



# SOME OF OUR PROJECTS

*Ongoing/ Recently completed from 2021-2022*

## **Life Skills Education for Adolescents in Special Schools of Odisha - Project Samarthya**

Kalinga Institute of Social Science (KISS) has longstanding experience in implementing the LSE programme in partnership with UNFPA since 2009 and has in-house resources and the capacity of managing programmes towards addressing the needs of children from vulnerable and marginalised communities. Since the LSE programme for children with a disability requires intensive effort for developing resources and communication materials for different types of disabilities (blind, deaf and dumb and physically/mentally challenged), past experience of KISS has been identified as an asset to rollout the project. Under this intervention, the need and importance of Life Skills education will be advocated and the capacities of stakeholders particularly the teachers and school management teams of the special schools will be built. The programme proposes to cover 8700 children with three major categories of disabilities, blind, deaf and dumb and physically and mentally challenged enrolled in 157 special schools across the state.

## **Mission Uday - Creating Change makers in Indigenous Communities**

This is a joint initiative by REC Foundation of Rural Electrification Corporation Limited (REC), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Government of Odisha and the Managing Committee of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences. This initiative is a multi-stakeholder project envisioned to address the challenges faced by young people from vulnerable indigenous communities of Odisha and seeks to position youth at the centre of development initiatives of the state. This project endeavours to create change agents in the community and build young leaders who would engage in social development processes and influence their peers for the betterment of their communities.

## **Life Skills Education based Adolescent Reproductive & Sexual Health**

KISS in collaboration with UNFPA started LSE-ARSH initiative with an aim to empower adolescents with correct and age-appropriate information on their safer and informed growing up process as well as initiating measures for institutionalising the intervention for its term sustainability within KISS. The key activities of the project were as follows: -

- Life Skills sessions to students (Class VI to IX) peer education
- Community outreach part of school curriculum
- Counselling, health check-ups and free sanitary napkins
- Promoting research on ARSH
- Undertaking outreach activities on LSE-SRH issues in villages

## **Strengthening DRM capacity under Covid 19 Pandemic in Cyclone/Flood Prone Area**

In collaboration with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the project aims at better integration of varied aspects of biological hazards into existing planning and decision-making mechanisms for Disaster Risk Management (DRM) at the local level in the state of Odisha. The project envisages supporting such integration with enhanced preparedness and capacity of local government and local communities for playing critical roles and functions leading to better management of complex risks of natural and biological hazards.





## **Engage and train indigenous youth volunteers & Civil Society Organisations in five districts of Odisha to create awareness on Covid 19 with support from US Consulate, Hyderabad.**


The COVID-19 pandemic has also led to people dealing with myriad emotions all at the same time – there is anxiety, there is fear, there is apprehension, there is grief, there is confusion, there is chaos, there is anger and there is hope – that we will ‘build back better’ – especially cater to the concerns of those at the margin’. In spite of the lockdowns and social distancing measures being adopted, there is a surge in the number of cases and fatalities an upward trend. It is also being said that India is going in a geometric linear way and there will be a peak in the number of cases and fatalities in the coming few months. In such circumstances, it is thereby important that people’ at the margins’ who do not have access to proper information are made aware of the situation and simultaneously, their capacities built towards resilience and recovery. The project will aim to reach out to the most vulnerable and marginalized in these areas with all relevant and important information about the pandemic and the steps being undertaken by the Government to address the issue and move a step ahead towards embracing the goal of SDGs i.e., ‘Leaving no one Behind’. It also aims to use the medium of mass media and other online social networking sites to support the communities and community-led organizations in building their capacities towards building resilience and onwards towards the path of resilience.

## **Promoting skill and Entrepreneurship with technology-enabled blended skilling model for indigenous youth**

In today's scenario, technology plays a vital role in all aspects of life. When it comes to learning, it makes it easier for the students to understand and acquire knowledge in a better way. For the all-around growth of students and to make them more competent in the challenging scenario, skill development training was provided to the students. They take part in different vocational trades such as tailoring, applique, Arts & crafts, coir, chemical production, handicraft etc. Keeping these things in mind and providing handhold support to the students, and entrepreneurial knowledge, KISS has initiated a Centre for Excellence on Skill and Entrepreneurship in partnership with UNDP. The program aims at building vocational skills in specialized areas for marketable skills enabling gainful engagement in the future careers of the student trainees. ICT-based modules are incorporated into the counselling and training process. The trainees are receiving additional benefits and stipend for attending the program. The experience so far has been very encouraging as the trainees are taking a keen interest and actively participating in the program mastering new skills with joy. KISS has made necessary arrangements allowing flexibility and adjustment of training time in reference to regular classes to avoid clashes and inconvenience. KISS is committed to scaling up the program building on the learning and good practices ensuring its success.

## **Technology-driven smart classrooms**

Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences is proud to offer its students smart classrooms that have been enabled with support from Oracle, giving students access to quick and smart-learning technology, with more interactive, globally connected classes. These allow the indigenous students to see audio-visual clips and benefit from technology-driven interactive teaching methods. Students are also provided with access to books via well-stocked libraries on its campuses. These approaches are vital in ensuring that students can readily access quality education while improving their learning outcomes.



## **Mother Tongue-based Multilingual Education Initiative (MTB-MLE)**

MTB-MLE is a well-established strategy to address language gaps in early learning. The MTB-MLE programme is sustained within the formal education system at Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, the pioneering Centre of Excellence on mother tongue-based early childhood education in the state of Odisha. Through Mother Tongue Based MultiLingual Education, the organisation has been filling up the gap in the learning process of indigenous students. Children at the early learning stage are facilitated education through the (MTB-MLE) approach by introducing Transition Curriculum - an innovative pedagogic initiative, teaching and learning tools in 10 indigenous dialects.

## **Initiative on Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programme for Indigenous Forest Produce Gatherers**

Indigenous communities' livelihood is related to forest produce. To strengthen the supply chain and marketing mechanism, Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences started the Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programme in collaboration with TRIFED, Government of India with a focus on building the capacity of indigenous forest produce gatherers. This programme was started to bring more financial power and self-sufficiency to the tribes of India by involving them in all stages of NTFP-based enterprises. It aims to build the capacity of tribes and help them to become successful entrepreneurs under Van Dhan Mission.

## **TIGR2ESS (Transforming India's Green Revolution by Research and Empowerment for Sustainable Food Supplies)**

TIGR2ESS is a multi-stakeholder project that aims to develop and strengthen alliances across a carefully selected network of UK and Indian experts, to build a collaborative, long-term research partnership in sustainable agriculture that will set India on the path to a second Green Revolution. This project is funded by the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), UK and has been awarded to the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) by Cambridge University, UK as one of its partners in India. The time period of the project is from 2018 through 2021. Under the project, KISS is involved in research activities on various aspects related to indigenous food and nutrition security and livelihood in the Koraput and Kandhamal districts of Odisha. It is involved in the flagship project FP6 - Impacting Wellbeing in Rural and Urban Communities (FP6a Education Food, Nutrition and Empowerment (EFNE) and FP6b - Education, Empowerment and Entrepreneurship leading to improved Human Nutrition).

## **Project CHIRAG (Creative Hub for Innovation & Reciprocal Research & Action for Gender Equality)**

CHIRAG is a Global Research Translation award (GRTA) project, funded by UK Research Innovations (UKRI) on Sustainable Food Systems. Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) is collaborating with the University of East Anglia, UK, along with other Indian Partners PRADAN and Gram Vaani. In Odisha, the project is being implemented by KISS in Koraput and Kandhamal districts and in the Jamui district of Bihar by PRADAN and Gramvaani. The project aims to build a proof of concept to address food & nutrition security along with gender equality in India, a problem faced by a vast majority of women and children, especially from rural and indigenous communities.

## **Work with Migrant Communities**

During the Covid-19 pandemic, care has been taken for both migrant workers and underserved indigenous communities who are our stakeholders at KISS. KISS facilitated smooth in-migration, out-migration and ancillary support during this crisis. KISS has also built the capacity of rural youths in various aspects such as livelihood, safe migration, and government entitlements. KISS also conducts sensitisation programs at the community level to aware dropout youths who are vulnerable to migration to participate in skill development programmes

## **Scoping Study on Impact of COVID 19 on Migrant Labourers**

To evaluate the severe impact of the Covid-19 pandemic-induced lockdown situation on the lives of migrant workers, KISS in collaboration with UNDP conducted a socio-economic impact assessment. This socio-economic impact assessment of Covid-19 on migrant workers also captured information with a special emphasis on female migrant workers. This study was carried out with 1500 migrant households covering 5 migration-prone districts Malkangiri, Rayagada, Koraput, Bolangir and Kandhamal.

## **Industry-Academia Collaboration for Skill Development**

KISS partnered with Bosch for the Industry-Academia Collaboration for Skill Development initiative. Under this collaboration, an Industry-Academia Collaboration Centre was established on its premises. The aim of the initiative was to meet the challenge of eliminating unemployment by reaching out to youth in need of skill development and making them employable. Both organisations have agreed to work on five domains as follows: -

- Skill Development of youth
- MSME Capacity Building
- Trainers' Capacity Building
- Developing Industry-ready Social Service Professional
- Capacity Building of the Non-profit Sector (NGOs)

The initiative has successfully completed the capacity building of subject matter experts in the above five domains. Under the Skill Development of Youth Domain Skill Entrepreneurship program was initiated for creating opportunities for youths to learn and join the skill ecosystem of the country.

## **English Access Micro Scholarship Program**

The English Access Micro scholarship Program (Access Program) is an exciting initiative of the U.S. Department of State. This highly effective training program is designed to provide a significant English-language learning experience to bright non-elite 13 years to 20 years for the present program. It also has the goal of improving students' appreciation of U.S. culture and values, encouraging critical thinking and open-mindedness, and improving performance in regular school classes. In KISS, the program provides a foundation of English language skills to talented indigenous students.

## **Nua Maa**

The Nua Maa project was a community media prototype on Infant and Young Child Nutrition (IYCN) and WASH being piloted by KISS in two blocks of Rayagada district with funding support from APPI and implementation support by SAKHA, a CBO of the transgender network. KISS is providing technical support and knowledge management to the program, which is the first of its kind to engage in the mainstream activity of behavioural change communication in the areas of health and nutrition. These fields pose big challenges for the state, country and the world as a whole. Through 'Nua Maa', Transgender women are trained to perform plays on key messages like early registration of pregnancy, IFA and calcium consumption, exclusive breastfeeding, complementary feeding and washing at the community followed by home visits to pregnant and lactating mothers to help transmit knowledge into practice. The programme is currently in its first phase of training, featuring performances on early registration and IFA consumption.

## **Kalinga Fellowship**

Instrumental in establishing the Kalinga Fellowship in joint partnership with the Bridge Institute, KISS, Ashoka Foundation, FXB India, Prajwala, UN WOMEN and the US Consulate Hyderabad. The fellowship, which has successfully run for 3 years was envisioned as a 10-year programme bringing together the highest levels of government, business and society to advance #SDG5 – Gender Equality – globally. The programme started in the State of Odisha in 2017 to address the issue of sexual harassment in the workplace and in the State of Telangana in 2018, the focus was on gender-based violence and allows leaders from Government, Business and Civil Society to jointly seize opportunities to collaborate, coordinate and collectively act for the UN's vision of #GenerationEquality - to create an impact that will stop sexual exploitation and create a systemic response/environment of zero tolerance towards any kind of sexual abuse/exploitation.

## **TCS Free Employability Training**

KISS has been facilitating a Free Employability Training Programme by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) at its campus as well as at a district level for the past five years. Free Employability Training comes under Affirmative Action program of TCS, which aims at providing 100 hours of Free Employability Training to final year undergraduates from SC/ST/BPL/Minorities communities. These training are provided to 4th, 5th and 6th Semester graduate students of KISS. The programme features 40 Hours internal training, followed by 100 Hours by TCS. These 40 Hours are coordinated by TCS, Bhubaneswar office while the 100 Hours of training are coordinated by TCS, Kolkata office in consultation with KISS. In 2020, after the successful completion of the last batch of TCS' Free Employability Training programme, 11 students were selected for jobs at TCS, pending the completion of their degrees.

## **Compassionate Integrity Training**

'Compassionate Integrity Training' is being jointly conducted by UNESCO MGIEP & Life University to KIIT & KISS Universities in 2019, as part of initiatives to bring concepts of compassionate living to higher education spaces in India. Compassionate Integrity Training was first developed under the auspices of the Centre for Compassion, Integrity and Secular Ethics (CCISE) at Life University. It is a multi-part training program that cultivates basic human values as skills for the purpose of increasing individual, social and environmental flourishing. By covering a range of skills from self-regulation and self-compassion to compassion for others and engagement with complex systems, CIT focuses on and builds towards compassionate integrity. This is a pilot programme, introduced by UNESCO MGIEP, Indian higher educational institutes for the first time, under the banner of their pan-India 'Kindness Campaign. KIIT/KISS and O. P. Jindal University are the first Indian university partners of this revolutionary training.



## **The Alliance of Universities to Reinforce teacher training curricula to Outcast Radicalism and promote equality in Asian societies (AURORA)**

The AURORA project is a three-year programme, curated to focus on the issues of inclusion, diversity and integration of socio-economically disadvantaged participants. It is funded by the Erasmus + Programme of the European Union. It strives to create a programme for Curricula Reform in India and Nepal that will promote inclusive education through teacher training programmes at BA and MA levels by developing new courses in educational programmes, faculty and teacher workshops, student leadership training and student activities, democratic values and combat radicalism to be applied from early stages in the school. This project aims at training teachers from India and Nepal.

## **Children Development Resource Centre**

UNICEF in association with KISS has established a Children Development Resource Centre (CDRC) as part of the larger UNICEF-KIIT University joint initiative for the Centre for Children Studies (CCS). The goal is to promote evidence-based policy-making by building a knowledgebase through action research and other development programmes on children's issues focusing on the state of Odisha. A resource centre was established at KISS for students and research scholars.

## **Groundwater for Emergency Situations (GWES)**

KISS is implementing a project on Groundwater for Emergency Situations (GWES), as a part of the activities of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) of UNESCO.

## **NIRD Research Project**

We have also been able to bag a research project from NIRD (Hyderabad) for an amount of 11,60,000 (Eleven Lakh Sixty Thousand). This is a study of Gram Panchayats of Odisha and Chattisgarh.

## **Student Sponsorship Program with NALCO**

The sponsorship program that was initiated in 2012 with 214 children is being ramped up. They have been sponsoring all students from their Damanjodi peripheral region. Approximately an amount of 50-70 Lakh is being sponsored every year under this project  
Partner: NALCO Foundation

## **Free Education with Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP)**

In collaboration with Rourkela Steel Plant, KISS is facilitating the education of tribal children from RSP's vicinity. This is the initial stage of the collaboration and negotiations are on for a proposed school for the underprivileged which is on the anvil.

## **Student Sponsorship with ESSEL Mining**

Essel Mining has sponsored the education of several students from their peripheral mining areas.

## **Youth Leadership Program**

Youth Leadership Program was initiated by US Consulate Hyderabad. The objective of the program is to help students meet the challenges of adulthood and leadership success. Sponsored by US Consulate Hyderabad and conducted by Toastmasters International and its local clubs, the program has helped young students build their communication and leadership skills so that they may become tomorrow's leaders in business, industry and the community.

## **Study Abroad with AFS**

Under this project with AFS Intercultural Project we are initiating for a few students to study abroad for two semesters or 1 years of Higher Education (+2 Level) in the United States.

## **Carp Culture and Broodstock Management**

The National Fishery Development Board (NFDB) sponsored training programme sought to give training for KISS students on Carp Culture and Broodstock management 2017-18. In total 13 batches of training programmes were undertaken.

## **AIESEC**

Under the project with AIESEC, various international students have the opportunity to come and volunteer and do internships with KISS. We have received more than 20 international students to date under this initiative.

## **Give India**

KISS is accredited with Give India. The main aim of Give India is to promote an effective and efficient giving culture that provides greater opportunities to the poor in India. It is a vibrant 'philanthropy marketplace' to ensure that the most effective and efficient non-profits get access to resources. After thorough scrutiny, KISS has been accredited with Give India.

## **Tata Steel**

KISS and Tata Steel have agreed to strengthen the relationship between the industry and the institutions by developing collaboration in various academic, research, training and staff development activities. The two organizations have facilitated the education of the children of the displaced families at KISS and work for the upliftment of the marginalized vulnerable sections of the population. Other initiatives include an upcoming Tata Library at KISS.

## **National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)**

National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) in collaboration with KISS is setting up a fully free residential school for tribal children at Kanker in the state of Chhattisgarh. The work for the NMDC-KISS residential school is in progress. The school will follow the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) curriculum with a strength of 4000 tribal students.

## **Center of American Studies**

A Center of American Studies has been set up in KISS by US Embassy. It is the 41st such centre in the country and the 1st in the State of Odisha. It offers the students opportunity to learn more about the United States – its history, literature, politics, art and culture.

## **Max India Foundation**

KISS has been immunizing students in the age group of 5 – 7 years with MMR and Hepatitis vaccination every year in partnership with Max India Foundation. The immunization camps are held twice a month with around 400 children vaccinated each month.

## **TATA Sponge Iron Limited**

TATA Sponge Iron Limited has awarded KISS a project on baseline study for sustainable CSR interventions in and around TATA Sponge areas, Keonjhar, Odisha.

## **Ziqitza Health Care Services**

KISS was the training partner of the NRHM Programme, (108 Ambulance training) working in collaboration with Ziqitza Health Care Services. The institute is involved in Ambulance service training.

## **EdCIL**

EdCIL has funded the provision of books for secondary students and we are currently also discussing possibilities of a few other CSR donations.

## **GKL and other small projects**

With the help of Hanseo University we have initiated small project through the South Korean Government support and Hanseo University support wherein we have undertaken an electrical training project under the flagship of GKL project. Similarly, they have donated other products such as Hospital equipment, desktops, printers, Refrigerators, etc to KISS.

## **FXB India Suraksha**

Both KISS and FXB are working for the common cause of promoting education for less privileged children of India. This association has made KISS work with large organizations working on similar grounds and concerns.

## **Banchte Shekha**

Banchte Shekha is a foundation in Bangladesh with a global cause of empowering poor rural women and children through various programs. Both KISS and Banchte Shekha are working for the common cause of promoting education for less privileged children of Bangladesh and India.



## **C.E.S.I.E. (European Centre of Studies and Initiatives), Italy**

C.E.S.I.E. is a volunteering programme sponsored by the Italian Government for a period of one year. Italian students will have the chance to work in various programmes and projects running at KISS.

## **MoU with Intel Technology**

In collaboration with Intel Technology KISS embarked upon computer literacy and training for its teachers and students. Intel technology provided the expertise and master trainers for the said programme.

## **Child & Youth Finance International**

KISS has collaborated with Child & Youth Finance International to help strengthen the skills of the students studying in the institute. The cooperation will also target the children and youth in the 20 districts of Odisha where KISS has its operations

## **KISS Association with Tibetan Government in Exile**

KISS in association with Pure Water Project Foundation, a New York-based Foundation, is implementing a project to provide clean water to villages in Odisha and in India. Presently the project is based in Chandragiri, a Tibetan settlement in Odisha.

## **Hamara Bachpan Campaign**

Humara Bachpan' is a national campaign on living conditions for young children in urban poverty. KIIT & KISS will bring visibility of the campaign throughout the nation targeting specifically the national media to reach the target audience and linking the campaign with policymakers at the national level.

## **Bridges of Sports**

With 'Bridges of Sports Foundation' we have initiated a program to train athletes to become coaches. So far four students of ISS are enrolled in this program and have undergone training and are now actively coaching at KISS with a monthly stipend also being given to them.

## **Crossover**

Crossover Basketball and Scholars Academy is an educational non-profit organization that pairs basketball with an academic focus in a manner that will ensure that students become lifelong learners, and are able to see the doors of education open. Crossover is interested to open a school in Tamil Nadu in association with KISS and also apply their methodology of basketball in forging creativity, drive and cooperation.

## **KISS Delhi School**

KISS has collaborated with Delhi Government and started KISS branch in Delhi for socially and economically backward communities, including minorities.



## **Center for Canadian Studies**

In collaboration with Canadian Embassy, KISS has started Center for Canadian Studies. It was inaugurated by the Canadian High Commissioner to India.

## **National Slum Dwellers Federation**

In association with Mr. Jockin Arputham, Magsaysay award winner, KISS will carry out development work in the slums of Odisha and India.

## **British Council**

KISS in association with the British High Commission of India has been working in various academic fields for the past four years. KIIT conducted the first-ever Law Week in the School of Law in collaboration with the British High Commission.

## **Russian Consulate**

KIIT University and KISS in collaboration with Russian Consulate, Kolkata has set up a Center for Russian Studies.

## **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)**

MoU has been signed between KISS and TCS to provide training services to students for improving English communication, basic computer skills and corporate etiquette. Under this project, almost 70 students have already been placed with TCS BPO till now.

## **Air Liquide Foundation**


KISS in collaboration with Air Liquid Foundation has been promoting the skill of food processing and preservation amongst the tribal children. Air Liquide Foundation provided financial support for the procurement of all required materials for providing training to the students and teachers involved in this programme.

## **Collaboration with British Council**

British Council in partnership with Diageo has launched the Young Women Social Entrepreneurship Development Programme which held 4 batches of training programmes at KISS. 100 women and girls were trained in a wide range of social entrepreneurship subjects with the aim to empower them to start their own social enterprises.

## **Collaboration with the Commissionerate of Police**

KISS embarked on a programme to train police personnel on sensitization and behavioural practices. The research was undertaken on the daily workings of the police system and feedback was given to the Commissionerate of Police, Bhubaneswar and Cuttack.





### **Ashoka Youth Venture**

We have been able to collaborate with Ashoka Foundation and the result has been 4 Youth identified and trained as Youth Venturers. Under the guidance of Ashoka. They are spearheading positive entrepreneurship skills for their communities.

### **KISS Novartis & Bridge Partnership**

An initiative is underway for KISS to be clients to strategic issue solving pertaining to the institute and community through this project wherein 40 officials from Novartis Switzerland would embark on a training cum problem-resolving partnership for 4 days in 2019.

### **Google Ads**

Google Ads worth \$10000 are granted to KISS annually under Google's Non-Profit programme.

### **Tata Strive**

TATA Strive signed MOU with KISS to impart skills to 2900 KISS students during the year 2017, as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility on 2nd August 2017 at KISS.

### **Mercedes Benz**

MoU of KIIT University with Mercedes Benz to set up a new programme at KIIT.

### **Yunus Centre**

Yunus Social Business Centre was established at KISS in association with Mohammed Yunus's Yunus Centre.

### **Partnership with UNESCO**

UNESCO MGIEP partnership to launch International Youth Campaign on Kindness for SDGs to celebrate 150-year birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

