

**Talat Pasha- APD: Economic Empowerment
Annual Report 2013-2014**

Reports received; 119, Direct Beneficiaries 30,205; Indirect: 119, Money raised; \$528.

There is a marked decrease in the number of projects submitted this year but that could be due to the issues we have had with the database. However, the range of projects has increased with clubs coming up with new and innovative ideas for projects. The work has become focused and projects are now more result oriented. The projects have been planned to have a positive and lasting impact on the lives of women and girls.

There are clubs that have worked for several years on the same project and have shown commendable commitment.

Fairtrade has been actively taken up by **SI Hamilton** for many years #34632,#29329.**SI Middlebrough** # 34512 gave a presentation to a school group and explained Fairtrade and "Stick with Foncho" campaign

SI Sunderland and a number of other clubs have been involved with Fair trade for a number of years which is very encouraging.

Friendship links remain a popular way to initiate and sustain projects: SI Burrow in Furness has collaborated with its friendship link with SI Grange and SI Windermere to open its 'Clothes Bank'.

The biggest example of a successful project with many friendship link clubs working together, would be the ' **Public Speaking Competition**' of SI Wexford, National Association of Republic of Ireland and 17 clubs of Northern Ireland Region joining together to make this project a huge success #35667

Encouraging girls to pick Science subjects has also been a favorite. SI Solihull in their 'Skirting Science' project, invite famous personalities to speak about their lives and careers.

I have been very impressed with some projects which are exploring completely new areas of work: **SI Ashton-Under-Lyne's** 'Spend wise' project #35552, partners with Manchester Credit Union to raise awareness in schools about Loan sharks and to develop responsible spending/saving at an early age. Another new idea was to raise Deaf awareness amongst High street retailers and Service providers by SI Beckenham & District #35613.

SI Bonaberi-Douala Cameroon has an excellent Adult Literacy project:#34067,#20037. Clubs in India have been teaching women to put Falls on saris, training them in making Jewelry, tailoring and making bags.

Clubs in UK have been working on Prison Reforms, helping inmates with skill development and giving them information about how to get legal help. SI Bristol is doing great work in that area. Mock Interviews and helping girls prepare for a career have also remained very popular (SI Bath# 34000,SI Nottingham #34815,34362)

SI Derby in its project 'Empowering Women'#32878 collaborated with a local Women's Centre to organize a series of workshops on Confidence building.

SI Winchester& District did a very interesting project #32964 titled: WoW bags(WoW stands for Wonders of Waste – a woman’s livelihood project in Philippines) The sale of these bags by members of this club not only provides income for 14 women but also helps 20 students to pay their fees in College and schools.

Most impressive have been two projects from SI Western Jamaica#3206 and Port Louis Mauritius# 35471-where Day care centers and Primary schools have been set up for kids of single working mothers . The schools also have excellent kitchens and provide daily meals to the children.