooms.

Then one day a child going towards the hand pump had a close shave when a cracked wall fell down. The incident was brought to the notice of the local CPC by two children from the Children’s Group of the village. That was further discussed with members of SMC meeting and then a collective meeting of was organized to discuss the safety of children in school. A press note was given to media and a memo to government authorities. As a result, team of officials of *Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhijan* (RMSA) visited the school and inquired about the ground reality and further ordered the reconstruction of all the eight rooms

Outcome Indicator 5: Child Protection Committee

Indicator	Measure	Achievement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Protection Committee (CPC) established and strengthened to prevent and respond to child protection issues in all 200 project villages 80% (160) of 200 villages have a functional and sustainable Child Protection Committee (CPC). 80% CPC members and PRI members trained on their roles and responsibilities, child rights, protection and migration 	Proportion of sample villages that have a functional CPC	100%
	Proportion of CPCs that have women members holding an office bearer post	50%
	Proportion of CPCs within sample villages that have held members' meeting at least six times in last one year	97%
	Proportion of such meetings where participation/attendance of members have been 70% of more (3 out of 30 had less than quorum)	90%
	Proportion of CPCs within sample villages that could provide minutes of their last three meetings	100%
	Proportion of CPCs within sample villages that have Annual Action Plans prepared	100%
	Proportion of CPCs within sample villages who have taken definitive action against at least two issues identified in their Annual Action Plans	100%
	Proportion of CPCs within sample villages where issues that have been specifically brought up by CGs have been taken up for redressal	100%
	Proportion of CPCs within sample villages where members who participated in the survey could correctly identify all four of the roles and responsibilities of the CPC	64%

As part of the evaluation exercise, 30 CPCs (one in each sample village) was visited and a sub sample of the members were interviewed to gather information about their state of functioning.

Composition	Action Plan	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On an average, a CPC had 30 members, 13 of which were male and 7 were female. When it came to holding an administrative office bearer post (president, vice president, secretary and treasurer), 15 of these CPCs had a women candidate selected for the job. 50% of these posts were of Vice President 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All CPCs have Action Plans in place The key issues identified at the time of preparation of plan were Child marriage (29% CPCs), Child labour (28% CPCs) and Child Migration (9.3% CPCs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> About 1/4th (24%) CPCs reported that they have stopped child labour, 1/5th CPCs reported to have organised awareness rallies and 1 in 10 CPCs reported to have integrated children with school in their respective villages. 11 percent CPCs contacted mother and father of the children to make them aware about ill effects of child labour.

VCPC members are happy to be part of this group because of following reasons:

- They are more confident in handling social issues.
- They are confident in public speaking
- They can talk to parents of child who is involved in labour activities and convince them to continue education of child in place of labour.
- Earlier they were not aware about roles of various government departments. Now they know for which scheme or issue, they should approach to which government department/officer.
- They are well versed with child rights and various ongoing government schemes.
- They know how and where to submit application under RTI.
- They can now closely monitor functioning of schools and even help schools to get teaches in case of less staff then sanctioned posts.

The roles and responsibilities of CPCs include the following:

- Ensure periodic meetings of CPC (at least 6 in a year) on the issue of protection of child rights.
- Coordinating with various groups/mechanisms such as CG/PLCPC/SMC/CL to work for interest of children
- Identifying cases of violation of rights of children and provide support using appropriate available mechanism
- Implementation of its annual child protection plan.

The end line evaluation revealed that 64% of CPC members who participated in the survey could correctly state all the above 4 roles & responsibilities, while all CPC members (100%) could recall at least 3 of the 4. This auger well for the programme as it indicated that members of this crucial mechanism are aware of their roles they have to fulfil in this movement against child labour.

Box 5: Case Study from Kamji Ka Khera and Pandyapur VCPCs

Village Kamji ka Khera, Banswara

- VCPC organised camp for issuing of Aadhar Card. All villagers were benefitted as they got their Aadhar Cards within their village after payment of Rs.60/-. It has reduced their travel time, money on travelling and extra amount to agent for issuing of card.
- VCPC member reported that in their village they came to know from CG member that 13 children were going for NREGA work during school holidays. CG first tried to stop them but children did not listen to them. Later they called 1098 and got them back to their homes.
- Children dropped a letter in Baal Suraksha Peti in Kam Ji ka Khera village that they do not want to go to school of that village. After enquiry they came to know that there are only 2 teachers in village middle school (school running classes from 1 to 8) and hence due to improper education, they do not want to go to school. VCPC later raised this issue with district administration and finally got two more teachers transferred from other area.

Village Pandya Pur, Banswara

- In Pandya Pur, marriages generally occur during examination days and people use DJ for 4-5 days before marriage in full volume which hampers studies of the students. VCPC decided to stop DJs and convinced villagers to play DJ on the day of marriage only, rather than for so many days.
- VCPC got the information that some children had gone to Mandsaur for labour. VCPC members went to Mandsaur with their parents and got them back to village.
- In the village there was a liquor shop due to which there were lot of nuisance. Later on the liquor shop was closed by VCPC members on the request of the villagers.

Outcome Indicator 6: Child Group

Indicator	Measure	Achievement
Make 80% of CGs functional and sustainable as per the guidelines issued to this effect by the project.	Proportion of sample villages that have a functional CG(s)	100%
	Proportion of CGs within sample villages where at least 40% of the membership is of girls	36.6%
	Proportion of CGs within sample villages that have held members' meeting at least once a month in last one year	93%
	Proportion of such meetings where participation/ attendance of members have been 66.6% or more	80%
	Proportion of CGs within sample villages that could provide minutes of their last three meetings	100%
	Proportion of CGs within sample villages that have Annual Action Plans prepared	100%
	Proportion of CGs within sample villages who have taken definitive action against at least two issues identified in their Annual Action Plans – by issue and by solution	100%
	Proportion of CGs within sample villages where members who participated in the survey could correctly identify all three of the roles and responsibilities of the CG	100%

In 11 out of 30 CGs visited, at least 40% of the membership constituted of girls. The average share of membership of girls being 36% and the range being 66% to 28%. It was clear that there was no apparent gender bias in the membership pattern even though ideally, the project should aim at getting 50% representation. 28 out of the 30 CGs had held at least 12 meetings in the past one year while the balance 2 had held 10 each.

Identified problems in the action plan	Actions taken
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Child Labour-25% •Child marriage-21.6% •Child migration-19.3% •Drop-out child-10.2% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Awareness rally to stop child marriage – 22% •Spreading awareness about education among children who are not able to receive education - 19.5% •Encouraging children to stop child abuse – 18.3% •Preventing child migration – 17.1%

Box 6: Case Study from Budha Village

In our village we found 12 children who were engaged as child labour. Out of these, 2 were school dropouts as well. We could take help from our VCPC and the 1098 child help line and free these children from their plight and got them readmitted in the local school. First we tried to convince children and their parents for not sending their children to work but they did not listen to us. Then our president and secretary communicated names of these children to VCPC members during VCPC monthly meetings and requested them to persuade parents of these children for not sending them to work. They (VCPC members) informed their parents but some parents still did not agree to the request of VCPC members and did not stop sending children to work. Then we called on toll free help line number 1098. With the help of 1098, we could stop children from labour". ...CG, Budha Village, Banswara

Outcome Indicator 7: Education Continuity

Indicator	Measure	Achievement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90% of children aged 6-10 years are enrolled in primary schools are currently studying 80% of the children aged 11-14 years had successfully completed primary education (passed grade 4) 70% of the children aged 15-18 years had successfully completed middle school (passed grade 8). 	Proportion of all children aged 6-10 years who are enrolled in primary schools are currently studying	91.2%
	Proportion of all children aged 11-14 years had successfully completed primary education (passed grade 4)	96.6%
	Proportion of all children aged 15-18 years had successfully completed middle school (passed grade 8)	85%

Within the end line sample, there were a total of 285 children aged 6-10 years. Out of these, 260 (or 91.2%) were currently in school. 63% (165) had already completed primary education (till grade 4) and moved on to higher grades while the rest 37% were still in primary. There were 16 children aged 6-10 years who had dropped out of schooling (5.6%) and 9 children (3.2%) who were never enrolled.

Children aged 11-14 years were contacted to see whether they had successfully made the transition from primary to middle school (5th grade to 8th grade). Within the sample there were a total of 442 children between the ages 11-14 years. Out of these, 427 (96.6%) had completed primary schooling while only 3.4% had not.

Children aged 15-18 years were also contacted to see whether they had successfully made the transition from middle to secondary middle school (5th grade to 8th grade). Within the sample there were a total of 241 children between the ages 15-18 years. Out of these, 205 (85%) had completed middle schooling.

Outcome Indicator 8: School Readiness Skills

Indicator	Measure	Achievement
Make 80% of all children aged 4-5 years and enrolled in the AWC ready for entry in primary schooling across all 200 project villages.	Proportion of AWCs within sample villages where 50% or more children who participated in the assessment exercise using School Readiness Assessment Tool have an achievement score in excess of 70%	80%
	Proportion of all children aged 4-5 years and enrolled in the AWC ready for entry in primary schooling (scoring 70% or more in the assessment)	73.5%

There were a total of 30 AWCs that were in existence across the 30 sample villages (one in each). The School Readiness Assessment tool was administered across all eleven AWCs. Across 28 AWCs, a standard number of 14 students participated in the survey while there was an underachievement across two where 9 and 10 students participated. The age band for which this assessment was done was 4-5 years. Children less than 48 months of age were not included in the survey as they were too young to be prepared for entry into primary schooling.

In 24 out of the 30 AWCs where this assessment was conducted, at least 50% of the children who participated had scored in excess of 12 (out of a maximum of 18) in the assessment scoring. In fact, the average assessment score was 73% across all AWCs combined.

In terms of the core indicators of making 80% of all children aged 4-5 years ready for school, out of the 411 children who were assessed, if we assume that scoring 70% or above makes them school ready, a total of 302 or 73.5% of them were ready for making the transition.

What must be borne in mind that the 70% minimum qualification cut-off is not a definitive norm that was agreed upon by the project. This was a number being suggested by Karvy Insights. Using this as the criteria, we can say close to 74% of all children aged 4-5 years and enrolled in AWCs had acquired the necessary skills to enter formal schooling. However, this is lower than the 80% commitment of the project. If the qualification score is relaxed to 60%, the number rises to over 80% children being ready for the transition.

Outcome Indicator 9: Well-functioning School Management Committees (SMCs)

Indicator	Measure	Achievement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of SMC members are trained on school monitoring in all 200 schools • SMC meetings are conducted regularly in 200 schools with executive body meeting once a month with required quorum • All SMCs keep record of child tracking in 200 schools • All SMCs prepare Annual School Development Plan 	Proportion of sample schools that have a SMC	100%
	Proportion of SMCs within sample schools where executive committee has met every month in last one year	73.3%
	Proportion of SMC meetings where attendance of members had been 66.6% of more (26/30) in the last 3 times they met	87%
	Proportion of SMCs within sample schools which preserve minutes of their meetings and could produce such minutes for last 3 meetings	67%
	Proportion of SMCs within sample schools that have Annual School Development Plans prepared	100%
	Proportion of SMCs where at least 80% of the members have received training on preparation of School Development Plan and school monitoring (out of 457 members across the 30 SMCs, only 107 – 23.4% had received training on school monitoring)	23.4%
	Proportion of SMCs which maintains records of child tracking and this was verified upon visit	63.3%

Each of the 30 sample villages has a school and each school had a SMC. All of them had a functional SMC. In fact, most of them met quite regularly, with 22 out of 30 meeting at least once a month. If we take quorum to be 2/3rd, then 87% (or 26 out of 30) had a full quorum in all three times they had last met.

In 20 out of 30 schools, the field personnel undertaking the assessment could physically verify the minutes of meetings for last three occasions. However, the underachievement was coverage of SMCs members through trainings on preparation of School Development Plan and school monitoring, with only 107 out of the 457 members across the 30 SMCs visited having received such training.

Interestingly, a little less than 2/3rd of the SMCs could produce records of child tracking, while 8 more did report they had such a list but could not produce the same upon request.

Box 7: Case Studies on Role of SMCs in Fighting for Education Rights

A report of Census 2011 data reveals that in Rajasthan alone, the number of children who have never attended school is around 70 lakhs. Being a backward tribal district, one can easily imagine the situation in Banswara. The situation has further aggravated after the process of unification of schools done during the year 2014. As per a news report published in The Hindu (September 29, 2014), 17,000 schools were merged or shut down.

In a scenario where several government schools are facing difficulties of low learning levels, poor attendance, teacher shortage and absenteeism, School Management Committees of several tribal schools in Banswara are bringing rays of hope for improving status of schools. SMCs in a number of villages where Save the Children is in partnership with CULP and VAAGDHARA, are intervening in schools through its project 'Child Rights for Change' where they have successfully mobilised communities and forced the local district administration to take action with their continuous demands for the benefit of their children. This has caught attention of the media which was reported extensively on the remarkable changes in the schools.

These SMCs meet once in a month, but in case some actions are to be taken, they meet immediately when there is such requirement. They have brought several remarkable changes in schools such as evacuation from encroached land of school, developing local land as playground for school children, removal of the old and risky transformer from school ground, bringing teachers to the schools, getting permission for reconstruction of school building among several others. In the monthly meeting of SMC in village Panchayat Charakni held in September 2015, the issue of appointment of one teacher for 74 students in primary school was raised and due to collective pursuance up to District Collector, that resulted in getting additional teacher. This success further triggered a series of developmental work in the school. Today the school has a newly constructed approach road to school, land-levelled playground, and a new hand pump for the continuous availability of drinking water for children.

Primary School of Tandi Nani in in Gangad Talai block was having a total enrolment of 151 when merged with secondary school which already had 778 children. But there were only 6 teachers altogether for teaching 929 children. After a lot of pursuance and giving memorandum to authorities when nothing concrete happened, the SMC, with help of media signalled a mass movement to the district administration and eventually, the education department of Government of Rajasthan appointed three more teachers in the school. SMCs are not only pursuing with the administration for bringing changes in the school but also do the follow up with parents in case of students with irregular attendance. Parents are told not to involve children in household chores and send their wards to school regularly

Outcome Indicator 10: Child friendly AWC

Indicator	Measure	Achievement
The project intends to improve the quality of ECE in 189 AWCs and out of those, 20 AWCs are to be developed as Child-friendly AWCs for working as model for other AWCs in the vicinity	Proportion of AWCs within sample villages where 50% of more children who participates in the assessment exercise using School Readiness Assessment Tool have an achievement score in excess of 70%	80%
	Availability BLES illustrations at the AWC	60%
	Availability of T/L materials meant for child friendly discourse at the AWC (verified upon visit)	100%
	Proportion of AWWs who are using the child friendly teaching methods (using T/L materials) regularly (almost daily) to teach the children enrolled in the AWC	93%
	Proportion of AWCs who feel that the teaching method to be appropriate and useful	90%
	Proportion of AWCs where there is a mothers' group meeting every month and minutes are available	100%

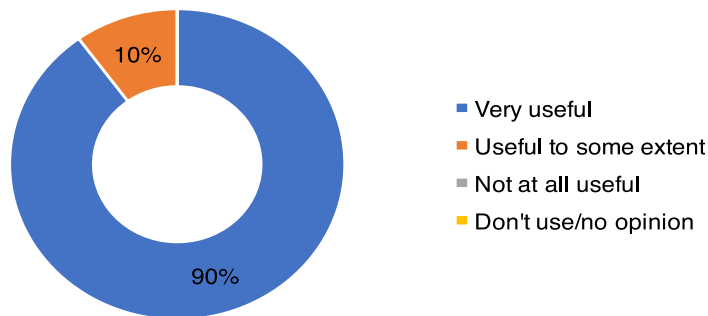
	Proportion of AWCs where attendance of children aged 6-59 months on the day of visit is at least 50% of the current enrolment	6.7%
	Proportion of AWCs where attendance of children aged 6-59 months on the day of visit is at least 30% of the current enrolment	26.7%

The Project had intervened in all AWCs located within the 200 project villages. Within these, the idea was to develop a few as model child friendly AWCs. For our evaluation purposes, the AWC assessment protocol was administered to each and every AWC within the sample villages, since in the sample of 30 villages, model AWC was only one. However, since the idea of the project was the develop model AWCs so that their success can be replicated, at end line, it is expected that all AWC within the project area would be as close to the model as possible as they would have adopted the best practices from the same.

The survey found that all the AWCs had T/L materials available in situ, but in 8 out of 30 AWCs, their present condition was bad. However, this could be a result of over usage as it was reported by 93% of the AWWs that they used these materials almost daily to teach to the enrolled children.

The issue really is of attendance vs. enrolment, which is a phenomena not only unique to Banswara but across the country. This is possibly because even though enrolment (and therefore allocation of resources) is a function of population (one AWC per 200 households translates to one AWC for roughly 107 children aged 3-6 years, which is the core age group in an AWC). This, in itself, is a very large number considering that most AWCs don't have adequate space to accommodate even half of that strength at a time. In addition to this, many younger children (below 3 years, sometimes even up to 6 months) are also sent to the AWC. So, the actual number can be much higher.

Figure 3: How useful do you find this child friendly teaching method?



All AWCs have a mothers group and this group meet on a monthly basis. Across these 30 AWCs, there were a total of 1824 children enrolled in the age group of 6-35 months and 868 children enrolled in the age group of 36-59 months. This gives an average enrolment of 61 among the younger age group and 29 among the older age group (combined average of 90).

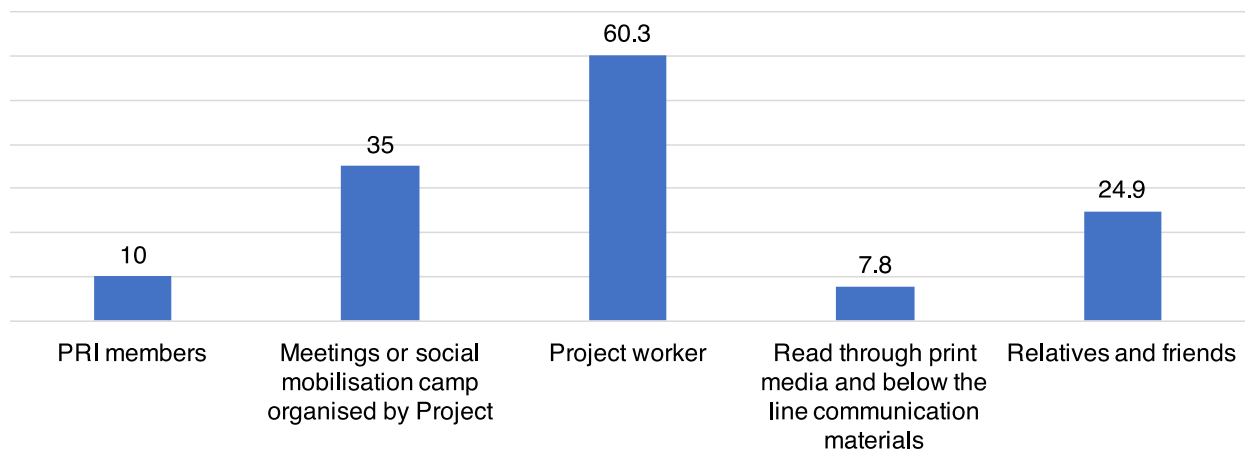
Attendance figures on the date of the survey gives a different view. Out of the total 2692 children enrolled in the 30 sample AWCs, only 578 were present on the day of the survey, i.e. an attendance of 21.5%.

Outcome Indicator 11: Access to Social Security Schemes

Indicator	Measure	Achievement
50% of all eligible households will have access to at least one social protection entitlement across all project villages.	Proportion of all eligible households who are aware of at least one social security schemes available for them to apply for benefits	85.2%
	Proportion of aware respondents who cited the project sources (mobilisers and meeting) as their source of information on these schemes (self-reported attribution)	80.7%
	Proportion of eligible households where at least one member has benefitted from any scheme (currently or in the past), or have applied for benefits and the application stands sanctioned	80.7%
	Proportion of respondents representing eligible households who are aware that they can file an application under Right To Information Act to get information in case of delay, non-approval of application or sanctioning of scheme	0.7%
	Proportion of aware households who had not applied for benefits under a scheme despite being eligible and had stated that they had not done so because they lacked awareness of process of application as the reason	11.7%

A total of 420 households were administered the protocol designed to elicit information of the target population regarding awareness, access and coverage of various social security schemes of the government. Since eligibility is an important condition of access, stress was given in the respondent selection process to ensure a significant share of the sample belong to SC/ST households. In our sample, 6% belonged to SC households while all the rest were ST households, both being eligible to benefit from various social security schemes. The Project seems to have done a stellar job of spreading awareness about various social security options available to the TGs. Not only were over 95% aware of at least one scheme they could avail, close to 81% had reported that their primary source of information regarding social security schemes was either the project worker or the regular meetings or social mobilisation camps under the project.

Figure 4: Source of information of social security schemes



The social protection schemes which were considered for this assessment included the following, out of which reach of each among the target audience were as follows:

Schemes	Awareness
Scholarship to Tribal Student (Girls) to encourage them for Higher Education	8%
Pre-matric Scholarship for children from SC and ST, OBC	30.7%
Post-matric Scholarship for children from SC and ST, OBC	11.9%
CM Scooty distribution schemes for tribal girls	1.4%
SC/ST Hostels by department of social welfare	0.7%
Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS)	50%
Palanhar Yojna- Foster care	2.6%
Re-marriage of widow and women who went for NATA	0
Widow pension	7.8%
Old age pension	3.1%

It may be interesting to note that while awareness of any one scheme was as high as 85%, in effect awareness penetration of individual schemes was low, with a maximum of 50% (MNREGA) and with 6 schemes recording less than 10% recall. This is explained by the fact that there must not have been a situation where a few schemes were known by many but rather, many respondents being aware of different schemes but few people being aware of multiple schemes. In one way this was expected as people tend to remember schemes which they have directly benefitted from or for which they are directed interested in, but given the fact that the discourse given by the project includes all the schemes as above, collective awareness of individual schemes should have been higher.

Regarding awareness of the Right to Information, awareness was abysmally low, viz. 0.7%. This could be a function of the fact that the majority of the respondents (63.8%) were either illiterate or having studied till below primary level. We are assuming that individuals with below basic education (4th standard) education are highly unlikely to be able to understand and execute an RTI query. There were 94 respondents who had reported that they had yet to apply for a social security scheme despite knowing that they were eligible for the same. Out of these only 11 (11.7%) had reported that they did not apply because they are unaware of the procedure.

Outcome Indicator 12: Livelihoods

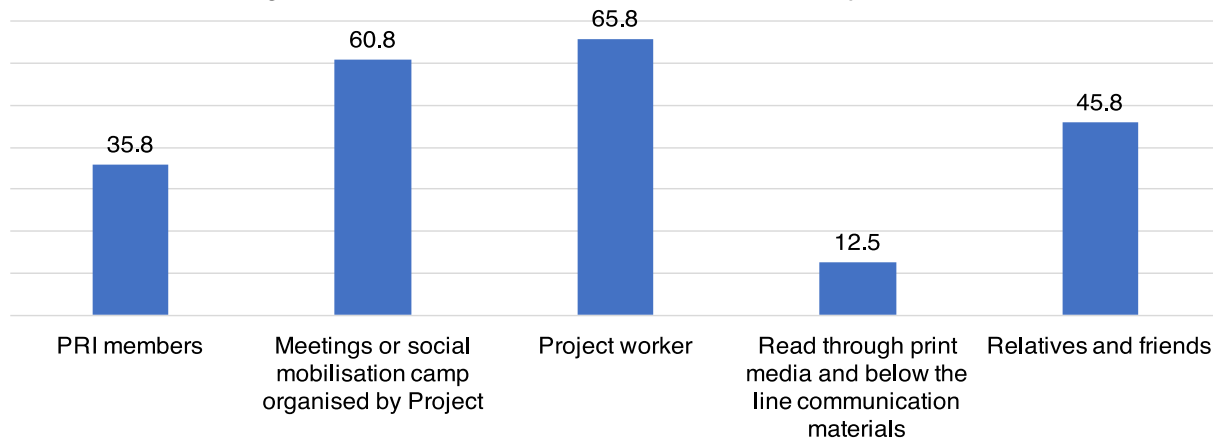
Indicator	Measure	Achievement
There is no specific milestone attached to this thematic area. However, having these discussions in open forums in each of the project villages is part of the project initiative. Thereafter, if agrarian households (especially those who had had history of migrant child labour), express interest they are given special support and handholding to ensure benefits are realized.	Proportion of all eligible households who could recall of at least three agriculture & allied sector schemes available for them to apply for benefits	97%
	Proportion of aware respondents who cited the project sources (mobilisers and meeting) as their source of information on these schemes (self-reported attribution)	40%
	Proportion of eligible households where at least one member has benefitted from any scheme (currently or in the past), or have applied for benefits and the application stands sanctioned	89%
	Proportion of households who had not applied for benefits under a scheme despite being eligible and had stated that they had not done so because they lacked awareness of process of application as the reason	9 out of 14
	Proportion of aware respondents who could correctly recollect most of the scheme features (were able to correctly state 60% of the features of all schemes recalled)	100%

The Project had implemented an awareness generation movement across 4 project villages out of the 200. Three out of these four villages were taken as part of the sample 30 villages where this evaluation exercise was conducted. A total of 101 households were selected (with agrarian background) from these villages to administer this protocol.

98 out of 101 (97%) of the respondents had claimed that they were aware about the various agriculture and allied sector schemes (e.g. animal husbandry and dairy development). The extent of recall of names of different schemes was as follows:

	Spontaneously recall	Probed recall	Total recall
Kisan Fasal Bima Yojana	75.2%	20.8%	96%
National Horticulture Mission (Bagbani)	89.1%	10.9%	100%
Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (Jevik kheti to barawa dene ke liye)	26.7%	31.7%	58.4%
Rashtriya Khadya Suraksha Mission – Pramanit Beej Utpadan	18.8%	42.6%	61.4%
Pashudhan Bima Yojana	41.6%	52.5%	94.1%

Figure 5: Source of information of social security schemes



Nearly 90% of the households had at least one member who had already benefitted or currently benefitting from any one of these schemes or have at least applied and got sanction to receive benefits. There were only 9 cases where eligible people had not applied because they did not know how to do so.

The final indicator had to do with extent of awareness of different relevant schemes and being able to correctly state the key features of each steam. The qualifying criteria used for evaluation is being able to correctly recall at least 60% of all key features of each scheme. Since all 101 respondents had heard of each of the schemes, the base for each was the same. We have already reported that 100% of the respondents could correctly

recollect at least 60% of the features of each scheme. The following table highlights which features were recollected by most respondents.

Name of scheme	Proportion of respondents who could correctly recall scheme features
Kisan Fasal Bima Yojana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All farmers having their own land can apply for this scheme (99%) Landless labourers doing labour on others' farms cannot apply for this scheme (98%) Landless labourers doing share cropping are eligible for this scheme (95%) It is mandatory for Kisan Credit Card Holders to apply for this scheme (100%) Application for this scheme can be obtained and submitted to any nearest nationalised bank (93.1%) Application can be submitted online (12.9%)
National Horticulture Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Skilled and unskilled persons are eligible for this scheme (98%) Person can apply for this scheme in horticulture or agriculture department of district (99%) Under this scheme person can develop new gardens and renovate old gardens (73.3%) Organic farming and beekeeping is allowed under this scheme (11.9%)
Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To get the benefit under this scheme at least 50 farmers should form a cluster and they should have 50 acre or more agriculture land (94.1%) Under this scheme every cluster will get a sum of Rs 14.35 Lakhs in 3 years (83.2%) Under this scheme for seed procurement and transportation of crop every farmer is being given Rs. 20,000/- per acre in 3 years (87.1%) To avail benefit under this scheme farmers can meet any senior officer of Agriculture department (88.1%)
Rashtriya Khadya Suraksha Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All farmers are eligible for this scheme (99%) In this scheme SC/ST farmers given priority on the basis of their proportion in the district (92.1%) This scheme does not promote any variety of grains (81.2%) This scheme promote a particular variety of listed pulses for 10 years (19.8%)
Pashudhan Bima Yojana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This scheme is meant for milch and non-milch cattle and buffalo (89.1%) Cattle already included in any other Bima Yojana will not be considered for this scheme (26.7%) Pashudhan Bima Yojana is done for a period of 3 years (81.2%) Assessment of the insured money for the cattle is done on the basis of maximum present market value (26.7%) To avail benefit under this scheme one can go to department of animal husbandry (94.1%)

It is clear from the above table that across schemes, awareness level of most of scheme features was ubiquitously high. This is why nearly 90% of the households had reported having been in a position to benefit from at least one such scheme. One integral element in any process meant towards reversal of child labour trends has to be about providing alternative income sources in situ that are sustainable. Otherwise, for households living in extreme poverty, the opportunity cost of passing up a chance to earn cash incomes in favour of compliance to child labour laws is too high. To that extent, the converge of this project with available government schemes and programmes that provide alternate livelihoods is the correct way forward but the focussed needs to be intensified.

SECTION 4: EPILOGUE

Some observations

- Banswara district has 2 distinct topography; one that is irrigated and more prosperous and the other not irrigated and less developed. Seasonal migration happens from the region, which is not irrigated and hence future programming should select villages from that part of the district for better impact.
- The two implementing partners of Save the Children in Banswara have been able to develop very good rapport with the community and the staff of both the organisations are well trained in child protection related activities. But since the project is implementing number of interventions, field staff of both organisations need more training in specialized areas like early Childhood Education capacity building of SMC members, livelihood etc.
- Although the program has developed linkages with government schemes and built relationship with government officials but there is a need for further building their capacity on in planning and coordination. This is not only important from perspective of leveraging government resources but equally essential for sustaining activities after the intervention is closed.
- However, on the whole, as an evaluator of the programme we feel the efforts so far need to be lauded. A large number of families accessed benefits of the social protection schemes. Access to Palanhaar Scheme which is a cash transfer scheme of Rajasthan government for children in various categories of vulnerabilities contributed significantly as the amount provided under the scheme is significant and it also makes attendance of children mandatory to school or Anganwadi center.
- Tracking of all children in the age group of 3-18 years are being done jointly by team and members of VCPC visiting door to door. It has created a kind of social pressure on families to send their children in school. Members of Children Group in the villages declared CLF are now more actively participating and bringing out issues of violations through available mechanisms such as VCPC meetings, Gram Sabha, Bal Suraksha Peti etc.
- Out of 5 villages declared CLF, 3 villages had livelihood interventions too. Besides, increasing income of the families, it created a positive impact on child labour and migration of families. So, we suggest to integrate the livelihood component as a part of intervention package for any future interventions..
- The good reputation built by project among various departments & structures concerning children during the project period by involving them in most of the activities also helped in getting the villages declared CLF.

Way forward

The project has successfully achieved most of the milestones agreed under the log frame. However, our view is that the project is trying many things altogether. Going forward, we suggest to focus on only those interventions that have worked really well and scale up. Some of such interventions which have contributed significantly are as follows:

The project has followed a convergence model which has yielded very good results in round one. We see this convergence happening at two levels, viz. between empowered grass root level structures like CGs and CPCs

and their horizontal integration with SMCs as well as their vertical integration with ICPS structures (CWC) at district and block levels. The impact assessment data clearly indicates the high level of participation enjoyed by the CGs and their synergy with the CPC at the village level. Their joint efforts at identified migration cases as well as local child labour incidences and corrective action has been extensively documented, especially in villages which has been declared child labour free. However, it is understood that the lowest level of ICPS structure of the government is CPCs at the panchayat level and not those at the village level which are informal structures. As the village level CPCs do not come under the ICPS, it is imperative to strengthen the Panchayat level CPC as well by rigorously orienting the members of the latter and linking them with the village level CPCs. The Block and district level CWCs are not currently active. The project has made efforts to collaborate with ICPS department and district level structures (CWC) for the reconstitution and strengthening of Block and District level ICPS systems – but it needs further strengthening. We recommend that in future, this link between village CPCs with panchayat CPCs and finally, at district level the child protection structures will have to be strengthened and formalized so that the efforts at the grass root gets teeth to take affirmative action for reporting and redressal of child protection issues. Project can also think of using its wealth of skills and experience around child protection work in other Blocks of Banswara district to create an impact at the district level. Apart from the linkages, Save the Children can use its expertise to build the capacity of the district level duty bearer agencies such as CWCs, District Task Force, District Child protection Unit, Police and Labour department etc.

The model outcome of an effective linkage between SMCs, CPCs and CGs at a localized level already exists, several villages have already been declared CLF and they have been recognized for their efforts. Such a movement has to be scaled up so that by the next round, the number of CLF villages reach the number of 50. This is eminently possible given that there are 160 villages with CGs and VCPCs already functional in the project area.

The role being played by the SMCs is also to be noted. These are structures which are mandated under the Education department and fortunately, they have been rejuvenated in the state and are active participants in the administration of school issues. There are enough anecdotal evidence of the role of these SMCs are playing on advocacy on matters related to school infrastructure and other logistics, but the fact that they are also making an impact on tracking OOS children, counselling parents to encourage attendance and education continuity and reporting possible child labour-led absenteeism to the CPCs makes them an important cog in the wheel of this concerted campaign to reverse child labour in Banswara. Going forward, the project will need to work closely with each school in the programme area to counsel the SMC members on the importance of identifying child labour led OOS children enrolled in the system so that they can jointly act with the CPCs to get all such children back into the schooling system.

Children's groups should not be only about being a watchdog for combating child labour. These platforms have to be used judiciously to extend and expand the life skill training initiative. This is an activity that will work closely with the core constituency directly and with trainers and counselors being directly recruited from within the community, will have a great deal of acceptability. It is also a crucial input for local children moving into adolescents because most of them are from poor and marginalized households where their parents are often too engaged in putting together a meagre livelihood to give adequate attention to their child's welfare.

The project has encouraged partner organizations to share their strength, learning and experiences particularly between VAAGDHARA and CULP through interactive sessions during the review and planning meetings and exposure visit to each other's intervention areas. This helped the partner staff to learn from each other and resolve the issues. For example, CULP 's long years of experience in education area particularly strengthening the SMCs helped providing insights to VAAGDHARA staff and the experience of VAAGDHARA in child protection work also helped building the capacity of CULP. This has been a very successful model and more such interactions, not only partner organizations and project staff but also with key duty bearers in the local administration responsible for protection of child rights need to be encouraged and formalized.

Finally, this brings us to livelihoods training. This was not the core focus of round one, which was more about creating grass root level structures (and revamping existing structures) to provide a collective platform for addressing child labour issues on a case to case basis. However, in the long run if we have to witness a steady reversal of migration of families to surrounding states, it needs to be recognised that an integral element of the project in its new avatar has to be about providing alternative income sources locally to circumvent the opportunity cost of passing up a chance to earn cash incomes in favour of compliance to child labour laws is too high.

Our view is that skill development training is a separate project in itself and does not integrate well with the core focus of this project, which is child labour and education continuity. Skill development addresses the unemployment issue of youth who are at an age where they are legally entering the workforce or underemployed/unemployed adults seeking alternative means of livelihood. This project's core constituency are children and hence, their needs, as indeed the need of the project, are different. S Instead of trying to expand the current reach of the livelihood training component of this the project, we think it would be worthwhile if efforts are limited to the following:

- Extensively communicate to the local residents about livelihoods and social security schemes available with the government and creates structures that can facilitate access.
- Help all local families get identification cards like Aadhar, banking accounts under JDY (so that they can get the benefits of DBT), and even get all local labour contractors and migrating families registered with the panchayat so that distress migration can be controlled, or at least regulated to avoid exploitation.

The way forward can be to replicate the integrated approach being adopted during phase one, involving several thematic areas, as follows:

