**United Nations Development Programme**

**New Delhi, India**

**Back to Office Report**

|  |
| --- |
| **Mission Report Summary** |
| **Date:** | 10 June 2016 |
| **Name of Travellers:** | Mr. Narendra Mishra (Programme Officer, UNV/UNDP) |
| **Unit:**  | UNV |
| **Mission Period and itinerary:** | **Mission dates:** 2 May 2015 to 5 May 2016**:** Field monitoring visit Hyderabad and Khammam district, Telangana to monitor project activities and to meet and hold discussions with different officials at the state and district level. |
| **Project No. and Title:** | Strengthening NYKS and NSS Project |
| **Brief Summary of issues discussed/Major findings** 1. **Meeting with Mr. Rishipal Singh, Zonal Director (ZD), NYKS, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, Hyderabad:**
* Given the shortage of manpower at Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), Mr. Rishi Pal Singh, ZD, NYKS, appreciated the initiative of the Ministry under the project “Strengthening NYKS and NSS” to place United Nations Volunteer District Youth Coordinators (UNV DYCs) at the districts where Nehru Yuva Kendra (NYK) DYC posts are vacant.
* ZD, NYKS expressed his appreciation for the work done by both UNV DYC’s working in Anantapur district, Andhra Pradesh and Khammam district, Telangana respectively.
* ZD highlighted the challenge of single signatories on the district level cheques as UNV DYCs do not have the financial responsibility in the districts. According to him, this was putting all financial authority in the hands of one officials leaving room for large amount of subjectivity. This may also be seen to lessesn the authority of UNV DYCs as he/she is the head of the NYK DYC office in the district. However he did agree with the office memorandum issued by MoYAS that UNV DYC may not be given financial powers of DDO. ZD made following suggestions to help solve this issue:
1. The UNV DYC be given another title like that of District Officer to work on programme implementation under the supervision of a regular District Youth Coordinator. This regular DYC must have all financial authority in the district NYK office including that of joint signatory.
2. Create a provision of a note sheet that will be signed by both the UNV DYC and ACT for every activity implemented. The note sheet will contain details on the programme aspects of the activity as well as the funds to be spent for it. Being the ZD for Anantapur and Khammam, Mr. Rishi Pal Singh is trying this modality in both these districts under his jurisdiction.
3. The second co-signatory along with the ACT may be another DYC with an additional charge of this district only for financial matters.
* UNV DYCs of Anantpur district and Khammam district raised the issue of recruitment of National Youth Corps (NYCs) Volunteers. They mentioned poor attendance of NYC volunteers in meteings called by UNV DYCs. ZD suggested UNV DYCs to be prompt and skilful to be able to motivate the NYC’s. ZD also suggested to engage proactively with the District Collector and the selection committee to select the motivated NYC volunteers.
1. **Meeting with Mr. Venkat, Account cum Typist Clerk (ACT), NYK, Khammam, Telangana**
* UNV DYC has been facing problem in coordination with ACT, mainly due to the fact that ACT has been serving in the same district for more than 20 years and considers himself much more experienced. ACT also had aspirations to be DYC.
* A discussion with ACT helped resolve this and ACT mentioned his commitment to work together with UNV DYC at Khammam as a team.
* Since ACT is in-charge of the financial issues, he also mentioned his commitment to use a note sheet method to decide together with UNV DYC the the programme and financial implementation in the district.
1. **Meeting and discussion with Mr. Raja Shekar, UNV DYC, Khammam, Telangana**
* UNV DYC was advised to focus on youth mobilisation and creation of youth clubs. UNV DYC was advised to conduct extensive filed visits to revive youth clubs and motivate youth volunteers.
* UNV DYC was also advised to have regular meetings with District collector and other district department officials to increase visibility of youth volunteering and institute coordination with other departments and organisations at district levels including with NSS.
1. **Ms. D. Divya, Joint Collector, Khammam, Telangana**
2. Briefed her about the project, its objective and activities in district Khammam.
3. Mentioned the need to schedule the District Advisory Committee on Youth Programme Meeting under chairmanship of District Collector.
4. Mentioned the requirement to use the good offices of the District Collector for youth development work and convergence.
5. Joint Collector has requested scheduled another meeting with UNV DYC on 21/22 May 2016 for a more detailed briefing.
6. **Visit to field to meet with members of youth clubs, mahila mandals (women clubs) and youth leaders:**
7. **‘Dasbadhra’ –** Youth Club in village Mallawaram: Created by the son of the former Sarpanch of the village in the name of his friend who died prematurely from cancer. Conducted 176 programmes so far across 4 states – Orrissa, Chattisgarh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh. Core membership of 16 Members who have been able to mobilize another 50 youth, friends and others who have observed their activities. No women members so far. Membership of the club is senior with less number of youth members. Programmes conducted are diverse ranging from health camps, eye donation camps, HIV awareness, Swacchh Bharat Abhiyan, Growing of fruit trees at temples and mosques, water harvesting, creating awareness on environment conservation, water harvesting, conducting sports programmes, providing scholarships for deserving students. They use a method of going door to door to each person’s house.

One of the key achievements is increasing the literacy in the village by almost 50% mainly through implementation of a programme called Akshara Deepam- night school. Interested to mentor other younger youth clubs. All are volunteers and activities mainly funded by contributions of individuals. Main requirement in the future is better linkages with government schemes and training for members of youth club. 1. **Friends** Youth Club in village Pallipadu: Total village population 2500 people. Started work in 2005 and registered in 2011. Membership of 24 individuals with 10 girl members. Working on programmes such as festivals, blood donation camps, against child marriage, child labor.

Main requirement in the village is for jobs and employment of youth.Main requirement for the youth club in the future is better linkages with government schemes and training for members of youth club. 1. **‘Priyanka’- Mahila mandal-** registered in 1992. Has 30 to 36 members working on issues such as educating women on legal rights, children health care, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, skill training for women- tailoring and personality development, sports equipment distribution and sewing kit distribution programme. Got an award for being the best Mahila Mandal in Khammam.

Receives funding from Christian Foundation and NYKS. 1. Would like to receive support in the future for programmes on computer training, understanding markets and being able to market the products they make, beauty parlor training, counseling on gynecological issues and making of sanitary napkins.
* **Follow-up Action:** Project Management Team at NYKS HQ to discuss the suggestions by ZD, NYKS. Regular follow-ups with UNV DYC on engaging with youth clubs for their motivation and revival.
 |
| **Key Persons met** | 1. Mr. Rishipal Singh, Zonal Director, NYKS, Hyderabad
2. Mr. Venkat, ACT, NYK, Khammam, Telangana
3. Mr. Raja Shekar, UNV DYC, Khammam, Telangana
4. Joint Collector, Khammam, Telangana
5. Members of youth clubs, Mahila Mandals, youth leaders.
 |
| **Distribution of Tour report** | Ms. Marina Walter, DCD(P), UNDPMs. Yvonne, Portfolio Manager South Asia, UNV HQ |
| **Mission Report Uploaded in ATLAS?** |  |
| **Endorsement of Supervisor** |  |