

1980



2005

Celebrating 25 Years

Institute of Social Studies Trust
2004-2005 Annual Report



ANNUAL REPORT 2004-2005



INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES TRUST



INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES TRUST

The Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST), a non-profit, non-governmental organisation, was set up in 1964 as a Society and was registered as a Trust in 1980. ISST is dedicated to conducting research and action programmes to promote social justice and equity for the underprivileged with a focus on women. In recognition of its work, ISST has been conferred NGO Consultative Status (II) by the United Nations.

ISST attempts to bridge the gaps between research, action and policy debate, believing that academic research can provide valuable inputs into grassroots activism and policy debate, but equally that activist experience and policy concerns need to influence the directions of research. ISST, thus, positions itself at the interface between research, action and policy.

The main office of ISST is located at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi. ISST has a Community Centre in East Delhi and a branch office in Bangalore.



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From the Director's Desk



In a year that witnessed the horror of the tsunami, organizations like ours need to re-affirm our unstinted solidarity with those working on the ground, seeking to establish the basis for sustainable growth and equality. It has been our effort to strengthen what we see as a key message of ISST's work: *triangulating research, action and policy*. This has influenced our choice of research questions, the method of research followed, and our attempts at dissemination and dialogue.

This last year has seen some expansion in our research and related activities in both offices, at Delhi and Bangalore. Research projects undertaken over the year under our three main themes: governance, economic reform, and work, have allowed us to contribute in diverse ways to contemporary concerns. Research on aspects of governance has especially highlighted the meaning of community, the role of women's groups, and the agenda of women's leadership. Projects undertaken in this theme included *Ensuring Public Accountability through Community Action*, an attempt to facilitate gender sensitive governance in Delhi slums, supported by the IDRC, Canada. Apart from its research outputs, this project has greatly helped in focusing our activities at the Community Centre in East Delhi. Two studies undertaken with support from the UNDP, New Delhi, on *Women in Leadership Positions* and another on *Beyond Practical Gender Needs: Women in North Eastern and Hill States*, have allowed us to explore issues relating to governance in the four hill states of Uttaranchal, Himachal, Manipur and Meghalaya.

The *Gender Network*, supported by IDRC and directed by Prof. Swapna Mukhopadhyay, has stimulated a range of research on aspects of gender and economic reform in South and South East Asia, and is discussed in detail in the report.

In the area of work, we have largely focused on issues relevant to women in the informal economy. A study on *Social Protection of Home-Based Workers* was initiated in partnership with HomeNet South Asia, with support from the Ford Foundation, New Delhi. ISST continued its association with the ILO, New Delhi and its skill training project for women in the urban informal economy, *Decent Employment for Women in India*, by helping to organize a workshop on the subject in Bangalore. At the request of the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India, ISST undertook an evaluation of two dairy projects supported by the STEP programme in Karnataka, which seek to empower poor women through access to micro enterprise. ISST is also managing a grant from the UNDP for research support to the National Commission on Unorganised Enterprises.

In the coming year, ISST will be celebrating its silver jubilee with a seminar in Bangalore on the theme of 'Women's livelihood in coastal communities' and in Delhi on 'Relevance of research to activism and policy'. These are themes we hope to incorporate into our research work and other activities in the coming years.

Among other activities, ISST has continued to be the Guide to the Development Gateway Gender and Development page. Our networking and outreach efforts have been channeled through workshops, seminars and discussions, organized both to disseminate ISST's own work, as also that of others, and to make useful contributions to on-going development debates. Two *Gender Policy Forums* were organized in association with the India Habitat Centre over this last year. ISST's newsletters (*Samachar Patrika* in Hindi, *ISST News* in English, and *Uma Prachar* in Hindi and English) are all now available on our website.

2005 marked the completion of a decade of efforts to implement the Beijing Platform for Action by governments across the world, and ISST was happy to contribute to the decadal reviews at both national and regional levels, and to participate at the annual meet of the Committee on the Status of Women in New York in March 2005.

The activities of the Community Outreach Programme continue to draw in increasing numbers of women and children from neighbouring slum clusters. Links between these activities and research efforts were strengthened over the year with the Public Accountability project providing synergy between the two.

Last, and certainly not least, we are happy to acknowledge the contributions of our friends, colleagues and sponsors, whose support and interest have greatly helped us in consolidating and re-affirming our efforts and commitments.

Ratna M. Sudarshan
New Delhi

Projects undertaken April 1, 2004 - March 31, 2005

<i>Completed projects</i>			
Project Title	Sponsoring Agency	Date of Commencement	Date of Completion
<i>Gender and Work</i>			
Decent Employment for Women in India	ILO	June 2004	July 2004
ETI Impact Assessment Study of Garment Sector in India: Consultation	IDS Sussex	November, 2004	November 2004
Impact of Globalisation on Women	National Commission for Women	June, 2004	September, 2004
<i>On-going projects</i>			
Project Title	Sponsoring Agency	Date of Commencement	Date of Completion
<i>Gender and Economic Reforms</i>			
MIMAP-Gender Network (Phase III)	International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada	January 2004	2006
<i>Gender and Governance</i>			
Ensuring Public Accountability through Community Action	International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada	August 2003	2006
Women in Leadership Positions	UNDP	November 2004	May 2005
Beyond Practical Gender Needs – Women in North-Eastern and Hill States	UNDP	August 2004	June 2005
<i>Gender and Work</i>			
Social Protection for Home-based Workers in south Asia	Home-Net South Asia/ Ford Foundation	July 2004	June 2006
Evaluation of STEP Projects: a. Karnataka Milk Federation b. Nittur Education Society	Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India	February 2004	August 2005
<i>Other Assignments</i>			
Qualitative Research: A Consultation	Anusandhaan Trust, with CEHAT/ Healthwatch	March 2005	March 2005
Development Gateway	Development Gateway Foundation	March 2004	September 2005
Progress of Women in South Asia	UNIFEM	October 2004	January 2005
National Commission on Unorganised Enterprises: Research Support	UNDP	December 2004	August 2005

Completed Projects

Gender and Work

1. *Decent Employment for Women in India*

ISST was commissioned by the International Labour Organization (ILO), New Delhi, to provide technical support in organizing a seminar in Bangalore on 'Promoting Work and Networks for Women in Urban Informal Economy', which would review the experience of the pilot project *Decent Employment for Women in India*, and identify directions for such interventions in the context of the urban informal economy in this city. This activity was a follow-up of the review conducted by ISST on the Decent Employment Programme for Women of ILO last year. The ILO initiated the programme, in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour, Government of India, two years ago. It is currently being implemented in the two metropolitan cities of New Delhi and Bangalore. A report on the workshop, along with background papers commissioned for the workshop, has been submitted to the ILO.

Sponsored by the International Labour Organization, New Delhi.

2. *ETI Impact Assessment Study of Garment Sector in India: Consultation*

The UK's Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) has commissioned the Institute of Development Studies (University of Sussex, UK) to assess the changes that have occurred as a result of member companies' implementation of codes of labour practice, with the objective of finding ways to improve the implementation of codes in the future. ISST, in partnership with the IDS Sussex, organized a workshop at which preliminary findings of the study were discussed with stakeholders. Findings from ISST's own studies with garment workers in Delhi were also presented at the workshop.

Sponsored by The Institute of Development Studies, Sussex.

3. *Impact of Globalisation on Women*

The National Commission for Women has held a series of consultations with groups of women workers in different parts of the country in 2003 and 2004. ISST was commissioned to write a paper based on these public hearings, and to help organize a national consultation at which these findings were debated with the view to articulate desirable policy directions.

Sponsored by The National Commission for Women, New Delhi

On-going Projects

Gender and Economic Reforms

1. MIMAP – Gender Network (Phase III)

The third phase of MIMAP – Gender Network Project, which has been investigating the impact of economic reforms from a gender perspective, has completed its first year in December 2004. The individual modules in the research agenda of the Network under which progress has been made in last one year are:

- a. *Poverty and Gender: Bangladesh Academy of Rural Development (BARD)* in Bangladesh and *Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE)* in Pakistan are working on the qualitative dimensions of the interface between gender and poverty. BARD and PIDE have collected quantitative data on multi-dimensional indicators of poverty, including mental health indicators, within households. The main objectives of these studies are to explore how males, females and children of different socio economic segments of rural communities perceive, and respond to, poverty in its multifarious dimensions.
- b. *ICT and Gender*: The institutions involved in this research are the *Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST), India, Centre for Women's Research (CENWOR), Sri Lanka and the Institute of Economics (IE), Vietnam.*

In India, ISST is assessing the differential impact of some on-going innovative ICT projects, on men and women. One of these projects is the well-known Akshaya Project in Kerala and the second is an innovative programme to provide computer literacy to children and young adults from vulnerable sections of society. This is being carried out by the Habitat Learning Centre at different locations in Delhi with help from various NGOs.

During the period under review, field surveys in Kerala have been concluded in the district of Malappuram where the Akshaya Project had been launched initially. Several case studies and key informant interviews were carried out by the ISST research team to supplement the efforts of the local partners who were involved in collecting the survey data.

In Delhi, a set of standard psychometric tests have been conducted on children and adolescents from disadvantaged communities across the city to assess the psychological benefits conferred on the boys and girls as a result of computer exposure, under the supervision of a renowned psychoanalyst. In due course, statistical analysis of the data will be carried out to understand the impact of such exposure within the

context of their socio-economic and family backgrounds. It is expected that data collection and analysis in this component will continue until the middle of 2005.

In Sri Lanka and Vietnam, the partnering organizations are studying, the gendered impact of the ICT revolution at micro, meso and macro levels in their respective countries. In both the countries, requisite questionnaires were developed and translated into local languages, before the actual survey. The questionnaires were canvassed on the ICT workers, and also at household and firm level. At present, both the organizations are working on their research reports with a focus on policy implications of the research.

c. *Gender Training and Gender Modeling*: One of the primary objectives of the present phase of Gender Network is to promote the practice of gender relevant econometric research among mainstream economists. Under the auspices of the Gender Network, a two-day Gender Training Programme was arranged during the June 2004 Annual meeting of the PEP Network which was attended by over seventy persons. A large number of the participants may not have had any exposure to gender issues in a classroom setting earlier. On the research side, the Gender Network has tied up with the PEP Network to establish a *Gender Challenge Fund* within PEP. More than forty proposals have been submitted so far. The selected researchers will be invited to present their respective proposals in a PEP Network Meeting at Colombo in June 2005 for the final selection.

d. *Gender, Growth and Inequality*: The Centre for Development Economics (CDE) of the Delhi School of Economics is the core organization for this component of the project. Work is currently under way along two separate components. In India, work is in progress on the National Sample Survey data on Employment and Unemployment to understand the reasons behind the reported low participation of women in the labour force through detailed analysis of labour use patterns.

A second part of this project is aimed at mapping gender differences within the context of economic growth and income inequalities internationally. The UNDP International Poverty Research Centre, Brazil is substantively involved in this component of the project, with Prof. Nanak Kakwani and his team in Brazil working in coordination with the Gender Network Project Director. A paper titled, "Gender and the Millennium Development Goals: The Role of Economic Growth" is currently under preparation.

e. *Consolidation of Gender Network Research Findings*: The consolidation work has been going on along side other research. The most significant development in this area is the work that has started on the consolidation of research findings from three rounds of studies undertaken by the Gender Network in Kerala.

Partnering Organisations and Individuals in Gender Network (Phase III)

Modules	Research Assignments	Organisation	Country location
Poverty and Gender	To study differential experiences of and reactions to household economic situations on men and women.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) • Bangladesh Academy of Rural Development (BARD) 	Pakistan Bangladesh
ICT and Gender	To study from a gender perspective the technological changes and ICT revolution at macro, meso and micro levels, in the light of macro-economic reforms in the country.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST), India • Centre for Women's Research (CENWOR), Sri Lanka • Institute of Economics (IE), Vietnam 	India Sri Lanka Vietnam
Gender Modeling	Micro-econometric analysis of gender relevant issues in developing economies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISST, in association with Laval University, Canada 	Global
Gender Sensitization Training Workshop for Economists	A two day interactive training workshop on economics of gender designed for mainstream economists.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISST, in association with a team of resource persons 	Global
Econometric Analysis of Economic Growth, Income Inequality and Gender Disparities	Economic growth, income inequality & gender disparities: a multi-country econometric analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre for Development Economics (CDE, Delhi School of Economics); International Centre for Poverty Research, UNDP, Brazil 	Global

The first meeting of the third phase of the Gender Network was held in New Delhi from the 31st of January to 2nd of February 2004. See www.isst-india.org for details.

Sponsored by The International Development Research Centre, Canada

Gender and Governance

1. Ensuring Public Accountability through Community Action

The objective of this project was to identify already existing community groups, as well as work towards organising such groups, for constructive dialogue with relevant official agencies around issues related to service delivery. The project aimed at applying collective action strategies to develop dialogue links between service providers and receivers, sustain the dialogue and negotiate possibilities for improvement in service delivery mechanisms. The primary focus of the project was to address bottlenecks in service delivery for the poor through such dialogues. The project is operational in three slum clusters in East Delhi. Two other non-government organizations joined the ISST project team as partners for carrying out the process on the ground. The project attempted to understand the relationship between these vulnerable groups and the lack of transparent and accountable governance mechanisms in India. The project

also envisaged a solution to address the handicaps in governance through realisation of the need to move beyond the 'right to vote' towards a 'right to participate' in governing ourselves.

The project was conceived as participatory in nature, and applied qualitative research tools. The purpose was to ensure the interaction of three primary groups – the urban poor; the non-government organisations and government agencies. In the three project locations, different priority needs were identified – garbage collection and sanitation, sewerage connections and community toilet blocks. The project also contributed towards developing an understanding of the patterns of negotiation existing in urban slums.

After a year of field visits and organising discussions with local slum residents it has emerged that organising people around governance issues and linking those to service delivery gaps is not easy. However, the process was useful in arriving at an understanding of local level dynamics pertaining to negotiating, managing crisis and willingness to organise collective action. It was ascertained that while negotiation is necessary for improving service delivery, the first choice of agents to negotiate with are not government but political agents. With insecurity of tenure, the willingness to participate in dialogue remains limited – on both sides. Employment, livelihood and security of tenure remain top priorities for slum dwellers.



Workshop on Ensuring Public Accountability through Community Action

An end of project seminar is planned for May 2005. Project outputs include a short film capturing people's responses in those slum communities, where the project activities were undertaken.

The International Development Research Centre, Canada supports this action research project.

2. Women in Leadership Positions

A concept paper on Women in Leadership Positions is being written as part of a UNDP- DWCD Gender Research Programme. The paper will be based on findings from interviews with women in leadership positions from selected areas in Himachal, Uttaranchal, Manipur and Meghalaya, and supplemented by a review of relevant literature. Interviewees include women in leadership positions within Panchayat Raj institutions as well as (informal) women's groups such as the Mahila Mangal Dals. The paper is expected to provide a framework for further research in this area.

Sponsored by UNDP

3. Beyond Practical Gender Needs - Women in North-Eastern and Hill States

This project has been sponsored under the UNDP and Planning Commission's National Research Programme on Growth and Human Development. The objective was to review in greater detail than has been possible in the State Human Development Reports, issues relating to gender needs and the kind of policy interventions that would best support the progressive realization of these needs.



Workshop on "Beyond Practical Gender Needs-Women in North-East and Hill states"

The study seeks to focus on the situation of women in four hill states, Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur and Meghalaya. The study is being undertaken in partnership with NGOs based in these states, North East Network for Meghalaya, Rural Women Upliftment Society for Manipur, Uttarakhand Seva Nidhi Paryavaran Shiksha Sansthan for Uttaranchal and SUTRA for Himachal Pradesh. At a start up workshop in October, it was agreed that each group would examine issues relating to education, health, violence, political participation, livelihood and access to land and property. Draft reports were discussed at a seminar in March.

Sponsored by UNDP

Gender and Work

1. Social Protection for Home-based Women Workers in South Asia

ISST is assisting HomeNet South Asia (a network for home-based workers) in an

action research project designed to set in motion a process which, it is hoped, will lead to the formulation and implementation of programmes of social protection for home-based workers in each country. ISST's role is to give any required training in research methods, design the survey tools, and supervise and co-ordinate the research on the basis of which HomeNet will design its future advocacy strategy. A consolidated report will also be prepared at ISST.



Group discussions between the home-based workers and research team in Gujarat, India

A workshop on 'Methodology for Action Research on Social Protection' in South Asia was organized in New Delhi in July, 2004 at which the scope and methodology of the study was agreed upon. The research will be carried out in two phases. In the first phase, information will be collected using participatory tools such as focus group discussions, mappings and matrices, and other methods such as life histories of workers. In the second phase, based on the findings from the first phase, a questionnaire survey will be carried out in all the countries. To allow some comparability across countries, two common sectors, weaving and ready-made garments, have been included.

The project is supported by the Ford Foundation, India.

2. Evaluation of STEP Projects (Dairy):

- a. Karnataka Co-operative Milk Federation
- b. Nittur Education Society

ISST has undertaken the evaluation of two STEP (Support for Training and Employment of Women) grants for dairy projects in Karnataka at the request of the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India. The primary objective was to investigate to what extent women from poor households have been benefited, and whether dairying has been a source of economic empowerment for these women.



Beneficiaries of STEP Dairy Project in Karnataka

The STEP programme has the objective of supporting projects for the economic empowerment of poor women. The objective of the evaluation is to see how far the objectives of the project, and the general objectives of the STEP programme, are being met. Information is being collected through questionnaires, interviews and focus group discussions, with special attention being given to issues relating to women's time and earnings, outreach of the programme to the poorest, environmental aspects of dairying, and the impact on household consumption of milk.

Sponsored by the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India

Other Assignments

1. Qualitative Research: a Consultation

In partnership with CEHAT and Healthwatch, ISST organized a methodology workshop on qualitative research. Apart from experiences with using different types of methods, ethical issues in research were debated. A report on the workshop, along with the presentations made at the workshop, is to be prepared by ISST.



Consultation on Qualitative Research Methodology

Sponsored by Anusandhaan Trust, Mumbai

2. Progress of Women in South Asia

ISST has been commissioned by UNIFEM to review achievements, gaps and challenges in the twelve critical areas of the Beijing Platform for Action for countries in South Asia, with a special focus on the last five years. A draft has been submitted to UNIFEM.

Sponsored by UNIFEM, New Delhi

3. Development Gateway: Gender Page

ISST has been guiding the Gender and Development page of the Development Gateway portal (<http://www.developmentgateway.org/gender>) since March 2004. The Development Gateway portal is an interactive site that brings together people, resources, and information on development and poverty reduction. The portal provides a space for communities to share experiences on development efforts. ISST's responsibilities as the Guide include regularly populating the gender page with news, events and new online materials, preparing regular highlights and e-mail newsletters, approving or rejecting new content submitted by members, and promoting the gender page through our own networks and events. Highlights prepared at ISST over this last year have included the themes like gender gaps in primary education, entrepreneurship, youth employment, housing and food and nutrition.

The project is sponsored by the Development Gateway Foundation

4. Research Support to the Commission on Unorganised Enterprises

ISST is managing a grant from the UNDP for research support to the Commission on Unorganised Enterprises. Activities undertaken will seek to fill gaps in existing information and otherwise strengthen the research activities of the Commission.

Sponsored by UNDP

ISST is able to undertake consultancies in its areas of competence. We are happy to have contributed in this way to a study of women in Afghanistan for the World Bank, and to the India Country Paper prepared for release at the annual meeting of the Committee on the Status of Women in New York in March 2005, for the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India.

Outreach Programmes

A. ISST-IHC Gender Policy Forum

ISST and India Habitat Centre, New Delhi jointly initiated this forum in 2003 with the objective of encouraging debate and dialogue on issues of contemporary interest for gender policy with an audience that includes both academics and non academics. Two meetings were organized over the year:

- Panel discussion on “Social Protection in a Globalised Economy”, speakers being Ms Renana Jhabvala, National Coordinator of SEWA (Self-Employed Women’s Association) and Dr Alakh Narain Sharma, Director, Institute of Human Development.
- A lecture on “Tackling Disaster” was delivered by Dr Rukmini Bhaya Nair, Professor at the Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi.



Ms. Renana Jhabvala and Dr. Alakh N. Sharma at ISST-IHC Gender Policy Forum

B. Community Outreach Programme of ISST

Activities at the field office in West Vinod Nagar, Delhi over the year included both the regular activities being undertaken here as well as several activities relating to the project on Public Accountability. Since its inception in 2000, the community centre has undertaken activities in three broad areas: health, learning, and livelihood and income generation. Awareness generation is attempted on various issues, including health, nutrition, and legal rights. Interventions include Family Counseling, Behavioral Counseling, vocational training skills and economical and psychological empowerment

through formation of self- help groups (SHGs). Last year, the Community Centre has conducted several training workshops for the adolescent girls, from slum communities.

Highlights of the year included several training initiatives, e.g.,

- Workshop for Adolescent Girls: A workshop on Family Education was organized by ISST from June 10th to June 24th, 2004 for adolescent girls from adjacent slum communities in East Delhi. The workshop focused on problems related to growing up, sexuality, confidence building and achieving goals. Girls were much more confident about setting their goals and life management in a better perspective after the workshop. This workshop was facilitated by YWCA (Young Women's Christian Association).
- In July, a fourteen day workshop on beauty culture was organised at the field office. Girls from slums and resettlement colonies attended the workshop.
- A workshop was organised on dress designing between 3 – 7 January, 2005 for young girls and women.
- On 23rd February a workshop on the Right to Information was organised by the Community Centre, where 10-12 women participated. An activist from *Parivartan*, a Peoples' Group working on Right to Information also contributed to the workshop by highlighting some important facts on the concerned Act.



Workshops for Adolescent Girls, organized at ISST Community Centre

The ISST Community Centre also works with children from the neighbouring slum communities. It runs a centre for non-formal education and vocational training for the children. A computer learning centre, with the help from Habitat Computer Learning Centre, India Habitat Centre, has been running at the Community Centre for more than year. A film club and a children's theatre group has been formed by these children, as a part of recreational activities.



"Nakshatra", Children's Theatre Group at ISST Community Centre performing at India Habitat Centre

We are grateful to the friends and colleagues who have supported the efforts of the Community Centre since its inception through assistance in cash or kind, or as volunteers.

We thank Prof. Swasti Mitter, Prof. Swapna Mukhopadhyay, Dr. Shobhna Sonpar, Dr. Jyotsna Bapat, Ms. Revati Narayanan, Mr. S.K. Bharadwaj, Mr. Yohan Augiar, Ms. Hema Pant, Ms. Prema Pant, Mr. Avinash Kumar, Ms. Chetna, Ms. Jagriti for contributing in kind and/or cash.

We also thank Ms. Anju Joshi, Mr. Anurag, Ms. Avantika Joshi, Mr. Dignpal Singh, Mr. Dipendra Shah, Ms. Gita Uniyal, Mr. Himanshu Pandey, Ms. Jaimala Sharma, Ms. Jyoti, Ms. Kamlesh Gaur, Mr. Kapil Das, Ms. Mansi Joshi, Mr. Nair, Ms. Nirmala, Ms Reshmi Pandey, Ms. Sangeeta Rani, Mr. Sukritin Mehta, Mr. Sundarlal and Ms. Vidhi Verma for their assistance as educators or volunteers.

Documentation and Library Resources

ISST library and documentation centre, was started in 1984 with the aim of providing information and documentation support to the scholars, researchers, planners and development agencies. The library resources at both Delhi and Bangalore are open to the visitors throughout the year. The Delhi library boasts over 7,000 volumes - books, conference/seminars papers, research reports, journal articles and other publications in the field of gender studies. The Bangalore library has a rich collection of printed materials on Panchayati Raj along with books on different social science disciplines.

ISST's NGO Consultative Status with UN-ECOSOC

The Institute of Social Studies Trust has had NGO consultative status (special) with UN-ECOSOC between 1986 and 1993, and since 1998. At the meeting of the Committee on the Status of Women, March 2005, member countries reviewed progress in implementing the Beijing Platform of Action, agreed upon ten years ago. Mrs Devaki Jain, Trustee, attended the meet as an official delegate. Ratna M Sudarshan, Director and Dr Jaskiran Mathur, ISST representative at New York, attended as NGO delegates.

Workshops/Seminars Organised by ISST during 2004-05

Seminar/Workshop

- *"Ensuring Public Accountability through Community Action"* Mid-project Workshop, May 26 2004, India International Centre, New Delhi
- *'Promoting Work and Networks: Women in the Urban Informal Economy'* July 9, 2004, Federation of Karnataka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Bangalore. (organized in partnership with the ILO).
- Beyond Practical Gender Needs – Women in North-Eastern and Hill States
 - Oct 26, 2004: start up workshop, YMCA, New Delhi
 - Feb 15, 2005: end of project workshop, IIC, New Delhi.
- *ETI Impact Assessment Study of Garment Sector in India: Consultation*, 23 Nov 2004, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi (in partnership with the IDS, Sussex).
- *Consultation on Qualitative Research*, 21-22 March 2005, Indian Social Institute, Lodhi Institutional Area, New Delhi.

ISST's Participation in Workshop, Seminars, Discussions, Meetings during 2004-05

Seminar /Workshop	Attended by
"Vulnerability to Crisis in Urban Lucknow: the Role of Assets in Mitigating Risk", organized by Oxfam and University of Wisconsin, at Madison, New Delhi, on April 23, 2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan
NCAER-SEWA Collaborative Programme on Garment Industry, New Delhi, on April 27, 2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Workshop on Law and Gender, organized by IFES, New Delhi at Hotel Welcome Marriott, New Delhi, on April 15, 2004	Rina Bhattacharya
Gender Issues in State Human Development Report, UNDP, New Delhi, April 2004	Rina Bhattacharya Manjistha Banarjee
Right to Adequate Housing – ESCR Focus on Women, organized by CWDS, New Delhi, on April 23-25, 2004	Suchi Pande

Seminar /Workshop	Attended by
VC Seminar on “Water, Sanitation and Human Settlement”, at IHC, New Delhi, on May 18, 2004	Suchi Pande
National Consultation on Beijing +10, at Bahai House, New Delhi, on May 22-23, 2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan Rina Bhattacharya
Brainstorming Workshop on Social Security, V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida on June 8, 2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Seminar on Global Development Finance 2004, Harnessing Cyclical Gains for Development, organized by ICRIER and World Bank, New Delhi, on June 10, 2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Workshop on Elected Women Leaders, organized by The Hunger Project, at Indian Social Institute, Bangalore, on June 16-17, 2004	Grace Fernandez
National Workshop on “Decentralization in Kerala: The Next Steps”, Kerala House, New Delhi, on June 16-17, 2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Discussion on Beijing +10, organized by All India Women’s Conference July 26	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Meeting with Mr. Olav Kjørven, Deputy Minister, Development Cooperation, and others at the Royal Norwegian Embassy to discuss issues related to the Informal Sector and Property Rights for the Poor, September 9, 2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Workshop on ‘Adolescents: Education and Employment Opportunities’, presentation by CORD at NIEPA, New Delhi, September 9, 2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan
‘Lessons of Promising Practices and Implications for Scaling up Girls Education: A South Asian Workshop’, Commonwealth Secretariat in partnership with UNICEF India, Chandigarh, September 20-22, 2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Workshop on Combating Crimes against Women, organised by the Bureau of Police Research and Development, India International Centre, July 26, 2004	Amita Joshi Medha Bisht
Networks for Change: Indo-British Partnerships in Gender Equality’ July 28-30, 2004 at British Council, Delhi	Rina Bhattacharya Manjistha Banarjee
Urban Actors, Policies and Governance: The Decision - Making Processes Governing the Supply and Demand of the Collective Goods and Services in the Indian Metropolises’ organized by India International Center and Centre De Sciences Humaines, August 21, 2004	Suchi Pande
Workshop on Trafficking in Women and Children, organized by Institute of Social Sciences, August 24, 2004	Medha Bisht
Community Involvement in Social Security Programme - V.V Giri, National Labour Institute, September 27, 2004	Jyotsana Sivaramayya Shambhu Ghatak

Seminar /Workshop	Attended by
Gandhi Kuti Se Bazar Ki or: Ek Khoj organised by Gandhi Peace Foundation: 2 nd October 2004	Manjushree Mishra
National Convention on Right to Information: 8-10 October, 2004. Convention on Employment Guarantee Act: organised by SAHMAT 19 th October 2004	Suchi Pande
Meeting of Working Group on Informal Economy in Research and Statistics, New Delhi, 2 nd November ,2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan Jyotsna Sivaramayya
Gender and Development, organised by the Indian Social Institute, New Delhi, 19 th -20 th November 2004	Rakhee Bhattacharya
National Consultation on proposed Employment Guarantee Act, organized by IDS Jaipur, 22 nd November 2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Gender and Education Consultation, organized by Nirantar, 24 th -25 th November 2004.	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Consultation on Gender Budget Studies, Human Development Resource Centre, UNDP, 25 th November 2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan
SAARC Gender Database: Preliminary Brainstorming Meeting, 2 nd December 2004, SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Seminar on the role of Science and Religion in Development, organised by Science, Religion and Development Secretariat, New Delhi, 4 th December, 2004	Suchi Pande
Citizens Report on Governance and Development, organised by Social Watch India, New Delhi, 14 th December, 2004	Shambhu Ghatak
Workshop on Gender and Governance, IRMA, Anand, 15 th -16 th December 2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Abortion Assessment Project, CEHAT and Healthwatch, 20 th December 2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Workshop on Urban Processes: Health, Habitat and Violence. Institute of socio-economic research on Development and Democracy and Centre for Development Economics, Delhi School of Economics, 23 rd December 2004	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Meeting of the Working Group on Informal Economy Research and Statistics (WIRES), January 3 2005	Ratna M. Sudarshan Jyotsna Sivaramayya
GEN X view of Gender Equality organised by All India Women's Conference, 12 January 2005	Rina Bhattacharya
National Planning Workshop on National Resource Centre for Women, organized by NIPCCD, Jan 20-21, 2005	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Seminar on Globalisation and the Women's Movement in India, CWDS, 20-22 January 2005	Ratna M. Sudarshan

Seminar /Workshop	Attended by
Third National Colloquium on Economic and Social Implications of the New Patent Regime, India International Centre, 1 st February, 2005	Shambhu Ghatak
National Perspective on Macro Economic Priorities and People's Perspective on Union Budget 2005-2006, National Centre for Advocacy Studies, Vishva Yuwak Parishad, New Delhi, 3 rd February, 2005	Shambhu Ghatak
'Women talk! Dealing with the Global Market' seminar organized by Self Employed Women's Association, at the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Delhi, February 4-5 2005	Ratna M. Sudarshan
Workshop on Women and Media organised by All India Women's Conference, 21 February 2005	Medha Bisht
Participated at the Forty Ninth Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 28 February-11 March, 2005, New York	Ratna M. Sudarshan
The Silent Revolution: Women Sarpanch Take Charge in a Male Bastion, organised by The Hunger Project, 17 March, 2005	Medha Bisht
Consultation on research possibilities using DISE data, UNICEF, 28 March	Ratna M. Sudarshan

Papers and Presentations

Suchi Pande

- 'Experiences of garment sector women workers in Delhi', presented at *ETI Impact Assessment Study of Garment Sector in India: Consultation*, 23 Nov 2004, New Delhi.
- 'Decent Employment for Women in India – Learnings and Recommendations', presented at *Promoting Work and Networks: Women in the Urban Informal Economy*, July 9, 2004, Bangalore.

Jyotsna Sivaramayya

- 'Research with NGOs', presented at *Consultation on Qualitative Research*, March 22, 2005.

Ratna M. Sudarshan

- Research outline of project on social protection of home-based women workers in South Asia, at *Social Protection in Asia: a Regional Research Initiative*, workshop organized by the Thailand Development Research Institute and Ford Foundation, Bangkok, on June 3-5, 2004
- 'Vocational Training for Women in Informal Employment' presented at *National Seminar on Women's Education and Development*, held at Helena Kaushik Women's College, Malsisar, Rajasthan July 31- August 2, 2004.

- 'Chronic Poverty and Gendered Patterns of Intra-Household Resource Allocation' (with Rina Bhattacharya) presented at *Annual Conference of the International Association of Feminist Economics*, Oxford, August 5 - 7, 2004.
- Background paper on 'Impact of Globalisation on Women', presented at Seminar organized by the National Commission for Women, New Delhi, September 17, 2004.
- 'Impact of Globalization and Reforms on Women' at National Convention on *Do reforms need course correction?* Organized by Lok Awaaz, New Delhi, 5th -6th, November 2004
- 'Role of informal institutions in engendering governance', at *Workshop on Gender and Governance*, IRMA, Anand, 15-16 December 2004.
- 'Beijing +10: an overview' at workshop on *Beijing +10* organised by Women's Studies and Development Centre, University of Delhi and the Institute of Social Sciences, February 4, 2005
- 'The informal economy', discussion organized by the Council on Foreign Relations, India International Centre, February 18, 2005

Publications

Forthcoming

- *Accountability to the World's Women : Progress of Women in South Asia 2005 - A Series for the Fifth South Asia Regional Ministerial Conference Celebrating Beijing Plus Ten* (to be published by UNIFEM)

ISST Newsletters

- Uma Prachar: Published quarterly in Hindi and English
- Samachar Patrika: Published quarterly in Hindi
- ISST Newsletter: Published quarterly in English

(All the newsletters are available at www.isst-india.org)

Summary Financial Statement* 2004-05

Summary Statement Annual Income and Expenditure

Particulars	Financial Year 2004-05 (Rs. in Lakhs)	Financial Year 2003-04 (Rs. in Lakhs)
<u>Income</u>		
Interest Income	6.25	6.86
Donations and Contributions	0.20	0.60
Other income	0.46	1.96
Service Charges etc.	14.58	6.93
Project Income	116.70	43.70
Total	138.19	60.05
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Administrative expenses	18.03	16.08
Project expenses	103.95	45.47
Property expenses	1.75	2.35
Compensation for Space	—	3.00
Net Loss on sale of assets	—	—
Depreciation	4.48	4.50
Total	128.21	71.40
Surplus/Deficit	9.98	(11.35)

Summary Balance Sheet

	Financial Year 2004-05 (Rs. in Lakhs)	Financial Year 2003-04 (Rs. in Lakhs)
<u>Assets</u>		
Fixed Assets	51.07	55.28
Investment	64.65	64.65
Current Assets	19.99	7.60
Total	135.71	127.53
<u>Funds & Reserves</u>		
General Fund	9.95	1.12
Endowment Fund	85.02	84.02
Building Fund	34.15	35.95
Fixed Assets Fund	4.99	4.99
Publication Fund	1.60	1.45
Total	135.71	127.53

* Auditors : Jayaraman & Co, Chartered Accountants, New Delhi

Our Team

Ratna M. Sudarshan, Director

Delhi Office



Manjushree Mishra,
Associate Director

Rina Bhattacharya,
Research Coordinator

Rajib Nandi,
Research Coordinator

Jyotsna Sivaramayya,
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Administrator and PA to the director

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Suchi Pande, Project Coordinator

Shanta Gururani, Field Coordinator

Kapil Das, Consultant, Audio/Video IEC

Udai Pal, Office Assistant

Bangalore Office



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