

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25



Story4Change

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FROM THE FOUNDER'S DESK

It gives me great pleasure to present the second annual report of Story4Change for the year 2024–25 — a significant year in our journey.

This year marked a major step forward as we facilitated Training of Trainers (ToT) on storytelling with teams from civil society organisations and forest departments. Our engagements at Foundation for Ecological Security and Nandanvan Jungle Safari not only helped build institutional capacities but also strengthened storytelling as a method for education, conservation, and community mobilization.

We also deepened our work in schools, forest-edge villages, and among persons with disabilities—continuing to blend creativity, inclusion, and local leadership across programs like Jungle Mitra and our school-based nature and life-skills initiative.

I sincerely thank our team, trustees, partners, and community members who contributed to this impactful year. We remain committed to advancing social change through stories—building a future rooted in empathy, justice, and collective action.

Mr. Sachidananda Mishra
Founder

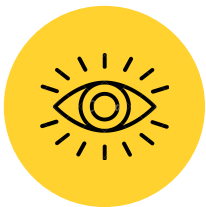
ABOUT STORY4CHANGE

Stories have always been seen as powerful tools to connect people and spark understanding. After spending two decades in the development sector, Sachidananda Mishra felt a strong calling to place storytelling at the heart of his work.

In 2023, this took shape when he inspired by DFO Anshu Pragyan Das for her initiative to engage students through stories about forests and wildlife. That same year, communal violence in Sambalpur showed how harmful narratives could fuel division.

Together with fellow changemakers Malaya, Surya, and Bijay, he initiated the Story4Change in 2023 – a collective response to reclaim storytelling as a force for peace, learning, and hope.

Today, Story4Change uses stories as a method in education and dialogue –shaping a future where every story becomes a step toward change.



Vision

A just, equitable and sustainable society.



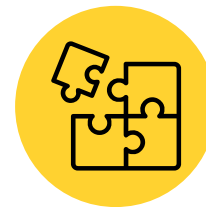
Mission

To bring about positive social change through innovation and creativity, personal and institutional transformation



Values

Democracy, Diversity and Inclusion, Peace and Harmony, Environment, Fun and Creativity, Accountability and Integrity, and broadly the Constitutional Values of India



Approach

1. Nurturing the potential of children and young people.
2. Promoting and using story, folk art, music and methods, and creativity in transformational processes.
3. Developing community leadership.
4. Enhancing capacity of institution and organisation.
5. Building Collaboration and partnership.

JUNGLE MITRA

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary, located in Odisha's Sambalpur district and adjacent to the Hirakud Dam, is a biodiversity hotspot with significant ecological and historical importance. However, the area faces severe deforestation, illegal wildlife trade, and human-animal conflicts, necessitating immediate intervention to preserve its ecosystem.

Story4Change has partnered with Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Wildlife Trust of India, and Fondation Segre for Jungle Mitra program, which aims to empower and build leadership among young people to protect the forest and wildlife in the Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary region. Targeting 73 villages around the sanctuary, the project focuses on four villages within a 5-10 kilometer radius, engaging directly with 1,000 young people, community members, and children, and covering 4-5 schools through training activities.

KEY STRATEGIES

- Raise awareness about wildlife conservation through events, meetings, and educational campaigns in five villages.
- Educate children in local schools on ecological and environmental issues to foster a conservation mindset.
- Select and train volunteers as Nature Guides to lead conservation initiatives and community education efforts.
- Distribute and encourage to use of smokeless stoves to families to reduce air pollution and dependency on forest resources for firewood.



1,000+

students educated on wildlife conservation through community discussions, & storytelling sessions

40

Youth leaders mobilized and trained through exposure visits, and hands-on conservation tasks

10

community-led action held, including plantation drives, wildlife water source protection, & smokeless chulha use

DISABILITY SUPPORT AND REHABILITATION

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

In our commitment to inclusive community care, Story4Change extended therapeutic support to individuals with disabilities through both regular and special outreach services. During the year, a dedicated therapist was engaged to provide consistent support, addressing the physical and functional challenges faced by persons with disabilities.

As part of this initiative, 15 patients received regular therapy, helping them improve mobility, manage pain, and gain confidence in their daily activities.

In addition, a free disability therapy camp was organized on 24th May 2025, offering assessment and therapeutic services to 35 people from underserved communities. This camp not only identified specific rehabilitation needs but also built awareness among families on continued care and support.



CERTIFICATE COURSES & STORYTELLING WORKSHOPS

FOUNDATION FOR ECOLOGICAL SECURITY, CHHATTISGARH

From 25–26 March 2024, a focused storytelling workshop was held with 20 team members of Foundation for Ecological Security (FES). The sessions aimed to strengthen their communication skills and enhance their ability to share impact stories from the field.

Immediately following this, on 27–28 March 2024, the program was extended to 20 grassroots community leaders at Raipur, Chhattisgarh. Through participatory exercises and real-life narratives, the leaders explored how stories can build empathy, drive behavior change, and strengthen community mobilization.

NANDANVAN JUNGLE SAFARI RAIPUR, CHHATTISGARH

Another significant milestone was the Storytelling for Jungle Safari Guides workshop held from 9–11 December 2024 at Naya Raipur Jungle Safari, Chhattisgarh. This three-day intensive workshop trained 20 safari guides in crafting compelling narratives around wildlife, ecology, and conservation, enhancing their interpretive guiding skills and visitor engagement.

A refresher training was conducted on 29th March 2024 with the participants.



EDUCATING CHILDREN ON NATURE AND LIFE SKILLS

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

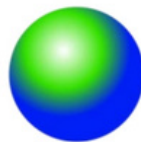
To nurture curiosity, environmental awareness, and essential life skills among young learners, Story4Change implemented interactive learning activities in two primary schools – Bhatli and Adhapada, located in Jujomura, Sambalpur.

A total of 96 school students participated in this year-long engagement that blended classroom learning with outdoor, experiential activities. Highlights included:

- A Summer Camp that introduced children to team-building, games, and values through fun-based learning.
- A hands-on Seed Ball Campaign that helped children understand biodiversity, soil, and the role of native plants.
- A Tree Plantation Drive, fostering responsibility and care for the environment.
- Leadership and Life Skills Sessions designed to boost confidence, communication, and cooperation.
- Engaging Craft and Storytelling Activities to spark creativity and instill important values through local stories and traditional knowledge.



OUR PARTNERS AND DONORS



FES



OUR TEAM

1. Ms. Anupama Rout- Trustee
2. Mr. Malaya Padhan- Trustee
3. Mr. Sachidananda Mishra- Trustee
4. Mr. Bijay Nayak- Executive Director
5. Mr. Surya Narayan Dash- Programmes Director
6. Ms. Rashmita Kalet- Coordinator
7. Ms. Sujata Meher- Consultant
8. Mr. Ashirwad Mahapatra- Associate Coordinator
9. Ms. Babita- Learning Centre Facilitator
10. Ms. Lipi- Learning Centre Facilitator
11. Ms. Nirupama Mahapatra- Consultant

Contact Us

Story4Change

At- Dadhibaman Colony, Dhankauda,
Sambalpur- 768006 (Odisha)



story4change.org@gmail.com



9861163701