

Update for January-February, 2016

The year 2016 opened with WNTA convener Ms. Annie Namala participating in a meeting of Chinese civil society organized by SRI and Oxfam Hongkong in January. We also distributed SDG themed calendars to WNTA network members across the country and wider civil society. The ECSN-BRICSAM project underwent its final evaluation in the month of February. Preparations began for organizing a civil society convergence (Civil BRICS) for the upcoming BRICS Summit to be held in India

Meeting of Chinese civil society

Ms. Annie Namala attended the G20 civil society preparatory meeting in Beijing from 11 - 12 January 2016, followed by a one-day consultation on the 'Cross Country Research on the role of Multi-national corporations in Food Systems' on 13th January. She also made a presentation on 'Food Systems and Food Security in India' as part of a panel. The G20 is to be held in September and the Chinese presidency has made the call for building an *innovative, invigorated, interconnected and inclusive* global economy. Chinese NGOs are preparing for the G20 and have come together under the China Association for Non-Governmental Organisation Cooperation (CANGO). They are engaged with the government and also INGOs. CANGO is keen to collaborate with civil society organizations across the G20 countries and in particular with Indian civil society.



Source: Xinhua.net

Final evaluation of ECSN-BRICSAM

The first phase of the ECSN-BRICSAM project is shortly coming to a close. WNTA's participation has strengthened it and through it, WNTA too has widened its engagement with global policy issues. Ms. Sarah Oswald from HPA (Health Poverty Action) was tasked with evaluation. The process of evaluation took place from 22-24 February. The first day involved a consultation with key actors of WNTA and PBI networks, and Oxfam India. Participants also filled a questionnaire assessing the project. All participants uniformly requested a second phase of the ECSN-BRICSAM project. Over the next two days Ms. Oswald conducted a series of individual interviews. From WNTA the following persons were interviewed: Thomas Pallithanam, Annie Namala, AK Singh, Paul Divakar, Amitabh Behar and Urvashi Sarkar. The evaluator sought to understand WNTA's role in key influencing moments, operational aspects of the project, our challenges and achievements.

Update for November-December 2015

Circulation of SDG themed calendars

We are all familiar with the role and work of WNTA in the SDGs. Taking this work forward, especially with a view to further popularise the SDGs, WNTA facilitated the preparation of SDG themed calendars for the year 2016. Since it was felt that the calendar should be both informative and eye-catching, we incorporated quotes from respected civil society actors and activists on issues related to the SDGs. We also incorporated factoids to reinforce the seriousness of issues which the SDGs are grappling with. Further, in order to make the goals readily accessible and knowable, we printed each of the 17 goals on the calendar pages. This was disseminated to our network partners across India.



FURTHER READING

1. China's role in G20/BRICS and Implications
https://cn.boell.org/sites/default/files/uploads/2014/07/chinas_role_in_g20_brics_and_implications.pdf
2. Research and development in BRICS: an insight.
<http://courses.arch.vt.edu/courses/wdunaway/gia5524/cammack12.pdf>