



February 2011

Corporate

ESAF BDS training to Shram Jyothi clients comes to an end

The certified course for Sham Jyothi clients promoted by ESAF and ILO in Kerala has come to an end on Feb 23 and 24, 2011. The training program included 6 modules and the training programs for the last module 'how to handle business crisis' were held at Vyapar Bhavan Hall, Perinjanam and Brothers Auditorium, Vadanappilly, respectively.



On an average basis almost 70-80 potential entrepreneurs attended each training module. Professional trainers from EKSAT (a trainers group based in Ernakulam) were called to conduct the training. Certificates would be given to those who successfully attended all the trainings.

"The knowledge gained by the participants would help them to understand the detailed aspects associated with their businesses" says K. Paul Thomas, Managing Director, ESAF Microfinance. He added that many of them have started tracking profits by maintaining proper books of accounts. Apart from general BDS, specific business counselling and training were also provided by the Shram Jyothi team.

ESAF organizes Women empowerment program

ESAF Gondia branch has organized a program on women empowerment on Jan 29, 2011. Gadve, Manager, DIC, Gondia district presided over the function and explained various Government schemes to develop micro-enterprises through SHGs. He also cleared the participants' doubts on various Govt. projects. Ajay Kothewar, President, State Yuvak Congress, shared with the audience the power of women and their dedication. He cited examples of various successful women leaders who dared to change the world through their deeds.

Anil Shende, Branch Manager, Gondia spoke at length on the objective of organizing such a program and the goals of the organization.

Prakash Phulkuvar, Customer Officer, welcomed the gathering. Almost 345 participants attended the program.



ESAF Artisan receives 'State award for Best Craftsman'

From a worker in the mining field to a craftsman, Subhash Hansda, has come a long way. By getting proper support from ESAF he nurtured his skills in Bamboo product-making. Last month he received the State Award for the Best Craftsman from Jharkhand Chief Minister, Arjun Munda. Hats off to Subhash..



ESAF takes part in International **Energy Summit**

ESAF participated in the Indian International Energy Summit held in Nagpur from Jan 27-30, 2011. The Summit started off with an Oorja Yatra on Jan 27. Companies and organizations across the country who were in the field of renewable energy came together to discuss on the issues and scope of renewable energy.

On Jan 29, 2011, a meeting on the promotion of solar energy was held at VNIT, Nagpur. Many NGOs gave presentations on their ways and methods of promoting renewable energy. The participants were able to learn new ways that could facilitate the growth of renewable energy usage.



Fact File

Group Lending Districts **Branches** 151 Centers 25993 Members 429745 Active Borrowers 325266

Current portfolio ₹2,138.73 (\$47.53) ₹1,949.53 (\$43.32) Own portfolio ₹189.20 (\$4.20) Managed portfolio Repayment Rate 97.74%

PAR> 30 days 1.58%

■ Portfolio Distribution

Income Generation Loan ₹1,828.48 (\$40.63) General Loan ₹300.01 (\$6.67) WY Loan ₹8.53 (\$0.19) Housing Loan ₹1.71 (\$0.04)

Personnel Strength

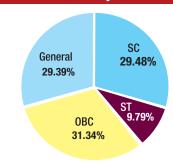
Loan Officers / Field Staff 1021 **Total Staff** 1622

■ During the Month

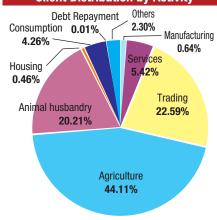
New Clients 8,268

Amt. Disbursed ₹ 325.28 (\$7.23)

Client Distribution by Social Status



Client Distribution by Activity







February 2011

Ranjeet Ambastha, Senior Manger, Co-operative Housing Foundation (CHF), spoke about the organization's work in Nagpur in association with ESAF for spreading the use of solar energy through Suryajyothi project. He explained to the audience about successful initiatives like installing solar energy charging stations and street lights at Chikhali and distributing solar lamps to the community members. Engineering students from Nagpur were highly impressed with the Suryajyothi project and solar products. Almost 600 participants visited ESAF's stall placed at the venue.

Students from St. Joseph's College, Moolamattom visit ESAF

A batch of 50 students (doing their Bachelors in Business Management), from St. Joseph's College, Moolamattom visited ESAF on Feb 28, 2011. The students were accompanied by their faculty members also for the one-day industrial visit. Sandhya Suresh, Manager R & D, apprised them on the activities of ESAF. K.V. Christudas, GM, HR and Admin. conducted an interactive session with the students and emphasized on the need for management students to have a larger



view of Indian society. He also exhorted them to make efforts in developing solutions to manage systems that are pro-poor.

The Research and Development unit of ESAF undertakes such initiatives to establish academic linkage with Universities located both globally as well as locally as a means to provide adequate

field and research experience to those students who want to pursue their career in social work, microfinance or developmental sectors. The exposure visit is intended to enable the students to have a better understanding of microfinance, micro enterprise development and sustainable social business.

ESAF co-ordinates community members' petition

With the support of ESAF, 40 community members at Wanjra (VAMBAY beneficiaries) visited Nag Bhavan to submit a petition to Nitin Raut, MLA, North Nagpur and Sachin Ahir, Housing Minister, to include their names in the JNNURM BSUP scheme. ESAF staff explained the poor conditions of the slums to both of them through photographs and had shown the approval letter for JNNURM BSUP Scheme. Sachin Ahir admitted that MHADA scheme, under which few houses were built, was temporary and so it was possible for the approval of JNNURM BSUP scheme. Nitin Raut promised all support to the members if they were ready to accept the scheme.

ESAF participates in International Conference on Microfinance

ESAF participated in International Conference on Microfinance held in Pondicherry on Jan 27-29, 2011. The three-day conference was organized by University of Pondicherry. Sandhya Suresh, Manager, R & D, represented ESAF in the function. A paper prepared by the R&D department titled 'Responsible Finance and Financial Literacy: Key to Financial Inclusion — a case of ESAF' was selected by the jury for presentation at the conference.

The presentation made by Sandhya was appreciated by the academic community as they felt there was a growing need to share the lessons learnt from the practitioners' view point. The presentation dealt with ESAF's unique strategy to address financial inclusion not by mere provision of credit but by ensuring that borrowers are aware of efficient utilization of the money.

ESAF organizes Leadership Training programs in 7 areas

In the month of February 2011, ESAF SHG Federation organized Leadership Training programs at Palakad (Feb 17th), Olavakod, Ponnani , Muhamma and Ambalapuzha (Feb 19th), Elapara (Feb 23rd), and Pudunagaram (Feb 26th).

ESAF Organizes Financial Literacy program

ESAF organized Financial Literacy programs in Kanjirapilly on Feb 11 and 18, 2011. Both programs were organized in association with ICICI bank. Robin P. Mathew, Regional Manager-Micro Loans, ICICI bank inaugurated the program held under Ponkunnam cluster on Feb 11. Johny Lukose, Manager, Credit Operations, ICICI also participated in the function. Sibu Abraham, DGM, Kerala Operations, ESAF Microfinance, inaugurated the program organized under Mundakayam cluster. Ambika Soman, Manager SHG Federation was the chief resource person for both the programs. Ramesh K. Nair, Branch Manager, ICICI Bank also attended the program held at Mundakayam.



Corporate Social Responsibilities

Training on Candle making

On Feb 26, 2011, ESAF SHG Federation organized skill training program on candle making. Mini Thomas from BDS department led the training.

Training on Umbrella making

On Feb 16, 2011 ESAF SHG Federation organized a skill training program on umbrella making. Mini Thomas from BDS department led the training. Last month ESAF also conducted skill training programs for fabric painting and soap making at Punalur, Nellimattam and Kayamkulam.

Your feedback is important. Do write to us: Sony V. Mathew

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