CRECHES -
Integrated approach to 
Combat Malnutrition and 
Improve Nurturing Care
The Problem and the Technical approach - Creche

- High burden of undernutrition, affecting marginalised communities even more
- This complex issue driven by immediate and underlying determinants needs an integrated approach
- First 1000 days are foundational: a) malnutrition starts at this age b) loss of linear growth at this age is irreversible c) 80% of brain development happens d) Nutrition and Early learning and development, need strengthening
- Community led Creches is evidence-based and an integrated approach to co-locate WHO recommended nurturing care components in one place to help children thrive and transform in the most critical phase of life
Creche

Ekjut-managed creches are daycare facilities located in rural underserved villages and hamlets for children below three years of age. Two trained women from the same villages care for the children, provide them with wholesome nurturing care while their parents are at work.

The nurturing care emphasizes on good health, adequate nutrition, responsive caregiving, security and safety, and opportunities for early learning, and for creating a nurturing and stimulating environment for holistic development.
Creches managed directly by Ekjut

- **Current** - 287 (Jharkhand - 39, Odisha - 248)
- ~4500 children in the age group of 6-36 months enrolled in these crèches
- ~3 million child care days
Creches in Odisha and Jharkhand

**Year 2022: 233 creches in Keonjhar district of Odisha**

**Joda block**: 168 villages, 18 Gram Panchayats, 2 Municipalities  
**Champua block** – 65 villages, 22 Gram Panchayats, 1 Municipality  
Supported by District Mineral Foundation, Keonjhar

**Year 2021: 15 creches in Sundargarh district of Odisha**

**Koida block**: 15 villages  
Supported by District Mineral Foundation, Sundargarh

**Year 2022: 25 creches in Bundu block, Ranchi district, Jharkhand**

Supported by UBS
Creches in ODISHA

YEAR 2018 - 2022: 30 CRECHES in 2 blocks of Keonjhar district


10 in Banspal Block: Sarukudar, Kuanar-A, Kuanar-B, Lunaghar, Danla, Siriskhunta, Uparkadakala, Bayakumutia, Mamalapos, Talakoinsari

Supported by District Mineral Foundation, Keonjhar

YEAR 2019-2022: 30 CRECHES in 3 blocks of Keonjhar district

9 in Joda Block: Anseikala, Putugaon, Deojhar, Jamupani, Bandhuabeda, Bolani, Chhatabara, Balagoda, Kendudihi

10 in Banspal Block: Upar Kainsari, Gonasika, Kaland, Upargajara, Talajagara, uchamadihi, Itapokhari, Podadihi, Talarigada, Binida

11 in Harichandanpur Block: Pancham mini, Brahamanipal, Baliparbata one, Baliparbata two, Tentulipal, Panganal, Pangarugudi, Talapada, Pancham reserve, Daitari one, Daitari two

Supported by District Mineral Foundation, Keonjhar
Creches in JHARKHAND

**YEAR 2017-20: 11 Creches**
6 villages in West Singhbhum district, Jharkhand (Murhatu, Naragabeda, Tapkocha, Churgui, Chota Kudabeda, Kokrobaru)
5 villages in Mayurbhanj district, Odisha (Dhirol, Asankudar Nuasahi, Kadapani, Sanamauhuldiha, Khaparkhai)
Supported by **HCL Foundation** (2019-20) and **Individual Donors** (2017-19)

**YEAR 2019 CONTINUING: 14 Creches**
14 villages in Chakradharpur and Khuntpani block of West Singhbhum district (Murhatu, Naragabeda, Tapkocha, Churgui, Chota Kudabeda, Dopai, Bainka, Ulidih, Dharmsai, Guigaon, Mermera, Dukri, Sikidiki, Arahanga)
Supported by **AEIN, Luxembourg and Individual Donors**
Creches - YEAR 2013-17: 60 CRECHES

20 in 15 villages of Saharpada block of Keonjhar district, Odisha (Asanbani, Baunsanali, Baunsanali - Juani Sahi, Baunsanali - Kudar Sahi, Chadeibhol, Digposi, Dudhnali, Gainsari, Godhinali, Kaliaduma, Kantidiha, Kucheibeda, Naya Jaganathpur, Paitamaja Munda Sahi, Palasapada)

20 in 18 villages of Thakurmunda block of Mayurbhanj district, Odisha (Asankudar Badamahuldiha, Charatangar, Dangapani, Dhiral, Edalbeda, Jamposi, Kadapani, Khaparkhali, Landusahi, Ranibhol Khajursahi, Ranibhol Pradhan Sahi, Ranibhol Rai Sahi, Ranibhol School Sahi, Rugudi Sahi, Saleibeda Manikasahi, Saleibeda Sikharsahi, Sanmahuldiha)

20 in 17 villages of Khuntpani block of West Sunghbhum District, Jharkhand (Bacchamahatu, Bada Kudabeda, Bada Lagiya, Banabinj, Bandarangrui, Chottalagia, Gamharia, Gonosai, Kokrobaru, Simbadih, Chotta Kudabeda, Churgoi, Murhatu, Naranga, Tapkocha, Dopai, Bainka)

Supported by Tata Trusts
Co-location of services in crèche

1. PROTECTION & SAFE ENVIRONMENT
(mosquito net, fencing, separate kitchen, free from chemicals and disinfectants)

2. SUPPLEMENTARY FOOD/NUTRITION
(1 hot cooked meal + 2 Snacks and eggs 5 days a week)

~ 70% of daily requirement being met by diet in the crèches
Co-location of services in crèche

3. HYGIENE
(Handwashing station, clean drinking water)

4. SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT
(smokeless chullah, separate kitchen)

5. SOCIAL INTERACTION
(Share and Play)
Co-location of services in crèche

6. REFERRAL AND HEALTH SERVICES (Timely referrals, parents meeting)

7. EARLY CHILDHOOD STIMULATION (Action songs, Story-telling in local language, age-appropriate stimulation activities, use of non-plastic toys)

8. SUPERVISION (Regular visits for on the job support, training and refreshers)
Co-location of services in crèche

9. GROWTH PROMOTION (height and weight measurement, real-time tracking for preventing growth faltering and early identification of undernourished children, promoting good health and catch-up weight gain following illness)

10. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION (parents group meetings, site selection, decoration, nutrition garden, fencing.)
Status of Children after 18 Months at Crèches, September -2022 (Keonjhar, Odisha)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Enrolled, N</th>
<th>3194</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boys, n (%)</td>
<td>1539 (48.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls, n (%)</td>
<td>1655 (51.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Graduated, n (%)</td>
<td>2098 (65.7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SAM - status at subsequent interval