Annual Report
2011

Love is sharing Others feelings

- Raoul Follereau

AIFO

Leprosy Eradication
Opportunities for children
Community Based Rehabilitation

58, 4th Cross, Kavery Layout Taverekere Main Road, DRC
P.O. Bangalore – 560 029
Amici di Raoul Follereau (AIFO) is an Italian Non-Governmental Organization, which was born out of the enthusiasm of a group consisting of young people devoted to spreading the message of Raoul Follereau. It was Raoul Follereau in the year 1961 started himself Amici dei Lebbrosi, and subsequently during July 1979 the group renamed it to Amici di Raoul Follereau (AIFO), which is also a founding Member Association of International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Association (ILEP).

**MISSION**

- Believe in a world, where relationships between all human beings are based on peace coming from justice. Believe in a world where every person can develop and live with.
- Believe in a world, where relationships between all human beings dignity, safe from all discrimination. Are based on peace coming from justice.
- Believe in collaboration among the people of the world
- Believe in a world where every person can develop and live with diversity and mutual supports are valued.

**VISION**

A world without the domination of unjust power system:
We work for promoting dignity and access to health for the most marginalized groups, especially for
persons affected with leprosy and disabled persons and to work together with them for fighting. Fundamental Values which Inspire and Guide the Work of AIFO

- Respect of Human Rights of persons affected with leprosy and persons with disability.
- Recognizing the special value of all persons affected with leprosy and all persons with disabilities.
- Believing in the social justice, dignity and equality of all people.
- Opposing any kind of discrimination, especially towards persons affected with leprosy and with disabilities.
- Promoting special attention towards the needs of more vulnerable groups like poor, woman and children.

**Values**

*Diversity and mutual support are valued:*

A world in which, right to health is a reality for everyone, leprosy is defeated and the disabled persons have equal rights, a world A world in which, right to health is a reality for everyone, leprosy without the domination of unjust power system.
Dear Friends

Kindly accept our greetings,

The year had been a year of adjusting and working with what we have without compromising the care needs of the needy. Our partners and beneficiaries had provided us the opportunity to serve them and had stayed along with us through difficult times. It becomes humane to express gratitude and thanks to all our volunteers who had toiled a lot along with our AIFO board, Head Office Staff to make our efforts possible.

We received appropriate collaboration and participation from our Programme Managers of Central/State Leprosy Division, WHO, CBR, National Forum – Disability department and others. A cordial relationship with our ILEP members as usual giving us a sense of being and working together at all times of failures and successes. Special emphasis had been focused on strengthening participation of persons affected by leprosy in the programme. CBR – Research (emancipatory approaches) gave a new thrust, learning experience in this field and AIFO stands as a forerunner in this aspect, which I would like to thank each and every one who had participated, including observers

Our visitors make our venture complete with their presence visiting our projects and programmes this year specifically visit to NLEP project to Assam,

Our Trustee’s give me a lot of hope and scope to improve our working conditions

With kind regards

MV Jose
Leprosy Control

A lot of efforts and initiation was enforced during the year to improve participation of all partners in our operations to better AIFO operations providing solace and a meaningful life for all victims of leprosy. Our ILEP members India continue working together providing supportive services to NLEP at Central, State and other levels.

A very long time effort to introduce RCS (Re-constructive Surgery) in the North Eastern States, specifically in the state of Assam to start with comes to reality with discussions held with a very interested Faith Based Organization - “Catholic Mission Hospital” - Borgang, Sonitpur district in Assam, It was decided to start a Footwear Unit to provide MCR footwear to the needy and Re-constructive Surgery training and services.

AIFO operations at States supporting NLEP – Central Leprosy Division, Andhra Pradesh, North East NLEP (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Karnataka, Odisha (Orissa), and West Bengal continue with a collaboration from Dr. C. Agrawal, and with NLR – Dr. M.A. Arif as ILEP Coordinator for ILEP India. Support in the form of Capacity Building activities, Monitoring and Supervision, Disability containment activities within the preview of the following areas:

- Improved case detection
- Improved case management
- Improved monitoring, supervision, evaluation
- Leprosy expertise developed and sustained
- Increased participation of Persons affected by leprosy in society
- Stigma reduced
- Research to support evidence based programming
- Programme management ensured

While States supported by ILEP are showing progress results with a long time duration of ILEP support unlike North Eastern States of India (Assam, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh), which have a very recent ILEP supportive activity – Assam registers nearly about 1000 cases per year – with high multi-bacillary case proportions, low Female and Child proportions leading to late case registration contributing to a very high deformity profile.

National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP):

Despite the trend showing a decline in the Prevalence and Annual New Case detection Rates, leprosy related activities become more difficult, specifically related to:

- Sustain leprosy control activity in low endemic situations
- Retaining leprosy expertise
- Disability care of persons affected.
- Focused IEC activities depending upon the situation and needs
- Difficult to reach areas
Lack of expertise to a very large extent is observed in the region, which is now under top priority for our operations. In the state of Meghalaya the first ever District Leprosy Officer’s Review meeting was initiated and conducted which is also showing progress in the programme. Arunachal Pradesh the magnitude of problem is very minimal and a common minimum programme based on needs are been undertaken

LEPRA Society headed by Dr. P. Ranganadha Rao extends his full support working along with us in the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya – a area which in need of extra efforts to improve the NLEP activities. Dr. Sunil Anand and his team from TLM had extended their cooperation for RCS support (North East States), Dr. Krishnamurthy DFIT for their support in the State of Karnatake ILEP initiatives.

The Leprosy Mission Trust India (TLMTI), Fontilles, LEPRA society and AIFO members met at Bhuvaneswar and developed a SoP (Standard Operating Procedures) on Referral Centre. The referral System in Orissa NLEP is one of the successful Referral systems established with support from ILEP in the state and a model, which could be replicated to other states.

Important activity of developing guidelines for implementation of DPMR (Disability Prevention and Medical Rehabilitation), Reduction of Stigma and Discrimination of persons affected by Leprosy through workshops initiated by Central Leprosy Division / WHO / ILEP, AIFO along with others participated and developed guidelines to be used under the National Leprosy Programme.

AIFO Partners – during their participation in the AIFO - Biennial meetings in the presence of AIFO Head Office programme officers and our AIFO President marked yet another hallmark - during which all the NLEP expected activities and Standard procedure to be followed where briefed out in detail expecting our Projects to implement.

Involvement of Medical College (Kurnool Medical College) in Leprosy inclusive CBR activities – through the Community Medicine Department for which a feasibility study was carried out involving the Principal, Superintendent, District Health /Leprosy Officers,
NLEP (India) Epidemiological Indicators (April 2011 – March 2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prevalence Rate:</th>
<th>0.69 / 10,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Cases Detected</td>
<td>1,27,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual New Case detection Rate</td>
<td>10.35 / 100000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi Bacillary Case Proportion</td>
<td>49.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female case proportion among new cases</td>
<td>37.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child case proportion among new cases</td>
<td>9.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deformity proportion among new cases</td>
<td>Grade 1 = 3.78% Grade 2 = 3.14 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Current Leprosy situation in the AIFO operated States:

Epidemiological Indicators (April 2011 – March 2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>New cases</th>
<th>ANCDR (100,000)</th>
<th>Prevalence Rate (10,000)</th>
<th>MB Prop</th>
<th>Female Prop</th>
<th>Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>85562988</td>
<td>7820</td>
<td>0.91</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>48.34</td>
<td>40.31</td>
<td>12.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arunachal Pradesh</td>
<td>1414826</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1.98</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>78.57</td>
<td>17.86</td>
<td>3.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assam</td>
<td>31661746</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>3.16</td>
<td>0.37</td>
<td>75.50</td>
<td>24.90</td>
<td>7.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>62029325</td>
<td>3718</td>
<td>5.99</td>
<td>0.46</td>
<td>61.54</td>
<td>37.49</td>
<td>10.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meghalaya</td>
<td>3037811</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>1.55</td>
<td>0.23</td>
<td>78.05</td>
<td>4.88</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orissa</td>
<td>42501063</td>
<td>8312</td>
<td>19.55</td>
<td>0.99</td>
<td>48.85</td>
<td>37.64</td>
<td>9.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>92544591</td>
<td>12169</td>
<td>13.14</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>64.84</td>
<td>32.69</td>
<td>7.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>318752150</td>
<td>33088</td>
<td>46.08</td>
<td>3.92</td>
<td>455.49</td>
<td>195.77</td>
<td>50.86</td>
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</table>
Disability and Reconstructive Surgery Status:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Deformity/New Cases</th>
<th>RCS Performed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grade - I</td>
<td>Grade - II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.18 %</td>
<td>4.14 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arunachal Pradesh</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>92.86 %</td>
<td>3.57 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assam</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.80 %</td>
<td>7.20 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8.74 %</td>
<td>3.36 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meghalaya</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.00 %</td>
<td>14.63 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orissa</td>
<td>373</td>
<td>254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.49 %</td>
<td>3.06 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.92 %</td>
<td>2.95 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1406</td>
<td>1141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>119.99 %</td>
<td>38.91 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community Based Rehabilitation

In the year 2011, there were many important activities facilitated by the CBR technical team towards coordination of SPARK CBR research program and activities for strengthening few CBR project teams’ capacity, especially in North Karnataka state. Most of the time (about 70%) was devoted towards coordination of SPARK CBR research programme (Continuation of phase 2 Emancipatory research and phase 3 Emancipatory research principles integration in CBR. At the end of the academic year (March 2011) the Emancipatory research was concluded and in the next year (April 2011) the third phase of SPARK research (Emancipatory research integration in CBR as routine activities was planned and started).

The remaining period (about 30%) was used up

Emancipatory research theme meetings

There were some theme meetings such as the leprosy, social, multiple disabilities, empowerment etc continued till March 2011. By March 2011 all the theme meetings planned for the Emancipatory research were completed. Due to some technical reasons (replications), some of the crosscutting themes were canceled from the researching list. At the end, a total of 16 themes out of 22 completed and all the relevant documents were produced/presented in the final SAG meeting.

Exposure visit for ORBIT/Bidar CBR team

A team of 11 members from ORBIT/Bidar underwent a 4 days exposure programme to reputed NGOS in and around Bangalore. The main purpose of the programme was to get acquainted with updated knowledge on CBR and disability with inclusive developmental approach. The team visited Mobility India, NIMHANS, MOB and Malavalli CBR project and the team lead by Mr.Suresh, CBR coordinator. In addition, during the same period they also had one day orientation on CBR guideline at TRDC. Jayanth and Parthipan organized the programme with the help of Mr. Jose.
Final SAG meeting of SPARK research program

Final meeting of Scientific Advisory Group (SAG), Research Core Group (RCG), facilitators and Research Coordination Team of the Emancipatory Research component of S-PARK/CBR research initiative was held in Bangalore (India) from 7 to 11 April 2011. This research focuses on impact of Community-based Rehabilitation (CBR) programme in nine sub-districts in Mandya and Ramanagara districts of Karnataka in India. Some persons from the SAG of first phase of S-PARK/CBR (Quantitative research) also participated in this meeting.

The objectives of this meeting were:

- To review the main conclusions of Emancipatory Research carried out between April 2010 to March 2011.
- To review preliminary findings of Quantitative Research carried out between April 2009 to March 2010.
- To identify the priorities and methodology of research for the third (final) phase of S-PARK/CBR research initiative.

S-PARK/CBR (Samagama Participatory Action Research Knowledge in Community-based Rehabilitation) Research Initiative started two years ago in April 2009. S-PARK/CBR initiative is organised in three phases - quantitative research, emancipatory research and a final phase of filling-in-the-gaps by focusing on key areas that need more understanding.

The first phase related to quantitative research was completed and second phase of the initiative related to Emancipatory Research has also been concluded. This phase of the research has been planned, managed and conducted by persons with disabilities from areas of Mandya and Ramanagara districts covered under CBR programme, who together constituted a Research Core Group (RCG). They were supported by a Scientific Advisory Group (SAG), composed mainly by persons with disabilities representing organizations of persons with disabilities and academic researchers.

For Emancipatory Research, RCG had identified 22 Priority Themes. Each theme research was carried out through a theme meeting, for which RCG prepared a research protocol and defined criteria for selection of participants. Each priority theme meeting included sharing of life stories, identification of barriers faced by persons with disabilities, identification of strategies for overcoming the barriers, impact of CBR programme and preparation of a community video about the theme.
Given the strong impact of the Emancipatory Research process on persons with disabilities, their communities and the CBR programme, it is proposed to pilot test the integration of emancipatory research process in the implementation of Mandya CBR programme. Thus the two partner organisations involved in Mandya CBR have been asked to constitute their own Empowerment Support Groups (ESGs) including representatives of the different groups of persons with disabilities to carry out the third phase of the SPARK CBR research programme.

**Mandya CBR staff 3 days meeting with Dr. Sunil:**

In following to the international SAG meeting a 3 days meeting was conducted from 13th to 15th April 2011 for MOB and SRMAB staff. Dr. Sunil Deepak facilitated the 3 days exercise with the focus on findings and discussions on (phase-1 and phase-2 of Spark research, discussions on need assessment form, and areas for 3rd phase research and individual experience sharing. Jayanth and parthipan supported the process and translated the proceedings. On the last day it was made clear that the 3rd phase research will concentrate on integration of emancipatory research along with routine CBR activities.

**Mandya CBR staff and empowerment support group (ESG) representatives training programme:**

This training activity was a combined activity organized for Mandya CBR staff (SRMAB and MOB) and ESG members of both the projects.

Facilitators for staff training: Jose, Jayanth, Parthipan, Victor and Mrs. Devi. Facilitators for ESG representatives training: Jayanth, Parthipan and Mrs. Kalavathi (Taluk Coordinator SRMAB). The 2 reference persons of the SPARK research programme were involved as co-facilitators for both the events.
This specific combined training activity was organized with a view to strengthen capacity of SPARK research implementers of Mandya and Ramnagar CBR project partners (SRMAB and MOB) supported by AIFO and the empowerment support group (ESGs) formed under SPARK research initiative for third phase. The overall objective of the training program is to improve the capacity of two groups of research implementers (MOB and SRMAB/Malavalli) on conducting the activities of SPARK research third phase using the participatory methods. The two groups are: staff of the projects (coordinators-CBR workers and representatives of empowerment support group (ESG) who will jointly plan and carry out all the field activities of the SPARK research initiative. Participatory methods like the presentations and discussions, group work and presentations, brainstorming sessions, audio and visual aids, individual exercises, motivational exercises, role plays, social games etc have been used to facilitate training sessions. The training program was separately scheduled in to two separate events such as for Taluk coordinators-CBR workers and ESG members. With some modifications, both the events were conducted for a duration of four days each focusing on the content mentioned in the third phase protocol. Four sessions each day and a total of 16 sessions for each of the training and a total of 32 sessions were organized for both the events. A women coordinator from both from SRMAB and MOB also participated in both the training programs.

**Zonal level basic physiotherapy training:**

AIFO in collaboration with ORBIT, a week long basic physiotherapy training was organized from 11 to 16 July 2011 at Humnabad ORBIT Bidar district Karnataka state. The idea of conducting this basic physiotherapy workshop initiated by Mr.Jose with the view of capacity building of CBR workers. Initial discussion made with Dr.Jayanth and Fr.Bapu and was decided to organize the workshop in ORBIT, Bidar. Three more AIFO supported project in north Karnataka also invited for the training programme. Facilitators: Dr. Parthipan, Physiotherapist, Research officer AIFO India, Dr. Manimozhi Natarajan, Medical coordinator, AIFO India and Dr.Jayanth Kumar, CBR Coordinator, AIFO India. A total participants of 21 (Male 7 and Female 14), 5 from Mudhol, 8 from ORBID, 3 from Raichur and 5 from H.B Halli projects.
Learning objective of physiotherapy training program

Understand and theory and practical of the basic physiotherapy technics for CBR field worker about management of various physical disability in field level.

Methodology used: The training were planned such a way where the participant can be enriched with theoretical and practical aspect of basic physiotherapy. The training methods include lecture, demonstration, participatory discussion, group discussion, practical’s, care giver training by CBRW and practice with real person with various physical disability.

Mandya CBR research training for staff on conducting research about SHG and DPO

This 4 days the SPARK CBR research team in AIFO at TRDC SRMAB organized training from 16 to 19th August 2011. MOB and SRMAB Staff (coordinator and CBR Workers) participated in the program. Dr. Maya Thomas (Scientific supervisor for third phase of SPARK research), Dr. Jayanth Kumar (CBR coordinator and coordinator of SPARK research) and Dr. Parthipan (research officer SPARK) were the main facilitators for the program. The main objective of the training is to strengthen capacity of staff of two research partner organizations (SRMAB and MOB) for facilitating field research on SHG and DPO/federations in Mandya and Ramnagar districts. Participatory learning methods such as presentations and discussions, brainstorming, questions and answers, group work and discussions, social games etc have been used to facilitate the different sessions. At the end of the training staff of both the projects separately prepared their individual plans for carrying out the field research activities of SHG and DPO in Mandya district.

Chainpur EU Project Plan preparation

AIFO’s CBR coordinator and Mandya SPARK research officer visited Chainpur project in Jharkhand from 25th Aug. 2nd Sep. 2011 for preparing the project concept note on rights of disabled persons. AIFO representative Mr. Jose, Project Managers, Supervisors, Government Officials, Advocates, Human rights activists, Animators and other technical staff of the project participated in all deliberations to prepare the concept note on rights of disabled persons. The document was finalized in consultation with Mr. Jose and Dr. Giovanni and was submitted to the EU Indian office.

Leprosy study training under SPARK CBR research

On 9th of September, one day training on leprosy study was organized at MOB Mandya by the SPARK research team in India. Para Medical staff of MOB, Other Coordinators of Malavalli and MOB (MOB CBR workers) participated in the training programme. Mr. Jose, Dr. Parthipan and Dr. Jayanth facilitated the sessions. The main Objective of the training is to prepare Para Medical Workers for sensory testing, data collection of selected persons with disability from the Phase I of SPARK and to plan the field study activities with all the Taluk coordinators. Discussions, Demonstrations, Group work and presentations are the learning methods applied by the facilitators while facilitating the different sessions.
AIFO India biennial meeting and AIFO golden Jubilee celebration:

AIFO organized biennial meeting for all the Indian & Bangladesh partners from 2 to 4 November 2011. CBR coordinator and the research officer presented an overview of the Mandya SPARK research (Emancipatory research) during the Biennial meeting. The main purpose of the presentation and discussions was to give an idea of Emancipatory research approach and how the approach can be carried out by other projects along with their routine activities. Dr. Parthipan also facilitated a mini session on CBR matrixes as part of the same session. Immediately after the biennial meeting, on 5th of November there was a celebration of AIFO’s golden Jubilee in Bangalore. All the projects managers participated in the programme and have expressed their unique appreciation to AIFO’s contribution towards elimination of leprosy and other activities.

Making the rights real (second CBR Asia Pacific congress)

“U.N CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITY-UNCRPD 2006”

- Six persons-Dr. Sunil Deepak (head of medical and scientific Dep. AIFO Italy) Dr. Nandini Gosh (Professor Kolkata University India), Dr. Jayanth (S-PARK research project coordinator AIFO India), Dr. Parthipan (Research officer SPARK project AIFO India), Mr. Ramesh (CBR executive SRMAB India, Ms. Venkatlakshmi (Research Core Group member Emancipatory research Mandya India) and Mr. Cheluvaraj (Facilitator Emancipatory research Mandya India) from AIFO participated in second Asia pacific CBR congress held in Philippines Manila from 29 November to first December 2011. Dr. Sunil and Mr. Cheluvaraj also presented papers in the congress.

- On Inclusion of Persons affected with leprosy in a CBR programme in India- By Dr. Sunil

- On Emancipatory research and Mandya CBR Programme’s contribution to Indian national disability census and national law “Rights of Persons with Disability 2011” By Cheluvaraj.

- As outcome of the CBR congress, all the AIFO representatives and the S-PARK research team members given their signatures on banner as symbolic evidence support to the campaign launched by the congress organizers towards the implementation of UNCRPD across the globe.

- Prior to the congress, A two days practical pre-congress workshop on the title “Conducting Emancipatory Research in CBR” was organized by AIFO in the same place on 27th and 28th of November 2011. The workshop was supported by CBM and was facilitated by Dr. Sunil Deepak. In different sessions all the S-PARK team members namely; Sunil, Jayanth, Parthipan, Nandini, Ramesh, Venkatalakshmi and Cheluvaraj presented papers on various aspects of Mandya Emancipatory research experiences carried out during 2010-2011.
A total of 60 participants from 18 different Countries across the globe representing National and International NGOs, disabled people’s international-DPI, disability and CBR experts, networking organisations, consultants, researchers, actively engaged in the 2 days in-depth deliberations about the fundamental issues related to the Mandya Emancipatory research experiences. There were several enquiries made by the participants on various aspects of planning, organizing, research methods, participation of researchers (disabled persons), reporting, data collection and analysis, quantitative and qualitative researches, expenditures related to the conduct of Emancipatory research.

As part of the workshop, a roundtable discussion was also facilitated, where Mr. Giampiero from Italy (DPI), Ms. Venus from Philippines (rehabilitation international) and Mr. Venkatesh from India (freelance consultant) shared their experiences in relation with CBR, DPI, SHG concepts and how they can work together for the inclusive development of persons with disability. Before the conclusion of the workshop, a session was organized focusing on clarifying the issues raised by the participants which was well facilitated by Dr. John Webber from CBM. At the end of the workshop, the SPARK research global coordinator circulated a digital draft version of the “Manual on conducting Emancipatory research” to all the workshop participants for their comments and suggestions.

Through this brief report, some of the SPARK team members also expressed their joy of first time experience of participation in an international event, their learning and their travel to abroad.

The SPARK research team members extend thanks to AIFO India representative Mr. Jose for his continuous support and encouragement. Also thanks to the office staff who organized their travel and other requirements. Last but not the least; SPARK team extends a special thanks to CBM for their contribution to make the event successful.
Events and Updates

AIFO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE at Bellaria Convention Centre, Italy from 21 to 23 October 2011

Celebrated AIFO’s 50th anniversary (1961-2011) with a theme “HOPE’S EXPERIENCES” – people’s faces, people’s stories. Under the High Patronage of the President of the Italian Republic – The programme started with registration of participants and AIFO President Dr. Anna Maria Pisano welcomed the gathering. Mr. Rego Peters from Damien Foundation Brussels/Belgium attended the conference. AIFO regional representatives from various countries including Mr. M.V. Jose and Dr. Manimozhi attended the function.

During the three day conference experiences were shared between speakers and AIFO volunteers who came from all across Italy. Dr. Francesco Colizzi Member and former AIFO President made Opening Report “Hopes Experience” giving the gathering a glimpse of his photo collection that is of historical value. Mr. Giovanni Pelagalli – AIFO founding Member and Dr. Enzo Zecchini – member and former AIFO President, very appropriately presented the birth and history of the Association.


AIFO- Bologna Head Quarters organized a workshop for all their Regional Representatives at Bologna - with three themes: Leprosy Disability & Stigma- Supervision, Monitoring & Evaluation and Seminar on Communication. After presentations and deliberations a tentative Action Plan was developed to focus on priority for Leprosy Programme. Issues related to Data Communication between Regional Office and Head Quarters at Bologna was specified. Mr. M.V. Jose and Dr. Manimozhi participated in the deliberations.
International Day of Persons with Disabilities

The annual observance of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3 December was established by the International Year for Disabled Persons (1981) celebrated in Brussels. It aims to promote a better understanding of disability issues with a focus on the rights of persons with disabilities and gains to be derived from the integration of

Training programme – AIFO/India Staff

A three-days 11-14th October 2011 Advanced Training Programme on EC proposal writing at Karl Kubel Institute for Development Education (KKID) - Coimbatore the training was useful to sensitize and gain knowledge for proposal writing. It gave an idea to realize the need of various components and assist an expert in writing a successful Project Proposal. Mr. Thomas O.M. Magura, MSc, MA, was the facilitator from Germany who had a wide experience working with EU and training programmes in this discipline. Dr. Manimozhi was and Mr. Patrick attended. The Key areas of the training programme:

- Project Appraisal and Preparation, Project Finance
- Monitoring and Evaluation, Impact Monitoring and Assessment
- Logical Framework Analysis, Project Cycle Management (EC and others)

Workshop on Social Stigma and Discrimination

A working document for social stigma and discrimination against leprosy was developed by the Central leprosy division. A workshop organised by WHO/CLD (November 29th to 1st December) where experts from all fields of leprosy participated and developed a Guideline for NLEP with AIFO as one of the key participant. Dr. Manimozhi from AIFO India participated in this programme.
Disability Prevention and Medical Rehabilitation (D.P.M.R.)

Three days' Workshop was organized by The Central Leprosy Division along with the partners at NOIDA- 21st to 24th June 2011: to streamline and develop a guideline for NLEP. Experts from Government and Non-Government agencies participated in the Programme. During the three days workshop issues related to difficulties in implementing the DPMR activities and development of strategies where discussed and a operational guideline was developed. Dr. Manimozhi from AIFO participated in this workshop.

Anti-Leprosy day 2011

AIFO – India along with Sumanahalli and the Persons affected by leprosy joined together on the 28th January 2011 to observe Anti- Leprosy day. An invitation was given to all those who had been under care at Sumanahalli. Nearly about 70 People participated in the programme, out of which there where 10 school going children, 10 teenagers, 10 youths, 20 employees (Government and Non-government) people, 10 each from elderly men and women. The main idea behind the programme was to have a happy reunion of all partners sharing experience (some negative experience earlier in life was seen in the background of their achievements, later which definitely outweighed their sad past). Cultural programme was organized by Students from various Nursing colleges in Bangalore along with other participants followed by lunch and dispersed with memories to remain.

A workshop on Psycho Social aspects of leprosy was organized on 21st January 2011 as a part of anti-leprosy day activities, which are planned throughout the month by Sumanahalli Society. The programme was inaugurated by Mr. M. V. Jose and made a theme presentation to about 250 post graduate students of Medical Social Work (MSW). As a part of Anti Leprosy Day activities – as a Joint venture of Continued Medical Education (CME) a Leprosy Orientation Programme for 52 doctors was organized by ESI Rajaji Nagar ESI Multi Specialty Hospital and Postgraduate Research Centre – Sumanahalli. Dr. Parimala, Dy Director (Leprosy) Government of Karnataka was the chief guest; Dr. Karur Medical Superintendent ESI Hospital presided over the function and Fr. George Director Sumanahalli introduced & inaugurated the programme. Dr. Keerthi Mannan, made a presentation giving a glimpse of historical aspects of leprosy, Dr. Hansen and about National Leprosy Eradication Programme including the involvement of ESI hospital along with the partnership of Sumanahalli.
National workshop on developing thematic areas for NLEP in the 12th five years plan (2012-2016)

With the approval of Central Leprosy Division- Government of India under the leadership of Dr.C.M.Agrawal, ILEP was able to organize this workshop at Hyderabad. There where participation from NLEP Partners such as WHO, IDEA, Sasakawa Memorial Foundation, ALERT - India,SLO’s, DLO’s and all ILEP partners operating in India. The Key facilitator Mr. Jose, Brand an Organizational Psychologist facilitated the workshop. The Additional Director General - health Services, Govt. of India Dr. Jagdish Prasad, Dy. Director General (L)Dr. C.M.Agrawal , Andhra Pradesh State Health Secretary Dr. Ramesh IAS, Director Health Services Dr. S.Aruna Kumari, Dr. Barua WHO and Dr, Noordeen graced the inauguration session. Mr. Jose and Dr. Manimozhi from AIFO participated in the workshop

The recommendations from this workshop was crucial since it would help the authorities to include in the National Five Year Plan. The result/objectives identified during a national workshop will be included in 12th five-year plan of NLEP.

These result/objectives are:

- Improved case detection
- Improved case management
- Improved monitoring, supervision, evaluation
- Leprosy expertise developed and sustained
- Increased participation of Persons affected by leprosy in society
- Stigma reduced
- Research to support evidence based programming
- Programme management ensured
State Leprosy Officers Annual Review meeting at Bhuwaneswar

Dr. C.M. Agrawal DDG(L) highlighted the major issues and challenges in leprosy programme and discussions were held on

- Assessment of Training load; Reaction cases Management; provision of self care Kits for ulcer care; IEC – focused approaches; Creation of Functional District Nucleus; Referral System development and DPMR activities

The Central Leprosy Division had identified 228 priority districts with endemic blocks and the activities recommended are - undertake house to house survey’s – in identified areas; implement IEC to spread awareness; Preparation of list of persons with Grade 2 disability due to leprosy and modify and adopt state specific strategies. Swami Japananda – Karnataka ILEP state Coordinator, Dr.N.Manimozhi AIFO Medical participated in the meeting

AIFO Biennial Meeting

The Biennial meeting took place from November 2nd to 5th Nov. In the presence of our AIFO President Dr. Anna Maria Pisano, Dr. Giovanni with all project Directors and Staff. The Programme revolved around thematic areas as follows:

- Emancipatory Approaches within the programme with CBR as a main Strategy–(Leprosy and Vulnerable groups)
- Expertise sustainability and development (Leprosy)
- NLEP activities (Case finding, Complications management, RCS, POD, Relapse, Data management Referral System, Involvement with General Health System/DLO)
- Finance and its management
- Supportive Supervision/Monitoring and evaluation, Communications and Reporting,
Visits and Visitors

- During this 1st quarter of 2011 project visits to Gudivada, Cochin, Raichur and Bidar to monitor and supervise was carried out by Mr. M.V. Jose AIFO Representative

- In the month of February 2011 Mr. Jose and Dr. Jayanth visited Assam CBR project for an Internal Review. During which Community visits, meeting with the staff, discussions with the project manager, desk review and convention of the SHG leaders are some of the major activities carried out during the weeklong review programme.

- Dr. Mrs. Galya, CBR Coordinator AIFO Magnolia visited AIFO India Office on 4th March 2011.

- Dr. Manimozhi visited with Dr. Sunil to review Bellary, Richur and Bidar Projects activities in March

- On 5th -15th April, Dr. Giovanni came to attend CBR Meeting and meeting with staff of AIFO Bangalore, regarding activities of AIFO India and Biennial meeting.

- Dr. Rajan Babu visited office for consultation meeting of Kurnool Medical college – NLEP A.P on 30th April

- Mr. Jose and Dr. Manimozhi Hyderabad visit to attend the workshop National workshop for Quality improvement under NLEP through Newer Approaches on 4-11 July

- Mr. Patrick for finalizing 3 years accounts and Dr. Jayath Kumar visited Bidar ORBIT project on 6-18 July

- Mr. Jose to Delhi for WHO meeting – National Leprosy Programme Managers’ meeting 27-29 September

- Dr. Manimozhi visited Italy for meeting 8-30 October

- Annamaria pisano, AIFO President and Dr. Giovanni, Project Manager to attend the Biennial meeting and visited Sumanahalli, Mandya on 2-8 November

- Dr. Jayanth, Dr. Parthipan group visited Manila for conference on 26 November -2 December
At present in AIFO India,

63713 direct beneficiaries,
18 Projects,
6 National Leprosy Eradication Programme (With Govt. of India)
1446 Self Help Groups,
20090 SHG Members,
68 Disabled Peoples Organizations.

MAIN ACTIVITIES:
- Survey
- Assessments and referrals
- Awareness programmes
- Medicine support
- Therapeutical services
- Nutrition camps
- Doctor’s certificates
- Home based education
- Social security schemes
- Vocational training
- Support for self-employment
- SHG meetings
- DPO formation and meetings
- Competitions (sports, drawing, etc.)
- Networking with GO’s and NGO’s
- Staff training and development
- Parent exposure
- Documentation and office work

NGO Projects In India
1. AMSK, Bhalky
2. ADOR, Raichur
3. Arogyamatha, Kollapur
4. Fr. Mullers, Mangalore
5. ALC, Bellary
6. S.J.L.R.C, Nidadavole
7. SRMAB, Malavalli
8. Wecare, Bangalore
9. ORBIT, Biodar
10. Assisi, Thiruvuru
11. ADC, Pedena
12. Sumanahalli, Bangalore
13. IMA, Cochin
14. MOB, Mandya
15. Manikbond, Chainpur
16. Mudhol
17. Nayee Asha, Meerut
18. Seva Kendra, Silchar

Governmental Projects in India
1. Central NLEP (National Leprosy Eradication Programme)
2. NLEP, Assam
3. NLEP, Andhra Pradesh
4. NLEP, Odisha
5. NLEP, West Bengal
6. NLEP, Karnataka

Projects in Bangladesh.
1. PME, Khulna
2. PBM, Chitagong
Audited Financial Statement

Keeping in view the global financial crisis and the deliberations of the AIFO Biennial meeting, the financial control was managed constantly without affecting the qualitative functions of the project, by minimizing the unnecessary expenditures. The activities were carried with extra attention, to maintain the normal functions of all the projects without compromising the qualities.
AIFO Celebrated Golden Jubilee at Bangalore on 5th November

AIFO celebrated its Golden Jubilee with a colourfull gathering of programme dignitaries, partners and people involved with AIFO operations in India, delegates from Italy participating in the programme gave a completeness of felling togetherness under the only one sky. Each and every participant shared their experiences with AIFO all through. Lighting of the lamp followed with a spectacular delightful dance programme by the children of Sri Ramana Maharishi Academy for the Blind along with a Karnataka folk song gave the programme a cultural touch.