

## E-Newsletter

2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER 2022: April to June - Volume XIV, Issue: ii

### INSIDE STORIES:



### PROJECT UPDATES



### MEETINGS, TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS, PROGRAMS & GUESTS!

*Lutheran World Service India Trust* is a Christian, ecumenical organization promoted jointly by the United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India and the National Council of Churches in India.

Registered formally in 2008, the organization began work as the India program arm of Lutheran World Federation/ Department of World Service in 1974 offering relief services to the refugees of the 1971 Bangladesh War of Independence.

The organization works on issues of Sustainable Livelihoods, Community Resilience, Education and Health with Gender and Peace as cross-cutting themes. It's development work is concentrated in the states of Assam, West Bengal, Odisha and Jharkhand, while it responds to disasters on a pan-India basis.





To spread awareness among people about environmental conservation and value of nature in our lives, the World Environment Day is celebrated each year on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June. The need to spread awareness is more pertinent than ever as the Earth, which is our home, is beset by perils of pollution, climate change and global warming.

Each year, a specific theme is decided to mark this day to amplify the important message behind it. This year's theme is 'Only One Earth', which draws our attention towards playing our role effectively while living in perfect harmony with nature - without proving a burden on it.

## CAP-R Project, Assam Unit:

Assam Unit conducted World Environment Day on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022 in all the four zones. The theme of the program was "Only One Earth". The participants were school children, teachers, local media, community leaders, LSG members among others.



## STEER Project, Kalahandi Unit:

The World Environment Day was observed on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Here 22 school-going children participated in a drawing competition to sketch their own sensation about the *nature and human behaviour on the forest* to create awareness on environment pollution and rapid forest degradation and its impact to the society and also to raise the green belt surrounding the community.





**STEER Project, Balangir Unit:** In order to sensitize the communities on environmental issues and the impact of climate change the project organized programs on the observation of World Environment Day on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

### STEER Project, Kendrapara Unit:







### GEP Project, Kolkata Unit:

“World Environment Day” was celebrated on On 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022, with the inmates of the Shelter for Urban Homeless Male and Female unit and Staff of SUH project at Ultadanga Campus. A tree plantation program was organized at the shelter complex and promised to make their shelter clean and reduce the use of Plastic. All the inmates participated in the program intensively and shared their joy of protecting the environment and care for the mother earth with Placards and messages stating “Plant Trees and save life”, “our responsibility to keep our shelter and outside clean and Plastic free”, and “One tree one life, do not destroy the tree and save water”.

### STEER Project, Mayurbhanj Unit:







WORLD HEALTH DAY  
APRIL 07

### STEER Project, Bankura Unit:



**STEER Project, Mayurbhanj Unit:** There were rallies where people voiced slogans on health & hygiene especially on health awareness. The theme for this year ‘Our Planet, our Earth’, focuses on the global attention on urgent actions needed to **keep humans and the planet healthy**. ASHA and Anganwadi Workers came forward to demonstrate the appropriate methods of washing hands, followed by a one-act Play to sensitize people on the necessities of institutional health care and how people should not get exploited due to blind belief and ignorance.







**CAP-R Project, Assam Unit: UELCI Exposure Team 28-29 June 2022:** The youth team of Athiabari Circle (NELC) under Grahampur Diocese came to the project fields as part of the Youth Empowerment Project supported by UELCI.

**Youth and sports for peace building (CAPRP):** Sports can be a powerful tool for building bridges in the post conflict reconciliation/peace building processes in the project operational areas. Thus, playing sports together will promote peace and have a transformative impact on the Youth.



## STEER Project, Balangir Unit:

**Report on Exposure Visit -** Exposure visit for selected leaders and members of the CBOs and SHGs organized as a learning process for the people and community based institutions with an objective to get the interested Community members exposed to the new feasible technologies both on farming and non-farming techniques most suited to the geo-climatic conditions as the gainful engagement options through better production & income for improvement of qualities of life. They visited and learnt from different sectors such as orchards on guava and mangoes jackfruits and others fruit, horticulture, agriculture, Fish culture veterinary, Mushroom cultivation, Spice packing and marketing and Farmers Producer Company / Cooperatives etc. with the support of various departments.



# PROJECT UPDATES

## STEER Project, Bankura Unit:



## GEP Project, Bhubaneswar Unit:

**Workshop for Domestic Workers Association:** This workshop for domestic workers was organized in Gandhi Bhawan, Cuttack with the involvement of domestic workers of 16 communities. They were denied minimum payment, healthy working period and other facilities in the absence of their association. Most of them also suffered from exploitative situations and abuse.

**Sensitization camp on gender equality and equity for different stake holders** was organized on 25<sup>th</sup> June. The major discussions in this program were Women and Child protection with special focus on disability, present economic, educational and health status of women. The discussion also focused on the facilities available to violence affected women, Understanding Gender Gaps and challenges for protecting women & children.

**Sports and Arts Competition's** objective was to create good relations and bonding between communities and also develop a healthy environment.

## PROJECT UPDATES

### Rural Development Centre in DSSQC Project, Birbhum Unit:



Lutheran World Service India Trust made an auspicious beginning at Sukna community with the inauguration of the Rural Development Centre by Rt. Rev. Bijoy Basumatary, Bishop, Suri Diocese of NELC. To mark this day more special, guests from NELC, our DSSQC project partners namely ESAF & MCH, Panchayat Executive, Members of the local area and among others were the people of the Sukna community. LWSIT Executive Director and National Office staff were part of the program.



On 19th June 2022, two of the ELCA Delegates; Rev. Dr. Y. Franklin Ishida (Director for Asia & the Pacific) and Rev. Dr. Chandran Paul Martin (Consulting Regional Representative for South/ South Asia) visited the Child Care Institute Project in Ultadanga Complex under GEP Kolkata Unit..





**DSSQC Project, Birbhum Unit:** Solar Lanterns were given to the children for encouraging the continuation of their education instead of kerosene lamps at their homes which provides insufficient light and which is also harmful to their health.



**GEP – Kolkata Unit:** *International Domestic Workers Day* was observed with 51 domestic workers from Kolkata domestic worker association. The Resource persons discussed the workers facilities and their dues, etc. and highlighted the steps of formation of an association.





**STEER Project, Kalahandi Unit: Disaster Risk Reduction Training** conducted on different techniques about the SAR and First Aid to the participants during the training. He took the initiative to open a Whattapp group to share different kinds of pertinent information about the disasters and early warning systems of any disasters in the future.



**STAFF CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM on PEACE and RECONCILIATION** - was held at the LWSIT National office, Kolkata from 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> June 2022 in which a total of 21 staff from all the nine Project Units and National Office participated. This training program was facilitated by Ms. Jahan Ara and Dr. Ajay P. Samuel of Henry Martyn Institute, Hyderabad. The focus of the training program was on: Understanding Conflict, Types of Conflicts, Levels of Conflicts, Components of Conflicts, Conflict Analysis, Conflict Tree, Various Approaches to Conflict, Peace Building and Principles of Peace Building, etc.. This was helpful and will trickle down to other staff in the Projects and also to the different communities.



# NATIONAL OFFICE & PROJECT UPDATES



**STAFF RETREAT – 2022** was held from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> May in Gangtok, Sikkim and was attended by most of the Board Members, the National Office Staff and some of the Project Staff. The three Resource persons, Dr. Sreenivas Rao, the External Consultant, spoke on Governance, Ms. Polly Mondal, from National Office spoke on Gender and Mr. B. N. Biswal, from National Office spoke on Resource Mobilization. It was a fruitful learning experience for all.



**Meeting with ELCA Delegates: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

On 19<sup>th</sup> June 2022, two of the ELCA Delegates; Rev. Dr. Y. Franklin Ishida (Director for Asia & the Pacific) and Rev. Dr. Chandran Paul Martin (Consulting Regional Representative for South/ South Asia) visited the National Office where the Executive Director, the Senior Management and Program Coordinators discussed the new proposal for the TFR Project in Assam, approval of CCI budget, update on STEER project, support for LWSIT Strategic Planning process for 2023-27 period, etc.



**MEETINGS / PROGRAMS / WEBINARS  
ATTENDED BY ED & STAFF  
FROM APRIL TO JUNE 2022**

- ❖ Executive Director and Emergency Manager attended the zoom meeting related to TFR Project with RDRS Bangladesh & LWF Nepal on 12 April
- ❖ Partners Assessment conducted by Normisjon representative Mr. Chelladurai Solomon from 20th - 22nd April in which ED and Senior Staff of National Office involved in the entire process
- ❖ ED attended the Board Meeting on 11th May
- ❖ Board Members and Staffs from National Office and Project Units attended the Staff Retreat program held at Gangtok from 13th - 15th May
- ❖ ED attended the webinar with Sphere India on 20th May
- ❖ Staff Capacity Building Program on Peace and Reconciliation held from 14th & 16th June at National office in which Staffs from National Office and all the nine Project Units participated. The training was conducted by the Resource Persons from Henry Martyn Institute, Hyderabad

***Visits done by ED and Other Staff:***

- ❖ ED and Emergency Manager attended the Workshop on 'Safeguarding' held in Bhopal which was organized by CASA supported by Christian Aid from 26th-27th May
- ❖ ED attended the installation of New Moderator of NELC on 15th June
- ❖ Rural Development Center (RDC) in Birbhum Unit was inaugurated on 29th June, where ED, Senior Management and Program Coordinator attended the program
- ❖ TFR Project visit of LWF Nepal and meeting with ELCA was organized from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> June, where ED and Emergency Manager along with RDRS Bangladesh representatives participated.

***Overseas Guests:***

- Ms. Sheila Mallik and the communication team Ms. Katherina Green & Ms. Susanna Olivin from Act Church of Sweden visited LWSIT National Office and GEP Kolkata Unit from 4th - 6th April
- Rev. Dr. Franklin Ishida and Rev. Dr. Chandran Paul Martin visited CCI Project of Kolkata Unit and LWSIT National Office on 19th June



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