



Annual Report 2021-22

Towards building an equitable and prosperous society through
integrated development.



WE ENVISION TO CREATE AND LIVE-IN AN EQUITABLE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETY THROUGH INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT.



NORTHEAST CENTRE FOR EQUITY ACTION ON INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT (NEAID)



*Let us learn, let us know,
Our rights, as we grow.
With education, we'll stand tall,
Informed and ready to heed the call.*

*To lead our community, we'll strive,
With knowledge, we'll come alive.
Learning together, hand in hand,
We'll make our world a better land.*



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From Founders Desks



GRATITUDE TO OUR ESTEEMED PARTNERS FOR THEIR INTEGRAL ROLE IN NEAID'S TRANSFORMATIVE MISSION. WE STAND TOGETHER TO TRANSFORM CHALLENGES INTO OPPORTUNITIES, PAVING THE WAY FOR A BRIGHTER AND MORE EQUITABLE FUTURE THROUGH COMPASSION AND EMPOWERMENT.



NEELADRI



GUIDED BY A VISION OF HOPE AND UNITY, WE EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE FOR STANDING TOGETHER TO REALIZE NEAID'S MISSION. OUR JOURNEY EXEMPLIFIES THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF COLLECTIVE ACTION. LET'S CONTINUE TO LEAD THE WAY TOWARD A BRIGHTER WORLD.



MERAJ

About Us

North East centre for Equity Action on Integrated Development (NEAID) is a not-for-profit grassroots organization led by people from the region to support sustainable development through integrated approaches. NEAID is working primarily in tribal and rural areas focusing on Quality Education, Health, WASH, and Disaster Relief. The intervention areas of NEAID aims to achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs) 2, 3, 4 & 6 in Northeast India. NEAID programs are designed in such a way that it complements the existing public system and empowers the stakeholders for larger impact and sustainability. NEAID believes that education, good health, and gender empowerment are interconnected and can bring a family out of poverty and uncertainty.





Akikaran's Initiatives of School Transformation Journey

The Whole School Transformation project is a visionary initiative aimed at empowering schools to establish a holistic teaching and learning environment, ensuring equitable access to quality education and lifelong learning opportunities, aligning with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.

This initiative was designed not just to provide education but to transform it. We sought to engage with the entire school community, not only students but also parents, teachers, and local leaders. and promoting holistic student development. Furthermore, the project includes an emphasis on cultivating 21st-century skills through different activities such as project-based learning, in accordance with New Education Policy guidelines.

The project's implementation strategy features on-site support provided by dedicated fellows, teacher capacity building, leadership support for Headmasters (HMs) and education functionaries, and active community engagement to establish a sustainable school ecosystem in lower primary schools.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic prompted NEAID to launch the 'Reach the Unreached' program, a crucial response to the challenges posed by the pandemic. In a time when external access to rural villages was restricted due to the safety precautions necessitated by the pandemic, NEAID's dedicated volunteers went the extra mile, both literally and metaphorically. They ventured into these

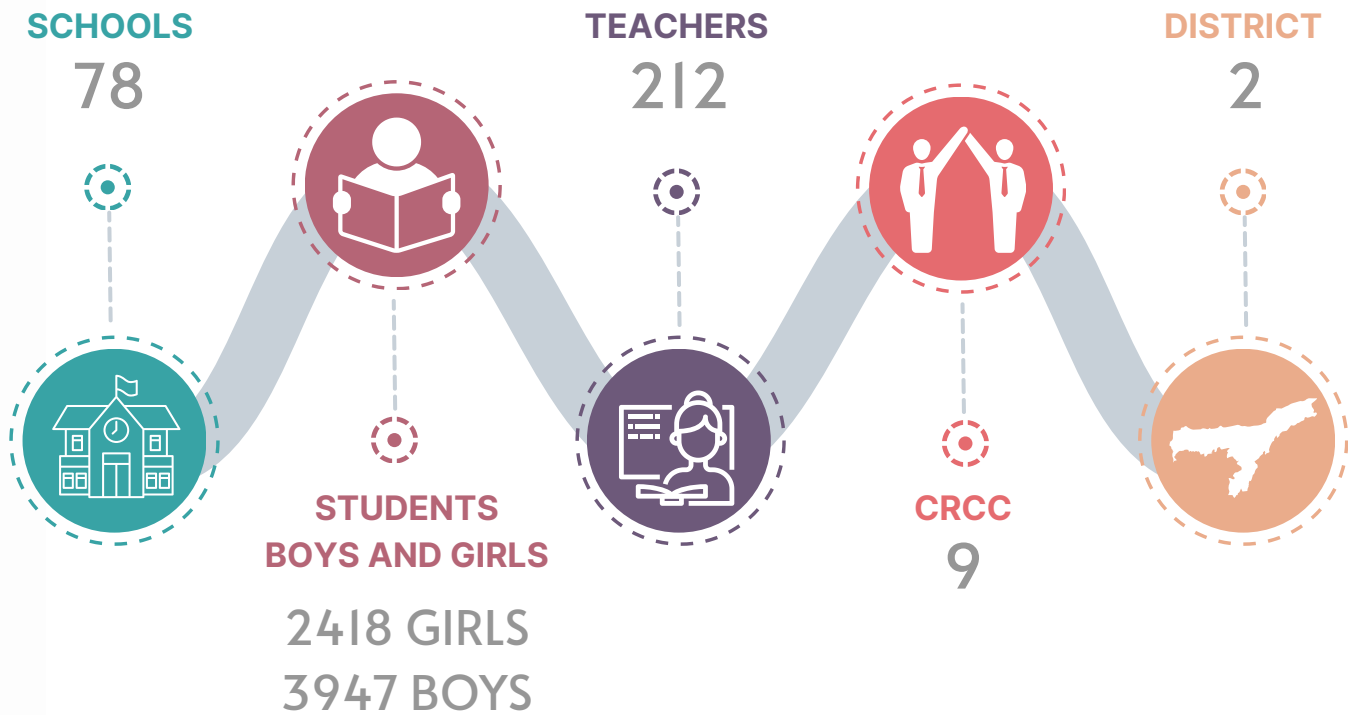
remote communities, bringing with them not only essential education but a ray of hope for children whose access to learning had been severely curtailed.

Through activity-based Project-Based Learning, these volunteers diligently worked to help bridge the substantial learning gap that had emerged due to the disruptions caused by the pandemic. They engaged students in a way that children catch up not only on missed education but also fostered their curiosity and creativity.

As the world began to regain some normalcy with the reopening of schools in the post-COVID era, NEAID's mission evolved but stayed true to the core principles of the 'Reach the Unreached' program. It was recognized that the challenges were far from over, and there were still children in need of our support. Thus, NEAID embarked on a new mission - the Whole School Transformation project. The project's core objectives are to support schools in achieving Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) targets.

Through transformative education practices and active community engagement, we aimed to create a sustainable and lasting impact on the lives of these children. As we move forward, we remain dedicated to empowering children, promoting innovation in education, and fostering community partnerships for the betterment of society. Together, we are shaping a more equitable and prosperous society for all.

Reaching the Unreached during COVID & preparing schools post COVID



1000+ Children

Participated in Project Based Learning



78 Schools across 2 districts

adopted post Covid-19 practices to cope up with



500+ Children

Prepared their own ABCD book with art and craft



156 Teachers

Empowered through Capacity Building



256 Children across 78 Schools

learned management skills through their pop up restaurant



9 CRCCs

engaged through teacher capacity building





“

Women from remote areas are often unable to avail their rights. Due to lack of support, women do not get educated. So, I believe if they are given Teaching Learning Materials (TLMs), these problems might be solved to some extent. For instance, we use TLMs to teach basic numeracy and literacy to elderly women.

Tahmina Nasrin and Mayuri Das
Adarsh Vidyalaya Ganakushi,

STEM for Girls program is implemented in 100 government secondary girls in Assam across 27 districts focusing on Self, Gender, Career and Computational Thinking.

Through Role Model Interactions, students have been inspired and motivated by distinguished personalities who shared their life stories. These stories resonated with the students, providing them with hope, perspective, and the right mindset to navigate their life journeys. Notably, the role models didn't just share their experiences; they also exposed students to diverse career paths, guiding them toward informed decisions about their futures. NEAID hosted four Role Model Interactions, impacting thousands of students and teachers.

Dipshikha Baruah, the first woman from Assam to become an International Referee in Taekwondo, set the stage for this program by engaging 516 students and numerous teachers from 13 schools. Dr. Nivedita Deka, an expert in Agricultural Economics, introduced students to various career opportunities in agriculture, reaching 494 students from 13 schools. Madhumita Kar, an Assamese entrepreneur, shared her journey, inspiring 121 students from 6 schools. Bahni Telangana, the first woman from a tea tribe community in Assam to qualify for UPSC examinations, brought her invaluable insights to 258 students from 14 schools.

Beyond these interactions, NEAID also conducted crucial webinars addressing

gender-based concerns and students' emotional well-being post-Covid 19. These sessions, led by specialized resource persons, equipped students with self-awareness regarding safe touch and mental health well-being.

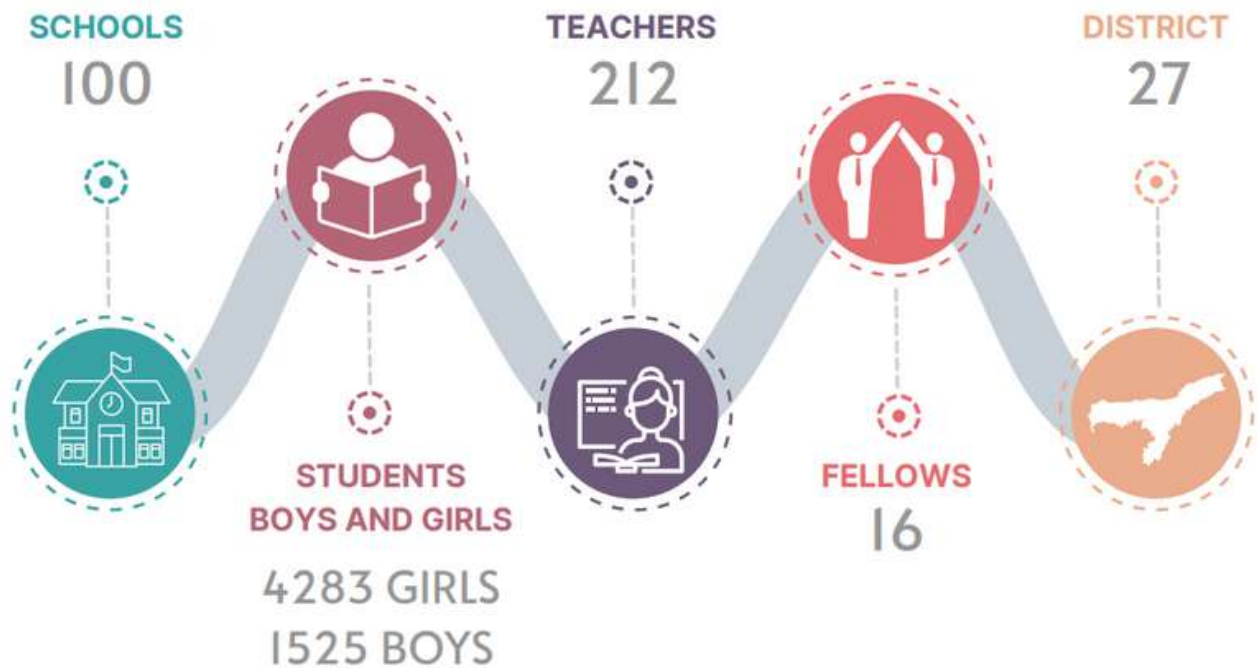
The Ideathon and Hackathon events marked another significant milestone in the program, fostering innovation and problem-solving skills among students. This initiative engaged 361 students across 13 schools, allowing them to identify real-world challenges and create practical solutions. Students demonstrated their creativity by developing prototypes like eco-friendly bicycles and water sedimentation filter models.

To ensure continuous growth and reflection, NEAID organized Learning Day events, where students discussed their learnings and takeaways. These events celebrated the knowledge and mindset shifts achieved by students throughout the program.

Teacher orientations were a key element in ensuring effective program implementation. NEAID conducted both online and school-level teacher orientations to familiarize educators with the program's curriculum and objectives, leading to increased support from teachers.

NEAID recognized the importance of district officials in program success and actively engaged in advocacy and liaising efforts. District-level orientations involving District Program Officers and

STEM for Girls - Bridging the Gender Gap



1000+ Children

Participated in Role Model Interaction



100 Schools across 27 districts

Celebrated Learning Day



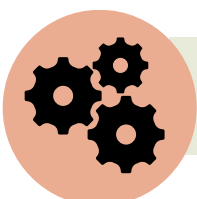
1000+ Children

Reached through Webinar in gender related Topics



212 Teachers

Empowered through Capacity Building



361 Children across 13 Schools

participated in Ideathon and Hackathon



40+ Rural Communities

Reached through Community visit



Inspectors of Schools helped build a collaborative approach to program implementation.

Community interventions were instrumental in broadening the program's impact beyond the classroom. Through meetings, awareness campaigns, and home visits, NEAID engaged parents, community leaders, and other stakeholders in discussions on the importance of education, gender equity, and early marriage prevention.

Furthermore, NEAID conducted workshops in rural communities to promote self-discovery and gender awareness among

students, fostering a sense of unity and empowerment.

Parent-Teacher Meetings (PTMs) were conducted with a focus on changing stereotypes, instilling STEM mindsets, and encouraging parents, especially of girls, to support their education and career aspirations.

STEM for Girls program has been a comprehensive and impactful endeavor, shaping the lives of students, educators, and communities across Assam. It has not only inspired students but also fostered a culture of innovation, gender equity, and holistic development.





Me Bhi Jagrik - A Rights Awareness Campaign

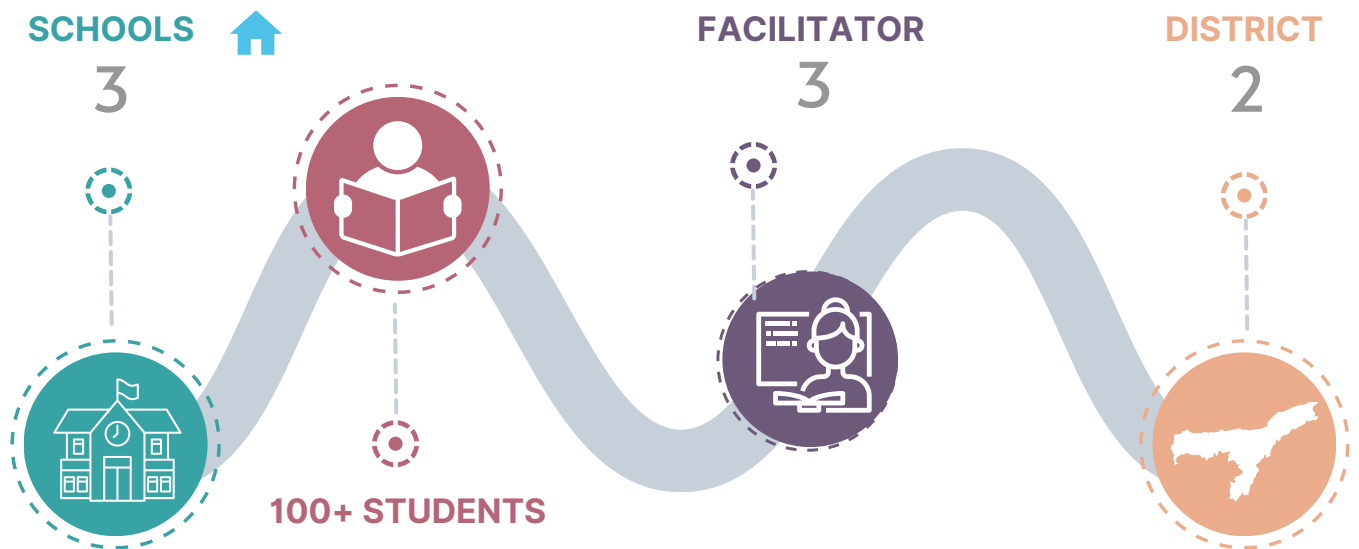
Jagrik Campaign, aligning with the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and marking the 30th anniversary of this crucial international commitment. The UNCRC guarantees survival, protection, development, and participation rights to all adolescents, and in this pivotal moment, NEAID recognized the imperative to create an environment that empowers adolescents to exercise their rightful participation. Through the innovative and time-tested pedagogy of gaming, the Samvidhan LIVE! Be a Jagrik initiative was born, with the mission of facilitating a harmonious balance between rights and duties through active, lived action and expression. This approach sought to unlock the boundless potential of adolescents and their communities.

The Samvidhan Live! Be a Jagrik journey was thoughtfully designed to encompass UNICEF's priorities on Child Rights and adolescent participation. It ingeniously correlated each Fundamental Right enshrined in the Constitution of India with a corresponding Child Right outlined in the UNCRC. This holistic approach enabled adolescents to develop a profound understanding of the concept of 'rights' in the context of both being responsible citizens and individuals. The tasks and activities within the program were structured to encourage adolescents to practice Articles 12 and 15 of the UNCRC, addressing critical issues such as child marriage, child labor, health, education, nutrition, and hygiene.

Throughout the campaign, various activities were undertaken, including community tasks that instilled a sense of civic responsibility, an exploration of the Constitution and its preamble, self-driven tasks to encourage independent thinking and action, pre-surveys to gauge initial awareness and understanding, in-depth discussions on child rights to enhance knowledge, child rights-based tasks to apply their learning, and reflections on their efforts to effect change within their communities. Furthermore, participants delved into the understanding of Fundamental Duties and how these responsibilities intersect with the lives of everyday citizens. Case studies, task cards, and the Jagrik toolkit provided valuable resources and guidance throughout this transformative journey.

Through the Jagrik Campaign we focused to empower adolescents, promote the holistic development of child rights, and foster active participation in shaping a more just and equitable society. By merging gaming and education, we have ignited a spark within adolescents, motivating them to not only understand their rights but also to actively protect them and fulfill their duties as responsible citizens. This campaign was seen nurturing the leaders of tomorrow who will champion the cause of child rights and social change in the near future.

Mein Bhi Jagrik - A Rights Awareness Campaign



60+ Children

Participated in understanding Preamble



2 districts through 36 Action Projects

Engaged in awareness campaign on Constitution



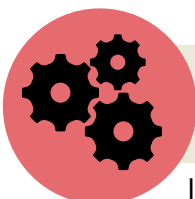
70+ Children

made aware in Fundamental Rights



3 Rajmel

Conducted involving parents, teachers, SMCs and PRI members



100+ Children across 3 Schools

learned Child Rights



100+ Children

empowered to bring change through self community task



জল জীৱন মিচন
ঘৰে ঘৰে বিশুদ্ধ পানী



Gram Sabha

Place:

Date:

আহক, এই মিছনৰ সুবিধা গ্ৰহন কৰি
ঘৰে ঘৰে বিশুদ্ধ খোৱা পানী ব্যৱস্থা কৰো।



Advancing Water and Sanitation through the Jal Jeevan Mission



100+ Gaon Sabhas

planned to engage through awareness



310+ FGD

Planned to conduct ensuring women participation



405+ PRA Activities

Planned to conduct ensuring rural participation



350 FTK Women

will be trained on Water Quality Testing



1000+ Cluster Level Meeting

Planned to conduct ensuring spatial inclusion



300+ VWSC

Planned to organize for smooth delivery of water connections



8 Division across 405 villages

Reached through Awareness campaign and initiation



74813 Households

Reached to cascade benefits of JJM

In rural Assam, the issue of poor water quality or the absence of water altogether poses a significant challenge for households. Women, who typically bear the responsibility for managing kitchens and households, are disproportionately affected by this problem. Furthermore, the lack of adequate sanitation facilities hampers human development in these rural areas.

In response to these pressing issues, NEAID is committed to the mission of Jal Jeevan Mission that seeks to ensure that every household has access to functional tap water by the year 2024. NEAID is actively engaged in the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission across five districts in Assam, namely Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Morigaon, Jorhat, and Majuli. This initiative aims to benefit a substantial number of households, totaling 61,876, spread across eight divisions within these districts.

As part of the Jal Jeevan Mission in Rural Assam, NEAID will ensure improving water and sanitation access a the region. through the formation of the Village Water and Sanitation Committees as its first step. These committees will empower local communities to actively participate in managing their water resources and sanitation facilities.

In addition to this, NEAID will take proactive steps to promote gender inclusivity by providing training to more than 300 women members of the Field Test Kit (FTK) Groups. This training will enhance their capacity to contribute

effectively to water and sanitation initiatives.

Furthermore, we will actively engage with the community through the engagement of Gaon Sabhas, ensuring that grassroots voices are heard in the decision-making process. Participatory development will be promoted through extensive Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) activities, which will involve over 300 communities. This approach will foster a deeper understanding of local needs and preferences, guiding our interventions. Additionally, we will focus on dialogue and inclusivity by conducting Focus Group Discussions, Community Meetings, and Cluster Level Meetings, facilitating a robust exchange of ideas and feedback with various stakeholders.

Ensuring the safety and quality of water will remain a priority, and NEAID will conduct specialized training for FTK members in Water Quality Testing. This capacity-building initiative will contribute to the delivery of safe and clean drinking water to rural communities in Assam.

We look forward to improving water and sanitation infrastructure, enhancing community participation, and ensuring the well-being of rural communities in Assam, continuing our mission to provide sustainable access to safe water and sanitation for all. These activities are planned to reach 61,876 households and 8 divisions across 5 districts in the coming year.

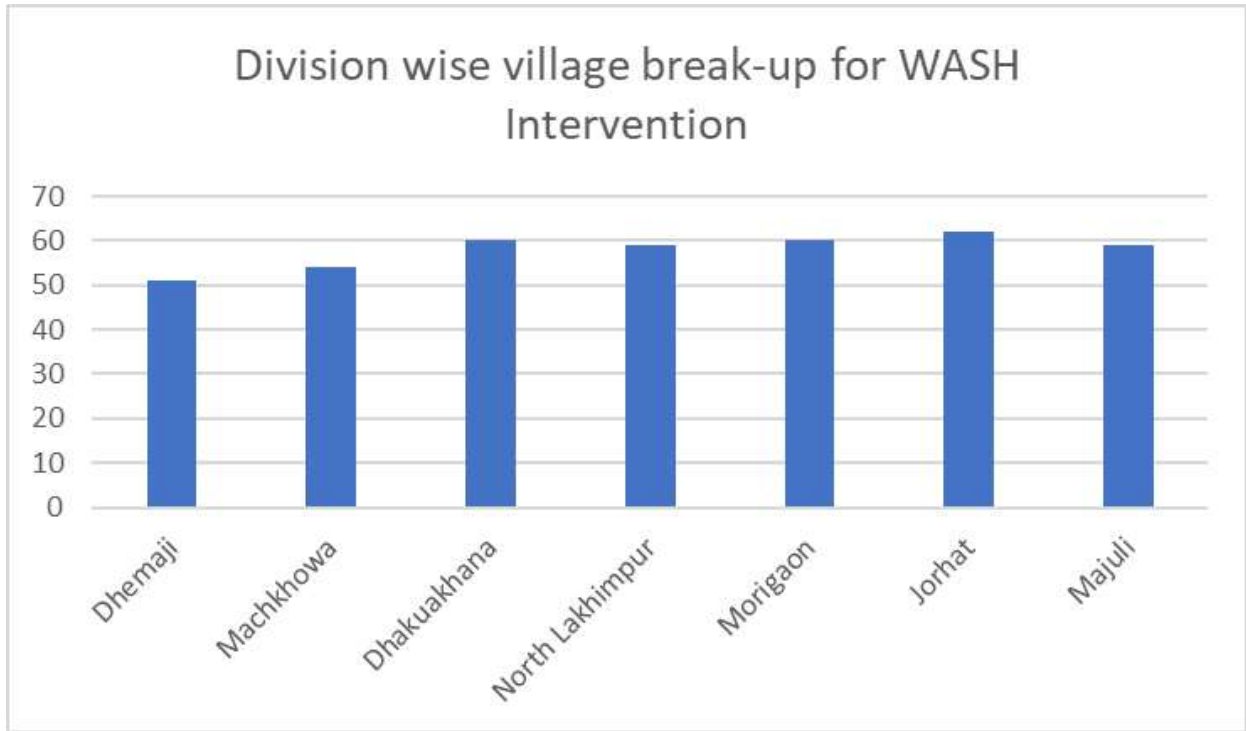


Fig : Division wise village break-up for WASH Intervention

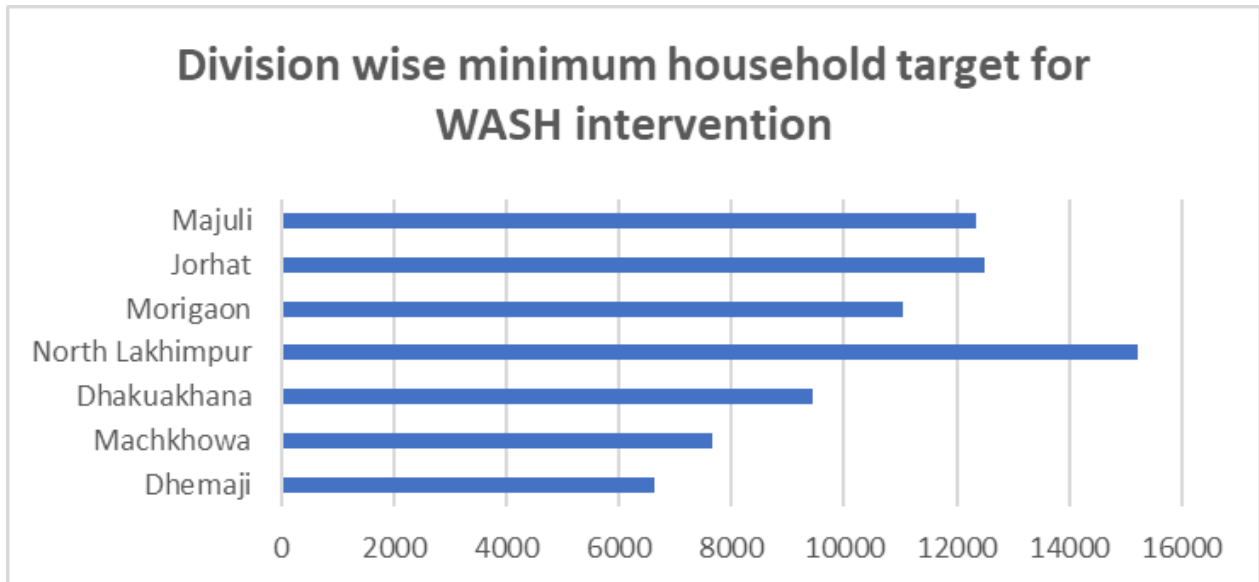


Fig : Division wise minimum HH target for WASH Intervention





Relief Efforts: Responding to the Dual Challenges of COVID and Floods

In response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and flood, NEAID was unwavering in its commitment to the well-being of communities in the northeastern region of India, with a primary focus on mitigating the pandemic's impact, ensuring flood crisis and fostering the region's overall resilience.

Recognizing the severe economic hardships faced by many individuals during this crisis, NEAID took on the vital responsibility of distributing dry ration kits. This compassionate initiative provided sustenance to a significant number of affected individuals, ensuring they had access to essential food supplies during these trying times.

Furthermore, we were profoundly inspired by the indomitable spirit displayed by the communities we served. NEAID remains dedicated to working hand in hand with these communities, providing support and resources as they rebuild their lives and envision a brighter future beyond the challenges posed by the pandemic.

The relief material distribution covered 933 households in 24 areas under the Hajo circle of Kamrup (Rural) district, benefiting 1,467 individuals, and 6 villages under the Mayong circle of Morigaon district, serving 2,399 beneficiaries. The items in the kit were thoughtfully selected to meet the requirements of households in relief camps, including nutritional supplements for pregnant women and children aged 0-5, along with a common medical kit. The list of items was shared with the community and relevant government

departments for their input. The kit items underwent sampling and verification by divisional-level government officials before distribution to ensure product quality.

In the face of the crisis, NEAID tirelessly responded to ensure the well-being of northeastern communities. Through strategic collaborations and unwavering support for their basic needs, NEAID exhibited remarkable resilience and determination in the face of adversity. Looking forward, our commitment remains unwavering as we continue our mission to promote public health, nurture community resilience, and stand by the people of the northeastern region as they embark on their journey to recovery and prosperity.





A Report on Health initiative during COVID-19 crisis

In continuation to the NEAID initiative addressing the pressing challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic in the year 2020-21. The primary focus in the year 2021-22 was safeguarding communities' well-being, with a concerted effort to minimize the pandemic's adverse effects and promote the overall health of vulnerable populations.

NEAID initiated its pandemic response by forging a significant partnership with the District Collector of Morigaon. The signing of an MoU marked a milestone, formalizing NEAID's contribution of oxygen concentrators to enhance COVID patient care. These life-saving devices significantly bolstered the healthcare infrastructure, ensuring timely and adequate oxygen support for those in need. Further solidifying its commitment to public health, NEAID entered into an MoU with the Kamrup District strengthening the region's healthcare systems, with a focus on enhancing capacity and infrastructure to effectively combat the ongoing health crisis.

NEAID launched an expansive vaccination campaign to safeguard the residents of tea gardens and rural tribal communities in the northeastern region. This initiative successfully immunized a substantial portion of the population, contributing significantly to the region's progress toward achieving herd immunity.

NEAID also extended its support to the state of Manipur by distributing essential medical kits. These kits contained critical supplies and equipment to help individuals manage their health during the crisis, easing the burden on local healthcare facilities.

NEAID work towards ensuring public health with an effort to raise awareness and encourage compliance with COVID-19 safety measures. A mass masking campaign was organized, targeting tea tribal and rural communities. By distributing masks and imparting knowledge on their importance, NEAID played a pivotal role in curbing the virus's spread and motivating community participation in vaccination efforts.

NEAID responded to the COVID-19 pandemic affected ensuring the well-being of marginalized communities. Through strategic collaborations, extensive vaccination drives, essential medical aid distribution, NEAID exhibited resilience and determination in the face of adversity. As we look ahead, we remain steadfast in our mission to promote public health, foster community resilience, and stand by the people of the northeastern region as they continue on their path to recovery and prosperity., extensive vaccination drives, essential medical aid distribution, NEAID exhibited resilience and determination in the face of adversity. As we look ahead, we remain steadfast in our mission to promote public health, foster community resilience, and stand by the people of need.

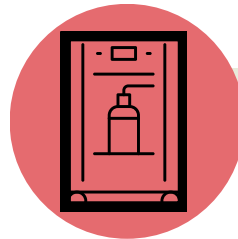


A Report on response during COVID-19 crisis



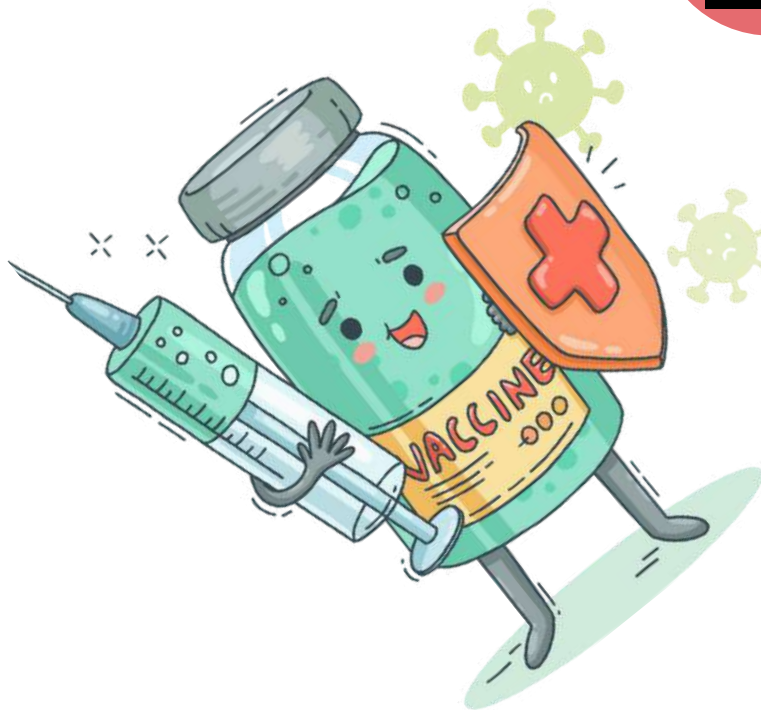
Community Awareness

2800+ people reached at village level



Strengthening CCC

70 oxygen concentrators arranged for Rural COVID Care Centres (CCC)



Dry Ration Support

Reached 3000+ families through food items distribution



Multiple Communities

vaccination camps in underserved pockets



OTC Medical Kit

Provided 5000+ medical kits to Quarantine individuals



People from 2 States

Provided medical kits in Manipur and Mizoram (1 district)



Akikaran Fellowship Program

The Akikaran Fellowship is a dynamic, two-year fellowship journey dedicated to reshaping schools in remote, rural, and tribal areas within Assam. This program is specifically designed to harness the enthusiasm and dedication of young individuals who are passionate about effecting change in the field of education.

Participants in the Akikaran Fellowship will receive extensive training, equipping them with the knowledge and skills required to become change-makers. Their mission is to work alongside a diverse range of educational stakeholders, including Headmasters (HMs), students, parents, School Management Committees (SMCs), government officials, and local communities, to address the unique challenges faced by schools in these underserved areas.

The impact of the Akikaran Fellowship extends across multiple dimensions:

Educational Empowerment: This program empowers Fellows to elevate the quality of education in schools, enhancing the learning experience for students.

Community Engagement: Through collaboration with parents, SMCs, and local communities, Fellows foster a sense of collective responsibility and cooperation, strengthening support for these schools.

Institutional Improvement: By working closely with Headmasters and school staff, Fellows contribute to systemic enhancements, from refining

curricula to upgrading different teaching practices, ultimately elevating the overall standard of these schools.

Government Partnerships: Akikaran Fellows collaborate with government officials to align program objectives with broader educational policies, ensuring sustainable, enduring effects.

Cultural Sensitivity: The program acknowledges and respects the unique cultural and social contexts of rural, remote, and tribal areas. Fellows are trained to incorporate local knowledge and traditions into the educational process.

Youth Empowerment: Beyond its impact on schools, the Akikaran Fellowship empowers young individuals, offering them the opportunity to make a tangible and lasting impact on their communities.

Comprehensive Transformation: With a two-year timeframe, the program enables sustained efforts, fostering holistic transformation rather than superficial fixes.

The Akikaran Fellowship is a potent catalyst for change, ensuring that education reaches even the most remote areas of Assam. It empowers youth to be the driving force behind this transformation. It embodies the belief that quality education is not a privilege but a fundamental right, accessible to all, irrespective of geographical location or socio-economic background. Through the Fellowship, the future of rural education in Assam is being reimagined, one school at a time.





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