

SDIA Mid Term Summary Report to WSC

Kumari Beck, Chair

We have detailed reports of our activities in the form of SDIA Annual Reports, and I'm not going to repeat those here. What may be important to clarify is who we are and what we do, first, so that our summary here can be understood better.

SDIA presence and activities can be described as being two-fold:

The outward turning and engaging, and the inward-growing.

- 1) In the 'outer' activities of SDIA, we further the social and humanitarian aims of the WSA, as its affiliate.

Our direction, our activities, our goals and purposes are all directed by and voted on by the members of SDIA, namely, national SD committees and organizations.

All our work and our energies are directed towards supporting the initiatives, projects, organizations and the efforts of Subud members who are moved by their latihan to engage in, and do social and humanitarian work (Susila Dharma). These are the Voting and Associate members of SDIA.

- 2) In the inward function and role of SDIA, we take responsibility for promoting, growing and fostering the Susila Dharma consciousness, as described and elaborated on by Bapak and Ibu, as arising out of our spiritual practice.

These two functions are not mutually exclusive but are in fact very integrated. We don't follow up or mandate on how Subud members should fulfill their inner obligation to God but trust that is done individually with support at their local group and helpers.

What we set out to do, Results and what we would like to Strengthen

The SDIA goals are established every four years by the members of SDIA at the World Congress. The goals for 2010 – 2014 set by members at Christchurch are:

SDIA Goals – 2010-2014 Approved by members
Christchurch, January 2010

Goals

1. Support to Members (SD Projects and SD Nationals)

- Building capacity in project management
- Technical support to projects
- Support to new and developing SD Nationals
- Coordinated use of available resources for efficient and effective project support

Results

SDIA has seen good growth in this area, in providing leadership in collaborative planning among SD Nationals in the network. Egs: Study tour to India and Indonesia; collaborative decision making for project support; building member capacity with professional training delivered in D.R. Congo, India and Colombia; assessment of project impact and NGO functioning in Indonesia and India. Our main focus in this area is capacity building of our members so they can be more effective.

SD Japan joined SDIA as a new member and SD Sweden was re-activated. Due to inactivity SD Ukraine, SD Ecuador and SD Austria are now SD contacts receiving information but not voting in the affairs of SDIA. SD Cuba and SD Vietnam do not appear as members on the website at their request. Twenty-three countries have SD National organizations or committees who participate in the SD Network.

Strengthen

- Continue to develop and implement effective strategies to meet the diverse needs of our members – both National organizations and projects.
- Develop a capacity building program for projects with collaboration from key donors (such as the Blond Trust).
- Coordinated fundraising to meet projects needs provided the projects report in a transparent manner.

2. Strengthen the SD Network

Goals

- Encourage Project Support Teams
- Encourage the creation of long-term partnerships and inter-cultural learning
- Increase sharing of good practices and lessons learned

Results

We continue to develop collaborative models of support for projects. In the DR Congo there is a focus on developing capacity via partnerships at many levels working closely with SD D.R. Congo under the leadership of chairman Dianteza Dimpioka. Local partners include Medecins d’Afrique and local trainers. The SD Nationals who fund activities in the Congo work closely with the SDIA & SD DRC team as well as all projects within D.R. Congo. New private foundation funding has led to new project initiatives, which is being coordinated by Hamida Thomas and Dianteza. Reports on our key visits and initiatives are made available to all members and can be requested from the office.

There is good collaboration between SD Nationals that support projects in India.

Strengthen

- Seek out more effective strategies for follow up on lessons learned and the implementation of good practice.
- Form clearer support teams for Latin American projects.

3. Strengthen Links with others

Goals

- Support growing interest in volunteering through getInvolved!
- Promote Susila Dharma initiatives in local Subud groups
- Expand Partnerships and fundraising with non-Subud organizations
- Facilitate attendance at United Nations meetings by interested members and SD project representatives at United Nations meetings.

While it is not a specifically stated goal, we want to strengthen links with other wings (in particular SESI), when there is something to work on together and include other Subud partners such as helpers and members with background expertise related to SD.

Results:

Our collaboration with SYAI has been strengthened with the Human Force Volunteer Camps, which have now been run at Usaha Mulia Abadi (Mexico), YUM (Indonesia) and this year will be at Anisha (India). SDIA provides guidance and administration support for these camps and provides the opportunity to learn about global development.

Through little work on our part, we have been sought out by outside partners both in funding and technical support, and we have been encouraged to venture forward with confidence. In particular our work has been recognized by the Buchan Family Trust with funding for innovative Health Mutuals and Community based health Centres in the DR Congo over the next 2 years. Being independently recognized for what we do in this way is quite rare in development. We have been requested by SD DR Congo not to publicize this funding partnership in order to not create false expectations on the part of the Congolese.

A new project in Moldova, Budesti English Language Summer School for Disadvantaged Children, was piloted in 2010 and in 2011 became a new member of SDIA. News of a Subud member, Anna Evghenia Zotieva wanting to start up this project came to us from SYAI Stephen at the Great Malvern 2011 meeting. SDIA follow up and support Anna to make her children's camp a reality with the

participation from 3 volunteer English Language Teachers (one Board member and one staff member) and fundraising. Since 2010 January we have five new projects and two projects that ceased operating, for a total of 45 project as our Associate members.

UN – We are in the process of refining our strategy for more meaningful, effective and strategic participation at the UN. The Board recently approved a strategy, including an impact assessment, for participation of a delegation of two at the Rio+20 Earth Summit (June 2012).

SDIA has just been funded for a two-year Media Project for a Subud member to document project work in India, Latin America and DR Congo through writing and visual media.

Strengthen:

- Work with the helpers at the local and national level to grow Susila Dharma consciousness in all groups, to promote a culture of caring. This is not our responsibility alone, and we invite helpers, and all council members to help us reach this collectively. Susila Dharma activities at the group level are most often supported by the SD National organization rather than the international organization.
- Have a greater presence at Zonal, Regional and National gatherings, and become better at follow up. SDIA participation this year is planned at the Zone 4, Zone 3 and Zone 7-8-9 Gatherings.
- Seek collaboration with SICA. Cultural events take place in many projects as part of their programs, but these may not be linked with SICA organizations specifically. Women Worldwide Initiative out of New York is a SICA project with links to SDIA.
- Find ways of inviting SESI to recognize and work with the many requests we have from SD projects and Subud members for small enterprise support.
- We also wish to expand our participation in other networks, conferences and forums for enhanced learning on development and seek venues where we can contribute our members' expertise.

OTHER

Governance and Administration

Results

Our work is governed by a 10 person international volunteer Board who are expected to on average put in 10 – 15 hours a week. We have from 6 – 10 conference calls a year, and one face-to-face meeting. Directors attend national and zonal meetings.

Board worked hard to create new policies and processes in key areas. Eg. A 3-month budget design process that took into consideration member needs, SDIA service areas, and strategic planning.

Our staff of six people, both paid and volunteer, is the reason for our effectiveness. The total annual cost for an estimated 3 full-time positions is \$77,100. There have been changes in staff in 2011 due to the arrival of Virginia Hamida's baby Emmali in January 2012. Rosanna Hille has stepped in as Interim Executive Director coordinating the office, working with the Board and overseeing all activities. Hamida remains the Coordinator of all D.R. Congo activities and liaison to SD DR Congo.

Strengthen

- Each year, 2 – 3 members of our Board resign (after a 3 year term). One challenge is to attract new energy to the board, and training of new and potential candidates for the Board.
- Our SD National members report a challenge also in attracting committed new members to their respective boards. This is a global challenge for the network.
- Our staff volunteers much of their work time. They work as professionals in a Development NGO and that work needs to be recognized with remuneration that is in line with professional standards. The Board has committed to improving this situation.

Finances

Results

In general our finances continue to be a healthy situation thanks to loyal donors, strong support from SD Nationals, Trusts and Foundations.

In 2010 revenue was \$703,736 and Expenditures were \$237,420. Thanks to unexpected bequests SDIA had an excess of \$466,316, which went to the Endowment Fund. The 2011 finances are not completed yet but the budget was \$278,400 and was exceeded by grants for earmarked for projects. We anticipate a shortfall for 2011.

Our Endowment Fund has grown significantly thanks to bequests from Michael Gordon and Lavinia Swanson and now stands approximately at one million US.

We hope to use interest from this fund to finance the core operations of SDIA, an item that is difficult to fundraise for. As an example, in spite of losses in our Endowment last year, we will be able to realize over \$40,000 towards core operations in 2012.

Strengthen

- Fundraising – We are moving towards a more strategic fundraising plan related to the budget area of individual and SD National donor bases. More work in this area needed.
- MSF relationship. Following the MoU signed with MSF in 2010, we attempted to follow up on implementing the MoU and were disappointed to not achieve this goal. The result has been no funding from MSF for 2011 as expected. SDIA spent the funds that were anticipated from MSF, leaving us with a deficit in that area. Plans are in the works for clarifying and reaching a better working relationship with MSF in 2012.
- A key challenge for the Board is to find stable and predictable funding for staff and core operations. SDIA is no longer a small volunteer Subud organization – we are recognized now as being a professional development NGO and must measure up in terms of maintaining professional standards in all areas of our work and how we manage our organization.