

Sound Hearing 2030 Report 2013

1. Promoting partnership with NGOs, DPOs and networks

A. MoU with Vision 2020:

An MoU has signed between Sound Hearing 2030 and Vision 2020 on 17th September 2013 which had the following salient points:-

- *Sharing of best practices*
- *Sharing of strategic papers and evaluation reports*
- *Presence at Annual meetings/ GB meeting/World Congress*
- *Multi-centric study regarding evaluation of feasibility integrated eye ear care project*
- *Developing joint eye and ear IEC material*
- *Integrated school screening programme*
- *Initiate course on “Applications of principles of management to eye & ear care”*
- *Exploring joint funding opportunities*
- *Both agencies obtain memberships of each other*

B. Awareness programme in Community (Anganwadi Centre, Daryaganj, New Delhi, India):

An awareness program was organized by Society for Sound Hearing in collaboration with Department of Community Medicine, Maulana Azad Medical College on 30th September 2013 in Daryaganj area, Near Delhi Gate Center, Delhi

Officers In-charge- Dr. A.K. Agarwal & Dr Suneela Garg

Facilitators- Ms. Deeksha Khurana, Ms. Janki Mehta, Ms. Indu Arora, Dr. Tapas Nair and residents from the Department of Community Medicine, MAMC Delhi

Participants- 70 community members

Short play- Three short plays were prepared and presented by the interns of Maulana Azad Medical college in Delhi Gate Health center to educate the community regarding common ear related problems and the best possible treatment options.

Health talks- Doctors of Maulana Azad Medical College and Ms. Janki Mehta from Society for Sound Hearing gave health talks regarding possible causes of ear problems and precautions one can take to prevent ear related problems.

Quiz- A quiz was organized by Ms. Deeksha Khurana with the aim to understand whether the community members had comprehended the points that were put forward during the health talk and play.

Distribution of IEC material-At the end of the awareness program, pamphlets on “ear and hearing care” and “early identification of ear problems” which were developed by Society for Sound Hearing were distributed to all the attendees.

C. Liasoning with State Welfare Board, Govt. of Delhi

An awareness program was organized by Society for Sound Hearing in collaboration with Department of Community Medicine, Maulana Azad Medical College on 20th December 2013 in Lady Noyce school for the Deaf, Delhi Gate, Delhi

Introduction speech- An encouraging introductory speech was given by Dr. Suneela Garg during which she explained the objectives of the school awareness programme.

Short play- Three short plays were prepared and presented by the interns and PG students of Maulana Azad Medical College. The play was presented in simple language and was presented in sign language by interpreter which made it easy to be comprehended by the students.

Health talk- Health talk was delivered by doctors of Maulana Azad Medical College regarding possible causes of ear problems and precautions one can take to prevent ear related problems.

Quiz- A quiz was organized with the aim to understand whether the students had comprehended the points that were put forward during the health talk and play.

Speech by Ms. Kiran Gandhi (Deputy Director Disability, Delhi Govt.) & Dr. A.K Agarwal (President, SH 2030)- Ms. Kiran Gandhi appreciated the awareness programme organized by Sound Hearing 2030 and said that such programmes should be organized in the future as well. Dr. Agarwal promised his full medical support to all the students and staff of the school.

Speech by Mr. Umesh Baurai (CBM)- Mr. Umesh expressed that the liaisoning between society for sound hearing and social welfare board is a positive step and such collaborative activities should be taken up in the future as well.

Distribution of IEC material- At the end of the awareness program, pamphlets on “ear and hearing care” and “early identification of ear problems” and posters which were developed by Society for Sound Hearing were distributed to all the attendees.

Distribution of refreshments to students- At the end of the awareness programme refreshments were distributed to all the students, teachers and staff members.

D. Activities of the Indonesian National Committee for Prevention of Hearing Impairment & Deafness (PGPKT) July-December 2013

Launching of District committees: the Indonesian Committee has been very active, more district committees have been launched all over the country in North Sumatra, Central Celebes, Papua, North Sumatra and East Java, to facilitate community ear and hearing health care in line with the vision and mission of Sound Hearing 2030.

Training of Primary Health Centers staff and Distribution of Ear Examination Kits: routinely, outreach training of doctors and staff of health centers of the districts has been performed from the District or Provincial hospital where there already exist a National Committee working together with the local health Office.

Ear and Hearing Screening of school children. Some doctors do this activity as volunteers during their free time, or weekends. They report this activity through social media with pictures (like Blackberry, Whats App etc), so all other doctors and health workers in other areas all over the country are inspired to do the same.

Awareness Videos have been developed on tips for Ear health, early identification of hearing in babies, hearing loss in the aged, noise hazard and the danger of Ear Candle treatment and distributed through social media: Face Book and Twitter. The recently launched page on Facebook (see Facebook: Komnas Penanggulangan Gangguan Pendengaran dan Ketulian) has already 10,078 likes.

Record Breaking: Recently (22nd December 2013), on Mother’s Day, a Certificate for record has been awarded to the Surabaya City Committee in East Java for screening and cleansing ears of one thousand school children in one day.

E. Activities of the India National Committee for Prevention of Hearing Impairment & Deafness under NPPCD

Inputs provided for strengthening NPPCD under the 12th Five Year plan- Inputs were provided by Dr. Agarwal & Dr. Garg to NPPCD under 12th Plan in terms of:

- Prevention of avoidable hearing loss on account of disease or injury

- *Early identification, diagnosis and treatment of ear problems responsible for hearing loss and deafness.*
- *To medically rehabilitate persons of all age groups, suffering with deafness.*
- *To strengthen the existing inter-sectoral linkages for continuity of the rehabilitation programme, for persons with deafness.*
- *To develop institutional capacity for ear care services by providing support for equipment, material and training personnel.*

Strengthening of ENT Departments of selected Medical Colleges under National Programme for Prevention & Control of Deafness- A meeting to discuss modalities for strengthening ENT Departments of selected Medical Colleges in terms of providing equipment, creation or up-gradation of sound treated audiology room and training of trainers etc. was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.Y. Kothari, Spl. DG (PH). Dr. Agarwal and Dr. Garg provided their inputs to finalize the selection criteria for Medical Colleges to be upgraded, mechanism to ensure that the ENT Departments of the medical colleges supported by such onetime grant be actively involved in activities under NPPCD and MoU to be drafted.

2. Partnership with Foundations and commercial vendors

ATA Expo 2013:

ATA Expo 2013 was an initiative to bring together assistive technology and accessibility expertise products in India under one roof. The expo aimed at creating awareness on technology happenings, accessibility options available for people with disabilities to enhance their education as well as career prospects in par with their peers in society.

Assistive Technology and Accessibility Expo was a collaborative effort designed and organized to provide educators, families, government agencies, disability service organizations and service providers the opportunity to access, feel, and try the latest range of Assistive Technology devices and software. Experts and accessibility consultants also presented the various features of the products during conference sessions.

Dr. Tapas Nair from Dept. of Community Medicine attended the Expo on behalf of SSH. IEC material of SSH was displayed during the Expo.

Screening camp in collaboration with Alps International:

A combined eye and ear screening camp was organized by Alps International in collaboration with Society for Sound Hearing in July 2013. During the camp approximately 100 people were screened for ear problems by the ENT doctors of Maulana Azad Medical College. The services provided at the camp were:-

- *Free check-up of patients for eye problem and dispensing medicines wherever required*
- *Free check-up for cataract and referral for surgery*
- *Free check-up of patients for ear problem and dispensing medicines wherever required*
- *Audiometric testing*
- *Fitting of hearing aids*
- *Referral for ear surgeries.*
- *Referral for speech therapy*
- *Family counseling*

IEC material developed by Society for Sound Hearing was displayed at the camp site.

Institutional membership of Vision 2020:

Sound Hearing 2030 obtained institutional membership of Vision 2020 with effect from Oct 2013. An amount of INR 30000/- was paid for the membership.

3. Administration activity: Appointment & Training of Programme Officer

Appointment of Programme Officer:-

Sound Hearing 2030 appointed a Programme Officer with effect from 1st Sept. 2013. The job responsibilities of PO included fund raising, preparation for the World Congress, preparation of the EC and GB meeting, networking with national and international stakeholders and implementing the activities of SH 2030.

Training of Programme Officer:-

Programme Officer attended the Short Course on Public Health Planning for Hearing Impairment s held at Hyderabad, India from 23rd - 27th September, 2013. This course was conducted by The South Asia Centre for Disability Inclusive Development & Research, PHFI in collaboration with International centre for Evidence in Disability, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM).

Meeting with CBM representatives:

A meeting was held with Dr. Sara Varughese Regional Director CBM SARO, regarding the fund utilization and activities to be carried out during the period of January – March, 2014 and the budget planned for 2014. Other key points discussed during the meeting were membership drive, fund raising, exhibition and workshop for the World Congress. Multi - year planning meeting has been finalized in the month of March, 2014 at Bangalore.

FCRA Certification for India Office:

The process of FCRA registration is under process. Meeting with CA and follow up with Ministry of Home Affairs is constantly being done.

4. Develop alliance with WHO SEA & HQ, UNICEF, UNESCO etc.

Alliance with WHO SEARO:

In order to develop a formal relationship with WHO SEARO, a meeting was held between Dr. Sudhansh Malhotra, Regional Adviser, (Primary & Community Health care), WHO, President, Treasurer and Programme Officer of Sound Hearing 2030 on 1st Oct 2013. Dr. Malhotra proposed that he has a vision to develop regional strategy document for ear care during the period of next 2-3 years. In order to develop the regional strategy, it was proposed that a desk review would first be carried out which would essentially include collating what different countries in the region are doing with respect to ear care. This desk review could be done with assistance from Society for Sound Hearing. Once the desk review is completed, Dr. Malhotra proposed that during the mid year 2014, a strategic meeting could be organized to review the status of ear care activities in all the countries within the region. It was proposed that this meeting could be organized either in Yangoon, Burma or Dhaka, Bangladesh. This would be followed by a 3 day meeting where about 10 experts would work together and develop the regional strategy document. This document would then be shared with individual countries for their implementation.

Dr. Agarwal & Dr. Garg shared with Dr. Malhotra, the soft and hard copy of the draft MoU between WHO SEARO and Sound Hearing 2030 for his inputs.

Alliance with WHO HQ:

Dr. Shelly Chadha, Technical Officer, PBD, WHO HQ was invited to attend the Executive Meeting at Hongkong to discuss how a formal alliance between Sound Hearing 2030 and WHO HQ could be developed. There was unanimous opinion that since SSH has decided to change from a regional organization to try and achieve to be a global organisation, it would be better if SSH should have an official relation with WHO HQ. Dr. Shelly Chadha suggested that there is a standard legal procedure for this and kindly offered to look into this possibility and assured everyone that she would put all her efforts for this to happen. Dr. Shelly also suggested SSH should officially write to WHO HQ for partnership/ technical support for the World Congress. It was also suggested that the World Congress Announcements to be put on the WHO website and again Dr. Shelly Chadha agreed to look into this possibility.

5. Promote Sound Hearing as global initiative through World Conference

It was decided that the **First World Congress will be held in New Delhi, 12 – 14 February 2015**. India office drafted and printed flyers and invitations as first information of the World Congress to present Sound Hearing as a Global initiative. These flyers and invitations were designed and printed as first information for participants to block their dates for conference which were participants attending ATA Expo at Coimbatore (5000 attendees), participants attending PHPHI workshop at Hyderabad, Sept 2013 (75 attendees and organizers), CBM Office, Vision 2020 Team, team at Biratnagar Eye Hospital, Nepal and Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital.

Proposal received from 4 PCO companies were studied and discussed during the EC meeting namely Cox & Kings, Attitude Event Planners, ICE management and Alpcord Networks. M/S Alpcord Network has been finalized as the **professional Agency / Event Organizer Support**, for the World Congress.

Visits were made to Manekshaw Auditorium, India Habitat Centre, Civic Centre and few five star hotels. India Habitat Centre has been finalized as the venue for the World Congress.

6. Executive Committee Meeting

11th Executive Committee meeting of Sound Hearing 2030 was held Hongkong on 17th-19th Oct 2013. The main topics of discussion were feedback of the evaluation of SH2030 by CBM, organizational, membership, official relationship with WHO, preparation for 1st World Congress on ear and hearing care in New Delhi in 2015 and planning and discussion on the next five year plan. During the meeting Dr. Diego presented his feedback of the evaluation of SH 2030 project and also gave recommendations for the coming years. Dr. Joarder presented the National Strategy on Prevention of Deafness and Hearing Impairment in Bangladesh for the period 2011-2016. A session on developing alliance with WHO was also taken up Dr. Shelly Chadha. Discussion also took place on preparation for World Congress including finalizing registration fee, Committees for World Congress, funds available and proposed speakers for the Congress. A discussion took place on the next five year plan on the last day of the EC meeting.

7. Administration cost for Treasurer office, organisation registered in Hong Kong

Treasurer Office coordinated is by joint treasurer Bradley McPherson. Registration as Sound Hearing International Ltd with the EC members as board of Director and Members in place. Fees for the legal representative office HLLY under leadership of Mr Alfred Hau and assistant Ms Karen Tam has been paid.