

### Meetings, Workshops and Visits

**Board of Directors Meet :** ICSD had its Board Meeting on 16th January, 2012 in Hyderabad. It was also attended by Mr. Kaspar Grossenbacher from HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation, Bern.

**Strategy Workshop :** We had a strategy workshop on 16th and 17th of January, 2012 in Hyderabad.

As our team had grown and members are located in different locations, this workshop was envisaged to facilitate the team to know each other, understand the organization, for team building and to formulate strategy for the future.

**Field Visit by Audit and Accounts Team :** Mr. Subba Rao, Auditor from M/s. Mahesh, Virender and Sriram Chartered Accountants, and Ms. Madhuri (ICSD) visited the Organic Cashew Project - Goa on 14-16 March, 2012 for a field visit

### We were there too!

**Ashish in LBSNAA :** Mr. Ashish Srivastava visited LBSNAA to render his services for the Preparation of Training Modules on Decentralised Planning for Various Academy Courses.

**National Workshop on Markets and Livelihoods :** Dr. Joy Elamon presented a paper on Fair-trade experiences with focus on Kerala at the two day

national workshop on 'Markets and Livelihoods: The Political Economy of Retail Trade in India' organized by the Centre for Jawaharlal Nehru Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia University and Fair Trade Forum India on 9-10 March 2012 in the university.

**Seminar on Local Self Government - the Unfinished Agenda :** Dr. Joy Elamon presented a paper on 'Role of Local Bodies in Programme Implementation' in the seminar on "Local Self Government - the Unfinished Agenda" held on March 28, 2012 at Abdul Nazir Sab Auditorium, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi.

**Workshop on Impact of Quota System on Women's Empowerment :** At the workshop on "Impact of Quota System on Women's Empowerment" organized by Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi on 28 March 2012, Dr. Joy Elamon talked on Women Component Plan and Local Governments.

**Designing CoP on Social Accountability :** CUTS International and ANSA South Asia organized a Country consultation on Designing Community of Practice on Social Accountability on 8th February 2012 where Dr. Joy Elamon made a presentation on Building CoPs on Governance.

Intercooperation has been included as a core group member of the CoP on Social Accountability (CoPSA).

### Experiences to Cherish - the Sabara Story

The project on Empowering Gram Panchayats for improved planning and delivery of water and sanitation services using the water use master plans was just completed. This was funded by Arghyam Trust and implemented in partnership with IWD and Sabara Gram Panchayat in Orissa.

The project was able to bring in remarkable change in the perception of the people with regard to sanitation and hygiene. It also highlighted the important role the local governments could play in water, sanitation and hygiene.

A process document was prepared by Mr. Nitya Jacob, with narrative and evaluative documentation approach. Video documentation was also done, both in Odiya and English.



Mr. Nelson of Arghyam Trust releasing the poster on Sanitation and Hygiene

#### News Post Editorial Board

Joy Elamon  
Shazneen Cyrus Gazdar  
Ashish Srivastava  
Sreelatha

#### ICSD Team

Joy Elamon, Raja Rathinam, Indrani Phukan, Mustak Khan, Shazneen Cyrus Gazdar, Ashish Srivastava, Abhijeet Dhabole, Sreelatha, Madhuri, Shobha, Janardhan, Venkatamma

#### Board of Directors

G. Sreekumaran Nair, Nandita Ray, V. Padmakumar, Rupa Mukerji, K.V. Sreeram

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### Dear All,

Thank you all for the encouraging responses and suggestions to the previous issues of the News Post.

The New Year brought a lot of cheer to the IC team and its well wishers. A few more projects and assignments came to its way. These were distributed across all the three domains Climate Change, Organic and Fair-trade and Governance. There were successes in competitive bids and tenders.

As in the previous quarter, January to March 2012 too was packed with a lot of activities. Efforts continued for developing new project proposals. There were the meetings of the Board of Directors, strategy workshop, project review meetings and field visits by our partners.

A major activity during the quarter was the organising of the session on 'Challenges of Urban Green Development' at the International Congress on Urban Green Spaces in New Delhi.

Your continued support, guidance and encouragement are our sources of strength.

With best regards

ICSD Team



From the Visioning Workshop

## Challenges of Urban Green Development



### Session hosted by Intercooperation at CUGS 2012

Intercooperation hosted a session on 'Challenges of Urban Green Development' at the International Congress on Urban Green Spaces (CUGS), New Delhi (India) from 5-7 March 2012. This session was part of the workshop on "Climate Change Mitigation and Energy Use Optimization".

The Congress was aimed at bringing together academics, researchers, practitioners, policymakers, young professionals and developers from the spheres of urban planning, architecture, and energy efficiency groups, among others, to critically reflect on the role urban green development will play in building patterns for sustainable cities.

The session was chaired by Mr. Aromar Revi (Director, Indian Institute of Human Settlement). Based on a background note prepared by Intercooperation, the following papers were presented:

**Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Built Environment: Some Key Approaches** by Mrs. Mili Majumdar (Director, Sustainable Habitat Division, TERI)

**Developing Guidelines for the Design of Energy Efficient Urban Residential Buildings** by Prof. Ashok B. Lall (Principal Architect, Ashok B Lall Architects) and

**Cool Roof for Cool Cities** by Mr. Tanmay Tathagat (Director, Environmental Design Solutions)

Dr. Indrani Phukan (Programme Coordinator-Climate Change, Intercooperation) welcomed the participants and Ms. Shazneen Cyrus Gazdar (Subject Matter Specialist-Climate Change, Intercooperation) proposed vote of thanks.

The Congress was organized by the Aravali Foundation for Education in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India.

*Proceedings of the session are available from ICSD office as well as at [www.intercooperation.org.in](http://www.intercooperation.org.in).*

# Updates from the Field

## Organic Cashew Value Chain, Goa and Maharashtra

Launched in March 2011, India organic cashew value chain project completed one year of successful implementation in Maharashtra and Goa.

The project witnessed the completion of the following six activities successfully within one year.

- Internal control system (ICS) management trainings were provided to more than 2200 farmers for smooth organic certification.
- Organic cashew production technology trainings provided to more than 800 farmers.
- Around 320 farmers were exposed to Ajanta Industries factory at Ponda, Goa for better understanding of post-harvest management.
- Ajanta Organic Cashew Producer Company Ltd. (AOCPL) was recently formed as a Small Producers Organization (SPO). The Board of Directors visited Sangli grape growers association for an exposure visit and training on new Fair Trade standards.
- Farm Diary is an important part of ICS. A new farm diary with suggestions from reputed organizations in the field of organic certification has been designed. It is being distributed to more than 3000 farmers.
- 57 farmers attended three different trade fairs BioFach 2011, Bangalore, Kisan Agro Expo, Pune and one local trade fair at Kudal.



Farmers attending the BioFach fair

**Steering Committee:** The second meeting of the Steering Committee of India Organic Cashew Value Chain was held on 21st of March 2012 at Margaon, Goa. Farmer representatives from Goa and Maharashtra, Mr. Suresh Kennit (SECO), Ms. Rupa Mukerji (HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation), Mr. A.S. Kamat (Ajanta Industries) and Dr. Joy Elamon, Mr. Mustak Khan, Mr. Abhijeet from Intercooperation attended the meeting. One of the major decisions was to form a new small producers company for Maharashtra farmers.



Rupa Mukerji interacting with Cashew farmers in Goa

## Small Ruminant Value Chain Project in Mahabubnagar

Second phase activities of the Small Ruminant Value Chain project has been initiated in Mahabubnagar district in Andhra Pradesh. The project was started as a pilot supported by NABARD. The second phase is being implemented by Intercooperation in partnership with WASSAN. Preparatory activities have been completed, feed trial protocols have been developed and the participating farmers have been selected.

## Mid Term Evaluation of Gol-UN Joint Programme on Convergence

Draft report of the Mid Term Evaluation of the Government of India United Nations Joint Programme on Convergence was submitted and a presentation of the findings was made to the National Steering Committee of the Programme on 16 February 2012.

Dr. Meenakshisundaram, Dr. Joy Elamon and Ms. Priti Sharma are the members of the evaluation team.

## Guiding Document on Training Needs Assessment for Panchayati Raj

Intercooperation was entrusted by UNDP and Ministry of Panchayati Raj with the task of preparing a Guiding document on Training Needs Assessments for Panchayati Raj. This is being done in partnership with Administrative Staff College of India.

Field visits to Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Karnataka, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh were completed during the period. These were followed by a small group workshop organized on 16 February 2012 in New Delhi.

The draft of the Guiding document has been prepared. This will be followed by formal presentation, pilot testing, preparation of the model TNA report, modules preparation for the TNA methodology training and pilot training in the next quarter.

# Updates from the Field

## Assessment and Analysis of Non Governmental Support System for Local Governments

This is an assignment awarded to Intercooperation by SDC-LoGIn South Asia. The draft preliminary note was shared with SDC-LoGIn.

A workshop on the concept note was organized on 14 March 2012 in New Delhi.

## From Uttarakhand

The Indian part of a project on Sustainable Production of Organic and Fair Trade Rice is being implemented by Intercooperation in Uttarakhand since July 2011 in partnership with NBF, Uttaranchal Organic Commodity Board and HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation. It is supported by Coop.

As the first season was over, the quarter January-March 2012 was full of reviews through interactions, workshops, meetings and field visits.



IC team's visit to Ramnagar, Uttarakhand

## New Projects and Assignments

### Strategies and Action Plan for Climate Change, CDM and Carbon Trading in Rajasthan

Intercooperation has been awarded the consultancy contract by GIZ to develop a comprehensive strategic plan and guidelines for piloting, communication, knowledge sharing, public awareness and publicity about climate change for the CCC Cell (Climate Change, CDM and Carbon Trading Cell) based at Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board.

The assignment began in March 2012 and the inception Report was submitted to GIZ. The way forward is a stakeholder consultation workshop to be held in Jaipur to understand the functioning and potentials of RSPCB/CCC Cell, what are their priority areas, and a comprehensive understanding of their mandates and objectives. These will be the foundation towards development of the strategy and action plan for the final report.

## Facilitation for the Preparation of SAPCC Tamil Nadu

Intercooperation has been awarded the contract for "Consulting Services for supporting the preparation of State Action Plan on Climate Change for the state of Tamil Nadu" by GIZ.

The team consists of Dr. Indrani Phukan, Dr. Sumana Bhattacharya, Prof. Balasubramanian, Dr. Raja Rathinam, Mr. Sreenivas, Dr. C.K. Rao, Ms. Shazneen and Dr. Joy Elamon.

## Organic Cashew Value Chain in Odisha

Intercooperation had submitted a proposal on Organic Cashew Value chain development in Khurda district of Odisha to the India office of State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) Switzerland. It has been approved.

The project will be able to support 1000 cashew growers in the area. Cashew processors, experts and local community based organizations are being brought in to support the farmers.

## Training Modules for LBSNAA

UNICEF is supporting Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) in developing training modules and training materials on identified topics on decentralization and decentralised planning for various courses. Intercooperation has been retained by the UNICEF to coordinate the activities in compiling the modules and training materials.

## In Afghanistan

Dr. Joy Elamon was in Afghanistan from 17 February to 2 March 2012 as part of the assignment from HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation. It was a fact finding mission on 'Sub National Governance in Afghanistan: Implications and Potentials for HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation and its Projects'.

