

Annual report - 2007

It gives me great pleasure to share the important activities carried out by the Institute of Public Health in the year 2007. We have successfully **completed various projects and offered technical assistance to the state governments of Karnataka, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Rajasthan** during this period. We also provided services to local NGOs. I am also happy to inform you that our faculty, Mr Denny John has been awarded the Leaders Quest Fellowship Award from UK.

Dr. N. Devadasan

In the past one year, we were able to balance all the 3 elements of our focus - training, research and advocacy. The details of each activity taken up last year are furnished below.

Training

Training Course on Health Insurance

IPH organised the 3rd training course on health insurance for senior government officers as well as NGO staff from 17th to 21st December, 2007. The training covered topics related to designing and implementing health insurance programmes. This unique training programme was on behalf of the Ministry of Health, and was funded by the WHO. As part of this venture we have already trained many government and NGO officers who are now steering health insurance schemes in their regions. [More....](#)

Research

Training needs assessment for district health managers.

A Delphi study conducted by us identified the lack of managerial skills among the district staff as the main reason for the failure of the public health services. As

part of this project, Ms Maya Anne Elias interviewed district health managers and senior officials from the department of health and family welfare in the states of Karnataka and Orissa. After the completion of the studies an expert group meeting was convened to develop a tentative curriculum for health management. Based on their recommendations, a training course on health management is being designed by IPH. This project was supported by Sir Ratan Tata Trust Mumbai. [Press report](#)



The Commissioner of Health – Government of Karnataka, inaugurates the expert group meeting

Community Based Monitoring

Community based monitoring is a mechanism to empower the local communities to demand accountability within the government health services. Dr Upendra Bhojani of the Institute of Public Health helped the Government of Orissa to design a community based monitoring project in June 2007. This venture was funded by the Department. for International Development – UK (DFID) India office.

Technical Support to Governments

Health Information Systems in Orissa

With the introduction of the NRHM, there were a multitude of indicators and reporting formats. The Government of Orissa requested IPH to rationalise this. We developed a framework of outcome and process indicators for district and sub district level to help the officers monitor the progress of the NRHM in Orissa. Recommendations were also given for the implementation of the monitoring system. This project was also supported by the Department for International Development – UK (DFID) India office. [Report](#)

Health Insurance in Rajasthan

There is a lot of interest in health insurance today. The Rajasthan government approached us to help them design and implement a health insurance programme in 5 districts. Ms Nehal Jain and Dr Devadasan have been visiting Jaipur and also the districts towards this end. The scheme was launched on the 8th of December by the Chief Minister and is in the process of being operationalised.

Review of health insurance products and programmes in India

Currently there is no single source to identify the various health insurance programmes and products available in the country. To bridge this knowledge gap, IPH undertook to develop an inventory of all existing health insurance schemes. The inventory also contains the details of Government initiated health insurance schemes, different community health insurance schemes and social health insurance programmes. This project was undertaken with the financial assistance of WHO, New Delhi.

Technical Support to NGOs

MISEREOR

MISEREOR, Germany has collaborated with IPH for providing technical assistance to their NGO partners in India. IPH has agreed to offer training for NGO staff in health care, technical assistance to NGO's in designing health care projects and to monitor and evaluate projects/programmes on behalf of MISEREOR.



Village meeting - Jashpur, Chattisgarh

Community based monitoring in urban health

The Institute of Public Health has undertaken a project to develop for community based monitoring system for urban health in Bangalore district. Mr. S.J Chander is actively involved in this project. He carried out a needs assessment and identified the needs and problems. IPH is facilitating a process to address the issues with the collaboration of Bangalore City Corporation, non-governmental organization and urban poor communities.

Collaboration with Bhakti Vedanta Hospital Mumbai

We have also collaborated with Bhakti Vedanta Hospital for providing research, managerial and technical support. We have carried out different research projects focusing in the areas of mother and child health and ophthalmology. We conducted a nutritional assessment for the impact of mid day meal scheme.

Partnership with Shri Samarth Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, NANDED.

SSSPM is a local NGO working in some of the poorest slums in Nanded city. They provide RCH services. Mr. Denny John of IPH is helping them design and implement a community health fund that would reduce the financial barriers for these impoverished families. This initiative is supported by PATH – India

Urmul Seemant Samiti Community Health Insurance Programme

Urmul Seemant Samiti, part of the URMUL Trust, operates in Bikaner district of Rajasthan working for farmers in this desert region. To improve access of

these people to hospital care, USS decided to pilot a community health insurance programme in five villages. IPH was requested to review the functioning of this pilot project and to provide the recommendations for further scaling up of their project. This particular venture was sponsored by the Plan-International, India. [More...](#)

Advocacy

IPH has taken a membership in Advocacy forum for Tobacco control (AFTC), which is a national level network of NGOs working for tobacco control. We are also involved in the advocacy movement for implementing pictorial warning on all tobacco products. As part of this, we organised a campaign at M.G Road, Bangalore on 10th July, 2007.

IPH started the Public Health Forum to promote healthy dialogues and sharing of knowledge among people working on public health issues.

[More...](#)

Our Maharashtra unit has been active in promoting child rights in Mumbai. Various activities ranging from research to advocacy has been undertaken by Mr Denny John.

We have published many articles in various journals. Details are available on our website www.iphindia.org.

Administration

This year has been a year of changes. We shifted our office to the present location in June. Our new logo was designed and accepted by the board. And

last but not the least, our staff strength has grown exponentially from two to seven full time staff. We also inducted four new members to the general body of IPH, thus making it a larger and more representative body. Ms Gajalakshmi was the rock through this tumultuous period – handling accounts and filing the various documents with a smile.

Future plans

- Next year, we shall be launching the collaboration with ITM, Antwerp for the training of district health managers
- Ongoing research and training activities will continue.

Conclusion

- We would like to thank all the donors, the faculty members, our government partners and

our friends and well wishers who encouraged and supported us in our endeavours. A special thanks to Mr Radhakrishnan, Dr Lakshmi Myneni and Dr Mary Ganguli for their personal contributions.

Finances

From April to Sept 2007.

Item	Income	Expenditure
Loan	5,20,000	4,15,923
BH	89,232	84,000
DFID	5,41,651	5,41,651
SRTT	4,96,000	2,33,960
SSSPM	1,03,200	1,49,689
RHSDP	0	14,331
MISEREOR	0	8,353
SERVICES	25,000	0
TOTAL	17,75,083	14,47,907



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