

WEAVING THE THREADS TOGETHER PROTECT ENVIRONMENT, PROTECT LIVELIHOOD

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019



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OUR WORK

Advit Foundation is a not for profit development organization, working on Conservation of Environment Resources and Livelihood Enhancement. Advit has sought to conserve environment and empower communities on how people can manage behaviour and ecosystems to live sustainably.

Energy Centre

- Solar & biogas promotion
- Resource efficiency in industries
- Solar electrical vocational training



Water Centre

- Watershed development
- Sustainable village development
- Skill upgradation & income enhancement
- Roof top water harvesting



Aarohan: Advit's Rural Self Employment Training Centre

- Skill training and entrepreneurship development
- Women empowerment
- Rural tourism



Eco Initiatives

- Environmental education
- Tree plantation and green space development
- Under-privilleged school upgradation
- Community development initiatives in peri-urban areas



Centre for Learning

- Occupational health & safety training
- Safe chemical handling training
- Project baseline and impact assessment studies
- Awareness sessions on workplace harassment



Impact

13+ years

2,50,000+ rural lives transformed 25,000+ industrial workers trained 2500+ tribal households electrified on solar 3 lac+ cu. m. water storage capacity created 6 states
Haryana
Rajasthan
Maharashtra
Telangana
Karnataka
Andhra Pradesh

We undertake long term grant-based programmes and work with communities —and within these, aim to make the villages liveable with better access to resources and improve livelihood by imparting skills and introducing new technology for income enhancement. We will impact one million community members by implementing programmes. Advit will work towards these goals to ensure that both environment and livelihood positively impact each other and thrive together.

OUR PURPOSE

We strive to protect environment and improve health and wellbeing. We believe that Conservation of environment resources leads to improved livelihood conditions.





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FUTURE PLAN



Starting 2020, Advit Foundation will intensify long-term grant-based programmes across 6 states and reach out to more than 50 villages each to:

- 1. Work with **ONE lakh community members in each state**, and within these, aim to impact women and empower them with their role in
- 2. Build resilience capacity to adapt to climate change through information sharing and new skills
- 3. Develop innovative pilots through setting up value chains and sustainable replication of programmes



OUR APPROACH

Advit operates through the following programme areas.

Conservation

The water conservation initiative ensures water availability for drinking, sanitation, agriculture and livestock. As the water scenario improves in the region, the scope and the need for other development activities emerge. The success indicators measured are developed degraded lands, overall socio-economic development of the poor, mitigating drought conditions, employment generation and poverty alleviation.

Environment

The programme is a strategic intervention to address some of the key issues in India's renewable energy development plans which stresses upon promotion of renewable energy/ clean energy and development of associated service delivery mechanisms in the country. The program will enable a strong, diverse, and well trained solar workforce. This program ensures that solar instructors are well connected to solar employers, and vocational and engineering students are trained to help increase solar adoption and improve solar installation.

Livelihood

New skills are introduced and existing ones are upgraded among the community. Advit team closely works on skill upgradation for climate change adaptation with communities as well as farm-based livelihood organisations. In a country like India where poverty, lack of nutrients, post-harvest losses, and gender inequality still prevails in the agricultural sector, it is important to address the issues with a promising approach and technology to create an economically aligned community.

Empowerment

Environment awareness, action and occupational safety programmes among school children, community members and industrial shop floor workers are undertaken under this initiative. The efforts are to enhance knowledge on how natural environments function, and particularly, how human beings can manage behavior and ecosystems to live sustainably. The programme also designs and undertakes planning and impact assessment of development projects.

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GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE



MESSAGE FROM THE TRUSTEE



ADVISOR Trustee, Advit Foundation

Dear friends,

Advit Foundation, under the able guidance of Charu, has left its distinct mark on the domains of environmental preservation, water conservation, as well as promotion of energy efficiency and renewable energy. Creating livelihoods for women and marginalised communities especially those dwelling in remote and inaccessible rural areas has been central focus of its work. Pursuit of such sustainable solutions by the Foundation is enabled by professionals who share its vision and are translating the same into reality through their dedication and hard work.

The fact that several sustainable initiatives undertaken by Advit continue to be operational on the ground for over a decade stands testament to its conviction and commitment. It is in this light that I heartily congratulate Advit Foundation and wish it best of luck in all the endeavours pursued by it in the years to come.

Best wishes,

Thilotham Kolanu

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGING TRUSTEE



Director and Managing Trustee, **Advit Foundation**

Dear Colleagues,

It gives me immense pleasure to present the Advit Annual Report 2018-19. The various development changes that we have seen over the years continue to encourage us to go that extra mile.

Overpopulation is unarguably the most serious environmental problem because it exacerbates all of the others. Planet Earth is a closed system with limited resources—only so much fresh water and clean air and only so many acres of land for growing food. As the world population grows, our finite resources must stretch to serve more and more people. At some point, that will no longer be possible. Ultimately, we need to reverse this growth trend by gradually bringing the human population of our planet back down to a more manageable size and reducing the amount of resources each one of us consume.

Fresh, clean water is essential to life—no one can live long without it—yet it is one of the scarcest and most endangered resources. With all the rainfall we are still not able to catch it to fulfil our requirement making it a scare commodity. Our natural environment is our most precious inheritance. Our goals are simple: ensure water availability for drinking, agriculture, livestock and sanitation which would ensure both environment and people thrive. We have already taken huge strides to improve environment, from creating

more than 2,50,000 cu m rain water storage capacity, skilling more than 5,000 youth on solar with special focus on women and farmers on new skills and clean energy in the last 10 years. These initiatives set out the further action we will take.

We will continue our work with the marginalised and vulnerable sections of society and are committed to protecting environment, people and their wellbeing. Through our various programmes and initiatives we focus on water centred development of community.

During this year, we were able to create water structures with about 15,000 cu m rain water storage capacity benefitting more than 5,000 community members of the neighbourhood. More than 5,000 youth and women were skilled on clean technology and through setting up solar and other RE installations. This could enable with estimated 21 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent emission reduction annually. We scaled our programme to Karnataka and Kerala states in the Southern part of India expanding our efforts to empower communities and adapt to climate disasters. We were able to work with 150 handloom weavers and help them resume work after destruction by floods.

We measure our effectiveness by social and economic empowerment of the community at our project sites. We have seen heartening shifts in behaviour towards natural resources that has led to entrepreneurship and bringing about a change. Recognising these contributions, our work was covered in the Government of India document on Doubling Farmer's incomes - Vol VI, section 1.6.7. (http://farmer.gov.in/imagedefault/DFI/DFI%20Volume%206.pdf). None of this would have been possible without the determined efforts of the Advit team. I take this opportunity to thank them for going that extra mile every day. We are also immensely grateful for the guidance of our advisors who help us connect with more partners and recognition of our work.

As always, our partners remain the keystone for all our successes. I would express my honest gratefulness to all those who have come together to work with Advit towards our goals. I would also like to acknowledge the incredible support we have received from the Government, individual donors and corporate donors and thank them for their continued support.

We look forward to another year of working towards protecting environment.

Sincerely,

Charu Jain

APPROACH





CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

Water Conservation Project – Kolar district, Karnataka

Project Achievement

- Rain water storage capacity of 15,500 cu.m has been created from 2 structures spread over 2 villages.
- Direct beneficiaries are around 1800 people. Indirect beneficiaries are around 7000 since the nearby 4 villages are also impacted.

Village	Storage capacity(cu.m)	Total area under agriculture(hectare)	Village beneficiaries	Households
Kunibande	9000	120	510	86
Kadripura	6500	45	1343	292

- Improved water availability for drinking, sanitation, agriculture and livestock.
- Increase in green cover due to improved soil moisture.

PROJECT IMPACT

The two water structures will impact a population of 1800 directly living around the structures in 2 villages and around 7,000 indirectly. Since the structures are percolation tanks, water stored in the structures will get recharged into the ground within few weeks of the rains, in the first year. Because of silt accumulation, stagnation of water can be observed in the subsequent years. It is envisaged that water will remain stored in the structure all through the year; thereby ensuring water availability for drinking, livestock, agriculture and sanitation.

Storage capacity: The combined storage capacity is 15,500 cu.m. 2,40,00,000 Litres of water will get recharged in the first year. 1,80,00,000 Litres and 1,20,00,000 Litres of water will get recharged in the second and third year respectively.

Impact on cropping pattern: The water retention in the ponds will bring about increased soil moisture when the rain water gets stored. This would in turn improve the crop quality and quantity. However, the challenge would be not to increase the number of crops instead look at the kinds of crops that are being sown to ensure that water does not get depleted. Additionally, there will be an increase in green cover due to the improved soil condition which could improve the rainfall in subsequent years.

Community empowerment: Community groups in each of the villages have been trained to maintain these structures. In case of any upcoming government schemes, the groups will be able to avail grants to meet the cost of maintenance of these structures from these schemes in due course of time.

Recharge of bore wells and open wells: In village Kunibande,70% of bore wells were defunct and in village Kadripura 50% of bore wells had either failed or become defunct. Discussions with the villagers have revealed that borewells and open wells in the vicinity have been recharged because of the structure. Around 30 bore wells within 100m radius of the structures will get recharged in the first year and bore wells within 200m radius in the subsequent year will get recharged. This will ensure defunct bore wells to become functional and also availability of water throughout the year.

Impact on agriculture: The excavated soil was dispersed in almost 20 hectares of non-cultivable land and 30 hectares of less fertile agricultural lands. The non-cultivable land has become cultivable after the monsoon rains. 80% of the agricultural lands in both the villages are cultivated only during rainfall once a year because of lack of water in bore wells. Finger millet and ground nut is widely grown in rain fed fields and rice, vegetables and greens are grown in fields cultivated with bore wells. Increase in soil moisture and increase in water level in bore wells will increase the productivity in the area. The livestock population will also increase because of water availability throughout the year.



ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVE

PROJECT JAL JEEVAN AAROHAN PHASE III, PHAGI, RAJASTHAN

The project aimed at bringing about a socio-economic improvement of rural communities by bringing in a paradigm shift in the usage of renewable energy systems and designing of energy efficient pottery kilns. More than 3000 beneficiaries have been impacted through the activities of this project. The project achievements are as follows:

- 1. 21 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent emission reduction annually
 - a. Through set up of renewable energy systems
 - b. Through energy efficient design of existing systems
- 2. Set up of 15 Solar street lights in the three identified villages (5 each)
 - a. Promotion of renewable energy
 - b. Illumination of village roads promotes safety during the night, particularly women and children
 - c. Promotion of entrepreneurship through use of local resources and contractors
- 3. Set up of 3 standalone Solar mobile charging station in the three villages (1 each)
 - a. Promotion of renewable energy
 - b. Entrepreneurship development
 - c. Improving access to energy
- 4. Set up of 6 Bio-gas systems in the three villages (2 each)
 - a. Demonstration of clean energy for cooking
 - b. Improvement in health due to reduced emissions
- 5. Design and construction of 3 improvised pottery kiln in the three villages (1 each)
 - a. Demonstration of energy efficiency
 - b. Promotion of entrepreneurship through training of local manpower
- 6. Empowered community by training them on:
 - a. Design and construction of improvised pottery kiln
 - b. Setup, usage and maintenance of solar street lights and mobile charging stations
 - c. Setup, usage and maintenance of biogas systems

"I use bio-gas for cooking and I save money, since I buy less LPG now."

BANSI

Village: Kiratpura, Phagi













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LIVELIHOOD ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

PARUVOOR HANDLOOM WEAVERS, KERALA

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Reviving handlooms for livelihood enhancement of weaver community in Paruvoor, Ernakulam district, Kerala



PROJECT NAME:

Reviving handlooms for the livelihood enhancement of the weaving community of Paruvoor handloom weavers co-operative – No 3428

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

Repair of looms to ensure that the community is able to adapt to the natural disaster

FOCUS SECTOR:

Livelihood enhancement

BACKGROUND

Chendamangalam is a historical place near the ancient port of Muziriz, and had a small population of Jews until recently. There are synangogues and the place is part of the famous Kochi Biennale.

The suburb of Kochi city was inundated with flood waters from the Periyar River and submerged for nearly three days.

There are five societies in Paruvoor taluk of which three were completely damaged while two were partially affected. This project looked at revising the Paruvoor Handloom Weavers Co-operative – No:3428

Kerala handloom products have roots in specific locales. Each such center of weaving has its signature characteristic that gives each of them a stamp of uniqueness.

PROJECT IMPACT

The handloom weavers have begun production. The first sale after the floods was organized and was inaugurated by the State Minister. The glimpses can be seen below.



പോപ്രളയത്തിനു ശേഷം 6 തൊഴിൽ മേഖല കേന്ദ്രീകരിച്ച് പുനരുദ്ധാരണ പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾക്ക് ശേഷം ഉൽപ്പാദിപ്പിച്ച ഉൽപ്പന്നങ്ങളുടെ എക്സിബിഷൻ തിരുവനത്തപുരത വിമൻസ് കോളേജ് അസംബ്ലി ഹാളിൽ ന്ന്നുമ ഗ്രൂക്രോഗ്യ വകുപ്പ് മന്ത്രി കെ.കെ.ഫൈലജ ടീച്ചർ പറവൂർ 3428 ന്റെ കൈത്തറി സ്റ്റാൾ ഉൽഘടനം നിർവ്വഹിക്കുന്നു . സ്റ്റേറ്റ് പ്ലാനിംഗ് ംഘടിപ്പിച്ചത്















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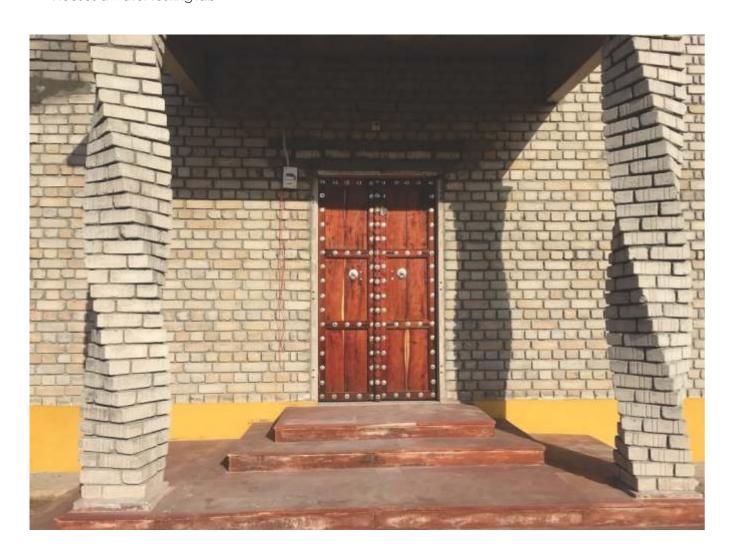
ADVIT'S RURAL SELF-EMPLOYMENT TRAINING CENTRE, PHAGI, JAIPUR.

Aarohan, has been set up to mitigate the unemployment and under-employment problems among the rural youth in the country. The trainings and skill upgradation programmes at Aarohan are geared towards entrepreneurship development.

The objective of this centre is to generate self-employment in rural areas through demonstration and capacity building on new skills for income enhancement.

SALIENT FEATURES OF THE BUILDING:

- Spread on a 3,000 sq yard area
- Energy efficient building direction, design, construction material (is a naturally air cooled building)
- A net zero building no steel/iron in the building structure, use of fly ash bricks for construction
- Revival of local architecture
- Water sufficient recharges all rainwater for annual use
- Equipped with renewable energy source solar street lights, solar mobile charging unit, solar water pump, biogas for cooking
- Houses a water testing lab



ACTIVITIES FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENT & LIVELIHOOD

WATER CONSERVATION

• Rain water recharge to ensure availability for agriculture, sanitation, livestock and drinking

ACCESS TO ENERGY

- Improved design of cook stoves
- Improved cooking fuel-briquettes, biogas
- Set up of solar cookers
- Use of solar thermal dryers for food processing

FORESTS

- Each household to plant 4 trees
- Set up value chains of food produce
- Set up plant nurseries

TRAININGS ON RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS

• Renewable energy based trainings for rural entrepreneurship – solar lights, solar mobile charging units, biogas systems, solar pumps, Aagun dryers

WOMEN AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- Solar dryers (set up for processing agri-produce tomatoes, amla, moringa leaves, potatoes, banana, fish, coconut, spice drying)
- Upgrade existing skills along with introducing new skills improved potters kiln, cook stoves with chimney, utilising agriculture waste to make new products, stitching/tailoring centre, spice grinding & packaging

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PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS 2018-19

This project aimed at environment conservation and socio-economic enhancement of the rural community through skill training and entrepreneurship development in Phagi block of Jaipur district in Rajasthan. There have been more than 2,000 beneficiaries including women, youth and tribal communities.

A number of trainings are ongoing at Aarohan. These include -

- Trainings on solar mobile charging station, biogas technology and solar street lighting in 3 villages of Phagi block.
- Trained the local communities on block printing and cloth bag making, spice grinding and packing. About 40 women and 5 youth are engaged in this activity.
- Sessions on financial awareness (proper usage of cards and cashless transactions) were also conducted.













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EMPOWERMENT



Under the "Prakriti Eco School Programme" initiative, Advit Foundation has been working with under resourced government schools on assessment and action for conservation of environment resources and livelihood enhancement since 2015. The initiatives aim to address the educational, environmental, cultural and personal needs of children.

The project achievements of 2018-19 have been as follows:

More than 15 primary school children were mobilized this year towards hands on experience on environment and resource conservation.

Achievement:

- Plantation of 100 trees in this initiative have created the potential to reduce the carbon footprint by around 100 tons of CO₂ annually
- Vegetable gardens created in the schools educated the children on the importance of growing your own food
- The activities have helped the school in reducing dropouts and encouraged more children to join school
- Improved the interiors of Government Primary School Sushant Lok I by undertaking repair and painting work benefitting around 80 children
- Promoted better sanitation and hygienic practices among the students by set up of a separate toilet block benefitting around 80 children
- Improved access to clean and cool drinking water in two schools Government Primary School Sushant Lok I and Government Primary School DLF Phase IV, impacting around 200 children



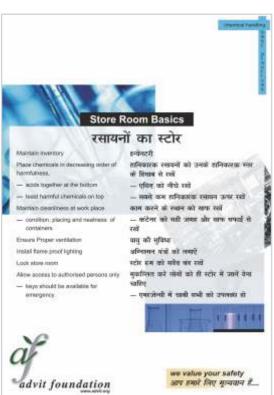




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TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR INDUSTRY

The programme focuses on safe chemical handling training for industry workers. This enables them to acquire new knowledge and develop new skills that they can perform on the job. The safe chemical trainings pull together 4 basic steps to safe use and disposal – buying, storing, use and disposal.







Scope of the Project

The training involves imparting of safe chemical handling practices and expects to ensure that the supplier is able to meet the requirements and comply with the guidelines of the procurer. The objectives are:

- To promote safe chemical handling practices in an industry
- To impart training on safe solutions for handling chemicals among the target groups

Target Group

The target group for the training are all those working with chemicals - shop floor workers, store in-charge, house keeping staff and management staff responsible for buying and disposal of chemicals

Timeline

The overall duration of the training at a given factory is 3 hours including half hour break for a factory round along with the trainees.

Content of training

- An introduction to chemicals
- Buying chemicals includes information on buyers responsibility towards their workers, good and bad practices, importance of labeling
- Chemical Store where and how to store, good and bad practices
- Safe chemical handling safety rules, how they effect, precautions to take, the right personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Chemical and health impact on health, route to exposure, importance of PPE
- Safe disposal why dispose safely, how to dispose, precautions to be taken
- Legal Framework

Achievement for the year 2018 - 19:

- Safe chemical handling trainings were conducted in apparel and metal finishing industry
- 300 shop floor workers trained in apparel industry
- Mock drills on chemical spillage were conducted in apparel industry



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ADVIT IN NEWS

The Economic Times Title: Voila, Water! Author: KP Narayana Kumar Location: Article Date: 09/13/2015

Voila, Water! Using the simplest water conservation methods, a clutch of villages in parched Jaipur have become water-sufficient







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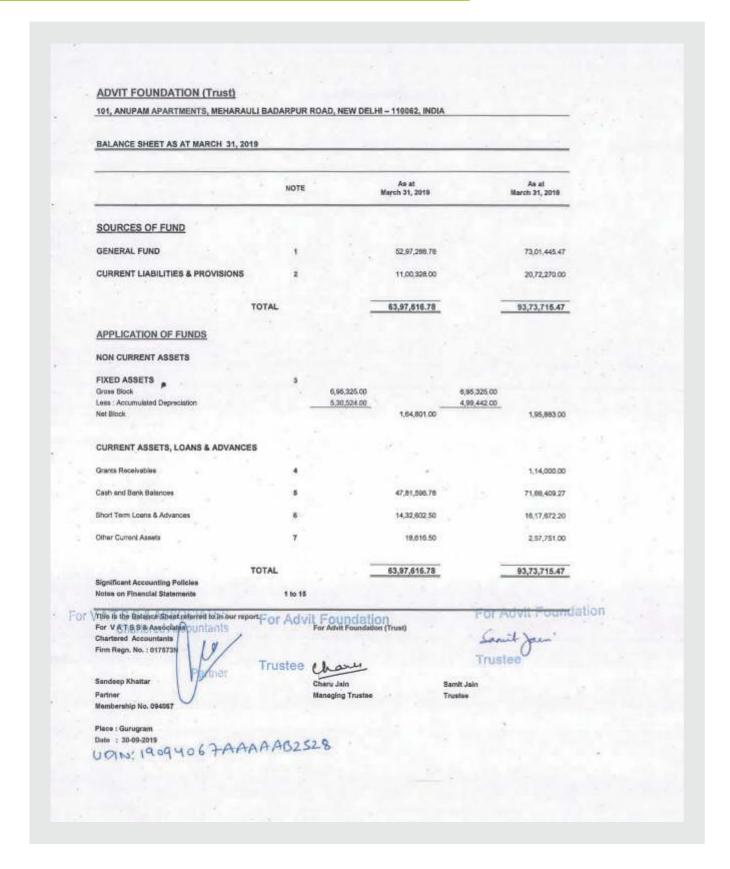


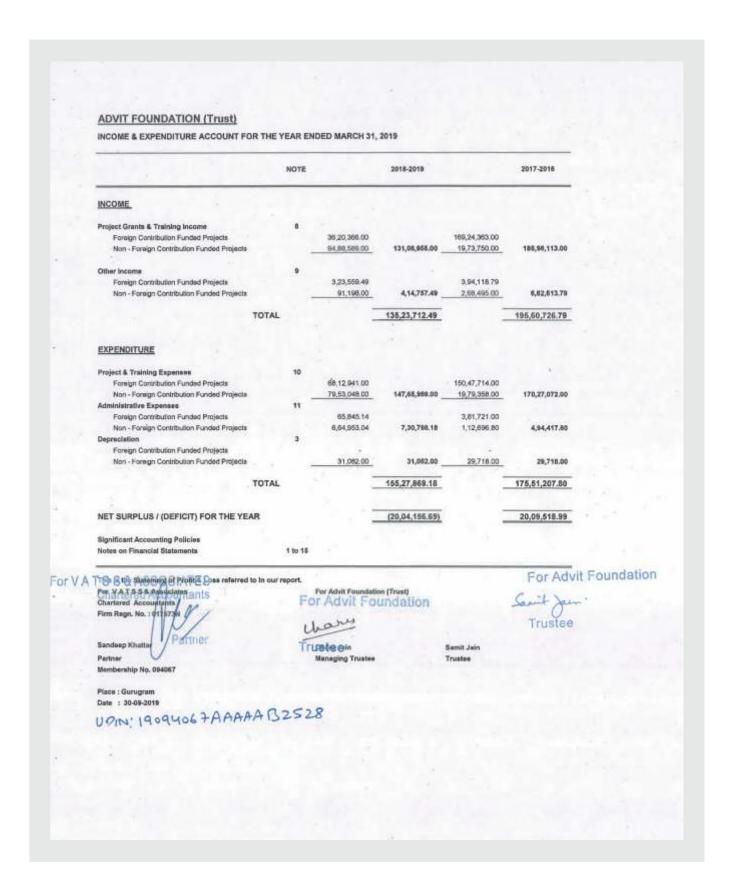
The Set-up...

...and the Results

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BALANCE SHEET





OUR TEAM

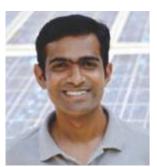
Core Team



Charu Jain Business Development



C. Chandrasekaran Operations



A. Prakash Kumar Trainings



Tanmay Kumar Dey Administration



Preeti Monga

Field Team

Shahnawaz

Finance



Prahlad Singh



Jitendra Singh

Mentors/Advisors



Niranjan Khatri General Manager, (retired) Welcomenviron Initiatives, ITC WelcomGroup



Samit Jain Managing Director, Pluss Advanced Technologies Pvt. Ltd.



Thilotham R. Kolanu Director, Greenstratos Consulting



Sanjay Prakash Architect and Eco-Designer, Sanjay Prakash Associates



Dr. S. Chandrasekaran Senior Partner, CACS India



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