

India NGO Award 2008



The BAIF Development Research Foundation, committed to promoting quality service to weaker sections of the society, in backward regions of the country, since the past 42 years, has been conferred the **India NGO Award 2008** by Resource Alliance, United Kingdom, and the Nand and Jeet Khemka Foundation, a Public Charitable Trust, on March 30, 2009 in New Delhi.

This national award has been jointly awarded to BAIF and the Sankara Eye Care Institutions in the category of “**Large NGOs**”, after evaluating the performance of leading NGOs spread over diverse agro-climatic regions across the country.

The entire process of selection was based on a rigorous evaluation of the sustainable practices demonstrated by BAIF in mobilisation of resources for the upliftment of the community, good governance, accountability, transparency and efficiency in management.

This award is very prestigious as the selection is based on a thorough evaluation of the performance and quality of our work in Community Development. While selecting BAIF for this prestigious award, the jurists recognised its contribution to socio-economic development of the poor both in terms of quality and volume of work.

While covering 30 lakh below-poverty-line families spread over 47,000 villages in 12 states through various development programmes, BAIF has been successful in ensuring active participation of the families which helped to develop ownership. BAIF has been innovative to identify their problems and

introduce various activities in precision to solve them. As a result, the participants were confident in accepting the suggestions of BAIF and successful in their venture. BAIF advocated the development of people's organisations at the grassroot level, particularly of women groups to establish backward and forward linkages while making best use of the natural resources for earning their livelihood. In most of our development programmes, the rate of success in bringing the poor participant families out of poverty has been to the extent of 80-90%. In areas where BAIF could not directly work, they could partner with reputed NGOs. This has been the strength of BAIF to expand the programme without dilution of quality.

BAIF's growth has been phenomenal during the last 15 years. While BAIF had a staff of 575 with a total budget of 12.5 crores in 1992, benefitting over half a million families spread over 10,000 villages, BAIF's budget has reached 113 crores to extend the benefits to 30 lakh families spread over 47,000 villages in 2007-2008.

With its untarnished track record, known for its integrity, transparency and efficiency, BAIF is a professionally managed premier organisation committed to upliftment of the rural poor in India.

The organisers of the award are also hopeful of establishing a network of good NGOs and generous donors who are committed to community development. Such networking will be helpful in capacity building, fund raising and identification of appropriate technologies for the benefit of small and marginal farmers.

