

## Caritas India benchmarks equity and inclusion in recommending national indicators to SDGs to the MoSPI



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# Promulgating quality education in India, Caritas India partners Global Action Week for Education 2017

Report by Catherine Kune, PSO

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Global Action Week is a worldwide movement for education with education movement with National Coalition for Education (NCE), being the Indian counterpart. The theme for Global Action Week for Education in 2017 focuses on ensuring accountability for SDG 4, and active citizen participation. It aims to get quality, inclusive, free and public education – which are at the heart of SDG4, “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all” realised.

Partnering the effort, and supporting the need for just implementation of the Right to Education Act, Caritas India contributed inputs to SDG 4, which were submitted to MoSPI by NCE. A national consultation was held in New Delhi on 31 March whereby the draft charter was deliberated by the education experts, practitioners and activists to strengthen the demand to invest in public education system. Global Action Week will be celebrated in more than 100 countries, including 25 states in India in May.

To read the recommendations, visit [www.caritasindia.org](http://www.caritasindia.org)





# CARITAS INDIA BENCHMARKS EQUITY AND INCLUSION IN RECOMMENDING NATIONAL INDICATORS TO SDGS TO THE MOSPI

Report by Lee Macqueen, Advocacy Manager



The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) invited inputs/comments/suggestions to the Draft National Indicators Framework for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in March this year. Responding to the opportunity of partaking in the framing of national indicators, Caritas India submitted a host of indicators to various Goals and targets of the SDGs, on 7 April 2017.

The world embraced global SDGs in 2015, which have 17 Goals and 169 Targets covering a broad range of sustainable development issues. The SDGs besides being ambitious, take forward the unfinished agenda of its predecessor, the millennium development goals. Caritas India's

interventions on six strategic goals are aligned with sustainable development issues, and strive to achieve pro-poor, equitable and holistic development. These are – Emergencies and DRR; Climate Change Adaptive Sustainable Agriculture and Livelihood; Women and Child Development; Dalit and Tribal Development; Health; and Urban Poverty. Within these strategic goals, it prioritises the most marginalised and socially excluded communities, and acts to narrow the gaps between them and public systems through realisation of entitlements as a matter of right.

Caritas India reviewed the draft framework shared by the ministry and suggested indicators to set benchmarks for measuring and monitoring India's

progress to the SDGs. It is important to note that the MDGs lacked national indicators which made monitoring of the targets difficult and accountability to people weak. With national indicators to the SDGs coming up, the citizens of the country will be able to track where the country stands in its commitment to eradicating poverty and hunger (Goals 1 & 2), gender equality (Goal 5), reducing inequality within and among nations (Goal 10), sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16), among others.

To read the recommendations, visit [www.caritasindia.org](http://www.caritasindia.org)



## European Re-Integration Network will support returnee reintegration in India

Report by Catherine Kune, PSO

**The European Reintegration Network (ERIN) will be implemented towards the sustainable return and reintegration of third country nationals in their country of origin, with cooperation between ERIN partner institutions from the eighteen participating host countries.**

**E**RIN returnees programme will provide In-kind support assistant focusing on Sustainable return and reintegration of nationals who are no longer have the legal right to reside in the ERIN partners' countries.

Caritas India in collaboration with Caritas International Belgium trained 27 participants from 14 local partners under the new reintegration grant 'ERIN' on 11th April 2017 in Chennai to capacitate partners on programme protocols and guidelines covering financial, reporting, confidentiality and documentation system for smooth reintegration.

ERIN programme will provide meet and greet service at the arrival airport, medical assistance at the arrival airport (e.g. Ambulance), counselling, business consultancy support, legal advice to set up micro business/income generation activity, vocational training, education support, job reference and other basic assistance after arrival, depending on the needs of the returnee and the available reintegration package.

Genuine cases were presented during the

training as a cross learning exercise to identify partners intervention roles and address the challenges encountered by the partners during the implementing process.

ERIN is common project of 18 partner countries- Australia, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Finland, France, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Austria, Romania, Spain, United Kingdom, Sweden, and Switzerland which is funded by European Commission (The European Asylum, Migration and Integrated Fund (AMIF)).

The training was attended by Navjeevan Charitable Society Jalandhar, Chetanalaya Delhi, Kaira Social Service Society Ahmedabad, Caritas Goa, Ernakulam Social Service Society, Kairos Kannur, Trivandrum Social Service Society, Sivagangai Multipurpose Social Service Society, Madurai Social Service Society, Salem Social Service Society, Trichy Social Service Society, Thanjavur Social Service Society, Madras Social Service Society, Hyderabad Social Service Society and Eluru Social Service Society.





## Caritas India inches closer to Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2017

Report by Lee Macqueen, Advocacy Manager

The National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) comes nearly on the heels of Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, scheduled to be held in Cancun, Mexico on 22-26 May 2017. Caritas India partnered with Sphere India for the organisation of pre-NPDRR events, one being ‘Socially Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction – “Leave No One Behind”’, hosted by National Disaster Management Authority and National Institute of Disaster Management, on 20 April 2017, in New Delhi.

Fr. Frederick D’Souza, Director-Caritas India, exhorted the gathering to develop a common understanding of social inclusion; declare organisational policy on social inclusion, and include it at all stages of planning, implementation and monitoring programmes, as done by Caritas India. “One need only to find out the caste/community of the sanitation workers risking their lives going down the manholes around New Delhi, to learn for themselves who the most marginalised and excluded is,” he said.

Lee Macqueen, Advocacy Manager, drew attention to intersectional and intergenerational caste vulnerabilities cutting across gender, age, disability economic and political vulnerabilities, that get magnified in disasters. She recommended the identification of pre-existing vulnerability of communities and need for tailored resilience building programmes for caste discriminated communities. “DRR is a governance issue; and needs to be placed within the broader development paradigm. Thus, it is crucial that communities are able to access quality

services to health, education, housing etc. to be able to withstand the effect of emergencies,” she stressed. Additionally, contributing DRR inputs to various other relevant policy frameworks would help achieve risk informed policy directives across sectors.

Caritas recommended three broad steps to operationalising social inclusion in DRR, these are:

Targeting approach to identify the most vulnerable pockets and populations living in hazard prone locations

Empowering with information on rights and entitlements; facilitate their participation in political decision making in DRR;

Transparency in disaggregated data collection to build evidence on communities /groups affected most in emergencies towards tracking exclusion in DRR.

The panel comprising practitioners from a wide spectra highlighted inclusive practices and insights on inclusion of transgender community; sexual and reproductive health rights and services during disasters; child centred DRR; climate change; and animal protection. The output from the National Platform are expected to guide country’s formulation of national action plans on DRR, and feed into country’s representation at the Global Platform, wherein the international community will review global progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction adopted in 2015.



## PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

World Malaria Day  
25<sup>th</sup> April

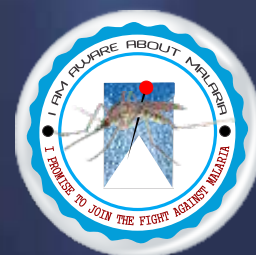
THEME

**END MALARIA  
FOR GOOD**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize - **INR 20,000**

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - **INR 15,000**

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - **INR 10,000**



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