In 2021, IDRF provides a new van for the Mobile Medical Clinics!

The van to Vivekananda Kendra will continue our medical camps, micro-surgeries, malnutrition and anemia eradication programs benefiting 8,000+ patients in the remote hilly areas of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh

Dear Friend,

In this note I would like to share the success of some of our development program that was made possible due to our donors’ trust in us and the hard work of our NGO partners and volunteers during a difficult time.

In this Newsletter:

- Help for anemic women in remote hilly areas
- Safe and sustainable water supply for villagers
- Municipal reforms for improved quality of public services in cities

“Mission Shakti”: Anemia eradication in rural women
Assam and Arunachal Pradesh

In January 2021, IDRF and partner Vivekananda Kendra started an anemia detection and eradication program in 15 villages of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. By the end of February nine medical camps were held and 600 women (13 to 50 years) were tested for hemoglobin levels. Being anemic will not only hamper their general health, but they are also likely to give birth to underweight and malnourished children with health complications.

January – February 2021
412 anemic women provided iron and folic acid supplements

After two months, blood tests will be done again to monitor the changes in the participants and this process will go on for one year. Meanwhile, the
medical team is educating the women about nutrition and encouraging them to grow vegetables in their kitchen gardens.

Desilting ponds to collect water through rainwater harvesting
Tamil Nadu

With IDRF's support, Swami Vivekananda Rural Development Society has been desilting ponds (removal of bed-sand and weeds) in order to provide water to the villagers facing water crises.

5 more ponds desilted (since November 2020) to provide water to 11,700 villagers

About 4 to 7 feet of debris was dug out of each pond. Once the ponds were desilted and obstructions to the water flow removed, the rainwater started collecting in the ponds and is used by the villagers.

Strengthening municipal finances, capacities and citizen engagement in cities of Odisha

IDRF has partnered with Janaagraha Center for Citizenship & Democracy, the Odisha government and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for a 3-year period (Sept 20-June 2023) to implement a process for strengthening cities by improving municipal finances (revenue augmentation), staffing/capacities and citizen engagement. The project is also involved in state government's JAGA Mission for denotification of over 2,000+ slums in Odisha and transforming slums to "Adarsh Colonies"(or regular city neighborhoods) through participatory infrastructure and service development. [http://adarshcolony.cobold.xyz/about](http://adarshcolony.cobold.xyz/about)
September 2020– March 2021

- Property tax reforms implemented in Bhubaneshwar with groundwork on to reform the entire state's property tax valuation system
- Completion of a new Odisha Municipal Accounting Manual and assessments of acts to be amended in the manual
- Launch of an SWM app to collect user fee charges
- 581 slums identified that will be denotified by April 2021

Please continue your support to IDRF and tell us if there is a cause near to your heart; a cherished dream of giving back that IDRF can help you fulfill. Your support to IDRF can change lives in India, Nepal and Sri Lanka -especially of those who are marginalized by our society!

Thank you very much and stay safe,
Dr. Vinod Prakash
Founder and President (pro bono), IDRF