



Right Sharing

of WORLD RESOURCES

SPRING 2020 | www.rswr.org

Brave Women

SHARING KNOWLEDGE IS TRUE PARTNERSHIP

I had spent time in Southeastern India (Tamil Nadu, or TN) before – in fact, Right Sharing’s 30-year involvement in TN was one of the reasons I joined RSWR’s Board. I knew that women were marginalized, sometimes even discarded, there, especially widowed and single women. After three years on the Board, I also knew a lot about how our grants worked and how they multiplied their community impact. But knowing something in your head and experiencing something in your heart are entirely different.

During my recent trip to India, I really had the heartfelt experience of the power of partnership. I met close to 350 marginalized women who had either received grants in the past and had expanded their businesses several times, or who were receiving their very first microloan check.

In India, Right Sharing partners with other Non-Governmental



Board Member Elizabeth Reuthe with the Rural Women’s Development Trust in Tharamangalam, Tamil Nadu, India.

Organizations(NGOs), which often provide skills training in such areas as tailoring, rope making, shop keeping, animal husbandry, or green grocery management. During Right Sharing training, grant recipients learn how to work in teams as well as manage their businesses, coming to understand profitability, savings, and timely loan repayment. As they prosper in their business endeavors, the women meet with each other regularly, save money, pay back their loans, and bring home funds.

They are most proud of being able to feed and clothe their families, a first for many.

It is still up to these women to make their businesses succeed in the long run.

Indeed, the achievement of Right Sharing’s mission is totally dependent on our grant recipients’ success. Looking into the faces of these new recipients, I remembered receiving my first

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“LET US THEN SEE WHAT LOVE CAN DO.” – William Penn, 17th Century Quaker

GOD CALLS US TO THE RIGHT SHARING OF WORLD RESOURCES, FROM THE BURDENS OF MATERIALISM AND POVERTY INTO THE ABUNDANCE OF GOD’S LOVE, TO WORK FOR EQUITY THROUGH PARTNERSHIP WITH OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

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Partnership & Agency

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bank loan as a young woman and my excitement, apprehension, and dreams. I was struck by the courage and bravery of these women: Even in the best of circumstances, it takes guts and fortitude to start a business and make it thrive. It takes even more courage if you have been shunned and marginalized by society and maybe even your own family, sold into bonded servitude for years, and had your self-esteem eroded most of your life.

We have so much to learn from these brave women. The grant recipients themselves are teaching the Right Sharing network how to provide better help to the next generation of grant recipients in order to avoid making the same mistakes that they have made. They teach us about how much, whether tangible or intangible, we have and what it really means to be courageous and how to persevere. We learn what works from these women and our partnership NGOs, so that we may



The Rural Women's Development Trust gathering for a business training.

incorporate that learning into our future programs. It is a powerful model that makes my heart sing.

—Elizabeth Reute,
RSWR Board Member



Mrs. V. Sathya with her sewing machine that she purchased with her RSWR loan.



Pandiyammal received a loan from Right Sharing after the loss of her spouse. She is now able to support herself without the help of her sons. This is her fruit stand in Madurai District, Tamil Nadu, India.

2019
2020
2021

3 YEAR MATCH

RIGHT SHARING OF WORLD RESOURCES

\$250,000 MATCH

Current donors who maintain new 2019 giving levels will continue to be matched in 2020 and 2021! All new and increased giving will also be matched in 2020 and 2021!



Women Run Vegetable Farm

WESTERN RURAL DISTRICT, SIERRA LEONE

Adama Tarawally received a loan from Right Sharing of Le. 1,000.00 (\$110). She invested in the farm run by the Leister Vegetable Women Farmers Association. Her family was eating once a day. Since then she has paid back her loan and was elected group leader. She has been able to support her children and grandchildren to go back to school. Her family can now afford treatment and vaccines at their community clinic.

The Leister Vegetable Women Farmers Association

Belinda's Dress Shop

KISUMU, KENYA



Belinda with her sewing machine

Belinda is a tailor and a member of the Wang Bondo Self-Help Group on the outskirts of Kisumu. With a loan from Right Sharing she became an agent for a popular mobile banking platform called M-Pesa. She provides this banking service to her community and receives a commission on every transaction that occurs through her dress shop. Having access to this service has increased her dressmaking business. As her husband is out of work, her family of four relies on her for food, rent, and school fees.

Mrs. Tailayee's Fruit Shop

TAMIL NADU, INDIA

Mrs. Tailayee had to sell the assets of her small vegetable shop to fund the weddings of her children. Parents of women in India must pay a dowry for their daughters to marry, and it can be an extreme expense. She joined a women's self-help group and saved Rs.100 a month, but it was not enough to restore her business. She has since applied for and received a RSWR loan from Vasantham Pengal Sangam of Rs.10,480 (\$145) to start a fruit shop. With this loan, she has been able to purchase a cart, a scale, and startup inventory. Mrs. Tailayee orders fruits from the wholesaler on her mobile phone and it is delivered to her via a transport service. Currently making Rs.300 (\$4.15) a day, she says, "I am very happy now, because I thought that I would be a burden to my children in my older age, but it is not going to happen. God showed me a way through RSWR and VPS for my livelihood. Thanks to all."



Mrs. Tailayee with her fruit stand in Tamil Nadu, India

PLANNED GIVING

Consider making Right Sharing a part of your Estate Plan.

For more information: www.rswr.org or 937.966.0314



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PLANNED GIVING

Consider making RSWR a part of your estate plan. Find out more at: www.rswr.org/planned-giving/

EMERGENCY FOOD AID FOR RIGHT SHARING'S PARTNERS

These are challenging times for all of us because of the Covid-19 virus. The economic repercussions for our women partners sheltering-in-place in India, Kenya and Sierra Leone are devastating. Most of the women live day-to-day with a small amount of emergency savings. When asked what is needed most at this moment, all our partners unequivocally replied: Emergency Food Aid to tide us over until we are able to work again.

RSWR set up a fund to send food relief immediately. The courage of these women to start their own businesses is heroic, and RSWR is vigilant in supporting their sustained success. Can you help today to raise an additional \$50,000 for Food Relief?



Mrs. R Umadevi received a RSWR loan to open a mini-canteen. Her work is paused due to Covid-19.

RIGHT SHARING OF WORLD RESOURCES
contributions are tax-deductible in the USA as allowable by law. RSWR is a 501(c)(3) organization; our tax identification number (EIN) is 31-1636209.

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