



Advit Foundation
Conserving Environment and Enhancing Livelihood

Annual Report 2008-09



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About the Foundation

Advit Foundation is a not for profit organization established in 2004, for environment conservation and livelihood enhancement.

Approach



Focus Areas of Work

Education

- Rural education centres
- Environment, health and income enhancement trainings

Conservation

- Medicinal herbal garden
- Phytoremediation- pollution resistant plantation

Environment

- Water conservation
- Waste management
- Energy efficiency and CDM

FOCUS

Carbon Neutral Initiative – Plant more and Plant right!

Advit Foundation launched its initiative to educate citizens to take care of their local travel and 'Be Carbon Neutral'. Just estimate the amount of distance you travel in your car in a year.. We calculate the carbondioxide emissions and the number of trees that will absorb it. Advit with your participation does plantation and maintenance of the requisite number of trees and work towards increasing tree cover”.

WATER RESOURCE CENTRE

Advit Foundation has partnered with Coca Cola India Inc. for water conservation projects in and surrounding areas. Advit Foundation is working with the communities and developing feasibility and details of the water conservation systems. Advit on behalf of the community and Coca Cola India implements the plans. Coca Cola India has an active CSR programme to help make every drop of water count.

CAPACITY BUILDING CENTRE

The Centre prepares modules and organizes training workshops on Environment and Health and environment initiatives as income enhancement activities for the rural and peri urban communities.

I. Trainings for factories includes –

1. ethical trading initiative
2. environment and health initiative – includes safe chemical handling, ergonomics, risk assessment and ETP design and capacity enhancement

II. Workshops for school children on environment. The workshops organized are based on 5 environment conservation themes -

1. Water
2. Waste
3. Energy
4. Plastics
5. Plantation

III. Skill enhancement trainings for the communities include –

1. Vermiculture and vermicompost plant
2. Bonai making
3. Plant nursery and seedbank
4. Medicinal herbal garden and nursery techniques

RESOURCE CENTRE FOR LEARNING

The Resource Centre focuses on addressing the educational, cultural, and personal needs of children and young people from rural communities. The programme's central strategy is fostering peer involvement. At the Centre located in village Ghata 2 regular and 4 volunteer teachers coach 30 students in English, Computers and Science.

There are regular workshops organized on various themes of environment with the view of increasing environment awareness and becoming more responsible citizens.

Advit is providing a platform for learning – **Project PANCHVATI**. The classes ongoing are –

- Computer learning
- English speaking
- Science concepts
- Trailing classes
- *Vidya Vatika* – morning school for the underserved

Vidya Vatika is Advit Foundations informal school for the under privileged .

This is an informal school for children from low income families - children of domestic servants, drivers, tea stalls, gardeners and others involved in the upkeep of the neighbourhood, homes and offices attend the classes. Their parents cannot afford to send them to school.

Advit provides a learning place where the children can learn and spend time meaningfully rather than roaming in the streets. The emphasis is on developing children's thinking and making them learn rather than helping them in securing academic degrees. All classes are free, but there is a fine for absentees – toffees for all their class mates. Two regular teachers and one support person teach 35 to 40 pupils who attend the school.

The education programme is holistic in nature with the following curricula:

Literacy	: Numbers / Alphabets / Language / General awareness
Self esteem	: Value curriculum / Empowerment curriculum / Discipline
Good time	: Music / Drama/ Dance / Art/ Excursion
Empowerment	: Skill training / Parent meeting
Medical care	: Preventive Health / Health camps / Cleanliness / Hygiene

PARTNERS

Advit Foundation works in partnership to build strong synergies. We constantly collaborate with organizations to work more efficiently and make a greater impact. Advit strengthens itself by working along with organization like:

- Nature Foundation
- Monsoon Accessorise Trust
- Development Alternatives
- Centre for media Studies
- Institute for Rural Research and Development
- Ansals Buildwell
- Unitech
- IKEA
- Pluss Polymers
- Adya Systems
- Alltec Pvt. Ltd.
- Greenstratos consulting

Advit also collaborates with government and subsidiary organizations to enhance the government schemes. These include:

- Haryana Renewable Energy Department (HEREDA)
- Confederation of Indian Industries (CII)
- Faridabad Small Scale Industrial Association (FSSIA)
- Okhla Garment Textile Cluster (OGTC)

EVENTS

The Green Gala: An evening to enliven our Environment

“The Green Gala” organised at Epicenter by Advit Foundation successfully reminded people about the beauty of nature. It created an increased awareness of a carbon neutral lifestyle among the NCR populace. Most events focus on the problems that we face. One has to cherish nature to realize the need to conserve it. With this belief, Advit Foundation organized “The Green Gala”.

Advit Foundation launched its initiative to educate citizens to take care of their local travel and ‘Be Carbon Neutral’. Children and adults gained hands on experience on how to test water and air for pollution. Something that they had always been hearing about, but never knew was so easy to test. Mr Niranjana Khatri, General Manager, ITC Welcom Environ Initiatives, addressed the audience on the need to conserve water and make green buildings. The documentary on the energy friendly Sehgal Foundation center served to remind the property developers, how green yet state of the art buildings can be made. Lively music on appreciating nature, a beautiful and serene animation “Happy Planet” was a refreshing reminder on the beauty of nature. Children from Shikshantar under the direction of Hemant of Ekam Satyam performed a musical audio-visual journey “Prithvi Ki Gaatha”. “An excellent learning tool, it is a must watch for the teachers and the taught”, says Hemant, Founder of Creative Heads. Budding theatre artists from Swakriti presented a skit questioning the importance given to plants and trees today – is it just for beauty and aesthetics?

Also present on the occasion were several green architects – Mr Ashok Lall, Panelist, Delhi Urban Arts Commission, Sanjay Prakash – Green Building Expert, Mrs Minoti Bahri – Chairperson Shikshantar – A Unitech School for learning, Alka Tomar – Director CMS Vatavaran. Two films – Happy Planet directed by Dhimant Vyas and Concert for India’s environment, produced and directed by Chinmaya Dunster served to inform as well as inspire the audience by instilling in them a sense of pride for nature. All in all, the event was a pleasant and welcome departure from most environment events, which focus on the problems alone. The evening generated amongst the audience a sense of admiration for nature.

THE TEAM

Charu Jain, Director, has been with the development sector since 1995 and set up this Foundation in 2004.

Samit Jain, holds a Masters degree in IT from Hawaii University, USA. Is the organizations Networking Controller

Sameer Gora, Financial Controller, holds a degree in finance and accounting

Vinay Kumar, Project Coordinator

Sapna Manhas. Education Coordinator

Sunneta Kr. , Education Coordinator

Archana, , Education Coordinator

Basudev, Field Coordinator

ADVISORY BOARD

Sanjay Dube, Senior Programme Manager ICF International

Thilotham Kolanu, Director Green Stratos, International advisor to ADB on Renewable Energy

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