



CHINAR
International
Investing in Children, Youth & Communities

YEAR 2022

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22



TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>A WORD FROM CEO</i>	3
<i>HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR</i>	4
<i>TARGET FOR 2022-2023</i>	5
<i>PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES</i>	6
<i>CHILD DEVELOPMENT</i>	7
<i>QUALITY EDUCATION</i>	9
<i>YOUTH DEVELOPMENT</i>	11
<i>COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION</i>	13
<i>INFOGRAPHICS</i>	14
<i>FINANCIAL REPORT 2021-2022</i>	15
<i>ABOUT US</i>	16



A WORD FROM CEO

As we began to recover from the impact of COVID-19 and resumed our core activities, the second wave hit us hard. Despite the challenges, we managed to maintain both our relief operations and program activities. The commitment of our staff was evident as we navigated these tough times.

This year, we successfully launched the Small Business Support program, a business incubation project for youth. The program provides seed capital of up to ₹1.5 lakhs (USD 1,830) and mentorship to selected youth to ensure the success of their ventures. We received over 160 applications, and after a three-tier screening, 18 youth were chosen for the first cohort. I am grateful to our knowledge partners, the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, for guiding us through the process.

COVID affected our Child Development Program scale-up, as we couldn't conduct surveys as planned. However, we enrolled 170 children, against a target of 350. We continued supporting our beneficiaries by distributing essential supplies, including clothing and stationery, in a safe, organized manner.

To prevent learning loss among vulnerable children in Kashmir, we implemented a continuity plan and established 10 virtual Community Learning Centers (CLCs), providing education to over 250 students across six districts. Following the easing of restrictions in July, 21 CLCs resumed normal operations.

We also laid the groundwork for two exciting projects next year. The Teach With CHINAR Fellowship will create a team of youth to help schools improve learning, reduce dropouts, and promote community involvement. It's modeled on the successful Teach for India program. The second initiative, the Holistic Community Transformation project, aims to partner with community-based organizations to uplift children, youth and local educational institutions.

In closing, I offer my deepest gratitude to our dedicated staff, 60% of whom were affected by COVID at one point, yet we continued our mission. I also thank our funders, donors, partners and Board of Directors for their unwavering support.

Looking forward to a productive and peaceful 2022-23.



IRFAN SHAHMIRI
GLOBAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021-22

Child Development

- Annual distribution events were held across five districts of J&K- Shopian, Pulwama, Budgam, Kupwara and Doda. Over 400 students received books, stationery and winter clothes.
- CHINAR conducted a special Eid distribution event across five districts - Srinagar, Shopian, Budgam, Pulwama and Kupwara.
- Ramadan Special distribution held across six districts – Srinagar, Shopian, Pulwama, Kupwara, Budgam and Doda.
- This year, 24 students from different districts passed 10th class examinations and 10 students passed 12th class examinations with remarkable results.
- 12 livelihoods were provided to the under privileged families.

Quality Education

- Virtual CLCs During the Pandemic: CHINAR set up 10 virtual CLCs, enrolling over 250 students across six districts of Kashmir, ensuring that students could continue their education during the COVID-19 crisis.
- After COVID-19 restrictions were eased in July, CHINAR resumed 21 operational CLCs in Kashmir. In Warwan Valley, CHINAR scaled up from 350 to 525 students, operating 15 CLCs across five villages.
- Teacher Capacity Building: Organized trainings for facilitators on classroom management, lesson planning, and teacher leadership to enhance the quality of education.

Youth Development

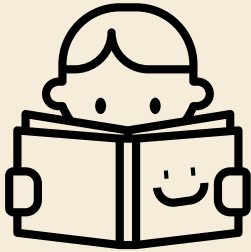
- Launched Cohort-1 of Small Business Support - 18 businesses selected for the program.
- 144 youth graduated in multiple skills from our skill development centers.

2022-23 TARGETS



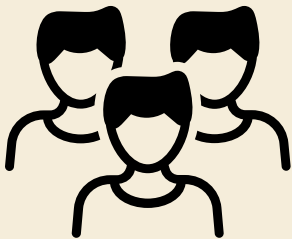
CHILD DEVELOPMENT

- Scale-up from 1000 to 1300 children in poverty.
- Develop counseling framework
- Review SOPs and guidelines
- Learning assessment in all the districts
- Livelihood to 50 families



QUALITY EDUCATION

- Warwan Valley Expansion: Increased CLCs from 18 to 19 centers.
- Teach with CHINAR' Fellowship: Launch of Teach with CHINAR fellowship
- MoU with DSEK: Sign partnership for Fellowship and School Transformation.
- CLC Scale-Up: Expanding from 21 to 40 CLCs to reach more children.



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- Entrepreneurship labs in 2 Higher Secondary Schools
- Skill Development Centers – 12
- Youth-friendly spaces- 5
- Small business Support- 30
- Youth Interactions- 4



COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

Launch Parvaaz in three new communities of districts:

- Srinagar
- Shopian
- Baramulla

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

"Provides critical support to children from most vulnerable communities to enable them to attain quality education"

This program is for vulnerable children from families that have no to little means of livelihood and are struggling to provide for their children. The selected child is provided with all necessities like school fees, stationary, clothes, shoes, school bags, nutrition, hygiene kit and basic healthcare. It provides market focused Community Finance for livelihoods to the guardians of vulnerable children so that the guardians can raise their families in a nurturing way. The target is to make the families self-reliant within 3 to 5 years.

Till now, 1146 children have been enrolled in the program from six districts - Srinagar, Shopian, Pulwama, Kupwara, Budgam and Doda.

Here is the list of activities carried out under the program this year:

Ramadan Special Distribution Event

Amidst COVID challenges, CHINAR International distributed Ramadan special food kits among all the families enrolled in its Child Development program across six districts of J&K- Srinagar, Shopian, Pulwama, Kupwara, Budgam and Doda. During those testing times, CHINAR ensured that the beneficiaries did not face any shortage of supplies ahead of Eid Ul Fitr. All the COVID guidelines were strictly implemented on the ground to ensure the safe delivery of kits.



"We are thankful to all our donors, supporters and well-wishers who donated during the blessed month of Ramadan. With your kind donation, we have been able to support hundreds of families, children and youth and will continue to help more. We want to assure you that your money will be used judiciously for the betterment of the most vulnerable children and families. We appreciate our board members in US for running a fantastic Shab –e-Qadr online campaign to raise funds for children in poverty. "

Monitoring trip to Doda

The CHINAR ground team made a five-day trip to Baderwah Tehsil of the Doda District in Jammu. The team checked on program progress and efficacy, as well as gathered information to identify persistent challenges in the region. Learning assessments were administered to 39 enrolled children to gauge their academic competencies.

The team also conducted a community mobilization event to reaffirm the importance of education, health, and hygiene. Casual clothing and stationery were distributed to children at the event. Moreover, livelihood support was provided to two low-income families in the form of a provisional store and sewing machine, respectively.



Inclusion of Basic Needs kit

Families with widows, handicapped individuals, chronic illness patients and double orphans are given special assistance under this category. CHINAR distributed Basic Needs kits in Srinagar, Shopian, Pulwama, and Kupwara to families enrolled in the Child Development Program. These kits comprised of essential food items to meet a family's daily needs.

Making Us Proud – Students Qualify 10th and 12th Exams

Twenty-four students enrolled under CHINAR's Child Development program qualified 10th class exams with remarkable results across five districts of J&K - Srinagar, Shopian, Pulwama, Kupwara and Doda. These children come from low-income families. Some of them are orphans and were on the verge of dropping out from their studies due to financial challenges. Umar Farooq from Doda and Rafiah Iqbal from Shopian topped the list with 84% and 86% marks respectively.

Ten students qualified 12th class exams with great results. Zahid Bashir, one of the successful graduates topped with 91% marks. The CHINAR team visited student's families with sweets, gifts and cakes. The level of contentment and pride in the eyes of the parents was overwhelming for the team.

Annual Distribution Event Held Across Five Districts

CHINAR conducted an annual distribution event for children enrolled in our Child Development program across five districts of J&K - Shopian, Pulwama, Budgam, Kupwara and Doda. Books, stationery and winter clothes were distributed to over 400 children at CHINAR's remedial tuition centers located in the selected villages. The event was held in phases due to COVID constraints.



Converting Dreams into Reality

The primary goal of CHINAR's livelihood support program is to empower families to become self-reliant while ensuring that their children have access to education. This year, CHINAR extended its support to twelve families from four districts - Srinagar, Pulwama, Kupwara, and Doda.

One of the beneficiaries of this program is Farooq Ahmad from Bemina, who had suffered a serious leg injury a few years ago and had to undergo multiple surgeries. CHINAR stepped in by establishing a grocery store for him, ensuring that he could meet his family's daily needs.

Abdul Qayoom from Pampore, Pulwama, was another recipient of CHINAR's support. He used to operate a small cosmetic shop, but due to the events following August 5th and the COVID-19 lockdowns, he faced difficulties maintaining his business, particularly due to a shortage of stock. CHINAR intervened by providing him with the necessary products to revive his shop and get his business back on track.

In Kupwara, one family received materials and assistance to start a *dhaba* (roadside restaurant), allowing them to establish a new source of income.

Similarly, in Doda, two families were given the means to start a provisional store and were provided with sewing machines to ensure a sustainable income source for their livelihood.



Abdul Qayoom (Srinagar): Cosmetics and hoisery



Jehangir (Kupwara): Roadside restaurant

QUALITY EDUCATION

“Works in low-resource government schools in collaboration with DOSE (Department of School Education) with the aim of school transformation for holistic development of children”

CHINAR collaborated with Department of Education - Kashmir (DSEK) in mainstreaming of vulnerable children and providing quality education. This includes activities like remedial education, community mobilization, teacher training – sensitization – motivation – incentivisation – resource and other related infrastructure support like libraries and playgrounds. Under this program, CHINAR is providing support to around 6000 children under multiple projects like school transformation, community-learning centers and remote education in far-flung areas. As a part of school transformation, CHINAR has enrolled 25 government schools with plans to scale up.

Till date, CHINAR has reached out to 7593 children through quality education program.

Following activities were conducted this year under the program:

Ensuring Continuity of Learning During the COVID-19 Crisis

In response to the educational disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, CHINAR International swiftly adapted its programs to ensure continuity of learning for children in Kashmir. To bridge the digital divide and prevent learning losses, CHINAR established 10 virtual Community Learning Centers (CLCs), providing structured educational support to over 250 students across six districts. This innovative approach enabled children to remain engaged and continue their education remotely during the crisis.

Resuming and Scaling Up CLCs Post-COVID

With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions in July, CHINAR resumed operations of 21 physical CLCs in Kashmir, prioritizing safe and effective in-person learning. In the remote Warwan Valley, where educational access is a persistent challenge, CHINAR expanded its footprint by increasing its CLC network from 15 to 19 centers, reaching 525 students across five underserved villages.

Building Teacher Capacity for Quality Education

Recognizing the importance of quality teaching, CHINAR invested in comprehensive teacher capacity building initiatives. Multiple training sessions were conducted for CLC facilitators on classroom management, lesson planning, and leadership development. These efforts were instrumental in improving instructional practices and strengthening the overall learning environment.

Through a combination of remote and on-ground interventions, CHINAR’s adaptive and resilient education strategy has ensured that children in disadvantaged communities continued to receive meaningful learning support during a challenging period.

Warwan Valley Evaluation Trip

In an effort to evaluate ongoing programs and explore new avenues for community development, the CHINAR team undertook an assessment trip to the remote and underserved Warwan Valley. The team visited five key villages—Mingli, Margi, Gumri, Rakenwas, and Basmina—to engage with the local communities and gain deeper insights into the needs and challenges faced by residents. This visit served multiple purposes, focusing on both educational enhancement and livelihood support, tailored to empower the communities holistically.

A dedicated one-day teacher training session was also conducted at Margi village, focusing on CHINAR's Community Learning Center (CLC) framework and introducing creative teaching methodologies to enhance the effectiveness of CLCs. The training was designed to empower local facilitators with innovative strategies for delivering foundational literacy and numeracy programs while incorporating socio-emotional learning. The interactive format allowed teachers to share their experiences and discuss the challenges they face, fostering a collaborative environment for continuous improvement.



Adnan' Story: My Journey with CHINAR

"I am Adnan - B. Tech graduate hailing from Zakura, Srinagar. After joining CHINAR's community learning center (CLC) program, I understood the ground realities of education for the underprivileged. At CLC, the aim was to create a safe space to break the cycle of illiteracy that children from low-income communities are mired in. Through challenges created by the pandemic, my journey started with 17 students and later the number progressed to nearly 25 students. The uninhibited love and respect I received from these children was overwhelming and gave me a moral drive to keep going."

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

“Works with unemployed youth through entrepreneurship and skill development to enhance their capacities to become self-reliant”

A majority of Kashmiri youth is unemployed or underemployed and attaining a government job is the benchmark of being successful. Government jobs are scarce and the private sector is still in its nascent stage. Additionally, a significant number of skilled laborers are imported from other states, as dignity of labor has not evolved in Kashmir as in other parts of India. In this program, CHINAR works with unemployed youth through skill development, entrepreneurship support and counseling to enhance their capacities to become self-reliant.

Till date, we have reached over 1300 youth through skill development, small business support and training programs.

Here is a list of activities held under the program:

CHINAR Selects 18 Youth for Small Business Support

CHINAR, in collaboration with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), organized a three-day Small Business Support (SBS) event at IMPA Srinagar. The purpose of the event was to select and support 18 promising youth entrepreneurs out of 21 candidates who had advanced to the final round from a pool of 161 applicants. Each of the 18 selected ventures received startup assistance of up to ₹1.5 lakh. The finalists presented their business ideas to a distinguished panel of experts, including Prof. Satyajit Majumdar (TISS), Mr. Sujay Dixit (TISS), Prof. Saad Parvaiz (NIT Srinagar), Dr. Khalid Ashai (CHINAR Chairman, USA Board), Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Khan (Training Director, IMPA), and Dr. Mushtaq Margoob. The dignitaries also graced the felicitation ceremony to honor the top 10 candidates, marking a significant milestone in their entrepreneurial journeys.



Barkat Ali (Budgam): Mobile repairing unit.



Altaf Mir (Bandipora): Electric repairing unit.



Zahida aKhter(Budgam): Readymade garments



Mohd. Ramzan Kar(Kupwara): Sheep rearing unit

Youth on a Path to Self-Reliance

CHINAR's skill development program aims to train young women in marketable skills to make them financially independent and self-reliant. CHINAR launched five new skill centers; in Baramulla(1), Bandipora(2) and Kulgam.(2) districts. Simultaneously, our existing SDCs saw youth graduating and getting their first income after completion of the training courses. This year, 144 youth graduated in multiple skill courses from our centers.

In the month of November, CHINAR launched the Self-Help Group in the Bemina area of Srinagar for the six registered women who previously graduated from CHINAR's cutting and tailoring program". The objective of the SHG is to ensure that graduates in our Skill Development Centers (SDC) are further self-reliant through education on the monetization and marketing of the skills learned during the tailoring course.

Till date, 1052 youth have been enrolled in our skill centers spread across 8 districts of J&K.



Two - Day Exposure Trip with Social Work Students

The year 2021 ended with a fantastic two day exposure trip- a first of its kind. A fresh batch of 43 social work students from Kashmir University visited intervention sites in Srinagar, Baramullah, and Bandipora. These field visits covered child development, education, and youth related activities.

All the students engaged in a meaningful discussion with the CHINAR beneficiaries, learning about their challenging journeys and inspiring stories. It was an exciting trip full of insights gained through thought sharing and relationship building. It was a whole new experience for students to fully connect with the pain and sufferings of children and families coming from low socio-economic backgrounds.

Dr. Shazia, Head of Department, Social Work praised CHINAR's interventions and applauded the team for making it both a productive and impactful trip for students. We are proud to have a class of 43 students ready to be CHINAR AMBASSADORS!



COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

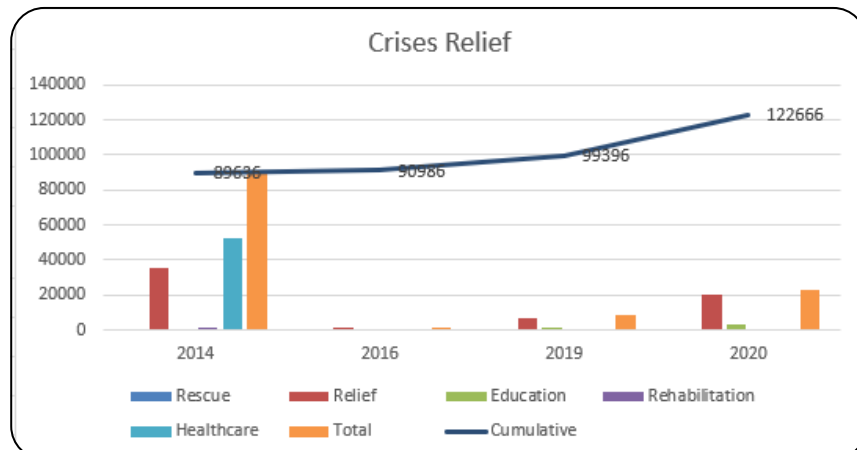
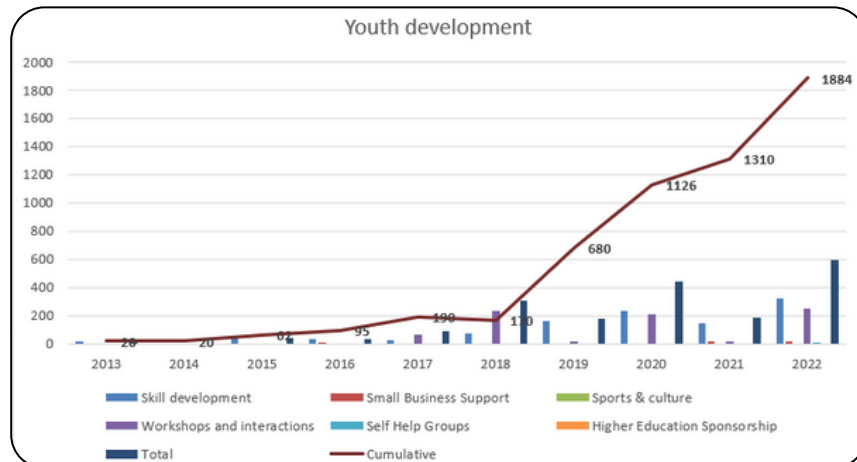
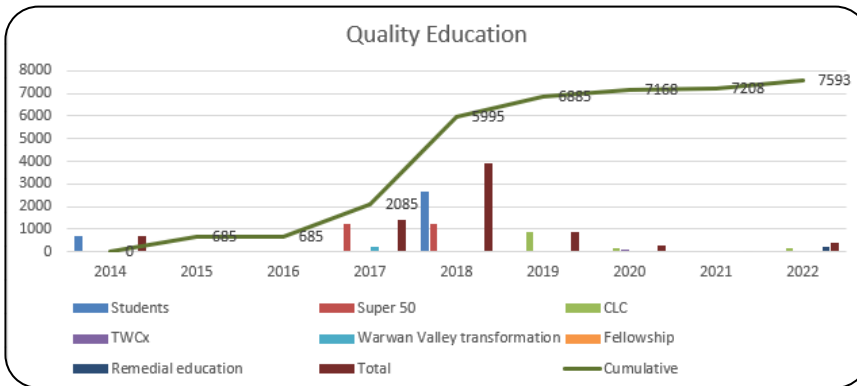
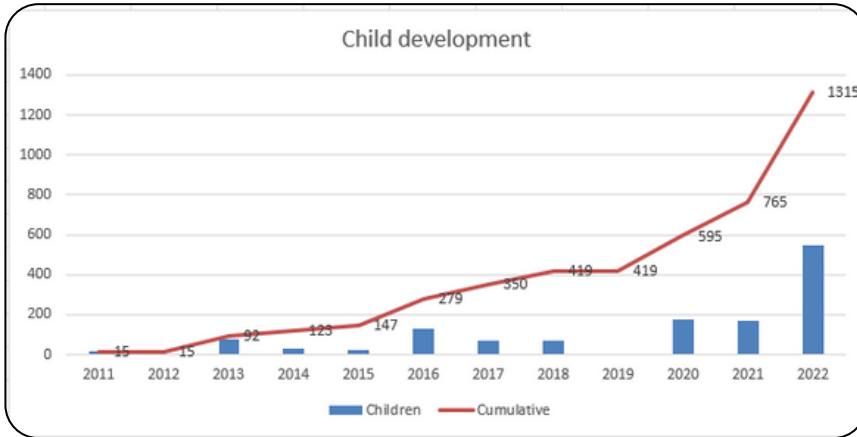
CHINAR's upcoming community transformation project, "Parvaaz," aims to drive community transformation by focusing on the development of vulnerable groups, including children, youth, and under-resourced educational and community institutions. This project is designed on scientific grounds using quality data to determine intervention plan. All CHINAR programs are expected to be integrated in this model.

In December, the initial assessment of identifying the marginalized communities was conducted through in-person meetings with 15 urban and rural stakeholders from Srinagar, Kulgam and Baramulla. Subsequently, CHINAR had a series of stakeholder meetings to identify geographies which needed immediate community interventions. CHINAR devised a holistic assessment tool to collect data relevant to children, youth, and families. The baseline survey which included 700 household assessments was completed in nine communities across these three districts.

The assessment team engaged with community members, local teachers and family heads to identify pressing issues. The key findings highlighted low literacy rates, high youth unemployment, poor living conditions, and inadequate healthcare services. Based on these insights, CHINAR is preparing to launch the pilot phase of Parvaaz in Waltengu, Kulgam in May 2022. This pilot will address urgent community needs and pave the way for large-scale transformation.

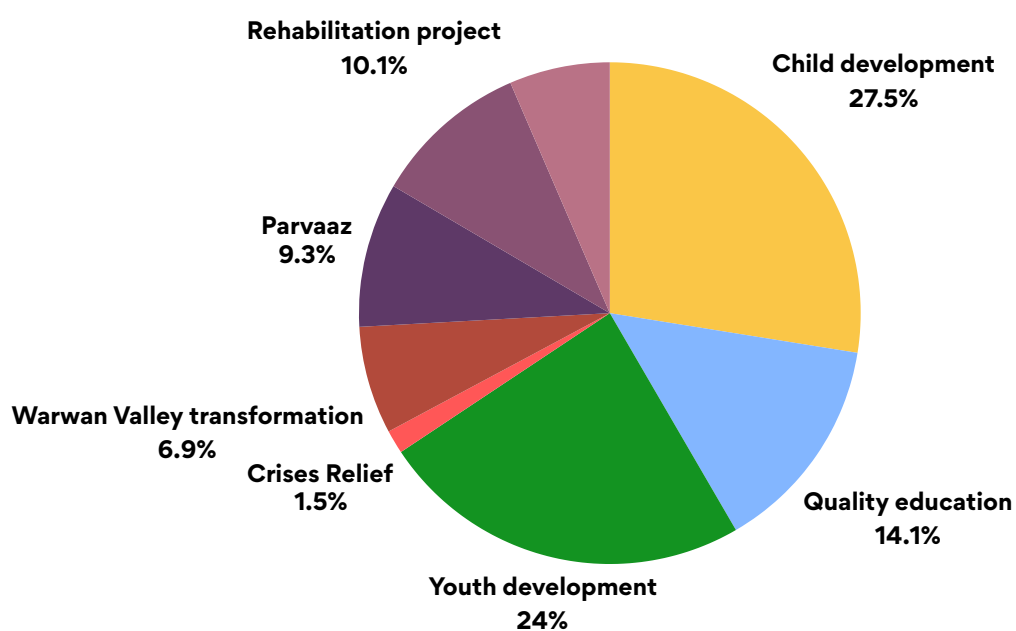


INFOGRAPHICS



FINANCIAL REPORT 21 -22

PROGRAMS	INR	USD
CHILD DEVELOPMENT	6,835,267	85,441
QUALITY EDUCATION	3,497,353	43,717
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT	5,969,720	74,622
CRISES RELIEF	377,690	4,721
WARWAN VALLEY TRANSFORMATION	1,724,693	21,559
PARVAAZ	2,313,766	28,922
REHABILITATION PROJECT	2,498,640	31,233
ADMIN & OPERATIONS	1,610,632	20,133
TOTAL	24,827,761	310,347



ABOUT US

CHINAR International (CI) is a social impact organization based in Kashmir working on a holistic community-based model to provide solutions to the pressing problems of youth and children of J&K.

VISION

Peace, Progress and Prosperity in conflict areas of the world

MISSION

Empowerment of Children, Youth and Distressed Communities through quality education and socio-economic programs using Scientific Approach

VALUES

CHINAR believes in its core values - integrity and trust, diversity and inclusion, empathy and respect, accountability and transparency and continuous learning and improvement.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Location: Baghat, Srinagar - 190005

Tel:+91-6005185878

Website:www.chinarinternational.org

E-mail: info@chinarinternational.org

CONNECT WITH US

 CHINAR.INTERNATIONAL

 CHINAR_INT

 CHINARINTERNATIONAL

 CHINAR INTERNATIONAL