

Profile of the Organisations and Summary of the Programmes Engaging Men and Boys

1. Name of the organization: Ekta Resource Centre for Women		
2. Year it was founded: 1990	3. Complete mailing address: EKTA Resource Centre for Women, Bethel Nagar, Bible Bhavan Street, Ponmeni, Bye Pass Road, Madurai – 625016.	
Primary e-mail Address: ektanambikkai@gmail.com	4. Postal address with PIN code: Same as above	5. State: Tamil Nadu
6. Secondary e-mail address: Mdu_ekta@rediffmail.com	7. Office phone number: 0452 2381309 0452 2382454	8. Website: www.ektamadurai.org
9. Name of the contact person: Ms. Bimla Chandrasekar		
11. Title of the project/s engaging men and boys (if any):		
12. Name of the contact person responsible for men's/boys' engagement programme or project or initiative : Ms. Tamil Moni & Mr. Senthil		13. Mobile Phone number of the person: 09600769495 09488253755

14. Geographical area of work: (Please mention State, districts, block and number of villages)

15. Available human resources in the organization:				
A	Total : 15	Women : 13	Men: 2	TG :
B	At management level	Women: 3	Men:	TG :
C	At management level	Women: 5	Men: 1	TG :
D	At support level	Women: 5	Men: 1	TG :

16. Brief history of the organization (Rationale for its creation, Vision, mission and goals,.)

Ekta is a Resource Centre for Women based in Madurai. It was started in the year 1990.
 Vision: Our vision is a society without discrimination based on gender, caste, class or religion.

Mission:

- Promoting gender equality and eradication of all forms of discrimination against women and children.
- Facilitating good governance at all levels by promoting consultative, participatory and inclusive practices.
- Sensitizing men and boys in Tamil Nadu on gender equality through strategic interventions.
- Protecting and promoting socio-economic, political and natural rights of women and children of marginalized communities affected by tsunami.

The main strategies are a) capacity building, b) research, and documentation, c) campaign, networking and d) advocacy. It works with constituencies like women in NGOs, both male and female students in Schools and Colleges, elected female members of panchayati raj, other community-based organizations (for leadership development); with a focus on Tamil Nadu.

Post Tsunami, in 2005 it began working at the grassroots in Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu, with a focus on strengthening education of girl children, and livelihoods and human rights of single women affected by tsunami. This district was one of the worst affected by tsunami in Tamil Nadu.

Please attach brochure, organizational structure or other documents if available.

17. Outline of different Programs/projects/initiatives of your organization: Please list all the programs of your organization.

Program	Major Activities of the Program
Ekta organizes programmes in Colleges, Schools and the communities (awareness and sensitization)	1. Creation of Groups, using audio/video for understanding
Gender sensitization Workshops for staff of NGOs/adolescent boys and girls in Schools and Colleges	Non Residential workshops and exposures

18. Brief history of the boys / men’s involvement program (When the program was created / launched; How it came about – what were the contexts of girls / women

and boys/ men in terms of gender equality and masculinity Who were the key stakeholders in the conceptualization, creation and implementation of the program? How the program evolved as it is now.)

Ekta is a 24 year old women's organization. While interacting with women, the need to work with men was a felt need expressed both by the women participants as well as team involved in the process of gender training. Thus in the early 90's we started organizing Gender workshops for men. The process was conceptualized in three phases. The first phase, all male participants with male facilitators, the second phase- male participants with both female and male facilitator and the third phase- both male and female participants with both male and female facilitators. We also structured our work in Schools and Colleges (Students for Change)

Consequently in the year 2000 we launched the White Ribbon Campaign in Madurai and organized workshops for both men and women. In the meantime we developed partnership with Save The Children, working with men and boys, Men Engage, SANAM etc. Since then we do in-house capacity building for our team, organize workshops for students, NGOs in the State and the region. We have facilitated workshops for the OXFAM Aus partners in Srilanka.

Objectives of the boys/men's engaging program (please give brief of each programme/ initiatives)

To realize the impact of gender stereotypes on both women and girls; men and boys and the need for gender equality

19. Target population of boys/men's engaging program (Please be specific: fathers, boys, leaders etc.)

5 Colleges in Madurai and adolescent girls/ boys in 20 villages of Chidambaram Taluk in Cuddalore District and parents through the PTA.

20. Program and activities of boys / men's engaging program: what were the result/ impact since the program's implementation)

Programs/ projects/initiaives	Result/impact
Gender sensitization	Every year nearly 1000 students from the local select colleges go through this awareness programme. At least 20 become volunteer for the next year.

21. What are the challenges faced by organisation on working with men and boys

Influencing the attitudinal change at different levels

22. Any Resource materials that you have developed over the years while working with boys and men? (Please give a brief description as well as give the link if it is available online)

What is a Boy; What is a Girl, Gender Inventory format and case studies in tamil

23. Is your organisation have any association with any networks/ alliances on gender equality and social justice Please give details of the network/ associations/ alliances)

Ekta is a member of many Regional, National and State level Networks and Alliances that aims at Gender Equality - NAWO, SANGAT, FEM, Men Engage and SANAM

24. What relationship organisation hold with women 's movement organisation

Ekta is an active member in the feminist movement in India

25. Is your organisation involve in providing training on gender/ masculinity/ sexuality/ gender based violence to youth, men, activist as resource organisation. If yes please attach the CV of resource person

CV shall be sent soon.

26. Do you have any procedure to respond to Gender based discrimination/ violence in your organization?

We have a gender and child rights policy and a complaints committee in place. We are a women's organization. The core team addresses the concerns and issues.

27. Expectations from Network:

Opportunities for experiential learning and reference materials and Resource persons as and when required.

28. What is it that you think you could contribute to the network?

We can contribute through our active participation in the process; experience sharing and furthering the process by providing linkages at the regional level. We can contribute in developing reading materials, holding discussions and also providing training

29. What is that you think you could contribute to the field of engaging with men and boys for gender equality?

As above

30. Any other things do you want to share