Project SNAPS providing Tribal women & girls with access to sanitary napkins



Empowering women & girls through awareness & training to promote menstrual hygiene & to provide access to sanitary napkins (SNAPS) is of utmost importance to break the culture of silence & to be able to discuss the concerns of women & adolescent girls related to reproductive & sexual health.

Project Description

This project addresses the need of Tribal women & adolescent girls living in remote villages to have access to hygienic, cost-effective, eco-disposable SNAPS. Women villagers formed into Self-Help Groups (SHGs) will produce the SNAPS & generate income from their sale to health workers & schools. With access to SNAPS, girls are helped to remain in school – avoiding the typical 20% dropout rate of girls at puberty. The project also addresses issues of reproductive health & hygiene. *This project is also replicable in multiple clusters of villages across Odisha.*

Quick Project Facts

Delivering Partner: Jeevan Rekha Parishad

(www.jrpsai.org)

Location: Odisha, Eastern India

Funding partner: Monsoon Trust

Target group: 10 SHG women to produce SNAPS, 25 SHG women to market/sell SNAPS, 5000 women/adolescent girls (200 from each of 25 villages) to receive reproductive health education/access to SNAPS; 500 school-going adolescent girls from 5 high schools to receive reproductive health education/access to SNAPS

Total beneficiaries: 5,535

£20 can keep a girl in school for one year £50 can pay for a training day for 25 women in an SHG to produce & market SNAPS

Menstruation in India

The issues of menstrual untouchability and religious taboos in rural areas are strong

Poor menstrual hygiene not only causes 70% of all female reproductive diseases in India, but can lead to maternal mortality, a lower school attendance for girls & fewer women in the workforce

200 million women villagers aged 12-47 are estimated to be precluded from freely engaging in & contributing to community life during their periods because they lack access to suitable sanitary protection. Village girls & women miss up to 50 days of school or work per year & India as a whole loses close to \$7 billion in productivity.

For more info call **0208 973 3773** or email **melissa@jeevika.org.uk.**More about all of our projects can be found at **www.ieevika.org.uk**



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