

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND DEMOCRACY Draft

Context

Discrimination and Exclusion

Gender discrimination and violence

Less knowledge about rights, entitlements

Shortage of informed n knowledgeable leaders

Student community- less interested/ignorant

Growing physical violence

Minimum participation n representation in PRIs

Opportunities for the Institute

Credibility and contacts with NGOs/CSOs/Jesuit centers

Contacts with activists/lawyers/journalists

Open minded grass root NGOs/CSOs n leaders among them

Openness among Institutions to strengthen democratic ideals

Organic relationship among HR organizations

ISI is one of the nodal agencies to strengthen civil space

Challenges for the Institute

Lack of coordination, sometimes competition among NGOs

Difficulty in identifying some good field partners- eg Kerala

Expectation from field NGOs towards 100% subsidized pr'ms

Fear to freely express one's opinion-

Shrinking civil society space

GOAL

Building organic, knowledgeable and inclusive leaders / cadres / citizens, with special focus on youth, women, community leaders and teachers, who will lead changes in rural communities and in urban/rural institutions, in partnership with fieldbased organizations, educational institutions and CSOs.

1. Building informed and knowledgeable grass root level cadres/ community leaders in rural areas in partnership with NGOs

Organizing systematic cadre and capacity building of youth / women to become community leaders in rural areas

Motivating and equipping cadres to respond to critical issues in their localities

Organizing trainings for panchayat leaders in select areas

2. Strengthening citizenship and democratic ethos among students and teachers in institutions

Organizing workshops/trainings for students/teachers on constitutional values and social issues

Initiating constitution/democracy clubs-motivating them to organize events/competitions-

Organizing periodic courses on socio-cultural analysis

3. Collaborating, strengthening and expanding civil society space

Regular discussions / talks / reflections and film screening sessions along with and for CSO/NGOs on current issues

Functioning as facilitator to bring together NGOs on thematic issues to discuss and respond to critical issues

Providing space for informal gatherings/discussions

Facilitating, supporting and partnering with NGOs and movements in fact finding studies

4. Documentation, preparation of training modules and dissemination

Preparing resource materials, training modules and toolkits and social media products.

Publication of articles/books on current issues

Publishing success stories and best practices