Basic information

Date of the site visit: 12 March, 2023

Name of the Project: Sri Aurobindo Integral School (SAIS) Basundhara

Name of the Organization Running the Project (if different): Basundhara

Was your site visit announced? Yes, it was announced to them 1 day before the visit

	Project Contact's Information	**Site Visitor's (Your) Information** **(Volunteer conducting the visit)**
Name	Bidhu Mohanty	Saswat Mishra
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Affiliation to project	Volunteer and part-time teacher	None
Affiliation to Asha	Project Coordinator	None

PART A: Particulars about the organization and its environment (cross-validation of information presented in proposal)

1. Tell us about the project?

   SAIS Basundhara is a residential school for orphaned/abandoned children and its prime objective is to provide girls basic facilities of food and shelter along with quality education. The school is located at Gatiroutpatna in Cuttack district of Orissa. They conduct classes from pre-school to class VIII. The pre-school is equipped with a play-hall and a play-garden. Mediums of instruction at the primary level are Oriya and English. The children are also taught yoga, art and music. Selected female teachers reside at the hostel along with the children.

2. When was the project of interest started?

   The project was established in April of 2010 and Asha Purdue Chapter has been supporting it since 2014.

3. What is the administrative structure of the group (e.g. Board of Directors/Grassroots-based/Volunteer based)?

   Bidhu Bhushan Mohanty is our project coordinator and a part time volunteer at Basundhara.

4. Currently, what are the main problems the organization faces for running this project?

   Shortage of finances to support the salary of teachers.

5. How many centers/schools does the project run? How many of those were you able to visit?

   Both the school and hostel are located at a single location in Cuttack.

PART B: The beneficiaries and the community

(Information to be gathered from parents and children)

1. What is the religious/economic/educational background of the parents/community? (Are the parents able to pay any fees? Are the parents literate? etc.)

    The relatives of the children come from not very well-educated backgrounds.

2. Does the project/school target specific families (e.g. agricultural workers, families with specific backgrounds, illiterate parents, first generation learners, orphans, sex workers, etc.)

    This project supports orphan girls.

3. Are there any Government Schools in the area? (Circle one)
    *   Yes

4. **If yes**, how far are the Government Schools from the community?

    2 km

5. Why did the parents choose this school over the Government School?

    Most of the children are orphans, given shelter by Basundhara. Others, who came from extremely deprived backgrounds have chosen the school because the parents can not take proper care and educationally guide their children in their homes.

6. When you visited, how many children were present in the class?

    There are about 15 per class. More than 50 students were present in the school.

7. What is the average age group of the children per class? How are they handling older children that need basic education?

    There are 74 students in school from class 1 to class 8th. They have extended education to include 2 girls in class 9th. They are also supporting one girl who completed her education from SAIS Basundhara and joined college. She serves as a part-time teacher at SAIS Basundhara.

8. What is the regular class strength? What is the boy-girl ratio in the school?
    It is an all girls school.

9. Do the children seem to enjoy coming to school? (Site visit volunteers observation)

    Yes

10. What activities do the children do after school hours?

    There are regular extracurricular activities like morning yoga, afternoon gardening, and drill inside the Basundhara premises.

11. What is the main motivation for the students to attend school?

To obtain education, have a support system, and receive basic needs of food and shelter.

PART C: Details about the project and its staff

(Information to be gathered from students and staff)

1. How far is the project site from the main town/village? How do the children commute? (foot, bus, etc.)

Children live on site

2. Are the children charged fees for attending school? (Either school or bus, etc.)

No

3. What infrastructure and facilities are available at the project site you visited? (eg. Furniture, buildings, toilets, library, sports, hostels, mid-day meals etc)
    All the examples

4. Is the building permanent or temporary construction? Is it owned or rented? What is its physical condition? How are they being maintained at the condition?
    The building is permanent and owned by the organization. New construction was on-going.

5. How big are the classrooms? How many children per room? How many classes (1st to 3rd etc) per room?

   Sometimes 2 classes per room. Large rooms are partitioned when required. Classes are till 9th.

6. What is the medium of instruction? Is this the student's mother tongue?

   Oriya and English

7. What is the mode of teaching in the school? (Check the appropriate choices)

   ● Formal (State Board, Central Board etc) upto _____ grade (LKG, 5th etc)

   ● Non-Formal Education (NFE), do the students also attend formal school?____

   Formal state board education up to 9th grade.

8. What are the daily school hours? How many days of the week/month/year is the school open?

   10am-4pm. 5/6 days a week.

9. How many staff or volunteers are involved in the project?
   (Full-time/Part-time/Volunteers) What are their roles? Give breakdown by roll (eg. 2 full-time teachers, 1 full-time volunteer teacher, 1 cook, 1 administrator, etc.)

   Bidhu Bhushan Mohanty: He is a part time volunteer and spends around 4 hours a day teaching English in the school. He has been volunteering for more than two years.

   Suraj Behra: He is a part time teacher who teaches Maths and Science to class 7th and 8th. He also does some other social work. He is also continuing his diploma degree.

   Ashish Samal: non-residential teacher

   Bhagyasree Rout: She teaches Sanskrit and Social Science.

   Rasmita Joganiya: She teaches History and Maths. She has been with the school for a year and has good bonding with kids. She also helps the kids with extra curricular activities like singing, drawing in the after hours.

Jyotirmayee Swain: She teaches Odiya, Geography and History to class 1st to 8th. The teachers help kids with extra curricular activities during weekend and before events like Independence day and Republic day.

Priyadarshini Khandual: She teaches Science, English and Math to class 2nd to 7th.

Dharitri Sahoo: She teaches English, Geography and Odiya. - Sasmita Mohanty: She is a Science teacher for class 4th to 8th.

Jayashree Sarangi: She teaches rhymes and story telling in Nursery. She also teaches History to class 4th, 5th and 7th.

Harapriya Rout: She is a hostel superintendent. She helps kids with their daily routines like morning prayers, tuition, online class (10th class), dinner and craft learning

The hostel superintendent is helped by house mothers, Bandana and Supriya. They also help in teaching when teachers are not in the hostel.

10. How many of them are from the local community?

   All of them are from the local community.

11. How many of the staff are women? What are their roles?

   There are 7 female teachers and 2 male teachers - Bidhu Mohanty, Ashish Samal and Suraj Behra

12. What is the motivation for the teachers to work in this project (eg. pay, service, etc.)? What are the other employment opportunities that they have in the town/village?

   They do it for service, some are involved voluntarily. The teachers are underpaid compared to other schools in the area.

13. Where do they live, and how much they travel to work here?

   The female teachers live on-site. Male teachers live out of the campus and travel for classes.

14. How much is the staff paid? What is the education level/teaching experience of the teachers? What is their background? Are they happy with their salaries?

The details are given below:

Sl no.	Position of Employee	Name of the Employee	Status	Months to Pay	Present Cost per month
1	Science cum Math Teacher (B.Sc. B.Ed.)	Sasmita Mohanty	Residential	12	6,500
2	Literature Subject Teacher (B.A. B.Ed.)	Chinmayee Sarangi	Non Res	12	5,000
3	Science cum Math Teacher (B.Sc. B.Ed.)	Ashish Samal	Non Res	12	6,000
4	Subject Teacher (D. EL.Ed.)	Rasmita Jogania	Residential	12	5,500
5	Subject Teacher (D. EL.Ed.)	Priyadarshini Khandual	Residential	12	5,500
6	Computer Teacher- B. Sc., P.G.D.C.A.	Suraj Behera	Non Res	12	5,000
7	Subject Teacher (B.A.)	Dharitri sahu	Residential	12	5,000
8	Superintendent	Harapriya Rout	Residential	12	5,000
9	House mother	Bandana Mallick	Residential	12	3,000
10	Cook	Savitri Sahu	Residential	12	800
11	School Peon	Aruni Nayak	Residential	12	2,000
12	Student Teacher	Rachana Jena	Residential	12	2,000
13	Student Teacher	Kunu Pradhan	Residential	12	1,000
14	Craft Teacher (Tailoring)	Janaki Moharana	Non Res	12	2,000

They have varying degrees and their qualifications and experience matches their position in school. The salary is not competitive with other schools in the area and they are having a hard time recruiting new teachers. They have requested an increment in the salary from Rs 500 to 1000 per month.

15. Were you able to look at actual work of the students? Homework/classwork/tests, etc? Comment.

I was able to look at some classwork. It looked par with what one would expect of the class standard. Some students also recited poems that they have learnt fluently.

PART D: Financial resources of the organization

(Feedback from the person conducting the site visit)

1. What are the different sources of funding for this project? (different agencies/Govt)

ASHA takes care of the salary of the teachers. There were donors whose list was on a banner in the school. There were other sources that I do not recall now.

2. What is the largest portion of their expenses (salaries/infrastructure/etc.)?

Food, infrastructure (not funded by Asha) and Salaries (funded by Asha)

PART E: Images

Total Strength   "ଖା"

Students- 80	Daily Routine	Dt. 24.02.2023
Staff - 10		Students - 73
		Staff - 10
		Total - 83

1→ Morning Prayer - 4.30 AM
2→ Personal hygine &
    cleaneness   - 4.40 AM to 6.00 AM
3→ Yoga Class   - 6.00 AM to 6.30 AM
4→ Tittin   - 6.35 to 7.00 AM
5→ Tuition   - 7.00 AM to 8.30 AM
6→ Break fast   - 9.15 AM to 9.45 AM
7→ School hour   - 10.00 AM to 4.00 PM
8→ Mid day Meal   1.30 PM to 2.00 PM
9→ Meal   - 4.15. 5.15 PM
10→ Evening Prayer - 5.45 PM to 7.00 PM
11→ Tuition   - 7.00 PM to 8.20 PM
12→ Dinner   - 8.30 PM to
13→ Self Study   - 9.30 PM to
14→ Gardening every Sunday