



### SPFI Activities of ICSW South Asia Regional Committee

Providing Social Security to South Asia's 1.5 million people, nearly 1/4<sup>th</sup> of the world's population is a formidable challenge. Each South Asian Country has introduced its own social development and protection programmes aiming to protect the vulnerable, distressed and marginalized population focusing on poverty reduction, gender equality, protection of minorities, employment generation and improving labour standards of the work source.

ICSW having a consultative status with ESOSOC is actively engaged in presenting the views of its members at the UN inter Governmental negotiations. In all developing countries where poverty is rampant social development and social protection programmes are good tools to improve living conditions of the poor population. Against this background, ICSW South Asia Committee in association with UNESCO New-Delhi and ILO New Delhi office is organizing workshops/Seminars to assess the implementation of social protection programmes and suggest ways and means to improve the same involving civil society organizations, education institutions and research organizations.

The first consultation meet on SPFI was initiated by the SA Regional Committee in Mumbai India, in March 2011 in association with Tata Institute of Social Sciences Mumbai with the support of ILO and UNESCO. Mr. Christian Rollet, the then International President of ICSW and Mr. A.S.Shenoy , Regional President, SA Regional Committee participated in this conference and took part in its deliberations.

During December 2012, ICSW South Asia Regional Committee organized an International Conference in association with School of Social Work, Marian College, Kerala supported by UNESCO New-Delhi Office. The purpose of this conference was to bring together academicians, NGOs, policy makers and bureaucrats in order to share their experiences and knowledge on various issues including poverty reduction and to deliberate and review existing social protection programmes to assist Government in formulating inclusive social development/ protection policies.

Dr. Sergei, ICSW Executive Director and A.S Shenoy ICSW Regional President – South Asia took part in this deliberations and presented the global and South Asia regional scenario of social development programmes.

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