Celebrating the Girl Child

International Day of the Girl Child 2015

Samata works to help girls complete secondary school

3600 Girls reached across 119 villages in northern Karnataka, India

Girls travelled across the villages, often leaving home for the first time, performing street plays to spread awareness on their rights.

Street art by girls have vivid images with messages of support for girls, their education and life choices.

Families and communities participating the girls by contributing in kind and cash to the celebrations.

$684 contributed by teachers, community leaders and village governments as a testament to the work villages are doing in their villages.

It is important for girls to study and stand on their own feet. I will tell my parents to ensure my schooling, and let me study till I become a teacher.

Shilpa, class 9, India

GENDER EQUALITY

Messages on girls rights and education, and against child marriage

43 villages reached

53 girls in five teams performed street plays in 21 villages

160 girls, joined by 130 boys, painted messages on rights of the girl child on public walls in 22 villages

Samata is a programme to improve the quality of life of adolescent girls from marginalised communities in north Karnataka, India by keeping girls in school, delaying marriage and reducing their entry into sex work. Karnataka Health Promotion Trust is implementing Samata from July 2014 to June 2017 in partnership with the government of Karnataka. The initiative links withis Shakti and Prajwala and with national and international actors and alliances to ensure sustaining and scaling of evidence-based interventions.

Karnataka Health Promotion Trust

Kartik 2015

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine