Saksham: Regional Institute for Capacity Building and Evaluation

College of Social Work (Autonomous) Nirmala Niketan has signed a 'Memorandum of Understanding' with Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, as sub-sub recipient (SSR) to fight AIDS and Tuberculosis in India under Saksham SSR Regional Institute for Capacity Building and Evaluation (RICE). The two ongoing projects of Saksham SSR RICE are (a) Saksham Pramaan and (b) Saksham Pravaah are funded by the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFTAM). The principal recipients are National Aids Control Program and National TB Elimination Program of the Ministry of Health, GoI. Tata Institute of Social Sciences is the Sub Recipient (SR) of the grant. College of Social Work (Autonomous), Nirmala Niketan, Mumbai is implementing these projects as SSR in the West Zone which includes the State of Goa, Karnataka, and Maharashtra.

SAKSHAM PRAMAAN:

Saksham Pramaan is a three years project which began in 2021, lasting until 2024. The project aims to support India's commitment to end the AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030 in line with Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The project is closely working with the State AIDS Control Societies (SACS) to conduct the seamless evaluation in Western Zone and complete the task as per the NACO timeline. The main objective of the project is to support the National AIDS Control Program (NACP) for evaluation of Targeted Interventions and Link Worker Schemes, build capacities of the evaluators, and coordinate evaluations of Targeted Intervention (TI) and Link Workers Scheme (LWS) project under NACP. The TIs reach out to the key High-Risk groups (HRGs) such as Female Sex Worker (FSW), Male having sex with Male (MSM), Transgender (TG), Injecting Drug Users (IDUs) and Bridge Populations such as Migrants and Long-Distance Truckers. Link Worker Scheme (LWS) reaches out to High Risk Groups, Bridge Population and Vulnerable Population residing in rural areas.

SAKSHAM PRAVAAH:

Saksham Pravaah, is set up in partnership with the National TB Elimination Programme, to provide counselling and psycho-social support for People Living with Drug-Resistant. It is being implemented in the West Zone, which includes the state of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Goa. The projects objective is to develop a National Master Trainers Pool to build capacities of the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) staff on psycho-social aspects of TB and counselling soft skills.

Team Information:

1. Dr. Ronald Yesudhas

Designation: Principal Investigator (Saksham Pramaan and Pravaah)

Educational Qualification: MA., PhD

Email Id: roncswnn01@gmail.com

2. Ms. Reny Rajan

Designation: Faculty In-Charge (Saksham Pramaan and Pravaah)

Educational Qualification: MSW., MPhil

Email Id: reachout2reny@gmail.com

3. Ms. Kalpana Gaikwad

Designation: Regional Coordinator for Mumbai and Maharashtra (Saksham Pramaan)

Educational Qualification: BSW., LLB., PGDM

Email Id: kalpanacswnni@gmail.com

4. Ms. Candida D'Souza

Designation: Regional Coordinator for Goa and Karnataka (Saksham Pramaan)

Educational Qualification: MA (Counseling Psychology)

Email Id: candidacswnni@gmail.com

5. Mr. Praveen Kachhap

Designation: Capacity Building Coordinator for Maharashtra, Goa and Karnataka

(Saksham Pravaah)

Educational Qualification: M.Phil in Development Studies

Email Id: sakshampravaahnn@gmail.com

6. Ms. Silveia Chettiar

Designation: Finance and Administrative Officer

Educational Qualification:

Email Id: silveiachettiarcswnni@gmail.com

7. Ms. Janaki

Designation: Support Staff

KEY ACTIVITIES (2021-22)

Participated in National ToT, Delhi, November 2021: Sub Sub Recipient (SSR) Teams of Regional Institutes for Capacity Building and Evaluation (RICE), with Sub Recipient (SR) team members from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) and members of National AIDS Control Organization



Nirmala Niketan SSR Saksham RICE Team visited to Karnataka States AIDS Prevention Society (KSAPS), Bangalore, December 2021: From right to left, Shri. Ullas Rangayya, DD-TI (KSAPS), Ms. Jyoti, AD-TI (KSAPS), Shri. Pamesh Kattimani, JD-TI (KSAPS), Ms. Kalpana Gaikwad (Regional Coordinator, Saksham Pramaan), Smt. K. Leelavathy, Project Director (KSAPS), Ms. Candida D'Souza (Regional Coordinator, Saksham Pramaan).



Field Visit to a NGO for Evaluation, Bangalore (December, 2021)



Virtual Regional Level Training with evaluators for Maharashtra, Mumbai and Goa (January, 2022)



Debrief meetings conducted in various NGOs/CBOs at Maharashtra, Goa & Karnataka with State AIDS Control Society (January to March, 2022)

