

## Great Achievements!

Letter n°47 - July 2023

### Individual donors: keys to our actions

During the spring of 2023, OFI created a few crowdfunding on our HelloAsso page: the creation of 2 libraries for schools and one toy library for disabled children at the Asha Bhavan Center (West Bengal). They have been a huge success, encouraging us to turn more to individual donors. Every donation between €5 and €2,000 has a significant impact on our work in the field. Thanks to the €2,500 in donations raised through the various campaigns in 2023, we have been able to create new projects based on needs observed in the field. We would like to thank all the individual donors who support our work. [Link to HelloAsso](#)



### End of School Year: Review of our Activities



May marked the end of the school year for 4,500 students. OFI supports several schools and promotes various extra-curricular activities, especially with the help of its volunteers. Schools encourage sports and inter-school competitions, reading through libraries, and activities focused on learning English.

During vacations, 24 SEVAI teachers took part in a new "Montessori" training course.

With the start of the new school year, and at the request of our partners, OFI will be renovating several computer rooms and supporting the development of students' computer skills.

### A Career Advice Workshop

The schools we support are accessible to the most disadvantaged and achieve the best results. Well done to SEVAI Shanti School, which has a 100% success rate at the "Bac" level.

OFI organized a two-days career advice workshop for Shanti School students to present the different careers available. These sessions open up new perspectives for the students, informing them about the various possible careers and motivating them in their studies.



**This workshop is part of the training work that OFI and its partners have been undertaking for several years. Indeed, at the request of its NGO partners, OFI wishes to promote systematic training in several of its areas of intervention. In fact, OFI will continue to provide training for school teachers and social workers, as well as vocational guidance for young students.**

## Project Water for Life



OFI and its local partners, the NGOs GRAMIUM, SEVAI, and ISSAI, are delighted to announce the successful achievement, in May 2023, of the third phase of the "Water for Life" project, sponsored by Alstom. The aim was to develop a sustainable and viable environmental project for local populations. The project had a number of dimensions, including reforestation, rehabilitation of uncultivated land, development of environmentally-friendly farming practices, and raising awareness of the need to use water wisely. The project focuses on food and livelihoods to ensure food self-sufficiency for the beneficiaries

## Miyawaki Forest

This year, OFI supported the creation of 3 "Miyawaki" micro-forests, where trees of local species are planted very close together in a small area. This requires much less water and human intervention, and they "stimulate" each other to create a dense forest within 3 years.



## Volunteering at OFI



We would like to thank the 14 young Volunteers in Civic Service who are helping all OFI's partners through their actions in the field, their investment, and their determination during this year 2023. They are present in the north of India, in West Bengal, as well as in the south, in Tamil Nadu and Bangalore in Karnataka. This volunteer program is an opportunity for them, and also for the NGOs hosting them, to exchange and learn. When they arrive, they bring a new dynamic and feel involved in the actions we carry out. It's a truly exceptional experience for these volunteers, and an opportunity to learn, question and grow as global citizens.

## New projects

- **Training & Production Center – ISSAI:** Training in tailoring and industrial textile production.
- **Helping Hands - ABC:** Funding for disabled children, evening classes for brickworks children, bridge school for out-of-school children, and support for two rural elementary schools.
- **Bits N'Bytes – Digital Literacy Program – SEVAI Shanti School :** Creation of a computer room for children in rural areas.
- **Beyond the Bell – After School Program – ISSAI:** After-school program for children from slums and rural areas.
- **Good Shepherd Home – DIN:** Support for a new home (10 homes supported by OFI).

**THANK YOU EVERYONE** (individualls, foundations, institutional donors, OFI members) **FOR MAKING THESE PROJECTS POSSIBLE** through your membership (the membership form 2023 is online !) and through your donations !