

  
**Lokarpan**

**Annual Report 2013-2014**

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# Introduction

The Lokarpan story begins in 1996 with H.V. Singh working his way towards enabling rural communities to improve their socioeconomic conditions through participatory projects in health, education, veterinary care and income generation.

Every day was a challenge, which our team met with renewed enthusiasm. Rather than dictating development objectives, we spent an incredible amount of time on ground zero-identifying the needs and aspirations of everyone dwelling in our communities.

Over the last two decades, Lokarpan has developed unique participatory strategies backed by community participation that provides sustainable solutions for developmental challenges faced by the community.



**Remembering दाता.**

**1938-1999**

# Letter from the Chairman

Congratulations and thank you to our amazing team in Bulanshahr who worked hard day and night on Project Vistaar<sup>1</sup>. The Project sought to improve maternal, newborn, and child health and nutritional (MNCHN) status by assisting the Government to take proven practices to scale in their programs.

On behalf of our organisation, we would like to extend a huge thank you to our partners IntraHealth, USAID and CRS (Catholic Relief Services). One thing I love about our partners is that they are divinely discontent. Their ever increasing expectations helped us make yesterday's "exceptional" quickly become today's "ordinary". We are very proud to be accorded laurels that flex our expertise in the field of healthcare.

## **Purpose**

That is the singular question that gnawed through our minds as we close another successful term with our grant partners. While their service and assistance has been more than exemplary, our true goal of achieving sustainable excellence is still far away.

Which meant it was time to go back to the drawing board. During 2013, Lokarpan continued to implement certain restructuring actions aimed at reducing its cost structures, improving its outreach, and restoring sustainability in our functions.

<sup>1</sup>Project Vistaar Report <https://www.intrahealth.org/sites/ihweb/files/attachment-files/vistaar-project-close-out-report.pdf>

## **What do you need to achieve high standards in education?**

Because innovation in the education sector is characterized by rapid technological advances, our ability to work successfully is heavily dependent upon its ability to ensure a continuing and timely flow of breakthrough products to the community.

This means recognising issues and stating realistic expectations around the scope of our solution. A heavy emphasis was paid to research and development. This involved reexamining the learning experience in the classroom.

Lokarpan is diverting its full attention to identifying better schooling standards and infrastructure for our partner schools.

Therefore we have begun to develop new products and technologies and to enhance existing products in the areas of educational content, infrastructure, networking and communications, and the Internet.

Keep on the lookout for some good news soon!

**Eram Chaudhry**

**Chairman, Lokarpan**



# Vision

Our **goal** is to improve the socio economic status of rural India.

Lokarpan strives to create a world where individuals have dignity and self-respect.

# Mission

Empower communities living in stress.

Innovate solutions that are **sustainable**.

Create connections that make a difference.

# Education

## Survey Questions

Upon questioning, the following were the most important factors according to management and school teachers

Infrastructure development	↑	<b>88%</b>
Teacher trainings and higher education	↑	<b>71%</b>
Employment of Digital resources	↑	<b>62%</b>
Administration restructuring	↑	<b>56%</b>

# Education

## Summary of findings

1. **Poor infrastructure** was a major complaint. There was general consensus that rural school facilities are severely stressed, and require additional monies to repair and maintain them.
2. Biggest barrier to career development and improvement in the classroom was attributed to a **lack of opportunities** for teachers and general staff to undergo trainings outside their formal education degrees.
3. Teachers want **access to laptops/mobiles**. While many believe the best use for digital devices is in designated computer labs. Many are not confident about technology in the classroom.
4. Members of the organisation are aware of the severe incompetency in school operations. Surveyors requested better hardware, software and strong policies.



# Education

Our interactions with the community leadership and our partners have led us to conclude that our near term concentration should be in the field of Education. However, since we have no active cases in the field, we must start from the ground up.

The prime idea would be to bind best practices to our mature network of schools in a manner that does not disturb the operative balance we have established. Redesigning the learning experience in schools—from the curriculum to trainings and redesigning school buildings—with an eye toward expansion and a goal to provide international-quality education at an affordable price is a big challenge.

The project will be under the name of the **Kith n Kin initiative**. Our near term priority will be to establish a learning centre of excellence and identify trainees for the program.



# Lokarpan

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