258 happy students from Kuilapalayam and surrounding areas are taught here annually. Most children are from economically disadvantaged families. In 2017, Aikiyam extended the school by completing a new development of two buildings with classrooms, toilets, office and a teacher’s resource center.

Futuristic classrooms in a garden environment is the backdrop where children from low income families learn and grow in a healthy, interactive educational school.

At 12, Manjula began studying at Aikiyam with an Individualized Education Program to accommodate several hospitalizations. She went on to LEC, a supportive environment to gain self-awareness and self-esteem while learning tailoring and studying 12th standard examinations. In 2014 she returned to Aikiyam; she teaches sewing with embroidery and toy making.

The Impact

258 happy students from Kuilapalayam and surrounding areas are taught here annually. Most children are from economically disadvantaged families. In 2017, Aikiyam extended the school by completing a new development of two buildings with classrooms, toilets, office and a teacher’s resource center.

Founded in 1987

A school becoming a rural education model, focusing on students as future adults.
The Center provides student oriented activities for inner and outer growth by means of yoga, sports, adolescent girls education, computer training and homework support.

Considering the proximity of the international community of Auroville, children get practical exposure to the aim of human unity and unity in diversity. What matters to us is their development and the seamless picking up of responsibility from older to younger generations. Many of our teachers were once students at Arulvazhi.

The Impact
We welcome 100 students daily with an aim to provide value-based education in an atmosphere of simplicity, beauty, and joy where the children can develop naturally.

arulvazhi@auroville.org.in  saier@auroville.org
Development of gardens for inspiration and learning, education on environment and native vegetation and conservation projects utilizing TDEF to create landscape and recreation.

We have been receiving groups for over 10 years and the gardens are developing and becoming a place which many happy students have kept in their memories. The best approach to inspire people is to share our joy and passion about native plants through an interactive experience in the gardens. We run around 100 school programs a year catering to over 3,500 students and teachers.

Per annum 100 school programs catering to over 3,500 students and a tree nursery that produces 30,000 seedlings per year. We have implemented over 30 re-afforestation projects in India over the past 10 years. The conservation of this forest type is now back on the social agenda.
1,400 school students from 17 schools around Auroville and 1,850 patients from the bio-region are treated in ADCERRA clinics annually. Children affected with tooth decay reduced from 90% to 50%. This has also motivated people to seek methods of preserving teeth and improving oral hygiene.

ADCERRA has reduced oral health inequities due to lack of dental services through trained local women at 10 sub-centres and one coordinating clinic.

Concerted efforts in improving dental care access has reduced complex dental treatments and significantly helped demystify the common fear of dentists. Dental needs of children and adults reduced through the focused efforts of implementing our concept of “No need of care”. Today we have children with healthy and happy smiles.

The Impact

1,400 school students from 17 schools around Auroville and 1,850 patients from the bio-region are treated in ADCERRA clinics annually. Children affected with tooth decay reduced from 90% to 50%. This has also motivated people to seek methods of preserving teeth and improving oral hygiene.

www.ruraldentalcare.in
aurodentalcentre@auroville.org.in
As one of the world's top centers for excellence in earth architecture, we work in 36 countries to promote and transfer knowledge about earth architecture.

The human impact of our work is key to our mission. We attempt revival of traditional skills and link ancestral and vernacular traditions of raw earth construction with the modern technology of stabilized earth. We have been involved in many relief and community building projects, most recently in Spiti Valley.

Around 20,000 people benefitted as we designed and supervised the construction of a community center for this remote community, at the same time bringing much needed medical facilities and traveler accommodations to the area, while also validating the centuries-old earth building traditions of the region.
Recognized as a Mini-Health Centre by the Tamil Nadu Government, the Auroville Health Centre (AVHC) provides medical care and laboratory facilities, backed up by a pharmacy to all, including a population of about 20,000 in the surrounding villages. It has also established six sub-centres in surrounding villages.

Founded in 1973

Primary health care and preventive care by regular medical checkups for village adults and school children with provision of essential medicines and nutritional advice.

The Impact

Recognized as a Mini-Health Centre by the Tamil Nadu Government, the Auroville Health Centre (AVHC) provides medical care and laboratory facilities, backed up by a pharmacy to all, including a population of about 20,000 in the surrounding villages. It has also established six sub-centres in surrounding villages.

avhealth@auroville.org.in
Auroville Institute of Applied Technology

AIAT conducts industry oriented international quality, trainees' centric skill education in collaboration with industry for employability, personal development and a livelihood in dignity.

Trainees from rural areas and Auroville after 10th standard are eligible to join NCVT recognized courses of 1-2 years duration in Electronic and Hardware, Mechanical (capital goods), construction, finances, IT-ITES. Training is conducted in collaboration with industry (Dual Mode) or at the Institute. Contact us for short term courses under TNSDC.

The Impact

Vignesh, Satish, Vassanthi, Essna, Dinesh, Ramalingam Suresh, Shivakumar, Gopi and many more (>2,000) have not only found a job but are proud senior solar project leaders, service engineers, accountants, or have started their own business and a few have built their own house. What about you? Be part of it.

Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime. AIAT teach to catch!
AVAG brings together all sections of society, irrespective of caste, class, race, gender and nationality, with a dream for a full potential and sustainable future for all.

The annual Women’s Solidarity Festival was initiated by AVAG in 1995 to promote free expression and unity among women. Today, organized and funded by the women themselves, it has supported a drop in the suicide rate from 7-8 women each year from 2007-2009 to 1 woman since 2011.

AVAG works through its network of 340 village-level self-help groups with over 6,000 women and men in 85 settlements and 35 Panchayat villages benefiting 100,000 people through
1) Community development
2) Economic development
3) Capacity building
4) Psycho-social support, and ongoing

The primary pillar of our organization is an unshaken belief in work towards human unity.

Auroville Village Action Group

www.avag.in

Founded in 1982

avagoffice@auroville.org.in

www.avag.in
We help women to become agents of change in their own lives for healthier, cleaner communities in India and around the world.

Our pads are stitched by a women’s group in the bio-region. We work with girls, women and NGOs to deliver menstrual education exploring taboos and teaching responsible practices. The Pad for Pad program offers girls cloth pads donated through international sales, whilst Pads for Sisters provides pads at cross-subsidised rates to women.

A social enterprise making washable cloth pads and promoting menstrual practices that are healthy, dignified and eco-friendly.

The Impact
15,030 girls in rural India have received Pad for Pad menstrual education and cloth pads. Thousands of Indian women have also been reached through our Pads for Sisters program. To date, Eco Femme has sold and distributed 300,000 pads, saving 22.5 million disposable pads from landfill (Jan, 2018).

info@eco Femme.org  www.ecofemme.org

Founded in 2010

www.ecofemme.org

Eco Femme

Auroville Bioregion Development Activities

ABDA
In our projects in schools and colleges, villages and cities, we collaborate with all people towards environment-friendly practices and behavior.

Our teaching and technologies emphasize the interconnectedness of the bio-sphere and our lives in the management of soil and water, e.g. in wastewater treatment and re-use, in sanitation and biowaste management, and in farming and nutrition and health.

The Impact
In small and quality-oriented programs, primarily in Tamil Nadu, we have reached out to many through the promotion of EM practices, ecosan, dewats, etc. and the introduction to organic farming methods, new livelihood options, and more integrative approaches in schooling and education.

ecopro@auroville.org.in www.ecopro.in
We approach each child as an individual being with different needs and abilities to be nourished in a conducive atmosphere where we continuously strive to improve.

The smiles, happiness and progress of our children reflects where we have reached. Most of our children were undernourished and had very low hemoglobin levels in their blood when they first came. The ones who are under our day-care and receive healthy snacks and lunch became more stable.

Presently we have 33 children and youth in our daycare/school and 15 babies or small children as regular outpatients for different therapies. Hundreds of children and their families have benefited since 1992 from our work.

Deepam

Health-care, education and therapies for children with special needs and youth from the local villages.

Founded in 1992

www.deepam-auroville.in
https://www.deepam-auroville.org.in
As a school with the aim of Unending Education and Human Unity, we focus on giving expression to the Charter of Auroville to realize the “Dream”.

We provide the much needed awareness program on Tamil Culture, heritage and literature. Our vision of unending education has been carried over for four decades by our students who are our beacon of success.

We are a unique school, providing learning opportunities for Auroville workers and their wards throughout the year, anytime of the day.

Men, women and children attend the further learning programs that we offer along with their family members. We have an average of 40 regular direct and 200 indirect (edu-care) beneficiaries. There are approximately 5,000 readers of our magazine.

The Impact
Isai Ambalam School

Founded in 1982

Creation of a learning environment in which students and teachers reach the highest mental and spiritual consciousness possible for one's level, so as to live, learn, teach and function from there.

We design personalized learning for each child based on the potential of each child. Much of the learning is experiential and emphasis is given to education by design, STEM (Science Technology Engineering & Mathematics) education as well as values.

The Impact

Approximately 90 rural students from 10 villages around Auroville. This school supports students up to the 7th standard. Students learn to have self-awareness to sustain their future on their own.

isaiambalamschool@auroville.org.in
The Impact

500 young women have benefitted since the inception of the foundation in 1991. Many brilliant young women in the villages, with education and opportunities, are in better life situations today. The most precious result is the happiness of the young women when they realize that they are discovering their uniqueness and talents.

Providing education and empowerment opportunities for young women without having them move away from their culture and tradition is essential for sustainable growth.

A young woman felt extremely happy when the first blouse with her embroidery work was liked by a visitor who contributed a donation. She said, with a sense of achievement, about her own work, “the visitor said: ‘your work is beautiful’.”
New Era Secondary School uses CBSE syllabus with the intention to raise the level of learning by adopting one of the best educational programs available in the country.

The CBSE program was chosen because NCF (National Curriculum Framework) education reforms of 2005 made this program particularly appropriate for an Auroville school seeking not only to educate but also to award its graduates with a valid certificate. NESS school serves children from within Auroville and its bio-region.

The Impact

The success of NESS can be seen in the stream of students passing to further studies in different fields and academic courses successfully building their future resonating with the Mother’s quote: “Auroville is a place of unending education”. This is very much the key function and purpose of NESS School.

ness@auroville.org.in  www.newerasecondaryschool.in
We are a home-like and supportive learning environment, enriching childhood with joyfulness and happiness plus increasing social and environmental awareness and closer connection with Auroville.

What is dear to the heart of New Colors is seeing children smile, doing well in schools and colleges and being role models for others. Our work is the empowerment of children, supporting them to discover their talents and the possibility to fulfill their dreams.

The Impact
New Colors broadens horizons in many ways through trips to Auroville, the sea and Pondicherry, often a first-time experience for many children. We have seen so many exchanges on culture, education and knowledge, which are unique opportunities for children to increase awareness about themselves and the world.

newcolors2002@gmail.com www.newcolors.in
Our focus is on schools, rehabilitation of large water catchments, afforestation, soil and water conservation, support of women self-help groups and of local sports activities.

We have been involved in wasteland development, soil and water conservation, tank rehabilitation, rural development, formation of women self-help groups and its federation, development of women farmers, agricultural activities, providing safe drinking water, sanitation programs, establishment, maintenance and support of schools, sports development programs for children and youth.

The Impact
Many thousands of people benefitted since our foundation focused work in the areas of wasteland, soil, water conservation and development. Many hundreds of others benefitted from the formation of women self-help groups, establishment and development of schools and development programs for children and youth.

palmyra@auroville.org.in
Pitchandikulam Forest

Founded in 1972

Forest and associated wildlife restoration, revitalizing the life-supporting, thousands-year-old bond between nature and Tamil people, developing sustainable livelihoods in cooperation with villagers and farmers.

800 species of plants were recently shown to host the Rusty-spotted cat, not seen in the coastal forests of Tamil Nadu for 180 years. Nadukuppam Farm and Forest with its associated school has water retention landscapes which holds water long after the surrounding area had dried out.

The Impact

Annually, hundreds benefit from this forest landscape, environmental awareness and ecological restoration programs. Beneficiaries also include tens of thousands of insects, birds, snakes, mammals, trees and rare plants! Adyar Ponga, once an open sewer and landfill, is now a vibrant restored eco-system in the heart of Chennai.

pitchandikulam.outreach@auroville.org.in
www.pitchandikulamforest.org
Founded in 2003

Sadhana Forest

We rehabilitate degraded lands and educate on water conservation, reforestation and sustainability in Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Meghalaya.

Sadhana Forest started as a small, family-based reforestation project practicing eco-friendly living. As we have grown, we have also opened Children’s Land, where local children can explore and experience their own forest, and Goshala, a sanctuary for injured and abandoned animals. We also practice food forestry in Haiti and in Kenya.

The Impact

Our work brings clean water into local aquifers, preserves the indigenous forest of Tamil Nadu, continues local architectural traditions, creates habitats for many animals, and inspires and empowers thousands of volunteers and guests to make eco-friendly choices in their everyday lives.

sadhanaforest@auroville.org.in  www.sadhanaforest.org
Art with intention and as a bridge between us, provides safe spaces and resources for original self-expression; promotes insight, awareness, healing and cross-cultural connection.

Jayabharathi, a young woman from Edyanchavadi, featured in a publication “Blooming Thamarai” in 2011 as a child creating an affirmation doll and story about becoming a pilot. Recently she contacted us looking for work. She was happily welcomed back to support our on-going programs!

The Impact
500 annually benefit. Mother’s Dream is the essence of our work: “Beauty in all its artistic forms, painting, sculpture, music, literature, would be equally accessible to all; the ability to share in the joy it brings would be limited only by the capacities of each one and not by social or financial position.”

sankalpa.art@gmail.com  www.sankalpajourneys.com
SLI was set up with an objective of transferring the knowledge, insights and processes developed in Auroville to all of Tamil Nadu rural communities through collaborative training, research and outreach work.

The Impact
Currently over 20 videos and audios are available with the beneficiary details in the SLI youtube channel and more impact stories are available in the SLI blog. Regular updates of SLI are made in the Facebook

sli@auroville.org.in

www.tnavsli.in
Installation of decentralized solar power plants in villages through socially equitable and inclusive participatory processes giving 24 x 7 access to clean and green energy.

Solar village project proposes to install solar PV systems in rural areas of Villupuram district, which is one of the most backward districts of Tamil Nadu with 1,431 villages of population sizes varying from 180 to above 10,000 inhabitants. A pilot ‘Solar Village’ is currently being implemented at Irumbai Village.

The Impact
Improved quality of life; part of the revenue used for village development; local employment generation and capacity building programs; improved education; reliable power supply leading to economic development; less environmental and health concerns.

Empowering rural India with clean, reliable, affordable electricity. Fostering quality of life and sustainable development.
Reach For The Stars

Founded in 2010

This scholarship program has helped 92 young people into higher education from financially and socially deprived backgrounds and has enabled families to come out of poverty.

The Impact

92 youth benefitted since the foundation. Financial support for development of individual talents and community values have spurred growth of students towards positive role models who transform their own lives and inspire others to dream of and go for higher education. This is fundamental to our work.

Encourage growth and development of a unified, pro-active group of young people across villages, to impact long term community strengthening through enhanced personal capacity. Six of our students are now a strong support team and take up 50% of our administration work. Students take their social responsibility as sources of inspiration.
A leadership program that sources inner capacities and wisdom to manifest an equitable and sustainable future based on universal values - dignity, compassion, fairness, and courage.

Stewardship for New Emergence

More than 100 people annually from the villages surrounding Auroville benefit from this program that fosters the growth of change-makers. Stewardship for New Emergence has been developed by Dr. Monica Sharma, former director of leadership and capacity development with the United Nations.

All programs are run bilingually in English and Tamil with one annual program dedicated to the workforce of Auroville. Participants have shared an increase sense of personal, social and environmental responsibility and have committed to take actions to develop more care and well being in workplace and home.

Harmonious co-existence - unfolding full potential for the Auroville Bio-region.

Email: sb@reach-for-the-stars.org  Website: www.reach-for-the-stars.org

Auroville Bioregion Development Activities

ABDA

A leadership program that sources inner capacities and wisdom to manifest an equitable and sustainable future based on universal values - dignity, compassion, fairness, and courage.

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Our work brings clean water into local aquifers, preserves the indigenous forest of Tamil Nadu, continues local architectural traditions, creates habitats for many animals, and inspires and empowers thousands of volunteers and guests to make eco-friendly choices in their everyday lives.

people of all nationalities and backgrounds come together in the spirit of human unity to restore the indigenous forest of Tamil Nadu.

sadhanaforest@auroville.org.in  www.sadhanaforest.org
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sankalpa.art@gmail.com www.sankalpajourneys.com
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SLI was set up in December 2014, since then the Institute has offered over 160 training programs to more than 2,600 participants and 300 government officials. It has also been associated with 4 government programs, re-designing the pedagogy of 5 institutions and has been requested to facilitate a new statewide project.

The Impact
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sli@auroville.org.in www.tnavsli.in

SLI is a joint venture between the Government of Tamil Nadu and Auroville foundation. It is a unique venture in all of South Asia.
Installation of decentralized solar power plants in villages through socially equitable and inclusive participatory processes giving 24 x 7 access to clean and green energy.

**The Impact**
Improved quality of life; part of the revenue used for village development; local employment generation and capacity building programs; improved education; reliable power supply leading to economic development; less environmental and health concerns
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Reach for the Stars is a scholarship program for underprivileged young people from the bio-region surrounding Auroville.

sb@reach-for-the-stars.org www.reach-for-the-stars.org
Stewardship for New Emergence

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The Impact

More than 100 people annually from the villages surrounding Auroville benefit from this program that fosters the growth of change-makers. Stewardship for New Emergence has been developed by Dr. Monica Sharma, former director of leadership and capacity development with the United Nations.

sb@reach-for-the-stars.org www.reach-for-the-stars.org

A leadership program that sources inner capacities and wisdom to manifest an equitable and sustainable future based on universal values - dignity, compassion, fairness, and courage.

Harmonious co-existence - unfolding full potential for the Auroville Bio-region.
We offer a series of learning platforms including after school and playgroup, health and wellbeing programs, digital literacy, arts, games and leadership training.

Thamarai is the Tamil word for Lotus flower - we care about the full potential for all. Over the past 11 years, children have grown into active responsible adults driving change in their communities. Most rewarding is watching them in action, developing value-based solutions to problems.

The Impact
Thamarai provides a safe, happy, enabling environment for children and youth to develop. Since 2006, five hundred children have passed through Thamarai, most to third level education; many have become lead facilitators in our learning centre coaching the next generation.

thamarai@auroville.org.in  www.auroville.org/contents/813
We have successfully worked for thirty years with students to develop their full potential. In addition to intellectual education they must also have a strong and supple body. Teachers are aware of the whole school program and dedicated to practicing the principles taught by Sri Aurobindo and Mother for progressive education.

Presently, 250 students gain capacity to adopt to situations from the broad range of our educational philosophy. The school curriculum also includes vocational activities like carpentry, tailoring, clay works, electronics, computers, sports and creative activities like dance, music, art and theater.

The Impact
For about 30 years, the school has focused on the well being of hundreds of students both individually and as members of society mentoring them towards self-growth and thirst for endless progress in preparation for a harmonious and healthy life.

udavischool@auroville.org.in  udavi.weebly.com
Tsunamika
“Fisher-women creating Symbol of Hope.”
Smallsteps more than just a bag.

Post Tsunami, 600 fisher-women were taught to craft tiny dolls with raw material from industrial waste.
'Smallsteps' green campaign launched on Earth Day in 2007 as a solution to the environmental problem of plastic carry bags.

Tsunamika is never sold, but given as gifts of love and friendship. The project runs on community support. Today, more than five million dolls are made and sent to over 80 countries. Tsunamika project has received the 'Award of Excellence' by the Government of India and a special recognition by UNESCO.

The Impact
Small Steps: We aim at encouraging people to carry their own shopping bags. Women from more than 14 villages work to make the Smallsteps bags. Smallsteps believes that solutions to our problems lie in every little step we take everyday.
Founded in 2005

Women's Empowerment from the level of being beneficial to a teacher and trainer.

The devastation of the Tsunami in Tamil Nadu in 2004, combined with Aurovilians Orly and Danny’s professional experience, gave birth to the WELL project (Women Empowered through Local Livelihood). The project has grown to be a living model of social enterprise development combining product design, production, sales and training programs.

The Impact

Today, after years of experience, WELL women are teaching social enterprise development and Eco-Handicraft skills to other social organizations in distant locations. The WELL women are organized within independent profit-sharing groups earning income according to quality of performance and group progress. The leading vision is empowerment and ecological awareness implemented through social values.

wellpaper@auroville.org.in  www.wellpaper.org
Students engage in creative expression with the language of digital media and use of digital imagery and film making.

**The Impact**

Annually 100 students complete our programs and are equipped with the skills and knowledge to tell their own stories through digital media. These films usually are of a personal nature or about society and the environment and are screened at the Auroville Film Festival.

This association overcomes social barriers through sports and brings young women and men together in pursuit of self-mastery and collaboration.

**The Impact**

This association fosters champions of change—youth who are committed to health and social development rather than anti-social activities. It creates a culture where the measure of admiration and success is perseverance, achievement and skills rather than norms of caste and class.
We offer the service of picking up garbage along the main street of Kuilapalayam.

The CSEBs are sun dried and no firing is required thus saving trees and other fuels.

We provide cost-effective technologies, local materials and eco-friendly building technologies, preparation and dissemination of awareness and communication. We supply bricks for individual toilets constructed under Swachh Bharat Mission & Government-sponsored housing schemes.

Providing sustainable livelihood to rural families, and reducing the expenditure for bricks used in this low-cost method of housing and individual toilet construction.

India grows fast; solid waste management is one of the biggest challenges. We offer to simply create a decent place for all.

Our current efforts in Kuilapalayam village have shown tremendous benefits in health and environmental protection, in spite of a lack of infrastructure that is often a major hindrance to success. Our next step is to get government support for expansion to the other villages as well!