

Country Programme Plan India

I. ANALYSIS

1. Country Context Analysis

1.1 Brief overview

Since independence India has made tremendous progress in economic growth. Though the pace of the growth was slow till the pre-reform period it became rapid in the economic reform period in the decade of nineties. This has also shown a marked change in the nature of economy from a predominantly rural and agricultural to that of industrial and service sectors oriented. The share of agriculture, forestry and fishing has declined from 58.9% in the 1950s to 25.6% in the post reform decades. However 62% of the population are still directly depended on agriculture. The economic reforms have placed India on a high growth trajectory. Although India has seen a strong economic growth over the past decade, it still faces major challenges. It is plagued by a high rate of under-nutrition, a large number of children out of school, poor health indicators, and widespread disparity in social and economic indicators, particularly for women, girls, Dalits and Adivasis. In addition to this, regional disparities are wide, with the southern states doing comparatively better than the northern ones.

India is seen as a country with stable economic growth, and as an emerging power in service industries especially technology with huge potential for skilled manpower and cost effective business operations by international community. Coupled with a huge population estimated at one billion, the corporate sector is vying with each other for market share in various sectors. In contrast, Indian Dalits, Adivasis, minorities and women continue to experience exclusion, denial of basic human rights, displacement, ever widening gap between the rich and the poor, chronic poverty and agrarian crisis leading to the suicide of more that twelve thousand farmers who were indebted. Despite mounting publicly held food stocks household level food and nutrition security continues to be a distant dream for a substantial section of the population. India further has more than four million HIV positive people. India has an estimated refugee population of 330,000 according Refugees International. The Tibetan refugees, with a population of approximately 110,000, are the second largest refugee group in India next to the Tamils from Sri Lanka.

India is ranked as 126 out of 177 countries according to UNDP's Human Development Index (2006).

1.2 Participation deficit

The interventions of the civil society organisations have enabled women to participate in the public sphere to a certain extent. The participatory planning process followed by NGOs also enhances participation of women, Dalits, Adivasis and other minority groups in the community.

The decentralised governance structure creates a unique space for participation of people at various levels. The affirmative action of reserving one-third of the seats to women in rural and urban local governance bodies ensures the participation of 33% women in governance at the local level. However the representation of women at the central level is less than 10% and in that of the states varies between 2% and 12%. The participation of Dalits, Adivasis and women is limited to the reserved constituencies in public sphere in most cases. At the community level these groups still find it difficult to participate

meaningfully due to the cultural values. In India women lag behind men in most of the critical indicators of human development.

Main barriers to participation:

Access to information: Women and other marginalised sections of the society have unequal access to information and other economic and non-economic resources and this impairs the effective participation of the most marginalised sections of the society in various governance related processes.

Token Representation: The absence of a critical number of women in decision making positions within political parties and governments is another barrier that affects the quality of participation of women especially at the national level.

Cultural Factors: India is highly stratified in terms of class, caste and gender. Caste is a major barrier that prevents Dalits, the most oppressed caste in India in the empowerment process, and more so in political empowerment. The patriarchal values prevalent in the society impose cultural barriers on women and impair their rightful participation in public sphere.

Participatory Skills: Participatory processes are more complex at higher levels and demands different types of skills, knowledge, experience, information and managerial capabilities. The lack of adequate skills is one of the barriers that prevent meaningful participation of the communities.

Poor governance: Though the structure of governance is decentralised in India corruption is rampant at all levels. Another barrier is the unwillingness of the bureaucracy to devolve powers to elected representatives at the local level.

Legal framework, policy commitments and international conventions: The Constitution of India prohibits discrimination based on race, caste, religion, sex and place of birth. The Women's reservation bill to enhance the representation of women as candidates is yet to be passed by the Parliament. India is a signatory of The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the UN Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

1.3 Equity deficits

According to UNDP (Newsletter 2006) 214 million people are food insecure in India. These people do not have adequate access to health care, nutrition programmes, safe drinking water, and sanitation. 40% of the Adivasis, 65% of Dalits and 50% of other backward communities own only 0.01-0.04 hectare of land (UN Rapporteurs report 2006). Among the Dalits and Adivasi population 50% of the children are undernourished.

According to United Nations, India is a major centre for human trafficking from Nepal and Bangladesh, with 20,000 women being forced into sex work every year. Reports from India reveal that women, particularly from the Dalit and other backward castes, are more likely to be picked up for trafficking if their families are in economic distress. With women being largely outside the formal economy, and involved more in household and social activities, they have been largely denied the benefits of ownership of land or other assets. According to the Citizens' Report on MDGs in India, women own agricultural land only in 37.2 per cent of the villages, and even these are joint titles. In 82 per cent of the villages, women do not get equal wages for common agricultural operations. In over 55 per cent of the villages, either no work is available for women, or if there is work, it is for less than 10 days a month. For another 19 per cent of women, work is available on an average for between 10 and 15 days. Women from across the country reported a

constant struggle for livelihoods, which they see as a manifestation of the control men have over their lives.

India is off-track as far as four MDG parameters are concerned: 1) reducing the number of undernourished people; 2) lowering rates pertaining to under-five mortality; 3) reducing infant and maternal mortality rates; and 4) access to sanitation facilities in urban areas (Financial Express 2005). Whereas, India is right on track vis-à-vis other targets pertaining to reducing the number of people living below the poverty line, achieving gender parity in primary education and providing universal access to clean drinking water. India has already launched the food for work program and the National Rural Employment Guarantee Program with the aim of eradicating hunger and poverty. As for literacy, India is likely to achieve the MDG's educational targets.

Main barriers for reducing equity deficits:

Unequal distribution of land: The social movements and legislations for land redistribution, land ceiling and tenancy Act enforced by the government has failed to make a considerable change in the land holding pattern. Cases of encroachment of the land belonging to marginalised groups by people with money and muscle power is rampant. The dependency of landless and marginal farmers on landed class is one of the major barriers in reducing equity deficit.

Policy decisions by the government: The recent policies of the government to acquire fertile land to promote industries through the formation of special economic zones deprive people of their right to their land and livelihood.

Poor Governance: The failure of the government to ensure sound implement of the programmes such as food for work, and efficient functioning of the public distribution system meant to tackle food security is one of the main barriers for reducing equity deficits. Lack of progressive systems to address the widening gap between the rich and poor is another factor that contributes inequity.

Gender Inequity: The rigid gender divide that exists throughout the country prevent access and control over resources by women.

Caste based discrimination: Denial of rights to water and access and control of resources by caste Hindus is another barrier faced by Dalits.

Legal framework, policy commitments and legal conventions: The constitution of India prohibits discrimination based on caste, race, place of birth and sex. Prevention of Scheduled Castes Scheduled Tribes Atrocities Act is another legislation aimed at preventing atrocities against Dalits and Adivasis. The government has also brought out legislation to prevent domestic violence. India has signed the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESR) and the UN Declaration on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

1.4 Protection deficit

The vulnerable groups and the violence faced by them is summarised as follows:

Gender Inequity

Gender inequity leads to gender based violence such as female foeticide, domestic violence, harassment for dowry, sexual abuse, trafficking, denial of equal opportunities and violation of human rights are the major issues faced by women.

Caste related atrocities

Dalits are one of the most discriminated groups vulnerable to social and economic exploitation. In many of the rural areas Dalits do face social sanctions imposed by caste Hindus. Whereas in urban areas Dalits live in slums that are not recognised by the government and faces the threat of eviction. Sexual abuse of Dalit women is used as a mechanism against resurgence of Dalits by caste Hindus. Thus Dalit women face multiple marginalisations within the Dalit community and in the larger society.

According to the official statistics more than two hundred and fifty cases of various crimes were registered countrywide by Dalits in a year.

Political violence and human rights violation

Perpetuation of violence along religious lines by vested political parties is on the rise. Muslims and Hindus are pitted against each other for political gains.

Normal life is affected in the North Eastern parts of the country due to the conflict between the government and the various insurgent groups. Heavy militarization in the region has led to rampant human rights violations of the citizens. The conflict in the state of Jammu and Kashmir has led to large scale internal displacement. In addition to this the country faces constant threat from the rising Muslim fundamentalism.

Tibetan Refugees

The Tibetans were forced to flee Tibet following the occupation of Tibet by the People's Republic of China. Following the occupation the Tibetans are not free to follow their religion or culture in Tibet and this has led to large scale displacement of the people from Tibet. Around 90,000 Tibetans live as refugees in India. Though the Tibetan refugees are allowed to run a government from India they are not protected by any legislation on refugees.

Natural disasters and environmental degradation

India is prone to natural disasters such as floods, drought, cyclones, earthquakes and Tsunami. Large scale deforestation has led to erratic rains and droughts. The lack of effective flood management affects thousands of people every year. Melting of the glaciers and rise in sea level are major threats India faces due to global warming and climate change. This also poses serious threats to agriculture especially in semi arid regions affecting millions of small and medium farmers and landless labourers depended on agriculture.

Main barriers for reducing protection deficits:

Cultural factors: Discrimination based on gender and caste is a major barrier in reducing protection deficits of women and Dalits.

Poor management of Natural Resources: Large scale environment degradation coupled with poor management of natural resources including techniques to manage natural resources is another contributing factor.

Lack of autonomy to Tibet: Tibetans are prosecuted in Tibet under the Chinese rule and this has forced them to leave their country. The economic and political dominance of China is a major barrier to gaining autonomy.

Legal framework, policy commitments and international conventions:

Right to equality and protection is enshrined in the Constitution of India. Protection of Civil Rights Act 1995 was enacted by the government to prevent atrocities on vulnerable groups. Prevention of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Atrocities Act was enforced to address violence on Dalits and Adivasis. UN protocol against human trafficking, especially of women and children, The Palermo Protocol 2000. UN Council Security Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

India has not signed the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 protocol. The parliament has not considered the model National Law of Refugees drafted in 1997.

1.5 Role of civil society and NCA partners

1.5.1 Role of civil society

India has a strong civil society movement focusing on various aspects of governance in the country. Civil society movements have been successful in highlighting flaws in social legislations, organising and mobilising public support in favour of people friendly policies, creating awareness among common people on various social issues, keeping a watch on the government spending, especially on social sectors, analysing the implementation of government programmes for marginalised and poor people, bringing out issues related to corruption, perspective building of the government on gender including gender budgets and providing alternate models of development that are people friendly.

The earlier isolated approach followed by the civil society organisations to stay away from government programmes have changed considerably with a realisation among the civil society organisations on the need to make the governments accountable and have evolved various strategies to create a meaningful space to ensure this. Similarly the cooperation pattern among the civil society organisations has matured and there is an increasing tendency to work together on common issues. The solidarity of the civil society organisations has lent a certain amount of credibility to the alliance and has also enabled them to broad base the issues. The association of the civil society with the government varies from cooperation and being partners in development to confrontational depending on the issues. Health, education, water and sanitation, conservation of environment, gender and Dalit budgeting, income generation, capacity building and emergency interventions are some of the areas that civil society works closely with the government.

Civil society organisations also use the judiciary system effectively through public interest litigations to address social issues. Sensitisation of the media has enabled the civil society organisations to highlight issues effectively through media.

1.5.2 Role of NCA partners in Civil Society

Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA) and Lutheran World Service India (LWSI) are the main partners of NCA in India. Over the years CASA has moved on from service delivery to rights based approach and actively supports the rights of Dalits, Adivasis and other socially and economically marginalised sections of the society through organising, capacity building, forming alliances and facilitating linkages and advocacy. Strengthening local governance, sustainable livelihoods aimed at reducing poverty, environmental issues and assistance during natural disasters are the main focus areas of CASA. **LWSI** works with Dalits, Adivasis, slum dwellers, women, and children among the poor and marginalised sections of the society. Sustainable livelihoods and food security, socio-economic and political empowerment of women, community health, child rights, collective community action, ensuring participation of the disadvantaged in local self-government, disaster preparedness and peace and harmony are the focus areas of LWSI in India. LWSI, formally being an INGO, is in the process of localization, and is expected to be a full-fledged Indian registered organization from 2009.

Centre for Organisation Research & Education (CORE) is a resource organization that supports advocacy initiatives of Adivasis on human rights issues including displacement due to conflicts and development projects. CORE works largely in the states of Manipur and Assam in North Eastern India that are conflict ridden. CORE has a consultative relationship with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 2005.

United Evangelical Lutheran Church in India (UELCI) The Lutheran Communion in India is predominantly Dalit and Adivasis. UELCI focuses on development, gender justice,

theological education (Dalit theology), youth, Dalit and Adivasi liberation and HIV and AIDS. Churches receiving support for development initiatives from NCA through LWF/Department for Mission and Development (DMD) are linked to UELCI.

Interfaith Coalition for Peace (ICP), through the programmes, ICP reaches out to people following different religions and religious leaders within the country. ICP has set out on the challenging task of gendering the peace building process through innovative approaches.

Social and Resource Development Fund (SARD) The Tibetan Government in Exile (TGIE) supports the Tibetans living in exile in India.

2.0 NCA's Added Value

NCA's main core partners, CASA and LWS-India, have a holistic, fully integrated multi-disciplinary approach to development and disaster management, ranging from programme implementation to advocacy initiatives. SARD has a development focus with emphasis on peaceful settlement of the issue of autonomy to Tibet with People's Republic of China. CORE functions as a resource organisation for the advocacy initiatives of Adivasis displaced due to conflicts and development projects. ICP focuses on involving leaders of different religions and women in peace building process.

- NCA, through its regional representation, has been in a position to contribute with strategic and competence-building inputs to NCA's partners, especially related to gender issues, HIV and AIDS and advocacy. This has been done through linking of the partners to resource organisations with which NCA has established contact (basically Indian), and through facilitation of increased interaction between NCA's partner organisations in South Asia through the NCA initiated network South Asian Gender Alliance (SAGA).
- NCA provides financial and technical support in a coordinated manner along with a number of European (basically) sister organisations to CASA and LWS-India. There are regular joint meeting with the partners to discuss overall policies, funding and coordination measures, including division of roles. NCA has for example provided link-ups for competence building on HIV and AIDS prevention and advocacy, whereas other organisations have provide specific inputs e.g. in disaster management or organisational development.

II. NCA INTERVENTION STRATEGY

3.0 Thematic analysis and priorities

3.1 Specific rights to be addressed by the program

The following right claims have been identified by the partners for the plan period. Summary of rights deficits, rights claims and most relevant legal framework, commitments or conventions:

Civil Society for Accountable governance:

Rights deficit: Exclusion of marginalised groups from participation in local governance or other fora that take decisions affecting their lives. Exclusion of marginalised groups from access and control over resources that enable them to lead a life with dignity

Right: The right for all citizens to participate in the political governance of their country, and the right to access and control over resources.

Legal framework, policy commitments and international conventions:

The Constitution of India guarantees six fundamental rights-Right to Equality, Right to freedom, Right against exploitation, Cultural and Educational rights, Right to freedom of religion and Right to constitutional remedies.

International Convention on Civil and Political Rights(CCPR), article 25.

Relevant MDGs.

Men and Women address Gender Equity

Rights deficit: Women are victims of gender inequity including violence and trafficking.

Right: Women`s right to life, equality, integrity and security.

Legal framework, conventions and government policy:

Right to equality, Right against exploitation and Right to constitutional remedies are enshrined in the Constitution of India. Domestic violence Act 2005, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act are some of the legislations in the country.

UN-convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women. (CEDAW)

Millennium Development Goal 3 (women).

Religions for Conflict Resolution and Peace

Rights deficit: Marginalised groups and women face escalating conflict leading to violence in the name of religion, caste and gender. Denial of autonomous status to Tibet has forced the Tibetans to flee their country and to live as refugees in India.

Right: Rights of citizens to peaceful coexistence. Rights of the citizens to freely practise their religion. Rights of the Tibetans to their homeland and to freely practise their religion, language and culture.

Legal framework, conventions and government Policy:

Right to religious freedom is ensured in the Constitution of India. India has signed UN resolution 1325 on women and children.

3.2 Thematic focus

The overall vision for NCA`s cooperation in India is to promote human dignity for poor and excluded people, by supporting partners and programmes that contribute to increased participation, equity and protection. NCAs program/support in India will have the following thematic focus areas:

- Civil Society for Accountable Governance
- Men and women address gender based violence
- Religions for Conflict Resolution and Peace

3.2.1 Civil Society for Accountable Governance (Thematic priority 5.1 in NCA`s Global Strategic Plan (GSP))

Rationale:

Accountable governance and broad democratic participation are preconditions for eradicating poverty. Though India in many ways has reached far in terms of democratic development, many challenges remain in terms of fair representation by the marginalised and in terms of women`s representation. The bureaucracy in India is still rated low in terms of accountability.

Exclusion of the marginalised, especially the women from decision making arenas are due to the following causes/barriers:

- The existing power structure prevents marginalised groups especially the Dalits, Adivasis and women to effectively participate in the decision making process
- Lack of access to information is another factor that works against the marginalised groups
- Lack of transparency in the governance systems
- Caste and gender based violence prevents Dalits and women from participating in public spheres
- Lack of adequate skills and understanding due to illiteracy

Interventions and areas of work:

The focus of the work in India through Civil Society for Accountable governance will essentially address the issues of participation, equity and protection agendas. The interventions seek to strengthen the participation of the marginalised groups in governance at different levels, enhance transparency and responsiveness of local governments. The interventions will also facilitate increased access to basic services and other government resources by the marginalised groups. The major emphasis will be on reducing gender and caste inequities.

In order to strengthen Civil Society for Accountable governance NCA will work with the partners in the following areas:

a) Facilitate increased participation

The emphasis will be in strengthening the participation of the marginalised groups in governance as members of the civil society and as decision makers. The self help groups and the federations will be encouraged to play an effective role in local institutions to make them more responsive to the needs of the people. Support to Dalits, Adivasis and women to utilise the positive affirmation policy of the government to local governance will facilitate increased number of marginalised groups in decision making process at the community level.

b) Increased accountability in local level governance

Creating awareness among the communities on the roles and responsibilities of the elected representatives and the local governments, enhancing the skills of the communities to participate effectively in the governance process including planning, budgeting, monitoring the progress and facilitating linkages to various channels of information on government services and resources is an area that will be given due emphasis to ensure accountable governance. In the changing economic scenario it is also important to equip the communities to address issues arising out of macro level policies that are not so favourable to the marginalised groups in the communities. Therefore building people's alliances for advocacy and policy level changes especially on land related issues in addition to developing local leadership and initiative forms a thrust area.

c) Reduced discrimination – governance

Given the social conditions in India due emphasis will be given on access to government resources and services by Dalits, Adivasis and Women through rights based approach. Strategies for inclusiveness at the community level irrespective of caste, class and gender and enhancing the capacities of the marginalised groups to access government resources will be emphasised.

3.2.2 Men and Women Address Gender Equity (GSP, thematic priority 5.4)

Rationale:

Women in India do not enjoy equal status in the society and face widespread discrimination, denial of rights and are victims of violence at the personal and public

spheres. Dalit women face multiple marginalisation due to the caste hierarchy prevailing in the society.

Main causes/barriers are as follows:

- Patriarchy, caste system and cultural factors
- Lack of awareness about the rights among women
- Lack of education among girls and women
- Economic dependence on male members
- Poverty forces women to work as bonded labourers, and also results in trafficking

Interventions and areas of work:

NCA's partners' address gender inequity is through various awareness measures linked to gender equity and protection, which is a premise also to reduce various aspects of gender based violence, including domestic violence and trafficking. NCA will emphasis issues to reduce gender based violence in dialogues with partners. NCA partners further promote the importance of to encourage girls to remain in schools in programme areas. (Reference is made to para 3.2.1 c) above.

Self help groups and federations will be strengthened to keep a check on the violence that is prevalent in the society and also to look at issues that perpetuate inequity and violence on women. Education of girls at primary and secondary levels will also be emphasised.

NCA is in dialogue with DanChurchAid regarding possible co-funding of a new, regional programme including Bangladesh, India and Nepal on "Safe Migration and Trafficking."

3.2.3 Religions for Conflict Resolution and Peace (GSP, thematic priority 5.5)

The issues to be addressed through this theme are:

- Religions for Peace,
- Conflict Resolution and
- Strengthening the efforts of the Tibetan Government In Exile (TGIE) to preserve and promote religion, culture and language among the Tibetans living in India, and to support (indirectly) the initiatives of TGIE to negotiate limited autonomy for Tibet.

Rationale:

The opportunistic behaviour of political leadership in the country has lead to increased communal violence, to the extent of perpetuating targeted violence on minority groups by the state. As a result of this many regions have become sensitive areas with frequent incidents of violence over religion and religious practices. The partnership with ICP is aimed at organising the religious leaders of various faith to play a proactive role to promote religious harmony and to involve the religious leaders in resolving conflicts.

The forced occupation of Tibet by People's Republic of China has stripped the rights of Tibetans to freely practise and promote their religion, language and culture.

Main causes/barriers for peace building are:

- Fanning of religious extremism by vested interests and political parties
- Intolerance among the faith communities
- Misinterpretation of religious ideals

Main causes/barriers for autonomy of Tibet are:

- Inability to arrive at a consensus between China and TGIE on the Middle Way Approach proposed by His Holiness the Dalai Lama
- Economic and political dominance of China over other nations
- Lack of effective involvement of international community to resolve the issue

Interventions and areas of work:

NCA cooperates with the newly established inter religious forum Interfaith Coalition for Peace. NCA will work with partners to facilitate a platform to promote peace building initiatives by leaders of different faith. The intervention will also focus on reducing conflicts, highlights the role of women in peace building initiatives and to understand conflict from women's perspective.

The cooperation with Tibetan Government in Exile through SARD also can be seen in a peace perspective in the sense that the overall rationale for the cooperation is to support the Tibetans non-violent efforts for Tibetan limited autonomy and to keep their culture while staying in exile. A key premise to preserve their culture is to encourage the Tibetans in exile to remain in the Tibetan settlements in India through strengthening various livelihood and related facilities. NCAs support to the Tibetan refugees ranges from support to newly arrived torture victims, vocational training for youths, various institution strengthening and measure to increase gender equity, support to organic farming and support to initiatives to advocate for HH Dalai Lama's middle way approach.

4.0 Strategies for Rights Holders and Duty Bearers

NCA's rights based approach entails a two-pronged strategy. A vital component of our strategy is to resource poor and excluded groups as rights holders. By claiming abstract rights as tangible entitlement, poor people improve their lives. At the same time, we recognise that social relations and institutions (both formal and informal) within society can pose serious barriers to poor men and women who try to claim their rights. NCA's rights based approach will also entail the identification of key duty bearers and strategies to engage them to transform these institutional barriers and mechanisms of exclusion. A particular role for NCA and partners will be to facilitate linkages between prioritised rights holders and the most relevant duty bearers.

4.1 Rights holders and strategies

Main rights holders will be the following groups of people living in areas where NCA partners in India works.

Dalits and Adivasis

Dalits and Adivasis are one of the most excluded groups in the Indian Society. Put together they form 24% of the total population. Almost 70% of the work of NCA partners in India is with Dalits and Adivasis. CASA and LWSI are conscious of evolving inclusive strategies, whereas CORE works with Adivasis to enhance their capacities to address issues related to their land, livelihood and development from the perspective of Adivasis.

Women

In terms of population women form the largest group that faces exclusion and discrimination in India. The interventions of the partners are focused to enable women to assert their basic rights and their right as responsible partners in development.

Landless and marginal farmers, other minority groups

According to the statistics by the Labour Bureau of India 58% of the households are landless labourers at in the rural area and 28% are marginal farmers. Among the landless and marginal farmers majority of the population belong to Dalits vulnerable to exploitation. Other minority groups include fishing communities, rural artisans and religious minority. The focus of the partners is to enhance their livelihood opportunities through skills training, facilitating income generation programmes, ensuring food security and establishing them as credit worthy.

Tibetan Refugees

According to the census conducted by the TGIE, there are 85,000 Tibetans living in exile in India as refugees. The support to SARD is to improve the living conditions of the Tibetans living in India and to enable them to preserve and promote their culture, religion and language that is threatened by the Chinese occupation of Tibet.

Main Strategies identified for the right holders are as follows

Theme	Right Holders	Strategies
Civil Society for Accountable Governance	Adivasis and Dalits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills training to enhance their capacities to participate in governance • Facilitating linkages to access government resources and services • Organising them through self help groups or federations for collective action • Facilitating linkages and enhancing capacities for advocacy.
	Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowering women to contest elections • Enhancing participatory skills of women in governance • Creating awareness on the rights of women • Facilitating wider platforms to articulate their issues and rights • Facilitating linkages and enhancing capacities for advocacy
	Landless marginal and other minority groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills training in agriculture and allied activities and to access government resources • Enhancing the participatory skills in local governance including budgeting and budget monitoring
Men and Women Address Gender Equity	Women and Girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating awareness about the rights of women and gender equity • Imparting skills training to manage micro enterprises • Enhancing the participatory skills of women at community level • Facilitating enabling environment for retention of girl students in school • Facilitating a platform for women to discuss and address issues related to violence and inequity
Religions for Conflict Resolution and Peace	Religious minority groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce misconceptions about religions and contentious issues
	Tibetan Refugees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate preservation and promotion of their culture, religion and language • Facilitate capacity building on gender • Reduce scientism on Middle Way Approach among youth • Enhance livelihood opportunities through organic farming and skills training

4.2 Duty Bearers

The ultimate duty bearer from a legal perspective is national and local governments, and from a rights based perspective it is important constantly to encourage partners to keep government accountable, and advocate towards government bodies to ensure services to the poor. From the programme perspective of NCA in India, religious leaders and the TGIE are the other duty bearers.

Key partner strategies for engaging duty bearers are as follows

Theme	Duty Bearers	Strategies
Civil Society for Accountable Governance	Local governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening of Gramsabhas as a formal platform for interaction between community and local governments for planning and reviewing the government services • Enhancing the participatory skills of elected representatives especially the marginalised groups in governance • Facilitate increased interaction of informal groups such as self help groups and civil society organisations in monitoring the functions of local governments • Facilitating linkages at appropriate levels to support advocacy initiatives of the government
	State and National governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Networking with civil society organisations to facilitate debate on various development issues and policies of the government from the perspective of marginalised groups • Facilitate gender and Dalit perspectives in budgeting at the state and national governments • Advocating for pro-poor policies
Men and Women Address Gender Equity	Government Men and community leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of legislations- (on domestic violence, sexual harassment, discrimination, positive affirmation policies, etc) • Create awareness among men and community leaders on gender equity
Religions for Conflict Resolution and Peace.	Religious Leaders Tibetan Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create forums and platforms to facilitate discussions among various religions and faith communities • Networking of religious leaders to facilitate conflict resolution • Strengthening the organisational capacity of TGIE • Perspective building of the TGIE on gender and inclusive social processes

NCA in turn will work with the partners to strengthen their rights based approach by facilitating creative dialogues and by organising appropriate capacity building initiatives to enable the partners to be effective in their work. NCA will also facilitate cross-learning between regions and countries on rights based approach and strategies.

5. Geographical Focus

NCA cooperates with limited partners in India. The programme focus is mainly on three programmatic areas namely Civil Society for Accountable Governance, Men and Women address Gender Based Violence and Religions for Conflict resolution and Peace. Programmes of LWSI, UELCI, CORE and SARD are focused in five states of India namely Orissa, West Bengal, Tamilnadu, Manipur and Karnataka. ICP and CASA are based in Delhi, but the programme is operational in different states.

III. PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

6.0 Programme objectives per thematic focus area

6.1 Civil Society and Accountable Governance

<p>Overall goal(s) Enhanced and effective participation of marginalised groups in governance at all levels. Facilitating transparent governance at local and national levels enabling increased access to government resources by the most marginalised groups.</p>
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1 Specific Objective	Indicators	Sources of verification
A substantially increased representation of women, Adivasis and Dalits in local governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of women, Adivasis and Dalits elected to the Panchayat in those areas where NCA's partners work, and where there will be elections during the GSP-period. <p><i>'Substantial' should be defined by the women and Dalits themselves in each area as 10% representation in one area may represent a big step forward, while anything under 30% may be a defeat in an other area.</i></p>	Panchayat Raj Records of election results.
<p>1.1 Expected Result An increased number of women, Adivasis and Dalits are trained and supported so they can contest election, and take part in decision making processes.</p> <p>1.2 Expected Result Voter education to encourage higher participation by the marginalized prior to next local elections</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of women, Adivasis and Dalits as candidates and as representatives; and as active participants in the Panchayat. 	Partners' reports from monitoring the Panchayats in the target areas

2 Specific Objective	Indicators	Sources of verification
Increased transparency on local government budgets and increased access to local government funds by marginalised groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular dialogue between civil society organisations and local government/administration on availability of and utilisation of government funds Examples – successful access to government funds at local level. Examples – successful access to local banks by CBOs 	Partners reports; Minutes of the gramsabhas
2.1 Expected Result NCA partners/related organisations receive training in and participate in public audits/ "budget monitoring" on utilisation of government funds at local level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documented budget monitoring activity. 	Partners' report on both process and content of budget monitoring.

<p>2.2 Expected Result Issues related to accountability and corruption prevention measures, hereunder financial management, included in training of CBOs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CBOs playing an active role in the management of local resources 	<p>Reports from the partners</p>
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3 Specific Objective	Indicators	Sources of verification
<p>Women, Dalits and Adivasis are organized at local level and empowered through participation in these organisations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of participation from these groups in local level politics and public life (partly qualitative indicator – info through observations) • Reference is made to indicator for objective 1 above 	<p>As above</p>
<p>3.1 Expected Result Village Development Associations/committees, Mahila Mandals(women groups) are organised in the villages. In these organisations the participants are trained in participatory skills, awareness, leadership etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of disadvantaged people organised • Enhanced capacity of the people to access government resources, monitor the functioning of the local government. 	<p>Only partly reflected in partner reports</p>

Assumptions:

It is assumed that the communities, women and Dalits in particular will be able to withstand the pressure of conventional values as well as religious and social orthodoxy and emerge as leaders and decision makers.

Risks:

Changes in Government's policy towards INGOs and NGOs, communal and caste disharmony and conflicts, growing intolerance of the minorities and their organisations are among factors that may affect the work of the Partner Organisations. There is a risk that the elected local political leaders who see the CBOs as challenging their authority may create division in these organisations, take control of them and force narrow partisan agenda and programmes on the organisations.

6.2 Men and Women Address Gender Equity

<p>Overall goals Enhance opportunities to women in public spaces and to empower them to address issues that perpetuate violence and discrimination.</p>
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1 Specific Objective	Indicators	Sources of verification
<p>Women in the Partners' target areas have improved access to and control over resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No of initiatives started by women's groups and women in managing common property, income generation projects 	<p>Partner reports</p>
<p>1.1 Expected Result : SHGs and federations trained on setting up and managing micro enterprises. 1.2 Expected Result: Enhanced participation of women in the community and in managing common property resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of micro enterprises set up by women and SHGs. • No. of women in village development committees, school committees, etc • No. of SHGs managing common property resources 	<p>Partners' reports.</p>

2 Specific Objective	Indicators	Sources of verification
Improved access to and completion of primary and secondary education for girls in partners' areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased proportion of marginalised girls enrolled in school Reduced drop out rates 	School record statistics
2.1.Expected Result: Partners promote the importance of education for girls to parents in target areas, and support them with basic education material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No of households/families motivated to keep girls in school on primary, secondary and higher levels 	Surveys

3 Specific Objective	Indicators	Sources of verification
Mechanisms evolved to address issues that perpetuate violence on women by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Systems in place to address or prevent violence on women 	Partner reports, surveys
3.1.Expected Result Increased awareness among the community on the issue of violence on women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of awareness programmes in the community Reduced violence as experienced by women 	Partner reports, minutes of the meeting in the communities
3.2.Expected Result SHGs, and federations taking up issues that perpetuate violence among women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of issues taken up by the SHGs and Federations 	Partner reports, SHG/Federation reports and minutes.

Assumptions:

The willingness of self help groups to address the issue of violence at personal and community level.

Enabling environment at the family and community level to ensure enrolment and continuation of girls in the school at secondary and higher levels.

Risks:

In some localities, there is resistance from local Government to Federations/People`s institutions assuming a mediating role.

6.3 Religions for Conflict Resolution and Peace

Overall goals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To mobilize and train faith communities in India for Peace building To actively involve religious leaders in conflict resolutions. To strengthen the rights of the Tibetan people to freely practice their religion, language and culture and to peacefully strive for return to Tibet

1 Specific objective	Indicators	Sources of verification
Develop trust among individuals and groups about contentious issues thereby reducing prejudice and conflicts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change in perception articulated by individuals and groups 	Partner reports
1.1 Expected Result: Well researched publications on contentious issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of issues identified and published 	Partner reports

2 Specific Objective	Indicators	Sources of verification
Create awareness and build capacities of the faith communities on interfaith cooperation for peace building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substantial involvement of faith communities in resolving conflict 	Partner reports Reports from News agencies

2.1 Expected Result: Religious communities take initiatives to further inter faith cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of consultations held with inter religious leaders No. of joint social actions carried out by religious leaders and communities 	Partner reports
2.2 Expected Result: Better awareness among people on interfaith cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training programmes organised Participants evaluation of the programmes No. of joint social actions carried out by people 	Review reports of training programmes Partner reports
2.3 Expected Result: Quality periodicals on interfaith concerns made available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Periodicals published 	Periodicals Partner reports

3 Specific Objective	Indicators	Sources of verification
Engage communities, religious leaders, secular organisations in conflict transformation and peace building,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced conflicts in the community over religious issues 	News paper reports, Partner reports
3.1 Expected Result: Platform established to discuss issues and share information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of meetings held 	Partner reports
3.2 Expected Result Increased tolerance among people leading to conflict transformation and reconciliation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No of Workshops organised No. of issues resolved peacefully Alternate models developed for reconciliation 	Partner reports Reports from News agencies.

4 Specific Objective	Indicators	Sources of verification
Enable Tibetans living in exile to preserve and promote religion, language and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well established monasteries and Tibetan settlements 	Surveys
4.1 Expected Result: Integration of scattered Tibetans through self sustained settlements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced migration from the settlements 	Partner report Census data of the Tibetan government
4.2 Expected Result: Tibetan government promotes viable and self sustaining settlements for the Tibetan Refugees living in India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programmes implemented for making the settlements viable 	Perspective plan of the partner Partner reports

5 Specific Objective	Indicators	Sources of verification
Reduced scepticism among the Tibetan youth on Middle Way Approach for the autonomy of Tibet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced support by the Tibetan youth on Middle Way approach 	Tibetan government reports
5.1 Expected Result: Discussion and debates facilitated by TGIE on Middle Way Approach especially among the youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of programmes organised by TGIE on Middle Way Approach Activities carried out by youth to promote Middle Way Approach as a solution to Tibetan Autonomy 	Tibetan government reports

Assumptions:

The implementation of the programme will depend largely on the cooperation of various faith communities in India.
Favourable political climate in the country.

Risks:

Political and religious unrest in the country due to opportunistic and extremist behaviour of the political parties and vested interests.

Links between Partners and Program Objectives:

Core Partners	Type of Organisation	Geographic Focus	Intervention
CASA	Faith based	13 states of India	Refer. Pr.Objective 6.1.1, 6.1.2, 6.1.3, 6.2.1, 6.2.3
ICP	Secular	Based in Delhi	6.3.1,6.3.2,6.3.3
LWSI	Faith based	West Bengal and Orissa	6.1.1,6.1.2,6.1.3,6.2.1,6.2.2,6.2.3
SARD	Secular	Karnataka	6.3.4, 6.3.5
UELCI	Faith based	Tamilnadu	6.1.3, 6.2.3
Resource Organisations			
CORE	Secular	Manipur	6.1.1, 6.1.3, 6.2.1
NCAS	Secular	Pune	
VAK	Secular	Mumbai	
Mariette C	Consultant	Goa	
Barefoot Training College	Secular	Rajasthan	
Strategic Alliances			
SAGA			6.1, 6.2 and 6.3

7.0 Rationale for Choice of Core Partners, Resource Organisations and Strategic Alliances

7.1 Capacity of NCA partners

NCA has a long term association with CASA, LWSI and UELCI, the main partners in India. CASA and LWSI have been actively working in the development sector for many decades. They have evolved as learning organisations and have taken adequate steps to ensure effective intervention. They have well established systems with adequately trained professionals for strategising and implementation of the programmes. UELCI has positioned itself as an organisation that works for marginalised groups such as Dalits and Adivasis and has initiated efforts to streamline the processes within the clergy to address the issues of Dalits and Adivasis. CORE is a resource organisation with focus on development induced displacements of Adivasis. The association with SARD over the years has enabled SARD to upgrade its organisational capacities and to streamline processes within the TGIE.

All the partners in India increasingly promote rights based approaches, the emphasis being making the governments accountable and to safeguard the rights of the communities against exploitation. Networking and advocacy are used as strategies to promote rights based approach.

LWSI, CASA and UELCI are members of ACT- International and have efficient systems and capacities for emergency preparedness and response.

7.2 Partnership strategy

Continue cooperation with and modest funding of partners linked to ACT Development/ACT International or the LWF-network in Geneva

- To the extent feasible support programmes supported by several of NCA's sister organisations to maximise impact of scarce resources
- Identify and cooperate with possible new resource organisations that supplement other cooperation and are more thematically focused on "Civil Society and Accountable Governance," e.g. related to budget monitoring
- Continue to draw upon competence among Indian partners and resource organisations directed at other organisations in the region.

7.3 Overview of partners

Core Partners

Name of partner	Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA)
Year of Foundation	1947
Mission	CASA actively supports and works for a just and sustainable society by creating opportunities for participation of socially and economically marginalised sections in the development process through networking, alliance building and strengthening of their organisation. CASA also supports local self-governance, peace and reconciliation and sustainable livelihood measures and response to the environmental issues, natural and manmade disasters and strives to bring the victims to the mainstream while upholding human dignity. CASA promotes gender mainstreaming at all appropriate levels, mobilizes resources in favour of the poor and optimizes all potentials and capacities existing within the organisations and other partners.
Constituency	CASA is an autonomous social arm of 24 Protestant Orthodox churches in India. CASA works in 13 States of India, with the Core Programme implemented in 32 locations in 13 States. The programme covers Scheduled Castes (SC's- 53%), Scheduled Tribes (ST's- 22%), Other Back ward classes (OBCs - 19%) and general population (6%).
Geographic Focus	CASA works in approximately 4700 villages in 13 States of India. The Core Programme covers 3572 villages in 1492 Panchayats of 163 blocks in 66 Districts in 13 States
Thematic Focus	Livelihoods, Environment, Health and education, Rights and cultures of Dalits and Tribals, gender, disaster management, democratic governance, development support to voluntary sector, globalisation, caste, religion and conflict.
Role in Civil Society	CASA has established credibility over a period of time with other civil society organizations and governments. The wide geographical coverage especially at the grass roots provides CASA significant strength for initiating movements and issue based struggles as part of its advocacy plans. CASA has extensive knowledge and experience in both development as well as emergency interventions.
Particular Achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The emergence of a large number of grass-root level organisations which are on a process leading to total ownership and self-reliance. • One of the foremost relief and development organisations in the country working with a holistic perspective of social and economic emancipation of the poor.
Start of Cooperation	Approximately 1975
NCA's rationale for relationship	CASA is part of NCA's international ecumenical network, and facilitate relevant responses to the needs of marginalised groups in India.
Partners, other than NCA	Core Programme (2007-08) - Main Donors: Bread for the World, Christian Aid, Church World Service & Witness, DanchurchAid, EED, HEKS, ICCO, Lutheran World Relief, Mennonite Central Committee, UMCOR

Name of partner	Interfaith Coalition for Peace (ICP)
Year of Foundation	2005
Mission	The mission of ICP is to create a bridge between the various faith communities in India to facilitate joint social action for conflict transformation and peace building.
Constituency	Faith communities, religious leaders, secular organizations and communities.
Geographic Focus	India, particularly in this period: Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Maharashtra and Gujarat
Thematic Focus	Conflict resolution and peace building, gender.
Strategies	
Role in Civil Society	ICP is a national body, representing all faith communities and being owned by the faith communities in India.
Particular Achievements	ICP seems to have succeeded in establishing a national level registered body that is owned by members of all the faith communities. ICP has also brought the agenda of gender and gender perspective in conflict situations on board right from the initial stages of its work.
Start of Cooperation	2006

Name of partner	Lutheran World Service India (LWSI)
Year of Foundation	1947
Mission	Inspired by love for humanity, Lutheran World Service – India challenges and responds to the causes and consequences of human suffering and poverty with commitment to justice and dignity for all.
Constituency	LWSI is the India programme of the Lutheran World Federation – Department of World Services. LWSI works in Eastern India mainly in the States of West Bengal and Orissa. The programme works with Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Slum dwellers, Women, Children, poor among the minority communities
Geographic Focus	West Bengal and Orissa
Thematic Focus	Sustainable livelihoods and food security, Socio-economic and political empowerment of women, Community Health, Child rights, Collective community action, Participation of the disadvantaged in local self-government, Disaster preparedness, Peace and harmony
Role in Civil Society	LWSI has extensive experience, knowledge and skill in addressing both emergency and developmental needs in different geographical, social and cultural contexts. LWSI has established credibility with the partner communities and other stakeholders and they are successful in Government and Institutional networking for mobilizing support and mutual co-operation. Strong non-partisan and secular image enables LWSI to bring together different stakeholders. LWSI is able to link the local NGOs, groups and communities in neighbouring areas to influence and strengthen them to replicate its own successful experience and best practice together with its own learning from others.
Particular Achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LWSI has successfully enabled related CBOs to access resources from other institutions, particularly government programs and local banks • Women, often unnoticed as partners in development, have come forward, organized themselves and oriented themselves through SHGs to bring about socio-economic improvement in their lives.
Start of Cooperation	Approximately. 1975
NCA's rationale for relationship	LWF/India is part of NCA's international ecumenical network.
Partners, other than NCA	Australian Lutheran World Service, Diakonisches Werk Austria, Canadian Lutheran World Relief, DanChurchAid, Lutheran Church

	Brans German, BFWD B IND 0211 0026 WB, Diakonisches Wrek Germany, Methodist Relief & UK, Wakachai Japan, ACT Netherlands, Norway Other Donor, Church of Sweden Relief, Lutheran World Relief, ELC in America, Disciples Week of Compassion, DanchurchAid/ Danida, DanchurchAid/ECHO EU, FinnchurchAid/DIDC
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Name of partner	United Evangelical Lutheran Church in India (UELCI)
Year of Foundation	The communion of 11 Lutheran Churches was founded in 1926 as a Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India, and reorganised into the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in India from 1974.
Constituency	The United Evangelical Lutheran Church in India is a communion of eleven member churches spread out mostly in the East and Central India including North Eastern states with a membership of approximately 1.5 to 2 million. The Lutheran Communion in India is predominantly Dalit and Adivasis.
Geographic Focus	The programme focuses in South, Central and North Eastern parts of India.
Thematic Focus	Development, Gender justice, Theological Education (Dalit theology), youth, Dalit and Adivasi liberation, HIV and AIDS. Churches receiving support for development initiatives from NCA through LWF/Department for Mission and Development (DMD), are linked to UELCI.
Role in Civil Society	UELCI works mainly with Dalits and Adivasis and have experience in both emergency and development issues.
Particular Achievements	UELCI has succeeded in sensitising the churches on the issue of Dalits, Adivasis and HIV and AIDS.
Relationship with NCA	NCA basically supports UELCI through Department for Mission and Development in Geneva. Modest funding to UELCI and churches under the UELCI umbrella, working among Adivasis and Dalits.
NCA's rationale for relationship	LWF/India is part of NCA's international ecumenical network.

Name of partner	His Holiness the Dalai Lama's Charitable Trust (Presently Social and Resource Development Fund-SARD)
Year of Foundation	1960 - Tibetan Government-in-Exile was established 1964 - His Holiness the Dalai Lama's Charitable Trust (earlier the focal point for NCA) 1997 - SARD/Social and Resource Development Fund established, the focal point for NCA
Mission	The Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) functions on the principles of truth, non-violence and genuine democratic governance to seek justice for their homeland and to preserve their identity, religion and language by practicing their culture and traditions.
Constituency	The total number of Tibetan refugees in South Asia is about 122,000, out of whom 85,000 live in India and 14,000 in Nepal. Nearly 30% of the total population is settled in five settlements that are located in Karnataka State in South India.
Geographic Focus	Mainly five settlements in Karnataka, South India - Hunsur, Bylakuppe 1 & 2, Mundgod, Kollegal Youth programme. The Headquarters of the Tibetan Government-in-exile is situated in Dharamsala, Himachal Pradesh
Thematic Focus	Making settlements viable, strengthening institutions, integrating scattered populations, advocating for the Tibetan cause, preserving and promoting religious and cultural rights of Tibetans in exile.
Start of Cooperation	1996
NCA's rationale for relationship	Based on a challenge by the Tibetan community in Norway and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to Norwegian NGOs in India, Norwegian Church Aid decided to enter into cooperation with the

	Tibetan Government in Exile to assist Tibetan refugees in India. The programme was initiated in 1997. NCA later has broadened its involvement on Tibet. The background for the request was a commitment to facilitate support to the Tibetan Government in Exile, partly as a follow-up of the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to HH Dalai Lama.
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Resource Organisations and Strategic Alliances

Note that except for CORE, NCA does not provide programme support to the organisations below, but draws upon their competence and link them to NCA core partners in the region.

South Asian Gender Alliance (SAGA)

SAGA is a network of NCA's Partner Organisations in South Asia that was formed in 2001 following a series of consultations with a view to take forward *gender equity* with joint ownership. SAGA is instrumental in sensitising the Partner Organisations on gender & development and capacitating the Partners in the use of Gender Empowerment Assessment Tool during planning, monitoring and evaluation.

As **Resource Organisations** NCA has identified organisations and agencies that have competence in one or more thematic programme areas and strategies. NCA facilitates relationship between partner organisations and resource organisations and enables the capacity building or skill enhancement of the partner organisations on thematic and programme areas. Most often the support to resource organisation is to enhance the competence of the partners on thematic or programme areas. Resource organisations associated with NCA are:

Centre for Organisation Research and Education (CORE)

CORE was established in the year 1987. CORE works with the Adivasis of the North Eastern Region of India, respecting their ancient inheritance and built on faith in humanity's role of trusteeship of resources and knowledge, to work towards recognition and respect for the right to a self-determined future in peace with other peoples and nations. CORE has a Consultative Relationship with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 2005. Besides, CORE has founded/established relationship with various networks at national, regional and international levels such as South Asian Solidarity for Rivers and Peoples (SARP) and Citizens Concern for Dams and Development(CCDD). CORE has regular interface with caucuses on indigenous health and United Nations working groups on Indigenous Children. CORE Network of Indigenous Children (CNIC) facilitated by CORE has made substantial contribution to the outcome document of the UN General Assembly Special Session on Children. CORE regularly co-organizes the international workshop on indigenous children in Geneva every year since the last 4 years, an event linked with the Working Group on Indigenous Populations.

CORE is a resource organization and has expertise to provide quality information to other civil society organizations and NCA partners to strengthen their advocacy efforts especially on the issues related to Adivasis. NCA's association with CORE started in the year 2007.

National Centre for Advocacy Studies (NCAS)/India:

NCAS was established in Pune, India in the early 90s, and is led by a social activist. NCAS is well known for its advocacy work including advocacy capacity building not only in the region, but also in Eastern Africa and many other parts of the world and for its commitment in building up capacity in organisations based on *people centred advocacy*.

In order to encourage NCA's Partner Organisations in the region to move away from service delivery approach to rights based approach and focus on civil society and good &

accountable governance, NCA Regional Representation in South Asia avails of the expertise of NCAS towards building advocacy capacity among the Partner Organisations. NCAs utilisation of NCAS has been reduced during the previous years due to shifting leadership both at NCAs regional representation and in NCAS, but NCA still assesses the organisation as a useful resource.

Consultant company/Mariette Correa/India:

Specialised in HIV and AIDS, gender and gender-based violence. Mariette Correa has been engaged by NCA on a retainer's fee for a minimum number of days in a year in order to assist the Partners in the region on HIV and AIDS, gender and gender-based violence.

Vikas Adhyayan Kendra (VAK)/India:

VAK is a secular voluntary organisation established in 1981 to be an interface between scholars, academics and social activists; to initiate a process of social awakening through critical reflection and alternative discourse thereby contributing to strengthening people's struggles towards the goal of a just and more humane social order. Its major activities are study & research, consultations, publications, documentation, education, campaigns and advocacy.

Barefoot College, Rajasthan:

The Barefoot College has competence on rainwater harvesting and solar energy. It has been linked to NCAs Afghanistan programme to facilitate a project on solar energy

8.0 NCA Contributions

NCA will in particular aim to contribute as follows beyond funding:

- Facilitation of the network has enabled sharing of experiences, evolving gender sensitive policies and competence building on various gender related issues.
- Play a facilitating role for the partner based SAGA gender network
- Dialogue and competence building on rights based approaches
- Facilitate possible new links to resource organisations on Accountable governance
- Facilitate cross learning among organisations and best practices
- Capacity building initiatives linked to cooperation on Tibetan refugees
- NCA advisors based in Oslo closely follow and supplement the processes initiated by Interfaith Coalition for Peace in peace building and resolution of conflicts.
- Competence building of partners on rights based approach, Do No Harm methodology.

9.0 Monitoring and Evaluation

The Partner Organisations in India apply participatory approaches in reviewing the progress of activities. Two of three core partners have developed a Planning Monitoring and Evaluation system for overall planning and monitoring.

Staff of CASA and LWF/India apply the Gender Empowerment Assessment Tool (GEA-tool), and staff are trained in using HIV and AIDS and Gender Assessment Manual (HAGA). Core partners undergo comprehensive reviews approximately every fifth year. LWS/I was reviewed in 2003, CASA in 2004. SARD underwent a joint review in 2006.

10. Assessments

10.1 Assessment of relevance in relation to national plans and priorities

The Government of India's 11th Five Year Plan(2007 to 2012) focuses on poverty reduction from 38% to 25%, literacy rate of 84% by the end of the plan period, reduce gender gap by 14%, to eliminate gender disparity in elementary education, to reduce drop out rate to 20%, bring down the population growth to 1.6%, improve sex ratio(0-6 years) to 950 females/1000 males, clean drinking water, empowerment of women, political empowerment of marginalised groups and to develop better infrastructure and connectivity in the villages based on the population.

NCA's Partner Organisations in India have drawn up their long-term perspective and strategic plans within the overall framework of Indian Government Plans.

10.2 Assessment of relevance in relation to Norwegian development assistance goals

Norwegian government to government assistance to India is to be phased out in accordance to request by the Indian government (2003), whereas a new mechanism has been established to ensure institutional cooperation between organisations/institutions in the two countries (Agreement, 2004). Otherwise Norwegian companies increasingly enter into cooperation with Indian counterparts.

With reference to poverty alleviation as an overall objective for Norwegian development assistance to Asia, NCA's approaches through partners in India are assessed to be relevant.

10.3 Assessment of expected risks

Reference is made to assessments after objectives in para 6 above.

10.4 Assessment of sustainability

NCA's *regional initiatives* in the region are focusing on capacity and competence building with a view to improving and sustaining the quality of the Partners work. When promoting community-based organisations at the village level, the Partners focus on CBOs sustainability. Financial sustainability, however, is much more challenging. NCA partner to some extent have embarked on mobilising resources from government programmes, public as well as from churches.

11. Budget Estimates for 2007-2009

Year	2007	2008 (estimates)	2009 (estimates)
Amount (NOK)	6 million	6 million	4 million