

WES-Net India Core Group Meeting

1100 - 1330 hrs, 15 July 2005
UNICEF, Lodi Estate, New Delhi 110003

Present :

1. Jyotsna Bapat (JP)
2. Mark Ellery (ME), World Bank
3. Paul Deverill (PD), UNICEF
4. A J James (AJJ), Pragmatix
5. Tejinder Kaur (TK), Pragmatix

The following agenda items were discussed:

1. Newsletter

Final copy of the newsletter was sent to the Core Group for any suggestions/ changes before it was sent out widely. Core Group suggested that a link should be provided in the newsletter, which members could just click to submit their inputs. For any other changes the Group agreed to respond before 1400 hrs.

Action: TK to collate these final changes and ensure that the newsletter is sent out on the same day.

2. Taking forward from the study on organisational structure

The consultant has to submit a revised version of his report on Institutional Options for WES-Net India. His terms of reference have been expanded to find out the process to be followed for registering WES-Net India as a society. ME agreed to contact a lawyer for the same. PD strongly suggested expansion of the Core Team (post-GBM) to 10 - 15 members so that there enough people in meetings for discussions and taking decisions.

Action: ME to contact the lawyer, inform Core Group and appraise TK about further course of action.

3. Support from IRC

- a) Viju reported from his meeting with IRC the week before: IRC Asia /India Section would be happy to provide information for WES-Net India newsletter; IRC would train WES-Net India web master, which should not be more than ½ a day training since it would only require the person to only upload the contents on the pre-set IRC format; IRC would need WES-Net logo and some photographs for the website. As communicated earlier, IRC have waived the fee of € 1000 for hiring its portal for this year.
- b) PD and ME raised the point about meeting the charges for hiring IRC portal from next year onwards. One option discussed was, since Plan International has offered to take on the website, if they could pay the fee next year or if they would like to make any other suggestion and inform the Core Group as how they plan to do this.
- c) It was also decided that the website should be set up **by end-August** in order to have it ready before the WES-Net General Body Meeting (02 September 2005).

Action: 1) TK to follow up with Plan and inform the Core Group on point b) above; 2) TK to contact Plan to find out what kind of help is needed from the Core Group to ensure that website is set up within the set deadline 3) TK to provide logo, photographs and material from the newsletters for the website.

4. Proposal for a series of 4 regional and 1 national multi-thematic workshops

Core Group brainstormed on this point. Some main points covered were: if any of the donor agencies (eg UNICEF, World Bank) could host and WES-Net could coordinate the workshops being organised by other organisations (for example TWAD Board are planning one in Tamil Nadu/ Andhra Pradesh) and WES-Net get a slot for presentation. The themes could be decided regionally/ by the general body/ through e-dialogue (WES-Net could approach Solution Exchange to do through their website) or could have multi-thematic workshops. These workshops should be in districts or sub-metros to ensure they reach the grass root level and should be for maximum of two days.

TWAD have approached WES-Net for funding the Change Management workshop by any donor agency

Action: 1) WSP to explore the possibility of funding TWAD workshop 2) UNICEF to get funds allocated for WES-Net workshops and its other activities for next year.

5. Action plan for division of tasks/ functions within WES-Net India

AFPRO have offered a financial contribution of Rs 25,000 now and another Rs 25,000 after six months plus a designated person to support WES-Net activities. Plan International has offered to take on the website. This agenda item was discussed along with point 3) above.

6. Date for the next GBM of WES-Net:

Date for the next GBM of WES-Net: is now **Friday 02 September 2005**; all WES-Net India members to be invited; agenda and invitation to be sent out by mid-August giving members a deadline to confirm their attendance. Inform Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) of the event in advance.

Action: 1) TK to send out the agenda and invitation by 16 August (?). 2) AJJ, PD and Satyajit to inform MoUD.

7. **Future GBMs linked to major events?:** Yes, whenever possible.

8. **Institutional time and budget allocation:** was discussed very briefly. First step could be to expand the Core Team in order to have more hands to support the activities and share responsibilities.