

IFPIAN SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE & 3rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 2010, JAIPUR



62 IFP alumni based in diverse states of India and 7 visiting alumni representatives from China, Indonesia, Philippines, Russia, Thailand and Vietnam participated in a two day Social Justice Conference and IFPIAN Annual General Meeting in Jaipur on 20 and 21 February 2010. This was organised by the IFP India Alumni Network and IFP New Delhi office.

During the two-day meeting participants reiterated their collective commitment to action for social justice. They networked with alumni across cohorts and the Asia Russia regions, sharing ideas and initiating collaborations for social justice projects. Alumni discussed the significant progress of the IFP India Alumni Network, now a registered not-for profit organisation. An Open Space

Technology (OST) exercise to strengthen possible mutual collaborative efforts amongst all alumni, was also explored. Concrete plans for strengthening state-level and thematic group networking were made.

The results of the IFPIAN Social Justice Grant Competition 2010 were also announced. Three amongst the proposals submitted will receive funds of approx US\$ 2,000 each to carry out social justice projects during the year. These include (i) a project to provide low cost assistive devices, customized rehabilitation aids and appliances to persons with disabilities in the state of Orissa (ii) a project to impart legal training to empower representatives of marginalized communities in the state of Gujarat to assert their rights and (iii) a project to offer financial and mentoring support to talented but financially marginalised school dropouts in a small district in the state of Madhya Pradesh.

All participants carried away some learning and were encouraged to remain connected. Collaboration, networking and strengthening of ties emerged as the key outcomes of the meeting.