

# Child Labour Free Zones and Right to Education

## Report of Exchange Visit to M V Foundation

Bolivia, Brazil, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Peru,

20th to 27th February 2011, Andhra Pradesh, India



Organised by M.V.Foundation



In Collaboration with



## INTRODUCTION

*Child labour free zones are (geographical) areas where all children are systematically withdrawn from work and (re)integrated into formal, full-time schools. No distinction is made between different forms of child labour in this process because every child has the right to education. The process of creating child labour free zones involves all stakeholders like teachers, parents, children, unions, community groups, local authorities and employers. Such zones have been created in India and Nepal, while various organizations in Africa and South and Central America have also embraced the concept. Two concrete examples: the Building and Wood Workers' Union in India (BWI) has made 86 villages child labour free in 4 states. M V Foundation (MVF) in India has created 830 child labour free villages in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh where all children up to 14 are going to school.*

The exchange visit is an outcome of a visit made by 2 member MVF team to Nicaragua, Honduras, Costa Rica and Guatemala. During the visit, MVF representatives visited and interacted with NGOs in the different countries to understand the situation there and help NGOs design interventions. During the visit, MVF succeeded in creating an interest in the strategies it had adopted to ensure child labour free zones. This, of course was combined with an already existing commitment among the visitors to have a world free of child labour. It is a result of this interest in and commitment to establishing child labour free zones in different parts of the world that delegations from Brazil, Bolivia, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Peru visited the MVF programmes and based on the learnings from the field designed their follow up plans and strategies (see Annex 1 for list of participants). 13 persons participated in this exchange visit.

The 6-day programme comprised of two days of input and sharing sessions and three days in the field (see Annex 2 for detailed programme).

## INAUGURAL AND INTRODUCTORY SESSIONS

### Inaugural Session:

The programme was inaugurated by the Principal Secretary, School Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh – Ms Chandana Khan. All the speakers in the inaugural session – Ms Chandana Khan and Mr M R Vikram – Secretary, M V Foundation emphasized the desirability and feasibility of establishing child labour free zones.

Key points from the speakers:

**Mr M R Vikram**, Secretary, M V Foundation, while speaking of M V Foundation and its strategies attributed the success of MVF's programmes largely to the fact that (1) community and government are partners in the process of eradicating child labour along with the teachers and the parents of children of school going age, and (2) the large group of volunteers who **believe** that it is possible to make areas child labour free and who have been working

#### **The Non Negotiables**

- ◆ All children must attend full time formal day schools.
- ◆ Any child out of school is a child labourer.
- ◆ All labour is hazardous and harms the overall growth and development of the child.
- ◆ There must be a total abolition of child labour.
- ◆ Any justification perpetuating the existence of child labour must be condemned.



untiringly to realize this dream. The newly passed Right to Education (RTE) Act in India has given activists a legal instrument that can be used to ensure that children are out of work and in school.

He emphasized the fact that that idea of child labour free zones is not only desirable, it is feasible and there are large numbers of communities who believe in the idea and that it is possible. The universality of the non negotiable principles that underpin the programme was also stressed. In speaking about MVF's work he said that MVF's work helps in strengthening the belief of parents and making it possible for them to send their children to school.

In his introductory remarks, Mr Vikram also touched on the fact that the debate has



moved – it is no longer about whether children should be in school or not – it is how do we get them into school. As a strategy, he iterated that the strategy of inclusion makes success possible. The agenda is universal – the pattern of children in labour is similar across the globe. A large number are

employed in agriculture as in other parts. Large number work in hazardous conditions and are working for low or no wage. The only hope lies in ensuring education. He expressed confidence that with all working towards this, child labour will be eradicated in two decades.

In response to Mr Vikram's remarks, **Mr Antonius Johannes Maria Coolen** of *Kinder Postzegels* said “We believe that it is possible to create child labour free zones. All of us are involved in the work with children.” He also touched on the importance of the visit as a learning visit not just to see the programs but to also share the hope that MVF has. He set the goal for the visit as not just to see what MVF is doing but to learn and plan their own programmes.

**Ms. Chandana Khan**, Principal Secretary, Primary Education Government of Andhra Pradesh, reiterated the common theme that child labour is a universal problem that is unacceptable. She also emphasized that the government believes in working in partnership with NGOs such as MVF. Her remarks focussed on the year old Right to Education Bill (RTE) and touched on the possibilities that this offered and referred to RTE as the government's commitment to ensuring that free and compulsory education is available in every corner of the country.

Key features of RTE:

- Access to school – need to have schools.

- Equity – no distinction between children by caste or ethnic group. All categories to go to school.
- Improving quality – 250,000 schools are already available but need to improve quality in these schools.

Steps that are being taken and/or will taken:

- Neighborhood schools – building additional schools and classrooms.
- In remote areas – provide mass transport to enable children to attend school.
- The Act makes provision for out of school children and these are child labourers. Special training centers to provide intensive coaching to school drop outs to bring them to a class appropriate to their age.
- Mapping of migrant children done and training centres in their mother language have been set up.
- Formation of Academic Monitoring Committees (AMC) in every school. Members – some parents, political representatives, teachers and students meet every month and review the academic advancement, infrastructure, etc.
- Make education child friendly – no screening through admission tests – joyful learning.
- Working with the labour department – to rescue child labourers.
- The goal is to make the entire country free of child labour – not just the creation of a few child labour zones.
- Responding to the issue that there is higher drop out rate for girls compared to boys steps are being taking to train older girls in vocational skills along with formal education.
- Ensure that teachers' posts are filled up everywhere.
- Undertake microplanning and village planning exercises.
- Conduct enrollment drive at the beginning of the academic session to identify all out of school children.
- After enrollment, focus on retention – put in a system of child tracking.
- Offer midday meals as an incentive for parents to send their children to school.
- The health department has given each child a school health card. All schools are covered under this and the doctor from the local Public Health Centre conducts health check up for the children in school. While medication is prescribed for simple cases, there is a system of referral for complicated cases.
- RTE says there has to be inclusive education – this covers disability. Ramps built in all the schools.



- Provision of toilets and drinking water for all schools. Girls drop out at the time of puberty due to lack of toilets and if this is to be addressed, toilets need to be provided.
- 395 residential schools are currently running and another 300 are going to be opened for girl children.

She summed up by reinforcing both the central and state government's commitment to ensuring universal and quality primary and elementary education. While the deadline for the implementation of RTE is 2015, she expressed confidence that the state of AP can be declared child labour free before that. There is however need for visioning for the future as this is not just a programme or project. While children in urban areas might have access, there is need the issue in the rural areas, failing which this is likely to lead to a urban-rural divide. Her closing statement aptly sums up the importance of education by saying: “If there are large number of illiterates, then even a great number of malls, flyovers, companies, etc will not make for a developed country.”

### **Session 1 – MVF Strategies:**

Mr Vikram began his presentation with the powerful statement that the poverty argument is passe and reinforced that every parent wants to send her child to school. This then leads to the question – what sustains child labour and pushes children out of school. The following were presented as possible causes.



- Lack of a social and cultural environment in support of child rights and arguing against child labour. MVF promotes a culture of literacy. There is no choice in the matter – at the age of 6 every child should be in school.
- Lack of adequate infrastructure in terms of teachers and classrooms.
- Schools not responsive to the poor. Non seriousness of schools as institutions needing to be sensitive.
- Families need to be trained to have a culture of literacy. They need to know what it is to send children to school. Lacking this culture they are intimidated by a myriad of rules and procedures that govern the school.
- Parental confidence in the school system needs to be increased. Parents need to know how to deal with the child's school/teachers just as he knows how to deal with the child's employers. They need negotiation skills of a different kind.

MVF strategies to answer the above questions.

- Since 1991 MVF has withdrawn more than 400,000 children from work and mainstreamed them to school. But around 600,000 being monitored on a regular basis.
- 30,000 volunteers are part of the movement. These are young persons in the age group 16 - 24. Result – there are more than 1500 child labour free villages. All children are in school and no choice regarding school is exercised by the adults. These are resource poor villages. Even poor parents send all their children to school.
- 3,000 paid education activists participate.
- 7,000 children freed from bonded labour.
- The Forum of school teachers has 2,400 members. Need teachers to be part of the program and the teacher needs to be seen as a protector of child rights. It is necessary to include every teacher and make it part of his/her job. The result is the presence of Teachers' unions that fight for child rights and not their salaries.
- Child Rights Protection Forum (CRPF) – A voluntary organization with paid membership from a group of villages. Over 2500 villages with membership of about 80,000.
- MVF works in 7 districts of AP. Started work in Ranga Reddy district – now work extensively in Ranga Reddy and Nalgonda and work in partnership in Mahbubnagar, Kurnool, Warangal, Adilabad. This comprises close to 40% of AP's population.

MVF strategies are based on mobilization for eliminating child labour and strengthening the school system. MVF has moved from a supply based programme to a demand based programme. Government programmes are supply programmes – but can be insensitive to the needs of the community and therefore becomes a kind of a mass supply programme without understanding individual needs. In this context, MVF mobilizes communities to make the right demands and raise the right questions.

Residential Bridge Course Camp (RBC) is another strategy that MVF uses. This is to ensure that children make a smooth transition from work to school. The child is with the RBC for 6 months – 1 year so that the child becomes a child and not a worker. This requires things for the child – academic, recreational, personal grooming and there is a transition from zero literacy to learning a lot. Parents start feeling a sense of pride in their children. A family is a family when children go to school and not to work. Parents are trained to invest in the child's welfare, clothes and education. This concept has been adopted by the GoI and the budget includes a four billion dollar programme for education – SSA. There is hope that this four billion will be increased to 6 billion in the current budget.

The programme covers children from many diverse areas. Despite the diversity, the programme is working everywhere that it is implemented. That is why confident that it will work anywhere in the world.

MVF works towards two primary objectives:

- To build a consensus on abolition of child labour – many people in MVF working towards building that consensus.
- To ensure that no child works and every child goes to school

To achieve the above objectives, MVF focuses on building a democratic process and strives to include all in the programme. It is possible to convert individuals as the benefits of the programme are visible.

Key strategies:

1. ***Social mobilization.*** Bring all people round a table to discuss child issues. The idea is to be able to ask the right question. If you ask, do you want your children to work, some may say yes. But if you ask, do you want your children to go to school they all say yes. The child's right to a future is through a schooling process. They know that it is possible for their child to be educated. So make sure that the community demands schooling.
2. ***Institution building.*** RBC, CRPF, BKVV – examples of institution building. Evaluation is based on the number of meetings they have had. This is part of the democratic process.
3. ***Reach out to all children – intense data collection.*** We have more data than the government. Unless we are prepared the strategy will not work. Wars can only be won with strategy and preparation and not emotion.
4. ***RBC*** - shows how their children can be mainstreamed in the government schools. A live example to the community. Not all children go to the RBC but all know of it. Benefits are quite evident and this motivates parents to send their children.
5. ***Retention*** – a large set of volunteers monitor attendance in school. When a child does not attend school this is discussed in the community. Community owns the child, not just the parents.
6. ***Advocacy*** – advertise the principles of the programme. Fight with government to change rules to make it child friendly. Reduce the number of forms that the parents need to fill in. The schools should admit the children whenever they are ready to come to school. Participate in decision processes on child rights.

It is a comprehensive programme and all elements need to be simultaneously pursued. But the core remains the same. Remains founded on the five basic principles – these are non negotiable. Defining a child labourer as any child who is out of school allows one to capture a large number of girl children who are working at home. Large numbers work in the unorganized sector and this definition helps in capturing them. Need to be included not in an economic sense, but if they are out of school they are child labourers.

### **MVF's Influence on State Policies and Procedures**

MVF has been working on the issue of child labour for the last twenty years in Andhra Pradesh (AP). During this period, other than demonstrating successful



strategies for the eradication of child labour, it has worked as an advocacy organization for making policy level changes at the state and national level. Some of these efforts are visible in the form of policy documents of the State and National government, most notable of which is the endorsement by the government of the strategic definition of a “child labourer as any child out of school”.

MVF took up a mass campaign against the Non Formal Education system and started advocacy campaign through out the state, involving government teachers. By the year 1997 it trained nearly 17,000 volunteers against the practice in the entire state. Conventional non-formal education programmes in the state have changed into day schools. Subsequently this policy was adopted through out the country.

The residential bridge courses as a strategy to mainstream older children into formal school system is an innovation of the M. V. Foundation that has now been adopted by the SSA all over the country as well as by hundreds of NGOs in every corner of the country.

The work done by M V Foundation for elimination of all forms of child labour and its constant demand for free and compulsory education since the last two decades has been effective in the framing and development of the “Right of children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009”. This has many components which are based on the MVF advocacy and campaign. For example the provisions relating to first generation learners such as: age appropriate learning, non insistence on documentation-birth certificates, transfer certificates, admissions to school all through the academic session, conducting residential bridge courses for mainstreaming older children, condemning corporal punishment in schools have been duly incorporated in the Act, which have been constantly advocated by MVF. More importantly, it assigns the role for Gram Panchayats and the school management committees as local authorities to monitor and implement the RTE Act. The importance of local bodies for ensuring right to education of children has always been advocated by MVF.

### ***Participant questions and MVF answers:***



Q. How did the parents respond? Did they wonder if their children could go to school – what cultural changes?

A. RBC was an evidence to show that it works. Community involved and influences the family. Doubts are natural.

Q. How do you handle the decreased family income? Does MVF compensate for the loss of income?

A. MVF does not have a income compensation programme.



Q. How did MVF mobilize institutionally and involve the government?

The success is dependent on the inclusion. Advocacy is an intrinsic part of the programme – unless we work with the government at the state level, there is no way we can work at the lower level. Bring government officials to see the programmes. Demonstration helped us to convince the government.

Q. How did you manage to convince the government to allocate 6 billion \$?

A. This is for the whole country. It is only .1% of the GDP. SSA is largely for camps. Total education budget – 1.8% of the GDP. There is a promise that education+health will be 6% of the GDP.

***Area Based Approach:***

*What is it?*

Focus on child rights of all children in a given geographic area.

For those who are out of school make specific plans to send them back to school. There is a plan for every child. These cannot be consolidated or generalized. So there is a lot of delegation in the organization. Every child is unique. We need to be involved directly with the children.

For those children in school we need to plan to retain them in school. We monitor the situation in school so that they are not disappointed. While building demand the school also needs to respond. When local communities come together the demand can be consolidated and put before the government.

Create islands of child labour free zones and make the islands grow/expand.

*How is this approach different?*

Other programs revolve round the harsh reality.

Others are based on negative premise and ask the questions of poverty. MVF works on the positive premise that all parents want to send their children to school and are willing to make sacrifices.

*Outcomes:*

Establish a norm that no child shall work.

School becomes an important institution and the largest community owned institution.

There is a ripple effect and success in one community influences neighboring communities.

Success is visible for others to come and witness.

Easy for the state government to give inputs for a specific area as that is how they work.

First generation learners get absorbed easier if it is a specific area. A sense of pride in declaring their area as child labour free.

*Education is the only response we have to eliminate child labour.*

## ***Session 2: Country Presentations***

### **Guatemala:**

Three Guatemalan organizations participated in this exchange visit – CEIPA, ChildHope and CEADEL. The three organization are working on different strategies towards the same objective – that of eradication of child labour. Netherlands based organization Kinder Postzegel supports them.

There are around 1,000,000 child labourers in Guatemala. 30 million population. There are 290,000 child labourers from region 6 (San Marcos, Quezaltenango, etc.). These areas are characterized by indigenous population and high levels of poverty. High levels of child labour. Children work in the stone quarries – and are exposed to hurt, skin disease, respiratory illness, stomach infection. Other occupations in which children work – MNCs – primarily the soft drink industry where they work along with their parents; construction sites, rag pickers. However, the maximum number of working children are found in the agriculture sector – agroindustry, sugar cane, coffee, macademia, and maize plantations. The exports from this region are high calling for higher levels of production making the violation of CRC that much easier.

Strategies:

1. Direct – go to children with scholarships and send them to school. Increase awareness among the schools to accept these children.
2. Social – motivation to the parents. Parents do not see this as a problem – see it as a support. Objective is to get the parents to see it as a problem. Majority of the population is the indigenous population and the entire family migrates for work.
3. Political – raise awareness among the government about the situation. India government allocates budget for the children but in Guatemala the allocation is decreasing. Need to do a lot of advocacy to make the government realize its responsibility.
4. Investigation – Assessment of the needs as part of project planning and then go for implementation. Also do the evaluation thereby ensuring there is a comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation system.

The key objective is to work with the existing infrastructure of the government to eradicate child labour. Each municipality has a committee for women and children – this is necessary according to the policy. There needs to be an officer. The office should oversee the education scenario for children and adolescents. The 3 organizations work along with the municipality. Childhope is recognized by the government and the child labour eradication plan is part of the ministerial plan. We have a road map on how to eradicate child labour. Have the deadline – 2015 but not



sure that it will be achieved. Influencing other organizations to take up the road map and implement in their areas.

### **Nicaragua:**

Representatives from 6 organizations in Nicaragua were part of the exchange visit. CIDENIC, Proyecto NITCA, Fundacion para la conservacion y el Desarrollo del Sureste de, INPHRU, TESIS, and FODEL. Barring FODEL, the other organizations are part of the Kinderpostzegel network. The organizations focus on three areas:

- Education and child labor
- Human trafficking/commercial sexual exploitation
- Disability

These three relate broadly to violation of child rights. The work focuses on getting children out of labour and getting them compensation.

### **Strategies:**

1. Direct Assistance/approach: not competing with the government or duplicating. Along with providing materials to children, facilitate the community to demand and create demand.
2. Capacity building for empowerment of the community: Need to engage with issues not just at the national level but at the local community level. As part of this, the community focuses on three stakeholders – teachers, parents and children.
3. Development and promotion of work in social networks. Would like to take the learnings from MVF to the social network.

The organizations are working in the border areas where there is high level of child trafficking.

Situation: 2003 statistics about child labour.

10% children are in work – these number 220,000 children. Of these, 74% are in the rural areas in agriculture. They work primarily in coffee plantations.

FODEL collects reports from other organizations to facilitate cross learning. Take the common point and go to the government to get a new education plan. Expect the government to play a role in this.

If you think of the future in 1 year, seed some corn

If you think of the future in 10 years, plant a tree

If you think of the future in 100 years, seed education

The programme is currently present in 11 municipalities and the organizations are interested in expanding. The political situation in Nicaragua is different from India. The government is against NGOs. Every 5 years the government changes, and every new President are interested in bringing in their own programmes. The processes are not very democratic. The focus is on political motivation. The interest is in raising awareness regarding child rights. Other areas of work:

- Working against commercial sexual exploitation.
- Lobbying for allocation of GDP for education.

The NGOs have managed to remain apolitical. MVF too seems to have done the same thing with the CRPF.

### **Bolivia:**

One representative from CUNA Foundation in Bolivia participated in the exchange visit. The foundation works for welfare of children in the age group 1 -15 and works towards building development opportunities for the children.

#### **Problem:**

Children on the streets – parents not bothered. Not because of poverty. So need to take care of them.

There is a public policy, but this remains on paper and is not implemented.

Bolivian government is against NGOs and feels that they are part of the problem and therefore they should provide the solution.

UNATS March is calling for legalization of child labour – working children's federation demanding the legalization so that they can get protection and their rights. Bolivia is signatory to ILO and other UN conventions related to child rights. While UN and other international organizations speak of elimination of all forms of child labour, the working children's federation demands legalization and making conditions better for working children – this is a paradox that the organization is struggling with in Bolivia. The Child Workers' Syndicate was floated by former child labourers and have been instrumental in raising the question of “after eradication – what?”. They provide recreation and education for the children and do not relate to CUNA as they speak about abolition.

A key question that CUNA faces – how do we work with the syndicate? They are powerful as children go through them and they receive a lot of support from Swedish NGOs. Apart from this, the child labourers who are members of the syndicate contribute 20 cents every month.

### **Peru:**

The executive director of CEPROMUN in Peru participated in the visit. Peru has signed the CRC and ILO treaty. There is a national policy available on eradication of child labour. CEPROMUN is now moving into the regional programmes and would like to have this programme in every state. They have undertaken advocacy with the state governments. While Peru has the policy, it does not have a budget to implement the policy. Therefore, CEPROMUN has been lobbying for the budget allocation for children. There are 330,000 child labourers in the age group 5 – 14 years. CEPROMUN focuses on answering the question – why should child labour be eradicated completely? They study the impact of eradication.

### **Brazil:**

The executive director of Childhope in Brazil was part of the exchange visit. Childhope works to ensure a whole range of human rights. They work with all children and towards the complete eradication of child labour. Brazil has developed recently, at the same time the number of child labourers has also increased. Childhope has put together a national level plan for eradication of child labour and to monitor the situation. Four other types of organizations were identified to monitor the problem – international NGOs, national NGOs, other NGOs and other groups. They want to bring all aspects of child labour into the plan. One of the main priorities is compulsory education. While the government too speaks of this, it is not happening.

***Summing up by Mr Venkat Reddy of MVF:***

**Similarities:**

All organizations working with children and communities. Issue of children and child labour not very different – all countries share the same issues.

All governments have policies but implementation is weak.

All participating organizations have hands-on experience on these issues.

Investments by the state in children are inadequate and weak. Governments have less priority on children.

**Differences:**

Diverse kinds of governments – democratic to non democratic.

Governments attitudes towards NGOs – differs from country to country.

Bolivian experience completely different and unique. Ex child labourers in India want total eradication while those in Bolivia want better working conditions.

However there are more commonalities than differences and this offers hope for the way forward.

**FIELD VISITS AND FEEDBACK**

Two groups travelled to MVF project locations in the following districts of Andhra Pradesh – Ranga Reddy, Warangal and Nalgonda. The visit was organized to give an overview of the different strategies used by MVF to create child labour free zones and included:

- Visit to the Residential Bridge Course Camps (RBCs) to interact with children, teachers, and staff and gain an understanding of the role the RBC plays in the programme.
- Interaction with Gram Panchayat (Local Government body) and the community, including ex employers of children.
- Interaction with government officials at different levels – the mandal, district and state.
- Interaction with Teachers' Unions.



- Interaction with Trade Unions.
- Interaction with Child Rights Protection Forum (CRPF) members.
- Interaction with MVF RBC alumni.
- Interaction with children who have graduated from the RBC and are currently in mainstream schools.
- Visit to social welfare hostels, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV).
- Visit to a child labour free village.

On the first day the groups visited the Residential Bridge Course Camps where they interacted directly with the students and the teachers. They were first briefed on the structure, management and operation of the camps. In this session they were able to put forward and clarify any questions and/or concerns they had. Once they had a clear idea of the role of the camp they met with the children and teachers. Some of the children came forward and narrated their stories and experiences so far. They talked about what they do on a daily basis at the camp, how their lives have changed and what their hopes are for the future. One observation was that the children were well prepared in many aspects including sports, artwork and cultural activities. This was demonstrated in a few songs performed by the children. The delegates were inspired by their spirit and liveliness.

On the second day the delegates traveled to a village and met with community members. Group I visited Punnel village and group II traveled to Rangapuram village. The visitors were welcomed and led in a procession through the village to the meeting place. Here, they were joined by many groups including, Gram Panchayat members, Womens groups, Youth groups, CRPF members, Education Department officials etc.



They spent a great deal of time communicating with these members and gaining an understanding about the problems they faced and the tactics they used to overcome these problems. Two of the main questions put forward to the community were, firstly, how the parents and ex-employers supplemented the work and income of the child? Secondly, how it was that so many volunteers and activists were

gathered to work for this cause? They received answers for these questions directly from the community members. Aside from child labour, a few of the issues discussed were children's health, nutrition, education, and social activities. An important observation from this experience was seeing how the entire community was committed and worked together toward this cause.

On the final day they were able to visit a child labour free village. Group I went to Angadichittampally village in Ranga Reddy district and group II to Reddygudem in Thungathurthi mandal of Nalgonda district. The objective was to see a village that has reached the final stage of eradicating child labour and what the community does to sustain this end. With this question in mind they interacted with the community and had an exchange of ideas. They also visited the APRPRP school and met with children who, have struggled against all odds, and been mainstreamed into their local educational institutions. Some delegates have described this as the highlight of their trip.

### **Lessons from the Field:**

Chair: Murali Krishna, UNICEF

Group 1: Victor Hugo Fernandez Estrada.

The objective of the visit was to focus on the fundamental principle on which MVF has based its work so that the same can be adapted. The group included delegates from Nicaragua and Guatemala.

Key learnings:

- Two basic principles on which MVF operates – (1) it garners the support of the government and (2) MVF works in close coordination with the community. Government bodies work along with the CRPF to eradicate child labour.
- Engagement with the school system - once the child enters the school system, the school system is defined in such a way that the child desires to stay and attracts the child to be free.
- Teachers - they are very important to shape the future of the child, so the education system plays a vital role in the eradication of child labour. Teachers have a great challenge once they are part of the programme.
- The family – not only the teachers but the family members are also part of the large program. Teacher acts as a motivator to ensure that the child remains in school.
- The community and other villages and sub groups – youth, women groups – the main priority for all these groups was education and it was clear that education leads to eradication of child labour. The main priority is the education of the child.
- Working approach of MVF – non confrontational, instead of laying blame MVF focuses on finding out what went wrong and bringing people together. This was contrasted with the situation in Guatemala where instead of finding the solution to the problem, stakeholders engage in a blame game. The positive approach of MVF is different. On the other hand, MVF approached the community with trying to understand what went wrong and understanding the cultural and social aspect – did not distort this aspect. But worked with this.

- The aim of MVF is very clear and they stood by what they believed in. It is simple work that they have been doing – they never deviated from the main objective of MVF.
- The perseverance of the volunteer and teachers in trying to bring children back to school is a main aspect of the programme.
- Children are prepared both academically and non academically, which is important for the overall development of the child.

3 fundamental programs:

Support from the government.

Support from the community and parents.

RBC – A main part of bringing the child back to school. Teachers play an important role in preparing the children to reenter the school system. Parents and teachers play an important role.

All three are interlinked and complement each other. All three are important to achieve success and this is what has helped MVF succeed in eradicating child labour.

Observations:

This would be the greatest challenge when they go back – to bring all these 3 together – especially in Guatemala where the government is not allocation sufficient budget. Even though these challenges exist, there was firm commitment to make an attempt to succeed. Capacity building needed for the participant organizations to be able to achieve the goal that all children should be in school.

Some quotes from delegates:

Nereyda – MVF could train all the volunteers and CRPF members in motivating and giving a clear idea of eradication of child labour. Teachers too are given inputs so that importance of learning is given more emphasis. It is testimony of life – a child who was in labour and is now in university – has achieved dignity.

Antonio – The inspiration/commitment and the objective of the MVF personnel – not just a job but something more. How did MVF spread this inspiration and commitment to the same objective and goal?

MVF answers:

The principles behind the mobilization is important

- The non negotiable principles and the clarity behind the principles/message behind the program are important.
- Trust the activists and respect their innovations
- Trust in the community, trust in the poorest of the poor parents and communicating this trust to the activists.



- Investing in the people – orientation and training – series of training at different levels – not on how to do the programme but on why they should do the programme.

## Group 2: Canuto Edmundo Miranda Miranda - Nicaragua

### Summary:

1. Visit to the RBC at Nagole – reintegration of children, testimony of children and teachers
2. Visit to Village Rangapuram – interaction with CRPF to see how they work. The process is still ongoing and three children are still out of school. Interacted with parents and others to see how a child labour free zone can be achieved. The CRPF was formed before MVF came in. In other villages – MVF and then CRPF – here CRPF invited MVF.
3. Visit to Tirumalagiri camp – interacted with mandal level CRPF members.
4. Interaction with education department officials in Suryapet, Nalgonda.
5. Village Reddygudem – interaction with the sarpanch and whole village community. Visit to a school.
6. Interaction with mandal MPP at Thungaturti and other officials including the SI.
7. Visited the gurukul school for girls – KGBV – highlight for our visit – could see the final result.

During the visit the group witnessed governance at all levels – village – mandal – district – and met representatives at every level and could see the interaction between the 3 levels.

### Conclusions:

- All stakeholders, sections of the society, community – MVF – all share the same vision – all children should be in school – children out of school is child labourer. This common vision is the main reason for bringing about the social change.
- The CRPF showed us that child rights protection is like a big tree – one branch is education – all branches have come from one root – child rights.
- The motivation to keep children in school is themselves – they could see a change in themselves.
- One of the strategies – identifying the leaders in the community – not imposing their ideas from outside but selecting leaders who share their vision and training them to implement the programme. MVF is a catalyst in order to obtain the main objective.

- Link between the communities and they are inspired by the government initiatives with a lot of social mobilization/motivation done by the government. Social pressure from the communities forced the government to take action.
- Tungaturti emerged as a model – when asked how can the government have a better legal system – answer from community – law is already existing, what we need is budget allocation and the implementation of the law in an efficient manner. Not looking at flaws – the law is already there – practice it now. There is a lot of gap between the words and actions.
- Rangapuram – there is a social change as well as constant monitoring of the children in the school and the main principle that all children should be in school and constant monitoring will lead to the sustainability of the programme. Tungaturti – the 3 sub committees – education, health and anganwadi – have taken the job of ensuring that all children are in school and it is this that is sustaining the programme in that village.
- Interventions regarding child marriages. Even though there are changes against this practice, there is still a lot to be done as a lot of social and cultural aspects have to be dealt with.

#### Observations:

Conflicts could arise in the context of the visitors' countries when they try to implement such a programme in their country. There is a positive response to MVF here – but in our country this might not be the case. However, one could try out MVF's philosophy – make the community self realize the problem and seek solutions – mobilize every section of society. Could see that MVF has broken a path – a non traditional approach – went in at the request of the community – a demand based approach. Suggestion: Get other NGOs involved in the programme.

The formation of CRPF and its foundation on one principle has led to a movement in the community. The non confrontational approach has resulted in all talking on one platform. The teachers – selection and training. The participation of women's groups in the whole process.

There are several different ways in which one can approach a programme – but here there are the non negotiable principles. Education is the only approach to help children achieve their rights.

Recounting interaction with a mother of an ex child labourer – 2 factors led to putting her child to work – child was already 12 and there was no school close by, only primary school; if the child works this would add income to the family and help the siblings. But after she was mobilized by the activists, she decided to withdraw her child from work. Family income has decreased but they realize that they need to make sacrifices – parents work harder to compensate. The happiness on her face that the child could study up to class 9. Child now in a company and getting Rs. 3,000 per month, whereas as a child labourer she was getting Rs. 3,000 per annum.

Recounting interaction with an employer – He had child who was 12 working on his farm to take care of his 2 buffaloes, 2 oxen and 10 acres of land. But after

mobilization he allowed the child to go and he is now part of the CRPF and has the same vision. He is doing the work that the child used to do.

Summing up by the Chair:

- MVF has a clear ideology, principle and vision.
- Non confrontational approach of building alliances and consensus and involving all sections of the community – government and community.
- Work at all levels – village to state.
- Implementing programme using a child rights approach rather than taking up a single child related issue.
- RBC approach and partnering with the government using government schemes.
- Trusting the volunteers and building their capacities to create a committed army to work on children issues.

MVF responds:

How do we gain the commitment of the workers?

- Programme is based on principles. While the principles do not change, the strategies to get the children to school are locally innovated and subject to change.
- Also driven by the inspiration that the community gives them. This inspiration is reflected in the mother's response re family income. Willing to make sacrifices for our children. Benefits of children in school are immediately obvious to the mothers. The mother is also working with the activists as they together try to keep the child in school. They have their own response – working longer hours. Parents do not exchange child's wage with a monetary value. The benefits of a higher wage after a period of time are evident for all to see. Do we want uneducated unemployed or educated unemployed? Education is the only option – no education is not an option.
- Education induces non violence. Gandhiji's non violent movement carried out by educated people.
- To think that education can deprive one of employment is a wrong belief. Large scale unemployment, unrest and street violence evident in the visiting countries. Will this work in your countries – yes, because this is a universal strategy. It is not easy. But there is no choice. This can only come from civil society. All members of the community have to be involved in this. Involvement of both those who agree with us and those who dissent. Any dilution in this strategy will hurt the progress of the child.
- MVF has worked with diverse groups in diverse situations and there were doubts, but the change in the employer gives us confidence that it possible to achieve change. The volunteer has to believe and has to be a trained volunteer.

Needs maximum support from the central level to innovate at the local level. Same trust to be placed in the community too. Success stories should be documented and disseminated. This communication of success is an important part of the programme. Can happen through local reps, local media, newsletters, etc. Trust leads to ownership of the programme and pride. The strategy needs local adaptation and redesigning according to local context.

Which strategies are not likely to work in the visitors context?

- Guatemala: Strategies are likely to work, but it will be an immense challenge to us. Teachers attitude towards education, that would be a major challenge. The selection process is sound but the teachers do not teach as they should – quality is a problem. Teachers come late and leave early. Here teachers come early and leave late. So limited contact with the children. Changing the minds of the teachers will be difficult. Child has less time in the school – this could force him into work. Forming teachers into a forum that can ask for rights will also be a challenge.
- The government does not have sufficient budgetary allocation for the teachers and infrastructure. At the same time the government has increased the security budget. But not having a proper allocation for education will be a major challenge.
- Nicaragua: These strategies will work in Nicaragua. Though they will be difficult we can try to devise our own ways of implementing.
- Bolivia: All these strategies will work in Bolivia. But we have a strange situation – the child workers' syndicate is advocating for the legalization of child labour. This has shocked the child rights activists in Bolivia. This syndicate has been successful in gaining recognition and getting protection from the government for health care – physical and mental, and are able to get better wages for younger children. So we might need to look at the problem in a different way.

Response from MVF: When we began the programme, we faced the same challenges – the parents and government were equally resistant. We were a minority who said “no child labour”. Majority of the community said that child labour is acceptable. Conflict was there at every level – parents, schools, landlords. Conflicts resolved through our fundamental principles and belief in these principles. When our social mobilization was weak, the response from the government was weak. We need to demonstrate the possibility to parents, government and community. These small demonstrations made an impact and showed that this is possible. Need to keep these points in mind while planning the way forward. Identify an area where the programme can be implemented and this will serve as an inspiration. Treat it as a laboratory and prove to the government that it is possible. This was how MVF developed its programme. From experimentation to influence to expansion. Target group is not just the children and their parents, but need public support and build public opinion for the elimination of child labour. Keep in mind these points as you go about planning.



## COUNTRY PLANS AND STRATEGIES

Following the three day field visit to learn about and from the strategies used by M V Foundation to create child labour free zones and ensure that every child is in school, the organizations from the participating countries presented their plans. The plans are based on the premise that child labour free zones are not just desirable but feasible and represent the organizations' commitment to create child labour free zones in their own respective countries. The plans and strategies are presented below.

### GUATEMALA

#### **Victor Hugo Fernandez Estrada, CIEPA:**

While children are no longer working in “hazardous” situations, children continue to work in other sectors. Two primary strategies are proposed:

- Community mobilization
- Residential Bridge Course Camps.

In addition to the above, undertake advocacy with the government to increase allocation for the education sector. Work towards establishing a pilot programme in Nueva Pommarosal where the population is about 800 – 1000.

#### **Gladis Gidia Marroquin Marroquin, CEADEL:**

CEADEL was engaged with rescuing children from the the flower and vegetable industry when MVF visited. 23 of the 25 factories in the area do not employ children. Future plan is to declare the remaining 2 factories and villages child labour free too. CEADEL is already implementing a few of MVF strategies such as:

- Working with teachers and religious leaders to eliminate child labour.
- Working with the government, especially the department of labour to eliminate child labour.
- Working with a government body that deals with child rights and the ministry of education.
- Working with the Police which has two divisions – protection of child rights and gender discrimination.
- Out of school children are trained and mainstreamed – along the lines of RBCs.
- Social mobilization using communication strategy such as street plays, marches, using media, etc.
- Children, parents and teachers are part of the movement.

The way forward:

1. Consolidation: Follow up on what is already been established and work towards promoting the model.

2. Community participation: Work towards improving community involvement and explore the setting up of forums such as CRPF.
3. Network with other like minded NGOs to find common points of action and work together for a solution.

Alberto Pablo Vasquez Diaz, CHILDHOPE:

- Share the experience with the organization.
- Share the experience in operational area – Quiche – regarding CRPF.
- A forum such as the CRPF exists at the national level – this is a policy making body. Bring the principle – child labour free zones – to this forum.
- Start a pilot project in Quiche.

## **NICARAGUA**

Mario Antonio Mayorquin Rodriguez, Fundacion para la conservacion y el Desarrollo del Sureste de:

The organization has been working towards child labour free zones and lobbying for government to allocate more funds for education. Future plans:

- Share the experience with organization and community.
- Try to get someone from the community to take responsibility for the program.
- Implement a pilot programme which can serve as a model.

**Canuto Edmundo Miranda Miranda, CIDENIC:**

CIDENIC is part of a network of 13 NGOs. These organizations are already working with the community so this can serve as a kind of base. Each community has a head and committees for different sectors. Future plans:

- Share experience with network partners.
- Initiate a pilot programme in urban and rural areas and analyze the difference.
- Create a forum at the national level so that the NNPs can be disseminated.
- Sharing experience in own country.
- Start a bridge course, but this will need to be assessed in the context of supplementary education which is already implemented by the government.

Support required from MVF: Give the methodology and course curriculum for the bridge course; help in identifying the area for initiation of pilot programme.

Marcia Lorena Gomez de Bloomfield, Proyecto NITCA:

Proyecto NITCA works with street children and runs a school for these children. This school, after much negotiations with the government, can now be regarded as a formal primary school. This acts as a supplement to the regular school and uses a non formal approach in teaching. The programme includes training for parents and teachers also. While three zones had already been identified, after the visit the idea is to focus on one zone for experimentation.

Nereyda Gonzalez, FODEL:

FODEL has been working in the education sector for the past 30 years and is located 130 kms away from the capital city. It has been involved with child labour eradication, especially in coffee plantations, since 2000. A survey conducted in Jinotega municipality in 2006-2007 showed that out of 30,000 children in the age group 6 – 14 years, 10,500 are out of school. Since 2008, FODEL has been working with Netherlands based NGOs to bring the number down. The strategy is very similar to that of MVF.

Major challenge foreseen – preparing and sharing the report with 11 other NGOs in 11 municipalities. Future plans:

- Jinotega municipality has been declared a child labour free zone and this needs constant monitoring.
- Focus on two other municipalities where children are engaged in industrial labour.
- Exchange of views with other NGOs that are part of the Kindpostzegels network.
- Request support from MVF to build RBCs and on how to identify problems and conduct surveys.
- A pilot project in two municipalities.

Danilo Medrano Martinez, TESIS:

TESIS is committed to replicating the MVF process in its operational area. There are more 30 organizations that work on child rights. Three key lessons that TESIS takes back:

- Community ownership of the objective
- A non confrontational approach to the problem
- An understanding that infrastructure is not of primary importance – education can be imparted under a tree too.

Milthon Ariel Ponce Sandoval, INPHRU:

INPHRU works in a region where child labour is invisible, in sectors such as domestic work. 75% of the children in domestic work are girls and the most negative impact of child labour is evident for girls. There is already a policy decision in the municipality that they will pressurize the government to come out with a policy to tackle child labour and as follow up to the visit this will be intensified. Request to MVF: Take up the issue at an international level to promote the campaign.

## **BRAZIL**

Dayse Tozzato de Souza, Childhope:

- Share the experience with the organization.
- Emphasize on the RBC and present it as a pilot whose results can be used in other municipalities.
- Take the results and convert into policy and present to other communities.

Support requested from MVF: Help with compiling the plan.

## **BOLIVIA**

Ivan Julio Pino Antezana, CUNA Foundation:

- Need materials such as videos, literature, etc. that one can take back and translate.
- Technical analysis for adaptation of proposal – need regular communication between MVF and CUNA
- Talk to leaders of the communities – urban and rural.
- Bolivia now has a new constitution and the laws are changing. Plan to advocate for changes in the law towards children.
- Try to get funding for the pilot – request support from one person from India to come to Bolivia to help.

## **PERU**

Carmen Nelly Salazar de Santa Maria, CEPROMUN:

CEPROMUN is already working towards eradication of child labour. Future plans:

- Implement a pilot El Porvenir district where the tanning and shoe industry employs children in the age group 12 – 14. The problem has already been identified – the use of harmful chemicals in the tanning industry. There is now need for wider advocacy to build on the success they have had with voicing concern through the forum.
- There have been discussions and studies on understanding the legal system, but the time for action has now arrived.
- Require materials and support through studies, etc. from MVF.

- Make it part of the university curriculum.
- Use as main agenda on international child labour day.

## KINDERPOSTZEGELS

Antonius Johannes Maria Coolen, Kinderpostzegels:

Kinderpostzegels will be meeting soon to plan the follow up for the visit. Venkat Reddy of MVF is slated to visit Central America the following year. The plans will be communicated to all.

## VALEDICTORY SESSION

The closing ceremony for the exchange visit symbolized the energy that had been created around the issue of creating child labour free zones. The participation of children, village leaders, teachers, MVF staff and volunteers and the participants along with the Founder of MVF – Prof Shantha Sinha, made it a memorable event. The significance of the ceremony was enhanced by the felicitation and testimonies of 7 former child labourers – Kareemuni, Malleshwari, Shailaja, Naresh, Bhagwanthu, Wazid, and Anitha, who are now pursuing higher education.

The valedictory session included moving words of gratitude from Mr Prem Singh, who was a child labourer and is now a teacher. Malleshwari, who is doing a Bachelors degree in Education, summed up the thoughts of the children when she said “We were given an opportunity so we have come up in life. But there are several children like us. I hope all of you will work hard to bring them up in life too.”



Remarks from the participants during the valedictory session testify to the commitment to creation of child labour free zones in their respective countries.

Victor Hugo Fernandez Estrada, Guatemala - “We travelled for 30 hours in order to see and learn. We have seen the commitment towards creating child labour free zones and this has impressed all of us. We will go back and try to replicate the programme.

Dayse Tozzato de Souza, Brazil - “We have travelled long and go back with the belief that all children must be in school. We have seen that all can come together on a common platform for a common cause. This strategy will work in other countries too. We assure you that we will be part of this campaign and support this campaign for child labour free zones.”

Ivan Julio Pino Antezana, Bolivia - “There are a lot of commonalities between our two countries. There is child labour in both countries. We have the success that is possible because of community mobilization. The testimony of the children is proof

and the whole work should know that eradication of child labour is possible. All of us working towards the same objective – Eradication of Child Labour.”

Canuto Edmundo Miranda Miranda from Nicaragua - “We will share these experiences back in our home country. We have seen all major players at different levels of governance are together on the same platform, narrowing the gap between the government and the community. We will try to replicate this in our country and we are confident that it will work in our country too. I applaud the children and the community members.

Carmen Nelly Salazar de Santa Maria from Peru - “This visit helped me discover the values in myself and to help in constructing peace and justice in the world. I am taking with me the image of every face I have seen during my visit. These seeds that MVF has sown will bear fruit in a very short time.

Prof Shantha Sinha concluded the meeting and the visit with an inspirational talk that recognized the critical role that children play in society and the concurrent need to protect their rights. Some key points from her message:

Children bring all together – people, villages, states, nations. The visit of the African and Central American delegations proves this. We have come together because of children. With children there is stability in the society and children harmonize societies and bring peace. One cannot therefore talk of child rights in a violent manner – the process has to be non violent and consensual.

When we talk about child rights it also means state obligation. All children are same and equal. The principle of equality and state obligation are the same when we talk of child rights.

Getting to this stage was not easy. It meant going to one 100 or even 1000 times till the child comes to school. The journey of the 7 former children labourers was a journey of resolving conflicts. Children too participate in exercising their agency, they assert their rights. Everyone must be ready to take up the battle for children and form CRPFs. In the process the state will be compelled to act and make policies and laws. The RTE in India is a result of a battle won – a million battles that were fought.



There is need for all NGO friends to come together and “Say No to Child Labour and Say Yes to Children's Education” and we will win the battle.



**Annexure 1:****List of Participants**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Country</b>
Victor Hugo Fernandez Estrada	CEIPA	Guatemala
Alberto Pablo Vasquez Diaz	ChildHope	
Gladis Gidia Marroquin Marroquin	CEADEL	
Canuto Edmundo Miranda Miranda	CIDENIC	Nicaragua
Marcia Lorena Gomez de Bloomfield	Proyecto NITCA	
Mario Antonio Mayorquin Rodriguez	Fundacion para la conservacion y el Desarrollo del Sureste	
Milthon Ariel Ponce Sandoval	INPHRU	
Danilo Medrano Martinez	TESIS	
Nereyda Gonzalez de la ONG Cuculmeca	FODEL	
Dayse Tozzato de Souza	ChildHope	Brazil
Carmen Nelly Salazar de Santa Maria	CEPROMUN	Peru
Ivan Julio Pino Antezana	CUNA Foundation	Bolivia
Antonius Johannes Maria Coolen	Kinderpostzegels	Guatemala

### **Group I- Participants**

<b>Sl.No</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Name of the person</b>
1	Guatemala	Victor Hugo Hernandez Estrada
2	Nicaragua	Mrs. Nereyda Gonzalez de la ONG Cuculmeca
3	Guatemala	Antonio Coolen
4	Nicaragua	Danilo Medrano Martinez
5	Nicaragua	Marcia Lorena Gomez de Bloomfield

Resource persons                      A.Arvind Kumar, T.Yadaiah  
Translators                              Pavan Kishore, Vaishali

### **Group II – Participants**

<b>Sl.No</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Name of the person</b>
1	Nicaragua	Mario Antonio Mayorquin
2	Guatemala	Gladis Gidia Marroquin Marroquin
3	Nicaragua	Canuto Edmundo Miranda Miranda
4	Brasil	Dayse Tozzato Souza
5	Nicaragua	Milthon Ariel Ponce Sandoval
6	Guatemala	Alberto Pablo Vazquez
7	Peru	Carmen Nelly Salazar de Santa Maria
8	Bolivia	Mr.Ivan Julio Pino Antezana

Resource person                      D.Dhananjay, V.V.Rao  
Translator                              J.V.Prasad, G.Naresh

## **Annexure 2:**

### **Detailed Programme**

**Monday 21 February 2011**

#### **Inaugural Session**

**Chairperson:** M R Vikram, MVF

**Chief Guest:** Ms Chandana Khan, IAS

09:15 – 10:00	Registration
10:00 – 10:10	Welcome – Mr Venkat Reddy, MVF
10:10 – 10:25	Introductions
10:25 – 10:45	Delegates Reflections
10:45 – 11:00	Address by Guest of Honour
11:00 – 11:15	Address by Chief Guest
11:15 – 11:20	Vote of Thanks
11:20 – 11:30	Tea

#### **Session I**

11:30 – 13:00	Presentation of MVF Activities, M R Vikram, MVF
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch

#### **Session II**

14:00 – 15:30	NGO Initiatives – Visiting delegations
15:30 – 15:45	Tea
15:45 – 16:30	Open Discussion
16:30 – 17:30	Preparation for field visits

## **Group 1 – Warangal and Ranga Reddy districts**

### **Tuesday 22 February**

09:00 – 10:00	Travel to Residential Bridge Course Camp, Chandrayangutta
10:00 – 12:00	Interaction with camp teachers and children
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch at RBC
13:00 – 13:30	Travel to Asifnagar
13:30 – 15:30	Interaction with community
15:30 – 18:30	Travel to Hanamkonda

### **Wednesday 23 February**

09:00 – 10:00	Travel to Punnel Village
10:00 – 13:00	Interaction with community, CRPF, women's group
13:00 – 14:30	Travel to Wardhannapet and lunch
14:30 – 15:30	Interaction with mandal level officials
15:30	Travel to Hyderabad

### **Thursday 24 February**

08:00 – 10:00	Travel to Angadichittempally, a child labour free village
10:00 – 12:00	Interaction with GP, community, CRPF
12:00 – 13:00	Visit to School
13:00 – 13:30	Travel to Alur RBC for girls
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch
14:30 – 16:30	Interaction with All India Teachers' Forum Against CL
16:30 – 17:30	Interaction with youth – ex child labourers
17:30	Travel to Hyderabad

## **Group 2 – Warangal and Nalgonda districts**

### **Tuesday 22 February**

09:00 – 10:00	Travel to RBC, Nagole
10:00 – 12:30	Interaction with camp children and teachers
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:30	Travel to Saidabad
14:30 – 15:30	Interaction with community
15:30 – 18:30	Travel to Hanamkonda

### **Wednesday 23 February**

07:00 – 08:30	Travel to Rangapuram village
09:00 – 12:30	Interaction with CRPF, volunteers, community, school
12:30 – 13:30	Travel Tirumalgiri camp
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch
14:30 – 15:30	Interaction with mandal CRPF members
15:30 – 17:00	Interaction with mainstreamed children
17:00 – 18:00	Travel to Suryapet
19:30 – 21:00	Dinner meeting with education officials and teachers

### **Thursday 24 February**

09:00 – 10:00	Travel to Reddygudem, a child labour free village
10:00 – 13:00	Interaction with community, CRPF, GP, youth
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 14:30	Travel to Tungaturthi mandal
14:30 – 15:30	Interaction with mandal officials
16:00 – 17:00	Interaction with mainstreamed children
17:30	Travel to Hyderabad

## **25<sup>th</sup> February 2011**

10:30 – 12:00	Presentation of Field Reports, Chair: Murali Krishna, UNICEF
12:00 – 12:15	Tea
12:15 – 13:00	Reflections by group members
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	Future Planning and Way Forward
15:30 – 15:45	Tea
17:45 – 19:30	Valedictory Session. Chief Guest: Prof Shantha Sinha
19:30 – 21:00	Dinner and close



