

AID Conference 2004

Minutes for Session Named AP Cell

BY Priya Keshav

Presenters: Srihari and Smayuktha from SanDiego and Maryland

Take stock of all projects in AP (understand past projects and set goals and guidelines for future projects)

Aid has worked in

1. Education
2. Dalit rights
3. Micro credit and vocational training
4. Legal support
5. Tribal welfare
6. Fire relief and other electoral reforms.

Approximately 40 projects

AID has usually contributes major portion of its funds to education and tribal welfare. The other categories only receive a very small proportion of funds. The districts we have worked so far are Srikakulam, vishakapatnam, kurnool and Chitoor. Vishakapatnam has received a major portions of AID's funds.

Key projects are Aranyika, GRASS, BCT, Nisarga Trust and APWU.

Ravi and Aravinda has been closely involved with Grass. Madduvalasa we have been working with the people who are displaced and we also provided legal assistance to those who were loosing land.

Things to do-

- 1) Factors that led to working in one area vs. other
- 2) Deeper understanding regions and issues affecting the area will it throw some light into why proposals are not coming from other areas/districts
- 3) What are the other means of connecting with the issues in the backward district?

Areas to go forward:-

Learning through research

Learning through projects

Facilitating Networking – organize focused meeting for collaborations, cross-learning among NGOs, peoples movements in AP.

Strong AID India presence in AP.

Ideas for Discussion:

Intern for a month with some group and get to know the issues to work with

Work with local telugu association

Aravinda - Can we develop better filters for new projects coming from AP?

Work on local governance issues

Work with the Telangana region

Linking NGO's who are working in the same region

We have to identify the main requirements/issues AP is facing

TANA july4th conference – Madhavi will follow up to see if we can make a presentation in the conference.

Chenniah Speech –

Good to have AID presence. But AID has to work at the state level – core issues. It should have AP position keeping in mind AID's priorities. Aid has to look at what are the areas where AP has funding and areas where there is no funding. AID should try to fund areas that are under funded.

Every year the tribal areas people get some kind of flu. No one is treating them currently. Aid has to look at areas that are under funded and work on those areas.

Aravinda said we can consider

Two core issues of APWU

- 1) Dalit Rights
- 2) Natural resources

Should be considered as AID goals

Specific action items –

- 1) Want people to volunteer
- 2) Presenting AP efforts to outside world
 - a. Presentations about projects
 - b. NGO's need research help
- 3) AID projects consolidation and identify long term projects
- 4) Researching issues – Nirmala, Kavitha, Mokshay, Samyuktha, Madhavi