



Love is sharing others feelings -Raoul Follereau



AIFO focus on Leprosy, Opportunities for Children, and Community Based Rehabilitation



Amici di Raoul Follereau is an Italian Non-Governmental Organisation, born out of the enthusiasm of a group of young people devoted to spreading the message of Raoul Follereau. The national association Amici dei Lebbrosi was set up in 1961 by Raoul Follereau himself. Its name was changed to Amici di Raoul Follereau in July 1979. AIFO is a founding Member of ILEP.

AIFO BUILDING A CIVILISATION OF LOVE

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 dignity, safe from all discrimination.

Believe in collaboration among the people of the world where diversity and mutual support are valued.

VALUES

A world in which, right to health is a reality for every one, Leprosy is defeated and the disabled persons have equal rights, a world without the domination of unjust power system.

VISION

We work for promoting dignity and access to health for the most marginalised groups, especially for persons affected with leprosy and disabled persons and to work together with them for fighting to restore health.

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 peoples
- Opposing any kind of discrimination, especially towards persons affected with leprosy and persons with disabilities Promoting special attention towards the needs of more vulnerable groups like poor, women and children

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Greetings form Mr.M.V.Jose: Secretary, AIFO India Bangladesh.

This annual report presents the progress we have made during the year 2007. We would like to share with you the Progress and impact made in the projects with the support of AIFO. India became one of the signatories to the UNCRPD convention on 30th March 2007 and ratified it on 1st October 2007. Since AIFO is actively participating in the disability sectors all our projects are very keen in following all the developments and taken immediate measures to celebrate the convention.



The DTST's had worked along with the District

Nucleus making them capable enough to operate individually thus avoiding dependence. The DTST project had successfully completed its mission and concluded. In the states of Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, and Karnataka the strategic plan is in preparatory phase and while in the states of Orissa the Technical Resource units are in force carrying out its operations including Reconstructive surgery services . And for the future support to the NLEP a lot of preparation is under process in consultation with Partners. The Technical Resource Unit will support the State NLEP, basically to ensure provision of sustained quality leprosy services and utilization of available resources at all the health facilities.

We are aware that "Elimination of leprosy" does not mean that the fight against leprosy is over, while it just means that leprosy is not a burden as "public health problem". The projects collaborating with NLEP had contributed their efforts in bringing back dignity and cure for the persons affected with leprosy and others through Community Based Rehabilitation. It is a pride that our Non- leprosy projects had come forward to fight for the cause of leprosy affected persons and I hope that the results will be visible in the coming years. The children, AIFO's dreams are progressing well in pursuing their academic activities, while some are coming out with flying colours - we are indeed privileged to be associated with them.

This year AIFO had extended its support to the Flood effected parts of Assam and Bangladesh while continuing its efforts in rehabilitating the Tsunami affected population in Krishna District - Andhra Pradesh.

We at AIFO will remain committed to our goals and believe in achieving results with "Trust" "Faith" and "Hope". We would like to thank the community for accepting our services, our Organisation, Programme Partners, and our volunteers – "Amici" for all their support and encouragement.

"There is only one sky for the whole world" - Raoul Follereau.

Jose Manikkathan

To all those interested in leprosy, where ever you are: To share information on leprosy and its control with email and Web users worldwide

LML Dr. Salvatore Noto Padiglione Dermatologia Sociale Az. Ospedialiera Universitaria S.Martino LML ARCHIVES Dr.Sunil Deepak AIFO Via Borselli 4-6 40135 Bologna-Italy



Brief of activities during the year 2007

- AIFO Regional Office Coordinators (CBR / Medical) routine /periodical Project visits to review, monitor, supervise programmes and carry out training programmes and desk review project performance through their monthly Reports.
- ILEP/ NLEP meetings discussions for Leprosy projects (NLEP) and future strategies of leprosy programme
- Head of Finance and Accounts Meeting & Project Visit by the Accounts Manager
- Completion and withdrawal of District Technical Support Teams (DTST)
- Training programmes /workshops and Review meetings (AIFO India Coordinators, facilitators from Italy
- WHO CBR guideline field validation workshop
- Mr. Jose visit to Mongolia to facilitate training course on SHG-Micro credits.
- Project visits by volunteer groups / Students from Italy.
- Tsunami rehabilitation work in Gudivada Andhra Pradesh and
- Flood relief work in Assam and Bangladesh
- Mr. Jose's visit to Italy AIFO head office Bologna to attend the AIFO biannual seminar and workshop
- AIFO biennial partners meeting held at Chandpur Hariyana.
- AIFO Vice- President Dr. Emanuela Minotti and Dr. Giovanni Gazzoli-head of Project, AIFO-Head Office Bologna, Programme review visit to India

AIFO - Biennial Meeting at Chandpur - Haryana





Leprosy remains a Priority for AIFO, its Programmes and Projects

The messages from the President of AIFO and views of the Vice President and the Head of Project office was well presented and made their views clear that Leprosy remains a Priority.





Mr.M.V.Jose makes a note about the role of Managers in the Programme, making it clear that all the projects would take an account of the situation of leprosy and modify themselves to provide sustainable quality Leprosy services to all those affected by the disease.



AIFO biennial partners meeting held at Chandpur Hariyana:

AIFO India Biannual Meeting took place All AIFO supported project Representatives from 5th to 7th November 2007 at the attended the meeting. SJSS-Chandpur, Haryana. Presence of Dr.Ms.Emanuela Minotti -AIFO Vice President, Dr. Giovanni Gazzoli- Head of Projects - Bologna and Dr. Daisy. Chairperson-AMICI Trust were special for the occasion.

Raoul Follereau his vision of Civilization of Love at Universal level was highlighted during their presentations.

AIFO projects meets once in 2 years to review and Plan its strategies accordingly to change the policies and guidelines.



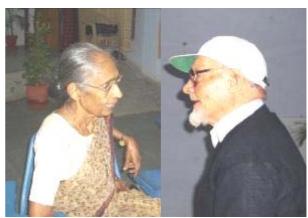
The programme was well scheduled keeping in mind flexibility to accommodate participation within practical reach and the programme concluded within the time frame covering all the aspects planned.

Mr. Jayanth Kumar conducted a mini workshop related to the UN convention on the rights of persons with disability and a working report was presented after group work.

All the project representatives made a presentation about their project perform-

The impression was clear about the mind set of the projects that leprosy had lost its priority and their indications of diversification to other programmes.

The Role of AIFO and its support to NLEP were made clear again. Achieving Elimination target does not mean that there is no more leprosy work. Leprosy problem still exists.



Presence of Veterans in the field of leprosy Fr. Colombo and Dr. Daisy is essential to guide us through, They bring us back to the world of reality and remind us the sense of purity, humility and focus towards persons affected with leprosy.

The participants were divided into groups to discuss about their Plans and activities to be undertaken, based on the guidelines and their protocol

Major conclusions:

AIFO projects as Referral Centres participating in the Referral System to provide Sustainable Quality Leprosy Services to the leprosy affected persons under NLEP

The Biennial meeting concluded with remarks from all the participants especially from the non-leprosy projects about their possibility of involvement and support to of cause Leprosy.



Capacity Building

Interns from PES Medical College - Kuppam, AP, take postings for 2 weeks at Sumanahalli. The Interns take keen interest to acquire knowledge and skills in CBR and leprosy. Two Post graduate students under the Community Medicine departments of S.V.M.C -Tirupati and K.M.C. Kurnool operated as Medical Officers in the DTST's of Chittoor and Kurnool districts.





Post graduate (Dermatology) and Undergraduate students - from Tirupati (SVMC) Kurnool Medical College under Objective Structured Practical Exercises in Leprosy





POD (Prevention of Disabilities) workshop for AIFO supported Projects (Pedana, Kollapur, Warangal, Tiruvuru, Mangalagiri)

AIFO projects meets once in 2 years to review and Plan its strategies





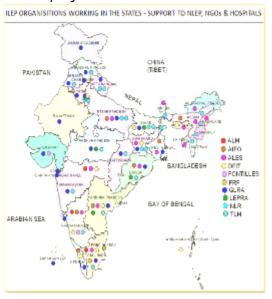
Relapse:

A Case of Relapse had been reported in one of our projects - and as a part of understandings the case was referred to Lepra - Blue Peters Institute for drug resistance studies. It becomes important for Projects to be aware and report when these events occur. The case responded well to the line of management.



eprosy Control

AIFO involves along with other ILEP organi- during September - December 2007 in 19 sations supporting the National Leprosy states, (275 high priority blocks). Similarly Eradication Programme NLEP – at the Cen- Urban Leprosy Sensitization and Awareness tral, State, District and the Peripheral Gen- Campaign were also carried out in urban areral Health System and also by supporting eas. All Coordinated efforts helped in prothe NGO projects.



gressive improvement of leprosy situation in the country.

The project came to an end in 2007 after accomplishing its role and the teams withdrawn.

Future Responsibilities of AIFO supported Projects under NLEP:

- 1. Disability Prevention and Medical Rehabilitation - coordinating with the General Health System:
- 2. Provision of Secondary level care managing complications

District Technical Support Teams (DTST) -Operations undertake

- Realizing quality of leprosy case diagnosis and treatment services in all Health
- Building the capacity of GHC staff on clinical, managerial, Analytical and supervisory skills.
- Maintaining validity in recording and re-
- Maintaining adequate MDT supply at all levels.
- Removing operational factors hindering leprosy elimination in the district, while strengthening the capacity of the District Nucleus to take over the programme

AIFO participated along with other ILEP member organizations in placing 15 DTST's in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal since 2002

The District Technical Support Teams operated along with the District Nucleus in carrying out activities, mainly focusing on Integration and Capacity Building. Block Leprosy Awareness Campaign-4 was conducted



Lepra Reactions and Relapse management major Challenge for the coming years •••



Leprosy Control

Serious considerations required.

Every one -

need a foot wear

People with insensitive foot /feet - need foot wear with a hard sole, soft insole, a covering and a back strap to hold the foot wear.



For a person with this kind of feet they need specialized foot wear with MCR.





Young Children and adults with deformities due to leprosy come forward from neighbouring districts referred through the system for Reconstructive Surgeries

ONAL LEPROSY ERADICATION PROGRAMN VIEW & PLANNING WORKSHOP FOR RTH-EASTERN STATE AT GANGTOK, SIKKII

ON 6"%7" DECEMBER '07



NLEP Partners Government of India, WHO and ILEP organised series of workshops and Review meetings to establish the operations of NLEP - with focus on to the North Eastern states of India.

AIFO starts its operations as Assam State ILEP coordination along with support for Lepra Society - India



Dr.B.Taid, SLO of Assam is new to Leprosy field and extends his full cooperation while looking forward for ILEP operations for the first time in the state

ASSAM contributes to N.E.States as on March 2007

66.98% N.E. States Population

78.98% N.E. State New Case detection

78.38% N.E. States Prevalence



Orissa operations:

MKCG Medical College- Berhampur, Leprosy Home & Hospital- Cuttack &The Mission Hospital, Bargarh. During 2006-07, 267 cases had been operated in above institutions

ILEP partners to continue support to Orissa NLEP - Technical Resource Unit & Strengthening Referral System -Project' 11th Plan period (2007-12). AIFO and other partners with LEPRA as ILEP Coordinator Orissa

CHINA



Leprosy Status in India: 2007

A total of 83,000 case on record as on 1st April 2007. Prevalence rate (PR) of 0.72 leprosy cases per 10,000 population

A total of 139,000 new cases detected during the year 2006-07.

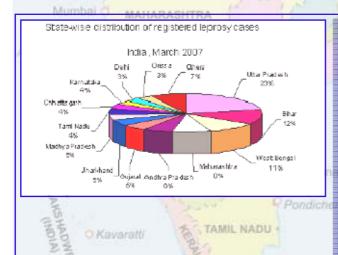
Annual New Case Detection Rate (ANCDR) of 12.07 per 100,000 population (ANCDR reduction of 15.4% from 14.27 during 2005-06.)

Information on leprosy cases detected during 2006-07:

Proportion of Multi-bacillary Cases (45.0%), Female (34.3%), Child (10.1%), Visible Deformity (2.3%)

State wise details where AIFO operated with other ILEP partners

No	State alpur O	Estimated Population as on March 2008	Cases on record as on March 2007	No. of new cases detected * (* All cases put on MDT)			10000 Pop
				PB	MB	Total	MANIPUR
1	Andhra Pradesh	82893403	5338	38177	28328	66505	0.70
2	Assam	30036654	1026	2025	6629	8654	0.38
3	Karnataka	58890750	2934	13182	18266	31448	0.52
5	Orissa	40682830	2634	19100	19494	38594	0.81
6	Uttar Pradesh	194704448	18104	122576	85772	208348	0.94
7	W Bengal Wassa	89899615	8723	38682	48484	87166	1.04



Thiruvananthapuram O

The future support of ILEP (AIFO) for NLEP -

Thematic areas of Support, Which are as follows:

- 1. Capacity Building of the District Nucleus
- 2. Monitoring and Supervision of the Programme
- 3. Disability Prevention and Medical Rehabilitation
- 4. Operational Research
- 5. Socio-economic Rehabilitation
- 6. Community Based Programmes

Source of information: NLEP Annual Report - Government of India

INDIAN



CBR activities:

- Number of CBR projects supported during the reporting year: 18
- On going Capacity building activities for Project staff:
 10 programmes for nearly 200 staff members on various areas of CBR and disability
- DPOs and SHGs facilitated for capacity building activities, particularly on UNCRPD, disability-rights and legislations in India 15 DPOs ,100 SHGs.
- Internal review of CBR-leprosy: 9 projects jointly facilitated by the Medical and CBR coordinators with the combination of CBR and leprosy programme components. There were many advocacy/ networking meetings attended by the coordinator:

Achievements:

- 1. Organisations collaborated and Expertise ex changed among the project partners.
- 2. Information shared among local NGO-projects particularly on UNCRPD and its progress.
- 3. Leprosy rehabilitation components being strengthened in CBR programmes and vice versa.



It is been noticed that Persons affected with leprosy often do not get priority. AIFO forces its mission and vision that Leprosy will remain a Priority -

This neglected person now enjoys her privileges earlier denied to her.

They should be included as the main key Partners in the programme and should they be supported to make them fight for their "Rights" and dignity.

- 4. Coverage area and community involvement increased.
- 5. Collaboration with the government departments strengthened.
- 6. More CBOs, DPOs and SHGs have been initiated and strengthened.
- 7. CBR team's capacity increased in terms of knowledge and skills.
- 8. Raised awareness on UNCRPD among projects, DPOs, SHGs and other local NGOs.
- 9. Translated UNCRPD in Kannada Language and shared copies with project partners and other local NGOs.

Major Problem in CBR projects is staff turn over, they leave the job in search of other attractive jobs. And training the new comers had become a regular feature.



India became one of the signatories to the UN convention on Rights of People with Disability on 30th March 2007 and ratified it on 1st October 2007. The disability sector in India was very keen in following all the developments and taken immediate measures to celebrate the convention.

In this context, there was a 2-day National Level Consultation organised by NCPEDP on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This Consultation was held in New Delhi on the 27th and 28th of July 2007 in which representatives from Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, RCI, NLSAR, leading disability activists and Organisations from across the country participated. AIFO India, CBR Forum, Action aid India and other agencies from Bangalore were also part of 2 days deliberations.





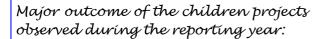
Children's Projects:

AIFO continued its focus on leprosy inte-



gration and community based rehabilitation, children also received equal attention in all the projects. The healthy, growing, smiling, learning, active children increased in all AIFO supported project across the country.

The focal Children projects are in Assam, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, and in projects. The support activities include primary health, education (nursery, lower primary, and higher primary), recreation, sports, parents counselling, strengthening balwadies, teachers training, scholarships, uniforms, carry bags, and books etc.



- Children continued primary and higher education.
- Application of participatory learning and teaching methods by the teachers.
- Improvements in children's health and hygienic condition.
- Increase in enrolment of children in Balwadies (nurseries).
- Inclusion of children with disability and children of leprosy affected persons along with other marginalised children in schools.
- Increase of parent's involvement and community contributions to education of children.
- Active involvement of Balwadi committees in management of Balwadi centres.



Early Diagnosis adequate treatment, early recognition of disabilities, Education, Psycho-socio economical support an urgent need for the next generation. Child showing early signs of disability (weakness of left eye lid) due to leprosy identified.



We all sing thanking all good hearted ones





Other activities carried out by AIFO with the support of local Bodies

<u>Tsunami relief work in Gudivada in Andhra Pradesh:</u>

AIFO is one of the significant contributors for relief and rehabilitation of people afected by Tsunami in Andhra Pradesh. In Andhra Pradesh Manginapudi was the most affected area. The major activity implemented in the affected areas was to provide Drinking water, Rehabilitation, Re-construction of houses.

Relief and Rehabilitation:

The fishermen community lost their boats nets and their daily means of earning due to Tsunami. As a relief and rehabilitation measures - Four groups were formed from two hamlets of fishermen community comprising of 60 families, four second hand motorized fishing boats repaired and handed over to the groups.

Construction of Houses:

House constructions for the Tsunami victims were undertaken in two phases. The 1st phase 37 houses and in the second phase 40 houses. 37 houses were constructed around Manginapudi beach. 40 houses at Usualavaripalam of which 23 are for the people belonging to the Scheduled caste and 17 for the Scheduled tribe's



Construction work under the observation and delight of the owner of this gift.

Assam Flood relief

Seva Kendra Silcha one of partner organisations AIFO along with many other local or-

ganisations and other well – wishers rendered flood relief to the affected people of the (Longai Valley and) Bark Valley in Assam. Firstly, the essential food items such as rice, dal and salt ere distributed among the flood victims of the region. Cleanliness drives such as clearing of debris, Ring wells and ponds etc. were also conducted by the government however, the beneficiaries were limited, and it was done mostly in the urban areas.





Strange for others, but strength for us.

These two had been living away from their families for years with hope to be taken back, which did not. One day they decide to be wife and husband and now there are. St Joseph Rehab Centre - Nidadavole.



Bangladesh:



Dr. Giovanni, Mr. Antonio, Ms. Susanna Mr.M.V.Jose with staff and hospital inmates at Khulna Project

Flood relief

As part of the emergency Relief service programme,



Tuberculosis is been identified as a serious Public Health problem needing support from all partners. Persons who had completed anti TB treatment attending to their club meeting to discuss problems and rehabilitation. Women with TB face a lot of psycho-social problems.

AIFO supported a Project for the Severely Affected Flood Victims in Khagrachari Hill District and Rajbari District of Bangladesh in August-September 2007. Diarrhoea outbreak in the flood-affected areas has reached an epidemic proportion. The waterborne disease has struck 1,417,669 people since the beginning of the month of September-October and claimed 329 lives. A total of 5,549,120 families in 39 flood-hit districts had been affected. Crops on 1,140,928 acres of land have been fully destroyed. A total of 155,142 houses were fully destroyed

PBM one of the AIFO's partner organisations took up the responsibility and implemented emergency relief. The relief work/project was carried out through local support with formal approval of the NGO Affairs Bureau of the Government and the respective administration.

The project intention was to distribute emergency dry food, water, medicines, clothing etc among the severely affected 1800 families in Northeastern Khagrachari Hill District and South West Rajbari District. A total 1800 (eighteen hundred) badly affected families were received benefit from this project.



Water, water every where! Floods are frequent problems This time was encroachment of land by water.......





How to thank ! All those kind hearted who are generous !!!



Tributes to Dorte



For all this work, his father though did not support him openly, was allowing him to be totally involved in project activities. After the funeral, he said "He is like an ocean and I am not even a drop of it. He did everything right in his life.

Mr. Dorte Chorei

caretaker Mr. Dorte Chorei was born at suitable mate for him. And soon he found Makunda Christian Hospital to Mr. Kames- the EVE name Mating Chorei at Magura. He war Chorei and Mrs. Phunvanli Chorei on a got married to her in 1986. The first child bright morning as a fruit of their married born to them was named Ngirlibul later life. As a child, he was cute and little fat so called as Simon and the daughter Ngirlinei all called him DORTE and that nick name Eunice. became his personal treasure.

Secondary School, Karimganj. After the work in the North Eastern Social Forum. ment employee and draw a fat salary.

the place without even taking a paisa.

His next opportunity was when he willingly joined the young people group; taking al- He was in service till he breathed his last ways the main role as a leader.

Here too our friend did not last long in his We will forever cherish his friendly nature, job. Later his father sends him to Simtang the ever smiling face and generous attitude M. E. School as an Asst. teacher. But the to all sections of the people. We are gratepressure of his father got the better of him ful to you and God who had send you to us and he slipped away from this noble task as a unique gift wrapped in beautiful wrapof teaching the young ones.

Meanwhile our young and energetic Dorte

Our friend and benefactor, well-wisher and looked beyond the river longai to find a

He went to Andhra Pradesh to attend pro-As a little boy, Dorte was sent to Ngirnei- grammes on social work. Besides this he seik L. P. School, Manikbond. He continued also attended several programmes on sohis middle school studies in Govt. Higher cial work and equipped himself for further completion of his matriculation, his father Mr. Dorte was provided with further assiswanted his first born should be a govern- tance and asked to work for the Diocese of Assam by helping in Seva Kendra, Silchar. Later on he was promoted to the post of But the independent son did not like the Zonal Chief Animator of Manikbond Zonal desire of his father, yet not to displease his Centre. He rendered his selfless service to father he took up the job as a Ranger. This all sections of the people never discrimiwork he did just for four months and left nating the caste, creed, culture, community and colour.

breath on 11th May, 2007 at 11.00 p.m.



List of Projects supported by AIFO—India/Bangladesh

Andhra Pradesh:

- Gudivada-Assisi Dermatological Centre, Pedana.
- 2. Arogya Matha Rural Rehabilitation Centre, Kollapur
- St.Joseph's Leprosy Rehabilitation Centre. Nidadavole.
- 4. Leprosy Rehabilitation Project, Mangalagiri
- 5. St. Catald—ASSISI Seva Sadan, Tiruvuru.
- 6. Viswa Karuna Snagham Social Service Centre,

Jharkhand -

- 1. Children Project , Chainpur, Gumla ,
- 2. South Vihar Welfare for Tribal, Simdega

New Delhi.

1. St. Joseph's Service Society, Chandpur

Uttar Pradesh

- 1. Don Bosco Technical Institute, Lucknow.
- 2. Uttar Pradesh Nayee Asha, Meerut.

Kerala: International Medical Association, Cochin.

Karnataka:

- Assisi Leprosy Centre, Hagari Bommanahalli, Bellary
- 2. Assisi Deepthi Organization for Rehabilitation. Raichur
- 3. Arogya Matha Seva Kendra, Bhalki, Bidar
- 4. ORBIT, Humnabad, Bidar,
- 5. SRMAB, Mallavalli
- 6. MOB Rural Health Centre, Mandya
- 7. Centre for Non-Formal Education, Mudhol, Bidar,
- 8. Shantha Jeeva Jyothi, Bangalore
- 9. We Care, Bangalore
- 10. Sumanahalli LR&Training Centre, Bangalore.

Assam: Seva Kendra Silchar, Manikbond

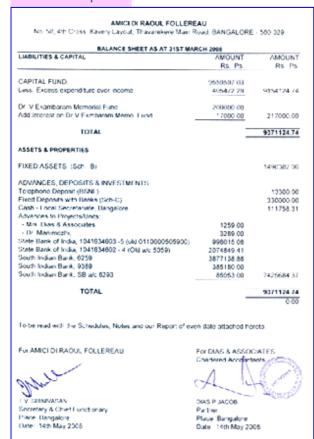
- NLEP: State MDT Projects

 1. Chittoor/Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh
- Angul/Boudh/Ganjam/Sambalpur/Sudargarh/ Orissa
- 3. Bellary/Koppal, Karnataka
- 4. Bareilly/Moradabad/Shahajahanpur/Meerut/Utt ar Pradesh
- 5. Birbhum, West Bengal

Bangladesh:

- 1. Prabatya Buddha Mission Chittagong,
- 2. Dhanjuri Leprosy Programme Khulna,

Auditor Report





Priority for the Persons affected due to leprosy becomes more important despite decline trends in epidemiological indicators - Incidence and Prevalence



* We wish to thank all for there consent to publish their photographs.

