



ENLIGHTENED INDIA FOUNDATION

Annual Report

2022-2023

Implementation, Scale & Transfer of Community Leadership



Registered Trust | Founded on 15 February 2021

Operational Region: Himachal Pradesh

www.enlightenedindia.org

Message from the President

The year 2022–23 marked a defining phase in the journey of Enlightened India Foundation. What began as a carefully nurtured training initiative evolved into a fully operational, youth-led community education model.

This year was about trust—trusting young women to lead, communities to participate, and systems to sustain themselves beyond external intervention. Our youth leaders took ownership of planning, organising, and delivering programmes across villages, while the organisation gradually transitioned into a role of facilitation and oversight.

Despite resource constraints and major infrastructural disruption—including the loss of our Slate Godam centre due to landslide and environmental vulnerability—the Foundation’s work did not slow down. In fact, the closure of Slate Godam became an inflection point that strengthened our decentralised model. Activities were successfully relocated and expanded, and the Mohli centre soon emerged as a stronger primary hub with even greater participation, deeper community trust, and wider daily access for children.

What stood out most during this year was how seamlessly trained youth leaders stepped into full ownership. They managed schedules, mobilised children, organised learning sessions, coordinated village-level events, and ensured continuity of all programmes without needing constant external oversight. This transition proved that the model we began designing in year one was not only feasible—but sustainable when rooted in community leadership.

One of the proudest outcomes of this year was witnessing leadership becoming a reality—not as a slogan, but as everyday practice. Young women demonstrated discipline, empathy, and organisational ability in managing learning spaces, engaging children, and coordinating community events. Their growth also inspired younger children to participate more confidently, especially girls who previously had limited exposure to such learning environments.

I am proud of the young women who stepped into leadership roles with courage and responsibility, and of the communities that embraced them. This year reaffirmed our belief that sustainable change emerges when leadership grows from within.

As we look ahead, the lessons of 2022–23 will continue to guide our approach—rooted in community trust, women’s leadership, and long-term sustainability.

Smita Choudhary

President

Enlightened India Foundation

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About Enlightened India Foundation

Enlightened India Foundation is a grassroots nonprofit organisation registered as a public trust in 2021. The Foundation works with rural and tribal communities to improve access to education, life skills, and leadership development through women-led, community-rooted and low-cost scalable models.

Operating primarily in Himachal Pradesh during its initial years, the organisation focuses on building local capacity by training adolescent girls and young women as educators, mentors, and facilitators. This women-led approach strengthens community ownership while creating real leadership pathways for rural youth.

Programmes are designed to be practical, inclusive, and rooted in the realities of village life—implemented through Panchayat spaces, community learning centres, and locally supported learning environments. The Foundation prioritises shared resources and peer-led learning to ensure access even in low-infrastructure contexts.

Rather than delivering services as an external provider, Enlightened India Foundation prioritises decentralised leadership and community participation—enabling villages to sustain and expand learning initiatives independently over time. The organisation combines on-ground learning with documentation, surveys, and local insights to strengthen programme quality and inform future scaling.

Vision

Rural communities where girls and young people lead learning, resilience, and social change.

Mission

To strengthen rural India through women-led, community-rooted education and life skills initiatives that are practical, affordable, scalable, and informed by evidence from the ground.

Founded: 15 February 2021

Legal Status: Registered Public Trust

Primary Focus Areas: Women Empowerment, Education, Digital Literacy

Operational Regions (2022–23): Kangra District, Himachal Pradesh

Approach: Women-led, community-driven, low-cost education models

NGO Darpan Unique ID: UP/2022/0314311

Year Two: Implementation, Scale & Transfer of Leadership

The year 2022–23 marked a transition from pilot activities to stable, women-led implementation. Building on the training of women youth leaders in the previous year, programmes expanded across Rakkar and Mohli villages with youth leaders independently planning and delivering activities. A major milestone was a week-long education and skills camp organised entirely by women youth leaders in Rakkar village, engaging over 90 children from multiple villages. The camp combined sports, academic support, foundational digital literacy, career awareness, and creative activities, using Panchayat halls, community centres, and school grounds. Female participation across activities consistently remained above 70 percent.

During the year, regular programmes were conducted at the Rakkar community centre, Rakkar Panchayat, and a newly established centre in Mohli after access to Slate Godam was disrupted due to a landslide. Foundational digital literacy expanded to over 150 children, supported by new digital equipment and learning materials. Daily participation increased significantly, with peak footfall reaching 60–70 children across centres. The NGO's role evolved primarily into facilitation and supervision. Modest stipends were introduced to support women leaders' higher education and sustain their engagement, reinforcing a decentralised and community-owned model of delivery.



Children engaged in academic, creative, and digital learning activities facilitated by trained youth leaders in Village Rakkar.

Youth-Led Education Camp and Community Outreach

A major milestone of 2022–23 was the successful organisation of a week-long education camp led entirely by trained women youth leaders. The camp engaged more than 90 children from Rakkar, Mohli, and surrounding villages, marking a significant expansion in both scale and community participation.

Youth leaders independently coordinated outreach with local schools, conducted career and education seminars, and promoted the camp within their villages. Activities were hosted across multiple community spaces including the Rakkar Panchayat Hall, the community centre, and local school grounds, demonstrating effective collaboration with village institutions. The Rakkar Panchayat administration was formally engaged as a partner for the camp, strengthening local ownership of the initiative.

Community leaders actively participated, and prize distribution for children was conducted by the Sarpanch of Rakkar Panchayat, Mrs. Indu Sharma, lending public recognition and legitimacy to the youth-led efforts. This camp marked the Foundation's first fully youth-owned, multi-village educational initiative. It significantly increased daily participation at community centres and reinforced the credibility of women youth leaders as capable organisers and facilitators within their communities.



A youth-led education camp bringing together sports, learning, and leadership, with community recognition through certificate distribution by the Sarpanch of Rakkar Panchayat.

Expansion of Community Learning Spaces

During this year, Enlightened India Foundation operated across multiple community learning spaces. While the Slate Godam centre had to be discontinued due to a major landslide cutting off road access, activities were successfully relocated and expanded. This transition highlighted the flexibility of the community-led model and the resilience of local leadership.

The Mohli centre emerged as the primary hub, equipped with a small library, indoor games, sports equipment, and study space. Regular activities were conducted at the Rakkar community centre, Mohli centre, and Rakkar Panchayat Hall. Youth leaders managed daily schedules, facilitated sessions, and coordinated community participation, ensuring continuity despite infrastructural challenges and increasing footfall.

These spaces functioned as after-school centres offering academic support, digital access, sports, and creative activities. Flexible use of community locations allowed programs to adapt to changing participation levels and local constraints. The model ensured minimal cost while maximising daily access for children across multiple villages. Over time, these centres became trusted community hubs supporting regular learning beyond formal school hours and fostering a sense of shared ownership within the community.



Children participating in daily learning activities at the Mohli community centre, which became the Foundation's primary hub following expansion.

Strengthening Women-Led Community Leadership

Women youth leaders played a central role in sustaining and expanding programmes during 2022–23. Having completed intensive training in the previous year, they transitioned into facilitators, organisers, and mentors for younger children across multiple community spaces.

To support their higher education and continued engagement, modest stipends were introduced. Junior activity leaders were also trained based on interest areas such as dance, sports, and cultural activities, creating a layered leadership structure within the organisation. Girls actively led sports sessions, academic support classes, and digital literacy activities, gradually redefining gender norms within traditionally conservative communities.

Through sustained mentoring and hands-on responsibility, women youth leaders evolved from trainees into independent facilitators managing daily activities, community centres, and village-level events. They led academic sessions, digital literacy classes, sports and coordinated with Panchayat institutions. These leadership roles strengthened their confidence, decision-making abilities, and public engagement skills. Several leaders balanced social work alongside higher education, demonstrating resilience and long-term commitment. The model reinforced women's leadership as visible, credible, and locally trusted within patriarchal rural settings.



Women youth leaders facilitating sports, group discussions, and learning sessions across Mohli and Rakkar, strengthening local leadership and community-led education.

Expanding Digital and Academic Access

Foundational digital literacy saw significant growth during the year, expanding from approximately 60 children in the previous year to over 150 children across multiple villages. Shared digital resources were used strategically to ensure equitable access, allowing children to learn basic computer skills despite limited infrastructure.

A new laptop and printer were procured following the breakdown of earlier equipment, enabling continuity in digital learning and regular distribution of participation certificates. Digital sessions focused on basic computer operations, typing skills, introductory coding platforms, and safe technology use. Youth leaders facilitated sessions in small groups to accommodate varying learning levels and maximise hands-on exposure.

Academic interventions deliberately avoided rote tuition, instead addressing learning gaps through English communication classes, subject-specific support, and practical learning activities. Children received targeted academic assistance based on observed needs, while notebooks and stationery were periodically provided—primarily benefiting girls from economically vulnerable households.



A junior youth leader conducting a foundational digital literacy and introductory coding session for children at the Mohli community centre.

Financial Overview (FY 2022–23)

The financial year 2022–23 marked a transition and expansion phase for Enlightened India Foundation. During this year, the organisation continued to operate without external institutional funding and relied entirely on founder contributions and internal resources to sustain and expand community-led programmes.

Financial decisions during the year prioritised continuity of learning spaces, support for women youth leaders, expansion of digital and sports activities, and adaptation to infrastructural changes. Expenditure remained tightly aligned with programme delivery and community needs.

Sources of Funds

During FY 2022–23, Enlightened India Foundation was supported through internal contributions from founding members and the carryover balance from the previous year. No government grants or external institutional funding were received during this period.

Source of Income	Amount (₹)
Opening Balance (Carryover from FY 2021–22)	19,000
Founder Member Contributions	1,20,000
Total Available Funds	1,39,000

Expenditure Details

Expenditure during FY 2022–23 focused on sustaining multiple community learning spaces, supporting youth leaders, upgrading digital infrastructure, and meeting increased programme participation.

Expenditure Head	Amount (₹)
New Laptop Procurement	22,000
Printer Procurement	14,000
Youth Leader Stipends (6 months)	30,000
Centre Rental – Slate Godam (6 months)	18,000
Centre Rental – Mohli (6 months)	9,000
Academic Support Materials	15,000
Sports Equipments	8,000
Educational Camp	7,000
Travel, Misc. & Centre Shifting Expenses	9,000
Total Expenditure	1,32,000

Explanation of Key Expense Heads

- **Digital Infrastructure:** Procurement of a new laptop and printer ensured continuity of digital literacy activities, certificate distribution, and programme documentation after earlier equipment failure.
- **Youth Leader Stipends:** Modest stipends were introduced to support women youth leaders pursuing higher education while sustaining their engagement in daily programme delivery.
- **Centre Rentals:** Rental costs reduced due to relocation from Slate Godam to Mohli village following a landslide, reflecting adaptive cost management and decentralised operations.
- **Academic & Sports Materials:** Increased allocation reflected higher participation, with a focus on notebooks, stationery, and sports equipment—primarily benefiting girls.
- **Travel & Shifting Costs:** Expenses declined as centres were located closer together, with limited travel required for coordination and centre relocation.

Financial Position & Carry Forward

At the end of the financial year:

- Total Available Funds: ₹1,39,000
- Total Expenditure: ₹1,32,000
- Closing Balance: ₹7,000

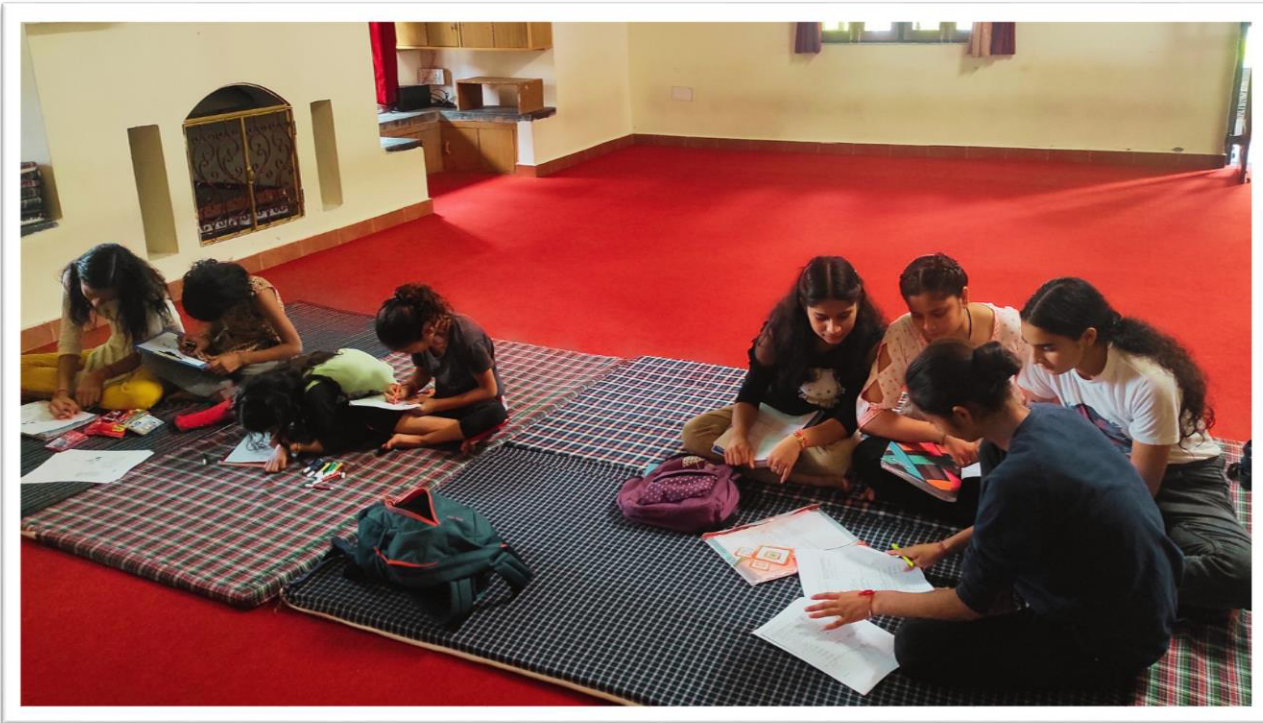
The closing balance of ₹7,000 was carried forward to FY 2023–24 to support programme continuity and emerging needs.

Commitment to Transparency

The Foundation maintains statutory financial records and undertakes annual independent audits. Audited statements are available separately. Expenditure decisions were reviewed and approved by governing members and aligned strictly with programme priorities.

Founding members did not draw personal remuneration. Financial disclosures reflect the Foundation's continued commitment to transparency, fiscal discipline, and responsible resource utilisation.

Outcomes, Learning & Way Forward



Youth leaders planning the Rakkar Education Camp while mentoring junior facilitators—turning the loss of the Slate Godam centre into a renewed phase of community-led learning.

Key Outcomes Achieved

During 2022–23, Enlightened India Foundation transitioned from pilot implementation to a sustained and community-led operational model. Key outcomes achieved during the year include:

- Expanded total children reached to 180+, through a combination of daily village activities and the annual education camp
- Operated across three active learning spaces, including community-led programming in Rakkar, centre-based learning in Mohli, and outreach across surrounding villages
- 5 Women youth leaders active and leading programme delivery
- Female participation consistently above 70% across sports, digital learning, and educational activities
- Peak daily footfall: 50–60 children, across multiple community spaces during high participation periods
- Successfully organised a large multi-village education camp, led entirely by youth leaders

These outcomes reflected not only increased reach, but improved stability—demonstrating that trained local youth leaders can sustain education and life-skills interventions with minimal external intervention.

Programme Delivery Metrics

To reflect programme effort and delivery more accurately, key activity outputs during 2022–23 include:

- 270+ foundational digital literacy sessions conducted, benefiting 90+ new children this year and taking cumulative digital literacy reach to 150 children (3-session model per child: computer basics + 2 coding/practical sessions)
- 150+ structured sports participation sessions delivered (regular sports activities conducted across community and centre spaces)
- 200+ community learning sessions facilitated, including reading, indoor games, creative activities, and group learning (delivered through Mohli centre and Rakkar community access points)
- 35+ youth-led classroom-style sessions conducted, including English communication support and targeted learning gap interventions (need-based academic sessions rather than tuition-based delivery)

Key Learnings from the Transfer Phase

The year 2022–23 marked a critical transfer phase in which programme ownership gradually shifted from the Foundation to trained women youth leaders. Activities became more effective when leadership and decision-making were shared across multiple youth leaders rather than remaining centralised. This reduced dependency, improved responsiveness, and strengthened community trust.

The year also reinforced the importance of decentralised and flexible infrastructure. The landslide that cut off the Slate Godam centre highlighted the risk of relying on a single physical location. By operating through Panchayat halls, community centres, and informal learning spaces, programmes continued without major disruption.

A key learning was the value of local institutions as partners. Engagement with Panchayat administration—particularly Rakkar Panchayat—enhanced legitimacy, while prize distribution by the Sarpanch strengthened public recognition and social acceptance of women-led initiatives. Resource constraints remained a challenge as participation increased but also encouraged innovation and efficient use of shared resources.

Challenges Encountered

Despite strong progress, the year was not without challenges. Natural disruptions exposed our infrastructural vulnerability. Growing participation placed strain on limited equipment and human capacity. Youth leaders also had to balance increasing academic responsibilities alongside their leadership roles. These challenges underscored that sustainability depends not only on programme design, but also on pacing, realistic capacity assessment, and long-term support structures for youth leaders.

Looking Ahead

The experiences of 2022–23 significantly shaped the Foundation’s strategic outlook. Moving forward, priority areas include:

- Continued mentoring and academic support for women youth leaders
- Stronger documentation and outcome tracking to inform future scaling
- Integration of research and evidence into programme planning
- Gradual transition from pilot implementation to replicable models

The Foundation remains committed to building systems that place communities at the centre of decision-making. The learnings from this transfer period reaffirmed that lasting impact is built through people, trust, and locally rooted leadership rather than infrastructure alone.



Post-sports group photo from our Education Camp — building confidence, discipline, and community spirit.

Testimonials & Community Voices

Community voices that shaped our journey

Amar Singh | Village Head, Sokhni Da Kot (Mohli), Dharamshala

“As the first non-profit to establish a dedicated activity centre in our village, Enlightened India Foundation has created more than a room — it has created a safe and structured learning space where children gain foundational computer skills, receive academic support, access sports equipment, and participate in indoor/outdoor games and reading activities. Trained youth leaders from the village manage the centre and conduct all sessions. We are proud to host this centre in Mohli and look forward to many more years of partnership.”

Ishika | Youth Leader

“Being trained as a youth leader by Enlightened India Foundation changed the way I see myself and my village. I learned how to teach younger children, conduct learning sessions, and support activities like digital literacy, sports, and group learning. This training improved my confidence, communication, and leadership skills. The Foundation trusted us with real responsibility, and that trust helped me grow. It made me believe that girls from rural communities can lead meaningful change when given the right guidance and opportunity.”

Kirti | Junior Youth Leader, Rakkar Centre

“Enlightened India Foundation gave me my first real exposure to learning beyond school. I learned basic coding and computer skills, improved my science understanding, and started enjoying learning through activities. During the Rakkar education camp, I also got a chance to help the youth leaders as a junior leader. I assisted in organising children’s sessions and supporting activities. I also participated in sports regularly, which made me more confident and active. Being part of the Foundation’s programmes taught me discipline, teamwork, and the belief that even young girls from villages can learn new skills and take leadership roles.”

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