

Saksham Regional Institute for Capacity Building and Evaluation

Note on Activities undertaken from Nov 2021 to Oct 2023

The National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) and the National TB Elimination Program (NTEP) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) have been designated as the Primary Recipients (PR) by The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) for strengthening the national level efforts in addressing HIV/ AIDS and TB, respectively. The primary recipients, NACO and NTEP have roped in Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) as the Sub Recipient (SR) for implementing the project in five zones across India- East, North, South, West and Central. TISS has partnered with five Regional Institutes for Capacity Building and Evaluation (RICE) as the Sub-Sub Recipients (SSR) for the same. College of Social Work (Autonomous) is the implementing partner for West Zone which includes the States of Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra and the District of Mumbai.

Saksham Project is implemented in two different areas: Saksham Pramaan – for HIV prevention and Saksham Pravaah for TB Elimination:

- (a) Saksham Pramaan- Capacity Building and Evaluation of HIV/ AIDS Targeted Intervention (TI) & Link Workers' Scheme (LWS); and
- (b) Saksham Pravaah- Capacity Building of the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) staff on psycho-social aspects of TB and counselling.

Project Staff

- Dr. Lidwin Dias- Principal Investigator
- Ms. Anjana Parmar- Faculty In-Charge (Program)
- Ms. Saloni Mulam: Finance and Administration Officer
- Ms. Kalpana Gaikwad and Mr. Anirudh Narayanan- Regional Coordinators (Saksham Pramaan)
- Mr. Praveen Kachhap: Capacity Building Coordinator (Saksham Pravaah)
- Mr. Rajesh: Support Staff
- Ms. Silveia Chettiar: Finance Consultant

Saksham Pramaan:

College of Social Work (Autonomous), Nirmala Niketan is closely working with the State AIDS Control Societies (SACSs) to conduct the seamless evaluation in Western Zone and complete the task as per the NACO timeline. The main objective of the project is to support the National AIDS Control Program (NACP) through building capacities of evaluators, and to coordinate evaluations of TI and LWS along with SACSs. The TIs reach out to the key High-Risk groups (HRGs) such as Female Sex Worker (FSW), Male having sex with Male (MSM), Transgender (TG), Injecting Drug Users (IDUs) and Bridge Populations such as Migrants and Long-Distance Truckers. Link Worker Scheme (LWS) reach out to HRGs, Bridge Population and Vulnerable Population residing in rural areas.

Project activities follow a cyclical pattern each quarter, where Quarter 1 (Apr- June) focuses on reporting, checking for errors in reports and documentation of the previous quarter evaluations. Quarter 2 (July- Sept) comprises of mobilizing new evaluators, co-ordinating and planning for regional training of evaluators. Quarter 3 (Oct-Dec) comprises of planning and calendar finalization for evaluations, assigning evaluators to states and TIs. Quarter 4 (Jan- Mar) comprises of actual evaluations where RICE team conducts monitoring visits to a certain percentage of TIs and also monitors the submission of reports to NACO. Some important achievements and numbers are mentioned below.

S.no	Activities - November 2021 to March 2022		
1.	No. of Regional Team Members who attended the National ToT (November 2021)	4 (1 Faculty In-Charge, 2 Regional Coordinators, 1 Finance Officer)	
2.	Coordination Meeting with SACS (Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Mumbai)	8	
3.	No. of application received via Google Forms for TI and LWS Evaluation Empanelment (till Dec 2021)	328	
4.	Eligible applicants for TI & LWS evaluation	125	
5.	No. of shortlisted applicants for scheduled evaluations	75	
6.	No. of Regional Trainings Organized and conducted in coordination with SACS	Goa	2 (virtual)
		Karnataka	2 (virtual)
		Maharashtra	7 (virtual)
		Mumbai	2 (virtual)
		Total	13 (virtual)
7.	No of evaluators attended the	Goa	2 (2 for Programmatic)

	regional training	Karnataka	9 (8 for Programmatic & 1 for Finance)
		Maharashtra	73 (47 for programmatic & 26 Finance)
		Mumbai	12 (9 programmatic & 3 Finance)
		Total	96 (66 for programmatic, 30 for finance)
8.	No. of TI/LWS evaluation completed till March 2022	Goa	15
		Karnataka	7
		Maharashtra	83
		Mumbai	31
		Total	136
9.	No. of empanelled evaluators completed evaluation	Goa	13
		Karnataka	8
		Maharashtra	52
		Mumbai	17
		Total	90
10.	No. of Monitoring Visits conducted	Goa	3
		Karnataka	2
		Maharashtra	6
		Mumbai	2
		Total	13
11.	No. of De-briefing Meetings attended by Regional Coordinators	Goa	1
		Karnataka	1
		Maharashtra	12
		Mumbai	1
		Total	15

S.no	Activities - April 2022 to March 2023		
1.	Human Resource: Project team (RICE) members on board		4 (1 Faculty In-Charge, 2 Regional Coordinators, 1 Finance Officer) (1 vacancy for RC appointed in August 2022, 1 vacancy for FO appointed in October 2022)
2.	No. of Staff Members who attended the National Meeting with NACO (November 2022)		4 (1 Faculty In-Charge, 2 Regional Coordinators, 1 Finance Officer)
3.	Coordination Meeting with SACS/TISS/NACO	Goa	1
		Karnataka	5
		Maharashtra	5
		Mumbai	2
		Total	13
4.	No. of new applications received via Google Forms for TI and LWS Evaluation Empanelment		83
5.	Eligible applicants for TI & LWS evaluation		52
6.	No. of shortlisted applicants for scheduled evaluations		40
7.	No. of Regional Trainings Organized and conducted in coordination with SACS	Goa	0
		Karnataka	1
		Maharashtra	2
		Mumbai	0
		Total	3
8.	No. of evaluators attended the regional training	Goa	-
		Karnataka	21 (15 for Programmatic & 6 for Finance)
		Maharashtra	31 (21 for programmatic & 10 Finance)
		Mumbai	-
		Total	52 (36 for programmatic, 16 for finance)
9.	No. of TI/LWS evaluation completed till March 2022	Goa	0
		Karnataka	65
		Maharashtra	49
		Mumbai	2
		Total	116
10.	No. of empanelled evaluators completed evaluation	Goa	-
		Karnataka	51
		Maharashtra	40
		Mumbai	6
		Total	97

11.	No. of Monitoring Visits conducted	Goa	-
		Karnataka	6
		Maharashtra	5
		Mumbai	2
		Total	13
12.	No. of De-briefing Meetings attended by Regional Coordinators	Goa	-
		Karnataka	3 (hybrid-2, online -1)
		Maharashtra	5 (physical-3, online- 2)
		Mumbai	2
		Total	10

S.no	Activities - April 2023 to October 2023		
1.	Human Resource: Project team (RICE) members on board		4 (1 Faculty In-Charge, 2 Regional Coordinators, 1 Finance Officer) (1 vacancy for RC appointed in June 2023, 1 vacancy for FIC appointed in October 2023)
2.	Coordination Meeting with SACS/TISS/NACO/Other Stakeholders	Goa	1
		Karnataka	1
		Maharashtra	5
		Mumbai	3
		Others	2 (1-Maharashtra Association of Social Work Educators (MASWE), 1- DY Patil Institute of Management and Research)
		Total	12
3.	No. of new applications received via Google Forms for TI and LWS Evaluation Empanelment		50
4.	Eligible applicants for TI & LWS evaluation		34
5.	No. of shortlisted applicants for scheduled evaluations		31
6.	No. of Regional Trainings Organized and conducted in coordination with SACS	Goa	0
		Karnataka	0
		Maharashtra	1
		Mumbai	0
		Total	1
7.	No of evaluators attended the regional training	Goa	-
		Karnataka	-
		Maharashtra	24 (20 for programmatic & 4 Finance)
		Mumbai	-
		Total	24 (20 for programmatic, 4 for finance)
8.	No. of TI/LWS evaluation completed till October 2023	Goa	0
		Karnataka	0
		Maharashtra	7 (3 evaluations postponed due to administrative issues in MSACS)
		Mumbai	0
		Total	7
9.	No. of empanelled evaluators completed evaluation	Goa	-
		Karnataka	-
		Maharashtra	9
		Mumbai	-

		Total	9
10.	No. of Monitoring Visits conducted	Goa	-
		Karnataka	-
		Maharashtra	2
		Mumbai	-
		Total	2
11.	No. of De-briefing Meetings attended by Regional Coordinators	Goa	-
		Karnataka	-
		Maharashtra	0 (delayed due to administrative issues in MSACS)
		Mumbai	-
		Total	0
S.no	Upcoming Activities Planned - November 2023 to March 2024		
1.	Coordination Meeting with SACS/TISS/NACO/Other Stakeholders	Goa	1
		Karnataka	1
		Maharashtra	1
		Mumbai	1
		Others	-
		Total	4
2.	No. of Regional Trainings Organized and conducted in coordination with SACS	Total	1 (One-Day combined Review Training for Team Leaders of MSACS, KSAPS, GSACS and MDACS)
3.	No. of TI/LWS evaluations planned	Goa	15
		Karnataka	6
		Maharashtra	89 (including 3 postponed from October 2023)
		Mumbai	24
		Total	134
4.	No. of Monitoring Visits planned	Goa	2
		Karnataka	2
		Maharashtra	9
		Mumbai	3
		Total	16

Saksham Pravaah:

Saksham Pravaah, in partnership with the National TB Elimination Programme, will provide counselling and psycho-social support for People Living with Drug-Resistant TB. It is being implemented in the West Zone, which includes the states of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Goa. The project will develop a National Master Trainers Pool to build capacities of the NTEP staff on psycho-social aspects of TB and counselling soft skills.

The project Saksham Pravaah, from its initiation, has provided counselling and psycho-social support to people living with Drug Resistant (DR) TB and their caregivers. The counsellors provide ongoing home-based counselling and address many issues, including TB related Stigma and Discrimination, Gender-based concerns and Mental Health. The project Pravaah reduces the catastrophic burden of TB, and the Counsellors link People Living with TB to the existing Government of India Social Protection Scheme and Nutritional Support. At present Saksham Pravaah is conducting cascade training in three states, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Goa. There were total of 30, 18 and 01 cascade training scheduled in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Goa. Goa cascade training is completed and as of now, 03 and 05 training are remaining in Maharashtra and Karnataka respectively.

The project Saksham Pravaah commenced in the month of January 2022. The College of Social Work (Autonomous), Nirmala Niketan undertook the following task through project Saksham Pravaah in the financial year **2022-23**:

State	Cascade Training Conducted	Participants Attended		Total Participants
		STS	TBHV	
Maharashtra	3	50	24	74
Karnataka	9	131	113	244
Goa	0	0	0	0
Total	12	181	137	318

In the year **2022-23**, to facilitate smooth sessions, College of Social Work (Autonomous), Nirmala Niketan conducted 02 Training of Trainers (ToT) in Mumbai, Maharashtra and Bangalore, Karnataka. The ToT trained 42 master trainers who were deputed by State Tuberculosis Training and Demonstration Centers from Maharashtra, Karnataka and Goa, and also some who were identified by our team.

In the current financial year **2023-24** the following tasks have been undertaken through the Saksham Pravaah project:

State	Cascade Training Conducted	Participants Attended		Total Participants
		STS	TBHV	
Maharashtra	24	334	246	580
Karnataka	4	73	31	104
Goa	1	19	9	28
Total	29	426	286	712

As of October 2023, the College of Social Work (Autonomous), Nirmala Niketan has conducted 41 cascade training from its inception which includes 1030 NTEP front-line staff from TB health department.