Approval minutes for REWARD 2015 (2\textsuperscript{nd} disbursement+ one-time funding)

Date : 10/9/15  
Attendees : Abhinav Rungte, Apoorva Mohan (Steward), Devesh Chugh, Poojitha Reddy, Ramya Sivakumar, Ravi Venkatraman, Revathi Kedari, Shiva Halan

Background about REWARD:

REWARD trust is run by a group of scientists at the IGCAR, Kalpakkam in Tamilnadu, with the aim of increasing the quality of education of the children in the nearby govt schools by upgrading them to the next level. Their goals are to improve the teacher student ratio and also to increase the graduation rates and the performance of the students in the government schools that they are currently supporting. They work in close association with the local Parent-teacher association (PTA) in appointing the teachers and in paying their salaries till the government officially appoints a teacher by itself. They train the PTA appointed teachers using the resources available like the use of teaching aids etc. Currently, through the funding provided by Asha for education and local funding, they are supporting the salaries of around 65 teachers.

Funding situation:

Asha Uflorida started funding Reward in the year 2014-2015, supporting 7 teachers distributed across the primary, middle school, high school levels in the villages to the south of Palar river. We disbursed INR 6.37 lakh in 2 disbursements, the second disbursement in Feb 2015.

For the calendar year 2015-2016, Mr. Sridhar had requested us to fund 3 additional teachers (1 middle school+2 higher secondary school) apart from the 7 teachers we supported in the previous year. Please see the budget breakdown below. Reward trust has modified the salary ranges of the teachers, fixing the base salary and giving increments based on the performance of the teacher in the SMART tests and student performance in the annual examinations. And the money for the increments comes from the local funding agencies.
Approval timeline:

The first disbursement (INR 365000) for Reward for 2015-16 was done in September 2015. Sridhar Sir had requested us if we could advance the second disbursement to end of November 2015 instead of February 2016. Also, he had inquired us about AshaUF’s decision on the additional one-time funding for 3 teachers. After detailed discussion about the financial situation at AshaUF, it was decided that we are in a position to advance the 2nd disbursement and also provide additional funding and an evote was created to get the members approval.

Yes- 9 (Shivashankar Halan, Devesh Chugh, Gayathri Balakrishnan, Nalanda Chakraborty, Ramya Sivakumar, Abhinav, Revathi, Anand, Yogi Deshmukh), No- 0, Abstain-2 (Apoorva Mohan, Ravi Venkatraman)
AshaUF will be disbursing INR 3,61,000 (~$ 5461) as the second installment in November 2015 to Reward trust.

The funding for 3 additional teachers (1 middle school, 2 higher secondary level) (INR 354000 ~$5355) just for this calendar year (2015-16) will also be disbursed in Nov 2015.

The two disbursements will be carried out separately for future clarity.