

The background of the page features a light blue gradient. In the lower half, there are dark silhouettes of palm trees and a landscape, including what appears to be a road or path leading towards the trees. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

PWDS

Annual Report 2007



Palmyrah Workers Development Society

2007

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Before 30 Years

A morning in the winter days of December at Cheruvarakkonam in Parasala, bordering the States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. A young protestant priest was preparing himself for the Holy Eucharist. Buttoning up the cassock, he peeped through the window panes of his room.

While standing close to the window, appreciating the beauty of nature in one of its rare moments, he saw three men rushing towards the vestry. Partially clad in loin clothes, they stopped just in front of the door and called Achho (father). The priest went up to them; he looked at their eyes and understood the meaning of Achho. After a pause, he uttered only a single word: "Aara" ? (Who?) "Chellan", came the reply in chorus. The priest went in and settled in his arm chair. The group left walking slowly. For the next few seconds, things flashed through the mind of the priest. He thought about the ramifications of the news the group brought to him; yes, the things that are going to be followed after the fall. The fall of a palmyrah tapper.

The priest in his latter twenties was Samuel Amirtham, the pastor in the CSI church of Parasala parish. It was of course, shocking news to the young Amirtham, but not for the first time. More often than not, the news ends on a sad note of a tragic death. People hardly survive a fall of 50–60 feet. Else, if he is not killed from the fall, he would be bedridden for the rest of his life. Amirtham gets ready to accompany the body of the deceased to the distant government hospital, about 40 km away, for a postmortem. Some times it may take two days to get the body back, cleared after medical examination and certification.

The remains are finally retrieved. Now, how to find money for the funeral? A poor tapper's family, normally, will not have the means to perform the last rites for the person who has been their sole support. For the family this comes as the second shock after the death. As a pastor, every time for Amirtham, it is a mixed experience of agony, misery, and helplessness. On one hand the family has to be consoled. On the other hand one has to find money for the funeral. Things do not, how ever, end there. The family has to survive without the tapper.

Along with this Amirtham was saddened by the prevailing social conditions of the tappers. The tappers were a harassed lot by the police; and were exploited by the traders, too. More and more he felt it exigent that something should be done for this community in order to prevent the worsening of their living conditions. This conviction and compassion for the suffering people continued to grow stronger and stronger in him.

In 1977, the formation of Palmyrah workers Development Society, had its origin in this compassion and conviction, and the organisation emerged as an expression of this social commitment.

Beyond 30 Years

PWDS was founded in 1977 to work for the socio-economic development of palmyrah workers and their families in Kanyakumari district. It was an expression of the social commitment of a few like-minded friends, under the leadership of Dr. Samuel Amirtham. At that time, palmyrah workers and their families were the focal community, Kanyakumari was the geographical limit, and community organisation and economic enabling were the key strategic objectives.

In 2007, after 30 years of development services, PWDS works in 29 districts of Tamilnadu through 54 partner NGOs with 64 projects. PWDS is instrumental in promoting and coordinating four programme networks as collective forms of cooperation (CFC). PWDS has also promoted 12 support organisations to meet community needs through collaboration or partnership with government, private sector, or development organisations.

In over three decades of development efforts, reaching out to thousands of villages and impacting on many communities with wider spheres of activities, PWDS programmes have transcended geographical barriers and traditional frontiers. Over the years, PWDS has been instrumental and inspirational in initiating many innovative interventions as responses to community needs.

There are thousands of community based organisations (CBOs) promoted by PWDS and its programme partners, which include village level community organisations, self-help groups, enterprise groups, registered federations, production units, service centres, support groups for people affected by HIV/AIDS, disaster task groups, and other community support structures. In this process, around Rs. 22 crores is mobilised annually to reach around five lakh families.

The development approach, called **MEALS**, includes the following steps: **M**otivate **E**quip, **A**ccompany, **L**ink, and **S**ustain.

■ CURRENTLY PWDS:

- Implements community development projects
- Builds and works with community-based organisations
- Initiates and partners with support service institutions
- Promotes and coordinates programme networks with NGO partners

■ PWDS INTERVENTIONS AIM AT EMPOWERING THE COMMUNITY BY:

- Promoting people's organisations
- Generating community awareness
- Building community competencies
- Linking with mainstream services and resources
- Influencing policies for sustaining

■ PWDS WORKS WITH THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITIES:

- Palmyrah workers
- Rural artisans
- Women
- Children
- Dalits
- Marginal farmers
- People living with HIV/AIDS
- Adivasi – Tribal communities

■ PWDS WORKS IN THE FOLLOWING SECTORS:

- Agriculture
- Micro finance
- Enterprise
- Market – Fair Trade
- Shelter – Construction Technology
- Child care and education
- Community health
- HIV/AIDS

PWDS believes that promoting and strengthening community organisations is the first step in empowering weaker sections of people and enabling them towards self-governance and sustainability. This social organisation process has been further strengthened and sustained by introducing various socio-economic programme interventions with the total participation of the community.

The various projects of PWDS focus on different communities and sectors and are implemented with support from different development donor agencies.

PWDS has created space within the project frame for the emergence of support service organisations (SOs), in partnership with mainstream public and private sectors, to offer sustained services in microfinance, marketing, construction technology, community health, childcare and education, family counselling, sustainable agriculture, and capacity building.

PWDS believes in collective functioning like collaborations, partnerships, and network alliances as an effective approach for synergising development

interventions and impacts. Convergence on common areas of interest, and collaborations on shared objectives were found to be the best ways to build networks and collective functioning.

Over the years, the growth and expansion of PWDS was through partnering with other NGOs. As a partner expressed, "PWDS germinated through its partners." Through this option of expansion, PWDS retained the advantage of being small and at the same time achieved the power of becoming a big organisation. This partnership approach also helped to strengthen a constituency of capable and credible NGOs in Tamil Nadu.

Along with community organisations, PWDS promoted support organisations, implemented field projects, and formed networks. In doing so, it functions more like a collective rather than a single organisation. There is a defined coordination mechanism between these units of PWDS and clarified roles and responsibilities for each player.

The governance of PWDS and the coordination mechanisms for management are being developed and strengthened keeping in mind decentralisation with autonomy and identity for different projects and programmes. In this process, PWDS develops value-based management systems and practices that ensure effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability.

Currently, PWDS is involved in a reflection process to review the past and also plan for the future to retain relevance as a development service provider to partners and constituent communities.

This process to plan the way forward aims to review and rebuild or refine the organisational structure, governance, development perspective, resource mobilisation, project management, and the roles and responsibilities. The real effort would be how to change to retain relevance, yet keeping the core values unchanged.

The participatory process, already initiated during this year, is guided by the following questions:

What lies beyond 30 years? From here to where? And how?

PWDS, Paving Ways for Development Services.

September 2007

Reji Chandra
Director

PWDS 2007

- **ARTS (ACTION FOR RURAL TRANSFORMATION AND SELF-RELIANCE)**, the field level community development project covers palmyrah workers, dalit families, and other poor rural women and children in Kanyakumari and Thiruvananthapuram districts.

The community, organised into village level groups, involve themselves in larger social issues and also participate in developing infrastructure and common facilities in the villages. The workers are helped to enroll themselves as members in welfare boards/ programmes of the government.

ARTS works in 693 villages with 1,152 CBOs (Tapper Mantrams–101, Grama Mantrams–74, Magalir Mantrams–68, Senior Citizen Groups–2, Self-Help Groups–907) with a membership of 24,042 families in Kanyakumari District and Neyyattinkara taluk in Thiruvananthapuram district.

ARTS reaches all the 81 revenue villages and four municipalities—in nine blocks and four taluks of Kanyakumari district and Neyyattinkara Taluk in Thiruvananthapuram district.

There are 53 community support structures promoted under Reconstruction of Livelihood project.

- **COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATIONS**

PWDS believes that promoting and strengthening community organisations is the first step to empower the weaker sections of people and enable them towards self-management and sustainability. From the initial years, PWDS has been enabling the community to organise themselves as village level local associations called mantrams. There are mantrams of palmyrah workers, women, and 'grama mantrams' in which both men and women are members. Another means of community organisation is through self help groups (SHGs). SHG members are trained in group management, accounts, and sensitised on social issues. The self-help group concept operates with a community-managed savings and credit scheme, the economic activity around which the groups are mobilised.

The social organisation process has been further strengthened and sustained by introducing various socio-economic programme interventions with the total participation of the community. These activities were identified from the needs that emerged in the mobilisation process. The major programme activities include a variety of educational and development activities such as childcare and education, skill training, community health, housing, product development, income generation, marketing support, and

resource mobilisation. The community based HIV/AIDS care and support programme, started in 1999, also believes in community mobilisation and organisation. Support groups with different membership criteria are promoted and strengthened as part of the programme.

- Tapper Mantrams: 101
- Grama Mantrams: 74
- Mahalir Mantrams: 68
- Mamantrams: 16
- Men Self-help Groups: 42
- Senior Citizen Groups: 2
- Registered Peravai: 1
- SHGs: 907
- Income Generation units: 140
- Medical Camps: 30
- Women contested in Local Body Elections: 44
- Women elected: 11

Key issues taken up by communities:

- Cluster level awareness meetings on global warming
- 33 percent reservation for women
- Water conservation
- Campaign against genetically modified seeds
- Child education and school enrolment
- Proposals to support senior citizens
- Health issues
- Village services and infrastructures

■ ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOOD PROJECT (ALP)

Supported by UNDP-ILO

The project aims at income generation through entrepreneur development programmes (EDP) in different trades as alternatives for fishing and sea - based industries in tsunami-hit areas. The key activities include motivation and identification of trades, tie-ups with professional trainers and training providers, training, placements or self-employment support, and follow up.

- Idea generation meetings: 16
- Selection of trainees: 300
- Training proposals: 15

■ RECONSTRUCTION OF LIVELIHOOD

Reconstruction of livelihood was initiated in September 2005, in the coastal districts of Kanyakumari. Relief initiatives adequately covered the fisher community in the district and rehabilitation programmes of both government and non-government agencies reached them. The interventions did not reach the other communities living next to the shore, but who lived on non-fishing jobs. This project focused on such non-fisher communities who were dependent on livelihood activities that are close to the sea and fishing.

A total of 1263 families were identified under this category. Communities were helped to renovate damaged infrastructure and to repair equipment. Women were trained in sea shell craft and value added coir products. Common facility centres were established for seashell products and coir products. Introduction of mechanised coir making increased production, and reduced the drudgery and hardship involved in manual processing.

Children were organised through delight and recreation clubs. "Friends of Children" were identified and trained to address concerns related to children. Health camps, coaching classes and parent teachers associations (PTAs) were organised. Trained barefoot counsellors provided psycho-social support to those in need. Family get togethers and sharing meetings were organised. Communities were sensitised on medical insurance schemes.

Task forces on disaster preparedness and management have been formed, which also began to address social issues. Resource mapping has been carried out in four villages and information boards have been placed in three villages.

- Skill Trainings: 97
- Educational support: 1137
- Child Delight Clubs: 21
- Health Care Services: 974
- Preventive Measures: 459
- Counselling Centres: 4
- Barefoot Counsellors: 30
- Disaster Task Force: 11

■ CAPACITY BUILDING – SHELTER

Supported by UNDP-Shelter

The programme aimed at promoting cost effective and disaster resistant construction technology to build houses.

The key activities include mason training (both men and women) and training helper masons, contractors, and engineers.

Construction of Technology Demonstration Units (TDU) at selected Tsunami-hit spots – one in Ganapathipuram, Kanyakumari district; and another in Thisayanvilai, Tirunelveli district.

TRAINED TO BUILD DISASTER PROOF HOUSES

A young construction worker is focused on his work, laying one brick after the other, applying a particular technique. "This technique is used to make buildings "stronger", explains supervisor Godwin Moses, coordinator of Habitat Resource Centre, the technology centre promoted by Palmyrah Workers Development Society (PWDS) in Kanyakumari district. During four weeks in June 2007, a special training was held in this centre for young construction workers; They learned how to construct new houses and retrofit existing non-engineered buildings in such a way that they can resist future disasters.

In Kanyakumari, the southern most district of Tamil Nadu, UNDP partners with PWDS to impart training for construction workers on disaster resistant and retrofitting techniques. A four-week training programme on disaster resistant construction practices for construction workers was conducted with the purpose of upgrading their skill to become masons. PWDS conducted the training programme with support from UNDP.

The trainees also learned various construction methods on "foundation laying" using brick and stone, concreting and roof laying. During the process of "hands-on" training on various parts of the building, they constructed a prototype disaster resistant house in the residential campus of PWDS, which shall be used as an office space or a storage room. In addition, the trainees also upgraded their skill while building different temporary wall and roofing structures.

The UNDP Shelter team visited PWDS housing programmes. PWDS shelter programme was short listed as a finalist for the World Habitat Award by UNCHS and BSHF in 2006.

■ DISASTER, HIV/AIDS & SRH

Programme of TNVHA along with District Resource Centre

The objective was to build the capacity of the NGO staff and community based organisations (CBOs) in the Tsunami affected areas

The key activities included: Capacity building programme for SHGs / youth / community leaders on disaster management, RCH, RTI, STI, HIV/AIDS

■ COMMUNITY HEALTH-VILLAGE HEALTH REPRESENTATIVES (VHRS)

Poor health conditions in rural areas and especially among the palmyrah worker families; the poor health seeking behaviour among rural people; myths and misconceptions on health and hygiene; and the lack of health care services in rural areas, especially for women, led to a community health intervention. Preventive aspects, awareness programmes on health and hygiene, health camps, promoting nutritious food habits, availing government health services, promoting health insurance models, training selected rural women as community health workers to work in their villages were some of the responses.

Potential village women were identified and trained as Village Health Representatives to take care of the basic village health needs and for referral services for people in need. They also assist the community to avail government health care services. Some of the basic medicines are made available in villages where there are no medical shops. People pay for the medicines. This capacity building helps to sustain as most of these initiatives are taken over by the community organisations at the village level.

- No. of VHRs : 112
- Reach : 60,557
- Specific medical camps: 37
- General medical camps : 34
- Ante natal care : 2,205
- Family planning (PM) : 416
- ANC assistance : 1,185

■ PALMA WOMEN DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES (PWDI)

Supported by Friends of South India – R+D Switzerland

PWDI works for the socio-economic empowerment of the rural poor, destitute and other vulnerable women.

The interventions include:

- Support for income generation and marketing
- Training in allied trades like embroidery and tailoring
- Awareness generation in legal, human rights, and social justice issues
- Cultural programmes
- Production support for Rexene bags and garments
- Retail outlet: 1
- Customers: 267

■ DALIT WOMEN EDUCATION AND EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME (DWEEP)

The 72 dalit SHGs formed as part of the DWEEP programme were linked with the Palma SHG Federation as five cluster level federations consisting of ten to fifteen SHGs in each cluster. The groups are proactive in all activities of the federation and took a lead role in organising a mass rally and public meetings for awareness of women's reservation rights during this year.

■ COMMUNITY TRUST FOR PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION (CTPE)

The pre-school centres were handed over to the community. Currently 38 centres function independently. The pre-school teachers are involved in the formation of SHGs, and related community work. In some areas they work as the village health representatives.

The self-help groups play an active role in managing the pre-school centre in their area. Mothers meetings are regularly conducted and child care issues discussed. Campaigns for school enrolment are organised to eliminate child labour and encourage child education.

■ PALMA GARDENS

Palma Gardens, the Training and Retreat Centre, is situated in a rural setting with facilities at affordable cost for training programmes. In addition to the PWDS programmes, many NGOs and other institutions utilise the facilities. Palma Gardens also gets visitors from India and other countries who are either scholars or tourists.

- Organisations: 16
- Trainings/ Meetings: 78
- Days occupied: 111
- Participants: 7,921
- Study visits:
 - 12 students from the University of Sweden
 - Two scholars from France and Germany

■ TEAM FOR INCOME GENERATION AND PRODUCT PROMOTION SUPPORT (TIPS),

TIPS is a support service to identify and test income generating opportunities and transfer them to the community. TIPS identifies income generating opportunities, assesses their technical and economic viability, standardises the production process through demonstration, and then transfers them to the community as an income generating activity.

TIPS promotes employment-oriented groups to encourage cluster approach in production and marketing, and also equips self-help groups to become enterprise managers. The activities are initiated in the field with a CBO and accompanied by the support service staff. After a period of consolidation, the management is transferred to the community. Such a unit, started as a pilot production centre, functions as a model for people to learn and replicate in the nearby areas.

- Eco Friendly villages: 2
- Self Help Groups: 296
- Families in Health insurance: 1149
- Conservation awareness meetings: 282
- Health awareness meetings: 120
- Members in local bodies: 22
- Eco camps for school children: 25
- Kitchen gardens: 14
- EDP training: 6
- Technical support: 21 units
- New clusters: 4

■ FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRE (FCC)

The Family Counselling Centre was established with the support of Central Social Welfare Board, Government of India, to provide professional counselling services to families in need of such services.

FCC provides counselling services to families in need, especially for rural families who do not have access to such services. In addition to settlement of family disputes, the centre has also successfully supported many women in distress to start small business activities and live independently.

During this year, FCC has provided counselling services to 145 clients and reached 544 participants through 19 training programmes. FCC also played a major role in the tsunami areas by providing counselling services and training NGO staff and barefoot counsellors to be available for the community in need of psycho social support.

- Counselling: 145
- Training programmes: 19
- No. of participants: 544
- Mobile counselling camps: 5
- Counselling awareness: 1,050
- Counselling skill training : 30
- Periodical review and committee meetings

■ WORKING WOMEN'S HOSTEL (WWH)

A hostel and short stay home for women that addresses the needs of working women and women who seek temporary shelter due to family disputes and other harassments. The women development programme led to the initiation of a short stay home and working women's hostel. It was started on an experimental basis in response to requests from distressed women in the community and working women. There are 29 regular residents this year.

■ CENTRE FOR RURAL EMPLOYMENT AND SKILL TRAINING (CREST)

CREST extends marketing support to twenty-four group enterprises with 400 artisans. CREST also helps to market the products of many individual entrepreneurs. It organises skill training for employment opportunities, associates with government agencies, marketing federations for artisans, and fair trade intermediary organisations.

CREST participates in exhibitions to sell community products and manages four sales outlets.

- Groups supported: 24
- Handicrafts
 - Marthandam caps: 1.96 Lakhs
 - Turnover: Rs.31.26 Lakhs
- Palm candy: 5.3 Tons

- Outlets: 4
- Exhibitions: 6
- Trading customers: 633
- Women trained: 302
- Employment opportunity: 28

■ HABITAT RESOURCE CENTRE (HRC)

HRC is a construction technology centre for providing cost reduction technologies and support to develop infrastructure facilities. This was formed to support the housing and infrastructure development activities for the economically weaker sections on a sustainable basis.

The centre forms the technical support unit with a team of qualified engineers, technical supervisors, and master mason. HRC extends technical support for construction, disseminates cost reduction technologies, encourages the use of local low cost materials, and undertakes construction of buildings.

This service unit also promotes appropriate building technology by introducing cost reduction options and the use of locally available materials. This support service involves offering consultancy, undertaking construction of buildings, organising training programmes related to housing, and production of low cost building components.

- UNDP training for disaster resistance housing
- Construction of community building in tsunami affected areas
- Training on cost reduction technologies
- Consultancy services

■ INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR SAVINGS AND CREDIT (IASC)

Access to mainstream financial services to the poor and the low income group.

IASC, the micro-finance initiative registered in 1999, was promoted by Palmyrah Workers Development Society and Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC), a premier housing finance institution in India. The vision of PWDS “to invite mainstream financial institutions to extend sustained services to poor people” paved the way for the formation of IASC.

IASC offers credit to CBOs (sangams/self-help groups) formed with the aim of self-help and livelihood promotion of its members. It also extends credit to farmers and family loans for people in urban areas. Currently, IASC works in ten districts of Tamil Nadu with its administrative office in Coimbatore. The IASC model is being studied by many agencies for documenting best practices in microfinance and impact of such initiatives on communities and development.

- Districts covered : 10
- NGOs affiliated : 150

- SHGs affiliated : 3,294
- No of loans during this year : 5423
- Housing loan during the year : Rs.2.72 Crores
- Economic loan during the year : Rs.6.13 Crores
- Other loans during the year : Rs.2.67 Crores
- Total (Cumulative) no. of loans : 29,755
- Total (Cumulative) loan amount : Rs.54.57 Crores

INSPIRED BY WOMEN

The members of the Mekalingajothi men's SHG proudly acknowledge that their inspiration is the women in the village. "Most of the men in the village worked as agricultural labourers. Although we earned Rs. 70 as daily wages, we worked only for about 75-100 days a year and were jobless the rest of the year," recalls Sivasubramanian, President of the Mekalingajothi men's SHG, in Melacheval, Tirunelveli district.

According to Sivasubramanian, mainstream banks refused to give loans for men's groups. "We were impressed by the success of the women SHGs in the village. Their economic activities and the savings and credits within the group made the money lenders almost disappear from the village. Several men in the village were also impressed by the unity and team work among the women's SHGs. So we decided to form a men's SHG," recalls Sivasubramanian.

Twenty men in the village formed the Mekalinga Jothi Men's SHG in 2001, promoted by CARDS, a Tirunelveli-based development organisation, and a NEERA partner. The members accessed economic loans for non-farm based livelihood activities from IASC (Indian Association of Savings and Credit), the PWDS-HDFC (Housing Development Financial Corporation) promoted microfinance institution.

The group availed loans of Rs. 2 lakhs from IASC and some of the members began small enterprises such as dry cleaning, vegetable and flower vending, and renting out stainless steel utensils for functions in the village. Seventeen members in the group individually repaid Rs. 450 every month. The men are satisfied that their businesses provide them with a steady, regular income.

What is interesting is that the men's group has also involved themselves, in community activities and also taking up village issues, often in collaboration with the women's groups in the village. "The women in the village have shown us the way. We have a lot of respect for them," says Sivasubramanian.

■ CENTRE FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (CARDS)

CARDS is a demonstration farm and agri resource team for promoting sustainable agriculture among small and marginal farmers and to introduce agri-based income generating opportunities.

CARDS works with marginal and small farmers in Ambasamuthram and Cheranmadevi taluks in Tirunelveli district, a dry area with low rainfall that often results in crop failures.

The CARDS farm maintains herbal plots, demo plots, compost models, and kitchen gardens for demonstration. Quality saplings are made available to the community through a nursery. Kitchen garden and compost pits are promoted among the people in the villages. New income generating activities and value addition interventions on existing economic activities are promoted. The farm also offers technical services and provides equipment on nominal rent for small and marginal farmers.

CARDS organises an awareness generation programme on biodiversity conservation in collaboration with agriculture resource institutions and participates in a bio-diversity network of NGOs. The programme sensitises the farmers to environmental concerns, eco-friendly farming, sustainable agriculture, and the need to re-establish natural balance in agro-eco system. The highlight of the training programme is the LEISA approach (Low External Input for Sustainable Agriculture). As a future plan training programmes are being developed for farmers and NGO staff to spread the concept to other geographical areas.

➤ Villages	:	38
➤ Registered federations	:	1
➤ No. of SHGs promoted	:	128
➤ No. of SHG Members	:	3042
➤ SHGs with bank linkages	:	122
➤ Savings mobilised in Rupees	:	Rs. 15,836,401
➤ Credit mobilised in Rupees	:	Rs. 34,846,900
➤ Community infrastructure developed	:	46

■ COMMUNITY BASED HIV/AIDS CARE AND SUPPORT PROGRAMME

The project mission is to work for an enabling, sustainable, supportive environment towards community based care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS, children affected by HIV/AIDS, and families affected by AIDS in Tamil Nadu.

The PWDS - Alliance care and support project provides the following services, through partner organisations, to people affected by and living with HIV/AIDS: Psychosocial support, health care services, voluntary Counselling and testing (VCT), food and nutritional support, economic support, emergency relief, direct services to children affected by AIDS, and capacity building activities.

This project, supported by Abbott Laboratories and the International HIV/AIDS Alliance, works with 20 NGOs in Tamil Nadu across 13 districts. The services reach

20,024 people living with HIV/AIDS and many thousand of families and children affected by HIV/AIDS. The capacity building programmes and sensitisation programmes have reached thousands of people like teachers, doctors, religious leaders, paramedical staff, local leaders and volunteers.

- ‡ Districts : 13
- ‡ Partners : 20
- ‡ Number of affected people reached : 20,024
- ‡ Trained Volunteers : 783
- ‡ Trained Home care guides : 162
- ‡ Health care providers : 762
- ‡ Self help group integration : 580 PLHA in 360 SHGs)
- ‡ Faith based organisations : 63
- ‡ Children's clubs : 152
- ‡ Children support groups : 96
- ‡ Coaching centers : 45
- ‡ Children's libraries : 19

FROM ISOLATION TO ACCEPTANCE

My name is Sumathi (33) and I live in Veerasudamanipatti village, Madurai district. I have two daughters Saranya (15 years), who studies in the 10th standard and Sangavi (11 years) who studies in the 6th standard. I lost my husband three years back due to AIDS-related illness. He worked as a lorry driver and used to frequently travel to other districts. Suddenly he became sick and he developed continuous fever and cough. We went to a private hospital for treatment but there was no improvement. We went to different private clinics and his health showed no improvement. In the process we lost all the hard earned money. Then I admitted him in a government hospital. There he was diagnosed as HIV positive.

Knowing this, a volunteer from my village who worked in PACHE Trust came with some staff to see my husband. But he was in the terminal stage. So we were not able to save him. After my husband's death, my in-laws sent us out of the house. I did not know what to do.

In this situation the staff from PACHE Trust came to support me. They asked me to go for HIV test and I too was HIV positive. When I saw the result, my heart broke. I cried a lot and decided to commit suicide along with my children. On hearing this, the PACHE Trust staff counselled me. They also asked me to participate in the meetings. In the beginning, I participated in the meeting half-heartedly and with hesitation but after participating in the meeting, I developed confidence to live by seeing other persons like me.

At that meeting, I shared my problem—the denial of my property rights. I told that my husband's brother refused to share the property and that there is nobody to help me and my

children. After that I went to my husband's house with the PACHE Trust staff and asked them for the property but they didn't give a proper reply. Next we discussed the matter in the Advisory Committee meeting and went with the committee members to my husband's brother's home and demanded my rights. Then they agreed and allocated some lands and a house for my children and me.

I planned to save some money for my children and for that I wished to join an SHG in my village. At first, on hearing that I was HIV positive, the SHG members did not allow me to be a member. Due to the effective and continuous involvement of PACHE Trust staff members, I enrolled as a member in the SHG and started saving a minimum amount for my children's future. Now I am the leader of that SHG.

Having developed confidence and interpersonal skills through training, I decided to work for the welfare of the people like me. I joined as a Home Care Guide in the Care and Support Programme to help persons living with HIV / AIDS. I spread the message of prevention, care and support, and provide necessary support to people living with HIV/ AIDS, their family members, and children.

Now I am the head of the Regional Network of Positive people (RNP+). I am a positive speaker too. My children are members of the children's club and children's support group. They are also involved in disseminating information on HIV / AIDS among children through child to child education programme. They actively participate in the life skills education and leadership training conducted by PWDS-Alliance. I also helped to mobilise Rs.6000/- for starting a small shop. At first the community ignored me, but now they support me by buying things from my shop and by being friendly with me and my children.

■ CONVERGENCE OF HIV/AIDS AND SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Community driven approaches to address the feminisation of HIV/AIDS in Tamil Nadu, a project funded by DFID-Challenge Fund in collaboration with International and India HIV/AIDS Alliance, was completed this year. The six projects were implemented in Tirunelveli, Madurai, Dindigul and Coimbatore districts with six implementing NGOs.

This project emphasis was on organising support groups among the low-income women groups and women living with HIV/AIDS to address the issues related to feminisation of HIV/AIDS with a sexual and reproductive health HIV/AIDS convergence.

- Support Groups
 - Vulnerable women: 111
 - Adolescent girls: 29
 - Transgender: 1

- Men / Spouses: 14
- Women living with HIV/AIDS: 11

- Capacity Building
 - 225 programmes
 - 7,854 beneficiaries
 - 42 NGO staff

- Awareness on HIV/AIDS
 - 4,848 sessions
 - 1,73,888 women

- Publications
 - Velichathai Nokki - Video
 - Puthia Nambikkai-Book
 - Paluravial Mattum Inaperukka Nalavazhvu- Book

■ CARE AND SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN AFFECTED BY HIV/AIDS (CHAHA PROJECT)

The overall goal of the project is to reduce the HIV-related morbidity and mortality among children and their families and also to address the impact of HIV on children.

Towards achieving this goal, the project offers to provide a package of services, through partner NGOs, to the children for education, nutrition, income generation, facilitation of access to ART. The foster care and family care also would be provided as part of the package for children. The project would reach about 100,000 children living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. The project database is shared with the Government of India, thus directly contributing to the national informatics system. PWDS coordinates the programme in Tamil Nadu.

The project aims at improving care and support services to children living with HIV/AIDS and children affected by HIV/AIDS to enable interventions, which keep them with their parents or extended families.

The project covers ten districts in Tami Nadu with 12 implementing partners. PWDS is a sub recipient of Global Fund through India HIV/AIDS Alliance as the primary recipient.

■ NETWORK FOR EDUCATION AND EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL ARTISANS (NEERA)

NEERA, a network of development organisations working in South Tamil Nadu, came into existence with a common programme plan in 1996. NEERA aims to promote self-help through a community organisation process, equip the community with awareness generation and capacity building, and enable the community to create access to resources by linking with the mainstream.

NEERA has twelve NGOs as partners who work in nine southern districts of Tamil Nadu. It functions with a jointly developed common programme plan with one component called special programme. The special programme has been developed based on the individual strength of the partners and to address the local need of the community and the area concerned

NEERA is coordinated by a programme committee (PC) consisting of representatives from each partner organisation and community federation. The PC meets once in three months with a moderator elected from the partners for a specific period of three years. The key focus of the year was strengthening the registered federations towards self-governance.

NEERA completed ten years and an impact study was done and published during the decennium function on November 2006.

Districts : 9
 Villages : 1,112
 Partners : 12
 SHGs : 3,054
 Members : 51,572
 Savings : Rs.47, 949,603
 Credit : Rs.73, 207,685
 Govt. benefits : Rs.21.73 Cr.
 Federations : 12

CONCRETE ACTION WITH COMPASSION

The average annual rainfall of Sathankulam block is 651 mm. But the last monsoon saw a heavy downpour. In November 2006, rain lashed Sathankulam and houses in low lying areas were inundated. Houses in Sathankulam R.C. Street, Azhagamman Koil Street, and Kattunayakkan Colony were heavily damaged and destroyed. The affected persons were accommodated in a common hall in Sathankulam.

The Sathankulam Panchayat Level Federation (PLF) took immediate steps to help the affected. They met Mrs. Thangathai Prabhakaran, the town Panchayat president and

insisted that she take immediate relief measures. The federation members mobilised money from well-wishers and provided meals to the affected. Further they provided blankets to protect them from the severe cold wave-like condition.

Due to the initiative of federation leaders, government officials responded positively with relief measures including disbursement of Rs. 1,000/- to each affected family.

The timely intervention by the members of Sathankulam PLF was well appreciated by the affected people and general public; and the government officials cooperated.

COURAGE WITH SOLIDARITY

More than a thousand Muslim families reside in Pottalpudur, a village in Kadayam Block, Tenkasi. "We were not allowed to come out like this before, but as we formed groups we slowly knew our potential of working for a social cause" says Amir Fathima, leader of the Bharatham SHG.

It was a hard time running around and posting petitions to the Panchayat (Gram Sabha) asking them to fulfil a few basic needs in the village. The ration shop never provided the actual quantity of provision, seeking urgent medical aid was always a constraint to them because the hospitals were far off and many lacked proper shelter facility, and improper garbage and drainage management. These were a few issues which they wanted to overcome. But the panchayat seemed to take no action towards these problems. The women never lost hope. They developed an advocacy plan by joining hands with other villagers and organised a demonstration in front of the ration shop. Matters never seemed to move, yet they did not give up. A petition was sent to the Speaker of Tamil Nadu stating the details. Very soon there was a response and the issues addressed. Five members in the village were provided shelter under the government scheme, a hospital was constructed, drainage and garbage were cleaned.

In order to generate further awareness for the people in the village, the group has listed government schemes on walls and boards and placed them in common places in the village. They have also collected donations and have used the money to help deserving children for their education; initiatives were taken to upgrade the middle school in the village, to a high school. "We are happy about what we did, we were always confident about our approach; unlike before, our husbands now stand by us, we want our children to be happy, we will keep doing our best to fulfil our needs" says Amir Fathima, the leader of the vibrant Bharatham SHG.

Images: 2007



Community Based Organisations



Indian Association for Savings and Credit (IASC)



Alternative Livelihood



Community Health



Capacity Building – Shelter



Programme of TNVHA along with District Resource Centre

■ ADIVASI DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (ADI)

A Collective Form of Cooperation (Network) for Adivasi empowerment and NGO capacity building

ADI is a collective of 12 development organisations (NGOs) working in ten North Western districts of Tamil Nadu, India.

The ADI partner organisations, with a common goal and a shared perspective, are in the process of developing all necessary systems and structures for network functioning that ensures better efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability.

ADI emerged from the NEERA (Network for Education and Empowerment of Rural Artisans) experience. NEERA completes its first decade of development services and as part of the future process, decided to share the experiences with other NGOs and communities in new geographical areas. ADI is an outcome of this process.

During the current year, a strategic planning was initiated to develop a strategic framework and also a draft MOU (Memorandum of Understanding). A participatory rural appraisal (PRA) process was completed with a detailed report of all working areas. The partner NGO staff, consultants and the community participated in this process to identify issues and needs that are to be addressed jointly. A workshop to identify issues as part of the proposal process was organised. A draft proposal is finalised and a resource mobilisation team formed for ADI.

Districts : 10

Partners : 12

No. of blocks : 16

No. of habitats : 177

No. of families : 7,176

Family members : 30,307

No. of Adivasi communities : 12

Workshop on Network concept, roles and responsibilities

Exposure Visit to ODAF, Orissa

Capacity Building need assessment visit

ADI – Future perspective meeting

PRA training

Resource mobilisation

PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY APPRAISAL LEADS TO COMMUNITY ACTION

In 2006, "Education for All" (Sarva Siksha Abiyan: SSA) a government scheme for Tribal education, had approved the construction of a school building in Kongattu Puthur at an estimated cost of Rs.4.80 lakhs.

The tribal communities carried construction materials from a distance of 3 kilometers and also provided labour free of charge towards this construction.

When the basement was completed, forest officials objected to the construction on the ground that the land belonged to the forest department. The construction was stopped. Having no previous experience of dealing with such an issue and with the forest authorities, the tribal communities stopped the construction and suddenly became withdrawn.

In February 2007, Island Trust, a partner NGO of the ADI network, conducted a participatory tribal appraisal as part of the ADI plan. During this participatory exercise, the elders of the village asserted that the land belonged to them since time immemorial. Island Trust also convened a meeting of tribal leaders and helped them to discuss and understand the situation.

Tribal leaders supported reconstructing the school building. This issue was highlighted in the newspapers, on the day the secretary to the Department of SC/ST Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu, visited the district headquarters. He and the Chief Education Officer jointly issued a press release stating that the matter would be resolved immediately. As a result, the construction resumed within a few days and the building has now reached the roofing stage. In spite of the continued threats from forest officials, community leaders declared, "We are prepared to be in prison rather than live in this village without this school building for our children. We are not afraid of any one to complete this building."

■ RECONSTRUCTION OF LIVELIHOOD

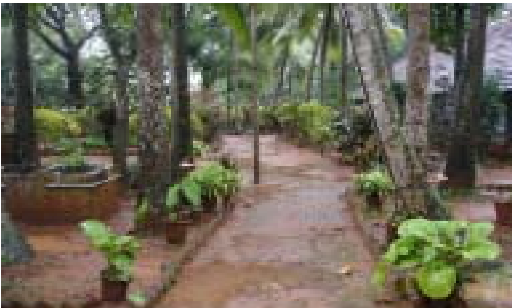
The Reconstruction of livelihood is a project initiated in September 2005, ten months after the Tsunami that struck the coastline of the country on December 26, 2004. The project was initiated in the coastal districts of Thoothukudi and Kanyakumari which are already covered by SEDCO and PWDS, NEERA partners. Relief initiatives adequately covered the fisher community in these districts and rehabilitation programmes of both government and non-government agencies reached them. The interventions did not reach the other communities living next to the shore, but who lived on fishing related livelihood. This project focused on such non-fisher communities who were dependent on livelihood activities that are close to the sea and fishing.

The project was coordinated by PWDS- NEERA Coordination Centre at Madurai.

Images: 2007



Team for Income generation and Product promotion Support (TIPS),



Palma Gardens



Palma Women Development Initiatives (PWDI)



Family Counselling Centre (FCC)



Working Women's Hostel (WWH)



Centre for Rural Employment and Skill Training (CREST)



Habitat Resource Centre (HRC)

The five major areas of interventions are:

- Community mobilisation and organisation
- Restoring livelihood activities
- Psychological support and counselling services
- Children's education
- Health issues and health care services

The community support structures and benefits

- Families enrolled in tsunami affected category – 2615
- Coir and sea shell artisans benefited – 362
- Common facility centres – 3
- Children's Delight clubs – 27
- Parents Teachers Associations – 17
- Friends of Children – 27
- Children re-enrolled in schools – 76
- Counseling centres – 4
- Barefoot counsellors – 30
- Health insurance – 405
- Task force on disaster preparedness – 11

SIGNS OF TOGETHERNESS

Alanthalai is one of the coastal hamlets in Thiruchendur Development Block, Thoothukudi District. A primary school functions in this hamlet. As most of the parents are non literate, they are not in a position to teach their children . When Reconstruction of Livelihood project was launched in Alanathalai, two coaching centres were opened in this hamlet. Ninety-six children enrolled in these two centres.

The coaching centres not only assisted the children in their education but have also brought their hidden talents into limelight and also inculcated a civic sense among them.

SEDCO is involved in reconstruction of 47 houses in Alanthalai. During their spare time, children of these coaching centres assisted families in construction.

"This is the first time; we had the opportunity to know and get involved in construction activities. It is interesting and we feel as if we ourselves are constructing the house." some of the children said. Manoharan, one of boys said, "This work has motivated me to help others who are in need."

BEYOND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Paramanvilai and Azhikkal are two neighbouring fishing villages. The people have a cordial relationship despite their religious differences. On February 16, 2007, a newly built church at Azhikkal was demolished and police arrested a few men from Paramanvilai. This situation created panic and tension in the villages. People feared that a violent clash might break out between two religious communities, as it happened earlier in a few villages.

After investigation, police decided that the trouble was not committed by the village for the following reasons and subsequently released the arrested youth.

A cordial and longstanding relationship existed between these two communities. An outsider could have done this to create tension between these two communities.

The community at Paramanvilai had extended timely assistance to the people of Azhikkal village during and after Tsunami.

The impeccable service record of the task force on disaster management at Paramanvilai, promoted as part of the RL project.

Now the situation is normal and the government has sanctioned the construction of a new place of worship in the same village.

Boothalingam, president of task force on disaster management, says, "Even though I can't pin point the exact factor which brought normalcy, task force on disaster management had played a vital role in diffusing tension and the information board kept by the task force had played a remarkable role in the investigation".

This demonstrates how a community organisation promoted and strengthened for a specific purpose could move beyond and serve community needs, avoid conflicts, promote unity, and address common issues.

Images: 2007



Centre for Agriculture and Rural Development Services (CARDS)



HIV/AIDS - Community based Care and Support Project



Convergence of HIV/AIDS and Sexual and Reproductive Health



Network for Education and Empowerment of Rural Artisans



Adivasi Development Initiative (ADI)



Reconstruction of Livelihood



DATA – PWDS Coordination Centre

■ DATA – PWDS Coordination Centre

DATA, the PWDS Coordination Centre, is based in Madurai. DATA is the training and consultancy unit promoted by PWDS for providing support services to the various projects of PWDS, institutions promoted by PWDS, and also to coordinate the network programmes. DATA believes in building capacities through partnerships.

DATA Net: DATA coordinates network development projects, organises capacity building programmes, and functions as a secretariat for network partners.

DATA Resource: A programme to develop and offer training in areas of relevance in development, aiming at appropriate responses to face the changing context.

DATA Fair: An initiative that provides market support for rural artisans and community-based enterprises.

DATA Docs: Data documentation services aims at addressing the need of organisations by offering quality documentation services and promoting effective and efficient documentation practices.

DATA Forum: This study circle meets periodically to discuss specific issues of interest in development.

DATA News: This bimonthly newsletter on matters of general interest, development information, and significant events is circulated among associated people and institutions.

DATA organises training programmes every year and provides support services to 50 NGOs in Tamil Nadu, including the 40 network partner organisations and coordination support to projects of PWDS and support organisations.

No of trainings: 18
Participants: 492
Participated NGOs: 15
Partner NGOs – NEERA/ADI: 21
Participated federations: 12

■ PARTNERS

PWDS works in partnership with many international donor agencies and national agencies and has formal linkages with many mainstream institutions both from public and private sectors.

The long-term partnership of **EED/EZE**, since the inception of PWDS has continued. We record our appreciation and thanks for their support and valuable guidance.

PWDS works as a lead partner in Tamil Nadu for the UK- based International **HIV/AIDS Alliance** programmes. PWDS is also a member of the Global Alliance. Thanks to International HIV/AIDS Alliance and India Alliance for all their support and partnership initiatives.

PWDS is a Sub Recipient (SR) through the India HIV/AIDS Alliance as the principal recipient for the CHAHA project supported by Global Fund.

We also thank the following donor organisations, government agencies, and financial institutions associating with PWDS in many ways:

- Tamil Nadu State AIDS Control Society (TNSACS)
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, (NABARD)
- Housing Development Finance Corporation, (HDFC)
- Tamil Nadu Corporation for Women Development (TNCDW)
- District Rural Development Agency (DRDA)
- Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, (EDII)
- Central Social Welfare Board, (CSWB)
- Tamil Nadu Adi-dravida Housing Development Corporation (TAHDCO)
- Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO)
- District Industries Centres (DIC)
- State Bank of Travancore
- Indian Bank
- United India Insurance Company

■ NGO – IDEAs
NGO Impact on Development, Empowerment and Actions



2004 – 2007

Background

In September 2002, a workshop on self help groups in development was organized in KKID, Coimbatore and about 60 NGO representatives from India and Germany participated in this. The basic concept of NGO-IDEAs was discussed in this workshop. This was included in the work plan of VENRO in 2003 and in May 2004 the project was sanctioned by BMZ Germany.

The project purpose

Broadly the purpose is: The families who are living in poverty will be integrated more intensively and actively in the monitoring of the NGO projects and in the learning process for better using the possibilities of the NGO projects to alleviate poverty.

The Expected outcome

- The impact of the NGO project work are documented and systematized
- The NGOs exchange their experiences and best practices in participatory impact monitoring
- Methods and instruments of participatory impact monitoring are tested and improved
- A tool box published for participatory impact monitoring based on these experiences

The process

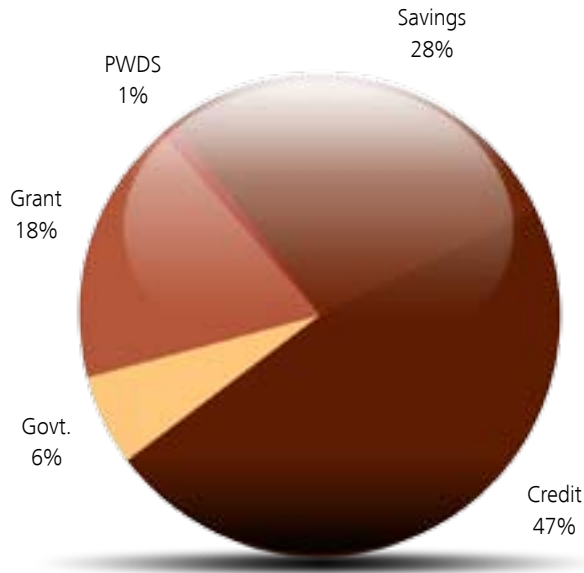
The process was initiated in 2004, and completed in five phases by 2007 with workshops, working groups, and working through a virtual platform. The project included 15 German partners and 35 Indian partners. PWDS participated as an Indian representative in all the process. The project report, Small Credit: Big Impact, QA Report on the Savings and Credit programme of NGO IDEAs partner organizations, is published in 2007. The tool box is also published and now used by the partner NGOs to broaden the learning in the field.

PWDS Follow-up

PWDS also initiated the process of using the tool box in the field for impact monitoring and also train staff of NEERA partner NGOs. A work plan for 12 months was prepared and the process started in 2007. All the NEERA partners participate in this and plan to modify the tool according to their needs and use it in the future.

■ SOURCE OF FUNDS

Community resources	59,252,082
Financial institutions	99,479,685
Government grant	13,231,065
International grant	37,763,803
PWDS	2,920,535
Total	212,647,170



Ratio

• International Grant: Local Resource	1: 5
• Community Resource: External Source	1: 3
• Grant: Credit	1: 3
• Community Resource: Credit	1: 2

■ REACH AND IMPACT

PWDS, through the various programmes and 54 network partner NGOs, works in 29 districts and reaches out to 2,859 villages. Currently, 4,529 groups have been functioning in these villages, almost all of which are linked with banks. The number of families who are members in these groups is 94,651 that amount to more than 417,500 people. The total amount saved by these groups this year comes to Rs.59, 252,082 (59 million) and a total of Rs. 99,479,685 (99 million) mobilised from financial institutions during the same period.

PWDS also works with 20,024 persons and their families affected by HIV/AIDS through service linkages with more than 762 health care service providers, both private and public. PWDS has also promoted through its partners 414 community support groups; 2,198 community volunteers; and 160 Home Care guides.

■ AN OVERVIEW

Details	2005-06	2006-07
Villages	1,833	2,859
CBOs, federations	4,077	4,529
Member families	73,295	94,651
No. of people benefited	3,60,852	4,17,505
No. of benefits generated	5,41,594	5,45,061
People living with HIV/AIDS served	19,258	20,024
People integrated with SHGs	514	580
Linkage with health care services	578	762
Trained community volunteers	162	945
Community support groups	355	414

The following details show the number of people benefited by each programme activity during this year. Since one family may benefit by more than one programme, the number of benefits can not be equated with the number of people benefited. A total number of 545,061 benefits are generated during this year by the PWDS projects, program activities, and support services promoted by PWDS. In addition the various awareness programmes have reached a total number of 417,505 people.

■ BENEFITS GENERATED: 2006 – 07

Benefit as group members	94,651
Income Generation Programmes	4,328
Pre-school/ child development	3,173
EDP/ Skill training	3,633
Health Services	83,151
Credit Access	14,448
Psychosocial support/counselling	1,103
Community finance service	40,426
Housing support	2,135
Government assistance	3,713
Awareness generation	70,360
HIV/AIDS programmes	1,78,772
HIV/AIDS Care and Support	20,024
Capacity Building	16,415
Insurance / social security	7,446
Marketing support	1,283
Total Benefits	545,061

In addition to these direct benefits, the CBOs and federations have taken up many issues and improved variety of services in the villages. These include:

- Dowry issues
- Alcohol abuse
- Services like water, sanitation, health, road, transport, and electricity
- Infrastructure
- Family relations
- Local governance
- Income generation
- Women's reservation
- Eco issues
- Gender issues
- Civil rights
- Health care systems

PALMYRAH WORKERS' DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY
Crystal Street, Marthandam, Tamil Nadu - 629 165

Receipts & Payments (Project) Account for the year 2006-07		
	RECEIPTS	UTILISED
Opening Balance	8,564,579.70	—
International Grant	37,763,802.69	43,533,096.50
Government Programmes	501,175.00	399,577.00
Bank Interest	919,878.64	—
Loans & Advances	2,707,658.70	1,792,552.40
Investments	21,719,157.00	22,652,919.00
Fixed Assets (Capital)	—	700,292.00
Financial Institutions - Housing Programme	4,267,548.00	4,782,793.00
Society Programmes	4,321,348.40	4,514,009.55
Gratuity Fund	660,440.00	632,800.00
Others	137,389.00	—
Closing Balance	—	2,554,937.68
Total	81,562,977.13	81,562,977.13
Community Mobilised		
Government Schemes	12,730,000.00	12,730,000.00
Community Funds	59,252,000.00	59,252,000.00
Financial Institutions	99,479,000.00	99,479,000.00
Total	171,461,000.00	171,461,000.00
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31.03.2007		
	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
International Grant	37,763,802.69	43,533,096.50
Government Programmes	501,175.00	399,577.00
PWDS Programmes	4,321,348.40	4,887,571.55
Bank Interest	919,878.64	—
Housing Programme	—	515,245.00
Excess of Expenditure over Income	5,829,285.32	—
Total	49,335,490.05	49,335,490.05

Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2007		
SOURCE OF FUNDS	RUPEES	%
General Fund	24,090,221.93	46.26
Specified Funds	27,365,811.67	52.55
Current Liabilities	624,002.57	1.20
Total	52,080,036.17	100.00

APPLICATION OF FUNDS		
Fixed Assets	27,412,562.60	52.64
Investments, Cash and Bank Balance	18,542,278.25	35.60
Loans and Advances	6,125,195.32	11.76
Total	52,080,036.17	100.00

P. Arockiasamy, B.Com., F.C.A.
Chartered Accountant

Audited statements and source of funds details

The sources of funds for various project activities come from community resources, financial institutions, government grants, international and national donor grants, and PWDS generated funds.

The community funds and credit from formal institutions were reflected as results and project outcome. The resources of the promoted organisations in which PWDS is a partner are submitted to the concerned boards and not reflected in PWDS statements.

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Vice President: Prof. Arthur J Harris
Secretary: Prof. P. Joseph Yesudian
Treasurer: Prof. Shanthi Edwin
Deputy Director: R. Jeyakumar
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Contact Person: M. Latha Edwin, Warden