

Access for All

IND-ABC-AFA-P01



Uttarakhand, Northern India



Economic Empowerment

Total Budget \$25,000

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

JUN 21

MAY 22



Overview

This project has further developed the 'Disability Inclusive Child Development Program' within our partner's centre, providing economic empowerment opportunities and training for marginalised and vulnerable groups of people in the area. Activities included livelihood skills for widows, tailoring classes, children's gardening, computer classes, health camps and start-up business training for families of PWDs (people with disabilities). A highlight of this project was to build a tea shop at the entrance to the centre. This will be run by people with disabilities, generating income as well as training people to run small businesses and empowering people with responsibility.

Objectives



Community training and livelihood programs



Training, capacity building and surveys

Impact

20 widows joined the livelihood program (3 PWDs), received training in horticulture, mushroom planting, fish hatcheries and are all currently rearing goats. 30 women benefitted from sewing training at two village tailoring centres.

2 staff completed a 6 month Community Based Inclusive Development course, others attended seminars on mental health, organic farming, horticulture and COVID-19 protocols. Volunteers conducted disability surveys in three villages.



Meena's story

Meena was born with a dysfunctional leg and was married off to a man whose first wife left him with their 18 month old baby. She was abused by her husband and his family because of her disability and because she couldn't conceive another child for him. She was so traumatised she also lost her hearing as a result. Since joining the livelihood program, Meena has taken very good care of her goats but also of herself! She has recovered mentally, gained confidence and her husband's family are kinder and more respectful. Meena is becoming economically stable, self-dependent and her body and mind are now calm.



Life change

- The centre has become a training venue and safe place for adults and children with disabilities and the wider community
- 316 children with disabilities regularly visited the centre or attended after-school activities in the 10 neighbouring villages, played games, participated in cultural activities and learned about all aspects of personal hygiene

