

In recent years DMI has tried to become more systematic in its approach to learning activities rather than follow a sporadic approach. Each has its value. The Learning Resources activity centre has tried more to incorporate contributions from other activity centres; these contributions from other centres (such as the Water Security Programme, Livelihood Relief Fund, and Building Peace and Protection) range from providing contributions to DMI's various publications to participating in local and national courses. As indicated in the earlier sections of this report, the number, format and content of DMI's publications have improved greatly and become much more professional. The number of and types of both local and national courses has also grown: for example, now 55 Local Capacity Building Cycle trainings have been conducted representing eighteen different types of courses.

But what about future directions? DMI has several objectives for the future conduct of its learning activities. For one thing, results and formats of village mapping and other community research tools will be put on the



DMI website, this takes time. With respect to DMI publications, an effort will be made to increase the readership of *Afat Nivaran* as well as to expand its content, bringing in material from other organizations and more research. *Vipada Nivaran* will continue and increase its focus on national policy issues so as to reach out to a wider range of readers. Both the publications are on-line and their reach now will be expanded manyfold.

The Experience Learning Series will have a new format (as is represented in this current report), its content will be more detailed and extensive, and will attempt to reach out better to policy makers by being published in English. The DMI website will continue to grow in its outreach as well as in its usefulness. Range of documents on assessment, evaluation, consultation, and so on will be available for downloading. This needs dedicated team time.

The Local Capacity Building Cycles will continue to stress applicability to local communities and DMI will use local organisations more as active partners in order to multiply the effectiveness and increase the sustainability of this activity. The National Course Series will also seek partnerships in this regard. Both are working out arrangements with key civil society organizations for joint running of cycles and courses

The Exchange for Change Internship programme will continue and will benefit from two new formal relationships with European universities: the University of Basel in Switzerland and Oxford Brookes University in UK. An Exchange for Change Alumni Network is being formed to build on the global outreach. These costs will have to be covered.

Disaster related databases will be integrated and GIS/MIS will be better used in DMI activities.

In general, there will be an effort to continue to increase the positive impacts of these activities through increases both in the amount and the quality of DMI's learning efforts. There will also be more attention paid to follow-up and feedback. One focus will be on the establishment of affiliations with local partners that can help better implement DMI's community-based approach. An effort is also underway to spread the location of these activities from the DMI office in Ahmedabad to other locations at Community Learning Centres in both urban and rural areas: already four such centres are being established in Bhuj and four in Ahmedabad. DMI will be looking for resources to obtain space for these centres in the future. DMI also has set up a small core learning fund to improve training practices internally for which a framework funding agreement is being developed.

The way forward consist of applying learning to DMI's actions and studying DMI actions to improve its learning in a more effective way