

Annual Report 2003

Association for India's Development, Inc.

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*Compassion wherever there is suffering
Conviction that the compassion is strong enough to
eliminate suffering
Courage to make this conviction a reality
...This is AID*

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Welcome to the 2003 Annual Report of Association for India's Development. Through this annual report, we hope to present to you the highlights of the past year, as well as an overview of what AID has come to mean to all of us.

1.1 Founding philosophy

Since its beginnings in 1991 as a small group of students at the University of Maryland, College Park, AID has grown to more than 500 volunteers in 45 chapters world-wide. Through these years of growth, AID has retained its essential character as a group of thoughtful and motivated individuals striving for social change. AID believes that the various problems that society faces are interconnected — poverty and over-consumption, unemployment and agricultural crisis, social injustice and middle-class apathy, health and environmental degradation, and so on. Hence the approach to address these should be holistic, and all of us are part of both the problem and the solution. The work of AID is primarily in lending support to grassroots non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and social activists in India who mobilize local communities to work on health, women's empowerment, agriculture, education, livelihood generation, human rights and more.

1.2 Projects and Volunteerism

As a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in the US, AID has supported more than 300 projects in India until now. These projects are distributed across 20 states of India, and many of them involve small groups which find access to

funds difficult, and serve marginalized sections of the country. We have over 150 NGO partners executing these projects. The funds raised by AID largely come from individual donors, many of whom have found in AID an avenue for positive action in the midst of prevailing negativism.

AID Volunteers raise funds, review proposals, interact with NGOs in India, and most importantly make project site visits during their India trips, establishing healthy relationships with the groups we support. Such close interaction with grassroots efforts motivates volunteers to contribute beyond financial support of projects. Several spend a few weeks to months volunteering in India, while others work with causes or projects while staying in the US — by helping design training material for community health workers, sending educational toys, finding technical information for a project, and so on. In many cases where poor and marginalized people are fighting for their rights, against injustice or wrong policies, mobilization of non-resident Indians can lend significant voice to the cause and draw the attention of the government or corporate authorities to the issue. AID has worked on many campaigns including the struggles in the Narmada valley, Bangalore-Mysore infrastructure corridor, Bhopal, and pollution in the Golden Corridor area of Gujarat.

Some volunteers, even more motivated, have moved to India permanently to work full-time for rural development. As our *Jeevansaathis*, they provide guidance and direction for our work, and have increased the depth and breadth of our understanding. Another very important source of inspiration and guidance is our group of *Saathis* — highly motivated individuals on the field that AID has worked with over several years. We consider our corps of *Saathis* and *Jeevansaathis* our most important asset, and a key reason why we believe that we *can* bring about social change in India in a big way.

1.3 AID Inc.

Until 2003, Association for India's Development (AID) functioned as an unincorporated association with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. As part of the process of incorporation, Association for India's Development, Inc. was formed with a separate Employer Identification Number, and in April 2003, received Letter of Recognition of 501(c)(3) Tax-Exempt Charitable Organization from IRS. Following this, the unincorporated association transferred its assets and liabilities and all future operations to Association for India's Development, Inc.

Association for India's Development

1.4 Looking ahead

The activities of the past two or three years have already set the directions for the coming years. We believe that AID should play a role beyond individual projects, via focused efforts in certain sectors, such as developing alternative energy, and by promoting replicable community-based development models (Hundred Block Plan). Secondly, we are looking forward to having more talented and energetic people return to India and join the volunteer force there. Thirdly, we believe that AID can play a critical role in mobilizing support among the highly educated sections in urban India and abroad, for the struggles of natural-resource based communities which are often not highlighted by popular media.

In the US, the number of AID chapters and volunteers has been growing rapidly, and this expansion is important for us to keep up with increasing commitments in India. There are two critical aspects for the success of this continued growth — building good administrative systems to handle the growth, and the sustained commitment of experienced volunteers and supporters, who can offer strength and example to new AIDers.

We hope that you will be with us to work through these challenges ahead.

Chapter 2

Overview of 2003

The year 2003 has largely been a year of consolidation for AID. Over the last twelve years, we have learned a lot as an organization, about what development means to the millions of poor people in India. We have come to realize over the years that our role as a funding organization to other groups executing projects is not enough. In keeping with this realization, we have renewed our goal of developing strong long-term collaborations with community groups in India.

Apart from the projects that we supported, we have also been very active in the domain of campaigns and peoples' movements in a much larger way. Worthy of particular mention are our efforts in Bhopal and Gujarat.

While we have been supporting the campaign in solidarity with the gas tragedy victims in Bhopal, our involvement jumped several folds higher in 2003, with one of our volunteers, Rachna Dhingra, moved from Ann Arbor, MI to Bhopal in January 2003 to work full time with the people of Bhopal. Rachna is our newest Jeevansaathi, taking our total count of Jeevansaathis to four. Since her move in January 2003, she has immersed herself in getting the balance of compensation to survivors, initiating efforts for clean drinking water, generating employment, and mobilizing local and global communities. She has become a key organizer for the campaign, and her enthusiasm and energy is an inspiration to all.

AID also participated in organizing a tour of the US by two survivors of the tragedy — Rashida Bi and Champa Devi. Activist Satinath Sarangi accompanied them to several cities in the US taking the message of the people of Bhopal. The three of them also played a very important role in our annual US conference in May (Chapter 6).

Based on our learnings from the last two years of working in Gujarat with groups providing relief and rehabilitation, first to victims of the massive earthquake

of January 2001, and then the communal riots of February 2002, AID formulated a **pluralism policy**. The policy is designed for us to take a harder look at the root cause of communalism in India. AID chapters at the AID US conference in May pledged that they will make a conscientious effort in studying each project proposal that comes to AID to ensure that the group had a good understanding of these root causes.

Memorial Day weekend of 2003 saw over 200 people get together in Pittsburgh for the annual **AID-US conference**. The conference again re-iterated our focus on consolidation, and on our goal to expand beyond the “project-mode” of operation. The key highlights of the conference include talks by Swati Desai (PSS), Rashida Bi, Champa Devi, and Satinath Sarangi (Bhopal), and Nishrin Jafri (daughter of MP Ehsan Jafri, who was killed during the riots of 2002 in Gujarat). The conference also included several key discussions on the pluralism policy and our plan of developing long-term relationships with groups in India in the form of **focus villages**.

AID completed its process of incorporation during 2003, and has started operating exclusively as AID Inc. Several new chapters sprung up during 2003, and our volunteers have kept up their high level of motivation and activity through the several project reviews, project visits, fund-raisers, awareness campaigns, and talks by visitors.

Overall, the year has been a good one for AID. We have come a long way from a small student group in College Park, MD to a group of people over 500-strong, spread all across the world. We value our collective learning, and are convinced that the three pillars of our work — **Nirman** (constructive projects), **Sangharsh** (people’s struggles), and **Seva** (being responsible citizens) — will go a long way in causing grassroot social change for the poor and marginalized millions in India.

Chapter 3

AID Projects

The projects supported by AID define and give meaning to its existence. In our work, we specifically work to ensure that the poor and marginalized sections of society benefit most from the projects. Over the last few years, we have realized that terms such as *development*, and who constitutes “India” are not as straightforward as they seem. As we mature in our understanding of the problems faced by the poor in India, we strive to ensure that our projects reflect our learning. We hope to provide deeper insight into this learning as we present some of our recent projects in the next few pages.

Apart from continuing to support small groups working in a few villages, we have initiated new partnerships with groups and movements that have, and nurture, a mass base. These partnerships have been instrumental in developing a shared understanding that development is best planned by local communities and implemented by local volunteers. The **Hundred Block Plan (HBP)** initiative that we have been supporting for the last two years is based on this principle.

Some AID Projects at a Glance

3.1 The Hundred Block Plan

Initiated in 2002, the Hundred Block Plan (HBP) represents a new level of involvement in community development for AID. The program, conceived by the All India People’s Science Network (AIPSN), aims at mass campaign interventions in five critical development areas across India:

1. Primary & School Science Education and Literacy

2. Health & Credit Cooperatives
3. Enterprise Development & Agricultural Interventions
4. Panchayat Level Planning & Program Implementation
5. Local Economy Planning & Development



Figure 3.1: *Farmers' and Women's SHG meeting in Virudhunagar, TN*

The AIPSN brings together People's Science Movement (PSM) bodies such as Kerala Shashtra Sahitya Parishad (KSSP), Bharatiya Gyan Vigyan Samiti (BGVS), and Tamil Nadu Science Forum (TNSF) under a common platform enabling them to share their expertise. The HBP relies on a unique form of implementation where NGOs and outside agencies provide models and tools, the affected community provides volunteers, and local administrations/bodies provide the necessary support for implementation. This

program taps into AIPSN's expertise in initiating mass campaigns (Total Literacy, Silent Valley, MALAR savings movement, etc.) and mobilizing volunteers. By involving Panchayats, the HBP aims at increasing awareness about roles of citizens and local government in these areas and increase public pressure on affiliated bodies (Public Health Centers, Government Schools, etc.). This has been proven to make governance more effective while using only existing infrastructure. Empowering women is a critical part of the program. Where AID has been seen primarily as a funding and reviewing agency before, it has stepped into this program as an active participant, assisting in developing tools for better program implementation, motivating participants in the field and processing & monitoring performance indicators. The HBP is being implemented in a phased manner both in terms of region and focus so that these are not diluted.

3.1.1 Current Work

The first and current focus area of HBP is Health & Credit Cooperatives by implementing the highly successful Arogya Iyakkam model. This program was named one of the 10 best programs in the world by the UN in 2001. This model calls for a door-to-door campaign by trained (women) volunteers to encourage use of existing government infrastructure & programs and prevent malnourishment among

infants (ages 0–5 yrs) as a demonstration of increased health awareness. This age group is seen as the most crucial phase for overall health of the human being. Women’s Self-Help and Savings Groups implemented in the model of Grameen Bank (Bangladesh) and TNSF’s MALAR movement (Kanyakumari), act as platforms for rural women to jointly act on these and other issues beside providing a supply of affordable rural credit, thus sustaining the program in coming years.

3.1.2 Program Details

Under HBP, programs are implemented district-wise in 37 blocks (each 40-60 villages) to keep the size small while impacting sufficient population (1 lakh per block). These blocks are spread over three states viz., Bihar (12 blocks), Tamil Nadu (15 blocks) and Jharkand (2 blocks). In addition, the program is being sustained in 8 Tamil Nadu blocks. Twenty one AID chapters have adopted and funded cost of the program in one or more blocks (\$2500/block in TN, \$6000/block in Bihar and Jharkand, and \$500/block to sustain an existing program). Overall AID funds to the tune of \$132,500/year for two years. Within each village, volunteers who will function as health activists (HAs) are identified and extensively trained both on field and off to keep track of the overall health of the entire village population (census, malnutrition etc.) and use of public health facilities. Personal contact between a trusted source (HA) and village women is a key factor in introducing good health practices to the community.

The program started in March of 2002 at a camp in Vaigai dam, TN. The camp attracted participants from across the entire state as well as heads of TNSF and BGVS. Based on the participants’ response, their ability to motivate village level volunteers and organize programs with minimal infrastructure, individual blocks were chosen. Initially due to procedural difficulties, AID funding was delayed and the program was started at a minimal level. Once AID started funding the program in September, it was expanded to its current scale. By end of the year, the program in Tamil Nadu was well on its way with the first round of weighing of children complete in most blocks.

In Bihar and Jharkand , the situation was more complicated due to lack of infrastructure and government support. The first part of program there was de-



Figure 3.2: Weighing children in Tirumangalam, TN



Figure 3.3: Training Camp for village HAs in Tundi, Bihar



Figure 3.4: Districts in (L to R) Bihar, Jharkhand and Tamil Nadu where the HBP-1st phase is being implemented (shown in yellow).

voted to setting up necessary state and block-level organizations and initiating self-help groups in many blocks. Consequently with funding and infrastructure coming through, weighing and other activities started in early 2003.

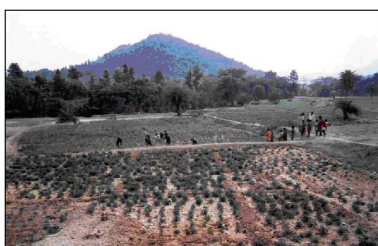


Figure 3.5: Cooperative farm started by SHG women in Gopinathpur, Tundi, Bihar

Successes of this program even at this stage are numerous. It has successfully empowered women, particularly Dalit women who are often selected as village health volunteers, giving them a prestigious status within their community. Personal advice from a trained volunteer, inaccessible to most village women thus far, has provided them with hope and confidence in their ability to address common health issues. Self help and savings groups formed as part of the program have rescued many rural families from debt cycles and provided them avenues to explore micro-enterprises. At the other end, involvement of several AIDers with block and village volunteers have transformed their idea and approach to community development programs. Here're some AID visitors' experiences in their own words —

“It had been a very good trip. I left with a feeling of optimism about the HBP work in Tundi. The BGVS volunteers impressed me as being not only sincere and committed but also people who really know what they are doing. They are familiar with this kind of work, and they have a good rapport with the people. Their long-term focus and thrust on comprehensive solutions and sustainability make them good partners for HBP and for AID.” — Apurva Mishra, AID-Portland on visit to Tundi, Bihar.

“Very high commitment and effort from district / block / village activists. The block full-timers put in huge efforts to travel around the villages - at least 10 villages per full-timer, to monitor and participate in health and savings groups. They are involved 7 days a week for about 10 to 12 hours per day” — Radhika Rammohan, AID-Atlanta on visit to Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu.

“In spite of all the challenges around, it was heartening to see tireless efforts from a few dedicated individuals who will stop at nothing. The change is slow but with a little bit of support from people like us can make it permanent. Lets commit ourselves to be a part of this change in years to come.” — Nishant Jain, AID-Austin on visit to Gaya, Bihar.



Figure 3.6: *The first child to be weighed in Parangipettai, Cuddalore as part of HBP*

using the group loans. — Karthikeyan & Jayanthi, AID-Cincinnati on visit to Tirumangalam, Tamil Nadu.

“TNSF volunteers are very dedicated and committed volunteers who always want to expand TNSF programmes in many other villages if they get sufficient funding. ...in fact, many of these volunteers are not married yet and want to dedicate their time for the society. That is really commendable. But TNSF always need to look and train more volunteers so that in case somebody gets married or relocated, others can take up the responsibility.” — Tothadri, AID-Nebraska on visit to Vellore, Tamil Nadu.

“A note of appreciation to all the Block workers. They have been offered better positions at other NGOs who would pay a higher salary, better compensation and traveling expenses. However, they still stick with TNSF out of gratitude and love for the work being done. Also, they were married women with children and other commitments, but they worked with enthusiasm and their husbands were very cooperative and understanding. In fact, one of the volunteer’s husband dropped her off at the office... The other eye-opener was when Ms. Shanthi blasted the father of three girl children who wanted a boy to take care of his daughters. She literally tore him apart and tried to tell him that you can also bring a girl up like a boy and give her the rights that you would give a son. Although he wasn’t really convinced, he agreed to think

“...The savings was found to be a huge success in this village. Not only did it serve its purpose but empowered the women to address social and health issues in their village. We found that the awareness level was very high among them and had made them responsible and committed. We also learnt that what attracted the women to the group was the low interest on the loans but being a part was a sense of pride now. The Rs.50 contributed each month was that saved from the money household expenditures or more recently from micro-enterprises started by these women

using the group loans.” — Karthikeyan & Jayanthi, AID-Cincinnati on visit to Tirumangalam, Tamil Nadu.



Figure 3.7: *Adolescent girl’s program in Nemeli, Vellore*

about getting a family planning operation after the next child, be it a boy or a girl.” — Harinath Chakrapani, AID-Duke on visit to Vellore.

“Look forward to more visits from other members and my subsequent visit to see the progress with HBP and other BGVS projects. The volunteers and members of BGVS appear very committed, motivated and knowledgeable and I think we have a great opportunity to learn a lot while working with them.” — Alka Roy, AID Atlanta on visit to Begusarai and Nawadah, Bihar.

“I would like to also emphasize a fact that we are most misguided upon, we as a chapter look at ourselves primarily as a fund-raising organ, that no longer holds good, if we want to suit our new role as an active participant on the ground. I understand with my meager knowledge of AID inception and progress that it was a fundamental paradigm that all the chapters went by, but I guess with time, paradigms change and here is one. Fund-raising should be vital and we need to proactive about it, but I guess to see perceivable change in the lives of people whom we are here to help, we need to participate more in their day to day problems. This would require us to evolve innovative and practical ideas to the problems that volunteers at the grass roots level can easily put in place and thereby achieve the desired goals of the whole endeavor.” — Swadeep, AID-Clemson on visit to Andipatty, TN.

Expectations from the HBP 1st Phase:

- An overall increase in health awareness about the rights and responsibilities of local governments and citizens
- Platforms for rural populations to jointly act on community issues
- Better utilization of available health facilities
- Confidence on part of villagers in their ability to tackle their own problems

3.1.3 People’s School Movement (Makkal Palli Iyakkam or MPI)

Alongside, AID has been working with the AIPSN, TAFRE and CRY to develop a model for the second phase of HBP. This covers primary and school science education and is currently being tried in 10 districts (200 villages) in Tamil Nadu. Net cost of the program is \$8,000/year for two years out of which AID is providing \$4,000/year for two years. Modeled on the Arogiya Iyakkam program, it’s goals are:

To prevent dropout — Identifying potential dropouts, meeting their parents, giving them special attention, organizing support centers to help them with basic

literacy and numeric skills, enrollment drives, cultural programs and intervention to get the community to focus on these children.



Figure 3.8: Exams test children's ability to 'fit' - not their ability to learn. A jatha performance in Taramani

To improve quality of education — In-school activities, science experiments, joy of learning activities, songs and games, library reading periods, slide shows, metric melas, educational festivals, cultural programs, etc.

To build community support — Forming Village Education Committees, Village Gatherings (Oor Koodum Nigalchi) to discuss education situation, Parent Teacher Meetings, presentation in Gram Sabhas, Community Education Register to plan for education needs, and involving the community through education programs as below.

To increase utilization of school — Making the school into a learning center for the entire village through a host of evening activities. Using the schools from 5 pm to 9 pm and on weekends for the community's learning needs. Some of the activities for adults being done in the schools are starting library and reading periods, savings group meetings, health and know your body classes, games for women, slide and video shows, science experiments, magic or logic, cultural programs, medical camps, etc.



Figure 3.9: Activists use simple tools like cards and beads to teach children literacy and numeracy skills

Expectations from the MPI

- Total or near total literacy in villages where the program took place
- An increase in awareness on what are the causes of illiteracy Better utilization of existing school infrastructure
- A sense of responsibility on part of the community concerning primary education Better tools and quality of education
- A model that can be used with minimal changes across India in literacy and education programs.

3.2 Soil and water conservation in Juna Mozda

AID continued its involvement in conserving the water and soil of the Juna Mozda region in Gujarat. Juna Mozda is situated in the Satpura mountain range, (south of the state of Gujarat). The area is forested, with an undulating landscape, few roads and many dirt tracks and footpaths, and very little infrastructure. Vasava adivasis (tribals), a sub-tribe of the Bhil adivasis have settled the area. Michael Mazgaonkar and Swati Desai, AID Saathis have taken up this work since 1994. The Bay Area, Pittsburgh, Duke, and Raleigh chapters of AID supported the work in 2002 and 2003.



Figure 3.10: A well-made bund

Originally there was shifting cultivation in the area. Families moved from place to place, clearing new land as the productivity of older lands declined. But later on people settled and started working the land in such a way that productivity would be maintained. This was probably the beginning of indigenous soil and water conservation activity in the area.



Figure 3.11: Volunteer team measuring the bund to provide grains to the farmers

The efforts are making farming more sustainable in the area, increase soil productivity, allow judicious use of land, ultimately leading to self-sufficiency. The process of building bunds is implemented as a "food for work" programme where farmers are provided grains for the cu.ft of bunds built in the land.

In 2002 we worked in 9 villages and bunds were made for 700 farmers. As a result of this work, soil productivity has increased (for example, farmers are now getting 2 crops instead of 1 crop per year) as has the standard of living.

Seeing these results, surrounding villages have been wanting to join the programme. When they express an interest we ask the people of that village to discuss it amongst themselves to find out their level of interest and commitment. After this, the volunteers go to that village and have further discussions with the villagers where everyone can understand what is required for that village and questions can be answered. If it is decided that the village is

ready for bundmaking then they join the programme. If on the other hand it is felt more time is required for them to think about the idea and their commitment, then they may join at a later stage. The volunteers decided that we will start working in only 3 new villages every year in order to avoid a loss in quality of work. In 2003, the work was extended to a total of 12 villages making bunds for a total of 1170 farmers.

The work in Mozda and surrounding villages recently received statewide recognition through the Year 2002 Rural Development Award.

3.3 AID in Gujarat: 2002-2003

The unprecedented post-earthquake devastation and suffering in Gujarat in 2001 generated a correspondingly large response from AID, which disbursed about \$300,000 towards a variety of rehabilitation and recovery projects in accordance with its philosophy to nurture sustainable, participative, and equitable development. In the context of marginalized sections like Dalits and areas like north Jamnagar being largely ignored by many donor groups, AID's money — though relatively limited and spread around in smaller amounts to more partners- served as the seed money for social venture capital to form new long-term partnerships (see AID Annual Report 2001 for more details).

Unfortunately, even as that was happening, communal violence broke out in Gujarat in February 2002 starting with the incident at Godhra. The violence claimed close to two thousand lives, and terrorized more than one lakh people into abandoning their homes for ill-equipped refugee camps over the next few months. Within days, many of the groups AID had been working with after the earthquake expanded their attention to include the victims of the communal violence, focusing on those in need irrespective of their religious identity. This coalition, called the Citizens' Initiative (CI), had to bear the burden of trying to reach the unreached in the unhealthy atmosphere that prevailed after the violence. AID thus followed the lead of its partners on the ground and expanded the scope of its "Rebuilding Gujarat" initiative to strengthen the critical mass of their institutional capacity to respond to such terrible tragedies as the two that afflicted Gujarat over the last 2 years.

Many inmates of the refugee camps had endured extreme physical or sexual violence and other deeply traumatic experiences. CI aimed to provide both immediate relief for the riot-affected as well as long-term assistance to help the unfortunate victims rebuild their devastated lives. In the initial days of violence, it provided food and medicines to refugees of both communities in the camps, and food assistance to daily labourers driven to starvation by the disruption of their

livelihood. AID's reconstituted Gujarat Taskforce worked with several AID chapters to support the efforts of CI in Ahmedabad city. Further support was provided for livelihood regeneration efforts in Sabarkantha district, rebuilding and communal harmony efforts in Boru village of Panchmahals district, and rehabilitation efforts in Ahmedabad. These projects, constituting the first phase of AID's response to the communal violence with a total disbursement of \$110,000, were largely completed by November 2002.

The period from March to November 2002 also coincided with two other relevant developments. Firstly, the shock of the communal violence and its impact forced AID volunteers and donors to face head-on the fact of growing polarization of religious identities in India, and understand its deeply detrimental impact on efforts for sustainable development. This growing understanding and consciousness of the need to work towards forging ties of peace and sisterhood and removing prejudices and hate led to several initiatives on Pluralism.

Secondly, engagement in efforts to stem the terrible effects of the violence as well as visits to affected villages and towns by several AID volunteers led to an understanding of how AID could utilize its remaining resources most effectively in the second phase of its response to the tragedy (December 2002 onwards).

Overall Project Expenses

Table 3.1: 2003 Project distribution by issue

Health care	36%
Literacy and education	21%
Rural development	12%
Empowerment	8%
Relief and rehabilitation	8%
Livelihood generation	7%
Peoples' rights	2%
Environment	2%
Alternate energy	1%
Anti-corruption	1%
Communal harmony	1%
Microcredit	1%

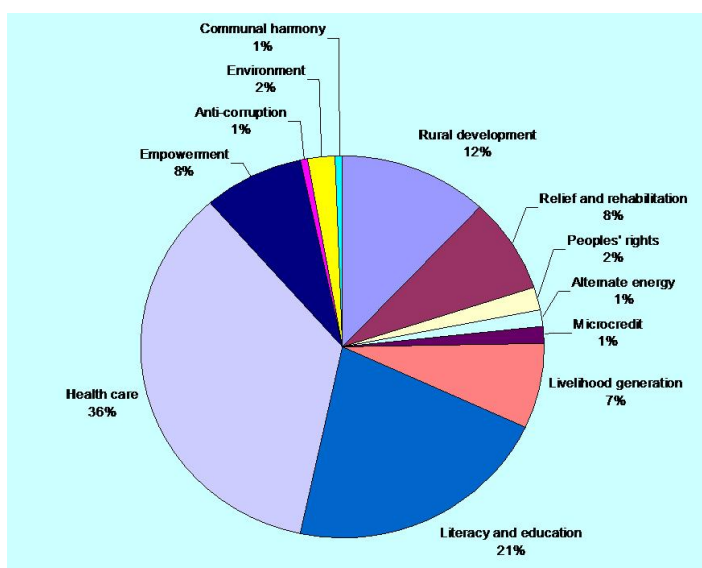


Figure 3.12: Project distribution by issue

Table 3.2: 2003 Project distribution by geography

Tamil Nadu	31%
Maharashtra	14%
Gujarat	13%
Bihar/Jharkhand	13%
Karnataka	6%
West Bengal	6%
Uttar Pradesh	5%
Orissa	4%
Assam	3%
Kerala	2%
Rajasthan	2%
Chattisgarh	1%

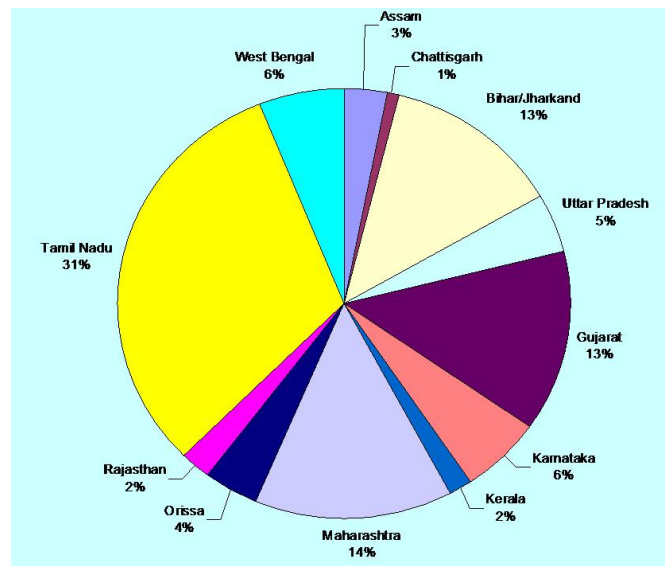


Figure 3.13: Project distribution by geography

Chapter 4

List of 2003 Projects AID Inc.

Project	Amount
Grameen Vigyan Kendra. AID supported Vidgyan Vahini in building a science center for rural children in Maharashtra. The center will have exhibits and science experiments and has a long term goal of increasing science awareness among rural school children.	\$6,000
Panchayat Academy. AID supported the Trust for Village Self Governance to build a Panchayat Academy in Kuthambakkam village in Tamil Nadu. The academy will train Panchayat leaders around the country on local self governance.	\$11,000

- Hundred Block Program I — All India People Science Network.** \$15,000
AID is supporting block level program in health in 13blocks in the state of Bihar. The program involves raising awareness and training village level activists to work on the issues of women and children's health. Objectives of this program are to improve utilization of existing primary health care services, to make a measurable improvement in child health by training village women activists and by improving community awareness and organization and to organize and empower women around health needs. More information is at <http://www.aidindia.org/aipsn>.
- Sustainable Employment for Drought and Earthquake Affected Regions — MG Patel Sarvodaya Kendra (MGPSK).** \$9,750
AID continued to support MGPSK to provide means for sustainable employment in the earthquake and drought ridden area of north Gujarat. 200 women from 8 villages in Banaskantha district are trained in the art of embroidery.
- Flood Relief in Assam.** AID supported Rural Volunteers Center (RVC) \$5,320
to supply medicines and to install hand pumps to provide safe drinking water and health care for the flood victims of Dhemaji district in Assam.
- Hundred Block Program II — All India People Science Network.** \$15,000
AID is supporting block level program in health in 25 blocks of villages in the state of Tamil Nadu. The program involves raising awareness and training village level activists to work on the issues of women and children's health. Objectives of this program are to improve utilization of existing primary health care services, to make a measurable improvement in child health by training village women activists and by improving community awareness and organization and to organize and empower women around health needs. More information is at <http://www.aidindia.org/aipsn>

Health book Translation. AID supported AID-India to translate the book 'Where women have no doctor' into Kannada. The book is a great resource to train local community health workers. \$1,577

Awareness of Land Rights — Nisarga. AID supported Nisarga trust in creating awareness among the agricultural laborers in the areas of Land Reforms Laws, minimum wages and equal wages for women, untouchability practice ,atrocities against Dalits and Gender issues among the marginalized .The project is in the Chitoor district of Andhra Pradesh. \$3,000

Kondh Tribal Village School — Nisarga. AID continued to supporte Nisarga trust to set up and run 10 village schools in remote Kondh tribal villages in Vishakapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh. The schools are being run with a long-term goal of developing leadership in the community and organizing the Kondh people for their rights. \$3,050

Computer education — Ray of Hope Foundation. AID supported Ray of Hope Foundation with computer lab and technical training center to empower the underprivileged children with quality education in Tumkur district. \$3,000

Amhi Amchya Arogyasathi. AID continued to support programs that provide training to the Birth attendants in the Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra to develop scientific and gender prospective about women's health and reproductive and child health. \$1,180

Building Leadership among Women — ERLISID. AID supported ERLISID to setup women's groups, and facilitate them to take up income generation activities .The project also trained the women to address the health related issues resulting in women's empowerment. The project is in Khokrajhar district of Assam. \$1,000

Anti -trafficking — Odanadi Sewa Samasthe. AID supported awareness, training and policy advocacy process related to stopping trafficking of women and children through Odanadi Sewa Samasthe in Karnataka. The project also rescues women and children from the clutches of traffickers and provides Rehabilitation and reintegration of rescued women and children.	\$3,900
Health care for Leprosy patients — Jan Swasthya Sahayog. AID supported the honorarium for the development, adaptation and validation of low-cost health technology for prevention, diagnosis and treatment of Leprosy in Chattisgarh.	\$4,500
Handloom Project — North East Network. AID provided support to provide livelihood by supporting a handloom training project through North East network	\$2,220
Health care project — Baikunthapur Tarun Sangha Health Care. AID supported training of health activists and providing safe drinking water to provide preventive health care in Sunderban district.	\$2,450
Library for Villages — Ushagram Trust. AID continued to work with Ushagram trust to start elementary education and educational infrastructure in a group of villages in the Nadia district of West Bengal. AID provided support in setting up and maintaining a library.	\$2588.39
Press service — Bombay Sarvodhya Friendship center (BSFC). AID supported starting of a Marathi Press service through BSFC .The magazine focuses on publishing articles that would promote communal harmony.	\$2,500
Communal Harmony Program — Bombay Sarvodhya Friendship center (BSFC). Aid supported communal harmony programs for students through BSFC.The project aims at promoting the concept of communal harmony and peace among the students .	\$1,500

Non Formal Education Project — MERDS. AID continued to support MERDS in forming a Self Help Group for children in Dindigul District, Tamil Nadu, to provide education through non-formal means. \$1,600

Health care for tribal villages — Family Planning Association of India. AID supported health care training workshops for birth attendants to provide quality health care for the tribal villages of Lakhani district. \$1,118

Health care — ALOKA. AID supported health care awareness and training workshops for the traditional birth attendants in Dhenkanal, Orissa. The project aims at empowering the local community on their health issues. \$1,500

Saathi Fellowship for Madhavi Kuckreja. AID supported the fellowship for Madhavi Kuckreja for her work on human rights issues relating to women and Dalits, income generation, health education and more in rural Uttar Pradesh and is a founding member of Vanangana, a women's group in Karvi, Chitrakoot district. Over the last year, she has participated in anti-communal forums, volunteered in Gujarat and in fact-finding missions documenting communal violence in Uttar Pradesh. \$1,800

Support for environmental Issues. AID supported Madhumitta Dutta in her work on addressing environmental issues, campaigning against pollution and organizing of workers in chemical factories in Gujarat. \$1,100

Communal Harmony — Society for the promotion of Rational Thinking (SPRAT). AID supported SPRAT on communal harmony efforts in Ahmedabad and Sabarkantha district in Gujarat. The project helped bring the youth of the minority community to the mainstream by organizing tuition centres, literacy centres, etc.. \$5,000

Brick kilns project — ActionAID India. AID continued to support Action Aid India on community development with the brick kilns project.	\$1,300
Rehabilitation of Orphan Children — Social Action for Manpower Creation (SAMPARC). AID continued to support SAMPARC to rehabilitate orphan, destitute and deserted children affected due to devastating earthquake in Tapper village area.	\$13,160
Health care — Ashwini Hospital. AID supported Ashwini Hospital to conduct free eye camps to provide health care to the underprivileged in Kodagu district.	\$2,000
Support for Land rights — Nisarga Trust. AID supported grass root workers on land rights among the poor to attend an awareness conference on land rights for tribal areas that are not classified as Schedule V.	\$220
Gender Equity — Utthan trust. AID supported Utthan on Networking and Advocacy Efforts for ensuring Gender Equity in access and ownership of water resources management systems and women's empowerment. The project also fostered communal harmony in Amreli, Dahod and Bhavnagar districts of Gujarat.	\$5,000
Protection of coastal eco-systems — Environment Center. AID supported Environment center for protecting the eroding eco-systems in coastal area of Andhra Pradesh. The center is based in Rajahmundry in Andhra Pradesh.	\$3,000
Education — Sanmitra Vidhyalaya. AID supported procuring books for the library run by Sanmitra Vidhyalaya to promote awareness in the local community. The project is in Chandrapur district of Maharashtra.	\$650

Windmill Project. AID supported purchase of some small equipment and raw material for experimenting with windmills. This material was sent to Himalaya Machinery unit in Baroda, Gujarat, for collaboration with AID-India.	\$500
Saathi Fellowship for Leo Saldanha. AID supported the work of Leo Saldanha and Environmental Support Group by giving a fellowship. This is the third year of the fellowship. This supports the work in advocacy for people's rights and environmental protection in Karnataka.	\$4000
AID Jeevan Saathi Program. The AID Jeevan Saathi program provides support and benefits to individuals in the form of fellowship for innovative and essential work related to poverty, development, and people's rights. The Jeevan Saathis help in setting new directions and facilitating a better functioning of AID towards tackling the pressing problems in India. Currently AID has 4 Jeevan Saathis - Ravi Kuchimanchi, Balaji Sampath, Aravinda Pillalamarri and Rachna Dhingra. More information is at http://www.aidindia.org	\$11,339.20
Awareness Program through newsletters, calendars and mailing. AID sends out a monthly newsletter - This Month in AID which provide awareness of current issues and solutions that address poverty, development efforts and updates on AID project work in India. These newsletters go out to all members of the community who express interest. They are also distributed in grocery stores and public gatherings. In addition, Dishaa our quarterly newsletter, individual chapter newsletters are also published and circulated. They are accessible from http://www.aidindia.org	\$8,733.30
Awareness Seminars. AID organized several seminars by visiting social workers, journalists, academics and other experts on various development issues. These seminars spread awareness among the community about poverty issues as well as guide AID and similar organizations to understand and better support to work in India.	\$5,020.79

Total Program Service Expenses: \$161,578.68

Chapter 5

List of 2003 Projects

AID

Project	Amount
<p>Mozda water shed development Project. AID supported the watershed work in Juna Mozda and surrounding villages in Narmada district of Gujarat. The project focuses on bund building to conserve water and soil. The bunds are built by the farmers themselves. AID supported providing grains to the farmers as food-for-work program. The project is done by Bombay Sarvodaya Friendship Centre and AID Saathis Michael and Swati.</p>	\$12,500
<p>Holistic Rural Development — AID-India. AID supported holistic development projects in Srikakulam district in Andhra Pradesh. The projects involved setting up of libraries run by children, providing electricity to the marginalized Dalits, setting up women's self help groups leading to empowerment of the local poor. The projects are implemented by AID-India and Jeevan Saathis Ravi Kuchimanchi and Aravinda.</p>	\$4,300

- Drought Relief in Rajasthan — Vihaan.** AID supported providing relief to the drought victims in Rajasthan by working with Vihaan and Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti. This was through food-for-work programs. \$11,000
- Hundred Block Program I — AID-India and All India People Science Network.** AID is supporting block level program in health in 25 blocks of villages in the state of Tamil Nadu. The program involves raising awareness and training village level activists to work on the issues of women and children's health. Objectives of this program are to improve utilization of existing primary health care services, to make a measurable improvement in child health by training village women activists and by improving community awareness and organization and to organize and empower women around health needs. More information is at <http://www.aidindia.org/aipsn> \$18,750
- Tribal Training Program.** AID continued its support to Bhasha Research and Publication Center to train tribals in Gujarat in preserving their native languages, culture and participate in development activities, as part of The Tribal Studies Program. This includes micro-credit, water banks, grain banks, and partly the construction and setting up of a National Tribal Academy in Tejgadh. \$6,000
- Bilgaon Micro-Hydro Power Project.** AID continued to support the construction of a micro-hydro check dam that provides basic electricity for home lighting, Irrigation, drinking water for several households in Bilgaon. The project focused on peoples involvement, decentralized political processes and environment friendly technologies. \$4,000

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- Hundred Block Program II — AID-India and All India People Science Network.** AID is supporting block level program in health in 13blocks in the state of Bihar. The program involves raising awareness and training village level activists to work on the issues of women and children’s health. Objectives of this program are to improve utilization of existing primary health care services, to make a measurable improvement in child health by training village women activists and by improving community awareness and organization and to organize and empower women around health needs. More information is at <http://www.aidindia.org/aipsn>. \$18,750
- Training Health Volunteers — Anusandhan Trust.** AID supported Anusandhan trust on a health care project for the tribal community in Maharashtra. The project trains the local people as health volunteers to diagnose and treat simple ailments. In the long term the project hopes to reduce infant mortality and to provide timely detection and correction of malnutrition. \$2,000
- Vellore Hills Restoration.** AID supported the field-workers of Exnora International on the Hill restoration project in Vellore district. This will benefit 60 villages. \$2,200
- Community Health Program in Maharashtra — CEHAT.** AID supported the communtiy health efforts of CEHAT in Maharashtra which includes training local health workers to take up primary health care at village level. \$5,000
- Rehabilitation Programs for Riot Victims — Dishaa.** AID supported Dishaa to provide relief and regenerate livelihood opportunities for the riot-affected people of Gujarat. More information is at <http://www.aidindia.org/gujarat> \$30,000

- Awareness of Land Rights — Nisarga.** AID supported Nisarga trust \$3,000 in creating awareness among the agricultural laborers in the areas of Land Reforms Laws, minimum wages and equal wages for women, untouchability practice, atrocities against Dalits and Gender issues among the marginalized .The project is in various districts of Andhra Pradesh.
- Flood Relief in the Narmada Valley.** AID supported Bombay Sarvodya Friendship center to provide relief to the flood affected people \$1,350 in the narmada valley. People had lost their houses and crops due to submergence and support was provided with tarpaulin sheets and grains
- Underprivileged Patients with Kidney Failure and Kidney Disease.** \$480 AID supported Tanker foundation with an autoclave for sterilization of dialysis instruments. The project helps underprivileged patients with kidney failures in Tamil Nadu.
- Rehabilitation of women with disability — Prerana resource center.** \$2,600 AID supported Prerana resource centre to provide rehabilitation for poor disabled women by empowering them with training for livelihood generation.
- Awareness Generation and Tribal Empowerment — Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement Jagrutha Bharatha (SVYM).** \$2,226 AID continued to support SVYM to raise awareness on health, hygiene, micro-credit schemes and basic rights among the tribal and non-tribal population of Heggadadevanakota district in Karnataka.
- Capuchin Friars Society — Vimukti Project.** Supports Vimukti \$3,200 Project that provides Community Health and Education, and supports Alternative Economic Development Program, and Land and Water Development Program that benefit tribal dalit women in Raichur district in the State of Karnataka.

-
- Integrated Rural Development Project — Abhijan.** AID supported \$5,000
Abhijan providing holistic development including bio organic farming, setting up and training of women self help groups and health care awareness in Jagatsinghpur district of Orissa.
- Construction of Homes, Tube wells and Providing Clothes to Flood Victims.** AID continued to support Ushagram Trust to provide rehabilitation to villagers affected by flood in the State of West Bengal. The support was to meet the needs for housing, drinking water, food grain and cattle feed. \$1,526
- Education of Tribal Children — Vanavasi Ashram Trust.** AID supported the trust to privately tutor 30 tribal kids in Waynad, Kerala who have passed 8th Grade, and to assist them in pursuing their education further. \$2,450
- Empowerment Program for Chenchu Tribals — Sakti.** AID continued supported to empower the Chenchu Tribals in the Srisailam sanctuary to obtain their rights through legal and awareness generation process,working with SAKTI. The project also supports documentation of their knowledge to enable them to be partners in the eco-tourism initiative. \$3,000
- Gujarat Reconstruction — DISHA.** As part of its efforts to rebuild Gujarat after the Earth quake ,AID provided rehabilitation to the Gujarat Earth quake victims through Disha. \$22,000
- Gujarat Reconstruction — Gujarat Education Society.** AID supported communal riot relief in Gujarat ,the project builds a non-formal school for children and a community center at Kasai Ki Chali, Ahmedabad. \$4,416

- Health care for Leprosy patients — Jan Swasthya Sahayog.** AID supported the honorarium for the development, adaptation and validation of low-cost health technology for prevention, diagnosis and treatment of Leprosy in Chattisgarh. AID \$3,000
- Relief for Fire victims — AID-India.** AID supported AID-India to provide relief to the villages affected by fire in srikakulam district. The project helped the poor people rebuild their homes \$1,600
- School for Hearing Impaired Children.** AID supported Grameen Lok Seva Mandal to set up a school for the underprivileged hearing-impaired children. \$2,640
- Home Schools for poor adolescent girls.** AID continued to support SSG to set up informal home schools to provide primary-level education, health education, and vocational training for poor adolescent girls. \$1,730
- Human Rights Magazine — Human Rights Law Network (HRLN).** AID supported 100 free subscriptions of the human rights magazine ,'Combat Law' to provide access to information on human rights issues to non-governmental organizations and Peoples' movements working on human rights. \$700
- Livelihood generation — Samaj Parivarthan Samudhaya (SPS).** AID supported SPS to generate livelihood for women below the poverty line by forming self help groups and empowering them with training . \$2,700
- Education for Children — Jagriti.** AID continued to support Jagriti to provide education for children of the migrant laborers in the village of Lodhar. The project runs non-formal education centers for children of construction laborers and brick kiln workers. The Project also takes care of the children by providing mid-day meals, ensuring maximum number of children come to schools. \$4,000

Nisarga Dalits awareness. AID supported travel expenses of marginalized dalit groups to attend the Asia Social Forum to exchange ideas on sustainable and just development	\$850
Non Formal Education Project — MERDS. AID continued to support MERDS in forming a Self Help Group for children in Dindigul District, Tamil Nadu, to provide education through non-formal means.	\$1,000
Vocational Training for Women — MERDS. AID supported a vocational training and rural entrepreneurship project by providing sewing machines to the self help group women. The project was done with MERDS in Tamil nadu.	\$1,200
People’s movement for democratic and governance reforms. AID supported Foundation for Democratic Rights to spread awareness on electoral reforms, Judicial reforms and empowerment of local governments. The long term goal is to achieve democratic and governance reforms to eliminate corruption and improve accountability. The groups works in the state of Andhra Pradesh.	\$2,500
Learning opportunity for disadvantaged children. AID supported Street Survivors India to provide education for the disadvantaged children and to create a multifaceted support system including health-care, for underprivileged children	\$1,000
Gujarat Riot Relief — Bombay Sarvodaya Friendship Center. AID supported relief of the communal riot victims in Gujarat and helped in reconstruction of their livelihoods.	\$650
Supporting HIV/AIDS victims — Manavya. AID supported Manavya to set provide shelter for the women and children affected by AIDS in Pune, Maharashtra. The project also provides them with medical treatment and education to the children	\$2,600

- Science Education in Village Schools — Bangalore Assoc. for Science Education (BASE).** AID supported BASE to promote science education in village schools by involving the students and teachers in performing and conducting science experiments. The Project reaches out to the children in Khajjidhoni Village, Bagalkot Dist, Karnataka \$500
- Sustainable Development and Economic upliftment — Srusti Village Development.** AID supported economic empowerment of the people of Nuapada district, a drough prone region , through sustainable development of forests. \$2,500
- Vocational Training and Support Center for Women — Vanasthali Rural Development Centre.** AID continued to support VRDC in setting up a 'Center for Business and Entrepreneurship' for rural women in Pune area in Maharashtra. Here, women from surrounding villages can have the benefit of undergoing training of small trades and skills, and of getting first hand experience of marketing their products, such as homemade garments, candles, artificial jewellery, detergents etc. \$2,100
- Vocational Education for Tribal women — Aranyika.** AID supported Aranyika to provide vocational training to the tribal women and enable them to be strong and equal partners of the larger society, both economically and politically \$2,160
- Education and Awareness — PUDAR.** AID supported PUDAR to educate and generate awareness among adolescent girls .The project is in Bishnupur area of Bankura district in West Bengal. \$2,000
- Brick kilns project — ActionAID India.** AID contunied to support Action Aid India on community development with the brick kilns project. \$1,500
- Community development.** AID supported Dharampur community development project in Gujarat.The project was in Vedchi Pradesh \$1,050

Communal harmony — ASHA. AID supported ASHA schools in areas affected by the communal riots to help in education of children and to promote communal harmony in Kalol Gujarat.	\$1,500
Women’s empowerment — Bharatha Swamukti Samsthe. AID supported Bharatha Swamukti Samsthe to empower women by supporting women’s micro credit schemes for 2000 families.	\$2,000
Education — AID -India. AID continued to support the Makkal Palli Iyakkam (Peoples’ school movement) to reduce drop out rates among underprivileged children by introducing “Joy of Learning” concepts.	\$1,300
Amhi Amchya Arogyasathi. AID continued to support programs that provide training to the Birth attendants in the Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra to develop scientific and gender prospective about women’s health and reproductive and child health.	\$1,180
Science Education — AID-India. AID supported AID-India in publishing a book on Newtons laws.The book illustrates the concepts of newtons’laws using cartoons and other ‘joy of learning’ techniques.This aims at demystifying science education among underprivileged children.	\$1,000
Vocational Training and Agricultural Development in Tribal Villages — Gana Chetna. AID continued its support to Ganachetna to increase awareness and provide vocational training and agricultural development program in 15 tribal villages of Harichandanpur and Banspal blocks, Kheonjar district.	\$2,000
Health care project — Baikunthapur Tarun Sangha Health Care. AID supported training of health activists and providing safe drinking water to provide preventive health care in Sunderban district.	\$2,020

- Communal Harmony — Center for Development.** AID supported \$5,000 several non-formal education centres for children of all faiths who were affected by the communal violence in Gujarat. The effort was to redress the trauma that the children had gone through in addition to minimize the disruption of the children's education due to the violence.
- Post-earthquake rehabilitation in Gujarat — Ganatar.** AID supported \$1,000 Ganatar's efforts towards reconstruction of a primary school Odu, a remote village of Little Rann Of Kutch, and other rehabilitation efforts following the earthquake in January 2001. This amount is towards completion of the efforts.
- Samaj Shilpi program in Rajasthan — Seva Mandir.** AID supported \$2,125 2 village level volunteers in Rajasthan as part of the Samaj Shilpi (stimulated volunteers) program started by the Rejuvenate India Movement. These volunteers have acted as village level motivators and organizers of various local initiatives for community empowerment. Their work was coordinated by Seva Mandir.
- AID Jeevan Saathi Program.** The AID Jeevan Saathi program provides support and benefits to individuals in the form of fellowship for innovative and essential work related to poverty, development, and people's rights. The Jeevan Saathis help in setting new directions and facilitating a better functioning of AID towards tackling the pressing problems in India. Currently AID has 4 Jeevan Saathis — Ravi Kuchimanchi, Balaji Sampath, Aravinda Pillalamarri and Rachna Dhingra. More information is at <http://www.aidindia.org> \$12,964.38

Awareness Program through newsletters and mailing. AID sends out a monthly newsletter — This Month in AID which provide awareness of current issues and solutions that address poverty, development efforts and updates on AID project work in India. These newsletters go out to all members of the community who express interest. They are also distributed in grocery stores and public gatherings. In addition, Dishaa our quarterly newsletter, individual chapter newsletters are also published and circulated. They are accessible from <http://www.aidindia.org> \$8,493.39

Awareness Seminars. AID organized several seminars by visiting social workers, journalists, academics and other experts on various development issues. These seminars spread awareness among the community about poverty issues as well as guide AID and similar organizations to understand and provide better support to work in India. \$750.00

Total Program Service Expenses: \$242,004.77

Chapter 6

AID Conferences

6.1 AID US Conference 2003

The 5th Annual AID conference, hosted by AID Pittsburgh over the Memorial Day weekend (26–28 May), 2003, brought together more than 200 people from across the US and India. The conference opened with an address by AID *Jeevansaathi* (full-timer) Ravi Kunchimanchi, one of the founders of AID, who has worked full-time on AID causes since 1998. He discussed AID India's activities including updates on the Narmada Bachao Andolan (Save the Narmada Movement) and the Hundred Block Plan. Volunteers then took a pledge committing to **Nirman** (Development), **Sangharsh** (Struggle) and **Seva** (service), in memory of Shobha, a 25-year old activist from the Narmada Valley, who recently died by getting trapped in the silt accumulating because of the Sardar Sarovar dam.

Keynote Address

Swati Desai, an activist for environmental and social causes and an AID Saathi (fellow) delivered the keynote address. She focused on the grassroots development work in the Juna Mozda region in Gujarat, the environmental protection work in the Gujarat Golden Corridor, Gujarat earthquake rebuilding and communal har-



Figure 6.1: *Keynote speaker and AID Saathi Swati Desai*

mony efforts. Swati founded the Paryavaran Suraksha Samiti, which is involved in educating and mobilizing people affected by industrial pollution and bad government policies.

Natural Resources

Guest speaker Nafisaben Barot of Utthan talked about the grassroots water management initiatives in the drylands of Kutch as well as water policy issues and campaigns. This session examined what water means to different sections of society, and focused on two large initiatives being promoted in India — namely the privatization of water and the interlinking of rivers.

Bhopal Campaign



Figure 6.2: *Satinath Sarangi, Rashida Bi, and Champa Devi addressing the AID Conference*

Champa Devi, Rashida Bi (survivors of the gas disaster in Bhopal) and Satinath Sarangi (an activist who has dedicated his life to the Bhopal cause) presented personal accounts of the disaster caused in 1984 by Union Carbide's (now a subsidiary of Dow Chemicals) negligence of safety policies in the Union Carbide Plant at Bhopal. The session looked at the continuing aftermath of the tragedy. The survivors spoke of the complete indifference of Dow Chemicals and the Indian Government towards the victims of the disaster. AID has worked to help bring legal and social pressure on Dow and the Indian Government in the past few years.

There remains a need, the attendees agreed, for more of such activism as well as efforts to provide sustainable employment and health care to the people of the region who have suffered now for two decades. The conference attendees unanimously passed a resolution after this session expressing solidarity with the affected people of Bhopal and their struggle for justice.

Gujarat Process

Guest speaker Nishrin Jafri gave an emotional account of her family's experience during the communal riots and reminded the audience of the legacy of her father, Ehsan Jafri, a former Member of Parliament, poet and an social activist. Mr. Jafri was among the more than a thousand people brutally murdered during the riots.

We need, said Ms. Jafri, to reclaim social harmony and justice from the evil of communalism. This session also included reflections through pictures taken in the field by AID volunteer Gautam Desai during his earthquake and riot relief efforts in Gujarat's affected areas. His talk connected the audience to the affected people and the issues emerging from the intersection of disaster relief, development, communalism and voluntarism.

Other Sessions

Other sessions included a discussion on the responsibilities of AID volunteers, analysis of key projects such as the Hundred Block Plan, and exploring issues such as Holistic Living, Gender Issues, and Pluralism. Additionally, there were interactive workshops on chapter administration, fund raising, activism, treasury and project management. The conference also featured displays and posters on various issues such as dowry, communalism, and skills development by different chapters.

The second evening of the conference showcased the talents of the volunteers who presented skits, songs and dances. Apart from being entertaining, this session underscored the effectiveness of the cultural media to communicate social and political issues of the society.



Figure 6.3: AID volunteers presenting "The Potter's Wheel" — highlighting problems faced by women

6.2 AID India Conference 2003

The Chennai chapter of AID-India hosted the AID India Conference 2003 on the 3rd and 4th of January, 2004. About 75 people attended the conference.

The conference included presentations of several key projects in India, including the Hundred Block Plan efforts in the areas of health and education in Tamil Nadu and Bihar, alternate energy, and important highlights in People's Science Movements (PSMs) and the National Alliance of People's Movements (NAPM) — two movements that AID works closely with.

The Orissa, Chennai, Bangalore, and Mumbai chapters of AID were represented at the conference, and each chapter shared highlights of their activities in 2003 with the rest of the group. The conference also featured a talk on Informal Sector Unions and parallel workshops on several topics: Primary Education; Science

Education; Health and Women's Empowerment; Environment and Energy; Communalism and Globalization; and Campaigns.

The following is a personal account about the conference from Ramki, and AID-Chennai volunteer:

The conference was a success in the sense that we got to know many fellow AIDers, their views on social issues, and most importantly the ongoing work in other AID-INDIA chapters.

a) Constructors Workers Union: This was a fascinating session with Ms. Geetha giving us an account of her association with the struggle by the construction workers from 1979 till date. She narrated how difficult it was in those days to even form a welfare board, and how finally they setup the welfare board in Tamil Nadu. She also recounted how the political parties were reluctant to even take up their issue as it was not considered a priority. The important thing that came out of this session is the plan for us (AID-Chennai) to work with CWU to better the education of the CW kids. We shall be having a meeting shortly to identify the key areas where we can contribute.

b) Anchorage: We had chapter presentations from Chennai, Mumbai, Orissa, and Bangalore, and we could get a fair insight into the work done by these chapters. Of this, one of particular interest was AID-Mumbai's Anchorage — which houses the kids who work in Mumbai and who come from far away places like Pune and work as drivers and do other work in the city. The Mumbai AIDers had conducted computer sessions in an innovative way so that it reaches their kids. We also had Shankar passionately narrating the sessions, and his voice choked when he told how the recent Mumbai blast has taken one of its inmates. Malini also narrated their experiences with these kids, it was truly inspiring. Maybe this is also one area we can also work on...

On the whole, it gave a nice insight into the functioning of AID (both AID-INDIA and AID-US) as an organization. It was a truly memorable experience, worth remembering. It will be really good if many more of us can make it to the next conference.



Figure 6.4: AID Chennai volunteers at the AID India conference

Chapter 7

AID Financials

Note: Until 2003, Association for India's Development (AID) functioned as an unincorporated association with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. As part of the process of incorporation, Association for India's Development, Inc. was formed with a separate Employer Identification Number, and in April 2003, received Letter of Recognition of 501(c)(3) Tax-Exempt Charitable Organization from IRS. Following this, the unincorporated association transferred its assets and liabilities and all future operations to Association for India's Development, Inc.

Accordingly, this Annual Report presents the separate financial statements of the unincorporated association and the corporation under the heads "AID" and "AID Inc." respectively. The EIN for AID was 52-1863480 and the EIN for AID Inc. is 04-3652609.

AID Inc. Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2003

	2003
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	1,172,517.52
Inventory	852.75
Equipment	-
TOTAL ASSETS	1,173,370.27
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS, AS RESTATED	
LIABILITIES	
Grants Payable	39,459.29
Accounts Payable	-
Unrestricted	1,019,662.65
Temporarily Restricted	114,248.33
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	1,173,370.27

AID Inc. Statement of Activity

December 31, 2003

2003

UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS
SUPPORT

Contributions—Individuals and Organizations	161,766.15
Special Events and Other	50674.83
Sale of T-shirts and Gift Certificates	0.00
Other Income	0.00
Interest through Savings and CD's	0.00
	212,440.98
Transfer of Unrestricted Assets from AID to AID, Inc	934,005.00
Net Assets Released From Restrictions	41,449.20
	1,187,895.18

EXPENSES
Program Services

Literacy and Education (incl Special Education)	18,188.39
Health and Sanitation	14,325.00
Community Development through Empowerment	5,100.00
Hundred Blocks Plan with AIPSN: Community Health and Women	30,000.00
Other AID India Efforts	0.00
Alternative Energy & Appropriate Technology	14,500.00
Women's Empowerment, Microcredit, Income Generation	8,220.00
Flood, Cyclone and Drought Relief Projects	5,320.00
Gujarat Reconstruction	27,910.00
Campaigns for People's Rights and Social Justice	7,120.00
Saathi Program	5,800.00
Jeevansaathi Program for Full-time work in India	11,339.20
Awareness in the US: Development Issues, Action Programs	13,754.09

Supporting Services

Management and General	5,114.68
Fund Raising	1,541.17
Total Expenses	168,232.53

INCREASE IN UNRESTRICTED ASSETS	1,019,662.65
--	---------------------

TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	
Support for Education and Literacy	-
Rural Development and Environment	-
Support for Hundred Blocks Plan	2,200.00
Support for Fellowships Program	4,000.00
Support for Orissa Cyclone Relief	-
Support for Gujarat Reconstruction Efforts	-
Restrictions satisfied by payments	(41,449.20)
Transfer of Restricted Assets from AID to AID, Inc.	149,497.53
INCREASE IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	114,248.33
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	1,133,910.98
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	0.00
NET ASSETS AT YEAR END	1,133,910.98

AID Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2003, and 2002

	2003	2002
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	-	1,085,062.91
Inventory	-	2,367.75
Equipment	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS	-	1,087,430.66
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS, AS RESTATED		
LIABILITIES		
Grants Payable	-	86,502.00
Accounts Payable	-	-
Unrestricted	-	752,366.35
Temporarily Restricted	-	248,562.31
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	-	1,087,430.66

AID Statement of Activity

December 31, 2003, and 2002

	2003	2002
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS		
SUPPORT		
Contributions–Individuals and Organizations	286,676.99	398,892.46
Special Events and Other	49,692.51	34,017.05
Sale of T-shirts and Gift Certificates	0.00	0.00
Other Income		17,249.60
Interest through Savings and CD's	2,579.49	2,776.68
	338,948.99	452,935.79
Net Assets Released From Restrictions	70,183.38	250,672.26
	409,132.37	703,608.05
EXPENSES		
Program Services		
Literacy and Education (incl Special Education)	17,620.00	31,737.00
Health and Sanitation	18,880.00	20,811.00
Community Development through Empowerment	30,045.00	43,380.00
Hundred Blocks Plan with AIPSN: Community Health and Women	37,500.00	71,040.00
Alternative Energy & Appropriate Technology	16,500.00	
Women's Empowerment, Microcredit, Income Generation	12,160.00	20,326.00
Flood, Cyclone and Drought Relief Projects	15,476.00	3,550.00
Gujarat Reconstruction	63,066.00	186,793.00
Campaigns for People's Rights and Social Justice	8,550.00	
Saathi Program		8,600.00
Jeevansaathi Program for Full-time work in India	12,964.38	12,679.06

Awareness in the US: Development Issues, Action Programs	9,243.39	31,541.25
Supporting Services		
Management and General	12,116.86	18,839.75
Fund Raising	1,498.83	5,144.88
Total Expenses	255,620.46	496,112.94
INCREASE IN UNRESTRICTED ASSETS	153,511.91	207,495.11
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS		
Support for Education and Literacy Rural Development and Environment		700.00
Support for Hundred Blocks Plan		1025.00
Support for Fellowships Program	1500.00	7720.00
Support for Orissa Cyclone Relief		
Support for Gujarat Reconstruction Efforts	600.00	3243.00
<i>Restrictions satisfied by payments</i>	(70183.38)	(250672.26)
INCREASE IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	(68083.38)	(237,984.26)
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	85,428.53	(30,489.15)
CLOSING ADJUSTMENT	(1,086,357.19)	
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,000,928.66	1,031,417.81
NET ASSETS AT YEAR END	0.00	1,000,928.66

Chapter 8

How can you help?

8.1 Join Us: Be the change you want to see

AID is growing, and we would like you to be part of our growth. Contact the AID chapter nearest you (Appendix B), find out when their next Community Service Hour is, and attend the meeting. If there is no chapter in your city, you can still join us—browse through our website, <http://www.aidindia.org>, to learn about all of our activities. Many of our activities are run by groups of volunteers spread across many cities, working over phone and email.

Send email to info@aidindia.org letting us know where you are, and what your interests are. Chances are, there are others in your city who would like to work with AID as well... maybe you can get together and start a chapter!

Whatever your level of expertise or involvement, we would love to see new volunteers join us!

8.2 Donate, Be part of a mission...

The funds we raise every year is what sustains the projects that we support. If you feel that our work is valuable in bringing about social change in India, please donate towards our efforts. Even a small contribution by you goes a long way in bringing hopes to millions of underprivileged people in India. All monetary donations to AID Inc. are tax-deductible in the U.S.A. Our federal tax ID number is 04-3652609.

We accept donations by check, or by credit card. You can also set up a recurring donation with us either by credit card, or electronic funds transfer (EFT) from your

checking account. Please visit our website (<http://www.aidindia.org>) and click on the “Donate” link to learn more about your options to donate.

8.3 Other ways to help

You can easily incorporate these in your daily routine at no cost to you and help support developmental projects for the needy in India

Matching Grants. Several companies match donations by its employees to charitable organizations. You can find out if your company has such a program and register AID with them. AID is registered with the IRS as a 501(C)(3) tax-exempt organization and our federal Tax-ID number is 04-3652609. If you need more information to register AID with your company or after you finish registering, please let us know.

Grants from Linguistic and Cultural Associations. Several cultural and linguistic associations have made donations to AID. You can request your association to do the same - if necessary, the donation can also be directed to projects in a particular state or region. In addition, some cultural groups also donate part of their proceeds from programs and events that they organize.

Grants from companies. Your company may be making grants to projects or organizations. In some cases we might have to write proposals for particular project with the details of the budget to qualify for the grant. If you can investigate into this and get in touch with us, we can work with you on writing the proposal.

Appendix A

Directors and Executive

A.1 Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of AID Inc. is constituted by the following people. The BoD can be reached by email at bod@aidindia.org.

Mohan Bhagat	Kirankumar Vissa	Sudhakar Adivikolanu
<i>College Park, MD</i>	<i>College Park, MD</i>	<i>Dallas, TX</i>
301.345.5308	301.984.3929	972.373.0998

A.2 Executive Board

Officers on the Executive Board of AID Inc. are elected for two year terms by way of a special AID-wide election. Each volunteer in each chapter has a vote in these elections (pursuant to voting eligibility conditions defined by the by-laws of AID Inc.). In addition to serving as executives of the organization, each member of the Executive Board is responsible for a functional arm of AID Inc. The current EB¹ is constituted of the following people. The EB can be reached by email at eb@aidindia.org.

Om Damani. Database administration, *Mumbai, India*. ompdamani@yahoo.com.

Divyachapan Padur. Treasury administration, *Cincinnati, OH*. dpadur@ececs.uc.edu.
513.227.7006.

¹This list includes members of the EB who were elected in 2004, and is current as of this publication.

Radhika Rammohan. Saathi/Jeevansaathi coordination, *Pittsburgh, PA*. radhikarammohan@adelphia.net. 724.733.4224.

Priya Ranjan. Chapter and volunteer coordination, *College Park, MD*. priya@aidindia.org. 301.422.4441.

Sandeep Rao. Finance coordination, *College Park, MD*.

Anjali Sridhar. Publications, *Madison, WI*. anjali_sridhar@yahoo.com. 608.233.7362.

Aniruddha Vaidya. Your Voice Counts, *Mountain View, CA*. aniruddha.vaidya@intel.com. 650.962.8307.

Srividhya Venkataraman. Projects, *Saratoga, CA*. srividhya.venkataraman@intel.com. 408.741.5072.

Appendix B

AID Chapters and Contacts

Chapter	Contact	Email	Phone
Albuquerque, NM	Sachin Patkar	aidnm@unm.edu	505.385.2561
Ann Arbor, MI	Nidhip Patel	napatel@umich.edu	734.657.2745
Atlanta, GA	Srinivasan Seetharaman	srini084@hotmail.com	678.467.2654
Austin, TX	Srikant Samavedam	ssamavedam@yahoo.com	512.248.0156
Baltimore, MD	Niraj George	niraj1@umbc.edu	443.857.2172
Baltimore-JHU, MD	Sathya Ravichandran	sathya@jhmi.edu	410.499.7306
Baton Rouge, LA	Anand Chandolu	ch_anandkumar@yahoo.com	225.387.0342
Blacksburg, VA	Shail Desai	shdesai1@vt.edu	540.443.1528
Bloomington, IN	Yogesh L. Simmhan	ysimmhan@cs.indiana.edu	812.337.1347
Boise, ID	Kiran Vemmuri	kkvemmuri@yahoo.com	208.376.5037
Boston, MA	Anand Sivaraman	ansiv@mit.edu	617.821.6229
Boulder, CO	Raghu Bhavanshikar	rbhavan@yahoo.com	720.566.0680
Buffalo, NY	Shiva Chenneru	schenneru@yahoo.com	716.536.1364
Chapel Hill, NC	Ravi Devarasetti	rdevaras@cisco.com	919.637.1167
Charlotte, NC	Ravi Devarasetti	rdevaras@cisco.com	919.637.1167
Cincinnati, OH	Satish Kumar Sundaram	satishksundaram@hotmail.com	513.221.0851
Clemson, SC	Vilas Kumar Chitrakaran	srivilas@clemson.edu	864.656.7708
College Park, MD	Srinivas Krovidy	krovvids@ix.netcon.com	703.326.9730
College Station, TX	Puneet Singla	puneet@neo.tamu.edu	979.862.9231
Columbia, SC	Sreesa Akella	akella@engr.sc.edu	803.544.0158
Columbus, OH	Leena Ukil	leenaukil@hotmail.com	614.565.4851
Dallas, TX	Hrishikesh Shide	hrishi@aiddallas.org	972.867.0912
Durham, NC	Ravi Devarasetti	rdevaras@cisco.com	919.637.1167
Houston, TX	Chakradhar Iyyunni	chakri.iyyunni@gmail.com	832.794.0082
Kansas City, KS	Lata Karri	latak2000@yahoo.com	816.943.8424

Los Angeles, CA	Arvind Raghavan	arvind_rag@yahoo.com	805.383.3131
Milwaukee, WI	Kamayani Swami	kamayani02@yahoo.com	262.798.5439
Minneapolis, MN	Dwijendra Nath Guru	dnguru@me.umn.edu	612.803.0296
New Orleans, LA	Suresh Gunasekaran	sgkumar@yahoo.com	504.715.5693
New York, NY	Shailabh Nagar	shailabh_nagar@yahoo.com	914.827.9414
Notre Dame, IN	Rajkumar Sankaralingam	rsankara@nd.edu	574.634.3422
Omaha, NE	Rangababu Chakravartula	rangababu@yahoo.com	314.317.8944
Oxford, OH	Pavitra Narayanan	zen.wat@gmail.com	513.529.5523
Philadelphia, PA	Bhagavathy Ramamoorthy	bhagavat@mail.med.upenn.edu	215.879.1542
Pittsburgh, PA	Raju Patil	raju_s_patil@yahoo.com	412.681.0667
Portland, OR	Sirisha Kothuri	sirishakothuri@yahoo.com	503.846.9184
Princeton, NJ	Sujatha Ray	sray@princeton.edu	609.279.0952
Raleigh, NC	Ravi Devarasetti	rdevaras@cisco.com	919.637.1167
San Diego, CA	Ratnaprabhu Rajendran	ratnaprabhu@gmail.com	520.331.1900
San Francisco, CA	Sridhar Sailappan	ssridhar@cs.arizona.edu	512.589.2019
State College, PA	Pratik Mankidy	pratikmankidy@psu.edu	814.571.9269
Tallahassee, FL	Amit Khandelwal	kamitphd@yahoo.com	850.980.6858
Tempe, AZ	Sanjay Kote	sanjaykote@yahoo.com	682.597.5683
Troy, NY	Mohan Nugehalli	na.mohan@yahoo.com	518.273.2029
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Kharagpur, India	Shiv	sbs22@metal.iitkgp.ernet.in	+91.3222.283291
Orissa, India	Dhanada Mishra	dkmishra@satyam.net.in	+91.674.2406606
Chennai, India	Balaji Sampath	aidindia@vsnl.com	+91.44.28361033

Appendix C

Annual Report 2003 Team

The Annual Report (the content and photographs) has been made possible due to the collective effort of a number of AID volunteers worldwide. The editorial team thanks all of them.

Editors

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Radhika Rammohan

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