Adolescent girls like Jyoti were the worst affected by Covid in absence of regular schooling as they lost their learning aptitudes, peer groups and social bonding.

Household chores and involvement in family responsibilities had a deep impact on their education and psychosocial well-being.

Aligned with the government mission, CARE India brings drop-out adolescent girls back to school; imparting leadership, resilience and 21st Century skills to prepare them to face the future.

Balika Manch, Bal Sansad, Jyoty Saturday, community-based girls’ collectives where girls hone their skills and leadership qualities have been key innovative approaches. The Balika Manch brought out Jyoti’s indomitable spirit making her immune in learning, unfazed of challenges and difficulties.

She emerged as a leader at the Balika Manch activities and programmes.

Jyoti is a shining role model for all young girls and her community.

**Parwaaz – Wings to Fly**

Children enjoyed a hands-on experience of developing greeting cards too.

In addition to the various exciting and fun filled activities children played games like hit the pyramid, lemon-and-spoon race, shell races and made crafts like paper bags, miniature houses, and mobiles.

CARE’s FFBS model follows an integrated, gender-transformative approach that includes multiple components such as sustainable agricultural practices, market participation, gender, equity, food and nutrition security, group empowerment, and participatory monitoring and evaluation. Globally, CARE has tested FFBS in 28 projects across 17 countries during the last 7 years. The model has directly improved the lives of women – increased gender equality, household income, improved resilience, reduced impact of shocks, and better nutrition – of more than 500,000 farmers (54% women and 46% men) and their families (2.5M people total).

Recently, CARE Global has signed a multi-country project with the Sall Family Foundation on upscaling of FFBS. CARE Global organised a multi-country project with the Sall Family Foundation on upscaling of FFBS. CARE Global organised an Asia Regional FFBS workshop in Bandra, Mumbai during 10th – 16th November 2022. A total of 27 participants from 6 different countries participated in the workshop. Participants from each country mapped out & presented a seasonal calendar (highlighting seasonal planting, harvest & post-harvest season).

The project thrives to:
- Strengthen community-based institutions and federations with requisite capacities and systems to manage independently and lead change.
- Form and strengthen block level federation.
- Sustain productivity of WSWs from Agriculture, Dairy and micro enterprises propelled by sound Business Development plan and establishment of seamless linkages with inputs and value chain actors.
- Increase responsiveness and positive attitude towards WSWs to help them thrive in the workplace and in their personal lives.
- Engage in beneficial and efficient decision-making.
- Collaborate with other stakeholders.
- Increase production.
- Access market.
- Sell products at competitive prices.
- Complement other stakeholders.
- Engage in beneficial and efficient decision-making.
- Increase responsiveness and positive attitude towards WSWs to help them thrive in the workplace and in their personal lives.

**Farmers’ Field and Business School (FFBS)**

Farmers’ Field and Business School (FFBS) is a participatory, women-focused training and extension approach that helps farmers build the necessary skills to:

- Increase production.
- Access market.
- Sell products at competitive prices.
- Complement other stakeholders.
- Engage in beneficial and efficient decision-making.
- Increase responsiveness and positive attitude towards WSWs to help them thrive in the workplace and in their personal lives.

**Economic Empowerment of Women**

Jambusar, Bharuch – Gujarat

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- Engage in beneficial and efficient decision-making.
- Collaborate with other stakeholders.

Case Study:

Jyoti* is an eight-grade student at Government Girls’ Secondary School, Nuh, Haryana. She has been speech impaired from birth and has challenged hearing. Her father, employed at a private firm is the sole earner, for a family of five.

She emerged as a leader at the Balika Manch activities and programmes.

**Observing 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence**

Children’s Day Celebration – Rajasthan

Children’s day was celebrated at the cluster level in Bhilwara and Chittorgarh districts with great enthusiasm and joy. Activities were participated by the children of Anganwadi centres and the Khush team members.

In addition to the various exciting and fun filled activities children played games like hit the pyramid, lemon-and-spoon race, shell races and made crafts like paper bags, miniature houses, and mobiles.

Children enjoyed a hands-on experience of developing greeting cards too.

Government officials like Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Block Development officials, COPDO, LS and other officials and HCL representatives participated in the events and lauded the efforts of Khush team.

CARE India operates the programme in five districts of Madhya Pradesh and two districts of Rajasthan, where more than 350,000 women are actively involved in contextualised P.A.C.E training.