

**BOSCO  
REACH OUT**



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# Focus

September - December 2019

Vol. VIII Issue : III



**2<sup>nd</sup> National Conference on Social Development**

**Theme : Including Children With Disabilities in Education**

**Venue : Bosco Reach Out, Ulubari, Guwahati**

## UPCOMING PROGRAMMES OF BRO

- Health Education session for women -BAGAN
- Awareness on women issues – BAGAN
- Promotion of IGA - BAGAN
- Farmers' training / demonstration – BAGAN
- 3 months Crash course coaching for 10<sup>th</sup> Standard students – BAGAN
- Awareness / Counselling / Mobilization/Trust building - SFRUTI
- Social Institution Building, SPV Formation & Strengthening - SFRUTI
- Skill Up-gradation Training - SFRUTI
- Sensitisation & orientation of PRI, VHSNC members, Aganwadi workers, tribal leaders, faith healers, & other influencers – ECBI
- Community Consultations & other community mobilisation interventions – ECBI
- Basic Certificate Course Computer to be started in Joropara Centre – CTY Joropara
- Exposure trip for teacher on inclusive education- Inclusive Education (LFW)
- Thematic visit – CBR Boko
- Training on Land Based Farmed Management-ADP
- On field demonstration at farmers field for transfer of technology-ADP
- Integrated Pest Management programme-ADP
- Artificial Insemination programme-ADP
- Vaccination camps-ADP
- Training on Agriculture Extension for staff-ADP

Editorial Board	Contents	Pages
<b>Director</b> <i>Fr. A. Jayaprakash SDB</i>	<b>Community Development</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Editorial Team</b> <i>Angela Nungchim, Probal SG</i>	<b>Education</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Design/Layout</b> <i>Azhoni Kayikho</i>	<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Dispatch</b> <i>Catherine Kujur, Santabir Lama</i>	<b>Ecology &amp; Environment</b>	<b>17</b>
	<b>Special Events</b>	<b>19</b>



# Director's Message

**Dear Friends,**

With immense joy and a great sense of gratitude, I send you greetings for a very Happy and glorious Christmas. A feeling of love wells up our hearts and joyful music and carols accompanies us during this season, as we share our love and reach out to those who touch our lives. You are also one among those who have touched our lives in many ways and I thank you for being so generous.

We at BRO along with the multitude beneficiaries will be praying for you in a special way during these blessed days. Through your support we are able to enrich the lives of a large number of individuals.

This year and also coming years BRO has under taken various new projects like, Climate change, disaster preparedness, Community Based Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities especially the children, Opening new venture on Inclusive Education main focus areas on Disabled children, Solar Energy, Integrated Farming Systems and keep on moving ahead with the existing projects, with your generous support, with the sole aim of making difference in the lives of the people. And we feel that we are making a remarkable changes in the lives of many people in the regions where we have been working for the past number of years. All these are possible only because of your help and generous support.

On behalf of all the beneficiaries, which are under your support, I take the opportunity to thank Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati onlus and personally you all for the kindness, generosity and thoughtfulness in enabling us to carrying out the projects in various capacities to make this world more beautiful place to live.

Thank you for your economical support, for your help in kind and in words of advice, encouragement, inspiration and enlightenment. You have indeed made difference in the lives and families of so many people.

May the Prince of Peace bless you and your family members with His invaluable riches during this Christmas and may He remain with you throughout the coming year 2020. May your home be filled with laughter, contentment, harmony, peace and abundance of goodness and amidst soulful Christmas carols, may His blessing continue to multiply as we commit ourselves to make this world more humane with the help of God's blessings. We deeply appreciate your sincerity of sharing and caring.

Once again wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas and Christ filled New Year 2020.

God bless us all.

Fr. A. Jayaprakash, SDB  
Director, Bosco Reach Out





## Need Based Training on JLG Credit Linkages and Repayment

Bosco Reach Out conducted Need Based Training on Joint Liability Group (JLG) Credit Linkages and Repayment under 'Promotion and linkage of JLGs' at Mariampur, Goalpara district of Assam on September 13, 2019, with the support of NABARD, Assam. The objective of the training was to encourage JLG members to go more for bank credit linkage and have timely repayment of the loan amount. The Resource person were Mr. Paran Kumar Hazarika, Branch Manager, AGVB, Dhubdhora branch, and Mr. Rajkumar Y. Meitei, DDMNABARD Goalpara. A total of 33 JLG members attended the training.

Both the resource persons Mr. Paran Kumar Hazarika and Mr. Rajkumar Y. Meitei spoke on microfinance provide small amount of credit to JLGs drawing attention in the country and it is recognized as an anti-poverty programme. The formal institutions of credit, mainly Commercial Banks, emerged as an important source of finance to rural households, as a result of the policy of social and development banking. JLG members are successful when the loan is properly utilized over the subsequent linkages and the same is repaid properly and on time. Successive linkages of loans to the beneficiary of JLGs will continue when the previous loans are promptly repaid.

At present, BRO has credit linked 50 JLGs with banks for piggery as their income generation activity at Goalpara district of Assam. They are actively carrying out their piggery, expecting a good income and complete their bank loan repayment.







## Group Formation (SHG/JLG) Awareness Building Programme

On October 29, 2019 a Group Formation (Self Help Group/Joint Liability Group) Awareness Building Programme under the Tribal Development Fund -BAGAN Project at Malivita, Sidli block, Chirang district of Assam supported by NABARD Assam was conducted at Thajiwoubari village, Janata, Chirang district of Assam. The resource person of the programme was Mr. Jion Narzary, Project Field Coordinator of BRO. A total of 45 participants were present at the awareness programme. The objective of the programme was to create awareness among the beneficiaries the concept of SHG and JLG, saving in group, credit linkage with bank, and income generation activity. Topics covered during the programme included concept of SHG/JLG, goal setting and aims, saving and loans, record keeping and loan management, basic business skills, group meeting, credit and bank linkage, and income generation activity through vegetable garden, livestock rearing, etc.

Under the TDF-BAGAN project the farmers are growing orange, apple ber, and areca nut as their main crops for orchard following management practices like weeding, mulching, base formation, drip irrigation with pitchers, and plant protection measures.







## Awareness Building Programme on Women Issues

On December 01, 2019 Bosco Reach Out conducted Awareness Building Programme on Women Issues as a part of women development under TDF-BANGAN Project at Malivita, Sidli block, Chirang district of Assam with a theme on women empowerment, women rights, nutrition, and violence against women. The TDF-BAGAN project which covered 375 acre for individual orchard wadi development is supported by NABARD Assam.

The objective of the awareness programme was to create awareness about women issues and their respect, promote women rights and create equal opportunities for women in all sphere of life. The resource person was Mr. Jion Narzary, Project Field Coordinator of BRO. A total of 20 women attended the awareness building programme. The main topic of the covered were women's identity and personality, rights of women, awareness on rape, molestation, domestic violence, dowry demand and trafficking, project of life - planning, money and time management, girls education and nutrition, role and equality of women in the society.







## Launching of SFURTI Project

On September 26, 2019 Bosco Reach Out launched the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) project at Lengopara, Goalpara district of Assam, implemented by Bosco Reach Out under the aegis of Indian Institutes of Entrepreneurship (IIE) Nodal Agency. The programme began with lighting of lamp. The dignitaries present at the launching programme were Fr. A Jayaprakash, Executive Director of BRO, Mr. Tufikul Islam, Sericulture Department, Mr. Boloram Nath, District handloom Office, Mr. Prakash Borah, Consultant of BRO, Mr. Nigreswar Rabha, Goanbura of Lengopara village, Dr. Santanu M Deka, Associate Faculty Manager of IIE, Mr. Bhaskar Baruah, (TA) Project Officer (NER) of Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH), and Mr. Ravin Rabha, Social Worker. Dr. Santanu M Deka, Associate Faculty Manager of IIE officially launched the project by cutting the ribbon.

All the dignitaries encouraged the artisans to achieve the objective of the scheme thereby bringing economic development to themselves and their society. Under the project the



artisans are organised into clusters to make them competitive and provide support for their long term sustainability, provide employment, enhance marketability of product by providing support for new product, design intervention, improved packaging and marketing infrastructure. Strengthening of the cluster governance systems with the active participation of the stakeholders are carried out, so that they are able to gauge the emerging challenges and opportunities and respond to them in a coherent manner. A total of 248 artisans were present for the launching programme.





## Awareness Programme on SFURTI Project

Bosco Reach Out conducted four awareness programmes on Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) project at Lengopara and Borobakra on 15 to 18 October 2019. A total of 244 participants attended the programme. During the awareness programme the artisans are made aware of the SFURTI project by explaining to them the objective of the project, project provision (soft intervention, hard intervention and thematic intervention), roles and responsibility of the IIE Nodal Agency, EPCH, Technical Agency, BRO, Implementation Agency and the beneficiaries/artisans and the benefit of the SFURTI project.

The objective of the scheme thereby bringing economic development to themselves and their society. Under the project the artisans are organised into clusters to make them competitive and provide support for their long term sustainability, provide employment, enhance marketability of product by providing support for new product, design intervention, improved packaging and marketing infrastructure. Strengthening of the cluster governance systems with the active participation of the stakeholders are carried out, so that they are able to gauge the emerging challenges and opportunities and respond to them in a coherent manner.







### 3 Months Crash Course Coaching for 10<sup>th</sup> Standard Students

Bosco Reach Out under the project 'Integrated Tribal Development programme - BAPAN project for Sidli Block, district Chirang, Assam' is conducting a three months crash course coaching for Class 10<sup>th</sup> standard students at its project implementing area Malivita Province High School, Chirang district. The crash course will be conducted for two hours every three days in a week on core subjects of Maths, Science and English. There are 25 students Class 10<sup>th</sup> Standard students who are attending the coaching class since November 20, 2019. They will be appearing for matric exam in February 2020.

The objective of the crash course is to shape up the fundamentals of Mathematics, Science and English for upcoming HSLC examination, to prevent high school children dropping out of school or failing in their board examinations, to provide platform where they can



discuss and clear their doubts, to occupy the free time to study, and to create awareness on the importance of education. Three teachers have been appointed to take the coaching class. Mr. Romiyon Narzary, B.sc. takes Maths and Science, Mr. Nabin Champramary, M.A. takes Bodo Grammer, and Mr. Lwitw Muchahary, M.A. takes English. Mr. Jual Muchahary and Mr. Kanin Basumatary, Field Project Extension Worker of BRO monitor the classes.





## Evening Course for Adults – Reading and Writing, Financial and Digital literacy.

Bosco Reach Out under the project 'Integrated Tribal Development programme - BAGAN project for Sidli Block, district Chirang, Assam' with the support of NABARD Assam initiated to impart literacy among the people residing in rural areas. It is an important initiative intended to make the adults literate. The objective of the evening course is to provide minimum literacy to the adults in the rural areas, to enable them with minimum capacity to read and write, and also financial and digital literacy.

The evening course began in the month of November 2019 and it will be carried in two areas of Janata and Malivita, Chirang district of Assam. A total 20 elders mainly male have been attending the evening class thrice in a week in Janata village. Mr. Jual Muchahary, Field Project Extension Worker of BRO takes the evening course at Janata area. During the coming month of January 2020, Malivita will start the evening course for the elderly.







## The 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conference on Social Development

On October 24 and 25, 2019 The 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conference on Social Development with a theme 'Including Children with Disabilities in Education' was held at Bosco Reach Out head office where more than 100 stakeholders gathered with an overall aim to share ideas, actual practices, research finding field experiences, academics for understanding and improving curriculum access to meet the learning needs of children with disability.

On October 24, 2019 the first day's programme began with welcoming and felicitation of the Guest of Honour, Shri Siddhartha Bhattacharya, Education Minister, Govt of Assam, and Shri. R. C. Jain, IAS Retd, Chairman of SEBA, Mr. Arman Ali, Executive Director at National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disable People, and Fr. Januarius Sangma, SDB, Provincial, Salesian Province of Guwahati.

On October 25, 2019 during the opening session, Fr. M. A. Joseph, Core Team Member and National Executive Secretary for Education and Culture, CBCI, enlightened the gathering on the history of Child Rights intervention, the Indian initiative for safeguarding children and two important acts, viz. the Right to Education and the Amendments to JJ Act (RPwD). Ms Bertha G. Dkhar, Senior Programme Coordinator, Mainstreaming Disability Unit Education of Bethany Society Shillong shared on the achievement and the learnings of making Jyoti Sroat School into an inclusive school. She said, 'Every child is born to learn; and that all children can learn and all children should learn together'. Dr. Aloka Guha, Founder-Chairperson, National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Metal Retardation & Multiple Disabilities, Govt. of India, shared stories of PWDs, and focused on the need and importance of education. She mentioned that every child could and does learn, and that no child is learning impaired. She stressed that it was every child's right to food, play, education and love. Mr. Carmo Noronha, Executive Director of Bethany Society Shillong helped the group to draft incisive school policies.

In a closing ceremony Fr. Dr. Benny P. Basil, SDB, Economer of Salesian Province of Guwahati, welcomed Shri. James Pangsang Kongkal Sangma, Home Minister, Government of Meghalaya.





## Children Sponsorship Programme

The Children Sponsorship Programme Centres make the children engaged in different types of activities that helped them form their character and develop their skills.

During this period the schools carried out activities like competitions in various talents such as singing, dancing, acting, drawing, painting, etc. Most of the students took part in some of these competitions and proved their talents. The school provide opportunities for co-academic training through different club activities such as dramatics, vocal singing, games and martial arts which are so important in the present-day educational scenario. During the ending months of the year schools organised science exhibitions for various categories of students in order to develop a scientific temper among the students and to encourage to engage in science related activities.

Through all these activities the school caters to the formation of the students. The monetary assistance from Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati Onlus, Italy for the deserving poor students make it possible for their education. As a result of the help receive the children from interior villages where possibilities for education is not available are growing intellectually. In this way, progress is made in the rural areas slowly but steadily. All the centres remain ever grateful to Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati Onlus, Italy, and the benefactors for their assistance.







## Need Based Training on Importance of Rural Mart Concept for FPO Members

On November 21, 2019 Bosco Reach Out conducted a 'Need Based Training on Importance of Rural Mart Concept for FPO Members' under TDF- BOLGRIM project with the support of NABARD Assam at Kachubari, Mariampur, Goalpara district of Assam. The resource persons were Mr. Rajkumar Y. Meitei, DDM NABARD Goalpara, and Ms. Minku Das, Project Coordinator (Agriculture) of BRO. A total of 15 Farmer Producers' Organisations (FPO) members attended the training. Mr. Rajkumar Y. Meitei, DDM NABARD Goalpara explained to the farmers on the importance of Rural Mart Concept. He said that the Rural Mart will provide the marketing facilities to the FPO members and will definitely give an opportunity to the member and also give a link to outside market for further linkage.

Under TDF- BOLGRIM project two FPOs has been promoted covering 19 project villages with the 400 rubber growing wadi beneficiaries of TDF project and other non-wadi

beneficiaries. These two FPOs namely Twelve Villages Farmers Producer Organization Cooperative Society Limited at Mariampur and Nanajyoti Anchalik Krishak Samabay Samiti Limited at Kachubari, Mariampur. The main crop of both the FPOs are rubber and they have been grow broom and banana extensively as intercrop with rubber plant since the beginning of the project.







## Training on Integrated Farming System

Bosco Reach Out in collaboration with Bethany Society, Shillong conducted training on integrated farming system in Meghalaya under Supporting Human Capital Development in Meghalaya, ADP and Meghalaya Skill Development Society. The training have been carried at two centres of BRO Agriculture Training Centre Joropara and BRO Rongjeng Centre in Garo Hills district of Meghalaya. The objective of the project is to improve the living conditions of landless households in a sustainable manner and use simple income generation models based on appropriate technology. The trainings contain one hour classroom inputs and the remaining time spent on practical. Delivery includes lectures, discussions, group activities, videos and regular assessment which will include group presentations and individual objective type questions and oral questions and assessment of practical work.

The course content syllabus includes Integrated farming system - concept of integrated farming system, and different components of integrated farming; compost preparation - bokashi compost, vertical compost, vermi compost, bokashi bucket; bio fertilizer- liquid manure, oriental herbal nutrient, fish amino acid, fermented plant juice, fermented fruit juice, bamboo vinegar, indigenous micro-organism, labs; bokashi piggery; bokashi poultry; beekeeping; rice husk charcoal; agriculture - keyhole farming, hot bed nursery; gardening; soil management; water management; horticulture - grafting, agroforestry; mushroom; post-harvest, rural entrepreneurship development. A total of 507 trainees have completed their training and many of them are practicing it at their homestead.



## Awareness Programme on Importance of Biodiversity

Bosco Reach Out had conducted two days Awareness Programme on Importance of Biodiversity, during the months of October and November, 2019 at Tuituk, Pala and Samasi village, East Jaintia Hills district of Meghalaya and Diezephe, Bade and Soluephe village, Dimapur district of Nagaland under the project entitled “Preservation of Biodiversity through Ecosystem Services in Agrarian Landscape of North East, India-2019”. The project is implemented in collaboration with GIZ| Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH.

The resource person of the awareness programme was Mr. Kamilang Suchiang, Master Trainer of BRO, and Mr. Sapu Changkija: Professor, Horticulture Department, SASRD Medziphema. The programmes was facilitated by Mr. D. P. James, Project Coordinator of BRO with the help of village headman (Waheh Shnong) of each village. During the programme the participants were given awareness on the topics like: understanding environment, climate change, influence of environment/climate, types of natural resources, understanding biodiversity, importance of biodiversity, biodiversity in agriculture and livelihood and information on project activities. A total of 300 participants attended the awareness programme. The participants were very happy with the programmes. In their feedback the participants mentioned that they are aware of the importance of plants and need for protecting environment. However, they were not aware of the importance of biodiversity. Through the awareness programmes, the people became aware of the importance of biodiversity and how important it is in one's life as well as in livelihood and agriculture





## Training on Community Forest Nursery and Seed Bank

Training programme on Community Forest Nursery and Seed Bank under the project “Preservation of Biodiversity through Ecosystem Services in Agrarian Landscape of North East, India-2019” implemented in collaboration with GIZ| Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH was conducted at Tuituk village on October 14 and 15, Pala village on October 16 and 17, Samasi village on October 18 and 19, Bade village on November 6 and 7, Seluophe village on November 11 and 12, and Diezphe village on November 15 and 16, 2019.

The resource persons of the training were Mr. Kamailang Suchiang, Master Trainer of BRO, Mr. Khorsing Terang, Field Coordinator of BRO, and Dr. Pualine Alillaa: Professor, Horticulture Department, SASRD, Medziphema. The objective of the training is to promote indigenous crop biodiversity and to protect the local gene biodiversity through community participation. A total of 300 farmers attended the training. The resource persons demonstrated the vegetative propagation practices like grafting, budding and cutting. Some of the selected plants were lemon, mangoes, plumb, guava, pear, jackfruit, rose, buganvilia, bottle brush, black pepper, etc. The participants were very enthusiastic during the training and learnt the new methods of vegetative propagation.

Bosco Reach Out has initiated to establish a Community Forest Nursery/Seed Bank Model at Umrangso. The Centre will serve as a demonstration site and establishment of forest nursery and seed bank.





## Training for the Training of Trainers

Training for the Training of Trainers was conducted at Bosco Reach Out Agricultural Training Centre, Jorapara from September 9 to 28, 2019 under the project entitled “Preservation of Biodiversity through Ecosystem Services in Agrarian Landscape of North East, India-2019”. The project is implemented in collaboration with GIZ| Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH. Mr. Kamilang Suchiang, Master Trainer of BRO was the resource person. The objective of the training programme was to enable and equip the staff with more skills. The training was attended by four personnel from AIDA Dimapur namely Mr. Pfokho John, Mrs. Atsole Medo, Mr. Vozota Chiizho, Mrs. Vekulu Khamo, and four personnel from Bosco Reach Out Guwahati namely Mr. Daili Pfokrehrii James, Mr. Hilbirth A Sangma, Mr. Khorsing Terang, and Mr. Petrus Engti.

The training programme content both theoretical and demonstration. Topics covered includes compost preparation - bokashi compost, vertical compost, vermi compost, bokashi bucket; Bio fertilizer- liquid manure, oriental herbal nutrient, fish amino acid, fermented plant juice, fermented fruit juice, bamboo vinegar, indigenous micro-organism, LABs; Bokashi piggery; Bokashi poultry; Beekeeping; Rice husk charcoal; Agriculture - keyhole farming, hot bed nursery; gardening; Soil management; Water management; Horticulture – Grafting, Agroforestry; and Mushroom.





## Governing Board Meeting

On November 06, 2019 at 10.00 am Bosco Reach Out conducted Governing Board Meeting at its head office, Guwahati. The Governing Board Members present were Fr. Januarius S. Sangma, Provincial of Guwahati Province and President, Fr. Benny Alex, Economer of Guwahati Province and Member, Fr. A. Jayaprakash, Executive Director of BRO and Secretary, Fr. Raphael Cherukareth, Associate Director of BRO and Member, Fr. Thadeus Kujur, Director of Snehalya CFG and Member, and Br. Michael Kindo, Administrator of BRO and Member, Ms. Jean Mathew, Member, and Ms. Susana Bara, Member. Mr. Harish Agarwalla, Chartered Accountant was special invitees of the meeting. Fr. Januarius S. Sangma, President of the GBM chaired the meeting. The minutes of the previous Governing Board Meeting was read out and confirmed.

The Governing Board members meaningfully participated the meeting. They discussed the various developmental issues of the organisation for the coming year. Mr. H. Agarwalla shared the latest roles and regulations related to financial Management. The president thanked all the Governing Board Member and special invitees for their participation and offering valuable suggestions for the development of the rural poor in need.







## Annual General Meeting

On November 06, 2019 at 02.30 pm Annual General Meeting of BRO was held at its head office Guwahati. Fr. Januarius S. Sangma, the President of the organisation chaired the meeting. He inaugurated the Annual General Body Meeting 2019-2020 with a prayer. The meeting began with Lighting of the lamp by Fr. Januarius Sangma, Fr. Benny Alex, Fr. P D John, Fr. Raphael Cherukareth, and Ms. Catherine Kujur. Fr. A. Jayaprakash, Executive Director of BRO welcomed and felicitated the board members. The minutes of the previous AGM was read out. The Bosco Reach Out annual report 2018-2019 including audited statement of accounts and auditor's report for 2018-2019 was presented and clarifications, if any, were asked from the members. It was decided that next Annual General Meeting would be held at Bosco Reach Out office, Guwahati, in the month of November.

Fr. Januarius S. Sangma appreciate the BRO team for conducting the Annual General Meeting 2019-2020. He thanked Fr. Jayaprakash, Fr. Raphael and Bro. Michael for taking up the mission in a wonderful way. He encouraged the staff to work as team and appreciate each other's work. He expressed his gratitude and congratulate the staff for their hard work. Lastly he thanked all the members for the valuable contribution and participation during Annual General meeting 2019 – 2020.





# Farmers Training and Demonstration



## Pre Christmas Celebration at Bosco Reach Out 2019

