# SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK(SDN)

*Empowering Communities for a Brighter Future.*

✉ sdnaizaw@gmail.com

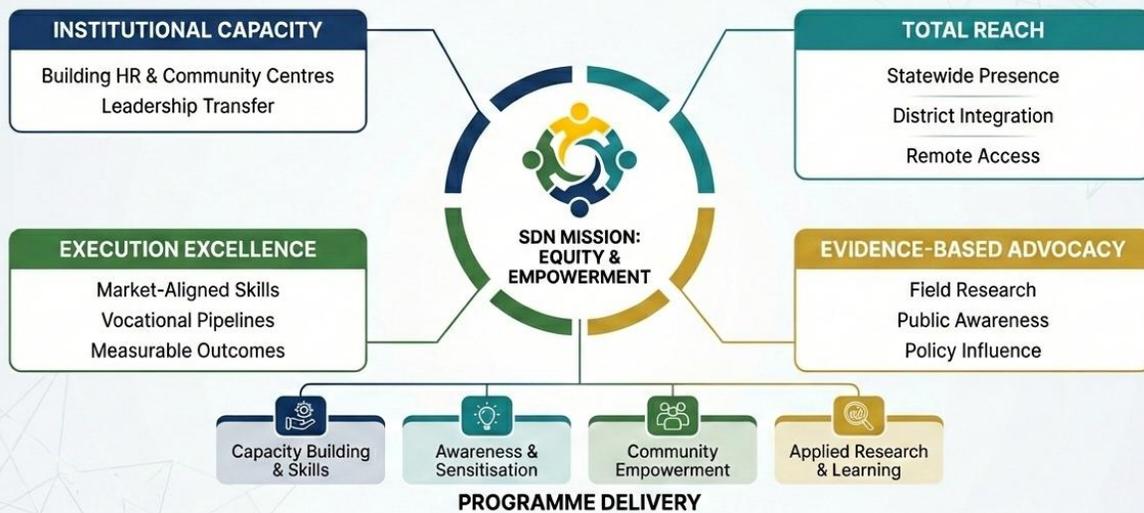🏢 B-73, Peter Street, Electric Veng, Aizawl, Mizoram 796007

# ANNUAL REPORT
2024-25

**SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK**          sdnaizawl@gmail.com

# OUR VISION

*To build an inclusive and empowered society where communities lead sustainable development and all individuals enjoy dignity, livelihoods, and social justice.*

## SDN PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK

**INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY**
Building HR & Community Centres
Leadership Transfer

**TOTAL REACH**
Statewide Presence
District Integration
Remote Access

**EXECUTION EXCELLENCE**
Market-Aligned Skills
Vocational Pipelines
Measurable Outcomes

**EVIDENCE-BASED ADVOCACY**
Field Research
Public Awareness
Policy Influence

**SDN MISSION: EQUITY & EMPOWERMENT**

Capacity Building & Skills | Awareness & Sensitisation | Community Empowerment | Applied Research & Learning

**PROGRAMME DELIVERY**

**THE SDN IMPACT COMPASS**

**LIVELIHOOD** Sustainable Income | **EMPOWERMENT** Decision-Making Power | **TRIBAL WELFARE** Indigenous Rights & Culture | **SOCIAL INCLUSION** Marginalised Participation

# ABOUT

The **Social Development Network (SDN)** was established to address gaps in technical support, capacity building, monitoring, and evaluation for community-based development efforts. In Mizoram, SDN works with government agencies, civil society actors, and local stakeholders to support processes intended to improve social and economic conditions in inclusive and sustainable ways.

As an evolving organisation, SDN focuses on strengthening collaboration among partners and supporting grassroots initiatives aimed at enhancing livelihoods, local capacities, and well-being. Its contributions include assisting in the identification of priority development issues, facilitating coordination among implementing actors, and offering monitoring support to improve programme implementation.

SDN's approach is informed by principles of participation, inclusivity, and sustainability, with attention to facilitating the meaningful involvement of marginalised groups such as women, children, and youth.

As of now, SDN's registration under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 is **in process** and has not yet been formally completed.

Through community-oriented activities, knowledge-sharing mechanisms, and strategic partnerships within and beyond Mizoram, SDN aims to support more resilient community structures and contribute to sustained, positive social outcomes.

## WHAT WE DO

The Social Development Network (SDN) works closely with community institutions and grassroots organizations to implement projects that address pressing social, economic, and environmental challenges.

SDN serves as an incubator of ideas, exploring innovative approaches to empower communities and promote inclusive growth. Through studies, surveys, action research, and field-based initiatives, SDN develops and demonstrates scalable models that can be replicated in partnership with government bodies, civil society organizations, and donor agencies.

By aligning programmes with existing government schemes and policies, SDN ensures that its work complements and strengthens larger development frameworks.

At the grassroots level, SDN works to enhance opportunities for livelihoods, empowerment, and social well-being, with a focus on:

1. Empowerment and Rights Awareness – Equipping women, children, and marginalized groups with knowledge of their rights and access to opportunities.
2. Skill Development and Livelihood Promotion – Providing youth and underprivileged groups with practical skills to secure sustainable employment.
3. Access to Basic Services – Supporting initiatives in education, health, sanitation, and safe drinking water.
4. Sustainable Community Development – Encouraging environmentally responsible practices and strengthening social inclusion through participatory approaches.

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The society is guided by the following objectives:
1. To work for socio-economic and cultural development through community-driven initiatives.
2. To liaise with Government and NGOs for strengthening existing schemes and programmes.
3. To organize workshops, forums, seminars, and awareness programmes—both national and international—on issues concerning women, children, and other vulnerable groups.
4. To empower and educate women and children on their basic democratic rights as enshrined in the Constitution of India.
5. To establish and run centres for human resource development.
6. To provide guidance and training to underprivileged youth for acquiring practical skills.
7. To collaborate with similar agencies in India and abroad for knowledge-sharing and capacity building.
8. To address emerging tribal and social issues, environmental challenges, and developmental concerns affecting society.

## STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS
1. Empowerment – Equipping women, children, and marginalized groups with knowledge of rights and opportunities.
2. Skill Development – Providing practical training and livelihood opportunities for youth.
3. Awareness Generation – Organizing campaigns and platforms for dialogue on social and cultural issues.
4. Research and Data Integration – Strengthening social support systems through evidence-based interventions and real-time data-driven approaches.

## Acknowledgment

SDN extends heartfelt gratitude to:
- Donors and supporters whose contributions, however small, sustained programmes throughout the year.
- Volunteers and community leaders who gave their time, energy, and skills.
- Partner institutions — churches, YMA, student unions, vocational centers, and universities — for their guidance and collaboration.

We recognise that development work depends on collective effort. The contributions of all stakeholders have been essential in progressing SDN's work and enhancing community engagement.

## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT

The Social Development Network (SDN) was formed to meet a practical need for an organisation that can offer direct technical support, capacity building, and basic monitoring and evaluation for community-level activities. SDN's work is based on the understanding that community needs are best addressed when local people are involved in planning and implementation, and that small, consistent improvements at the grassroots level contribute to stronger social well-being over time.

This year, SDN has continued to develop its presence in Mizoram and initiate engagement in nearby areas. Our work focuses on key areas including livelihoods, education, empowerment, health, and environmental awareness—areas where community feedback has indicated consistent demand. Our aim is to support improvements in the everyday lives of marginalised groups, in particular women, children, and youth, through practical and locally relevant activities.

Over the past year, SDN has worked with several hundred people through a range of activities, including:

- **Livelihood and Skills Support** — short-term training and exposure activities designed to help youth and underprivileged groups explore income-earning options.
- **Education and Capacity Building** — community workshops and forums intended to strengthen basic skills, knowledge, and confidence among participants.
- **Women and Child Support Activities** — awareness events and discussions focused on rights, participation, and community engagement.

SDN is not yet registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. At this stage, we remain an informal network of individuals committed to community development. This has allowed us to remain flexible and responsive, though we recognise the benefits of formal registration and are exploring the most appropriate way forward.

Our work so far has been supported by a small core team, volunteers, community groups, and a limited number of partners. Their involvement has been essential in shaping activities that are relevant to the communities we engage with.

Going forward, SDN intends to continue building on these early efforts in a measured way. We aim to strengthen existing activities, document what we are learning, and gradually expand partnerships that help improve coordination and resource access. We will continue to align our work with relevant local government programmes where this supports better outcomes for communities.

This Annual Report summarises what SDN has achieved, the challenges faced, and the relationships formed over the past year. On behalf of SDN, I thank all individuals and organisations who have supported these initial efforts.

To our collaborators and supporters: *Thank you for your involvement and trust as we continue this work together.*

We remain committed to learning, adapting, and contributing to meaningful improvements at the community level in realistic and sustainable ways.

> **Dr. R Lalnunmawii**
> **President**

**ONGOING PROJECTS**

During the previous reporting period, SDN implemented a **pilot version** of the Community Awareness and Livelihood Readiness Initiative in selected communities in Mizoram. The pilot was structured as a small, exploratory engagement intended to test interest, assess feasibility, and identify appropriate forms of involvement for community members with limited access to formal resources.

Insights from the pilot highlighted that participants preferred flexible, informal conversation over structured training and that engagement would be most effective when responsive to immediate interests and availability. Based on these lessons, the current phase prioritised sustained, relationship-based engagement rather than formalised sessions.

## 1. Community Awareness and Livelihood Readiness Initiative

In Mizoram, community networks serve as the primary source of information for many daily activities, including livelihood opportunities and collective efforts linked to church and other local groups. While these community connections are strong, there remains a significant communication gap between residents and formal government initiatives, particularly those related to employment generation and livelihood support schemes. Access to relevant information about available programmes is often inconsistent, and many community members are not fully aware of or able to navigate government processes that could potentially benefit them.

The Community Awareness and Livelihood Readiness Initiative was developed in response to this gap. The initiative aims to strengthen basic awareness within communities about social and livelihood-related information, and to support individuals in understanding and accessing opportunities that can improve their economic participation and quality of life. Rather than replacing existing community structures, this initiative builds on them by introducing relevant information and facilitating informed dialogue.

## 2. Purpose and Objectives

The project's initiative was implemented from the previous pilot project with the following realistic and context-aligned objectives:

1. **Sustain engagement** with community members who participated in or were reached during the pilot phase.
2. **Provide basic awareness** of social issues, rights, entitlements, and livelihood options through need-based interactions.
3. **Facilitate reflective dialogue** that supports individuals in considering their livelihood interests without structured commitments.
4. **Document field learning** to inform future programme design and decision-making.

This phase did not include certification, or broad-scale workshops given resource limitations and participant preferences.

## 3. Geographic Scope and Target Groups

The project continued activities in and around **Aizawl, Mizoram**, focusing on localities where prior contact and initial interest had been established. The target groups for engagement included:

1. Unemployed and underemployed youth
2. Women from economically vulnerable households
3. Informal sector workers
4. Persons with disabilities
5. Elderly community members

Participation was voluntary and responsive to individual availability.

## 4. Engagement and Outreach

The initiative maintained modest but steady engagement during the reporting year:

| Engagement Measure | Estimate |
|---|---|
| Individuals contacted | ~80–100 |
| Individuals with periodic follow-ups | ~10–15 |
| Informal information exchange beyond direct contact | Observed but not systematically recorded |

Engagement occurred primarily through informal conversations and follow-up visits rather than formal sessions.

## 5. Implementation Approach
The approach for the project was informed by pilot learnings and adapted to community preferences:
1. **Informal and flexible interaction:** Conversations were held when participants were available and willing, rather than on fixed schedules.
2. **Participant-led content:** Topics were introduced in response to expressed interest, questions, or concerns raised by individuals.
3. **Reflective documentation:** Facilitators recorded recurring themes, interests, and barriers observed during interactions.
4. **Incremental continuity:** Follow-up contact with a core subset maintained continuity from the pilot.

This adaptive methodology allowed SDN to sustain engagement in a manner consistent with organisational capacity and community realities.

## 6. Progress and Realistic Outcomes
Given the modest scale and informal nature of the initiative, outcomes are **process-oriented** rather than quantitatively measured:
1. Participants demonstrated mild improvements in awareness of basic social and livelihood themes discussed during interactions.
2. Sustained contact helped retain relationships with a small cohort of individuals previously engaged.
3. A few community members reported greater confidence in discussing livelihood considerations based on field conversations.

These outcomes do not reflect large-scale behavioural change or documented economic results; rather, they indicate ongoing interest and awareness emerging from sustained dialogue.

## 7. Monitoring and Learning
Monitoring methods were intentionally simple and appropriate to the context:
1. **Interaction tracking:** Facilitators recorded the number of interactions and follow-ups during community visits.
2. **Field observation notes:** Key recurring themes, barriers, and participant interests were documented.
3. **Internal reflection:** Periodic team discussions reviewed learning and informed adjustments in approach.

This pragmatic monitoring ensured that insights from field engagement were captured without imposing burdensome data requirements on participants or staff.

## 8. Constraints and Practical Learnings
The initiative's limited scale was shaped by operational and contextual constraints:
1. **Resource and capacity limitations** restricted the scope of activities.
2. **Participant availability** varied due to external commitments (e.g., work, household responsibilities).
3. **Formal measurement** of outcomes was not feasible within current resources.

Key learnings from the year included:

1. Informal, participant-driven dialogue sustains relationships but requires careful planning to ensure relevance.
2. Simple documentation and reflection processes add value to understanding community needs.
3. Participant interest does not automatically translate into continued engagement without flexible and responsive approaches.

## 9. Forward Outlook

Building on pilot learnings and experiences from Phase II, SDN plans to:

1. Continue modest, responsive engagement with core community contacts.
2. Introduce simple participant feedback tools (e.g., short reflection forms) to capture participant perspectives systematically.
3. Explore partner collaborations with local organisations to broaden reach and continuity.
4. Use documented insights to inform future structured programmes when organisational capacity permits.

The initiative remains grounded in **realistic expectations**, focusing on incremental learning and community responsiveness.

## 10. Summary

Year-II of the Community Awareness and Livelihood Readiness Initiative successfully built on the pilot's foundation, sustaining modest engagement and generating valuable insights into community needs and preferences. While activities remained informal and limited in scale, they provided a credible basis for future planning and refinement. The initiative's continuity reflects SDN's commitment to realistic, community-responsive engagement and serves as a foundation for future iterations.

## Reflections

The third year has shown that consistent, community-centered efforts — even when modest in financial terms — can create deep and lasting impact. SDN's model thrives not on large budgets, but on:

a) Donor goodwill: Small but steady contributions from individuals, churches, and well-wishers.
b) Volunteer commitment: Youth, women, and community leaders giving their time and skills freely.
c) Collective ownership: Communities increasingly seeing SDN's programmes as their own.

This year represents a transition from experimentation to consolidation: SDN's interventions are no longer pilots but recognized community initiatives, built on trust, participation, and shared responsibility.

**Governance Structure of the Society**

The Office Bearers and Key Functionaries:

| Sl. No. | Member Name | Designation |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | **R Lalnunmawii** | President |
| 2 | **Alan Lalmuampuia** | Vice President |
| 3 | **Zomuani Ralte** | Secretary |
| 4 | **Vanlalngaihawma** | Member Secretary |
| 5 | **Lalthlengliana Pachuau** | Treasurer |
| 6 | **Zodingliana Ralte** | Board Member |
| 7 | **LH Lalnunzauva** | Board Member |
| 8 | **Zomawii Ralte** | Board Member |
| 9 | **Lalchhanhimi** | Board Member |
| 10 | **Lianlalli** | Board Member |
| 11 | **Lalnunsiami** | Board Member |

**Head Office
B-73, Electric Veng,
Aizawl, Mizoram.**

# PHOTO GALLERY
## 2024-25

**AKAS & Associates**
**Chartered Accountants**

0389-2316393, 8777021042, 9436151145
Email-info_aizawl@akasassociates.com

T-5/B, K.S THANGA BUILDING
Near Sanitation Office, Behind Aizawl College,
TUIKHUAHTLANG, AIZAWL, MIZORAM -796001

• HO: New Delhi
• BO: Ghaziabad, Kolkata

## AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have examined the attached Balance Sheet of **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK (SDN), Aizawl, Mizoram**, as at March 31st 2025 and the Income & Expenditure Account for the same which are in agreement with the books of accounts maintained at its office at Aizawl, Mizoram. The preparation of these financial statements are the responsibility of the management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit, further we report that:

a) We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of the audit.
b) In our opinion, proper books of account as required, have been maintained and kept in the office, so far it appears from our examination of such books.
c) In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the said accounts give true and fair view:

- in so far as it relates to the Balance Sheet, of the state of Affairs of the Society as at 31.03.2025 and
- in so far as it relates to the Income & Expenditure Account of the surplus/deficit of the Society for the year ended on that date.

For AKAS & Associates LLP
Chartered Accountants
FRN: 022876N/N500067

CA Ajay Kumar Joshi
(Partner)

Date: 18.09.2025
Place: Aizawl
UDIN: 25098017BMKZHE9689

# SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK (SDN)
## Aizawl, Mizoram

### RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2025

| RECEIPTS | AMOUNT (Rs) | PAYMENTS | AMOUNT (Rs) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Opening Balance:** | | Office Expenses | 51,913.00 |
| Cash-in-Hand/Bank | 14,222.00 | Office Rent | 72,000.00 |
| | | Meeting Expenses | 18,898.00 |
| | | Printing & Stationery | 13,211.00 |
| Donation/Contribution | 2,56,000.00 | Water & Electricity Bill | 3,313.00 |
| | | Travelling & Conveyance | 6,800.00 |
| | | Awareness Programmes Expenses | 66,000.00 |
| | | Miscellaneous Expenses | 17,865.00 |
| | | | |
| | | **Closing Balance:** | |
| | | Cash-in-Hand/Bank | 20,222.00 |
| | 2,70,222.00 | | 2,70,222.00 |

### INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2025

| EXPENDITURE | AMOUNT (Rs) | INCOME | AMOUNT (Rs) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Office Expenses | 51,913.00 | Donation/Contribution | 2,56,000.00 |
| Office Rent | 72,000.00 | | |
| Meeting Expenses | 18,898.00 | | |
| Printing & Stationery | 13,211.00 | | |
| Water & Electricity Bill | 3,313.00 | | |
| Travelling & Conveyance | 6,800.00 | | |
| Awareness Programmes Expenses | 66,000.00 | | |
| Miscellaneous Expenses | 17,865.00 | | |
| Depreciation | 11,725.80 | | |
| | | Excess of Expenditure over Income | 5,725.80 |
| | 2,61,725.80 | | 2,61,725.80 |

As per our Report of Even Date Attached

For AKAS & Associates LLP
Chartered Accountants
FRN: 022876N/N500067

CA Ajay Kumar Joshi
Partner

For & On behalf of Social Development Network (SDN)

Date: 18.09.2025
Place: Aizawl
UDIN: 25098017BMKZHE9689

# SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK (SDN)
## Aizawl, Mizoram

### BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31.03.2025

| LIABILITIES | | AMOUNT (Rs) | ASSETS | | AMOUNT (Rs) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **CAPITAL FUND:** | | | **FIXED ASSETS:** | | |
| Opening Balance | 79,730.00 | | Computer & Accessories | 17,250.00 | |
| Add/Less: Surplus/Deficit | (5,725.80) | 74,004.20 | Less: Depreciation @40% | 6,900.00 | 10,350.00 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | Furniture & Fixture | 48,258.00 | |
| | | | Less: Depreciation @10% | 4,825.80 | 43,432.20 |
| | | | **CURRENT ASSETS:** | | |
| | | | Cash-in-Hand/Bank | | 20,222.00 |
| | | 74,004.20 | | | 74,004.20 |

As per our Report of Even Date Attached

For AKAS & Associates LLP
Chartered Accountants
FRN: 022876N/N500067

CA Ajay Kumar Joshi
Partner

For & On behalf of Social Development Network (SDN)

Date 18.09.2025
Place: Aizawl
UDIN: 25098017BMKZHE9689