



Accompanier

Journeying Together Towards Building Communities of Resistance & Hope . . .



CNI-SBSS' e-publication for internal circulation

April-midMay 2009

Meditation

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. . . the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peace-makers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.

James 1:17, 3:17-18 (NIV)

Kirsten Gade's Visit



"It is heartening to see that SBSS' role has been developing as a resource sharing agency and that builds us our hope to see wider positive impact on the communities at larger level" shared Kirsten Gade (Ms), Asia and Pacific Desk, EED Germany during her goodwill visit to the SBSS HQ on Friday, 17th April 2009. Sandeep Sharma from FMSF, Noida had also accompanied her. The CNI SBSS team consisting of Chief Coordinator, Programme Resource and Facilitation Team Coordinators with the Programme and Resource Staff interacted with Kirsten sharing about 'Speaking Out...' introducing her the Critical Mass – impact making and influencing reference communities/ stake-holders. Along with the administrative matters, important concerns over communication between the partners were also voiced and resolved.

AARI

Incorporating the evaluation recommendations and findings for an efficient financial management - Accompaniment Appraisal Review and Involvement (AARI) Module was developed and released on 16th April 2009. Manoj Fogla, one of the evaluators who was specially called in for this meeting, appreciated the efforts of the Finance Team of CNI SBSS. Dr Awale praised Bidyut, (now designated as GF – Grants Management) for his hard work he had put to develop this module.

AARI would help in clarifying the responsibilities of the finance committee, check audit committee / finance staff and finance consultant and also between SBSS and the Partner Organizations. It shall also give clear mechanisms to help the decision-making process ensuring internal control combined with a good management information system and to ensure good planning, monitoring and evaluation tool to analyze the input of funds and to achieve set goals.

Accompaniers at HQ

Following the Accompaniers' Meet held in Ranchi, there were few tasks that need to be addressed like finalization of the diocesan proposals, completion of reports, etc. To move forward in this path, accompaniers from all the four resource centers came together in SBSS' HQ on 13th April 2009 and worked over a week bringing the proposals in line with the Speaking Out...

Connecting Communities... Mainstreaming LCP!

The teams working on Local Capacities for Peace (LCP) from dioceses/ DBSS of Agra, ChotaNagpur, Eastern Himalaya, North East India, Patna and Lidder Valley Project took a stock together and planned their activities to be conducted together in the ongoing phase during a two-day meet held in CNI Bhavan on 21st – 22nd April 2009. The main objective was to integrate LCP in the Speaking Out... The participants shared their DBSS' activities, presented and analyzed the case-studies using LCP framework and shared their views as how they see integration of LCP in this programme phase.

In continuation to the earlier meeting, SBSS team sat together again on 27th April reflecting on the ways to utilize this system that guarantees beyond capacity building. It was shared and accepted that LCP should be reflected in day-to-day life bringing in attitudinal change, demonstrating it in personal and professional approaches, seeing its relevance, developing a common understanding and taking it to the larger group. The mainstreaming had begun with the development of team, expanding the ToT facilitation, conceptual clarity and shared understanding for acceptance. Further trainings, orientations and exposures involving the grass-root communities, PO Leaders, DBSS Staffs, Board Members and congregation giving space to women and inviting them for their active involvement would set the ball rolling.

PODI-II

Twenty-two staffs from various dioceses participated in an induction orientation process – PODI (Process Oriented Development Intervention) II held during 17th March to 5th April 2009 in Kolkata, integrating the new process and learning and to develop wider ownership towards the new leaders and social entrepreneurs.

PODI, a critical pedagogy, helps the partaker in strengthening their values and ideology to develop a strong perspective and evolve with proper tools and techniques as well as profession skills to be implemented in their own project areas. The module content included- Knowing Self by Paul Siromani, Perspective Building, Scaling up 'Prolem to Issue', Movement Building, etc. Prashant, Monijnjir, Manjiri, Rev Aksal, Amos, Amen and Vikram facilitated the process.

Dr Shailendra Awale, Chief Coordinator and Secretary, CNI SBSS awarded the certificates to the participants on the concluding day.

IPAP

With IPAP (International NGOs Partnership Agreement Programme) Workshop, 14 NGOs incl. CNISBSS working on the issue of Dalits and Adivasis collectively developed a strong foundation of moving toward a strong network with collaborative actions. The main objective of this workshop was to learn about each of these partners' project, identify common proposed actions and areas of synergy on thematic areas and inform the partners about compliance and reporting aspects for programme and finance.

CNI SBSS, on CA's request, had submitted a proposal to DFID on the issue of Social Exclusion of the Adivasis in North East India. It was presented for the larger group. Partners from different organizations working for Dalits and the Adivasis also shared their programmatic interventions, approaches and their processes. For Adivasis, issues were of livelihood, leadership development, natural resource management, conservation, self reliance, governance especially on the community system of governance and cultural identity while Dalit issues dealt with land rights, displacement, atrocities, governance, research and reservations. Later collectively key issues and areas for collaboration were listed.

The financial and programmatic non negotiable compliances for IPAP stressed on the need of a project funding agreement between CA and individual partner, CA's prior approval for any kind of modification in finance and programmes, mandatory quarterly financial and programmatic reporting, procurement to follow DFID guidelines, compliances in all aspects incl. FCRA, regular external audits and evaluation with CA-IPAP monitoring visits and partners' involvement in IPAP advisory board and Dalit-Adivasi groups.

[On behalf of CNI SBSS, Santosh & Moni participated in this workshop. Please click here for the detailed report.](#)

Hearty Greetings!

Many Happy Returns to our accompaniers – Ram Nath (6th May) and Amen Xavier (24th May). May Lord Almighty bless all of them abundantly and be with them always as they are serving Him being important actors in His mission with SBSS.

We also remember families of our accompaniers, celebrating their Wedding Anniversaries and offer prayerful wishes for the long companionship of Mrs & Mr Nikhil Kumar (8th May), Mrs & Mr Sunil Mahajan (19th May), Mrs & Mr Ram Nath (22nd May), Mrs & Mr Bibhudutta Sahu (26th May) and Mrs & Mr Satish Yepure.

Days to Remember in May 2009

- 1 – World Labour Day,
- 3 – World Press Freedom Day,
- 17 – World Telecommunication Day,
- 25-31 Week of Solidarity with the People of all colonial territories fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights,
- 28 – International Day of Action for Women’s Health,
- 31 – No Tobacco Day.

Accompanier is an electronic newsletter for SBSS’ internal circulation, freely transmitted by
Synodical Board of Social Services (SBSS), a justice & development arm of the Church of India (CNI). Visit us at www.cnisbss.org