



Raising dignified and healthy children in Gogunda, India

Empowering Communities – working
together to improve children's quality
of life: a Road Map, **2020-2032**

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India

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“Each of us has the power to help children thrive and when you support children, you improve the world and yourself. We create opportunities for people and institutions to positively impact children’s lives and futures”

ChildFund India



Gogunda’s seasons are increasingly unpredictable.

This Road Map is intended as an information document to describe the outcome of planning meetings involving ChildFund India, Barnfonden, community members and multiple stakeholders working for the benefit of children in Gogunda, Rajasthan, India. It has been developed as a guidance document for 2020-2032, and as a plan towards community self-reliance – a

future goal for when Barnfonden (or other external) support is no longer required. Progress will be reviewed regularly. During the period of the Road Map, ChildFund India and Barnfonden, along with partners in the community, will use this document to seek support for their work together. The plans contained are not a commitment that these organisations will accomplish or fund all tasks identified – this is the responsibility of all stakeholders

collectively, including the community and government.

ChildFund India and Barnfonden are non-religious and non-political and follow high ethical and accountability standards. ChildFund India and Barnfonden thank Jatan Sansthan for their help in developing this Road Map.

This version 1.0 was finalised in December 2020, supported by Barnfonden, Sweden. While all efforts have been made to include accurate infor-



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PHOTO: ANNA-MARIA ROMBERG

mation, neither Barnfonden nor ChildFund India warrant or represent that the information is free from errors or omissions. Changes in circumstances may affect the accuracy of information and costs may alter over time.

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What is this document?

This document is the high-level summary of a strategic plan prepared by local civil society organisations, officials, parents and children representing 80 villages in Gogunda, India, and ChildFund India and the Swedish organisation, Barnfonden (a member of the ChildFund Alliance).

It outlines work priorities agreed upon by the community and their support partners for the next 12 years.¹ All interventions have a clear intent: To improve the health and well-being of children while ensuring they grow up in a safe environment.

This means that children are protected; that they are healthy, nourished and educated; that they understand their rights, and can make informed decisions about their future. They and their families are also trained and prepared for the impact of environmental degradation and climate change.

The Programme has been called “Empowering Communities for Child Protection by Enabling Education, Health and Livelihoods” or, in short, “Empowering Communities”.

The goal, as determined by the community, is: “To promote the active involvement of families and commu-

nities to ensure that every child grows up in an empowered and sustainable environment and can say I am healthy, I am happy, I am safe, I am educated, I have a voice.” Each project in this document has been identified as a necessary part of the overall programme by the community: “To empower the community for long-term development by creating multi-stakeholder ownership and engagement.”²

A summary description of each programme theme has been included, along with estimated overall costs.³ ChildFund India, Barnfonden, local partners and the community will use this document to guide their planning and budgeting; to seek funding to implement the plans; and as an awareness tool so that all who wish to support children and youth in Gogunda can do so, clearly understanding the community’s vision.

We call this a Road Map.

THE FOCUS OF THE ROAD MAP

This Road Map or strategic plan seeks to address the root causes of child poverty and violence against children in the rural areas of Gogunda, India. It aims to give voice and representation to the most marginalized communities and provide space for open dialogue between children, the community, civil society organisations and local authorities. The programme is designed and implemented referencing child rights, child protection, gender, inclusion and environment and climate change guidelines.

The Gogunda Road Map focuses on...

- Education and lifeskills
- Health and wellbeing
- Child Protection
- Livelihoods

This document will be updated regularly through a process that will involve the active participation of the Gogunda community and other relevant stakeholders.

¹ More detailed plans start on page 12.

² Stakeholder meeting held March 7, 2019. The objective was to discuss the pathway for the holistic development of the Gogunda block with all the stakeholders involved in the community’s development. This included 48 participants comprising Government officials from different ministries and departments, representatives from the social sector, representatives from local governance and community (youth, children, women) as well as representatives from local organisation, Jatan Sansthan, and ChildFund India.

³ Given the uncertainty around time frames, budgeted figures are estimates only. Full budgets will be developed as donors for each project are identified.



***“The future
depends on
what you do
today”***

Mahatma Gandhi

Classrooms are crowded, sometimes accommodating up to 100 students.

PHOTO: MARTINA HIBELL

About Gogunda



Stacks of dried grass to use as animal fodder.

PHOTO: MARTINA HIBELL

This Road Map aims to bring improvements to the quality of life experienced by children in Gogunda block, Rajasthan, India. The 1,013sq km block is one of eleven blocks in the Udaipur District comprising 232 villages⁴. The programme of work covered by the Road Map incorporates 80 of the poorest villages. The goal is to reach around 20,000 children annually.

Separated from its nearest city, Udaipur, by a difficult mountain pass, Gogunda is rocky, mountainous and an area of extreme poverty and deprivation, where family members struggle to earn an income and provide for their children. The climate of Gogunda is semi-arid, characterized by hot, dry summers and extreme winters. The

risk of mild to severe drought is high.⁵ For families, many whom live on less than US \$.50c a day, drought and other stressors multiplies the risk of health, education and child protection issues, including early marriage, trafficking and child labour,⁶ with women and girls being particularly vulnerable.

WHO WILL BENEFIT?

The group targeted for development by this Road Map includes the most marginalized tribal communities in deprived pockets of the Gogunda block. The main Scheduled Tribe groups include Gameti (Bhil) and Garasiya. The main Scheduled Caste groups include Meghwal, Mongia and Kathori. Plans specifically focus on members of the community identified as the most deprived, excluded and vulnerable.

The programme will promote gender equality, environmental sustainability, disability inclusion and child protection, while addressing power issues. At least 50 per cent of participants will be female.

ChildFund India will design projects tailored to three life stages (age groups) of children. The estimated number of children who will benefit in each life stage annually is:

HEALTHY & SECURE INFANTS:

Life Stage 1 (Aged 0-5 years):

Estimated 4500+ children per year

EDUCATED & CONFIDENT CHILDREN:

Life Stage 2 (Aged 6-14 years)

Estimated 7000+ children per year

SKILLED AND INVOLVED YOUTH:

Life Stage 3 (Aged 15-24 years):

Estimated 8000+ youth per year

⁴ Census 2011 - the most recent census at time of print.

⁵ Children focused vulnerability assessment and city resilience action strategy of Udaipur city, Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG), 2017

⁶ Barnfonden consolidated research project, 2020.

RAJASTHAN (INDIA)
TEHSIL GOGUNDA
DISTRICT UDAIPUR

KILOMETRES
2 0 2 4 6 8

BOUNDARY, DISTRICT

TEHSIL

VILLAGE WITH MDDS CODE

HEADQUARTERS, TEHSIL

POPULATION SIZE OF VILLAGES: BELOW 200,

200-499, 500-999, 1000-4999, 5000 AND ABOVE

CENSUS TOWN WITH MDDS CODE

NATIONAL HIGHWAY

STATE HIGHWAY

IMPORTANT METALLED ROADS

RIVER AND STREAM

HIGH SCHOOL/INTER COLLEGE

BANK

DISPENSARY

PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRE

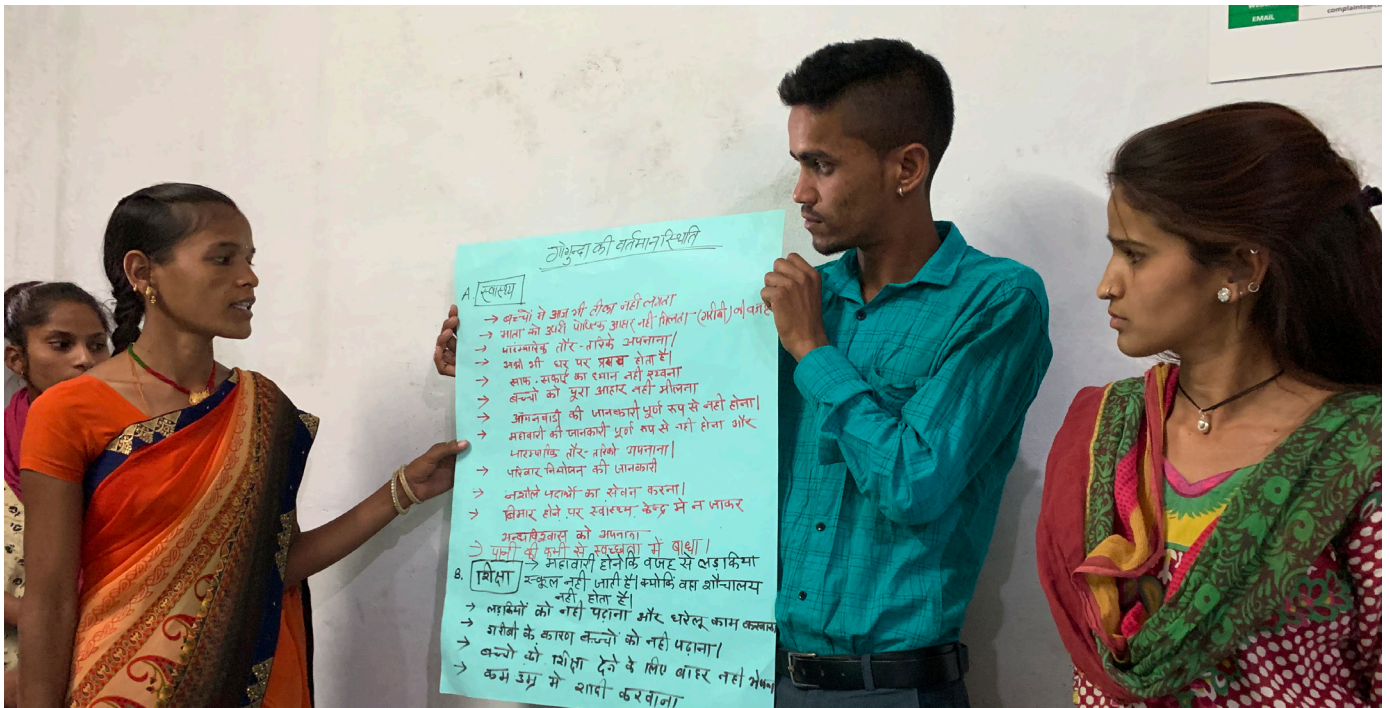
OTHER MEDICAL SERVICES

Gogunda is situated in Udaipur district in the state of Rajasthan, northern India. Through the generous donations of around 2000 Swedish sponsors and grants from donors such as ForumCiv and Radiohjälpen, many children, families and communities have already benefited from Barnfonden and ChildFund India's support – working together with other stakeholders. But there is much left to do! This Road Map sets a clear, shared direction for the future.

Map source: Gogunda tehsil, Udaipur district, Rajasthan, India. Government of India Census Map, 2011. https://censusindia.gov.in/2011census/dchb/DCHB_A/08/0832_PART_A_DCHB_UDAIPUR.pdf

**THE GOGUNDA ROAD
MAP WILL SUPPORT
AROUND 20,000 CHILDREN
AND YOUTH ANNUALLY.**

How we work



Youth share their thoughts on the challenges they see in Gogunda, and how to solve them.

PHOTO: ANNA-MARIA ROMBERG

This Road Map adopts a child rights perspective, meaning that it strives to realise children's rights, promote children's participation and build the capacity of duty bearers to meet their obligations.

It takes a life-stage approach, recognising that children have age-specific and contextual needs and that programmes must be tailored to respond to children's experiences of deprivation, exclusion and vulnerability relative to their age and the context in which they live.

It also recognizes that projects do not exist as one-off activities: they

must be planned, integrated, and achieved in unison or sequentially to be effective.

It identifies the risk of climate change and environmental degradation, and the impact these have on livelihoods and security. The downstream effect of this is increased poverty and stress – and as a result, an increase in coping mechanisms such

as child labour, early marriage and trafficking. Poverty and stress is also linked to increased violence against children.

This holistic way of working means looking beyond 'a problem' to the full life cycle of a child and the systems that influence and support their well-being.

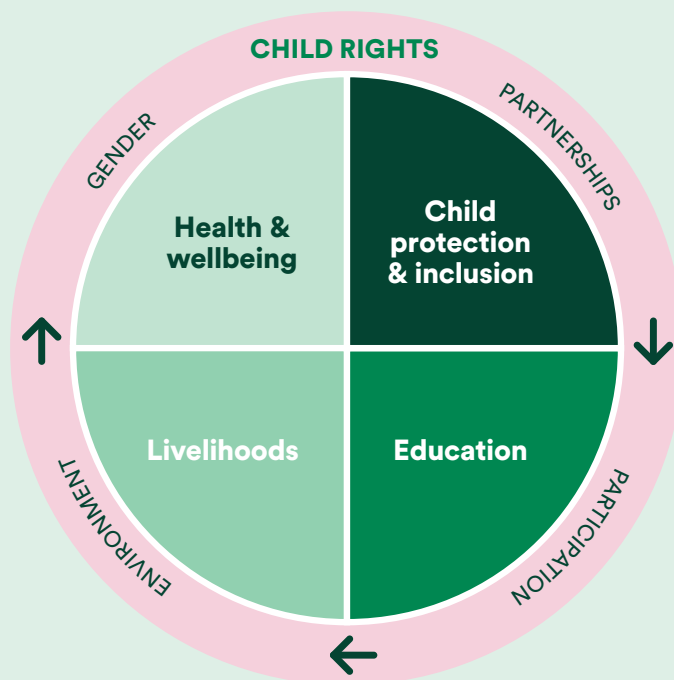
Communities in Gogunda are already feeling the impact of Covid-19 and Climate Change, and the Road Map includes plans to build resilience by developing strategies to enhance social cohesion; protect land, water and forests; strengthen governance and include poverty reduction programmes.



**HEALTHY
& SECURE**



**EDUCATED
& CONFIDENT**



**SKILLED
& INVOLVED**



**HOLISTIC & MULTI-LEVEL:
children,
families,
communities,
state & global**

VISION AND MISSION

ChildFund India and Barnfonden share the vision of an India where children lead a dignified life and achieve their full potential.

ChildFund India and Barnfonden work together with communities where individuals and institutions participate in valuing, protecting and advancing the worth and rights of children. Together with children, we create sustainable solutions that protect and advance their rights and well-being. We do this through partnerships, empowerment and a holistic approach*.

This diagram illustrates the thematic components of the work Barnfonden and ChildFund India do together, across various lifestages.

CLIMATE-INFORMED DEVELOPMENT

Gogunda is significantly affected by climate change, resulting in the community regularly experiencing droughts and floods. Events such as these place additional stress on households. Whether addressing education, health, livelihoods or child protection, climate change is factored into programming. Climate-informed development exposes the deeper, broader challenges and peripheral complexities that must be considered in programme design. This includes planning for disasters and anticipating risks – both the obvious risks, such as loss of income, and not-so-obvious downstream effects such as child marriage and child labour.

*Thematic headline names differ slightly between ChildFund India and Barnfonden.

What's in the Road Map for children in Gogunda?

During community consultations in Gogunda, four themes were identified to advance child rights: Education, health and nutrition, livelihoods and child protection.

Each theme is represented in the following pages by a community vision, and then recommendations from the community, described as 'Community Voices'. 'We will' statements describe the programme outcomes we seek to achieve. These are then broken down into 'Project Plans' which respond to the problem analysis, detailed below. All of this sits within a Theory of

Change. This, essentially, is a framework which gives oversight and shared understanding of where we are heading, and what we have to do to get there.

In addition to supporting sector-based themes, ChildFund India will work with communities to help them develop disaster risk reduction plans and to take action related to

climate change and how it will increasingly impact their future. The Road Map will use approaches that have been proven to work, based on ChildFund India's experience and those of others, and on documented evidence of success e.g., the INSPIRE strategies. ChildFund India, Barnfonden and local stakeholders will work together to implement the plans and to seek financial and non-financial support. More detailed information is provided under each sector heading in the following pages. Detailed project plans and budgets will be developed for each project plan, as needed.



Figure 3: 'Problem Statements' from Gogunda, as identified through community consultations.



Children need a healthy start in life.

PHOTO: ANGEL XAVIER

Gogunda Road Map: Education



Education material in children's mother-tongue encourages student retention.

PHOTO: ANGEL XAVIER

Gogunda has a very young population, with 32 per cent under the age of 15. Literacy rates in Gogunda are particularly poor: while only 54 per cent of males can read and write, the figure for females is a disturbingly low 28 per cent.⁷

Those who do attend school often receive poor quality education due to a lack of teacher training, the limited number of classrooms and class sizes of up to 100. This is further hindered by the diverse ethnic make-up of Gogunda block, where several different mother-tongues are spoken. There are few teaching resources in local dialects. Very few children are able to continue their studies up to 12th grade. Access to improved school sanitation can keep children, especially girls, in school.

When education systems fail stu-

dents, they and their parents cease to see the value in schooling, driving children to leave school and enter the workforce at a young age. This contributes to India's exceptionally high rate of child labour – a statistic that is likely to have worsened with the impact of Covid-19. The India Census 2011 data showed that 4.35 million children aged 5-14 years were estimated to be working as child laborers, with 90 per cent residing in rural areas. A large number of children are also trafficked each year to work in domestic, industrial or agricultural labour (a practice which

includes servitude of various kinds). These statistics will worsen with the impact of climate change, as families are forced to send children to work to make ends meet. Another distressing coping mechanism is when girls are married-off early. Education helps to break such practices.

A proven strategy is to support parents and communities to make proactive contributions towards the effective governance of early childhood centers and schools, while also strengthening the government education system. Alongside this, there is much work to be done to build teacher capacity in child-friendly, activity-based and inclusive pedagogical practices. This needs to start from early childhood as the first step on the road to lifelong learning. Parent Committees also provide opportunities to raise awareness around child protection issues – in and out of school. Schools must be safe places where children can thrive, and yet corporal punishment is still prevalent in Indian schools, despite the fact that it is illegal.

A rapid assessment done for Child-Fund India in December 2020 to track the impact of Covid-19, showed an increased incidence of children dropping out of school. Girls who left school were mostly involved in domestic chores, whereas boys were adding to the existing, large number of child labourers. The survey identified the need for sustainable and accessible schooling and the important role of State Government in prioritising quality education.

⁷ Census 2011.

COMMUNITY VISION

All children in Gogunda are educated to at least 12th grade and have age-appropriate learning competencies. Children in higher grades are aware of their future career prospects.

Children should receive quality education, which includes good teaching methods and materials with well-trained teachers, appropriate facilities, pro-active principals, a safe, inclusive environment and good school governance.

COMMUNITY VOICES

- Strengthen the delivery of Early Childhood Care and Education component under the ICDS service as well as primary schools operated by Human Resource Development Department for all children aged 3-5 years.
- Systemic strengthening of the government education system in terms of implementation of Right to Education (RtE).
- Enable enrolment of all children in schools with a special focus on inclusion of children of all disadvantaged communities or groups.
- Work with parents, communities and legal committees such as School Management Committees and Village Level Child Protection Committees to ensure their active participation in education.
- Promote socio-emotional learning and lifeskills along with academic competencies in schools.
- Promote the allocation and availability of resources for mother-tongue based education.
- Improve retention and reduce drop-out rates at elementary level, especially for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe children, and those from especially deprived or marginalized groups and communities.

Project Plan: Education

WE WILL

- Ensure all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education.
- Ensure all learners acquire age-appropriate knowledge, values and skills needed to promote sustainable development, sustainable lifestyles, human rights and gender equality.
- Ensure all children access inclusive, equitable, quality education in a safe environment; and complete their schooling to at least 12th grade.

20% Support the improvement and extend the reach of Early Childhood Care and Education for all children age 3-5 years.

15% Enable out-of-school children to get back to education, by addressing social, geographical and learning environment barriers, with a special focus on inclusion of children of all disadvantaged communities or groups.

10% Improve retention and reduce drop-out rates at elementary level, especially for SC and ST children, and those from specially deprived or marginalised groups and communities.

30% Regularly review learning competence and progress of children's learning achievement and progressively work to enhance teaching and learning standards.

20% Provide access to protective, effective, context-based and inclusive learning; create child-friendly classrooms; ensure children have access to clean drinking water and gender-segregated latrines. Support child clubs and lifeskill learning opportunities, including through children's play and recreation, with access to sports, arts and creative activities. Provide leadership opportunities and involvement in disaster risk planning and advocacy.

5% Promote gender-friendly approaches in service delivery.

**OVERALL BUDGET:
EDUCATION
US\$5,708,000**

Gogunda Road Map: Health and wellbeing



Monitoring children's health.

PHOTO: ANGEL XAVIER

The period from conception through to a child's second birthday – also known as the first 1,000 days – sets children up for good health throughout their lives. Parents need to understand and provide for their child's health needs at this crucial point of their physical and mental growth.

In Gogunda, where 57 per cent of children are considered undernourished⁸ and four out of five children are anaemic,⁹ there is much to be done to educate parents about how to build healthy future generations. There is also high need to improve access to quality health care services to support children.

Children are not out of danger once they pass the early years. In Gogunda, only 55 per cent of children have been vaccinated against common childhood illnesses,¹⁰ and only one third of households treat their water before drinking, leaving children prone to diarrhea – the second leading cause of

death globally in children under five years old. Mosquito borne illnesses and tuberculosis are also common. According to the WHO, the prevalence of these illnesses will become even worse, as changing climatic conditions will have a strong effect on water-borne diseases and diseases transmitted through insects.¹¹ Community-level sanitation is poor, including in schools, causing a large number of students – particularly girls – to drop out. There is also much work to be done to support girls in their menstrual health and hygiene management (only 23 per cent of girls use feminine hygiene products).¹²

Adolescents are not appropriately informed about their rights and sexual and reproductive health services, and only 15 per cent of young men and women aged 15-24 have received family life or sex education.¹³ Their understanding is influenced by cultural taboos and myths and misconceptions about gender and sexuality. Social practices in Gogunda place girls at high risk of early marriage – the average age for girls to marry in Gogunda is 16.4 years old.¹⁴ Consequently, the rate of teenage pregnancies is high. As many as 21 per cent of girls give birth to their first child between the age of 15-19 years.¹⁵ Pregnancy at such a young age leads to high numbers of birth complications and mother and infant mortalities.

8 District Health Society 2018

9 AMRIT Basic HealthCare Clinic, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hIJ4UmUVJKI>

10 District Health Society 2018

11 WHO Climate Change and Health, 2018

12 National Family health survey -4, 2015-16, Rajasthan state fact sheet http://rchiips.org/nfhs/pdf/NFHS4/RJ_FactSheet.pdf

13 Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakarma (National Adolescent Health Program) Rapid surveys 2015-17 "Adolescent health in Rajasthan " <http://nrhmrajasthan.nic.in/Report.htm>

14 <https://www.icrw.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/District-level-study-on-Child-Marriage-in-India.pdf>. DISTRICT-LEVEL STUDY ON CHILD MARRIAGE IN INDIA 2017

15 National Family Health Survey -2015-16, Udaipur Fact sheet http://rchiips.org/NFHS/FCTS/RJ/RJ_FactSheet_130_Udaipur.pdf.

On top of this, few services in Gogunda address the social and emotional health of young people. Children and youth need the knowledge and support necessary to develop coping strategies and to understand, manage and communicate about their own emotions, relationships and feelings. It is also important they have critical thinking skills and agency to make decisions about their future.

COMMUNITY VISION

All pregnant women and lactating mothers, children, adolescents and youth in Gogunda are healthy, nourished and have access to high quality health and nutrition services.

COMMUNITY VOICES

- Ensure pregnant women and young children receive good quality health services, including access to government programmes for maternal and child health.
- Build caregivers' awareness about health and the importance of nutritious food, clean water and good sanitation, and support households with the requirements to provide this.
- Teach children how to care for themselves physically, socially and emotionally and support them with access to the services they need for physical, social and emotional health.
- Enhance the agency and skills of women and adolescents in sexual and reproductive health, using gender transformative and age-appropriate approaches.
- Improve access to sexual and reproductive health services by building the capacity of service providers, and through sensitization and increased interface between service providers, women, children and adolescents.
- Create a cadre of empowered women who will be a knowledge pool promoting child health in the community.

Project Plan: Health and wellbeing

WE WILL

- Improve the health, well-being and protection of infants, young children and their mothers.
- Increase access to health services and improve the health and nutritional status of mothers, children and adolescents.
- Improve use of safe drinking water, and improve sanitation and personal/household and community hygiene.
- Ensure caregivers, children and youth have access to relevant government schemes/services (e.g. supporting health, nutrition, ECD, protection).
- Improve knowledge of reproductive and sexual health practices of adolescents and youth (10-19yrs) so they can make informed choices.
- Improve access to youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health and counselling services and promote social and emotional learning.

15% Form, train and empower mother groups for improved care, hygiene, and nutrition for the health of their child and themselves.

5% Conduct demonstration sessions on health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene to mitigate anemia, water-borne diseases and other life-threatening illnesses.

5% Teach families hands-on skills in kitchen gardening by drawing on collective local wisdom of nutrition, to grow nutritious and sustainable food.

20% Educate community, government officials, Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs,) Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Committees (VHSNCs) about the impact of prevalent social taboos and gender-based discriminatory practices in tribal culture.

20% Train adolescents and youth in life skills, supported with appropriate information and learning materials, and the establishment of a peer educator programme (in communities and schools). Support social and emotional learning and access to counselling services.

20% Equip adolescent boys and girls with age-appropriate sexual and reproductive practices and rights to empower their decisions regarding health, rights and safety (including menstrual hygiene practices, non-consensual sex, unsafe pregnancies and abortions).

15% Conduct sessions on intergenerational dialogues, such as Ma-beti sammelan for information exchange between mothers and adolescent girls.

**OVERALL BUDGET:
HEALTH, NUTRITION
& SANITATION
US\$4,450,000**

Gogunda Road Map: Livelihoods



Women have extensive work loads with dual responsibility for farm and household activities.

PHOTO: ASHUTOSH JOSEPH

The average income for a tribal family in Gogunda is US\$185 per year, with most households in Gogunda living on just US\$.50c per day.¹⁶ This means families cannot save, and therefore there is no safety net for them to draw upon in times of stress.

With few local work opportunities and agricultural work offering income only seasonally many, particularly males, participate in migrant labour. This is called distress migration and it is necessary for subsistence and survival.¹⁷

In Gogunda, 54 per cent of households have at least one migrant worker.¹⁸ Their absence disrupts family life and can lead to children being left to fend for themselves, or they are forced to leave school to care for their siblings.

It also leaves women and children vulnerable to exploitation and violence, while burdening them with heavier workloads. Sometimes, migrant workers are children who are placed in extremely vulnerable situations as informal workers and daily wage earners, where exploitation and abuse are rife.

The solution is to create more secure and resilient livelihood opportunities locally. This includes working with government and local authorities to improve agricultural practices and stimulate business development. Education (formal and non-formal) and training are key to developing livelihood opportunities. According to the Ministry of Labour and Employment, only 1.7 per cent of young people aged 15-24 years in Rajasthan have any kind of formal vocational training.¹⁹

Agricultural improvements include preparing for the impact of climate change and making land improvements, such as installing water catchments and tree-planting to halt environmental degradation. In Gogunda, key agricultural problems include water availability, deforestation, under-nourished soil, poor quality seeds and fragmented land ownership. These issues affect family food security and when stresses occur, can drive poor people further into poverty – leading, in turn, to families making desperate decisions that often impact the safety of children.

¹⁶ Migration and labor profile of Gogunda block by Aajeevika Bureau, Rajasthan. <https://www.aajeevika.org/assets/pdfs/Gogunda%20Block%20Profile.pdf>

¹⁷ Ajay Dandekar, Rahul Ghai, 2020. Migration and Reverse Migration in the Age of COVID-19.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Migration and labor profile of Gogunda block by Aajeevika Bureau, Rajasthan. <https://www.aajeevika.org/assets/pdfs/Gogunda%20Block%20Profile.pdf>



PHOTO: GAUREESHANKAR, LOCAL PARTNER

COMMUNITY VISION

Youth and adults in Gogunda have access to sustainable and non-exploitative livelihood options which help them to take care of themselves and their families, while ensuring the rights of children.

COMMUNITY VOICES

Individual

Prepare youth for work readiness and protection, train them in entrepreneurship, and raise awareness on rights and entitlements, equip them with resiliency, coping and decision-making skills. Ensure people with disabilities are included and negative gender norms are addressed.

Families

Create sustainable and resilient livelihood opportunities; enhance food security; provide opportunities to access finance; train in budgeting and climate-smart agricultural practices; address gender inequalities at household level and empower women socially, politically and economically.

Community

Form and strengthen community-based organizations, ensuring they take responsibility for voicing their issues at larger platforms. Support them to develop agricultural sustainability strategies e.g., to grow crops that are climate-resilient and link to market opportunities. Support them to develop disaster risk reduction plans.

Government

Facilitate regular interface between community and government representatives with functional and accountable systems, structures and processes. Ensure labour laws are upheld and employers are held accountable. Strengthen social support structures.

Project Plan: Livelihoods

WE WILL

- Ensure youth have access to information, guidance, critical support towards employability and entrepreneurship/skill development opportunities that promote sustainable livelihoods.
- Train and support youth to earn a consistent income; promote safe, sustainable and climate smart livelihood initiatives (income-generating activities and small businesses), while reducing women's drudgery.
- Support caregivers to diversify and build more resilient incomes through climate smart farmer training and microenterprise development.

30% Establish a block-level farm and non-farm-based information and climate-smart training centre with counsellors to provide guidance and support to the youth.

20% Form and mobilize village-level farmer groups and establish links with KVK (Farm Science Center) for the purpose of training; provide appropriate tools and resources, establish demonstration farm plots; formulate disaster risk reduction/resilience plans for implementation and organise exposure visits to promote climate-friendly practices.

15% Establish an entrepreneurship development programme with a focus on starting and improving business models.

15% Link with the Government Skill Development Programme for employability/skill development and placement support for trained youth.

20% Establish microenterprises at village level such as poultry, small ruminants, green jobs and non-farm-based models.

**OVERALL BUDGET:
LIVELIHOODS
US\$5,848,000**

Gogunda Road Map: Child Protection



Large numbers of children are involved in child labour.

PHOTO: ANNA-MARIA ROMBERG

There are several tribal and non-tribal traditions that place children at risk in Gogunda, such as Kheench, aata-saata, and nata. Two outcomes of these – and other discriminatory social norms and practices – are that they force children into early/child marriage, or force mothers to abandon their children.

In government schools, corporal punishment and discriminatory practices are still very common and many children are subject to different forms of violence. These situations are unhealthy, inequitable and dangerous for children.

There are large numbers of children (aged 5 – 14 years) who are engaged in some kind of economic activity, on a part-time or full-time basis. This includes servitude of various kinds, including domestic, industrial and agricultural labour. Child labour remains

a major issue, due to poverty, illiteracy and poor socio-economic status of families, depriving children of their basic rights, especially the right to education. It also places children into highly vulnerable situations with increased risks of them being subjected to harm or abuse.

The local governance and child protection structures and services are theoretically in place in Gogunda, but they are often ineffective due to inadequate human resources, low knowledge and capacities on child protection, and uncertainty related to roles and responsibilities. The access to, or benefit of, government run programmes or social protection schemes and services do not reach all the way down to the vulnerable children and families in remote parts of the country, like Gogunda. Engaging with key community stakeholders to promote and establish community-based support structures is an effective strategy to prevent and address child protection issues at the community level.

While creating awareness amongst community members on child protection is crucial, it is equally important to engage with children and young people to educate them about their rights. Promoting children's participation in local decision-making processes, including creating opportunities for them to advocate with duty-bearers to address their needs and issues, leads to increased accountability and responsiveness on the part of duty-bearers.

20 <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/inspire-seven-strategies-for-ending-violence-against-children>



A key guidance document for ending violence against children is the World Health Organisation's INSPIRE strategies.²⁰

These strategies will be used to build secure environments, change negative behaviors and support the systems and structures necessary to keep children safe.

COMMUNITY VISION

All children in Gogunda live in a protective and enabling environment at family, school and community level, free from all of forms of violence and exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices.

COMMUNITY VOICES

- Help build an overarching social and protection framework to support the implementation of the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) and Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act (JJA) and enable community access to all essential services for the survival, development, protection and participation of all children up to the age of 18-years, in an equitable, safe and dignified manner.
- Undertake affirmative advocacy and public education on the aims & objectives of ICPS & JJA, to build wide public awareness and support for its robust implementation at all levels.
- Change behaviour and practices: promote behaviours and practices at community level that directly improve and secure the survival, development, and protection of children through public advocacy and communication strategies.

Project Plan: Child Protection

WE WILL

- Increase access to effective and strengthened community-based child protection mechanisms, particularly to address child trafficking, forced/early marriage, child labour and teenage pregnancies and domestic violence.
- Change harmful social norms and practices and strengthen community participation regarding child protection concerns/problems
- Protect children and youth from gender-based violence.
- Increase knowledge about sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- Enable children to enjoy their basic rights in an environment that is positive, supportive and resilient.

20% Empower children and young people to raise their voices on issues affecting their lives, through promotion of school education, life and social skills, knowledge and capacity building on child rights, protective systems and services.

30% Create public awareness on child rights and harmful cultural norms and practices against children towards creating a protective environment in all community settings. Ensure disaster risk reduction plans are in place and that they specifically address the particular needs and vulnerabilities of children.

15% Promote positive and child rights-friendly practices in all community settings, especially in homes and at school.

20% Build knowledge and capacity of child protection duty-bearers on key provisions of policies & laws related to children, with a focus of effective prevention & response services to address violence against and needs of children both in development & emergency contexts.

15% Engage with key government authorities and bodies for accountable implementation of policing, support services, programmes and laws intended for care, development and protection of children.

**OVERALL BUDGET:
CHILD PROTECTION
US\$2,518,000**

How will Road Maps be funded?

The total cost to fund Road Map plans in Gogunda over the next 12 years is estimated to be US\$ 18,524,000. This is an ambitious fund-raising target. A significant portion will be achieved through ChildFund's monthly sponsorships programme, in association with Barnfonden.

Implementation of this Road Map relies upon the generous individuals who contribute to the community development programme through sponsorship, and support given through grants. In Gogunda, much of this support hails from Sweden. Sponsorship provides opportunities for donors to communicate with children living in Gogunda (their sponsored child/children). The sponsor-child relationship has an important accountability and educational function: in addition to children learning about the wider world, sponsors develop their knowledge of life in Gogunda and learn about the development achieved through programme funding. This is also communicated through reports provided to them from Barnfonden, whose staff work closely with ChildFund India. Barnfonden staff visit programmes regularly to participate in planning and training, verify and monitor the work and check the quality of programming. It is important to note that ChildFund India and Barnfonden work to benefit all vulnerable children, not just those who have sponsors.

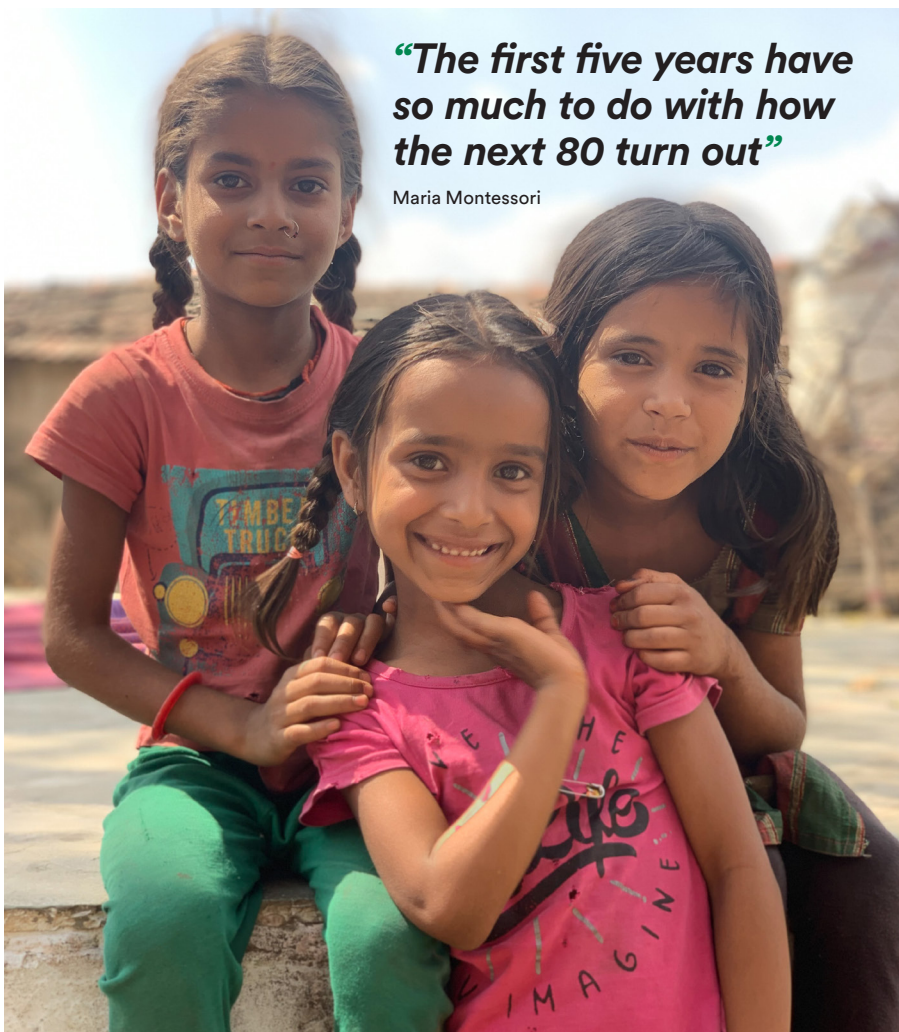
Further funding for this Road Map will come from grants, sought by both ChildFund India, Barnfonden and local stakeholders. The community will also contribute – including through partnership with local government.

HOW WILL PROGRESS BE TRACKED?

The Road Map plan will follow four programme cycles of three years each to coincide with ChildFund India's

“The first five years have so much to do with how the next 80 turn out”

Maria Montessori



Much more work is needed to improve gender equality in Gogunda.

PHOTO: ANNA-MARIA ROMBERG

Country Strategic Planning process. For each programme cycle, monitoring and evaluation plans will be developed to track progress from a baseline. Regular reviews and reflections at community level and six-monthly reviews at ChildFund India level will keep track of Road Map progress and initiate any adaptive measures required to ensure the best outcomes possible.

Key activities include (but are not limited to):

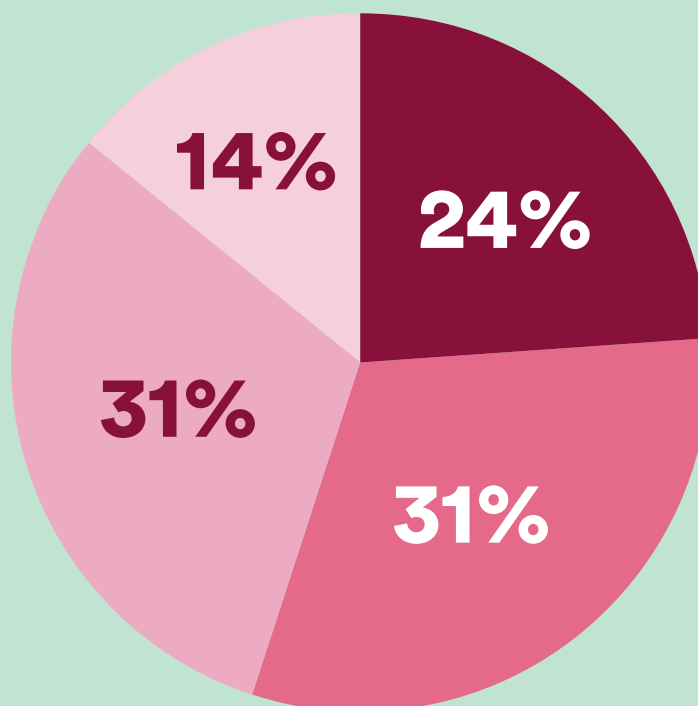
- Detailed Implementation Plan preparation and review.
- Baseline situation benchmarking.
- Instituting a monitoring information system and learning management mechanism, including tracking of SMART indicators, a Log Frame Analysis and reviewing risks and assumptions, at least annually.
- Monthly / Six-monthly/Annual reviews which will track outputs and short-term outcomes, as well as regular participant reach counts.
- Periodic (half-yearly) progress reporting
- Community check-ins through the Detailed Implementation Plan process and surveys and through the consultations ChildFund India conducts at least annually.
- Regular review and learning sessions, sharing these reviews widely to improve development in Gogunda, regionally, nationally and even globally through the ChildFund Alliance.

A FOCUS ON CHILD SAFEGUARDING AND ANTI-CORRUPTION

We will assess risks; establish or apply protocols and standards to mitigate risks; prevent harm through vetting, training, and managing personnel and partners; promote methods for detection and reporting of concerns; respond appropriately to incidents to reduce harm and corruption; provide institutional knowledge about referral pathways and monitor, evaluate and learn from our safeguarding and accountability work.

Any concerns can be safely reported via the link on Barnfonden's website, www.barnfonden.se

ROAD MAP BUDGET 2020-2032



Overall cost to implement the Gogunda Road Map

24% HEALTH, NUTRITION & SANITATION

31% EDUCATION

31% LIVELIHOODS

14% CHILD PROTECTION

**THIS ROAD MAP
IS EXPECTED
TO COST
US\$18.5 MILLION**

Consultation & partnership

Due to the holistic nature of the interventions, consultations for the development of this Road Map were held with a wide range of stakeholders in Gogunda, including at district, block, Panchayat, and village level.

High levels of participation were considered crucial: ownership for the Road Map plan will help direct the programmes of ChildFund India, and link intrinsically to the broader work of Government on education, health, child protection and livelihoods. This collaboration and harmonisation will lead to increased sustainability.

District level consultations included meeting stakeholder representatives of CHILDLINE,²¹ District Child Protection Unit, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Udaipur School of Social Work, and with individual experts on child protection and foster care.

At the village, block, and Panchayat level, consultations were held with children (boys and girls up to the age of 18), parents and caregivers, frontline government field workers including Anganwadi workers, ASHAs (Accredited Social Health Activists), CDPO (Child Development Project Officer), Panchayat Pradhan, PRI (Panchayat Raj Institution) members, Welfare Officer from the local Police Station, Government school teachers

and members of School Management Committees.

Consultations with children were held in child-only groups, with different sessions for children from different age categories. Among other things, this gave a first-hand understanding of the current scenario with respect to child protection issues in Gogunda, and the status of available systems and mechanisms in the community. Information captured children's perception of the main risks, threats and concerns they face, how they respond to these threats and risks; their understanding as to why they are facing risks and how these can be reported. Information was also collected about what they considered as barriers to access service; their idea of available resources relating to existing protective mechanisms (people, processes and structures); their real-life experiences of interactions with the identified child protection systems, and the key actors in the community who could provide support to children/parents.

Critical government stakeholders were also consulted for guidance and



Children have a right to participate in decision-making.

PHOTO: MARTINA HIBELL

to determine how plans could be integrated to achieve collaborative, holistic development to benefit children and their families. This reaffirmed the decision to develop a multi-sectoral approach in Gogunda.

²¹ CHILDLINE is a 24-hour, free, emergency phone service for children in need of aid and assistance. It not only responds to the emergency needs of children, but also links them to services for their long-term care and rehabilitation.



Many people were consulted to design the Road Map.

PHOTO: JATAN SANSTHAN

HOW WE WILL DRIVE THIS ROAD MAP FORWARD?

ChildFund India and Barnfonden have been trusted partners for many years. This has included working with local stakeholders, including government and other organisations/institutions throughout India and, more recently, with a particular focus on Gogunda and Kotra.

TOGETHER, OUR ORGANISATIONS WILL:

- Work with a wide range of community representatives and stakeholders at the village level to ensure activities are coordinated and complementary.
- Ensure ownership of existing institutional mechanisms present at Panchayat and village level.
- Ensure the Road Map is communicated appropriately and regularly reported on to the community and stakeholders. Transparency and accountability are important to the sustainability of Road Map plans.
- Give stakeholders the opportunity to regularly review and update plans.
- Seek funding (nationally and internationally) and work together with others to advance the plans.
- Seek partnerships and new solutions that can contribute to reach the Road Map goals.
- Apply and promote cross-cutting issues of child protection, gender, child rights and environment, and adhere to the quality standards of the ChildFund Alliance.
- Advocate for children and protect their rights, in our changing climate.
- Develop exit plans to assess when we are confident achievements have been accomplished and the community and civil society organisations we work with have reached a level of pre-identified self-sufficiency. Together with the community, we will work towards graduation from Barnfonden support by 2032.

Alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals

In September 2015, the United Nations signed up to 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets. These goals and targets set out a universal agenda to achieve sustainable development globally, known as Agenda 2030. They bring together economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. The work in Gogunda will support many all of the global development goals.

The Indian Government is committed to the SDGs and has integrated the goals into their national development agenda, as reflected in the PM's campaign, "Sabka Saath Sabka Vikaas" (Collective Efforts for Inclusive Growth).

Sabka Saath Sabka Vikaas is a 'whole of society' approach to achieving the SDGs. The National Institute for Transforming India (NITI) Ayog engages with sub-national and local governments, civil society organisations, local communities and the private sector to advance these goals. This fits well with the Road Map approach, which has been developed in consultation with local government and community members, including children.

In particular, the Gogunda Road Map plans to align with Sashakt Bharat - Sabal Bharat (Empowered and Resilient India), through interventions that enhance access to nutrition, promote child health, and advance education, sanitation, drinking water, electricity and housing.

ANTICIPATORY ACTION

The World Humanitarian Summit in 2016 stressed the importance of local and national actors taking charge in a humanitarian crisis – including in pre-crisis situations. Gogunda is an area which suffers from frequent droughts, often resulting in crop failure and hunger. Numerous studies show that it is better to prepare for a crisis than to wait and respond once it happens – the Covid-19 pandemic being a case in point. It is therefore important to work with local and national actors to establish Disaster Risk Reduction plans. In this way it is possible to mitigate not only the most obvious effects of drought, such as stock loss, crop failure and hunger, but also the less obvious impacts. When families are under stress they need to make tough decisions, which sometimes involves child marriage, or pulling a child out of school to go to work or care for siblings. It is better to have strategies in place to avoid the need for such drastic action, than to address the issues once

disaster strikes. ChildFund India and Barnfonden can play a role in helping anticipate such issues and in building family and community resilience.

They can also promote localisation and the development of an active civil society by creating an enabling environment where local leaders work, plan and resource together, and where systems are strengthened and ready to respond.

CHILD RIGHTS

All children have rights. These rights are enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. India ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1992.

This Road Map promotes children's rights through development programming that advances their interests at home, school, within their community, as well as at national and global levels. Rights-based work strengthens the right-holder's ability to claim their rights while at the same time strengthening the capacity of those responsible to uphold and deliver those rights.

22 <https://in.one.un.org/un-press-release/india-celebrates-commitment-to-child-rights-with-national-summit-for-every-child-in-india-at-parliament-on-world-childrens-day/>



Children have the right to be healthy, safe and heard.

PHOTO: ANNA-MARIA ROMBERG



This Road Map has a focus on nine of the 17 goals as our primary focus, with the first six forming the foundation of any child's development. Our commitment to keeping children safe in a changing climate adds support to SDG 13: Climate Action, and target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children. In addition, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, represents our strong belief that partnerships are the only way we can achieve sustainable impact for children.

India has made major strides in helping children realise their rights. For example:

- The national under-five mortality rate fell from 117 per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 39 in 2016.
- More children have access to improved drinking water, rising from 62 per cent in 1992-1993 to 92 per cent in 2019.
- More girls go to primary school as attendance rates for girls aged 6-10 increased from 61 per cent in 1990 to near-universal today.²²

The Road Map will play an important role in supporting the State in their child rights commitments, acting when necessary as a bridge between the Gogunda community, authorities and institutions.

The starting point for the Road Map is the Convention on the Rights of the Child: it is at the core of all our work. These rights state, among other things, that:

- All children are of equal value, no child may be discriminated against (Article 2). All children have the same rights. This means that every child has the right to be respected and included. No child should be treated negatively and those who need it should receive extra support.
- The best interests of the child shall come first (Article 3). In all government decisions and measures that affect children, special attention must be paid to what is best for the child. The child's opinion should always be heard.
- The right to life and development (Article 6). Every child has the right to live and develop, each according to their circumstances. It also means that every child has the right to be protected from violence, exploitation and other abuses.
- Respect for the child's opinions (Article 12). All children have the right to speak and be heard. Every child has the right to express themselves, to be listened to and taken seriously. Children have the right to have influence over their lives in step with their growing maturity. This means that children have something to say within their family, their school and their community. They have the right to get the information they need to understand and take a stand.

Alignment with strategies of government and others



Community members at the Road Map Planning Meeting, January 2020.

PHOTO: EMIL SVENSSON

This proposed programme plan supports the Government of India's commitment for Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) localisation. The Road Map aligns with SDG global and national commitments towards child protection, health, hygiene, employment and empowerment, while working hand-in-hand with children, families, local stakeholders and government. Et aut ut quamusa

Engaging people and communities in order to create positive behavioural and social change is central to the achievement of the goals of ChildFund India and Barnfonden. To stop girls dropping out of school, to eliminate child marriage, to end new-born deaths, to prevent stunting, to promote positive sanitation behaviours, and to finally reach the end game in illiteracy,

we have to address the social norms and other factors that drive human behaviour. Understanding how people make decisions about their lives, the context in which decisions are made, and how to catalyse social change is what the proposed plan brings to the task. We recognise the need to accelerate our efforts, hand-in-hand with children and their families. Local own-

ership is key. Taking a strengths-based approach, we find opportunities for organisations to share capacities and strengths and learn from one another.

ChildFund India and Barnfonden will support projects that deliver on the Road Map core programme. We commit to continuing to engage with communities and particularly young people to help them unlock solutions



The involvement of the community is vital for sustainability.

PHOTO: ANNA-MARIA ROMBERG

they can use to drive change for themselves, their families, and their communities. As a standard practice, Road Maps seek to create an enabling environment to ensure impact, scale and sustainability of change. In addition, Road Maps will support the upstream work of district, regional and national programmes. The project team will work with the government to strengthen national systems and with communities to enable them to interact more effectively with local government.

Children and young people aspire to be resilient and adaptive, and it is our collective responsibility to create the conditions and the environment for each child to be able to say: I am safe. I am healthy. I am happy. I am educated. I have a voice. We recognise a lot of work needs to happen to support all children and adults as we navigate many complex, global situations: Covid-19, climate change, humanitarian crises, technological divides, inequity and conflict. Now more than ever we

will need to strengthen our partnerships, pool resources, develop common goals and identify opportunities to work together to ensure a better life for children – and to sustain that work over time.

We invite you to share and commit to helping us realise the Road Map goals and objectives for Gogunda.



Children need holistic and multi-level support, in order to reach their full potential.

PHOTO: ANNA-MARIA ROMBERG

Support the Gogunda Road Map

ChildFund India and Barnfonden, working together with local stakeholders, collectively strive to help deprived, excluded and vulnerable children living in poverty to have the capability to become confident young adults, parents and leaders who drive lasting and positive changes in their community.

We promote societies whose individuals and institutions participate in valuing, protecting and advancing the worth and rights of children. Please contact ChildFund India or Barnfonden to discuss how you can support projects in Gogunda Block, India, to achieve this Road Map by 2032.

**Thank you
for your kind
support!**

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