

ANNUAL REPORT '22-23



PROJECT KHEL
WE SPEAK PLAY!



WE SPEAK PLAY

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FOREWORD

As we complete 10 years of being Project KHEL, we are both ecstatic and proud of the journey that we have made. Starting with around 200 children, in 2 rural schools and 1 shelter home, to reaching out to over 40,000 children and adults directly through our play-based programs, we have indeed come a long way.

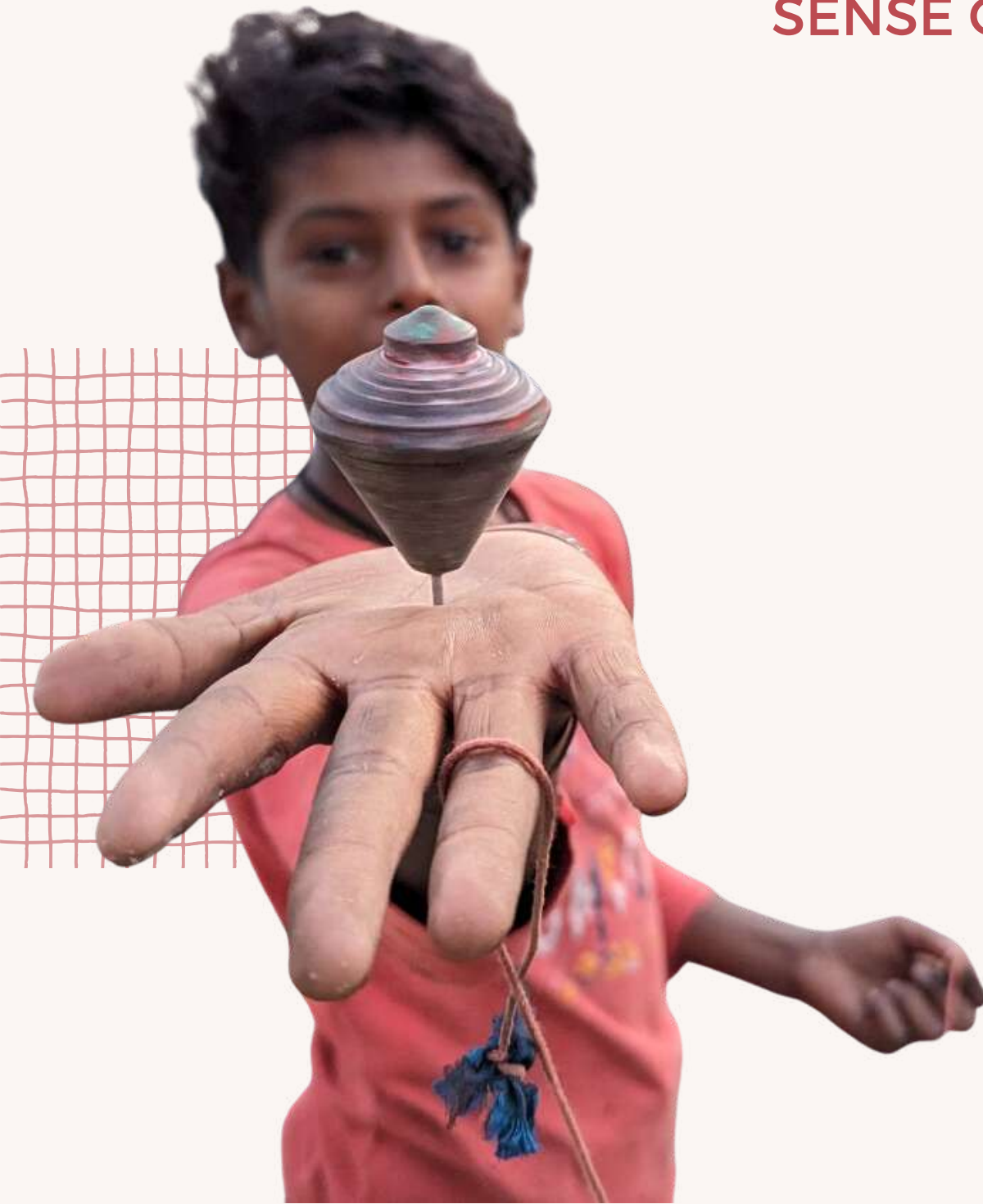
Through this decade, we have kept our ears and our eyes open, trying to learn from the communities we work in, building our skills, and designing dynamic interventions that are relevant and make sense to the spaces we work in. We are grateful for the love we have received from the communities and the challenges that helped us rethink our processes. We feel immense gratitude towards every single facilitator who has ever worked with us and helped us continue to hold our children at the center of every decision we make.

For us, this year has been about regaining stability and acting upon the hope that pulled us through the three waves of COVID-19. We resumed work with some of our old partner institutions, lost a few community centers as our children migrated to different cities for newer prospects, and started a few new centers too. We have also had to equip ourselves with the newer challenges that face our children in a post-COVID world. Two questions that stayed with us through the year were -

1. How do we keep our children interested in games outside their phones,
2. How do we keep our program relevant to the new challenges that face our children?

Thus our 10th year of being was spent very similar to our first, where we had to rework our curriculum through trial and error and keep our ears and eyes open to the new needs of our children.

A Lucknow-based non-profit that
harnesses the
POWER OF PLAY,
to create an impact in the spaces of
GENDER,
PLURALISM and
SENSE OF SELF.



MADE IN MAIDAAAN



**EXPERIENTIAL
EDUCATION**

**JOYFUL
LEARNING**

**SAFE
SPACES**

**PLAY-
BASED
LEARNING**



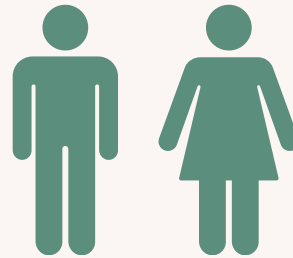
268 GIRLS



206 BOYS



TOTAL 471
CHILDREN



4 LOW INCOME
SCHOOLS



2 SLUM COMMUNITIES



1 AFTER SCHOOL
PROGRAM

UZMA

Uzma's journey with Project KHEL, since early 2022, right after COVID has been a story of growth and change. Initially, she came across as uncomfortable participating in activities requiring interaction with boys. We did, however, see potential in her as a leader, so let her take her time, while also nudging her to take up more leadership roles in her class. By the end of the year 2022, Uzma has evolved into our most efficient peer leader in the center. She helps us set up the playspace, manages children even without being made the captain, creates game strategies, enforces rules for activity, and motivates her peers to participate fully.



KAMELA

Kamela is in her early teens, transitioning from a child to a young woman. She is already in charge of all the chores at home and takes care of her younger siblings. She enjoys playing in our sessions but is also aware that the space is public and stays held back. We have noticed how she always hides herself and rarely ever speaks out in front of the group. We firmly believe in creating safe spaces where children grow at their own pace. Eventually, we saw Kamela asking others to be quiet while we were sharing instructions for the activity and then moved on to creating strategies for her team, playing fair, cheering for her team, and enjoying to the fullest. Kamela has graduated into our program for adolescent girls, where she is our champion mobilizer!



MAAZ

In our play spaces, we constantly create opportunities for conversations that humanize all genders to each other. On one such day, we designed a session on having 2-minute conversations among our children on love, happiness, anger, and sadness. Maaz and Anamika were a pair that stood out. Anamika started the conversation as the listener, hesitating about talking to a boy, she hid three-fourths of her body under the bench, and Maaz craftily engaged her in a conversation that got Anamika almost out of under the bench. Maaz has evolved as a sensitive young man, who knows better than to show frustration and instead encourage his female peers to feel at ease in sharing space with him.



frisB(arabar)



**FEMINIST
COACHING
PRINCIPLES**

**SPORTS FOR
DEVELOPMENT**

**SAFE
SPACES**

**MIXED
GENDER**



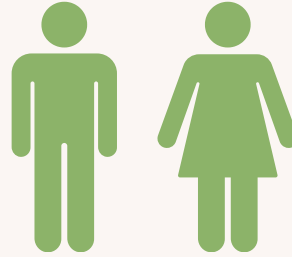
50 GIRLS



110 BOYS



TOTAL 160
ATHLETES



10 COACHING CENTERS



12 YOUTH COACHES



13 LOCAL AND OUTSTATION
TOURNAMENTS

RAVEENA

We have known Raveena since she was 8 years old, back in 2013. She was among the slower-paced children, who always had to put extra effort to match the speed of the other children, and still fell short. Over the years, Raveena has graduated from our life skills program and joined our Ultimate Frisbee program. She is also the slowest athlete among all our senior ones and yet has joined her team in every possible tournament as a substitute player. However, doing the same thing over and over, she has understood what work needs to be put in to manage a team of players and Raveena has emerged as one of our more dependable senior athletes, who takes up mentoring opportunities for the junior players and manages most of our communication with them.



NEHA, VANDANA, ROSHNI

Born into the 'wrong' caste and the wrong 'gender', every single one of our female athletes has to work a little harder to show up for their coaching. Their participation in a fairly unpopular sport (in India!) that requires them to play in the sun, get tanned, run around with boys, leave the house at dawn for practice, and return late in the evening after dark from practice and travel to strange cities for tournaments without a family member to 'keep an eye on them' becomes reason enough, not just for their extended families but also their neighbors, to have a say on their characters.

Engaging in an activity for passion, that does not bring monetary returns adds yet another layer of objection to their participation in the sport.

Yet, our girls persevered, they believed in what they were doing, so they thickened their skin and worked with their families to not let them get affected by the nasty remarks from people around them. While the journey of every single athlete of ours is inspirational, the stars of the year remain Vandana, Roshni, and Neha, who got selected to represent Team India at the Asian Oceanic Ultimate and Guts Championship to be held in the Philippines in September 2023.



ab BAS!

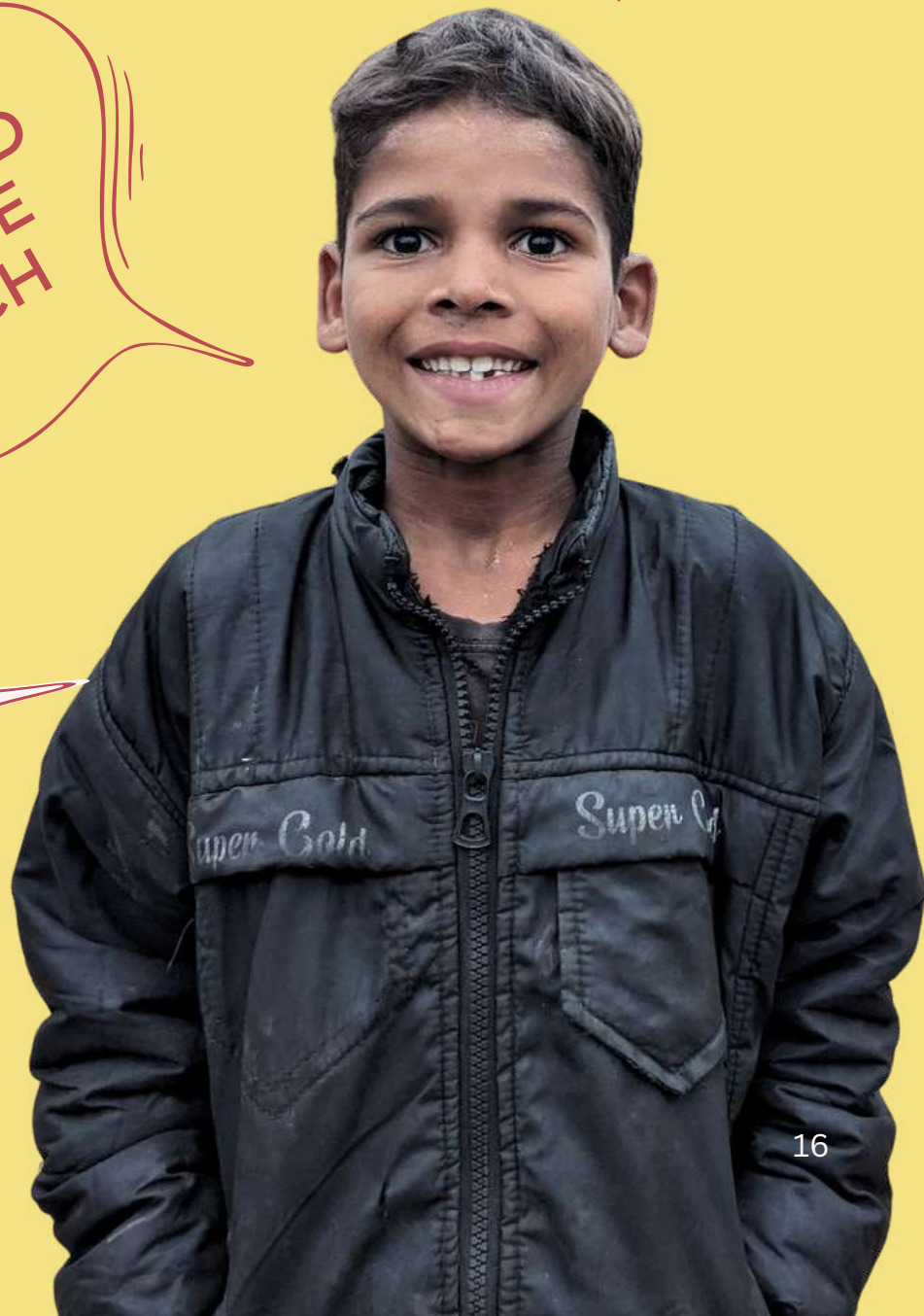


**ACCIDENTAL
TOUCH**

**SAYING
NO.**

**SAFE AND
UNSAFE
TOUCH**

**DRAWING
BOUNDARIES**



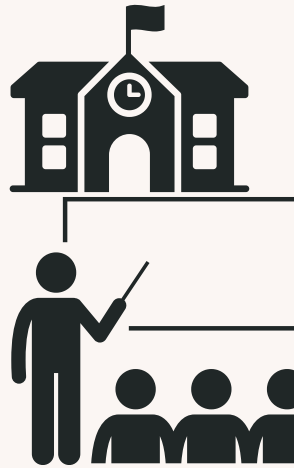
425 GIRLS FROM PRE-
PRIMARY CLASSES



200 GIRLS FROM
PRIMARY CLASSES



1 SCHOOL



10 SESSIONS

RED SPOT



**SUSTAINABLE
FLOW
MANAGEMENT**

**CLEAN
BLOOD**

**RE-EVALUATING
PERIODS**

**NO
SHAME.**

**SELF-
ESTEEM
BOOSTING**



1113 ADOLESCENT
GIRLS



27 MOTHERS



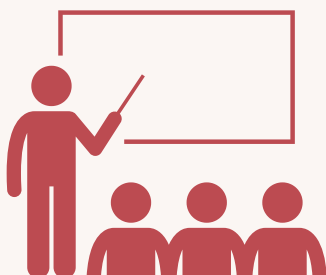
3 COMMUNITY CENTERS



1 RURAL SCHOOL



1 MAINSTREAM SCHOOL



1 AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

TEEN TALKS



ROMANCE

COMMUNICATION
GAP WITH
PARENTS

BODY IMAGE

HANDLING
BREAK UPS



345 ADOLESCENT
GIRLS



576 ADOLESCENT
BOYS



1 SCHOOL

TRAINING OF TRAINERS AND EXTERNAL WORKSHOPS



A man and a woman are dancing joyfully against a bright yellow background. The man is wearing a light blue shirt and dark pants, and the woman is wearing a red sari with a white pattern. They are both smiling and looking towards each other. The image is overlaid with several white speech bubbles containing text.

**CLASSROOM
ENGAGEMENT**

**JOYFUL
LEARNING**

GAMIFICATION

GENDER

GAMIFICATION

45 FEMALE
FACILITATORS



16 MALE
FACILITATORS



EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS THROUGH PLAY

56 ADOLESCENT GIRLS



GENDER SENSITIVITY

9 ADOLESCENT
GIRLS



10 ADOLESCENT
BOYS



PARTNERS

- VIGYAN FOUNDATION, LUCKNOW
- KARM MARG, FARIDABAD
- EK PAHEL PATHSHALA, AGRA
- UDAYA PUBLIC SCHOOL, AYODHYA
- MIJWAN WELFARE SOCIETY, AZAMGARH
- IBTADA, ALWAR
- COMMUNITY WELFARE SCHOOL
- INDIAN PUBLIC INTER-COLLEGE
- PRAYAAS
- MKSD
- BHARATIYA BALIKA VIDYALAYA

FUNDING PARTNERS

- EMPOWER - THE EMERGING MARKETS FOUNDATION
- EKAM INITIATIVE FOUNDATION

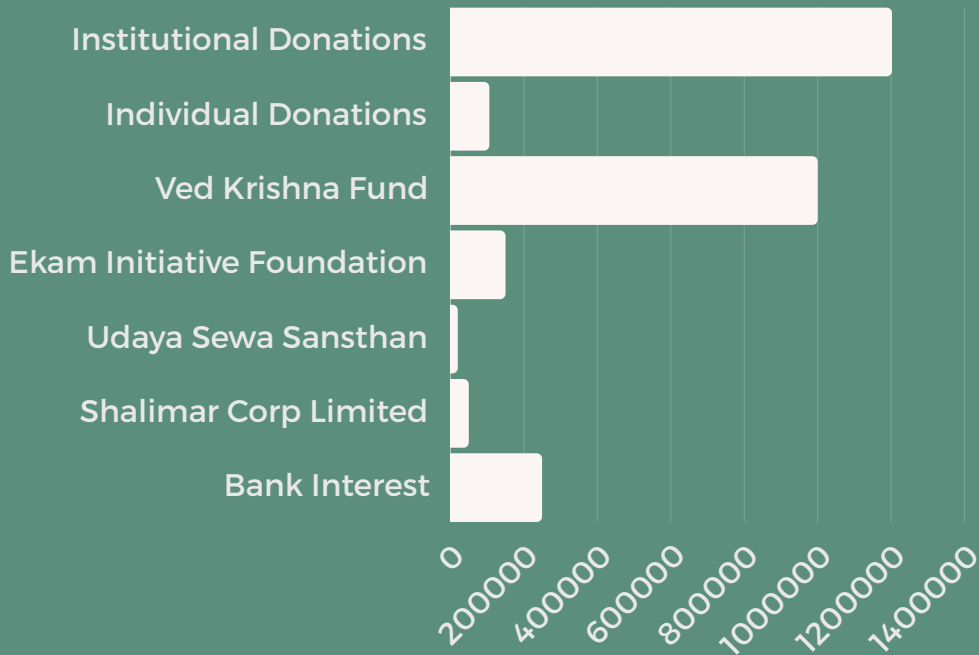
HIGHLIGHTS

- We turned 10 this year and organized a series of gatherings with our alumni children and facilitators.
- Our senior team member, Angana, was invited for an Instagram Live Talk by IDR, on using play to talk about gender
- We received funding from Ekam Initiative Foundation for our work on Menstrual Attitude Management.
- We renewed our grant with EMpower - the emerging markets foundation, for our work on imparting 21st-century life skills through play and activities, with very young adolescents,
- Our Youth Leader, Kajal, was in Bhubaneshwar, as culmination of her 2-year fellowship with the Ultimate Players Association of India and KickOff Solutions.
- In line with our focus on rebuilding hope, we dedicated the 16 days of activism to recording stories of unique friendships among our team and our children.
- Awadh KHELadis stood 2nd in NCS Nationals 2022
- 21 of our players comprised the Uttar Pradesh team, which stood 4th in the Inter-state Championship
- Udta Kebabs, our b team, STOOD 3rd in North-West Regionals, 2022
- 3 of our Athletes - Neha, Roshni, and Vandana selected for Team India

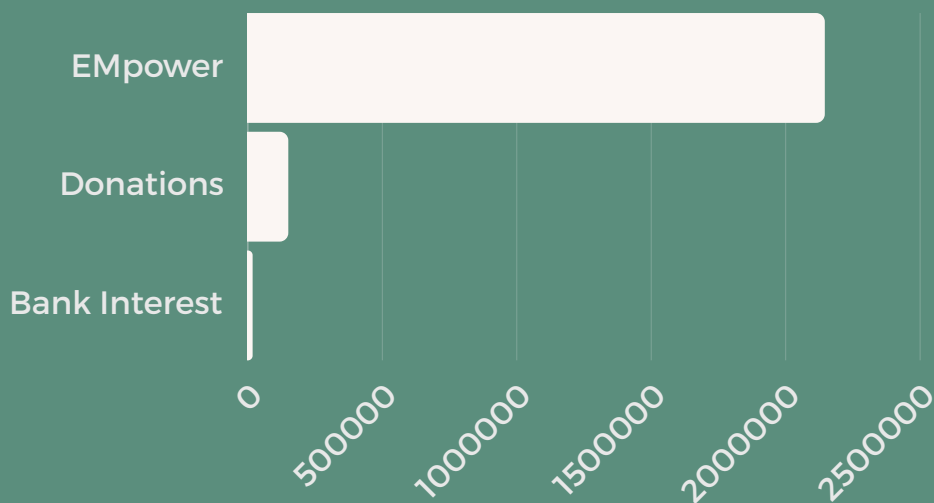


FINANCES

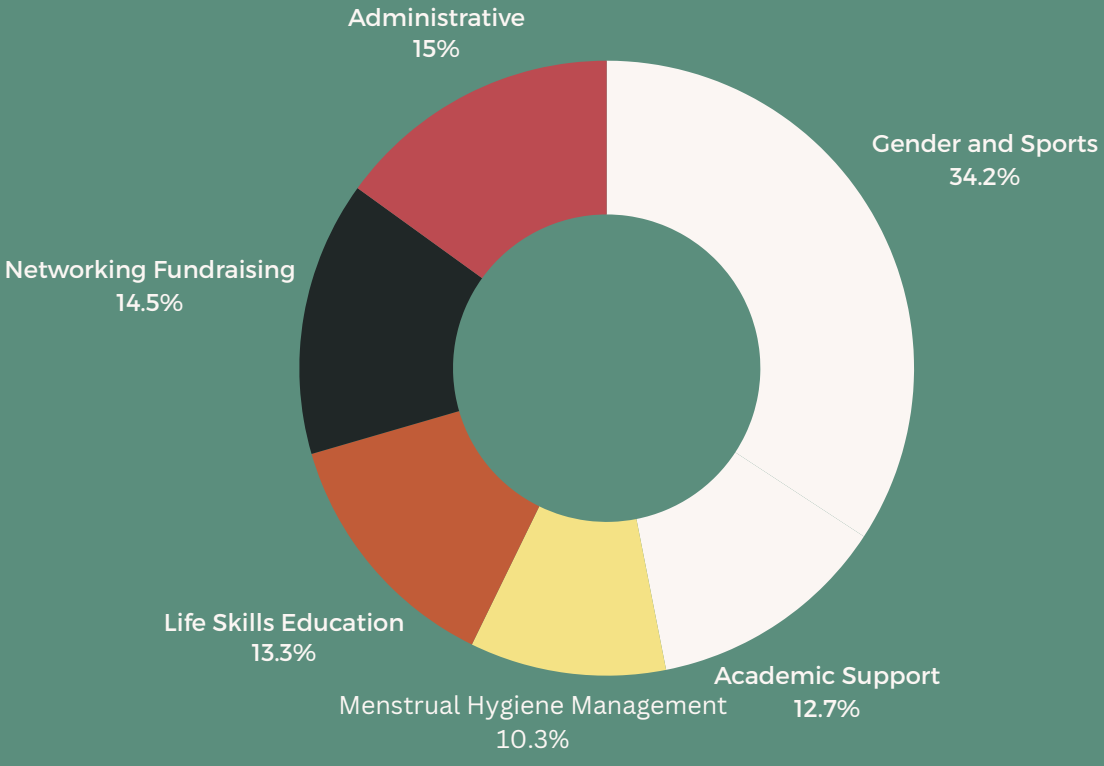
INCOME SOURCES (DOMESTIC) - Rs. 27,77,881



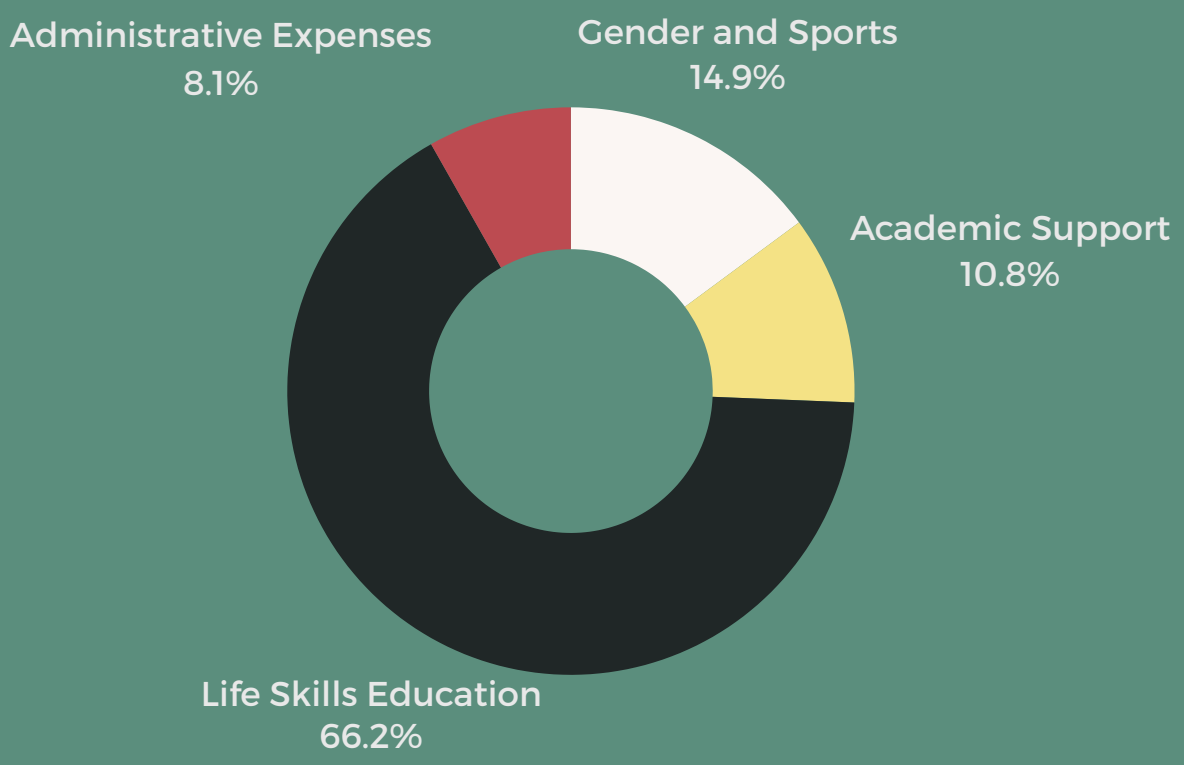
INCOME SOURCES (FCRA) - Rs. 23,13,455



FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES (NON-FCRA)- Rs. 34,08,633



FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES (FCRA)- Rs. 53,73,396





PROJECT KHEL

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