**Answers to the specific questions on Proposal**

1. Education status in the villages:

We are conducting a qualitative survey in the villages of Badgaon block where we are implementing our education programmes for more than five years. This will help us articulating the current trends and aspirations of youth with substantial data. However through our regular interactions with youth and community and data collected from some in house studies show the aspiration of youth and education trends in the area.

A recent survey of 247 children and youth, under the age of 21, conducted in Malaria, shows that around 88% children in the age group of 6-14 are acquiring education in government schools, NFEs or other private schools. While 69% children/youth in the age group of 14-21, are out of school and dropped out before competing grade 10. The demand and need of education has gone up and that is reflected in the 88%. However, the pitiable situation of education, specially in higher classes, with lack of subject teachers, forces children to be out of school. Seva Mandir’s pilot programme on providing scholarships to preventing migration and ensuring continuity of education has seen a big success. Four dropped out girls who attended the learning camps in the year 2010, continued their studies after the camps. And this year they cleared the 10th board exam and continued in 11th grade. 116 children are receiving scholarships and have continued their education for last 5 years. Out of these around 75% children are in grades 6 to 11.

Though Seva Mandir’s various programmes and the emergence of government schools have helped in bringing education to community where no opportunity existed before the challenge ahead lies in seeing them through their formative years into higher classes. Preventing dropping out of students will need a sustained intervention focusing on the education aspect both at primary and secondary level and also on improving the financial situation at the household level, one of the issues that forces children to stop studying and seek employment.

1. Youth Aspirations and migration trends:

Migration both to the city and to Gujarat is happening in the area. However the education they have acquired in elementary classes and awareness on safe migration practices have enhance their negotiation skills and given them better life. Youth who migrate outside their villages, also wants to come back and want to work in their villages. In the recent study done in Kherwara block to understand youth aspirations shows that Youth are more likely to aspire to career paths that they have some familiarity with and would like to learn more about the career options open to them.

The dependence of youth on NREGA only for unskilled labour work is less but if they prefer to take an opportunity for skilled work in government sponsored scheme. For example, in Kherwara 3 youth associated with YRC, are working as contractors of NREGA in the village. Similarly one boy who received computer training through YRC has opted for a job work of ‘E- Mitra’ which is an online database work of Government sponsored schemes.