

**A. Name of NGO:**

**Child In Need Institute (CINI)**  
**FCRA Status: Yes**

**B. Name of the Project:**

***EARLY CHILDHOOD STIMULATION (ECS) AMONG CHILDREN IN RURAL AND URBAN DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES***

**C. Coverage and target population to be reached:**

The project will directly work with one hundred and sixty children in the age group of two to eight years belonging to a disadvantaged rural community in the South 24 Parganas district in West Bengal.

**D. Need for the Project:**

Early childhood care and stimulation is essential for all-round development of a child. However, caregivers are often unable to provide adequate support. The situation is worse for poor families where children do not receive the necessary stimulation at home and are unprepared for formal school settings. First generation learners are at an even greater disadvantage. These children, with reduced care and stimulation inputs from an early age, continue to swell the ranks of school drop outs. Thus, there is a clear need for working with these poor and deprived families and ensuring that their children receive appropriate inputs which can help them to achieve their potential.

**E. Project Details:**

This Early Childhood Stimulation (ECS) project focus is on home-based stimulation of children in four domains of development - Physical, Cognitive, Psychosocial and Language. The key agent will be animators – women from the communities who work with the caregivers and also at the community level. The primary care givers will be trained on specific activities aimed at stimulating their children. The community will also be sensitised on importance of stimulation in the overall development of the child. Also, as malnutrition hampers learning abilities, community based activities to address it will also be undertaken. Another set of activities will focus on enrolment and retention at the ICDS centre (for children below 6 years of age) and also at schools (for children from 6-8 years). Appropriate monitoring formats will be used to track the progress of the child.

**a.**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Desired Outcome</b>	<b>Indicators to measure Outcomes</b>
1	Training of the Animators	Animators trained on ECS	Number of animators trained Number of animators with correct and complete knowledge on ECS
2	Home based Stimulation	Caregivers equipped on activities for home based stimulation  Children achieve age appropriate development milestones	Number of caregivers whose capacities are enhanced for conducting home based stimulation activities  Number of children enrolled and retained at Anganwadi centres Number of children achieving age appropriate development milestones
3	Community meetings	Community sensitised on issues related to ECS	Number of community meetings Number of participants in community meeting
4	Nutritional camps	Camps conducted and mothers sensitised on nutritive value of food	Number of mothers sensitised on nutritive value of food

5	Joint meetings with AWW, School teachers, PRI members	AWW, School teachers, PRI members etc are aware of the children's need for ECS and they initiate necessary actions	% of AWW, School teachers, PRI members etc participating in activities related to ECS
6	Awareness program on school enrolment and retention	Increased enrolment and retention of children	% of children enrolled in school % of children retained in school

**b. Please describe the monitoring plans and reports to be shared in not more than 100 words.**

The brief overview of the monitoring plans and the reports for a periodic evaluation of the project is as follows:

The monitoring plans for the period ahead: -

- ✎ Monthly activity done against planned activities.
- ✎ Community watch group formation and establishment of an effective monitoring and feedback mechanism by the group.

The monthly report will include both the stimulation status as well as the educational status in quantitative form: -

- ✎ No of children received stimulation (coverage)
- ✎ Number of children enrolled in school
- ✎ Number of children retained once admitted
- ✎ Number of children showing sustained development (developmental activity wise)
- ✎ Case studies

**F. Project Cost Break-up:**

Sr. No.	Head of Expense (use the ones applicable)	Units	Rate	Quantity	Amount (Rs)
1	Personnel (Coordinator)	N=1	@ Rs. 12000/month	13 months	156,000
2	Services				102,800
3	Training				26,000
	Monitoring and documentation				60,000
4	Travel		@ Rs. 2200/month	12 months	26,400
5	Office expenses		@ Rs. 2500/month	12 months	30,000
6	Corpus contribution				100,000
<b>TOTAL Funding requested from donors through Givelndia</b>					<b>501,200</b>

**G. Sustainability plan**

Two of the major collective community events of the project is the **Nutrition camp** and the **Toy making workshop** with the caregivers of the deprived children. These community-based events are the pillars of sustainability in achieving the goal of the project. The amount of money from the combined corpus as well the community contribution can be utilised in procurement of the low cost locally available nutritious food materials for the demonstration in nutrition camp. Moreover a regular toy-making workshop will add impetus to the zeal of parents for providing home based stimulation with the toys and stimulation kit materials made from the interest amount accumulated. Maximum Community involvement through a multi-sectoral approach will be aimed at within the project period.

(Note. Corpus contribution of Rs. 100,000 to be used for this purpose.) Please write a plan describing how interest from the corpus along with other contribution will be used to sustain the project within 200 words.

**H. Time Frame:**

**Ongoing, but funding is requested for one year, covering 160 children**

Start Date of the proposed project: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008

End Date of the proposed project: 30th April 2009

**Past Experience:**

An ECS based project was initiated in 2006 in small rural and urban pockets across South 24 Parganas and Kolkata respectively. The project, which is ongoing, seeks to improve the overall development of rural and urban deprived children (two-eight years age group) by ensuring proper stimulation, education, health and nutrition. The project is operational in two villages (Chak Enayatnagar and Deuli Sultanpur) of Bishnupur –II block, South 24 Parganas and in Bibibagan slums in Ward 56, Kolkata and caters to 500 children.

The project activities focus on ensuring proper physical, cognitive, language and socio-emotional development of children. This includes access to existing ICDS centres, enrolment to formal schools and subsequent retention in school. The key agents are community-based volunteers (adolescents and young women) who work with the children and the caregivers at home and community.