



DONOR REPORT
2017-18



Dream a Dream is a registered, charitable trust empowering children and young people from vulnerable backgrounds to overcome adversity and flourish in the 21st century using a creative life skills approach. Currently, we work with 10,000 young people a year through our two innovation labs – After School Life Skills Programme and Career Connect Programme; We have trained over 5500 teachers/educators from 157 partners impacting over 137,500 children and young people and sensitize over 2500 volunteers through our unique Life Skills Development model. We work on a strong collaborative approach with local charities, corporates, volunteers, governments, expert consultants and a host of national and international strategic partners.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

According to a recent study by Brookings Institution^[1], 'In the last 200 years, the number of children attending primary school globally has grown from 2.3 million to 700 million today, covering nearly 90 percent of the world's school-age children. But the gulf in average levels of education between rich and poor countries remains huge. This means that it is going to take another 100 years for children in developing countries to reach the education levels achieved in developed countries. The only way to bridge this gap is through a fundamental rethinking of the purpose of education and the delivery of learning contextualized to the 21st century. We need a leap-frogging strategy.'

In the context of the 100-year gap study, the work of Dream a Dream is more relevant today than ever before. While the report is disturbingly startling, it is also heartening because it validates what Dream a Dream has believed and done for the last 18 years – 'When young people develop life skills it helps them develop capacities to overcome adversity and at the same time thrive in the 21st century.'

2017-18 has been a year of strong acceptance and validation of our approach and model both nationally and internationally.

We believe that the world is waking up to the understanding of the complexity of childhood adversity and how it prevents access to learning. There is also a deeper realisation that the 21st century is changing rapidly and requires young people to possess a new set of skills to respond and thrive in a complex and uncertain future.

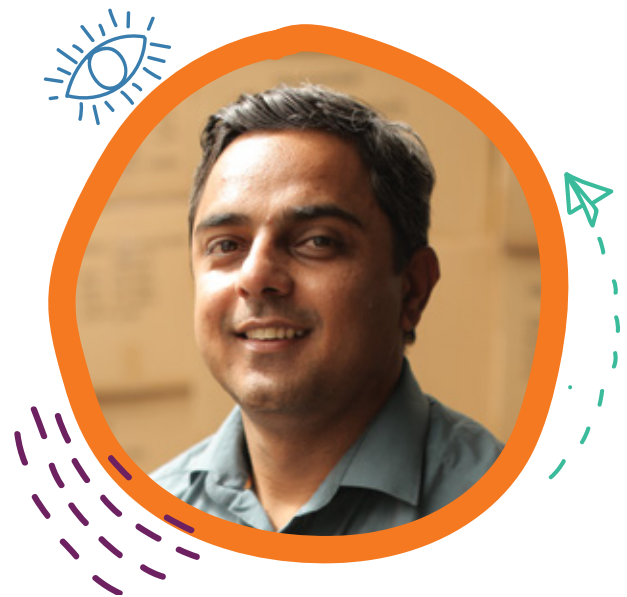
In the year 2017-18, our programmes have reached out to over 60,000 young people taking our consolidated impact to over 137,500 young people since 2013. While continuing our direct delivery with 10,000 young people, our Teacher Development Programme, which has trained over 2020 teachers last year, now covers 5 states, which includes 16 districts and 35 taluks across India.

Our efforts to develop awareness and influence framework change in the eco-system are beginning to be recognized and has given us the traction we need to cause a large-scale impact. We were invited to present our work at important forums such as the Harvard Graduate School of Education, Eisenhower Fellowship Future of Work Conference, OECD, Global Change Leaders (GCL) collaborative by Ashoka, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and the Delhi Government amongst others. Our insights are being sought by large non-profit organizations as well as start-ups in the education space. We are part of the International Working Group (IWG) set up by OECD developing an Education 2030 vision. We are part of Harvard's Global Education Innovations Initiative (GEII) and the GCL setup by Ashoka. Within India, The MHRD invited us to be part of a National collaborative called Chintan Shivir where one of the core themes identified was 'Life Skills' and how they can be integrated within existing education models. The 4th edition of Change The Script 2018 brought together over 70 key influencers and deep practitioners from the space to seed the first supportive community that is committed to 'Helping young people from adversity to thrive in the 21st century.' We continued to hold high standards of transparency and accountability by being awarded The Platinum Level by GuideStar India for the second year in a row.

I believe our biggest win last year was to watch young people from Dream a Dream become Changemakers in their communities. 22-year old Pallavi who worked with parents, community leaders, school leaders, politicians and philanthropists to set up a playground for children in her community was the highlight of our year.

As we celebrate our achievements, unique partnerships, critical milestones and inspiring stories of change, we would like to take a moment to acknowledge the innumerable individuals and supporters who have joined hands with us. The Dream a Dream supporters, comprising of the teachers and schools we work with, our trainers and facilitators from across the state, donors and corporate supporters and the young people who we work with have all been a huge source of inspiration.

Each one of you is a changemaker and your belief in our work has played an indispensable role in accelerating change in the lives of young people. Thank you for your relentless belief. It has helped us build a momentum that is much needed to enable young people to thrive in the 21st century. All this would not have been possible without the loyalty of supporters like you.



^[1](Source: <https://www.brookings.edu/research/why-wait-100-years-bridging-the-gap-in-global-education/>)

STRATEGIC INTENT



Our intent is to build a movement that equips millions of young people from vulnerable backgrounds with life skills to overcome adversity and flourish in the 21st century. Over the next 5 years, we have developed a 4-pronged approach to scale the impact of our work and reach over 500,000 young people.





PALLAVI



Pallavi is a 22-year-old girl working as a facilitator at Dream a Dream since 2013. She began her journey with us in 2008, while she was in the 8th standard as a part of the After School Life Skills Programme that her school was affiliated with. Her father works in the tile Industry and her mother passed away last year after having battled a terminal illness. She has an elder sister who completed her college and is now working. She has two younger sisters, one in college and the other completing her education from the same school and her grandmother.

She went on to join the Career Connect Programme in the 11th standard where she got great career guidance, improved her English and communication skills and learnt how to use a computer. She then completed the Career Connect course and considered attaining a college education. Unfortunately, Pallavi's family couldn't afford to pay the college fees because of her mother's illness. Determined to help, she tried looking for a job so she could not only take some of the financial load off her family but also simultaneously pursue her education through a correspondence course. This search led her to Dream a Dream again, as a facilitator.

It is here that she underwent a life-changing journey. Pallavi was inspired to play football and this led to a trip to Brazil, where she represented the Under 17 football team at the Football for Hope festival, a CSR programme organised by FIFA. This gave her much needed recognition and confidence. She became a football facilitator at the school she attended despite having faced severe opposition from the authorities because she was a girl. In the face of these adversities, Pallavi didn't give up and persevered and organised several football programmes not just in her school but 9 other surrounding schools as well. Pallavi played a pivotal role in bringing together a host of influencers, such as the Principals of the schools, the parents of the children in that community and the local politicians to build a football field for the children within the community.

Pallavi inspired and encouraged a lot of girls to play football too. She facilitates at the Shri Sadguru Saibaba School. She brought about an array of changes in the school, not just in terms of Sports, but discipline, attendance and various other activities. She also emphasised the importance of recognising the role of teachers and parents as well. Since she got the chance to go to Brazil and turn her life around, she felt that she could give someone else this opportunity and change their script. One such young girl was Navneetha, who, thanks to Pallavi's efforts went to France for the Street Football festival. Pallavi went on to support Navneetha's journey and helped her go to London to meet Prince Charles, during an event hosted by one of our supporters.

Pallavi's journey of transformation from a beneficiary to a facilitator is a motivating one. She's a brave woman and shows a lot of perseverance without saying too much and just letting her passion speak.



ORGANISATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Dream a Dream received the **Heroes of Bengaluru award** under the Social Service category for 18 years of service to this amazing city! Heroes of Bengaluru is an initiative by DreamCraft Events to celebrate this wonderful city by honouring and recognizing people and organizations that have inspired and created a powerful impact in their field of work and have defined what we all believe is the Spirit of Bengaluru. The award was collected by our two very own changemakers, Hamsa Kumar and Pavithra KL, who are now giving back to their communities.

Dream a Dream hosted two **Life Skills Day** events with an objective of creating a national awareness and observance day to amplify the urgency of life skills. The events brought together young people from across our partner schools under one roof to engage with them through experiential activities and fun games. The events also aimed at bridging the life skills gap for those young children whose scores are measured using our Dream Life Skills Assessment Scale (DLSAS) were below the norm.

Our annual conference, **Change the Script 2018**, that is aimed at building a Supportive Community to prepare young people to thrive in the 21st century was conducted successfully with over 75 participants from diverse backgrounds in the eco-system. Change the Script is now a powerful platform for building and sustaining a vibrant movement to support young people to thrive in the 21st century.

Highlights from the conference can be seen here - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zEgEkO8VxKM>

Every year, the Oxford Symposium for Comparative and International Education (OXSCIE) invites 150 global delegates to consider the future of uncertainty and debate the nature of the educational response to some of the most pressing concerns facing children today. Invited by The Aga Khan Foundation and Global Centre for Pluralism, Dream a Dream presented a paper on **"The meaning of teaching and learning in the context of educational uncertainties"** drawn from our insights of over 18 years.

Dream a Dream was represented by **Vishal Talreja** (Cofounder & CEO) at Harvard Advanced Leadership Initiative – Education Deep Dive in April 2017. Vishal presented our work at a panel focused on "Empowering those in Poverty" to over 100 senior Industry professionals who were part of the Advanced Leadership Initiative at Harvard University.

Dream a Dream was represented by Vishal Talreja (Cofounder & CEO) at the **Future of Work Conference** hosted by Eisenhower Fellowships at Malaga, Spain in September 2017. Over 320 delegates from 49 countries were present from all sectors to analyse the key drivers shaping the future of work. Dream a Dream got an opportunity to present our innovative approach to preparing youth from vulnerable backgrounds in India to thrive in the 21st century. One of our young graduates, Vishnu Reji was also selected as one of 32 young people from across the world to be a part of the first cohort of the Global Youth Fellowship of Eisenhower Fellowships.

You can see Vishal's presentation at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KvGOW7_ut3I (7:15 minutes onwards).





Dream a Dream was invited to a 2 day National Workshop/ ‘Chintan Shivir’ to bring together key stakeholders from Government, NGOs and private sector to deliberate on the 5 key areas of school education. The event was hosted by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD). One of the key areas addressed was life skills in education where Dream a Dream presented its innovations.

Vishal Talreja, Co-founder and CEO, Dream a Dream, was one of the panellists and speakers at “**Educating Students for a Diverse and Rapidly Changing World**” - A conference hosted by the Global Education Innovation Initiative at Harvard Graduate School of Education held in May 2017. Vishal presented insights from our work at a panel focused on “Innovations in Learning and Teaching in the 21st Century”. Over 250 educators, academicians, researchers, social entrepreneurs and global agencies were present at the conference.

Vishal Talreja's talk can be seen at <https://youtu.be/23EPD1YSDNM>

As part of Dream a Dream's research initiatives, we launched a study to understand the impact on learning outcomes on young people who are part of our programme, in partnership with Gray Matters India and supported by Michael & Susan Dell Foundation. Dream a Dream also launched a sectoral impact study conducted in partnership with 5 other organizations where the Dream Life Skills Assessment Scale (DLSAS) is being used to measure the impact of their interventions.

A 9 member team that included graduates from our After School Life Skills Programme participated in ‘Our Bodies, Our Rights, Our Game’ - a women's football and cultural festival in Goa hosted by DISCOVER FOOTBALL. Over 80 women from across India trained with international coaches, participated in a football tournament and shared their experience of using football as a tool for empowerment.



A LOOK AT OUR PROGRAMME-WISE IMPACT



AFTER SCHOOL LIFE SKILLS PROGRAMME

In our After School Life Skills Programme, we use creative arts and football as mediums to engage and develop critical life skills among young people between the ages of 8 to 15 years. This programme is an innovation lab where new approaches to life skills development are introduced, demonstrated, documented, evaluated, and fed back into a larger framework for re-imagining learning for young people in the country. To measure the improvements in life skills amongst the young people, we use the Dream Life Skills Assessment Scale (DLSAS*).

*The DLSAS is the first impact measurement tool in the world to measure improvement in life skills among disadvantaged children.

5240

TOTAL
PARTICIPANTS

88.78%

AVERAGE
ATTENDANCE

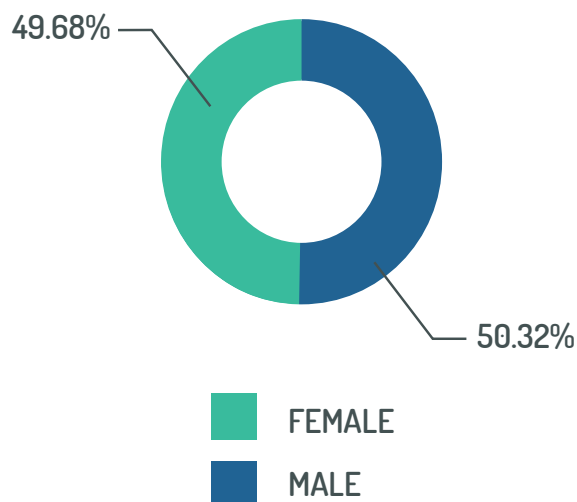
22

PARTNERS

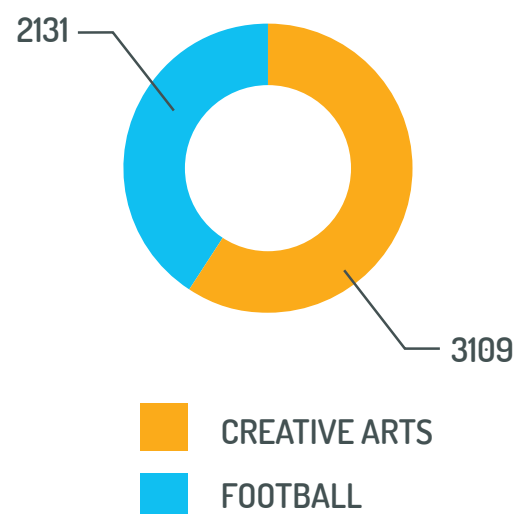
96.32%

RETENTION
RATE

**GENDER DISTRIBUTION
OF PARTICIPANTS ENROLLED**



**PROGRAMME-WISE DISTRIBUTION
OF PARTICIPANTS ENROLLED**



CAREER CONNECT PROGRAMME

The programme equips 14-19-year-olds with information, skills and access to opportunities to make a healthy transition to adulthood. We conduct career awareness workshops, run short-term modules in English, communication skills, money management, and career guidance and provide access to internships, scholarships, vocational training and jobs. The programme is delivered in two learning centres, based in Bangalore. The two most important insights that we have learnt over the years; the first is that turning 18 is no guarantee that you are actually prepared for a career; the second is that just because you are younger than 18 and can't get a formal job, doesn't mean you are not expected to be the bread-winner for your family. Career Connect is focussed on developing the life-skills that young people need to navigate this complex phase of adolescence to ensure they can truly be prepared for life.

4744

TOTAL UNIQUE
PARTICIPANTS

42

PARTNERS

90%

AVERAGE
ATTENDANCE

93%

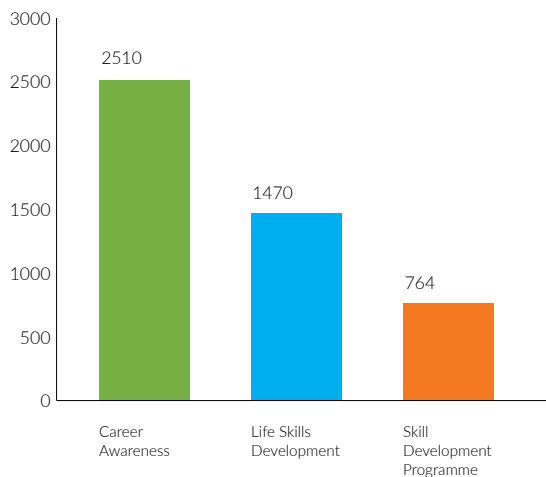
AVERAGE
RETENTION

92.13%

MEANINGFULLY ENGAGED IN
CAREER/LIFE

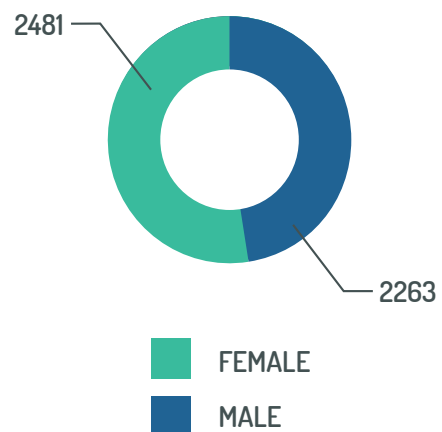
Note: The attendance and retention is for the Life Skills Development Programme

TOTAL OUTREACH



Note: In addition, 50 young people secured job placements, 201 young people secured scholarships, 27 young people are a part of the Entrepreneurship Programme and 55 young people participated in Dream Mentoring Programme.

GENDER-WISE DISTRIBUTION



Note: This break-up is for the Life Skills Development Programme





TEACHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Teacher Development Programme is specifically aimed at enabling educators to empower young people with life skills. When a teacher, a key influencer in the young person's life, plays the role of a caring and compassionate adult, children engage actively in learning, they feel inspired, and they transform. This model uses the 'arc of transformation' (adapted from the Creative Community Model, developed by PYE Global), an approach that creates transformative experiences for Teachers. Teachers are then able to re-imagine their role in the young persons life and are able to demonstrate empathy, expand their creativity, develop listening and validation skills and facilitate safe learning spaces in their classrooms.

2020
TEACHERS
ENROLLED

50,500
YOUNG PEOPLE
IMPACTED

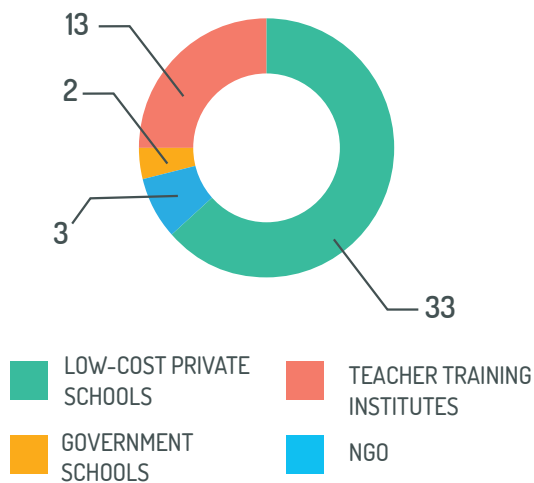
51
PARTNERS

1104
TEACHERS
ON ROAD TO
COMPLETION

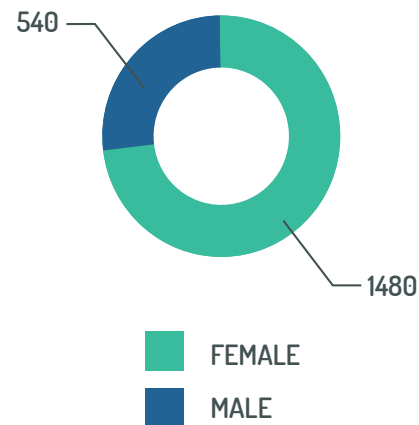
859
TEACHERS
COMPLETED



BREAK UP OF PARTNERS



GENDER-WISE DISTRIBUTION



RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY

Over 18 years, Dream a Dream has deepened its understanding of the challenges faced by young people and delivered high impact programmes, at scale. But we realize that direct scaling of our programmes will not bring about a paradigm shift in society and we need to use a multiplying lever to create mindset shifts.

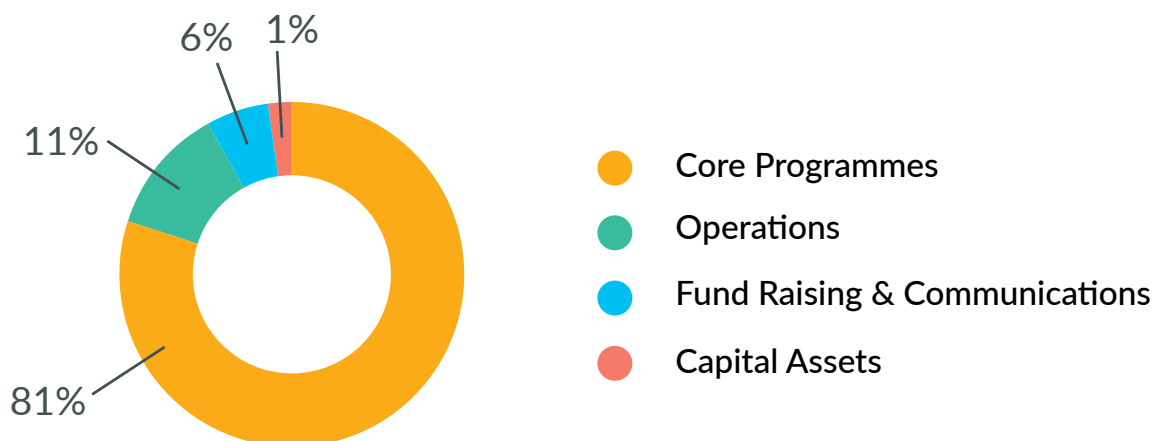
The Research and Advocacy strategy at Dream a Dream is designed to invest in transforming the eco-system. In the first phase on this strategy, we are building evidence on the urgency for life-skills; building an urgent voice on the challenges faced by young people and investing in building a Supportive Community of stakeholders that are invested in the shared vision to help young people from adversity thrive in the 21st century.





FINANCIALS

Particulars	INR	USD
Core Programmes	50,345,956	774,553
Operations	7,115,660	52,466
Fund Raising & Communications	3,644,374	24,928
Capital Assets	866,541	10,897
Total	61,972,531	862,844



*Above figures are currently unaudited

OUR SUPPORTERS FOR THE PAST 3 YEARS



OUR VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers with their unwavering commitment and a belief in our work, have walked this journey with us, in helping us change lives. 650 Corporate Volunteers have clocked in 2143.5 hours of their time in addition to the 78 individual volunteers who have put in 5443 hours of their time and efforts to work with us. A big thank you to all our partners and volunteers who have inspired and enabled a bright future for our young people. With your support, we will not stop until we make life skills available to every young person in this country.





dreamadream.org

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No. 398/E, 17th Cross, 9th Main, 3rd Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru – 560011

+91 080 4095 1084