

# Setup of a Pre-Vocational Unit & Playground



Interim reports to Eagle Foundation  
19 August 2023

REVISED on JANUARY 23, 2024



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# Taaro ke Bacche

A School for Children and Adolescents with Autism and Down's Syndrome

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## ***Project: Setup of a Pre-Vocational Unit & Playground***

### **Summary**

a) Donor Name	Foundation Eagle
b) Name of Charity and Project	Setup of the Pre-Vocational Training place for Rehabilitation centre and school Taaro ke Bacche for children and youth with autism and down's syndrome
c) Foundation Eagle reference number	FF0635
d) Date of grant accepted	15 November 2022
e) Amount in currency received	CHF 3900.-
f) Number of beneficiaries	Taaro ke Bacche Center: 18 Pre-Vocational training place: 5
g) Address and exact location	Chhatripur, Olapur Road, Gayatri Dham Colony, Shivpur, Varanasi, 221003
Country	Inde
State	Uttar Pradesh
District	Varanasi
Exact location	Chhatripur
h) Period of Project from expected start to expected completion	January 2022 to April 2024 See note below

i) Conversion rate, date & amount in local currency	Currency converted 3 times between January 2022 and April 2023. Average exchange rate: 1.00 INR = 0.0115 CHF
j) Detailed budgets and expenditure actual	See below
k) Over/underspend %	Project Expenses in Progress (70% underspend in 2022)
l) Details of progress of the project, achievement, challenges, changes, photos	See <b>Progress Report</b> below  This includes activities over 2022 and 2023, and planned investment for 2024 seeking approval from Eagle Foundation to use the unspent balance of the donation in 2024.

## Expenditure Report for 2022 - 2024

### 2022 Planned vs Actual Budget (INR)

	Item Description	Planned	Actual
1	Investment: restoration of interior and exterior fixtures, masonry, electricity	68000	10965
2	Portable oven	20000	0 – to be purchased
3	Refrigerator	25000	0 – to be purchased
4	Weighing machine	4000	0 – to be purchased
5	Large Table	10000	14300
6	6 chairs	4200	4360
7	Small kitchen equipment	5000	6970
8	2 looms	3000	0 – already in place
9	Handicraft Supplies	10000	0 – using existing supplies
10	Arrangement of Courtyard	101255	51650
	<b>ADDITIONAL ITEMS NOT PLANNED</b>		

11	1 RO Water Filter		9500
12	Faber Electric Kettle		1630
	<b>SUBTOTAL 2022</b>	<b>250455</b>	<b>99375</b>

### 2023 Planned vs Actual Budget (INR)

	Item Description	Planned	Actual
1	Portable oven – pending from 2022	20000	0 – to be purchased
2	Refrigerator - pending from 2022	25000	0 – to be purchased
3	Weighing machine - pending from 2022	4000	0 – to be purchased
4	<b>PRE VOCATIONAL COMPUTER ROOM SETUP – NEW ITEMS to be purchased</b>		
4.1	Furniture – Computer Table (material plus labour charges	40000	0
4.2	Furniture – Additional 2 Tables (material plus labour charges)	12000	0
4.3	Furniture – 2 Shelves (material plus labour charges	6500	0
4.4	All in One PC	62000	0
4.5	Laptop	45150	0
4.6	Printer	15000	0
	<b>SUBTOTAL 2023</b>	<b>229650</b>	<b>0</b>

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**2024 Planned vs Actual Budget (INR)**

	Item Description	Planned	Actual
1	All listed in the Planned expenditure for 2023	<b>229650</b>	0 – to be purchased

	<b>GRAND TOTAL (INR)</b>	
	Donation received 01/12/2022	<b>339130</b>
	Planned Expenditure 2022	<b>250455</b>
	Actual Expenditure 2022	<b>99375</b>
	Donation Balance Remaining	<b>239755</b>
	Underspend for 2022	<b>70%</b>
	Planned Expenditure 2023 (estimate)	<b>229650</b>
	Actual Expenditure 2023	<b>0</b>
	Planned Expenditure carried over to 2024	<b>229650</b>

**Additional Information/notes:**

1. Currency converted 3 times between January 2022 and April 2023. Average exchange rate: **1.00 INR = 0.0115 CHF**. Since we converted the funds from CHF into INR over a period of time (Jan 2022 until April 2023) in 3 instalments, we have provided an average exchange rate.

# PROGRESS REPORT

## Introduction

In December 2021 Taaro ke Bacche was pleased to announce the opening of a Pre-Vocational Unit for children and adolescents with autism. The objective of the centre is to provide comprehensive care and support to individuals with autism and to their families.

The Pre-Vocational Unit aims to equip adolescents with autism with the necessary skills to enter the workforce and lead independent lives. It will provide vocational training, life-skill training and therapy to help children and adolescents to acquire social and emotional skills, communication skills and functional living skills.

### *The Importance and impact of the Pre-vocational Unit*

A Pre-Vocational Unit for autistic children and adolescents is important because it aims to equip them with the necessary skills to enter the workforce and lead independent lives. Children living with autism face unique challenges in developing social and communication skills, as well as functional living skills, which can make it difficult for them to succeed in a typical work environment.

The Pre-Vocational Unit can provide vocational training, life-skill training and therapy tailored to the needs of children and adolescents with autism. It can help them develop skills in areas such as time-management, organisation, problem-solving, communication, and social interaction, all of which are essential for success in the workplace.

By providing young people with autism with the opportunity to acquire these skills in a safe and supportive environment, a pre-vocational unit can help them build self-confidence, improve their self-esteem and boost their independence. This can have a positive impact on their overall well-being and quality of life, as well as on their ability to contribute to society in a meaningful way.



## Achievements

### *Commencement of the setup of Pre-Vocational Unit and Playground.*

Over 2022, significant progress was made in setting up the Pre-Vocational Unit. Here are some of the milestones achieved:

**Stakeholder Engagement:** We have engaged with various stakeholders to obtain their feedback and insight into the needs of young adults with autism. We have also formed a working group comprised of a vocational trainer, carers, and educators to oversee the implementation of the project.

**Location & Environment:** We have identified a suitable location for the pre-vocational unit within our school premises and get some space to develop a garden in the same place as well. Keeping the importance of environment in our surrounding and even in the development of our kids, we have grown grass there and decorate the garden with some small and big plants. The garden is equipped with swing; slider and garden bench. The location is accessible, secure, and conducive to learning and acquisition of skills.



We also installed this playground at the same time we started the setup of the Pre-Vocational Unit. We took advantage of some of the same resources that we used for the Pre-Vocational Unit.

This offers the children a green, safe, and fun space to play and also improve their motor and physical abilities using the playground equipment.

**Infrastructure development:** We were focused on the masonry, electrical installations and plumbing in the room, all of which have been completed and verified by professionals for safety and compliance with building codes. The pre-vocational room is now ready for the installation of furniture, computer equipment and other necessary material.



**Equipment and Supplies:** We have acquired some equipment and material required for starting vocational training i.e. one round table, and two folding wall mounted tables, handicraft items, looms, office furniture, stationery and cooking utensils.

**Curriculum:** We have developed a curriculum that will meet the needs of young adults with autism, covering a wide range of vocational skills, basic accounting and customer service. We have also included life-skills such as hygiene, cookery and time-management.

**Staffing:** We have recruited a team of qualified professionals who will oversee the pre-vocational unit's day-to-day operations. The team comprises a vocational education special educator trainer and an assistant trainer.



**The Inauguration :** April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023 World Autism Day - was the big day! Taaro ke Bacche inaugurated its Pre-Vocational Unit for individuals with autism. The event was celebrated with great enthusiasm and started with a brief presentation on the importance of vocational training for youngsters with autism. This was followed by the official ribbon-cutting ceremony by the special guest Mr. Rajesh Kumar Mishra and other dignitaries as Professor Parimal Das, director of the Centre for Genetic Disorders in BHU (Benares Hindu University)



There was a concert featuring local artists who performed various genres of music. It was greatly enjoyed by all and created a festive atmosphere.



Towards the end of the event there was a balloon-release, which is a symbol of hope and new beginnings

The inauguration of the pre-vocational unit was a resounding success and received positive feedback from the attendees. It was seen as a great initiative which will help individuals with autism lead an independent and fulfilling life.

### **Continued Planning**

Over 2023, we also leveraged **existing facilities** in place such as handlooms as part of the pre-vocational initiative to provide a safe and functional space for our youngsters.

In addition, we had started to plan for the setup of the computer room in the pre-vocational unit. See the Expenditure Report for the estimated planned expenditure which will carry over to early 2024.

NOTE: Our earlier plans to setup a bakery facility on premise have been postponed as our priority focus now is on Computer Training.

### ***Positive impact on our Teenagers***

**Improved self-esteem** : Being promoted to the next phase of learning, the teenagers feel a sense of achievement and dignity giving them hope and confidence to integrate into mainstream.



## Challenges

- Sometimes it was challenging to adapt and deal with certain differences in the way of local working. For example, punctuality, missing workdays, etc
- Continuous budgeting and securing funds for future needs. Specifically, in 2024 one essential requirement is a new vehicle to transport children, an important service that we provide. The current vehicle in use, purchased at the beginning of 2015, is very costly to run and maintain, and does not have the capacity to meet the increasing demand. Given the extension of the school and transport needs, we would need a vehicle with minimum 15 seats, and more efficient to run and maintain (running on gas instead of fuel oil). See attached documents.

## Next Steps

We continue to focus on the pre-vocational program, and our immediate next step is to setup the facilities for computer training in early 2024 (we have provided estimates of related investment expenditure for 2024).

**We seek approval from Eagle to use the unspent portion of the donation received in 2022 towards this ongoing project as part of our holistic Pre-vocational program.**

## Conclusion

Overall, we are pleased with the progress made in setting up the Pre-Vocational Unit for adolescents with autism. We will continue to ensure the success of the project and address any challenges that may arise.

**We sincerely thank Eagle Foundation for their donation that help us achieve our goals.**

Mary

Date: January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024