

Asha Colorado - Project Proposal Form Asha for Education -
Colorado Chapter
P.O. Box 234
Lafayette, CO 80026

Project Name: Samajik Navnirman Sanstha (SNS)

Date: 4th April, 2003

Please answer ALL questions marked with a *.

	Project Contact Information	Asha Contact
Name	Manik Avghade	Harshavardhan Purandare
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Part I: Information about your group/organization

1. Name of the organization requesting funds. *

Samajik Navnirman Sanstha - Karad, District Satara.

2. When was the organization established? *

We started the work in July 2001, registered the organization in September 2002.

3. Briefly describe:

a) Motivation for starting this organization and the history of the organization. *

In Mr. Avghade's words –

“I am from a village where we all Scheduled Caste people live together. I am the most educated person in my village (M.A. in psychology.) So I used to teach to village kids as help to students. While teaching and interacting with people I encountered many problems in the village relating to education, health and livelihood. They needed attention. We were not allowed in the village temple. That hurt me and my community. My home was burnt by upper cast people for asking this right. The organization got built very fast around this issue, but people did not stand behind me all the time. The basic reason behind this was dependence for livelihood on upper caste people. So I started Kutirodyog and small saving schemes to have some financial standing. They are good successes so far. But I needed constructive programmes for the community, so that efforts become consistent. I made my teaching activity more formal and started classes. My classes have become most popular in all my activities. My work is now spread in 8 villages.”

b) Organizational structure (e.g. Board of Trustees, Directors etc.)

We have 9 Trustees , most of them are heads of our each activity. And they are from the 8 above said villages. We have 15-20 volunteers in each villages. So we are a group of 150 people.

c) Profiles of the directors/board of trustees of the organization

We are group of 8 core team members –

- (1) Two school Teacher
- (2) One - Stamp Vendor
- (3) One Professor
- (4) Two farmers
- (5) Two Housewives

4. Briefly describe the long-term objectives of your organization?

We see our organization becoming central to Economic and social development of these villages. We want to educate every village kid in formal and informal way. They should understand to manage and use village resources in proper manner and become self sufficient. We want to work with 1v1c to achieve social development using technology.

5. Does your organization have any religious or political affiliation? If yes, please describe the type of affiliation. * **No.**

6. Describe all the activities your organization is currently involved in (in reverse chronological order starting with the present).

1. After-school Classes
2. IT Literacy camp
3. Library for School kids
4. Health Protection Camp
5. Saving schemes for mothers of kids
6. Rangoli Training
7. Karate Classes
8. Local band

Part II: Details about your educational project/s

Note: If this specific project has been funded earlier by Asha Colorado and you are requesting renewal of funding, please use the progress report form in appendix A.

8a. Please provide an overview of the project that you are soliciting funds for . *

SNS is involved in 2 primary initiatives currently. First is the after-school classes conducted by SNS volunteers in 8 villages. Second is for collaboration with 1v1c (One Village One Computer) movement, to provide educational and social services to the villagers. More details about the after school classes and 1v1c initiative are described in the following pages.

- We have after school classes in 8 villages. Classes are conducted in ZP schools.
- The classes are run for average 4 hours/day (20 Hrs/weeks). Remaining time is spent in analyzing local issues affecting their livelihood and solving them.
- On an average 80 students are attending these classes in each village.
- One of the local youth is trained in teaching as well as managing the class and he is supported by two assistants.
- The class sessions are more of a problem solving interactive ones than the normal classroom teaching sessions. English, Mathematics and Science are the main subjects taught here and the medium of instruction is Marathi.
- My wife and I run one of such classes and it consists of 100 students.

- Now, we are collaborating with 1V1C for IT education as well as services and will have a common center for all the villages.

Relationship with 1v1c:

Samajik Navnirman Sanstha (SNS) has tied up with 1v1c to use Information Technology for development in innovative manner. It is based on community development using information, communication and basic education. The knowledge transfer through IT enabled network in 1v1c's model will help SNS to achieve its mission.

1 Village 1 Computer (1v1c) Movement: The mission of the 1V1C movement is to develop a vibrant village community and to create a self-sustaining open platform for solving important developmental local issues concerning education, communication, e-governance, gender and other prime Problems, via the establishment of Information Technology Centers & to bridge the digital divide by developing IT enabled Social Capital.

1v1c is based on the model where IT Seva Centers based in a village supports the cluster of few villages around it and the IT Seva Centers are supported by central Resource Center, which trains activists and fuels the IT Seva centers in villages. IT Seva Center consists of computer, printer, scanner, Web Cam, etc. IT Seva Centers are formed with participation of the whole community and the young local activists provide the leadership. The local governing institutions such as Gram Panchayat, ZP Schools, and Medical Officers are taken into confidence before starting any Seva Center. In fact, the villagers themselves develop the revenue model.

Once the IT Seva center is set up in a village, volunteer committees are formed for addressing various issues the villagers might be facing. Each committee contains at least five volunteers out of which two are women. These are called "Sanganak Sahaykari Samitee". They play key role to solve issues such as education, health, below poverty line population, housing, gender, water, sanitation & cleanliness, unemployment, government schemes, agriculture & market rates, e-governance and right to information. These committees act as functional experts for identification and solution of problems relating to each issue. They collect, enter, and maintain the village data using necessary software. They take necessary actions/negotiations where they find gaps and discrepancies. They arrange regular weekly meetings discussing the problems and decide action agenda to solve them.

1V1C and Education: 1V1C has developed innovative method for IT education for masses. The training is based on the principles that application based collective training, referring and addressing various village issues is the best way of imparting IT education.

1. School Children: Special curriculum is being developed for school children in ZP schools which will educate them in more entertaining and similar manner. 1v1c has incorporated the government curriculum into their training material.
2. Villagers: In this 5 day camp, basic IT skills are taught directly by utility of IT in the day-to-day needs of the villagers. The curriculum is developed according to the local circumstances and needs.
3. Village Youth: In this 3 month IT training class, the IT education is imparted on regular basis to the young activists in the Resource Center.

Other than education, the Seva Center also offer other revenue generating social services related to e-governance and right of information, agriculture, and other utilities such as scanning, printing, and communication needs.

Samajik Navnirman Sanstha has tied up with 1v1c to use Information Technology for development in innovative manner. It is based on community development using information, communication and basic education. The knowledge transfer through IT enabled network in 1v1c's model will help Samajik Navnirman Sanstha to achieve its mission.

Current Status:

1. 10 activists of SNS were trained in 1v1c camp and given orientation of the whole concept.
2. They have worked out plan to start 1v1c's community IT basic education along with Maths, Science and English tutorial.
3. They have prepared an information package in simple format, which educates masses about land and revenue department issue.
4. The collection of information about issues concerning education, health, gender, agriculture has already begun and groups of volunteers are in place.

8b. Describe briefly the other projects run by your group, their locations and the training provided.

This is the only project being run by us. (We have center in each of surrounding village.)

9a. How would you describe the location of the project?

Villages at 15 Km away from Block Town.

9b. Has this area been affected recently by any natural/political disasters? If yes, please explain the situation briefly.

This area is affected by pollution of water by the Sugar Industry having political stronghold in neighboring district. This has caused lots of health problems.

10. How would you describe the activities of the project that you are soliciting funds for? *

- Primary education
 - Non-formal Education
 - After school tutorials
 - Community development initiative
- (All the above 4 are combined)

11. Please describe about your teaching techniques.*

i) Special approach about the subjects:

- English – is taught through Marathi Translations. Makes learning easier.
- Mathematics - Relevant topics covered in previous standards are revised before the new topics are taught, for better continuity and understanding.

ii) We have developed local youth (aged between 20 –22) into teachers. They know perfectly what kind of problems the kids face while learning. So they prove to be better teachers.

iii) IT Literacy camps have evoked interest in overall learning. IT education is not being provided in ZP schools inspite of the fact that the government has made IT education mandatory from class 5. Apart from IT, activities like Rangoli classes and Karate classes have got local appeal.

12a. What are the main causes for resistance to education around the geographical area of the project under consideration? *

- i. Govt. School Teachers are not interested in proper education of the kids
- ii. No linkage of education with livelihood

12b. What is the literacy rate in your local community? 60 %

12c. Which sector of the society does the beneficiaries belong to?

Peasants as well landed labourers

12d. What changes does this project aims to bring about in the current conditions.

13a. What do the kids do outside school hours?

Helping their parents in whatever they do.

13b. If the children are engaged in child labor, what is the most vulnerable age at which they start working? **No.**

14a. What is the admission criteria for students to join your school?

- (1) School Student
- (2) Local resident
- (3) Financially Backward --Having less parental attention are encouraged more.
- (4) School dropouts are taken back to govt. school

14b. How many students did you start with?

50 (In one group started by me)

14c. How many students attend your school currently?

100 (In my group), 500 (In other groups.)

14d. What is your boy: girl ratio? **5:1**

14e. What is the age group of children attending your facility? **9 to 16**

14f. What is your teacher: student ratio? (For education related projects only)* **1 : 50**

14g. What is the fee paid by the students? **Nil.**

15. In addition to education, does your group provide any other services to the students in your schools (e.g. food, health care, clothing, etc.)? Please explain.*

Health Camps are taken in our classes with the help of sympathizing doctors. These are conducted in four different camps, 40 students in each camp.

16. What community development activities is your organization involved in?

- * Cultural Activities : Patha Natyas (Street theater focused on highlighting social issues such as dowry and girl child)
- * Rangoli Competitions
- * Collective reading of useful books by villages

* Monthly meeting by experts of various faculties like health, water management are arranged in village.

17. What facilities does your school have?

The school has following facilities, typical of a ZP School: 7 classrooms, 1 Ground, 1 Blackboard per class, No benches Toilet and Fans

18a. How many staff members are employed at your schools? *

Teachers 8 (nonacademic work is shared by all)
Qualifications: 12th Min to Graduate

18b. Please answer the following questions so that we can get a picture of the staff members (tabular format)

Gender	7 Male, 1 Female
Age	18 to 25
Teaching experience & training	2 Years
Salary	Nil

General background of each teacher (to get an idea of what motivates each: money? Social service?)

All are dedicated to Social Service - They are supported by their families and income from farms/day jobs.

19a. Please answer this if your institute has existed for at least 3 years. N.A.

19b. How many students have gone through your program in the past 3 years N.A

19c. What are they doing currently? N.A.

19d. Do you prepare them adequately for future education and employment opportunities? If yes, please explain.

- 2 students (Age 19) who are part of our group have become journalists at an early age and got the jobs. This happened because we exposed them to social issues through the group activities.
- We encourage local skill development which helps creating employment like:
 - Shashwat Farming - use of Earthworm farming. Young school pass-outs do this farming and earn livelihood. Three students have started earning through this.
 - Saving schemes: We have seven groups, 81 members and Rs.41603/-saved in our schemes. With this money as a security, we can raise government loan to an amount 4 times the saved amount and invest it in Animal husbandry (Sheli Palan) - 4 young pass outs have already started earning out of these activities.

20a. Are there any other schools (Kindergarten/Balwadi, Elementary school, High school) in the area? **Yes**

20b. If yes, please list the schools and the range of classes each of them offers.

Z.P. Primary and secondary school (Till standard VII)

20c. Why are the children in your school/s not attending government/other schools in the local area?

- (i) Lack of attention by teachers
- (ii) No community participation

21. What are your expansion plans for the future (e.g. adding more classes or schools)? How do you see your school impacting the village 3 years from now?

Right now we are looking at consolidating activities using reliable funding from internal and external sources. Going forward we want to continue to the after school classes, cultural/community activities, and computer education/services with 1v1c. We are planning to procure 3 more P1 computers using internal resources to reach out to more villages.

22. Please provide us with the contact information of two individuals from your community who can describe the impact of your program. *

1. Rajendra Shivaji Kamale : Mechanic, Manav, Tal.Karad ,Dist.Satara
2. Ajit Namdev Kamble Ving, Tal.Karad , Dist.Satara : clerk in credit society

23. Asha for Education requires reports from its projects every six months /annually to continue funding. Please provide the contact information for the person from your group who will be responsible for these reports.

Name: Manik Avghade
Contact: Same As above

Part III: Financial Details

Please feel free to attach any information such as annual reports, budgets etc.

24a. Does your organization have FCRA clearance from the Indian government? This is required for you to receive foreign funds. * **No.**

24b. If no, have you applied for FCRA or temporary FCRA? What is the status of your FCRA application? **No.**

25a. Please provide details of your past and current funding. If the funds were given for a specific purpose, please outline these restrictions for us as well.

We have been informally running on personal small contribution. Our First Annual Report will be out in March 31.

26. Please provide us with details of your projected budget for the next 3 years: *

The project proposal has two aspects. First is for funding the teacher's salary for the after-school activities managed by SNS. Salary is requested for Mr. Avghade and his wife. Other volunteers have day jobs unlike Mr. Avghade. Second is for the procurement of hardware to setup the IT Seva Center. Other fixed costs associated with furniture, electricity fittings etc. will be provided by SNS. Recurring expenses will be paid out of the revenue generated from the operations of the IT Seva Center. The revenue from the operations will be used for computer teacher's salary, purchasing and upgrading equipments, maintenance, electricity and telephone Bills, and other administration costs. Revenue is primarily generated through monthly fee from the students getting IT

education and other data processing services such as creating invitation cards, photocopy, typing etc.

	Per Month	Per Year
Salary for Mr. Avghade and his wife	Rs. 3,000/month	Rs. 36,000/year
Rent for Seva Center	Rs. 1,500/month	Rs. 18,000/year
Computer – P4	Rs. 37,000	Rs. 37,000
WebCam	Rs. 1,600	Rs. 1,600
Printer	Rs. 14,500	Rs. 14,500
Telephone Connection	Rs. 3,000	Rs. 3,000
Stabilizer	Rs. 9,200	Rs. 9,200
Total:		Rs. 1,18,200 = \$ 2,626
This includes \$1,426 is fixed costs and \$1,200 in recurring costs.		

27. What are your proposed means of continuing the project (financially) after current funding ends*

Recurring costs will be paid out of the revenue generated from IT operations.