

5. OBJECTIVE: Ensuring Integrity of Creation

Introduction:

The Bible narrates the story of creation in a chronological order; after each act of creation, God said to Himself that it was good and that every creation expressed the beauty and power of God. God created human beings from the land of the earth and gave them the responsibility to be the steward of His creation with clear instructions on how they should use all the available resources to sustain their life. But the disobedience of human being caused the ground to be cursed and since then the earth is groaning for its liberation.

Through out the Bible beginning from the Genesis, we learn about God's love for the earth and all its Creation including humanity. Being a good steward or custodian leads to a reciprocal relationship between people and earth. Responding to God's love for creation, we are called to care for the earth and the humanity. The ecological crisis has become an ethical and moral problem; it is not just about human being and nature but also about the relationship between human being themselves.

Context:

There are visible changes that we can see in the eco system which are more destructive than life saving due to the exploitation of earth in the name of modernization, industrialization, economic development and urbanization. In a developing country like India the worst victim of the climatic change are the poor and marginalized whose life has been already affected by the impact of Globalization, Privatization and liberalization.

Injustice in the world is one of the sources of environmental devastation and ecological crisis. Various studies conducted in India have shown that the surface air temperature in India is going up at the rate of 0.40c per 100 years particularly during the post monsoon and winter season. A statistic report produced by National climate centre office in Pune demonstrated that since 1993 there had not been a single year where annual mean temperature was less than normal. During 2006, a number of cyclone storm and depression formed over the Indian sea.

In the recent past we have also experienced changes in our reference area, the traditional dry area like western Rajasthan, Saurashtra and Kutch have experienced heavy rains causing floods. A study report said that early monsoons are causing losses of natural resources and agriculture which is directly affecting the life and livelihood of the poor and marginalised.

In our reference area of DBSS Kolkata rise of Carbon emission is leading to environmental degradation. 45 Brick kilns in the Solabari cluster are located in the prime agricultural land causing land deterioration and loss of fertility. This has resulted in the decrease of food grain production.

Rational

Our God is a God of justice and his concern is not only for human beings but for the whole world. He became a human being Himself to save the world from its curse. As the justice and development wing of the CNI we have the moral responsibility to participate in the saving act of our Lord. We the church and the community need to be oriented on the cause and impact of climatic change so that we can become agents to propagate and participate in the saving act of God. CNI SBSS is directly involved with the community addressing the issues of livelihood and food security, the excluded community like Dalit \tribal, women and children which we are working with are the worst victims of climate change. Thus the integration of this concern in our main concern is of the utmost importance.

Process

The issue of climate change would be addressed in terms of awareness building programmes on adaptation, disaster mitigation and preparedness and conflict resolution. Since this issue cannot be addressed in isolation, there is a requirement for us to be associated with other organizations, larger networks and campaigns. An analysis of the cause and impact of climatic change clearly shows us that the fault lies mainly with the urban consumerist society who are craving for a comfortable life while the most affected people are the poor marginalized who have nothing to do with its creation. In this situation our pragmatic intervention will be an educative awareness campaign for the congregation and the members of the PO/CBO, and then integrating it in the issue of livelihood and food security. We would also participate in the national level campaign with other like minded organisations.

Disasters such as flood and drought are all impacts of climate change; it brings devastation to the vulnerable communities. SBSS would respond to disaster by being culturally sensitive to community and relevant to local capacity, this will lead to a community building process. In the disaster prone areas a relief team would be developed and capacitated.

Conflict in our working area has deep rooted ethnic, communal and political connotation (Kashmir NEI, EHD, Chotanagpur and Maharashtra; leading to violations of human rights and dignity resulting in the atrocities of dalits, ethnic conflict among the tribals). Transparency and accountability are two important values which would be looked on while carrying relief and rehabilitation programmes.

Research studies would be undertaken to understand the impact of relief work. Findings would be shared and pursued with other agencies to improve the process of relief and rehabilitation.

Peace Initiative would continue through local capacity For Peace programme (DO NO HARM MODEL)

Approach	Activity	Output	Outcome
Adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a theoretical framework on climate change through Karayashala Awareness programme on adaptation for CNI-SBSS constituency Workshop/ seminar/ debate/on the cause and effect of Climatic Networking with the larger campaigns Participating in the campaigns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A theoretical framework on climate change would be evolved Community will become sensitive of the usage of different articles which is directly linked with the cause of Climate change. The educational institutes will take part in the awareness campaign. Forum will be form to organize the campaign at local level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural values of the vulnerable community will be protected. A strong forum on Climate change would evolve.
Disaster preparedness and mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and advocacy Relief in Emergency Building relief team in disaster prone area Developing linkage with relief agency CASA, EFICOR and World Vision. Community building process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research would be made available for policy intension Immediate Relief would be made available in disaster prone area Disaster mitigation team would be developed in 5 DBSS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DBSS/SBSS interventions become more strategic and systematic with the values of accountability and transparency
Conflict resolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of Local Capacity Building on DO NO HARM Programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LCP framework will be used in planning process Adequate allocation of resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community will live in peace and harmony

6. OBJECTIVE: LEARNING MOVEMENT FOR MOVEMENT BUILDING

Rationale:

Learning is a continuous process and key value for any organization that would like to impact its environment. Failures of sustaining of such values may obliterate relevance of an organization distancing itself from the communities. Following the recommendations of an external evaluation held in 2003-04, SBSS-DBSS partners challenged themselves to implement the recommendations and transform the organization, undergo organizational change and renewal process. It resulted in transforming CNI SBSS enhancing its core values and strengthening its character as an accountable, perspective based, vision driven and impact oriented learning organization. Backed by political theology, its perspective embeds a rights based approach. This calls for “movement-building” as a core strategy towards ensuring transformative justice.

To progress towards this goal, CNI SBSS had to ensure that its spirit of accompaniment in its actions is ably supported with clarity in its conceptual understanding. At the same time it could not afford to be static, SBSS as an organization has to grow as ‘a learning movement working towards building movement’.

Thus the learning movement is geared towards learning from the organizational history and continuously enhancing the capacity of both the DBSS and SBSS.

SBSS realizes and fulfils the vision and mission of CNI through its implementing partners, the DBSS. Partners of SBSS are at various levels of maturity, growth and capacity. It demands context specific accompaniment. SBSS approach has been to holding mirror of reflection and support for self renewal. Effectiveness and deliverability of the DBSS is essential for the working of SBSS.