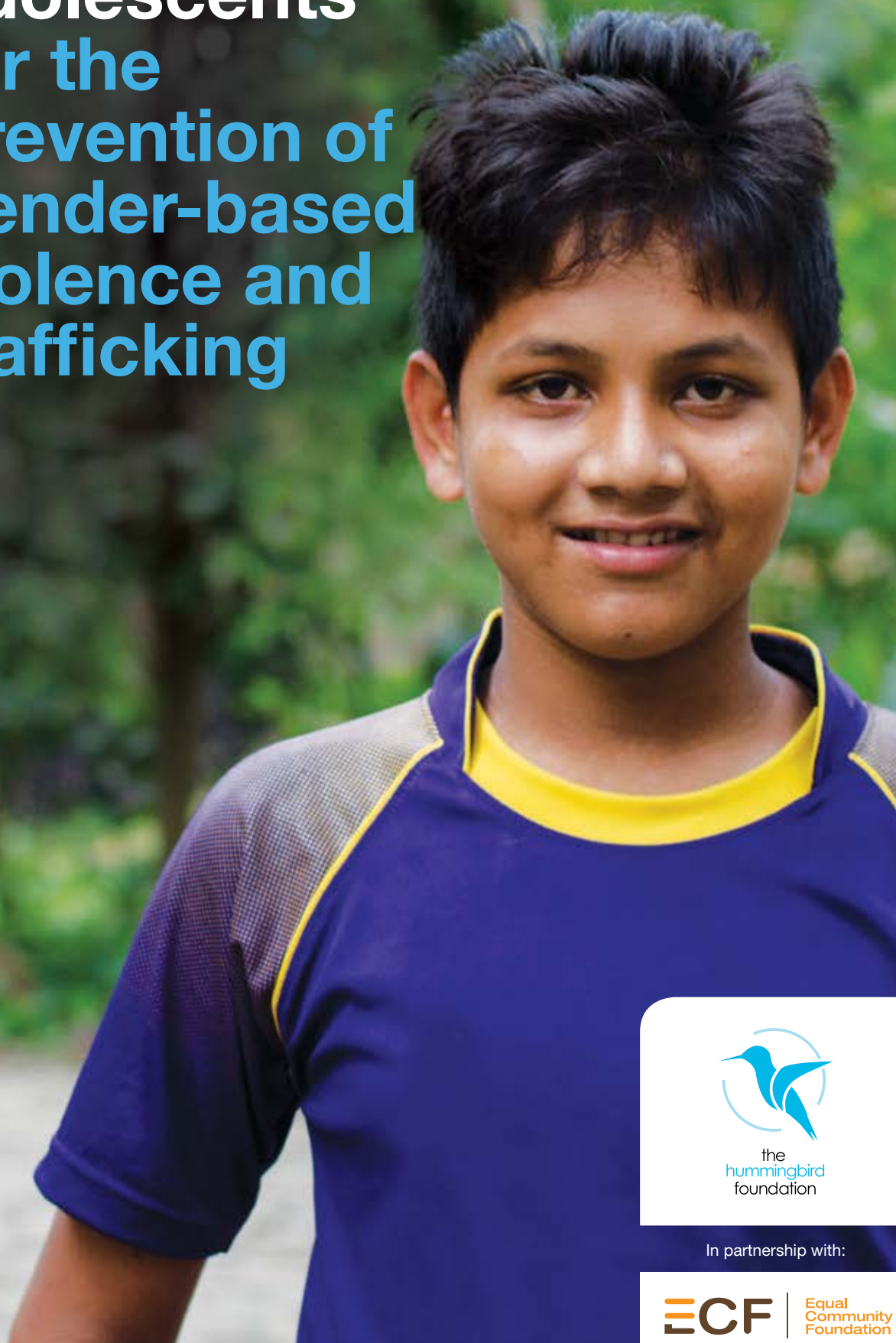


Engaging adolescents for the prevention of gender-based violence and trafficking



the
hummingbird
foundation

In partnership with:

ECF

Equal
Community
Foundation

Contents

03
04
06
08
14

Background information
about the lead
organisations

Introduction

Gender-based violence and
trafficking in India

What is Hummingbird Raise?

Hummingbird Raise
in numbers

17
18
20
22
26

Moving beyond attitude
change, and focussing
on action

Meet the young
changemakers from
Hummingbird Raise

Lessons we learnt

Meet the partners of
the Hummingbird Raise
coalition

Plans going forward

Background information about the lead organisations

The Hummingbird Foundation was established in 2014 by the Mathias family to support innovative community action in preventing human trafficking in West Bengal, India. Hummingbird envisages a world that is free from human rights abuses, specifically in the form of human trafficking. Its mission is to work with key stakeholder groups and community-based systems to promote action, ownership and accountability for the prevention of trafficking.

Hummingbird's aim is to enable communities to promote systemic and sustainable changes in the attitudes and processes that create vulnerability to trafficking. This aim is embodied in the creation of a Prevention of Trafficking Model as a key methodology to evolve and replicate Hummingbird's work. With dedicated teams based in India and in the UK, Hummingbird's approach is to foster robust partnerships with non-governmental organisations, community-based organisations, and relevant government bodies. Hummingbird is working with these stakeholders to build evidence of rights-based interventions that can effectively combat human trafficking.

Hummingbird sees itself as an enabler that can convene, communicate, and collaborate with key stakeholders for maximum impact on prevention of human trafficking through creation of gender equitable and resilient communities.

www.hummingbirdfoundation.co.uk

Established in 2009, **Equal Community Foundation** is a non-profit organisation working towards raising every boy in India to be gender equitable.

There are 240 million boys in India. 116 million of these boys are likely to grow up to be physically violent and 56 million to be sexually violent. This is an epidemic that underpins key social issues including trafficking and other forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls.

As long as boys in India grow up with attitudes and behaviours that are discriminatory and violent; women and girls will not be healthy, educated and in work. Boys will continue to grow up to be violent and discriminatory until civil society organisations start to practice programmes that raise boys to be gender equitable.

Through its three primary activities, ECF aims to bridge the gap and reach the ambitious goal of raising every boy in India to be gender equitable. These three activities are:

- develop and implement behaviour change programmes that engage adolescent boys;
- conduct research on what works and how to increase impact; and
- build the capacity of organisations working with women and girls to start including boys and men in their core work.

www.ecf.org.in

Introduction

In 2014, the Hummingbird Foundation and Equal Community Foundation entered into a partnership to form a coalition of organisations in West Bengal that engages adolescents for the prevention of gender-based violence and trafficking, with a special focus on engaging adolescent boys.

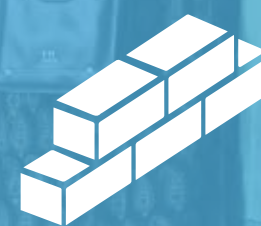
The Hummingbird Foundation had already started the process of developing a comprehensive model for the prevention of trafficking. They recognised that adolescents were one of the key stakeholders disproportionately affected by the issue, but they were also in a position to play a crucial role in preventing the problem. The Hummingbird Foundation identified a sector-wide gap in the knowledge and practice relating to working with boys on gender-based

violence, and they approached ECF to harness their expertise in changing gender inequitable attitudes and behaviours.

Equal Community Foundation had a proven model called Action for Equality for engaging adolescents, particularly adolescent boys, on prevention of gender-based violence. It was designed to be adaptable and therefore addresses multiple social issues such as education, health and sanitation, rights, sexual and reproductive health and prevention of trafficking.

The partnership resulted in a three-year programme called Hummingbird Raise that was launched in December 2014 in the North and South 24 Parganas districts in West Bengal.

The Hummingbird Raise coalition was set up to:



Build the capacity of the organisations, so that they can engage adolescents;



Engage adolescents, particularly boys to challenge gender norms;



Support adolescents to move beyond attitude change, and focus on individual and community-level action towards prevention.

Adolescents are disproportionately affected by the issue of gender-based violence and trafficking. Strategic interventions can both prevent adolescents boys from contributing to the problem in the future and enable boys and girls to play a critical role in mobilising communities to challenge the issue.

“At Hummingbird, we are enabling our field-based partners in West Bengal to create a community driven, evidence-based, and replicable model for prevention of trafficking. Hummingbird Raise is one piece of the puzzle. We work closely with our partners by leveraging their experience and building their capacities to achieve maximum impact.”

Clare Mathias, Executive Chair, The Hummingbird Foundation

Gender-based violence and trafficking in India

Gender-based violence and trafficking is a human rights violation, a public health challenge, and a barrier to civic, social, political, and economic participation.

It is important to note that both women and men are affected by the issue of human trafficking. According to the 2015 National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), 327,394 cases were registered under crime against women; and 23,039 cases were registered under gender-based crime against children. A total of 6,877 cases of crime relating to human trafficking were registered in the country during the year 2015 as compared to 5,466 cases during the year 2014, showing an increase of 25.8% in 2015 compared to 2014. In all the categories, field data and anecdotal evidence suggest that the number is much higher as a large number of cases don't get reported.

Gender-based violence and trafficking are systemic problems that require systemic solutions. No single approach can work in isolation, but in order to leverage existing

solutions and bridge the gaps we adopted the following strategies:

Focus on prevention and the gender perspective

Few interventions focus on preventing gender-based violence and trafficking in a systematic manner as compared to those developed to respond after the problem has occurred. Emphasis on prevention is a crucial component of any systemic solution. It requires working with young individuals before they adopt violent and discriminatory behaviours. Patriarchal structures and resulting gender norms sit at the root of the problem and changing these is the goal of prevention programmes. Traditional solutions have also left boys and men out of the equation. If they are part of the problem, then they must be engaged as a part of the solution. When mobilised to take action, adolescents can play an important role in leading individuals, families and communities to be gender equitable.

Focus on areas that are most vulnerable

Even though gender-based violence and

trafficking is recorded across India, statistics suggest that West Bengal is one of the most vulnerable states. As per the 2015 NCRB data, West Bengal ranks second in the country as a source state for the trafficking of girls. Inequitable gender norms, poverty, natural calamities, and a lack of infrastructure all increase vulnerability to trafficking. The North and South 24 Parganas districts in West Bengal have been identified as the most vulnerable within West Bengal, and they have the highest rates of missing children. It is a priority to focus prevention interventions in these vulnerable districts.

Focus on collaboration and collective impact

Everyone has a role to play in a comprehensive solution: the government, the judiciary, and the development sector. With an increasing number of individuals affected by the issue, it is important to reduce duplication and optimise resources, and aim for collective impact as opposed to isolated individual efforts. Interventions that focus on prevention must also engage with community members in a participatory manner, to ensure they are fully engaged and invested in the solution.

Gender-based violence and trafficking undermine not only the safety, dignity, health, and human rights of the millions of individuals who experience it, but also the public health, economic stability, and security of nations.

What is Hummingbird Raise?

Hummingbird Raise is both a programme and a coalition.

The goal of the Hummingbird Raise is to ensure that the maximum number of adolescents in selected geographical areas have the knowledge, skills, peer support, and leadership to bring about change in themselves, their family and peers, and their communities to prevent gender-based

violence and trafficking.

The Hummingbird Raise programme consists of one finance partner, one technical partner, and 12 implementation partner organisations. The implementing partners were expected to deliver ECF's Action for Equality Programme in their communities.

In order to make progress towards the common goal, Hummingbird Raise focussed on three elements:

Increasing awareness amongst the organisations in West Bengal about the approach of engaging adolescents, particularly boys



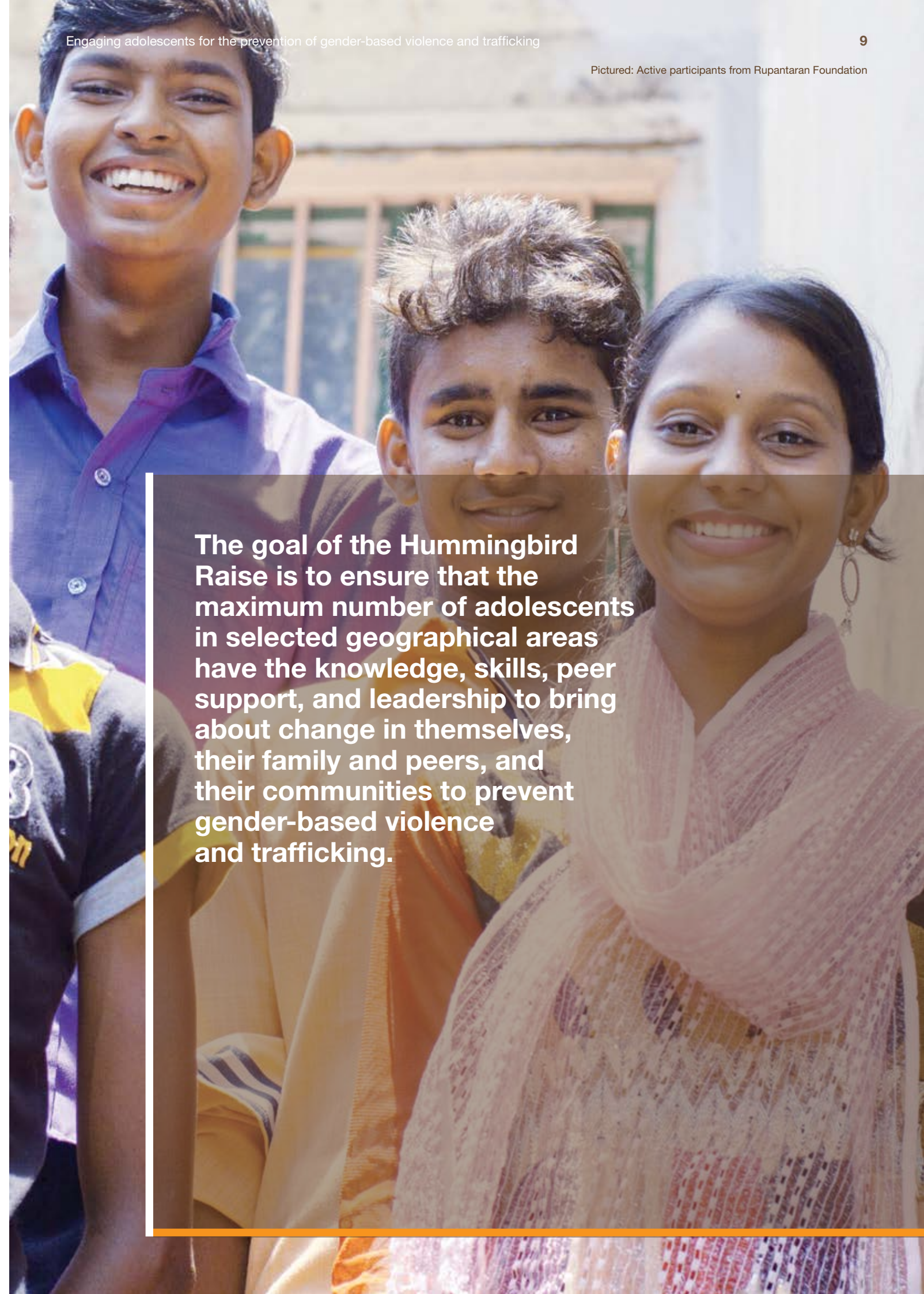
Providing technical and financial support to organisations to practise the approach



Delivering programmes that engage adolescents across the selected geographical areas



The goal of the Hummingbird Raise is to ensure that the maximum number of adolescents in selected geographical areas have the knowledge, skills, peer support, and leadership to bring about change in themselves, their family and peers, and their communities to prevent gender-based violence and trafficking.



What is Hummingbird Raise?

1. Increasing awareness amongst the organisations in West Bengal about the approach

The approach of engaging adolescents, particularly boys, for achieving gender equality is a relatively new field of practice. It has gained significant momentum in the last few years. However, the suspicion remains that engaging boys will only exacerbate gender discrimination and male privilege. A lack of technical knowledge, skills, and resources has acted as a barrier for organisations wanting to

develop and adopt the approach.

Therefore the first step in forming a coalition was to create awareness about the approach and provide evidence of the impact in reducing gender-based discrimination from ECF's programme in Pune, India. This was achieved through one on one meetings, group workshops and online interaction.

Pictured:
Initial community
mobilisation session
organised by Sanlaap.

6

workshops were organised to create awareness about the approach and to introduce the idea of forming the Hummingbird Raise coalition

75

organisations across West Bengal applied to be a part of the Hummingbird Raise coalition after the workshops

12

organisations were selected after three rounds of application

2. Providing technical and financial support to organisations to practise the approach

Between June 2015 and August 2017, under Hummingbird Raise, nine implementation partner organisations received financial and

technical support and three implementation partner organisations received only technical support.

The technical support provided to partners included:



8 Residential peer learning workshops

Peer learning workshops built the technical capacity of partner organisations' teams. The entire project team from each partner, including the management team, were expected to attend these workshops. The workshops were designed to provide inputs in a phased manner to build each team's capacity to implement Action for Equality without being overwhelmed. The content of these workshops included:

- Basic understanding of the team on gender and gender norms
- Breaking personal barriers when doing this work
- Principles of engaging adolescents, particularly boys
- The model and curriculum of the programme
- Methods of facilitations and stakeholder engagement
- How to monitor and evaluate the progress within programmes and beneficiaries.
- How to document and communicate successes and lessons learnt



4 Special training workshops

Special training workshops specifically supported the partner organisations' facilitators. They built a strong understanding of the curriculum and the issue, and provided an opportunity to hone facilitation skills.



10-14 coaching visits per partner organisation

The coaching visits were designed to support organisations by addressing their problems through constructive feedback. This helped them to meet the deliverables and the quality that they had committed to in the proposals. Over the period of two years, the frequency of visits was reduced as partners became more confident, and required lesser support.



Access to 'HBR in a box'

'HBR in a Box' is a library of all relevant materials accessed through an online forum. The materials included the Action for Equality Programme curriculum, operational model, monitoring and evaluation tools and guidelines, and reference material from every peer learning workshop session.

“One of our major concerns while working with boys was: how do we connect with them? Through the regular training, documentation, skill-building and field visits conducted under the Hummingbird Raise programme, we were able to establish a very strong bond with the boys. They are able to come up to us and ask us about changes in their body, their psychology and problems with their peers – topics

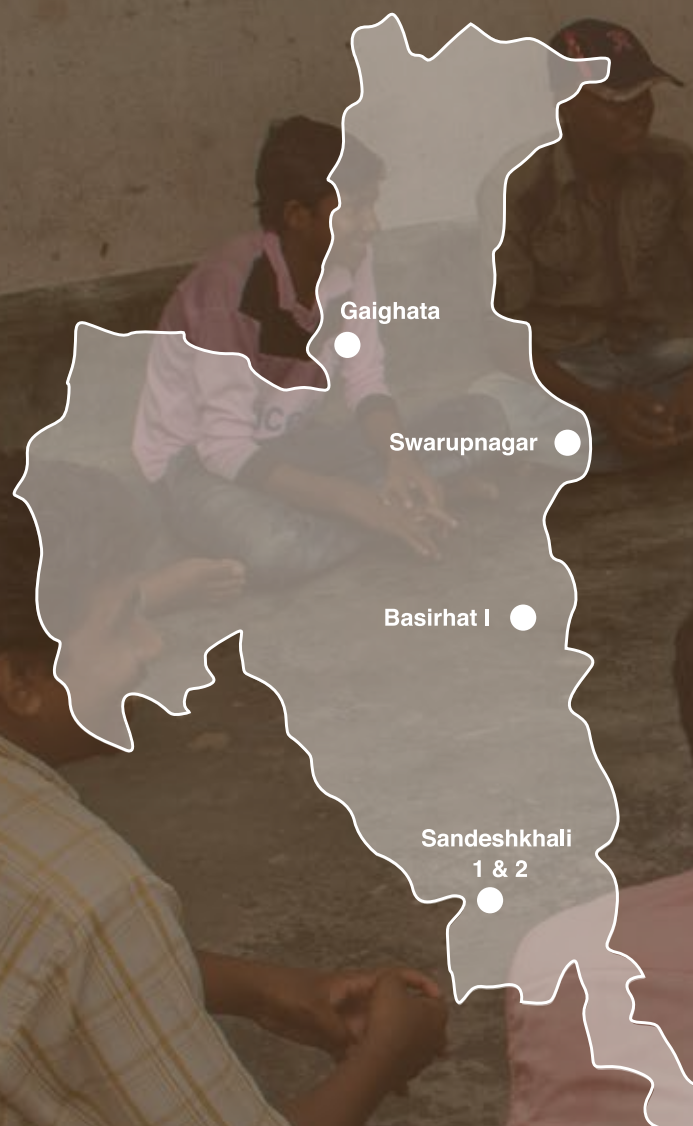
they can't even share with their own friends.”



Manasi Naiya,
Programme facilitator,
SSDC

What is Hummingbird Raise?

3. Delivering programmes that engage adolescents across the selected geographical areas



The coalition partners worked across 68 villages across the North and South 24 Parganas in West Bengal, India. Under Hummingbird Raise, they implemented the Action for Equality Programme primarily engaging adolescent boys. Three of the partner organisations included girls in the direct programme.



The blocks where the programme was implemented have been highlighted on the two maps. Outside the scope of the agreement, partner organisations also implemented the programme in East Medinipur and Murshidabad districts in West Bengal.

Pictured: Dhagajia Social Welfare Society mentors facilitating an Action for Equality programme session

Hummingbird Raise in numbers

12

partner
organisations

44

programme
cycles of 15
sessions each
were completed

76

communities

5224

boys and girls enrolled for the
Action for Equality Programme
under the Hummingbird Raise
programme.

boys and girls successfully
graduated from the Action for
Equality Programme under the
Hummingbird Raise programme

4096

78%

was the
graduation rate

52%

participants demonstrate 'high' gender
equitable attitudes and 43% participants
demonstrate 'moderate' gender equitable
attitudes towards the end of the programme.

(This figure is based on the gender attitude
survey conducted at the end of the programme)

Pictured: Participants from Sahay painting a wall with a message on gender equality as a part of their action events.

“Rupantaran Foundation has been working with intersectional areas under the broader area of Gender.

Though we did have a programme in place, the Hummingbird Raise collaboration has helped us tremendously with implementing these programmes.

Their modules have brought given a defined structure to our implementation. Their tools have helped us evaluate our impact. Through the Peer Learning Workshops, my teammates and I get enormous exposure and we get a chance to meet like-minded organizations. We get a potent platform to express our views and share our ideas.”

**Smita Sen, Founder and Director,
Rupantaran Foundation**



Pictured:
Girls participating in the initial
awareness session organised by Sanlaap

“The area where ECF’s approach to gender equality has made the most difference, is perhaps in my own house.

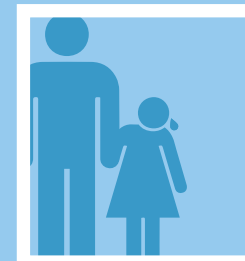
We, the Programme Mentors, are simple village women. I’ve experienced a lot of discrimination while growing up, particularly during my adolescence.

The Hummingbird Raise training has made me confident, allowing me get over my own inhibitions and work with adolescents on a critical topic”,

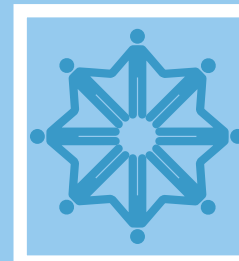
says Mithu Mondal, Programme mentor,
Dhagagia Social Welfare Society.

Moving beyond attitude change, and focussing on action

More than 44 collective actions have been taken by adolescents to spread awareness on subjects including street sexual harassment, child marriage, domestic workload distribution, access to education, access to equal rights, and trafficking. Other actions taken by adolescents on an individual level included:



Intervening
to prevent child
marriage
for girls



Delivering
a community
campaign
against child
labor and child
marriage



Boys challenging
gender roles by
sharing domestic
work



Challenging
families on
restrictions on
girls’ right to
mobility and
choice



Intervening
in domestic
violence
incidents

The independent formative evaluation of the Hummingbird Raise programme stated, “the programme changed boys’ knowledge, attitude and behavior in terms of gender discrimination and violence against girls. Changes relate to: Male privilege, attitudes towards girls, division of domestic chores, and relationship with family members. Boys have developed a ‘values compass’ to navigate their lives”.

The unintentional outcomes have affected all aspects of their lives, such as, improved attendance in school, improved communications with elders; and boys taking initiative on other community issues, not necessarily linked with gender or trafficking.

Special modules were designed by the Hummingbird Raise coalition for supporting the adolescents to work with community members for preventing child marriage and trafficking in their communities.

* These modules are available upon request.

Meet the young change makers from Hummingbird Raise



Saurav

17, participant from New Alipore Praajak Development Society

Saurav felt that this programme helped him to challenge gender-based discrimination in both, private and public realm. He said that the Action for Equality sessions were a space for him to think critically and challenge the deep-rooted social stigmas, and taboos in and around his family. After attending the session on adolescent health, he realised that restricting women's mobility within and outside the house during menstruation was an unscientific, regressive practice. He supported his sister in convincing their family to allow her to enter the kitchen and temple during her menstrual cycle and was able to convince his father with the facts and rationale that he had picked-up from the sessions, enabling his sister to lead a normal life even during her menstrual cycle.



Alamjeer

16, participant from Dhagagia Social Welfare Society

Alamjeer feels gender-based discrimination is very common in his school and needs to be addressed. He requested the school principal to let him share his learnings on the programme during one of the morning assemblies. Inspired by Alamjeer's talk, his fellow students formed a group that continues to meet every week to discuss various issues such as child marriage, trafficking, and importance of education. He feels the Action for Equality sessions have helped him to improve his relationship with his parents as well as to improve his decision-making and negotiation skills.



Suman

Participant from Sundarban Social Development Centre

Suman is a graduate of the programme. He heard about a girl from his neighbourhood being forced into an early marriage. With the support of the Programme Mentor, and his peer group, he spoke to the girl's parents and discussed the negative impact and legal implications of a child marriage. During that conversation, he drew connection between child marriage and human rights. The programme sessions have helped him develop right-based language and to make informed decisions.

He spoke to the girl's parents and discussed the negative impact and legal implications of a child marriage.



Sourav

16, participant from Child in Need Institute

Sourav has been part of the programme for more than a year. Sourav had seen his uncle being physically abusive towards his aunt. He first spoke to his aunt about seeking help. He and his peer support group accompanied his aunt to meet the Gram Pradhan and request him to warn his uncle to put an end to the physical violence. They also approached the police to request them look into the issue of domestic violence in his village. He feels change will take time but he along with his peers continue trying to bring a change in their village.

He feels change will take time but he along with his peers continue trying to bring a change in their village.



Babai

16, participant from Kajla Janakalyan Samity

Babai's friends harassed and objectified women during their regular conversations. Babai explained to them why this was wrong. Over a period of time, his friends realised that their behaviour was not appropriate and they changed their attitude towards women. Babai has been able to change his thoughts on gender roles, and is taking actions to break them by taking responsibility of domestic chores. He is currently trying to change his family's belief of not letting women enter a temple during their menstrual cycle.

Sanoyara continues to stand up for what's right, and supports her friends in doing the same.



Sanoyara

15, participant from Rupantaran Foundation

Everyday on her way to school, Sanoyara had to face a group of boys who made lewd comments as she walked past. Sanoyara felt traumatised. Two sessions into the programme, with the support of the Programme Mentor, she gathered courage to take action. She, along with her friends, confronted the harassers. She talked about how her access to public spaces was lost and how her right to education might be snatched away due to their entitled behaviour. Since this incident, Sanoyara continues to stand up for what's right, and supports her friends in doing the same.



Ajijul

18, participant from Sanlaap

Ajijul has been part of the programme for more than one year. During this time, he has not only been able to bring in change within himself, but also within his family by breaking the age-old practice of women eating last. Ajijul spoke about this with his father, and ensured that his mother ate with them and everyone helped with the clearing up. He was also able to stop one of his friends from being forced into an early marriage by contacting Childline and other community members.

Lessons we learnt

Over the programme period, the coalition partners have built a body of evidence that shows what works in engaging adolescents towards the prevention of gender-based violence and trafficking. The critical lessons are listed in this section.

Programmes engaging adolescents can be and should be integrated

In order to sustain interventions with adolescents, beyond the lifespan of a single funding cycle, it is necessary to integrate the programme with the implementing organisations' core objectives and programmes. In the case of Hummingbird Raise and the Action for Equality Programme, most organisations were able to visualise the 'fit' with their ongoing programmes with:

1. **Government:** Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA), Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, National Child Labour Program, and State-level education awareness programmes.
2. **Youth:** shelters, vocational training, youth health groups, library, advocacy against child labour, marriage, domestic violence, Childline and Dosti group, and child protection units.
3. **Community groups:** Youth groups, women's groups, Self-help groups (SHGs), safe village programme.

Programmes working to change boys' gendered attitudes can be applied, with adaption, to girls too

Hummingbird Raise started with an assumption that programmes similar to Action for Equality were already being implemented with girls. However, this assumption was incorrect. We realised that there weren't equivalent programmes that provided girls with the knowledge, skills, peer support, and leadership to challenge gender norms.

At this stage, there isn't enough evidence to understand what is the most effective way to engage adolescents - in mixed sex groups or single sex groups. ECF

is currently researching this further. The programme material, and the monitoring and evaluation tools need to be altered to include both boys and girls. Therefore, the recommendation is to run programmes in a way that is comfortable for both organisational teams, and the communities they work with. The learning journey of the boys and girls should not be negatively affected by the method of group formation.

Programmes engaging adolescents must cater to their specific needs first

The programme design for any intervention must keep the user of the programme/service in mind. Even when the programme is engaging adolescents with the objective of preventing gender-based violence and trafficking, it must cater to their needs and not just 'use' them as agents of change.

Methods and techniques used to engage them, topics discussed, learning pedagogy adopted, and actions designed should be delivered in a manner that adolescents can relate to and see the benefit for themselves. In the programme we implemented, we introduced topics specifically to understand how gender norms affect adolescents, their struggles and how they can cope with these struggles. It included accessible information on rights, safety, physical changes during adolescence and healthy relationships.

We focussed on providing adolescents with knowledge, skills, peer support, and leadership to gradually transition through circles of influence - starting with self, family, peers and then the wider community. The knowledge and skills they develop through the programme are useful in their life outside of the programme.

Programmes engaging adolescents need to be implemented over a long period

When working with adolescents, we look at bringing behaviour change which takes time to achieve and sustain. Any intervention designed for adolescents must be designed in a way that it takes them through

Pictured: Participants from Sahay during a session

a learning journey over a long period, i.e. an increased programme dosage. Depending on the requirement of the group, and the objective of the intervention this period can be one month or even one year. Having structured, and frequent inputs over a long period is critical.

Emphasis on action and working with broader communities

Effective programmes engaging adolescents move beyond the classroom or training set up. Keeping the principles of critical thinking, and adult learning in mind, the only way adolescents will truly learn is if they are provided opportunities to apply what they have learnt in their lives. The act of sharing what they have learnt with others is another way to reinforce their learnings. Enabling the adolescents to engage with community members is beneficial as it increases their confidence, mobilises the communities to develop solutions, and is sustainable.

Implementing the capacity building process in stages is critical

Organisations who are new to the approach should adopt it in stages. For example, when introducing the approach to the Hummingbird Raise coalition we moved through the following stages:

- **Stage 1:** Building conceptual understanding of

Keeping in mind the principles of critical thinking and adult learning, the only way adolescents will truly learn is if they are provided opportunities to apply what they have learnt in their lives.

gender norms and the overall approach of engaging adolescents

- **Stage 2:** Understanding the programme's operational model and basic monitoring and evaluation
- **Stage 3:** Starting the delivery of the programme with small number of participants
- **Stage 4:** Strengthening the facilitation skills and programme management mechanisms
- **Stage 5:** Strengthening the capacity to monitor and evaluate the programme for improvement
- **Stage 6:** Scaling the programme to a bigger number of participants across multiple communities, and continuing the improvement process.

Meet the partners of the Hummingbird Raise coalition

Child in Need Institute



Child in Need Institute was set up in 1974. CINI primarily focuses on the thematic sectors of maternal, child and adolescent health, education, nutrition and child protection. In practice, they work as an implementing organisation, resource, and a capacity building centre. They work in West Bengal and Jharkhand.

CINI implemented the Action for Equality programme under Hummingbird Raise across 10 villages in Kalatalahat GP in Diamond Harbour block II, South 24 Parganas. Over the period of one year, CINI worked with 630 adolescent boys. CINI is looking forward to integrating the Action for Equality Programme in their other ongoing adolescent centric community based programmes and is actively raising funds for it.

www.cini-india.org / ashutosh@cinindia.org

Dhagagia Social Welfare Society



Dhagagia Social Welfare Society was established in 1995. The organisation's objective is to ensure an effective prevention system against trafficking in North 24 Parganas District of West Bengal. They work in the blocks of Sandeshkhali I and II, Hasnabad and Hingalganj blocks, which border Bangladesh, and are identified as vulnerable areas.

DSWS implemented the Action for Equality programme under Hummingbird Raise across 8 villages in Hashnabad block of North 24 parganas district, West Bengal. Over the period of 2 years, DSWS has worked with 847 adolescent boys.

dsws1994@gmail.com

Kajla Janakalyan Samity



Kajla Janakalyan Samity was established in 1945 and then formally set up in 1956. KJKS works in Purba Medinipur, Pashchim Medinipur, South 24 Parganas and Jhargram

districts in West Bengal. Their mission is to build a society free from exploitation, injustice, and pollution. Through their programmes, they focus on: education, women's empowerment, health, child protection, natural resource management, and disaster risk reduction.

KJKS implemented the Action for Equality programme under Hummingbird Raise across 12 villages in South 24 Parganas district. Over the period of one year, KJKS worked with 751 boys and girls. Outside the scope of the Hummingbird Raise partnership, they have worked with 139 participants. They have continued to implement the programme in the current villages as well as those in Purba Medinipur. They have to integrated the approach and parts of the curriculum into their other programmes especially the one with farmers.

www.kjksindia.org / kjksmohonpur2014@gmail.com / kjks1001@gmail.com

Praajak



Praajak is a non-governmental organisation that was set up in 1997-98. The organisation works primarily in two areas: child's right to care and protection, and gender equity, specifically on

Pictured: Facilitators from Sundarban Social Development Centre practising an activity for the module on sexual and reproductive health

masculinity. In these two areas, Praajak runs a direct intervention programme with children and youth (especially boys); and runs a robust advocacy initiative with government-run child care institutions, child welfare committees, police, and judiciary.

Praajak implemented the Action for Equality programme under Hummingbird Raise across 19 villages in the North and South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal. Over the period of two years, Praajak worked with 320 adolescent boys.

Praajak has already incorporated the Action for Equality programme in their existing work. They have also included girls in the programme in some areas. They are planning to start implementation in rest of the source areas, both in urban and rural settings. They are open to partnerships with other NGOs and governmental organisations.

www.praajak.org / raktadeep@gmail.com / basudeb19@gmail.com

Sahay



Sahay was formally set up in 1989. Sahay is the implementation partner of Children International in West Bengal.

The organisation supports the development of children between 2 to 19 years for making them healthy, educated, employed, and empowered young adults to break the cycle of poverty. In West Bengal, Sahay implements its programme in the North and South 24 Parganas, Hooghly, Malda, Kolkata, Purba Mid-

napore, Bankura, South Dinajpur.

Sahay implemented the Action for Equality programme under Hummingbird Raise across 18 communities of South 24 parganas district of West Bengal. Over the period of two years, Sahay worked with 360 adolescent boys. Sahay continues to work with the most active participants and is training them to be peer educators.

director@sah.children.org.in

Sanlaap



Sanlaap was set up in 1989. Sanlaap implements programmes of their own and focusses on building capacity of government, and non-gov-

ernment organisations in the areas of child protection and rights, women's rights; and in the context of trafficking they address prevention, rescue, rehabilitation and repatriation. In partnership with local organisations, Sanlaap works across 14 districts in West Bengal.

Sanlaap implemented the Action for Equality programme under Hummingbird Raise across eight communities in the North and South 24 Parganas. Over the period of two years, Sanlaap worked with 849 adolescent boys. They plan to continue implementing the programme and are currently seeking funds for the same.

www.sanlaap.org / hq@sanlaapindia.org

Pictured: Image caption here

Sundarban Social Development Centre



Sundarban Social Development Centre was formed in 1986 and formally registered in 1989. SSDC works to create opportunities for

the marginalised communities to get equal access to healthcare, education, employment, and social justice. They work intensively in seven blocks of South 24 Parganas. Their activities revolve around health, education, child protection, prevention of trafficking, disaster management, water and sanitation, and livelihood.

SSDC implemented the Action for Equality programme under Hummingbird Raise across 12 villages in South 24 Parganas district. Over the period of two years, SSDC worked with 719 adolescent boys. They are currently raising funds to include girls and continue the programme implementation.

www.ssdcindia.org.in / ssdcindia@gmail.com

Right Track



Right Track started in 1991. Right Track primarily works with children and women on equipping them with information and skills to improve access to their rights and

resulting entitlements. They directly work in 35 Maheshtala municipality wards and through partnerships

in Malda, East Midnapore, Howrah, North and South Deenajpore, Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Purulia districts in West Bengal.

Right Track implemented the Action for Equality programme under Hummingbird Raise across eight communities in South 24 Parganas district. Over the period of one year, Right Track worked with 332 adolescent boys.

www.righttrack-cal.org / righttrack@rediffmail.com

Rupantaran Foundation



Rupantaran Foundation was formed in 2009 and works on issues of gender, health, education, and child protection. Rupantaran have five programmes contributing to its mission of enabling social justice in communities through

active citizenship by promoting youth leadership, catalysing opportunities, and access to rights & entitlements.

Rupantaran has integrated Action for Equality Programme in one of their existing community-based youth engagement programmes called Moner Janla and implemented it across eight villages of Joynagar I & II blocks in South 24 Parganas district. Over the period of two years, Rupantaran worked with 387 adolescent boys and girls.

www.rupantaranfoundation.org / rupantaraninfo@gmail.com

Jabala Action Research Organisation



Jabala Action Research Organisation began in 1992 and was run by volunteers until 1997. They seek to empower vulnerable children, women and youth (girls and boys), promote gender equality, and

prevent violence against women and girls, especially trafficking, and child marriage. They also provide institutional care and support with focus on social and economic rehabilitation of survivors of gender and social violence. They currently work in North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas, Murshidabad, Birbhum, Jalpaiguri, Alipurduar and Coochbehar districts in West Bengal.

Jabala only received technical support and implemented the Action for Equality programme under Hummingbird Raise with 18 boys across two communities in Swarnnagar Block in North 24 Parganas district.

www.jabala.org
jabalaactionresearch@yahoo.com

Sabuj Sangha

Sabuj Sangha was set up in 1975. The organisation aims for holistic development and implements a variety of projects including: child education and protection, women empowerment and livelihood, water, sanitation and hygiene, health and nutrition,



and disaster management. In West Bengal, Sabuj Sangha works across 12 district administrative blocks.

Sabuj Sangha only received technical support and implemented the Action for Equality programme under Hummingbird Raise with 40 boys from one village in South 24 Parganas district.

sabujsangha.org
director@sabujsangha.org

Swayam



Swayam is a women's rights organisation committed to ending violence against women and children, based in Kolkata, India. It was registered as a

public charitable trust in 1995. Through their co-ordinated programme of research and awareness-raising, they work to challenge the societal norms and values that perpetuate violence against women and to influence public policy decisions that affect women's rights.

Swayam only received technical support. They accessed programme materials, training for the team, and monitoring and evaluation toolkits to inform their new programme that engages older men.

www.swayam.info
swayam@cal.vsnl.net.in

Plans going forward

The Hummingbird Raise programme formally ended in August 2017. Partners of the Hummingbird Raise coalition have individual and collective plans for continuing to work on the approach of engaging adolescents for the prevention of gender-based violence and prevention of trafficking

Prevention of trafficking model

Building on the momentum from the Hummingbird Raise programme, The Hummingbird Foundation is now leveraging the collective expertise of six of its coalition partners in North and South 24 Parganas and deliberately provoking debate and innovative thinking. This will be captured in the co-creation of a prevention of trafficking model which will be evidence-based, sustainable, and community driven. In time it is expected that this continuously evolving model will become replicable outside of West Bengal. This model will have four distinct yet mutually supporting interventions.

1. **Collectivisation** of Children and Youth

2. **Forming and Strengthening** of Community-Based Institutions

3. **Access** to Rights and Entitlements

4. **Capacity** Building of Partners

Collectivisation of children and youth is an extension of Action for Equality Programme which was implemented by the coalition partners in the last two years.

Integration of the approach in existing work

Hummingbird Raise coalition partners are working on integrating the Action for Equality Programme into their core work. Organisations such as Praajak, Rupantaran Foundation, CINI, and Kajla Jankalyan Samity will continue implementation of the programme alongside existing programmes. These organisations have started and will continue to engage girls as well in the programme.

Sundarban Social Development Centre and Praajak are looking to engage in partnership with government organisations in order to scale the programme across the state of West Bengal.

Kajla Jankalyan Samity is also working on incorporating parts of the Action for Equality curriculum into their other programmes.

All partners are looking for funding partnerships that will enable them to effectively continue the programme individually or collectively, without losing the momentum gained in the last two years.

Continued technical support

Equal Community Foundation will continue to support the partner organisations with technical support on the approach of engaging adolescents, particularly boys. All partners will be invited to join the national collaborative of organisations under Project Raise. This will enable the partners to have access to a much bigger peer learning environment, updates on innovations within the approach, and opportunities to collaborate with other practitioners and donors.

Support will be made available to the members of this network through online and offline platforms. Any organisation that is interested in adopting the approach of engaging adolescents will have access to this network.

How to find out more

To find out more about the Hummingbird Raise programme, partnership related enquiries or media enquiries you can contact us at hummingbirdraise@ecf.org.in.

You can also contact the partner organisations if you wish to find out about their individual organisation's work.



Pictured: Ali, one of the active participants from Rupantaran Foundation's programme

Credits

Photographs

Alex Sunshine and
Aravind Hari

Design

Emma Roebuck
www.7thfloor.co.uk



www.thehummingbirdfoundation.co.uk

www.ecf.org.in