

## Mission

Sustainable Economic and Educational Development Society (SEEDS) aims to seek, evaluate and support sustainable, equitable, and decentralized grassroots development projects in the developing world, particularly in the state of Orissa in India.

## Philosophy and Aspiration

- To promote educational and economic progress and development
- To help communities to help themselves and take responsibility for sustaining the economic development
- To take a stand against social evils and injustices
- To grow into a movement of "participatory consciousness for sustainable & equitable development" among non-resident Indians and Oriyas

## Objectives

- To make non-resident Indians aware of obstacles to development and the importance of sustainable, equitable grassroots development in the developing world.
- To raise funds to catalytically support sustainable development projects.
- To recruit volunteers to evaluate and monitor projects through field visits.
- To collaborate/network with organizations with similar mission.

## History

- 1993** An effort informally called Kalahandi-Bolangir Initiative started in the wake of shocking news of inhuman misery and deprivation in the famine-affected region of Orissa.
- 1994** The effort was organized into an independent group formally named as "Sustainable Economic & Educational Development Society" (SEEDS), reflecting its broader focus and philosophy.
- 1995** The group moved from Austin, Texas to Portland, Oregon. Its membership and volunteer strength continued to increase and it adopted a number of projects in Orissa.
- 1997** The group was officially incorporated as a non-profit tax-exempt charitable organization in the state of Oregon.
- 1998** The founder of SEEDS received the Young Oriya award by Orissa Society of Americas in recognition of the work of this group.
- 1999** The devastation caused by the Orissa super cyclone caused a significant expansion of work done by this group.
- 2000** Started volunteer group in Orissa
- 2002** SEEDS currently monitors and supports 20 development projects in Orissa.

## Structure

SEEDS is an all-volunteer organization with volunteers in many countries, such as Australia, Canada, India, and the USA. Its operation is democratic, egalitarian, and non-sectarian. Its structure consists of a large membership for general discussions, a smaller core group for detailed and project-specific discussions, and a Board of Directors for formal acceptance of major decisions.

## Volunteer Opportunities

- Professional skills for project evaluation
- Professional skills for organizational operation
- Field visits to project sites and interviewing project managers and project beneficiaries
- Fundraising
- Writing, making presentations

## SEEDS at a Glance

|                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Founded                          | 1993            |
| Number of volunteers             | ~20             |
| Donor members                    | ~100            |
| Number of salaried employees     | 0               |
| Projects supported               | 20              |
| Geographical areas of projects   | 4 Indian States |
| Annual visits to each project    | 2               |
| Funds raised as of 2001          | \$150,000       |
| #of groups partly inspired by us | 2               |

## Supported Projects

### **Project (Description), Town or District**

#### ***Currently Being Funded by SEEDS:***

AASP (Ashram School), Dalijoda  
Abhiyan (Self Help Groups), Purushottampur  
ASRA (school and Hospital), Jagatsingpur  
Gopinath Jub Sangh (SHGs, Microcredit), Balipatana  
Humanities (SHGs, water harvesting), Bolangir  
IMTS (SHGs, FFW), Mayurbhanja  
Kalahandi Vikas Parishad (water, FFW), Kalahandi  
Kasturba G.S.N.A Girls School (Education), Rayagda  
Ramadevi Kanyashram (Education), Satyabhamapur  
REACHD (FFW, MILP), Bolangir  
SRDO (SHGs, Microcredit), Jajpur  
Unnayan (Pani Panchayat, Cyclone rehab.), Cyclone  
affected areas

#### ***New or pending***

BVP (Schools repair), Ganjam  
CARE (Self Help Groups, Agriculture), Kandhamal  
SACAL (Tribal Development), Gajapati  
SAIMA (School for Mentally challenged), Gajapati.

## Volunteers for India's Development & Empowerment (VIDE)

**VIDE**( <http://www.indiadev.net/>) is an autonomous chapter of SEEDS formed in 2001 in the wake of Gujarat earthquake. It undertakes projects in Orissa, A. P., W.B. and Gujarat.

## Support Us

- I am enclosing a donation for \$\_\_\_\_\_
- I want to volunteer. My volunteer interests are
  
- I would like to be informed about your activities. Please send me your newsletter.

**Name**

**Address**

**Phones**

**E-mail**

Please mail completed form with your donation to

SEEDS Treasurer  
Somdutt Behura  
3722 Latma Drive, Houston, TX 77025  
Email - [mailto:s\\_behura@hotmail.com](mailto:s_behura@hotmail.com)

### Contact

Priyadarsan Patra, Chairman  
14485 NW Alta Ln., Portland, OR 97229  
Email - [dpatra@yahoo.com](mailto:dpatra@yahoo.com)

# - SEEDS -

**Sustainable Economic  
and Educational  
Development Society,  
Inc.**



**A Tax-Exempt Non-Profit  
Organization**

<http://www.seedsnet.org/>

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