



## P.A.C.E. ADOLESCENT GIRLS LIFE SKILLS TRAINING

### Project Objective

The program 'Personal Advancement & Career Enhancement' (P.A.C.E.), a certified life skill training program for adolescent girls of 11 to 17 years is being implemented in Sambalpur with an objective to enhance skills of girls to achieve their career goals and to address harmful social practices like child marriage, gender inequality, dowry through well informed and skilled adolescents.

### Reach

- 2036 girls have been trained; 495 younger adolescent girls & 1541 older adolescent girls
- 27 villages, 6 panchayats
- 5 schools & 3 colleges of Sambalpur town

### Training Outcome

Education & Career Aspiration	15 drop out girls are enrolled back in school
	35 girls have registered in Industrial Training Institute, Sambalpur, out of which 4 girls are continuing classes, rest 31 will enrol in this year session under different trades
	18 girls have taken admission in vocational training centres (DDU-GKY)
	60 girls are mobilized for vocational training in RSETI under beauty & wellness and healthcare trades
	16 girls have enrolled in online Spoken English class
	35 girls of ITI are given career counselling, the girls have set career goals and prepared resume
Self Efficacy & Leadership quality	6 adolescent girls group formed in 6 villages with 220 members, 50 girls are developed as leaders
	The 50 leaders are cascading the training learning among peers & contribute in village development initiative
	The girls have become regular to classes and asking questions to clear doubts (As informed by teachers)
Financial Literacy	40 girls have opened bank accounts & started savings habit, More than 100 girls confirmed having a savings plan in past three months
Health & Wellbeing	8 early marriages have been stopped
	128 girls are receiving free sanitary pads from Anganwadi centre every month
	350 girls have adopted improved menstrual hygiene practices

## Challenges

The 2<sup>nd</sup> wave of pandemic became a road block to reach more girls through the program. The closure of educational institutions made it difficult of enrolment of girls under career development programs.

## Way Forward

The adolescent girls of 173 urban communities of Sambalpur face multiple challenges such as gender role perception, conflict of emotions, safety issues, confusions regarding inter personal relationship, accepting bodily changes, curiosity regarding sex and sexuality, choice of career, educational aspirations and lack of knowledge in menstrual hygiene & reproductive health.

The program in communities and educational institutions will bring transformation in the current scenario.



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