

Breakthrough



Act. End violence against women.

ANNUAL REPORT

2018-2019



Breakthrough works towards making violence and discrimination against women and girls unacceptable. We change gender norms by working with adolescents and their communities, working women, their employers and families, as well as by using media campaigns, the arts and popular culture to build a more equal world around us



BREAKTHROUGH MOMENTS 2018-19

Breakthrough focused on community action to recognise the value of adolescent girls this year. From women and girls taking part in a state level campaign on the issue of functional toilets in schools to government officials, community and others taking part in a "Thali Bajao" (Beat the Plate to Celebrate the Birth of a Girl), the community-led actions were numerous. A series of theatre performances and programmes across premier radio stations targeting local population and advocating with journalists to get a wider coverage of the issues, amplified the actions and campaigns. Kishori Melas (Girls Carnivals) were held across all 4 states focused on messaging to encourage parents and teachers to invest more in the health and education of adolescents, irrespective of their gender. Through interesting games and activities adolescents focused on breaking gender stereotypes and also learnt about their own aspirations.



This year we reached 400,000 boys and girls between 11 and 18 years old, in 3,500 villages in 14 districts across five states of India.



How the Village Got its Name

Anjali, a 15 year old girl, started attending Breakthrough's school-based gender equity program called Taaron ki Toli (Gang of Stars) sometime in December 2017. Anjali lives in a remote village in Uttar Pradesh in India, which, until recently was called Kudamau. Kudamau literally means, "garbage dump". Anjali was a laughing stock in her school because of the name. The village faced segregation and discrimination - everyone assumed the name was due to the large presence of Dalits in the community. This hurt Anjali. Within a few months of attending Breakthrough's Taaron ki Toli programme in school, Anjali petitioned her village head to change the name of her village Kudamau into Sundernagari (beautiful town). Thanks to Anjali, the petition found its way into the local government register and the locals soon started calling the village Sundernagari.

Everytime a group of women petition for safe drinking water for their village, girls start talking to village heads for making playing fields available for them, boys start doing household chores and not feeling bad about it, new narratives are created. These changes in behaviour and thinking usher in a new gender norm. One that can tackle the everyday misogyny that stops women and girls from reaching their full potential. This is the challenge that Breakthrough responds to, time and again.

StreeLink



Streelink is a 3-year project that Breakthrough is implementing to bring a change in the lives of the women garment factory workers. The Breakthrough intervention is multi-dimensional and is targeted at stigma that working women face at home and the Gender Based Violence & Sexual Harassment they face at both home and workplace. Breakthrough works with all stakeholders which include members of their family, factory managers, workers, both men and women, and the communities where they come from, to build capacity and leadership to advance gender transformation. We reached 12,000 garment factory workers in 2018-19 with a view to increasing the participation of women conversations around violence, stigma and harassment. We involved the factory managers as well as men at the community level in the discussions too. StreeLink Melas have been great source of inspiration for the women to tell their stories, learn about new skills, find peers and take part in action around breaking gender-based stereotypes and addressing violence.



TeamChange



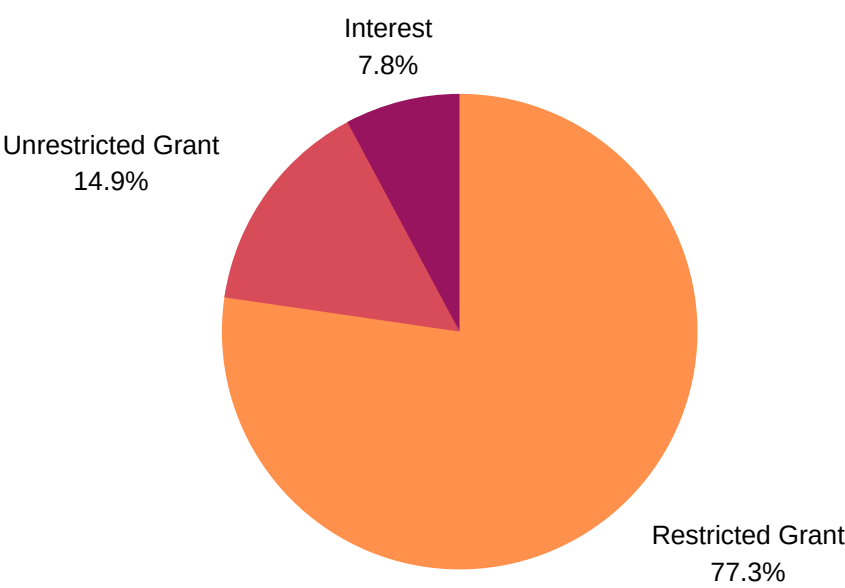
In 2018 we launched TeamChange, a programme that allows people to get involved in Breakthrough's work and become part of a community of people who make change happen, by their choices and actions. We have so far acquired 770 volunteers, who have taken action on the issue. From writing a blog, or doing a small campaign to change how your workspace handles the issue of sexual harassment, volunteers engage in things in their own capacity.

Under TeamChange we also organised the annual Youth Leadership Training this year - a comprehensive training program for youth from colleges and communities from all over India. Young interns undergo a transformative journey to become changemakers committed to the cause of gender justice. 30 interns joined us for a month and underwent extensive training on gender, rights and other related issues as well as learnt skills around film making, theatre and running campaigns.



Financial Review

Income



Expenditure

