

## E & E Coalition Report

A 3 day workshop of the Empowerment & Entitlement Coalition was held at Bhooshakti Kendra, REDS, Tumkur, from 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> June 2009. 17 members from 9 NGOs including Ms. Clarieke from Dalit Network Netherlands, Amsterdam participated in the workshop. Ms. Frederika, Ms. Kalamani from ICCO's Regional Working Office, Delhi and Ms. Elske from ICCO also participated in the workshop. Ms. Satya Sree and Mr. Pradeep were the facilitators for the Workshop. **The focus of the workshop was on giving a shape and structure to the E&E coalition and on designing a concrete Coalition program.**

For the first 2 days the group worked on (a) The Purpose, (b) The Objectives, (c) The Strategies and (d) The Activities of the E&E coalition program. Then on the final day, the Budget for the coalition program and the Sources of Funds were discussed.

The purpose of the Coalition program is **strengthening of the Disadvantaged and excluded communities, both at Micro & Macro levels to access and manage resources and exercise rights in an inclusive, participatory and just manner.**

The objectives are; (a) To enhance the Partner capacity, (b) To establish Local - Global linkages, (c) To Advocate and Lobby for pro-poor policies and (d) To campaign for Electoral Reforms.

The Strategies are; (a) To Work at Micro and Macro levels, (b) To Link people's organizations, (c) To Promote women's leadership, (d) To Appropriate implementation of laws and (e) To Influence the polices.

The Activities are; (a) Conducting coalition meetings, (b) CBO exchange visits, (c) Information dissemination, (d) Participation in State and National Coalitions, (e) Participatory studies to take up campaigns, and (f) Creating a grid of lawyers and supporting human rights defenders

The Budget for the Coalition program was planned from July 2009 to December 2010. The tentative budget was worked out at Rs. 4,328,000 (€ 65000 Approx), for the 18 month program. Ms. Frederika Ms Elske told that only € 31,000 can be arranged from ICCO, for this program. The Coalition partners agreed to raise the balance amount of € 34,000 by hosting some events from their current project funds to bridge the gap. ICCO will give a formal consent to such expenditure. Ms Kalamani was requested to mobilize funds from ICCO, to the extent possible.

At the end of the 3 day workshop, the members felt that being in the coalition; they get an opportunity to challenge their own assumptions on Core Values of Dignity, Equality and Peace with freedom, from time to time. They expressed satisfaction on the outcome of the workshop.