

Climate change

Climate change is the greatest threat for human security and civilization. It puts enormous challenge for sustainable development of the world. The problem was and is largely being created by one section of the society, while the poor are the main victims of climate change impacts. The various negative impacts of climate change are being felt locally in our country and in our areas, particularly affect the poor families in particular children. Climate change will increase food insecurity, hunger, poverty, migration, disasters, new types of health issues and social conflicts.

The atmosphere carries out the critical function of maintaining life-sustaining conditions on Earth, in the following way: each day, energy from the sun (largely in the visible part of the spectrum, but also some in the ultraviolet, and infra red portions) is absorbed by the land, seas, mountains, etc. If all this energy were to be absorbed completely, the earth would gradually become hotter and hotter. But actually, the earth both absorbs and, simultaneously releases it in the form of infra red waves (which cannot be seen by our eyes but can be felt as heat, for example the heat that you can feel with your hands over a heated car engine). All this rising heat is not lost to space, but is partly absorbed by some gases present in very small (or trace) quantities in the atmosphere, called GHGs (greenhouse gases).

Greenhouse gases (for example, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, water vapour, ozone), re-emit some of this heat to the earth's surface. If they did not perform this useful function, most of the heat energy would escape, leaving the earth cold (about -18°C) and unfit to support life.

All the physical impacts of climate change and associated events are affecting society, economy, livelihoods, food security of the common people and particularly of the poor and socially marginal groups. The poor are the most vulnerable to climatic variability and climatic disaster risks. Poverty and vulnerability of the poor will be aggravated in the warmer climate in the near future. Climate change will increase injustice and inequity in society and economy in which children from all walks of life will get badly affected. It is not only present children, but also those children who will be born on this earth in the future.

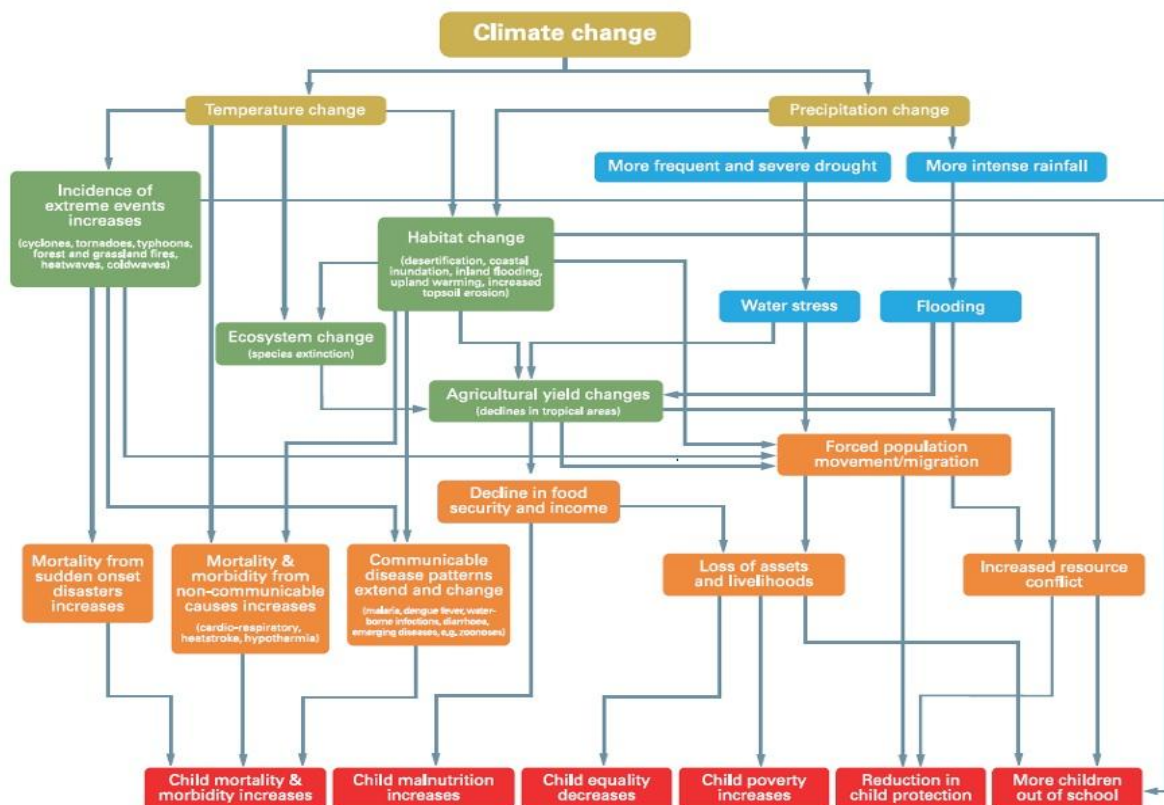
Both climate variability (rise of temperature and changes in rainfall patterns) and the climatic extreme events like drought, flood, cyclone etc. are affecting agricultural productivity and food security in all the countries. Food security means adequate food and nutrition for everybody for active and healthy lives and it largely depends on availability and supply of food at local, State and National levels; access of the poor to basic foods including cereals, vegetable, fish, meat, fruits and safe drinking water.

Global Warming and Climate Change:

Global warming refers to an average increase in the Earth's temperature, which in turn causes changes in climate. A warmer Earth may lead to changes in rainfall patterns, a rise in sea level, and a wide range of impacts on plants, wildlife, and humans. When scientists talk about the issue of climate change, their concern is about global warming caused by human activities.

Climate is the long-term average of a region's weather events lumped together. For example, it's possible that rainy season in and around Tamilnadu, which is between October and November, could be dry and sunny. But the general seasonal pattern – tells us that Tamilnadu will normally receive its monsoon rains which favor agriculture and food production during this period. Due to changes in the warming scenario and changes in the larger climate pattern this normal routine keeps changing. Thus Climate Change represents a change in these longterm weather patterns. They can become warmer instead of colder. Annual amounts of rainfall or dry spell can increase or decrease.

How do Children gets affected by climate change



Here’s why children are key to winning the climate argument and why action is needed now. The developing fetus and child are more biologically and psychologically vulnerable to the many direct and indirect effects of climate change and fossil fuel combustion, its major human source. These effects include increased incidence of malnutrition and infectious disease, physical and psychological trauma from extreme weather-related disasters, heat stress, respiratory disease, reproductive and developmental disorders and cancer. Early impairment and disease can affect the physical and psychological health and well-being of children over their entire life-course. Effects of in utero and postnatal exposure to both toxic and psychological stressors may be inherited trans generationally, impacting the health of future generations.

While there are few quantitative estimates of the proportion of childhood morbidity and mortality due to human-induced climate change, there is scientific agreement that both direct and indirect effects of climate change have already taken a significant toll on children and are predicted to increase dramatically unless action is taken. WHO estimates climate change could be causing more than 150,000 deaths annually and approximately five million years lost due to ill-health, disability or early death every year as a result of increasing incidences of malnutrition and just a few diseases considered. These estimates could more than double by 2030 in the absence of meaningful action.

Malnutrition and infectious disease represent the largest share of the burden of childhood disease and death attributed to climate change. Children are more vulnerable than adults to famine and nutritional deprivation since they require three to four times the amount of food on a body weight basis than adults. Children's immature immune systems make them more susceptible to infectious disease pathogens due to crop and water contamination from storms and floods, as well as to vector-borne diseases (e.g., malaria and dengue fever) which are increasing in certain regions due to climate change. Illnesses attributed to salmonella, a food-borne infectious disease, also have risen with higher temperatures across much of continental Europe.

Weather-related disasters (floods, droughts, cyclones, hurricanes), which have increased in frequency and intensity as a result of climate change, have directly affected an estimated 66.5 million children worldwide, 600,000 of whom died every year. The number of children affected is predicted to more than double, rising to 175 million a year in the next decade. Children are highly vulnerable both to physical trauma, stress, drowning and displacement due to floods and to famines associated with drought.. Higher rates of anxiety and depression have been found among children affected by this disaster.

Direct effects of heat waves on infants and children include hyperthermia, heat stress, renal disease and respiratory illness to which infants and children are especially vulnerable due to their immature regulatory systems.

Because of their higher respiratory rate and immature metabolic/detoxification, DNA repair and immune systems, children are also more vulnerable to air pollutants released by fossil fuel burning (particulate matter, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, mercury, sulfur and nitrogen oxides) as well as ozone and pollens that are increased by higher temperatures. We and other scientists have found that even relatively low levels of these pollutants are linked to lower birth weight, deficits in lung function, respiratory symptoms, childhood asthma, bronchitis, developmental disorders and increased risk of cancer. Exposure to air pollution in childhood can result in a reduction in lung function and ultimately increased risk of chronic respiratory illness and greater susceptibility to cardiovascular disease in adulthood.

To be effective, prevention and adaptation strategies to climate change must be centred on the needs of our children—present and future.

Climate change and child rights

The Convention on the Rights of the Child envisions a world in which children have the right to survive and grow in a healthy physical environment. Yet child rights, and children themselves, are rarely included in international and national discussions on climate change and how to respond to it. Children are particularly vulnerable to the impact of climate change for several reasons. First, their stage of physiological and cognitive development and innate curiosity leave them at a heightened risk of exposure to environmental hazards and the potential to be harmed by them. Children are, for instance, more susceptible than adults to the effects of intense ultraviolet radiation, inadequate shelter and indoor air pollution from biomass fuel. Second, many of the main killers of young children – under nutrition (which contributes to more than one third of all under-five deaths), acute respiratory infections, diarrhoea, malaria and other vector-borne diseases – are known to be highly sensitive to climatic conditions.

Emergence of CMCJ

Children Movement for Climate Justice – CMCJ is a children led national movement was evolved with 10000 plus children hailing from 7 states in India. It is initiative conceived by RCPDS, a development organization, supported by Kinder Not Hilfe (KNH), Germany as an offshoot of its Good Governance program called “**Palar Panchayat**” (Children Parliament) to specifically address Ecological Justice as part of overall UNCRC Child Rights framework.

CMCJ started in the year 2008 in Virudunagar District (using the existing Palar Panchayats as their hub) and emerged as National movement by linking with other National and International networks. Ever since we heard of the climate change and its scientific base, there is a grave fear that haunts our minds about our future. We do understand that our ground water reserves are depleting, draught animals which our families once used for agriculture are being wiped off, traditional food crop varieties and medicinal plants are vanishing. We are sure this trend, if continued, will create a clear vacuum of our future.

We are a registered society under TN societies Act 1975 with No.15/2015. Currently we have 10000 plus members and are supported by KNH under project No.21730. We do have our senior members who have become our focal point for further contacts in various States – Jone Raj in Tamilnadu, Ananthalakshmi in Andhra and Karnataka, Jibbon in Odisha

The CMCJ is guided by two principles:

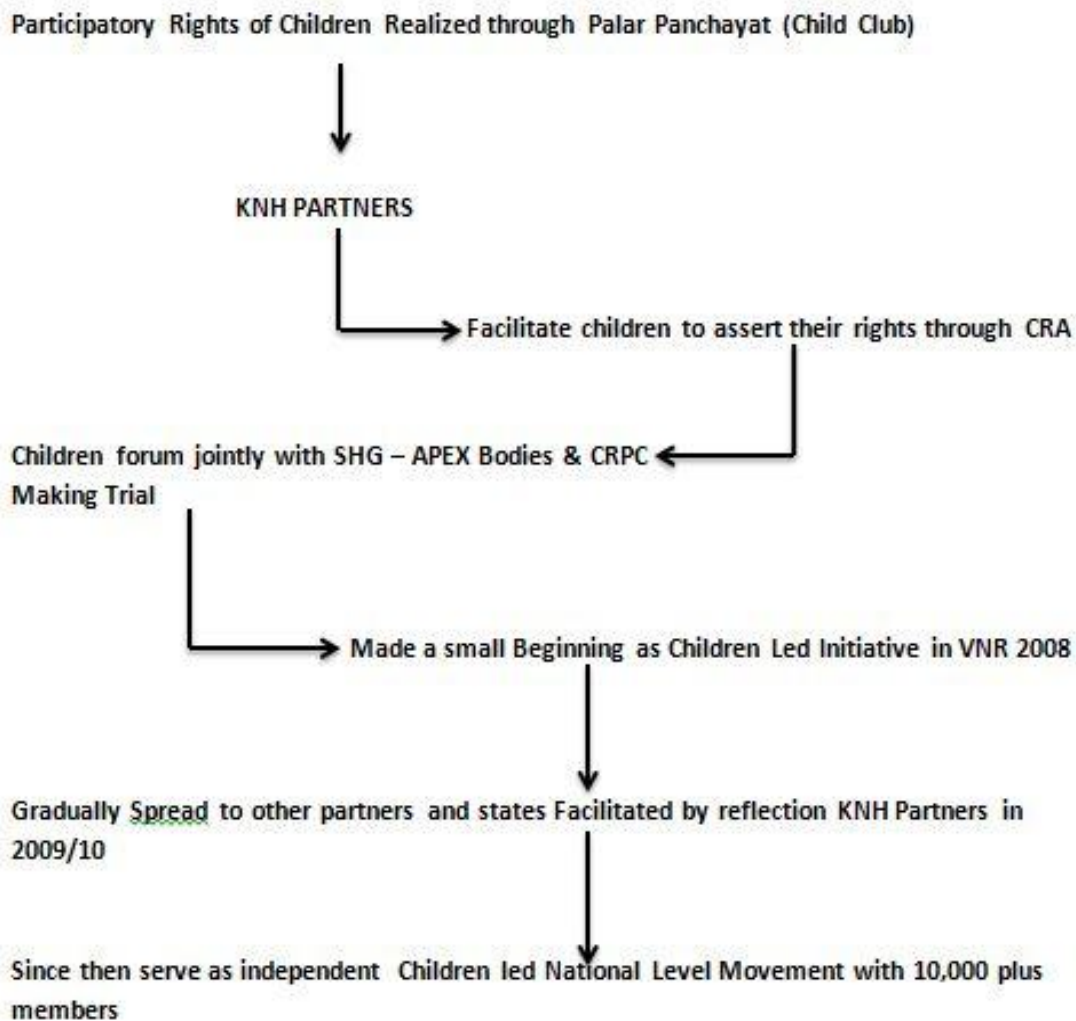
1. Urgent attention, support and action are needed to address the issues faced by children countrywide as a result of increasing climate shocks and stresses.
2. Children's unique experiences of climate change impacts and their specific insights and priorities need to be recognized in both climate change adaptation and mitigation policy and practice.

Objectives of CMCJ

- To facilitate and enhance Rights based perspective on climate crisis among peers.
- To reduce possible impacts of climate crisis on children by participating in the mitigation process
- To scale up the Movement across the Nation among peers for consorted efforts for children perspectives to be heard in the policy processes
- To join hands with other CBOs/forums that work for addressing climate crisis and Child Rights to build strong networks.
- To act as broad base platform for loud thinking and brainstorming for effective advocacy and lobby jointly with others.

Association with KNH:

The CMCJ started its mission in 2008 as part of KNH partners across India. CMCJ started its partnership with KNH on the National consultation meeting on February 2014 as official partner to KNH.



Timeline of Events

2008-

- Palar Panchayat initiated by SPEECH/ RCPDS to learn and practice “Good Governance”
- Block Level exhibition organised at Chennai on impact of climate change on children across schools in Tamilnadu
- CMCJ emerged as offshoot of the above and as part of child rights approach of KNH supported Bala Sakthi CFCD project and Palarpanchayat

2009

- Experience shared by members of CMCJ at KNH partners meeting at Bangalore which paved way for consorted joint effort as children movement
- A book on “children for climate justice” was released by Mr Stefan, KNH and Ms.RamathalChair person of State Women Commission- Children convention wherein children managed the event completely
- Signature campaign done by children across four states and presented through public human chain by children at Chennai. Submitted memorandum to Chennai Mayor.
- Participatory study done by CMCJ children from three districts of tamilnadu in varied agro eco systems
- National ID format evolved and enrolment campaign with a view to scale up to district chapter
- Children from Prakasam District (HOTHIS working area) Andrapradesh, involved in various studies and campaign
- CMCJ/RCPDS initiated ecological learning centre jointly with SHG, Federation and PRI – 24 children are involved
- 20 representatives participated in public hearing at New Delhi on the concerns of child rights and climate crisis
- Signature banners were presented at COP 15 processes at Copenhagen, Denmark

2010

- Special meeting with Mr Guido Falkenburg and other KNH partners/ officials on possible scaling up of CMCJ
- Participated in KNH partners meeting at Bangalore
- District level network beyond the donor boundaries initiated in Virudunagar with Human chain in 8 blocks
- WWTC children organised rally at Block level
- Agriculture Bio-diversity demonstration at Community level

- Rally organised in Visakapattinam, AP and memorandum submitted to District Collector
- Freshwater bio-diversity and Forest bio-diversity organised
- Efforts taken to enable members to participate in COP 16 processes
- National working group and task force committees evolved at Creneo centre

2011

- First National level working group meeting at Kodaikanal
- Ecological learning centre visited by Arogyagam, WWTC ,SANDS and HOTHs with International visitors from KNH Germany, KNH Bangladesh, KNH Srilanka
- Children from RCPDS initiated cross learning with CCRD
- Planning meeting held separately in Tamilnadu and in Odisha
- Study on Bio-diversity conservation – publication released
- Indigenous seed exhibition organised at Visakapatnam
- Represented at KNH partners meeting at Visakapatnam where CMCJ is accepted by KNH as independent partner with ID No. 2022
- Planning meeting for COP 17 representation held at various partner levels

2012

- National Yatra on raising awareness among general public organised for a week from Kanyakumari to Chennai and Odisha to Chennai with concluding meeting at Chennai
- Green Peace volunteers visiting Andrapradesh and Tamilnadu chapters

2013

- Children making participatory study of tribal livelihoods and climate change along the westernghats
- 10,000 saplings planted by CMCJ members across the country
- Children from Andrapradesh conducted a cycle rally to create awareness
- 417 children from various partners and schools visited ShankerNager ecological learning centre

- 10 representative children Participated in public hearing on child rights violation against dalit children
- Organised spider tool workshop for children from Tamilnadu, Andra, Odisha and Karnataka

2014

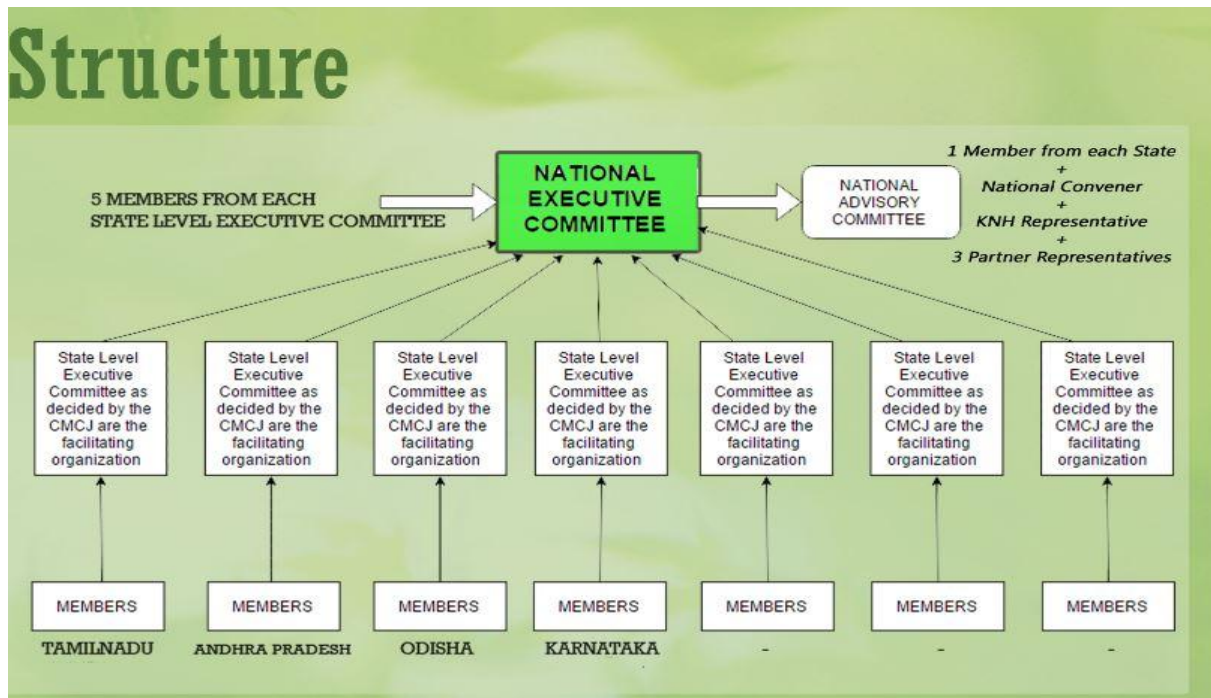
- National consultation held at Semiliguda, Odisha to finalise various structures of CMCJ
- Participated at the 14th KNH partners meeting
- State level consultation to disseminate the outcomes of National Consultation
- Strategies formulation for appropriate lobby advocacy to promote OP3CRC

2015

- CMCJ registered under the Tamil Nadu societies Act 1975
- Created website for CMCJ in the name of www.cmcjindia.org
- State level consultation held at three states of CMCJ like Tamil nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha.
- Inclusive of New partners in CMCJ and program conducted at semliguda, Odisha
- National signature Campaign on OP3-CRC 2015 May our children raised 180,000 signatures to make an appeal to Government of India to ratify Optional Protocol 3 to UNCRC in Delhi at the Constitution Club. The appeal along with signatures has been submitted to Government through the Chairperson of *National Commission for Protection of Child Rights* (NCPCR)
- CMCJ members created Awareness program on Environment and anti-child labour in two states(Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh)
- CMCJ Participated in 15th KNH Partners meeting and presented about ***“CHALLENGES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN THE CONTEXT OF UNSUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”***
- CMCJ members created awareness on Preservation of the Ozone Layer

- CMCJ representative are attended Child Protection Policy workshop and drafted the CMCJ CPP.
- Wild life Day celebrated by CMCJ AP & Karnataka children at Kotaurala.
- Leadership Training for the CMCJ leaders , co-ordinators and representative at YMCA, Chennai.

CMCJ Structure



CMCJ Membership

The CMCJ society is registered under Tamilnadu societies act of 1975. As per government regulation no child below the age of 18 should be a member of a registered organization.

- Members on Board – Official members are enrolled in CMCJ Board which is legally registered
- CMCJ Members – Youth aged between 18 and above who were previously enrolled in CMCJ as junior Cadets and served in CMCJ for a minimum period of 3 years.
- CMCJ Junior Cadets- children aged between 13 to 18 year enrolled in CMCJ.

Training for CMCJ Representatives

Given the growing trend of the children led movement and the need for skill development of young leaders was realized by the facilitators and members who had joined the Movement in the early years. Thus they came up with a request that they are exposed and given inputs in leadership skills as well organization dynamics. To respond to this emerging need CMCJ National office organized a three days participatory learning workshop on organisational development, team building and sharpening leadership skills at YMCA Chennai. This effort is to place children in the front line and facilitating them to take responsibility of their own organisation and step into future and give awareness to other representatives and CMCJ members.



Leadership Training

Day 1

The Leadership training was organised by CMCJ national office on October 22-24, 2015 at YMCA, Chennai. Totally 61 elected representatives of CMCJ participated in the training.

Welcome Address

Ms. Deepika National Co-ordinator of CMCJ welcomed the Resources person of the training Mr. Rajkumar from Tamilnadu, Mr. Santhosh from Odisha, Mr. Suresh from Andhra Pradesh. Also she welcomed Mr. Sathish Samuel –India country co-ordinator, Dr. John Devavaram National convenor, Mr. Nirmal Raja TN State Convenor, co-ordinators of all the state, Ms. Panchavaram Executive secretary of CMCJ Board and the Participants.

Purpose of the Training

Dr. John Devavaram, National convenor spoke about why the leadership training is important to CMCJ representatives and also he welcomed the trainer and the participants of the meeting. And he said the Andhra resources person's father was not well so he didn't come for this training program so the session is handled by Mr. Suresh for three days.

Mr. Sathish Samuel, KNH India country co-ordinator said CMCJ is an independent child-led organisation. CMCJ is a big movement, it is effectively run by the co-ordinator along with the convenor. This three-day training is to train the representatives to step forward in the future and lead the same in an effective manner. This training gives a platform to exhibit their unique talents of each one.



Resources person of the trainer Mr. Rajkumar conducted an ice-breaking section

In this game he taught the

- Co-ordination

- Communication
- Unity
- Concentration

He given two ball and ask to throw it with opposite person. The person should say the name and which place he/ she is from? .



After the tea break, the participants were separated into two groups. One group handled by Mr.Rajkumar and another group was handled by the Mr.Santhosh and Mr.Suresh.

Definition of Leadership

Mr.Rajkumar, resource person ask the participants to frame a definition of leadership. Everyone said what they understand in leadership. All the points are combined and framed as one definition.

Leadership means one who lead the group, motivate the group and communicate the group.

And he said Leadership means “Phenomena of one person, influencing of thinking and action or both of another Person”.

Game

Then he conducted a small game with the paper cup.

One person will close the eyes and two persons will give the instruction to make tower by using paper cups. This game was played by two groups. Two groups are the observer for other two groups. Two groups played a game and builded the tower with three to four row. Then, the observer groups were requested to give comments on this activity. The team came up with the following comments

1. More communication

2. No appreciation

3. The person who close his eyes was afraid to keep cup. Then he ask the another group who played the game. They said it was interesting and with the instruction only I can build the tower at least some rows and group members are motivated me more if I keep the cup in wrong side also.

Through this game he taught about

- Motivation
- How the leader should be in the group?
- How to Communication with others?



Documentation video

Then he played a documentation about the talent and motivation in the name of “Makku” and “One Mark “.

In this document a boy was poor in studies so his teacher always says makku in the class so the other students are also comment as makku .You don't know how to play because your makku. But a girl in his girls was friend with him and she motivated him. One day, teacher asked to write a thurkural in the note but he dint write the kural and he draw the scenery so the sir punish him to stay out of the class. A circular came there was a national drawing competition in the school who can give the name can come and give in the staff room. And the boy was raise the hand to give his name for participating in the national drawing competition. The teacher was ignore him to give his name. After a few days the result was published and the boy won the first prize in the national drawing competition. The teacher appreciated his talent and understand everyone have unique talent inside. The teacher should encourage the students.

Game

After lunch Dr.John and Mr.Nirmal organised the game with the rope. Ask the participants to stand in the circle and tied with the rope. The rope is controlled by one and the person should remove the person connection. It was task for the leader and also how leader should adjust with the team and co-ordinate.



After a tea break he given the task to the participant to arrange the room and decorate. The team work with the unity and the adults of the meeting are observer to this game. In this game children used the resources and decorate the room with bible, flower wash, water bottle and paper cup.

Communication skills

At the end of the first day of the meeting the trainer has given a task to the participants to speak about CMCJ. Some volunteers are came forward and spoke about the CMCJ background and OP3 signature process and some of the new members are spoke about the how the first day training.

Outcome

- Communication skills.
- Presentation skills
- How the body language should be?

Day 2

- Task
- Time Management
- Motivation
- Staff presentation

- Documentation
- CMCJ Development

The second day start with the task for all the group.

1. Facility in YMCA
2. How many trees and types of the trees in the YMCA
3. Observer Team

Each team collect the information and sat together then discussed about the what are the information they have collected in the YMCA. The observer team is other state team and the group make them to understand what the information collected. This made the participant to build up the relation with other state and language problem. For adult they need to discuss about the present scenario of youth which they need to discuss and come with points.



Time management

Second day some participants are came late so the trainer said important characterise for the leader is time management. You should be in time in all the meeting not coming late and say excuses then you co-workers also follow the same.

Then he raised a question with participants to what is encouragement? Some of the participants discuss his/her family encouragement. And he asked status of the youth in India?.

Game

The game is about how much seeds you collecting from others. He gave 3 seeds to everyone and said you can talk and ask whatever to other person but the person should not answer yes

and no. Everyone start asking the question to each one some person are failed and said yes and no but some person had three seeds and some person collected more than five seeds. This game about how to answer others and communication, think and speak.

Adult presentation

Adult presented about the present scenario of youth. They presented in the chat as agree and disagree for the statements.

First they defined who is youth?

Youth

Youth is a person who is between the age 18-35.

The statements are

1. Youth should be able to evaluate the programs, staff and agencies that serve them.
2. Youth People don't have enough life experience to know what is best for them.
3. Adults must carefully set up and manage the process so youth can have input and participate in program planning
4. Most young people could care less about helping their youth organisation plan or evaluate its services
5. The main reason to involve youth in program planning, operation and evaluation is to get their buy-in.
6. Youth participation is vitally important, but ultimately, adults need to have the final say about how an organisation is run.
7. Adults in my organisation don't listen carefully enough to the opinions of youth when doing their jobs.
8. It is hard to give to control and let youth take the lead on something.
9. It is hardship in terms of time and energy for an adult to do project jointly with youth.
10. Young people often have better and fresher ideas about programming than the adults who are in charge.
11. Young people know how to get things done in newer, creative and faster ways than Most adults.

Spectrum of Adult Attitudes toward youth

1. Young people viewed as OBJECTS
2. Young people viewed as Recipients
3. Young people viewed as Resources

Adults and children are agreed for the third statement and they said why young people viewed as Resources.

- Young people are resources who can make meaningful contributions to us and our organisations
- Young people have first-hand knowledge about what is best for them
- We value and respect the knowledge and skills that young people bring to the table.

How it Works

Adults work in partnership with young people to plan, implement and evaluate programs and services.

Typically, both adults and youth need to learn the skills and attitudes necessary for shared decision- making.

Results

When a true youth / adult partnership has been achieved, there are positive outcomes for

1. the youth
2. the adults and
3. the organizations



Documentation Video

The he played a Documentation video about Malala.

Game

The trainer give the card number 1-20 and ask the participants to stand in line without speaking anything and non-verbal communication. Everyone stand in line with mixed number. Then he says without communication how it difficult to form a leader and standing the line also you standing with old members not with new members.

Then he gave a task there are 1-20 cards and this card is CMCJ organisation let think how you spread the movement with others and you should use this card in the game. Two volunteers came forward and spoke about the CMCJ movement. From the presentation he said the feedback of each volunteer.

Day 3

Legal Advice

Legal advice is presented by Mr. Xavier Joseph , Madurai high court lawyer. He spoke about the TN society act of 1975 and what are the document should be file and maintain by the society organisation.



Feedback section

The trainer had given a task to the participants to give the feedback in one word. The person should say only one word about the three days training.



Time management

Leadership
quality and
characteris



Communication
skills



Legal status of societies

