

SEEDS

Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society



Annual Report
2011-2012

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VISION

Resilient Communities

MISSION

Equipping the most vulnerable with appropriate tools and technologies, sharing knowledge and skills and promoting linkages among stakeholders to prevent loss of life and suffering.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Prompt in our action
- Identify and reach out to the most vulnerable
- Facilitate community participation in decision making
- Adapt to local and cultural environment
- Non-discriminatory in our approach
- Focus on individual
- Promote excellence

SEEDS is a member of and signatory to the Code of Conduct for the:

- International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
- SPHERE Standard in Humanitarian Aid
- The International Council of Voluntary Agencies
- Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN)
- Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP)
- Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance (ALNAP)

Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP)

The Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP) is an international standard of accountability for humanitarian organisations. Originally launched in 2003, the HAP 2007 Standard in Humanitarian Accountability and Quality Management was developed through extensive consultation and field tests. It is based on six main benchmarks:

- Humanitarian quality management
- Transparency
- Beneficiary participation
- Staff competencies
- Complaints handling
- Continual improvement

SEEDS is now a HAP certified organisation and has committed itself to HAP's general principles for humanitarian work.



CORE PROJECTS

Leh Flood Relief – Phase II: Shelters and school safety

In the second phase of shelter reconstruction after the devastating 2010 flash floods, the approach was an owner-driven one. The onus for gathering masons and materials was given to the families. Supported by Coraid, Care Today and other private donors, SEEDS took on a greater facilitation role; overseeing masons to spread 'safe construction' knowledge far into the community.

Once again, inclusion remained a focal point. Marginalised, single-held and physically challenged families were central in the selection process; which was assisted by the village heads (gobas).

People's feedback also informed the material choices. While extremely successful in terms of thermal comfort, the Stabilised Compressed Earth Blocks used in the last phase were seen as being difficult to replicate due to cost. So bugoo (local mud blocks) became the first choice, with its design tweaked to add resistance and strength. In Tia, where the location made transport of other materials very difficult, the designs were done in stone masonry – common to the area. In an element copied from traditional monastery architecture, the basic shelter design used buttresses and corner reinforcements as opposed to lintel bands. This reduced the amounts of cement and steel required, decreasing costs and increasing feasibility for this remote location. 21 houses were constructed overall and the response was extremely positive. As Stanzin Dolma, a beneficiary who is both hearing and speech impaired, commented, "I now feel that even if the water comes for many years, my house won't fall".

At the same time, school safety programmes were added to strengthen the community's resilience. This included basic disaster awareness, school safety plans and mock drills across 10 schools in flood prone villages.



Biratpur Health Centre

The Biratpur Health Centre, supported by MERCY Malaysia, continued for its third year. BHC began as a humanitarian effort to take care of the medical needs of the most vulnerable communities. The centre also reaches out to the community with awareness programmes on vital issues of family planning, water and sanitation, abortion, immunisation, teen pregnancy and pre-natal nutrition. The programme was extended to include sanitation components; as well as the preparation of comprehensive disaster management plans (including for schools) across five villages.



Kosi Flood Reconstruction

Following the 2008 Kosi Floods in Bihar, SEEDS joined the Owner Driven Reconstruction Collaborative - a group of Civil Society organisations involved in facilitating house reconstruction for affected communities. This year, work continued on running Kosi Sethu Kendras. Instituted in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme, these hubs serve to supply materials, monitor construction and train masons, promoting safe and sustainable construction in the region.



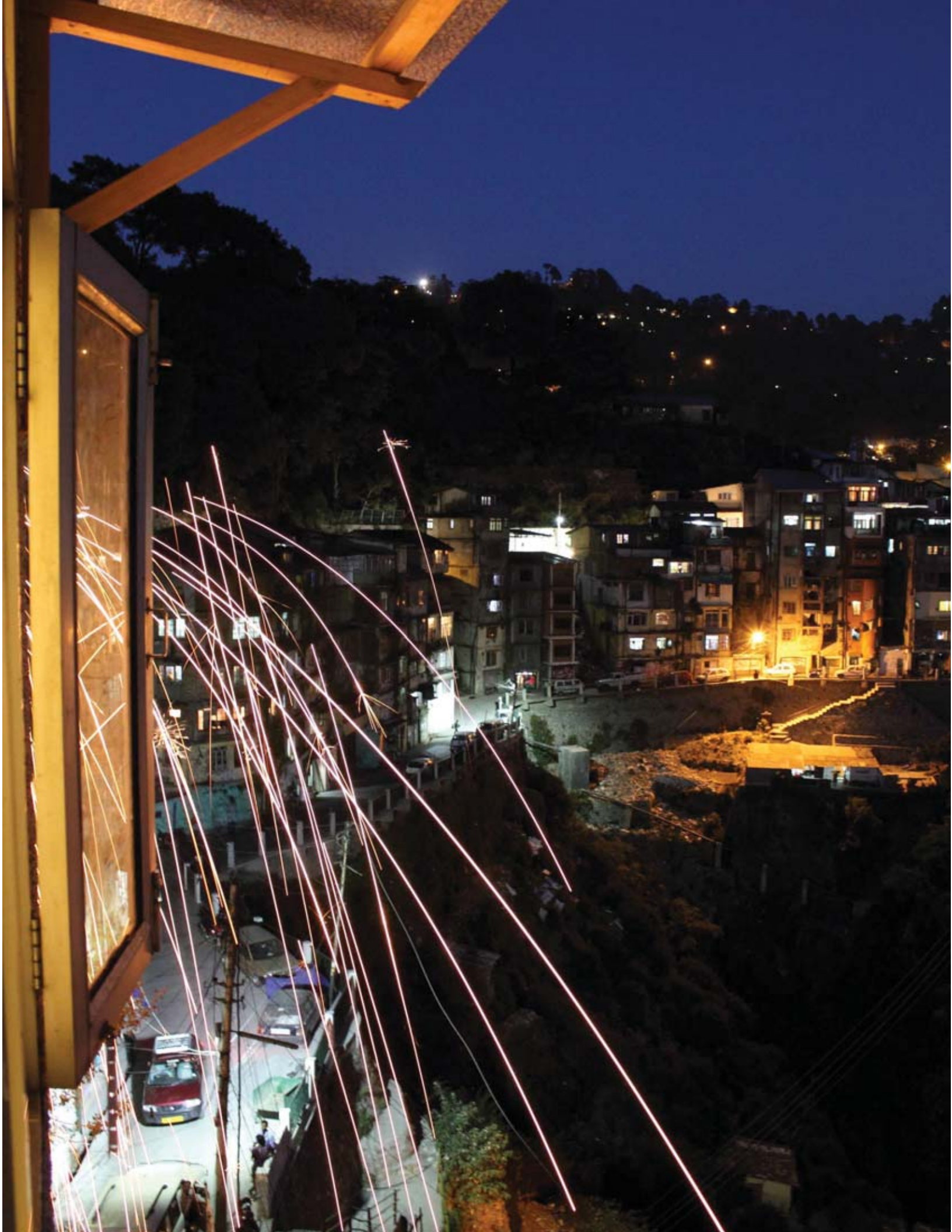
Strengthening Climate Resilience

Climate change has altered the frequency and magnitude of hazard events and is transforming the underlying vulnerabilities. These changes need to be addressed in pose a challenge in front of DRM community to integrate added dimensions of climate change impact in DRR work

Strengthening Climate Resilience (SCR) is a DfID funded programme. At its heart is the Climate Smart Disaster Risk Management (CSDRM) approach developed by the Institute for Development Studies, UK which helps to better integrate disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and development. This flexible approach responds to the urgent need for organisations to be able to learn, reflect and integrate in better ways in order to remain relevant to their mission and goals.

In partnership with Christian Aid, SEEDS is working on integrating the CSDRM approach into its project plans. This year saw participation in several regional workshops on this approach, gathering information about best practices and mapping ongoing projects against the integration pathways.





Building resilience through local citizen-led forums

Large metropolitan cities are not just vulnerable to major natural disasters, but struggle with complicated daily risks. These compromise their ability to deal with natural and climate change hazards. They also have a major impact on the resilience of the community as a whole. Such attention to urban risk reduction is gaining importance even internationally with UNISDR's 'making cities resilient campaign'.

Community-led initiatives are often the most effective in solving local problems. In fact, a large number of citizen-based institutions already exist at the district level. Yet, despite this, awareness and action remain limited on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation issues.

The 'forum' concept is a micro-level, multi-stakeholder initiative that will help bridge this gap. It aims to bring the community together to identify, assess and engage with these issues. The idea is that it will create concrete links with ongoing development programmes and national policies.

Through four separate projects, SEEDS is attempting to leverage the power of the communities themselves to build resilience. This includes a Cordaid-supported project in East Delhi (Delhi) and Villipuram (Tamil Nadu); A Christian Aid supported project across Mussoorie (Uttarakhand), Dharmashala (Himachal Pradesh) and Neembli Panchayat (Tamil Nadu); a UNICEF-supported project in East Delhi; and a Save the Children-supported project in Khagaria (Bihar), Kendrapada (Odisha) and the Sunderbans (West Bengal).

This year, all efforts were put into finding capable local partners and putting laying the foundation for these forums.





Education and capacity-building programme on Disaster Risk Reduction

Safe construction is often impeded by both lack of knowledge and enforcement of safety standards. A practical solution is to create an enabling environment for safe construction by sensitising and training the construction workforce. The scope of this capacity building extends beyond mere training. It is also a means to bridge the gap between knowledge and practice. Retrofitting is one such skill.

Conducted in partnership with Temasek Foundation, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, IIT Roorkee and NIT Hamirpur, this project aimed to transfer specialised skills to construction workers and build awareness among the larger community. The impact is larger than it is perceived to be as masons at the grassroots level are the key to the long-term recovery and rehabilitation process. The project covered two schools each in Shimla (Himachal Pradesh), Patan (Gujarat) and Guwahati (Assam).

SEEDS has also always put its faith in education to build long-term resilience. This 'school training' aspect was another integral cog of the project's capacity building wheel. Apart from basic orientation on disaster preparedness, school children were trained on search and rescue, fire safety, first aid and evacuation drills. Teachers' training and the creation of school disaster management plans also played an important role.



Curriculum Development for the National School Safety Programme, Bihar

Education, public awareness and proper training are cornerstones of risk reduction approaches. The Government of India's National School Safety Programme aims to promote such a culture of disaster preparedness in schools. Supported by UNICEF, a trainer's pack is being developed as part of the National School Safety Programme (NSSP) for Bihar. The TOT is aimed at master trainers, who are then expected to cascade the knowledge to teachers and other core stakeholders. It aims to enhance conceptual understanding on various aspects DRR and school safety aspects from an inclusive perspective; enable creation of school safety plans; and enhance communication capacity and ability to implement these measures.



Assessing progress on school safety in India

Children, especially those at school, are among the most vulnerable groups during any disaster. Thousands of children have lost their lives in disasters, while attending classes. Of the more than 200 million people affected by deadly disasters every year, a third are children. With the changes in climate and disaster occurrences expected to increase, this number too may rise.

In India, despite promising beginnings, there is significant amount of work to be done. Disaster risk reduction has not been integrated systematically and comprehensively with the education sector. Moreover, while a consensus is emerging on what constitutes school safety, there is no systemised methodology.



In this context, a joint study was begun with UNICEF to document school disaster risk reduction initiatives in India. The study aims to capture the status of DRR in schools in India and suggest a future course of action to achieve safer schools. It assesses the extent to which school safety has been introduced in India by Governments, civil society and other stakeholders; compiles and reviews existing methodologies; and identifies good practices.

Eco-Education in Delhi

Continuing our partnership with Sanyo, a leading Japanese solar-power generated manufacturer, SEEDS furthered its school safety programme in seven schools across Delhi.

The programme centred around the '3Rs' – reduce, reuse and recycle – teaching students about environmental sustainability and climate change. It also included risk reduction elements such as a school disaster management and environment management plan, mock drills and the training of task forces.



NETWORKING AND ADVOCACY

Asian Disaster Reduction & Response Network

SEEDS is an active member of the Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN). This year, members took a leading role in forming a civil society task force under the ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP). This will proactively engage with the IAP to facilitate and/or provide a mechanism to track commitments and identify gaps in progress on the Hyogo Framework for Action.

At the third session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, ADRRN's stall focused on 'talking resilience the local way', featuring initiatives on overcoming cultural/language barriers. On the IGNITE stage, ADRRN presented their accountability project, currently being piloted across disparate geographies in two Indian states. The idea is a real-time and scalable 'mobile supply chain management' system. The ultra-simple and intuitive interface can easily be used by NGOs and villagers from most mobile phones. Real-time advantages include easy access to donors providing material and financial support; advanced logistical coordination and inventory tracking; and greater donor and public visibility into fund usage.

It also continued to carry out capacity building programmes and round table conferences on disaster risk reduction in conflict areas.

Views from the Frontline 2011

'Views from the Frontline' is part of a global effort led by the Global Network for Disaster Reduction (GNDR). Its aim is to carry out a reality check to support the effective implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA). It aims to measure the progress at the local level across developing regions. In India, 16 key members of the Alliance for Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction (AADRR) – of which SEEDS is the Secretariat - carried out 791 surveys across 124 districts in 17 states/union territories.

In addition, discussion and consultation were undertaken through sub-national workshops. The most significant finding was that there is an enhanced appreciation of the need to involve communities in disaster risk reduction initiatives. In fact, the concept and culture of risk governance have yet to be sufficiently internalised and cultivated in India.



OUR PARTNERS

Alliance for Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction (AADRR)

Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN)

BHEL

CARE Today

CDKN

CENDEP at Oxford Brookes University

Change Co. Ltd.

Christian Aid

Cordaid

Dan Church Aid

European Commission Humanitarian Aid Department (ECHO)

Global Network for Disaster Reduction (GNDR)

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee

Department for International Development, UK (DFID)

Institute for Development Studies, UK

Kyoto University

MERCY Malaysia

National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)

National Institute of Technology (NIT) Hamirpur

National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET)

Nanyang Technological University (NTU)

Owner Driven Reconstruction Collaborative (ODRC)

Rural Development and You (RDY)

Sanyo

Save the Children

Temasek Foundation

Terre Des Hommes (TDH)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UNICEF

The various activities carried out by us are made possible through the support of individuals and organisations. We gratefully acknowledge the financial, material, moral and technical support of the following partners and all our individual donors.

BALANCE SHEET 2011-2012

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY
(Registered under the Societies Registration Act. 1860, Delhi)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31, 2012

In Rupees

Particulars	Schedule	As at March 31,	
		2012	2011
SOURCES OF FUNDS			
Funds	1	3,12,41,424	3,76,10,109
Secured Loans	2	3,67,733	-
TOTAL		3,16,09,157	3,76,10,109
APPLICATION OF FUNDS			
Fixed Assets			
Gross Block	3	83,36,351	1,38,23,908
Less : Depreciation		54,53,255	84,06,806
Net Block		28,83,095	54,17,102
Investments	4	17,26,000	1,79,26,000
Current Assets, Loans & Advances			
Cash and Bank Balances	5	2,59,60,660	1,32,88,572
Other Current Assets	6	14,12,444	14,86,979
Loans and Advances	7	18,594	-
		2,73,91,698	1,47,75,552
Less: Current Liabilities & Provisions			
Expenses Payable	8	38,524	72,998
Other Liabilities		3,53,112	3,99,809
Net Current Assets		2,70,00,062	1,43,02,745
TOTAL		3,16,09,157	3,76,45,847
Significant Accounting Policies and Notes	11		

Note: The Schedules referred to above form an integral part of the Balance Sheet

As per our report of even date
For Rakesh B. Lal & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Firm Regn. No.: 01884N



Rajat Behari Lal
Partner
Membership No.: 082412

New Delhi
August 30, 2012



For SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT AND
ECOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY


Manu Gupta
Vice President


Anshu Sharma
Secretary

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY
(Registered under the Societies Registration Act. 1860, Delhi)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2012

In Rupees

Particulars	Schedule	For the year ended March 31,	
		2011-12	2010-11
A. INCOME			
Grants & Donations Received	9	3,76,27,914	5,29,41,901
Interest & Other Income		20,87,977	14,75,369
		<u>3,97,15,891</u>	<u>5,44,17,270</u>
B. EXPENDITURE			
Detail of Expenditure	10	4,60,84,574	4,20,04,183
Less: Expenses transferred to Specific Funds		35,31,817	
		<u>4,25,52,757</u>	<u>4,20,04,183</u>
Unspent / (Overspent) during the year transferred to Grant Account		(28,36,867)	1,24,13,087

Note: The Schedules referred to above form an integral part of the Income and Expenditure Account

As per our report of even date
For Rakesh B. Lal & Co.

For SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT AND
ECOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

Chartered Accountants
Firm Regn. No.: 01884N



Rajat Behari Lal
Partner
Membership No.: 082412

New Delhi
August 30, 2012



(Signature)
Manu Gupta
Vice President

(Signature)
Anshu Sharma
Secretary