THE FIGHT CONTINUES

BABIES NEED MOM-MADE NOT MAN-MADE!

BPNI / IBFAN Asia Annual Report 2014
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REPORT WRITING AND PRODUCTION

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Abbreviations

AACI  Alliance Against Conflict of Interest
ACERH  Australian Centre for Economic Research on Health
APCN  Association for Promotion of Child Nutrition
AusAid  The Australian Agency for International Development
BFHI  Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative
BPNI  Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India
CCNFSU  Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses
CEFEMINA  Centro feminista de información y acción
CRC  Committee on the Rights of the Child
DFID  The Department for International Development
FAO  Food and Agriculture Organisation
GIFA  Geneva Infant Feeding Association
GLOPAR  Global Participatory Action Research
IBFAN  International Baby Food Action Network
ICDC  International Code Documentation Centre
ICDS  Integrated Child Development Services
ICN - CSO  International Conference on Nutrition - Civil Society Organisation
IMCH  International Maternal and Child Health
IYCF  Infant and Young Child Feeding
JSCPCR  State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Jharkhand
MIYCN  Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition
MLT  Middle Level Trainer
NCF  National Children’s Fund
NEBPROF  Nepal Breastfeeding Promotion Forum
NHM  National Health Mission
NIPCCD  National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development
Norad  The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
NRHM  National Rural Health Mission
PAID  People’s Action for Integrated Development
RDA  Required Dietary Allowance
SAFANSI  South Asia Food and Nutrition Security Initiative
SAIFRN  South Asia Infant Feeding Research Network
Sida  The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
UAK  Ulkerreuil A Klengar
Unicef  United Nations Children’s Fund
WABA  World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action
WBCi  World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative
WBTi  World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative
WBW  World Breastfeeding Week
WFP  World Food Programme
WHO  World Health Organisation

Abbreviations
The 2014 Annual report of BPNI/International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) Asia speaks for itself the struggle to move the global policy Global Strategy for Infant and Young Child Feeding from paper to practice at the country level. Action has been generated though at many levels particularly through the World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative (WBTI), in several countries and newly introduced tool World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI), introduced in 20 countries this year. BPNI takes pride in these two flagship programmes running worldwide.

India, where the regional office is based, is a country of many countries indeed with diverse population in size and culture. BPNI has been able to initiate action through strategic partnership with governments in the States in the form of capacity building of health and nutrition workers. We also conducted seminars on the Infant Milk Substitutes Feeding Bottles, and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act 1992, and Amendment Act 2003 in many states. These are core activities for BPNI

Our major strategy of moving from one country to another each year and organising One Asia Breastfeeding Partners Forum is paying off as it leads to partnerships with the country governments as well as with many more groups in the country and strengthening action on infant and young child feeding. Its follow up action is fruitful to get the implementation of the Global Strategy for Infant and Young Child Feeding done in all countries.

This year we had added work on Code training and awareness and wish to strengthen in in coming years.

Our unique work on “Formula For Disaster” this year puts breastfeeding along with climate change discussions and is receiving lot of international interests.

Action in the field of Conflict of Interest continued this year with awareness generation and advocacy efforts towards a legislation for tackling conflict of interest in India.

We would value your comments on the work we do, as to help improving our strategies and actions, in the interest of women and children of India and Asia.

The fight of course continues ….

Dr. Arun Gupta
About BPNI /IBFAN Asia

The Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI) was founded on 3rd December, 1991 at Wardha, Maharashtra. BPNI is a registered, independent, non-profit, national organization that works towards protecting, promoting and supporting breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding of infants & young children. BPNI is registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 with registration number S-23144. As a policy, BPNI does not accept funds of any kind from the companies manufacturing baby food, feeding bottles etc. and from organizations /industries having any conflict of interest.

It serves the Regional Coordinating Office of International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) for Asia, which is a network of groups working to promote optimal infant and young child nutrition in over 25 countries. It also serves as South Asia focal point for World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) and facilities activities of WABA in 8 South Asian countries. IBFAN is a Right Livelihood Laureate/Alternative Nobel Prize Awardee.

Management and Staff

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15 JUNE 2012-14 JUNE 2015

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This annual report includes activities undertaken by Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI)/International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) Asia during the period January 2014 to December 2014. The report highlights BPNI’s efforts to strengthen policies and programmes on breastfeeding and infant and young child feeding in India, Asia and globally. It incorporates activities done to achieve outcomes for the projects funded by The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) titled ‘Protecting, Promoting and Supporting Breastfeeding Through Human Rights and Gender Equality’; Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) titled ‘Enhancing Breastfeeding Rates Contributes to Women’s Rights, Health, and a Sustainable Environment’ and the World Bank funded project titled ‘Strengthening Infant and Young Child Feeding Policies and Programmes in South Asia Region’ under South Asia Food and Nutrition Security Initiative (SAFANSI).

Main areas of work remain advocacy, capacity building, implementation of the International Code for marketing of the Breastmilk Substitutes/ the Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act 1992 and amendment Act 2003 (IMS Act) as it is called in India, social mobilization, research and information sharing and communication. The description in subsequent pages is a summary of the major activities done under the action areas. In the report we are providing brief information about the projects being implemented by BPNI/IBFAN Asia, which is followed by the report of activities for the year. More information about some of these activities is available on BPNI Website (Please see links provided with the activity).
Projects

I) Project Title: Protecting, Promoting and Supporting Breastfeeding Through Human Rights and Gender Equality
_Funded by: Sida_

A consortium composed of three International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) Regional Coordinating Offices of Africa, Asia, and Europe and the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) is implementing this project. This is a four-year programme (2014-2017) that works towards accelerating the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, 4 and 5 in particular. The overall objective of the consortium project is to accelerate the momentum for action in infant and young child feeding, and thus contribute to positioning the protection, promotion and support of breastfeeding as key interventions on the international development agenda to achieve children and women’s rights to survival, health, adequate food and nutrition. The World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) acts as the focal point to coordinate the project. Three IBFAN regional offices and WABA have thus come together under this consortium and are working on a coordinated work-plan with seven program areas which includes;

1. Tracking progress in policy and programmes and strengthening accountability
2. Building IYCF capacity at all levels
3. Addressing especially challenging environments/situations: including gender inequalities
4. Strengthening policy and legislative frameworks
5. Social mobilisation and information communications
6. Strengthening the consortia and rejuvenating the breastfeeding movement
7. Project cycle management and governance

Consolidated goal, outputs and activities for all seven programme areas have been identified by the consortium partners and put in separate Log Frames. The progress is periodically reviewed collectively. Each year a consolidated report of activities is submitted to Sida.

II) Project Title: Enhancing Breastfeeding Rates Contributes to Women’s Rights, Health, and a Sustainable Environment
_Funded by: Norad_

This project was executed under Norad’s Project “Global Breastfeeding Initiative for Child Survival”.

Ten implementing partners of the global Breastfeeding Initiative for Child Survival (gBICS), including IBFAN regional offices, IBFAN technical offices and World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) are implementing the three-year (2013 - 2015) NORAD supported project. IBFAN Regional Coordinating Office for LAC region at CEFEMINA, Costa Rica is coordinating the project.

The gBICS is a programme aiming to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development - beyond the Millennium Development Goals- by scaling up breastfeeding and infant and young child feeding interventions and transforming policies into practice which contributes to efforts aimed at addressing climate change and gender inequality in the framework of human rights.

The agreed common impact of the gBICS is to contribute to “Scaling up of breastfeeding and infant and young child feeding interventions to reduce child mortality and undernutrition, and to improve child growth and development as well as maternal health, through the protection, promotion and support of optimal infant feeding practices (early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding for first six months followed by safe and adequate complementary feeding with continued breastfeeding for 2 years or beyond)”.

The programme areas are:
- Comprehensive national policies and programmes to implement the Global Strategy for Infant and Young Child Feeding
- Monitoring and evaluation of national policies and programmes
• Implementation, monitoring and reporting on the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes and relevant WHA resolutions
• Health and safety standards of the Codex Alimentarius Commission - risks of artificial feeding and food safety and food security
• Corporate accountability and safeguarding public interest - democratisation of global public health and nutrition
• Conflicts of Interests, sponsorship and Public-Private (for-profit) Partnerships
• Right to health and adequate food of women and children worldwide
• Labour rights and maternity protection in all economic sectors
• Protecting, promoting and supporting breastfeeding as environment friendly, to counterbalance to the negative environmental impact of formula feeding
• Building of knowledge and skills on breastfeeding protection, promotion and support in health and nutrition care systems
• Information, communication and social mobilization on IYCF among the general public
• Optimal policies and practices for infant feeding and protection of sexual and reproductive rights, particularly in difficult circumstances such as HIV context or during emergencies
• Strengthening of capacities for planning, coordination, partner liaison and fundraising

III) Project Title: Strengthening Infant and Young Child Feeding Policies and Programmes in South Asia Region

Funded by: SAFANSI

The South Asia Food and Nutrition Security Initiative (SAFANSI) is being implemented by the World Bank and funded by DFID and AusAid. Optimal infant and young child feeding practices (IYCF) remain very critical to child health, nutrition and development. For enhancing the IYCF practices, IBFAN Asia and The World Bank signed up a project “Strengthen Infant and Young Child Feeding Capacity in South Asia Region”. BPNI/IBFAN Asia RCO coordinated the project activities. The Project Development Objective (PDO) was to enhance government and stakeholder capacity and commitment in the South Asia Region to strengthen policies and programs for Infant and Young Child Feeding, particularly breastfeeding in four focus countries, namely, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India and Nepal. Major activities included development of a national plan of action on IYCF, campaigns during the World Breastfeeding Week, Code implementation, research, trainings on IYCF counselling etc. More details of the project activities are available at: http://www.bpni.org/safansi
Action Areas & Activities
The World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative (WBTi) is a flagship programme of IBFAN Asia/BPNI. The programme envisages assessment of implementation of the Global Strategy for Infant and Young Child Feeding (GSIYCF) at national level. This is achieved through an assessment of policies and programmes on IYCF using a structured tool.

WBTi assessment process at country level includes identifying a country coordinator, forming a core group of experts to do the research for filling up the questionnaire for indicators, consensus building among the partners, finding gaps in the policies and programmes on IYCF, developing recommendations for bridging the gaps and developing country report cards and report.

The WBTi was first introduced in India and other countries of South Asia in 2004-05. In 2008-09 major expansions to Southeast Asia, East Asia, Africa, Latin America and Arab world happened. In 2011, it was introduced to Pacific region. Since the inception of the initiative in 2005, WBTi has been introduced in 92 countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, Arab World and Oceania out of which 55 countries have completed the assessment and prepared a country report card. The assessment helps countries to identify gaps in the policies and programmes for IYCF and to develop an action plan to bridge the gaps.

1. Tracking progress in policy and programmes and strengthening accountability
IBFAN Asia/BPNI has also developed a financial tool, World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI), to develop a budget based on the action plan for IYCF. WBCI is a policy advocacy initiative to encourage integrated actions that enables a country to plan and prioritize actions and budget them accurately. During the year 2014, this tool was introduced in more countries. Both WBTi and WBC are emerging as very effective initiatives to steer the action to enhance infant and young child feeding practices.

The following action happened to effectively implement these initiatives:

1.1. Review and revision of the assessment tool
The WBTi tool is based on the World Health Organisation’s tool for monitoring the implementation of the Global Strategy for IYCF. It also takes into account WABA’s Global Participatory Action Research (GLOPAR) tool. BPNI/IBFAN Asia were receiving feedback about some inconsistencies in the tool and the assessment process from IBFAN regional offices; training participants; and independent experts and individuals. Also, during last many years, new global policy documents have emerged and it was necessary to harmonise the tool with these documents. The assessment tool and training programme was reviewed and revised, developed and adopted this year. The process for revising and updating the tool started in the year 2013 in a 3 days workshop in New Delhi in which 18 experts from many countries deliberated upon required changes in the content of the tool as well as the process of the assessment. Later, team of experts were constituted for the each indicator, who submitted their reports to IBFAN Asia RCO in the first quarter of the year 2014. Team at RCO assimilated all the reports and prepared a draft tool. The draft was shared with experts from WABA, GIFA and ICDC and their inputs were considered. The updated version of the tool has been included on the WBTi web portal and now being used for trainings and assessments. The World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI) financial planning and budgeting tool also became a part of the WBTi training. WBTi tool is now more balanced with enhanced emphasis on the implementation of the programmes. The new tool along with the new annexures for indicators is available at:
http://worldbreastfeedingtrends.org/wbti-tool/
http://ibfan.org/wbci-launch-material-and-the-wbci-tool

1.2. Accomplishing assessment/re-assessment
Two more countries one from Asia - Timor-Leste and one from LAC - Honduras completed their first assessment. In Timor-Leste, assessment revealed several gaps like absence of a national policy on IYCF, slow progress in implementing Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI), absence of a national law to protect breastfeeding, lack of adequate maternity protection, lack of community based support for breastfeeding mothers, lack of comprehensive communication policy on IYCF, lack of adequate trained support for IYCF to HIV positive women, lack of comprehensive policy on IYCF during the emergencies etc. Honduras has reported good progress in BFHI and International Code but situation is not so good in other indicators. Among other countries, China, Korea, and Mongolia from Asia and Brazil from Latin America submitted their re-assessment reports. Reports of assessments are available at:
http://worldbreastfeedingtrends.org/country-report-wbti/

1.3. Introduction of WBTi in new countries
WBTi was introduced in 20 more countries in Asia, Arab World and Oceania in three regional workshops.

Training Workshop for Asian countries: A training workshop on WBTi assessment and use of WBCI tool for participants from eight Asian countries was organised on 4-6 September, at Bangkok by IBFAN Asia Regional Coordinating Office (RCO) in collaboration with Thai Breastfeeding Centre Foundation, Bangkok. Participating countries were: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Iran, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. For Malaysia, Thailand and Philippines it was a re-exposure to the tool. Ten participants and four-resource persons participated in the workshop. In the last session of the workshop, each country representative presented the plan to implement the process for WBTi assessment
in their country. Brunei team stated that they will initiate the process by forming a core group but assessment will be completed after the ‘One Asia Breastfeeding Partners’ Forum in the last week of October 2014. Myanmar representative from Ministry of Health expressed a need for discussion on the issue in her department. Singapore team informed about doing the assessment in the month of January 2015. Participant from Iran stated that she would link IBFAN Asia RCO with the breastfeeding organisation in Iran to move forward. Cambodian and Malaysian representative informed about having the assessment in the month of December 2014. Participant from Philippines and Thailand stated that they would conduct the reassessment in 2015. More information about the workshop is available at: http://worldbreastfeedingtrends.org/wbti-and-wbc-orientation-training-workshop-bangkok-thailand-4-6-sept-2014/

Later, some of the participating countries including Brunei Darussalam, Myanmar and Singapore shared the plan for the assessment process during the One Asia Breastfeeding Partners’ Forum in Brunei.

Training Workshop for Oceania Countries: A training workshop on WBTi assessment and use of WBCi tool was held at Koror, Palau from 6th to 8th October 2014 for the participants from 3 countries of the Oceania region. Participating countries were: Palau, Federal States of Micronesia (FSM) and Republic of Marshall Islands. Twenty-two participants and four resource persons participated in the workshop. IBFAN Asia Regional Coordinating Office (RCO) and IBFAN Oceania [hosted at community health support group Ulkerreuil A Klengar (UAK)] organised the workshop. This was the first major activity conducted by IBFAN in the region since IBFAN Oceania office started functioning at UAK two years back. Participating countries made some commitments on the last day of the workshop. Representatives of FSM planned for introducing IBFAN through conferences, media and social media; reviewing of data systems and filling in the gaps; and revising public health programmes procedures to clearly monitor and integrate indicators of IBFAN. Participants from Republic of Marshall Island and Palau committed to identify partners to complete the WBTi assessment. More information about the workshop is available at: http://worldbreastfeedingtrends.org/wbti-and-wbc-orientation-training-workshop-palau-6-8-oct-2014/

Training Workshop for Arab Countries: A training workshop on WBTi assessment and use of WBCi tool was held at Cairo, Egypt from 19-21 September 2014 for the participants from 12 Arab countries. Participating countries were: Yemen, United Arab Emirates, Lebanon, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Oman, Bahrain, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan and Algeria. Twenty-one participants and four resource persons participated in the workshop. The workshop was organized by IBFAN Asia Regional Coordinating Office (RCO) & IBFAN Arab World in collaboration with WHO's Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (WHO- EMRO). On the final day, all the
whole process motivates country groups including governments to initiate actions to enhance IYCF practices. Following is an account of progress in some countries after the training and impact of assessment process in some others.

- **Saudi Arabia**: Introduced the WBT and WBC tool to the members of the National Committee to encourage breastfeeding and sought permission to undertake assessment.

- **Oman**: Have introduced WBT and WBC tool to Ministry of Health and sought permission for undertaking assessment in 2015.

- **Taiwan**: Major achievement is Code being finally included in the law, after tremendous efforts and lobbying. Infant formula is one of the special dietary foods; it is not allowed to advertise to the public. Promotional devices such as free samples, gifts, discounts, coupons, special displays, and tie-in sales are prohibited.

- **Indonesia**: Has a law on exclusive breastfeeding in place since 2013. The Indonesian Ministry of Health has a national recommendation on breastfeeding and HIV. They have started a program to revitalize BFHI, with an objective of adoption of the 10 steps of BFHI to be implemented in health facilities across Indonesia.

- **Mongolia**: Maternity protection was updated and now


**1.4. Country wise impact/progress with WBT during 2014**

WBT brings partners working on infant and young child feeding at country level to a common platform creating an environment of working together to enhance IYCF practices. After a country representative is trained on the WBT, he/she starts action at country level to initiate the assessment process. The process of assessment leads to identification of gaps in the policies and programmes as well as ways to bridge those gaps. The participating countries made action plan for WBT assessment and WBC use. Feedback comments from some of the participants were as follows:

- Participants from Saudi Arabia found the tool very beneficial and said that they will inform the ministry of health to start working on it immediately.

- Participants from UAE also found the tool very useful and expressed their desire to undertake the assessment using the tool.

- Participants from Bahrain said that they have learnt practical skills and informed that WBT assessment work is in progress in their country and soon the WBT report of Bahrain will be published.

**Group work by participants during Egypt workshop on WBT & WBC**
there is a provision of 2 hours paid break for breastfeeding mothers with the babies up to six months while 1 hour paid break for breastfeeding mothers with the babies over 6 months of age. Government is planning to update BMS law in 2015 making it more strong and some budget is allocated for this activity.

**Pakistan:** During 2014 due to the WBTi assessment and awareness and sensitization campaign, provincial breastfeeding law was proposed in 3 provinces of Pakistan.

**Hong Kong SAR:** Major impact has been establishment of a committee on promotion of breastfeeding in April 2014, chaired by Undersecretary for food and health. Country has developed a 3-year action plan to support breastfeeding in the community, in November 2014. Progress in number of BFHI hospitals has been observed over the years. Law has been passed for grant of 3-day paternity leave and also regulation on the requirements on nutritional composition of infant formulae and nutrition labelling of infant formulae, follow-up formulae and pre-packed food for infants and young children.

**Afghanistan:** WBTi has led to remarkable change in the policy situation. There has been a great change in Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative with increase in number of hospitals. Country has developed IYCF policy and strategy as well as IYCF communication strategy. The procedure for Code on BMS has been initiated with national BMS committee.

**Bangladesh:** Has developed the new BMS Act 2013 and disseminated it in the country in 2014. BFHI hospitals have been revitalized countrywide and monitoring process is going on. Six months maternity leave has been announced for private sector and large number of health staff has been recruited to ensure maternity support. National nutrition policy has been developed and capacity building on IYCF is being conducted regularly throughout the country.

**India:** The major impact has been seen in the National Food Security Act 2013, pregnant women and lactating mothers, besides being entitled to nutritious meals as per the prescribed nutritional norms will also receive maternity benefit of at least of INR 6000 (approximately 100 USD). This has been recognised as the Right to Food for the infants of 0-6 months of age. This has resulted from continued advocacy over years but just recently got recognized. Also it has led to inclusion of a well-conceptualized section on nutrition dealing especially with ‘infant and young child feeding’ in the 12th five year plan chapters on ‘Women’s Agency and Child Rights’ and ‘Health’ of the Planning Commission, Government of India. This strengthened the intent for action to be taken on breastfeeding and infant and young child feeding issues. Government of India has enhanced focus on under-3s and included care and nutrition counselling service for mothers of under-3s in their new policy document on child development.

**Maldives:** A number of changes in its policy and strategy have happened like development of a national IYCF and nutrition strategy, approval and adoption of BMS Code, Government now advocating for exclusive breastfeeding for first 6 months and continue breastfeeding for up to 2 years. Malnutrition, Infant Mortality Rate and Maternal Mortality Rate have drastically declined.

**Nepal:** WBTi has helped in bringing together multiple stakeholders including government, professional organization, INGO’s, NGO’s, women and children right groups on same platform and the political commitment by government has increased. The government has published National Guidelines on IYCF and training is being conducted for various levels of health professionals on IYCF. Government has developed emergency preparedness plan and response which clearly addresses infant feeding during emergencies and also the National Guidelines on HIV/AIDS strategy and guidelines on prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV. WBTi acts as a tool for the government to become aware of the exact situation and existing policies.

**Fiji:** Since the first assessment in 2011-12, Fiji has made progress on its’ IYCF policy and programmes as follows:

- Review of the National Breastfeeding Policy to include issues of marketing controls regulations, mother friendly practices and HIV.
- Maintaining excellent commitment to BFHI for all the 21 Government Hospitals, and have had a Core Assessors TOT in 2014.
- Completed the translation of the IYCF Package (1 Booklet and 10 Pamphlets) into the Indigenous iTaukei language.
- Drafted a Joint Statement between Ministry of Health/WHO/UNICEF for "Appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding in Fiji during Disasters and Emergencies". The Joint Statement encourages continued breastfeeding; and simplifies the
Marketing Controls Regulations, and will ensure that commercial milks are not received in form of donation.

- Concluded data collection for the National Nutrition Survey, findings of which will inform the Fiji Food and Nutrition Policy which forms the basis of all nutrition strategies, policies and guidelines for Fiji.

**Vietnam:** Government of Vietnam has signed a decree No100/2014/ND-CP that is stronger than the Decree 21 and is quite similar to the International Code. It prohibits advertisement for breastfeeding substitutes and supplementary food for children under 24 months.

**China:** In 2014, China mainland carried out action on BFHI. China National Health and Family Planning Committee (NHFPC) published the national criteria for Baby Friendly Hospital (2014) and started national programme on BFHI reassessment in June 2014. As scheduled, all health bureaus are requirement to carry out assessment for health facilities in their jurisdiction, which had been titled as, or intent to be baby-friendly. The reassessment results needs to be reported to upper levels. The NHFPC will publish the national report on BFHI by the end of April in 2015. (All the information is available on the official website. http://www.nhfpc.gov.cn/fys/s3585/201406/556c0b7673e8470f9641c28d119a9f31.shtml)

**Timor-Leste:** Ministry of Health of Timor-Leste with support from UNICEF participated at a regional IYCF policy workshop at Bangkok in April 2014. The workshop discussed the country action plan towards endorsement and implementation of BMS Code, maternity leave, and strengthening health system for IYCF interventions. The MoH of Timor-Leste with support of UNICEF and collaboration with Alola Foundation is continuing the efforts to have the code reviewed and endorsed by MoH and government. With regard to IYCF programme monitoring, IYCF related indicators have been included in the Health Management Information System (HMIS) and District Health Information System (DHIS); (i.e. % of community health centers and hospital achieving baby friendly status, % of suco/villages having community groups promoting nutrition related behaviour and practices).

**Brunei Darussalam:** The national strategy for MIYCN 2014-2020 in Brunei Darussalam was endorsed on 27/10/2014 during 10th One Asia Breastfeeding Partners’ Forum

### 1.5 The World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI)

The World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI) financial planning and budgeting tool is a new innovative initiative developed by IBFAN Asia. The tool is getting wider acceptance as a logical next step to the WBT assessment of policies and programmes and developing a plan of action based on the assessment. The tool was introduced in 17 countries as well as during the World Health Assembly (WHA) in 2014. Training workshops on the tool were also organized in the countries across the globe in the year 2014, as mentioned below. More information about these events is available at: [http://worldbreastfeedingtrends.org/country-report-wbci/](http://worldbreastfeedingtrends.org/country-report-wbci/)

**WBCI launch during the World Health Assembly (WHA):**

IBFAN has an official relationship with the WHO and participates in the World Health Assembly as an observer organisation. This year, in the partnership with World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Ministry of Public Health, Afghanistan, IBFAN launched The World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI) tool at the World Health Assembly (WHA) at a side event on 21st May 2014 in Geneva to help countries implement the Global Strategy for Infants and Young Child Feeding. Over 80 participants attended the launch from several countries including representatives from many member states, UN agencies, observer organisations and individual experts. In the launch meeting, Lida Lhotska from IBFAN-GIFA coordinated the proceedings of the meeting, gave introductory remarks about the event and introduced the panel of experts. Dr. Arun Gupta, regional coordinator, IBFAN Asia introduced the World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative, and explained the process of developing it through extensive discussions with economists, health professionals, and civil society organisations. He informed that the tool was tested with several governments to ensure that it meets their needs adequately. Dr. Julie Smith, health economist with the Australian National University, highlighted the urgent need to invest in breastfeeding. Dr. Homayoun Ludin, Ministry of Public Health, Afghanistan, informed how his ministry has used the tool to develop plans of action, worked out accurate budgets and raised funds from different donors. Alessandro Iellamo, consultant with IBFAN Asia, explained the contents of the tool and showed a short video demonstrating the use of the excel-based tool, which generated a lot of interest amongst participants. Dr. Francesco Branca, Director...
Nutrition, WHO appreciated the work of IBFAN in developing this tool, noting that easy-to-use standard tool can be used by countries to both develop a plan and prepare a budget for implementing the Global Strategy and to track availability and movement of resources.

**Training workshop on World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBC) tool for IBFAN functionaries:** A training workshop on World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBC) was organised by the IBFAN Asia team for Regional Coordinators of IBFAN - LAC, IBFAN - North America, IBFAN Afrique and IBFAN -- Africa in Geneva on 18th May 2014. Dr. Shoba Suri presented components of the tool to all the participants. Dr. Arun Gupta and Dr. JP Dadhich facilitated practical session in which participants were trained about using the tool. Participants identified an indicator, prepared an action plan and developed a budget for its’ implementation. The training was intended to increase capacity of all IBFAN RCOs to provide trainings to other IBFAN members in their regions. All of them were provided with the software and other resource material on a USB drive.

**Training workshop on World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBC) tool in Peru:** Marta Trejos, regional coordinator, IBFAN LAC conducted a training workshop on World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBC) tool during the IBFAN LAC Regional Meeting in Lima, Peru, from August 14 - 18, 2014. 28 participants attended the meeting, most of them from regional coordination teams of 15 countries in the region: Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela. Each country participants chose one indicator to develop the action plan and calculate the budget. Participants found the tool very useful. Some of the comments given by the participants are as follows:

- **Chile:** The tool provides an opportunity to present a solid plan and well supported by numeric data, as well as being part of a global tool.
- **Costa Rica:** It is a flexible tool and asks you to budget everything and estimate time considering annual increases to the budget.
- **Ecuador:** Despite few problems, it works well in other fields and it was useful for planning and budgeting.
- **Guatemala:** Easy to get results if the data is accurate and reliable.
- **Honduras:** It is easy to budget. It allows having access to complete budgeting strategy. It visualizes important information in the country.
of WBCi was conducted by Ministry of Public Health on 5th January 2014 in Kabul, Afghanistan for government officials, technical staff, UN agencies (UNICEF, WHO, WFP, FAO), health and nutrition implementing NGOs and health and management staff. Dr. M Homayoun Ludin, IYCF National Consultant and Public Nutrition Department, facilitated the training. During the concluding session of the workshop, it was recommended that each participating organization would train their financial and management staff on WBCi tools and prepare budget based on current WBCi documents.

Training workshop on World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCi) tool in Bangladesh: A training workshop on WBCi financial tool was held with the theme: “Workshop on WBCi financial tool to strengthen IYCF capacity in South Asian regions” on 19th October, 2014 at Institute of Public Health, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Bangladesh Breastfeeding Foundation organized the workshop in collaboration with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh and Institute of Public Health. About 62 participants from 38 organizations participated in the workshop. Dr. S. K. Roy, Chairperson, Bangladesh Breastfeeding Foundation gave the background information on the World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative and also explained the necessity of investment in babies, specifically why, where and how much to invest. An open discussion session was also held with participating development partners, Government of Bangladesh officials and Non-governmental Organisations. The policy makers from Government of Bangladesh expressed strong support to include more budget for IYCF in coming budget of the government.

Training workshop on World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCi) tool in Maldives: Addu City Council, Maldives in collaboration with Hithadhoo regional Hospital and Health centers, organized a two days training workshop for health care workers in which a new tool (WBCi) for budget planning from IBFAN was introduced to health care workers to help them plan workshop costing. It brought together 28 participants from all the four islands- Hithadhoo, Maradhoo, Maradhoo Feydhoo and Feydhoo and 12 health workers attended the practical session on WBCi. Dr. Mohamed Saeed gave a presentation and a brief overview of the WBCi tool to the participants and conducted a practical session whereby participants spent few hours entering their island health and geographical data for generating sample reports. Many health workers felt the WBCi tool as a simple and easy method for generating estimated budgets for workshops such as IYCF and MCH.

Workshop on World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCi) tool in Nepal: Nepal Breastfeeding Promotion Forum (NEBOF) organized a half day workshop on “WBCi: The financial planning tool” at Kathmandu, Nepal on 5th August 2014. It brought together 16 participants working in the various sectors related to childhood nutrition in Nepal. The participants included government officials, Nepal Paediatric Society representatives, Paediatricians, Nurses and representatives of civil society organizations from Nepal all of whom contributed actively to the discussion during the workshop. Participants found the tool to be standardized software which can be very useful in planning for programme implementation plan. Participants also gave feedback on the 'user-friendliness' and relevance of the tool. It gave participants an idea about the financial tool for budget estimation for other health programme as well.

Training workshop on World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCi) tool in Afghanistan: A training on use and practice of WBCi was conducted by Ministry of Public Health on 5th January 2014 in Kabul, Afghanistan for government officials, technical staff, UN agencies (UNICEF, WHO, WFP, FAO), health and nutrition implementing NGOs and health and management staff. Dr. M Homayoun Ludin, IYCF National Consultant and Public Nutrition Department, facilitated the training. During the concluding session of the workshop, it was recommended that each participating organization would train their financial and management staff on WBCi tools and prepare budget based on current WBCi documents.
Launch of the World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI) in Arab World: The World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI) was launched at Cairo, Egypt during the training workshop on World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative (WBTI) & World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI) from 19-21 September, 2014 wherein twenty one participants from 12 Arab countries took part. The workshop was organized by IBFAN Asia Regional Coordinating Office (RCO) & IBFAN Arab World in collaboration with WHO’s Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO). The participants were made to learn the step-by-step process of working on the software. The participants then worked on the tool to develop a budget for IYCF programme. At the end of the session the participants expressed that the “WBCI is a very good and helpful tool”.

Launch of the World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI) in Oman: Ministry of Health, Oman launched the WBC in Oman, on 3rd December 2014 in which officials from Ministry of Finance, Department of Nutrition, Department of Statistics and from Administration department participated.

Launch of the World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI) in Philippines: Three organisations, namely, Arugaan, Breastfeeding Pinays and Gentle Birth Philippines set the meetings with three (3) big offices at the Legislative/Parliament called House of Representatives or Congress of the Philippines. The WBC report and tool were shared with the parliament representatives in December 2014.

Launch of the World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI) in Oceania: Micronesia launch of IBFAN’s World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative was held in Koror, Palau on October 9, 2014 in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Palau and IBFAN Oceania. On behalf of the President and the Participants, health staffs from hospitals and Maternal and Child Health clinics and medical students from the National Defence University Malaysia participated. The report and the tool was also shared with the Minister of Health. The feedback from the Ministry of Health, Ministry for Defence and those participating in meeting was indeed encouraging. The Director of Nutrition (Ministry of Health) has been approached to have a joint workshop on WBCi in early 2015 with BIB Malaysia.

Launch of the World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI) in Australia: Dr. Julie Smith from Australian National University has been involved in the development of the WBCI tool and its dissemination since its first launch in India in 2013. She organised a launch of the WBCI at the Parliament House in Canberra, Australia on 12th February, 2014 in collaboration with Australian Centre for Economic Research on Health (ACERH) and Australian National University, the International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) Asia and the Parliamentary Friends of Early Childhood. The Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women, Senator Michaela Cash participated in the launch meeting and spoke about the paid maternity leave. (See: http://www.anu.edu.au/news/all-news/calls-for-australia-to-become-global-breastfeeding-leader )

Launch of the World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI) in Malaysia: BIB Malaysia organized the launch of WBCI in Malaysia on 23rd December 2014 in Kuala Lumpur in which 150 invited guests, speakers, course participants, health staffs from hospitals and Maternal and Child Health clinics and medical students from the National Defence University Malaysia participated. The report and the tool was also shared with the Minister of Health. The feedback from the Ministry of Health, Ministry for Defence and those participating in meeting was indeed encouraging. The Director of Nutrition (Ministry of Health) has been approached to have a joint workshop on WBCi in early 2015 with BIB Malaysia.
Government of Palau, Minister Ngirmang participated in the launch meeting and expressed confidence that the presence of members of both houses of the congress will ensure full support for policies needed to protect, promote and support breastfeeding. Speaking on behalf of the participants, Dr. Becheserrak and Midwife Hedson felt that the training had been valuable and said that the FSM group is committed to carrying the WBTi/WBCi process back to the four FSM states and the national government. During the discussion, participants underscored the importance of Director Watson’s remarks that it is time Palau and the region adopt maternity leave legislation and create workplace policies and practices supportive of breastfeeding and optimal young child nutrition.

1.6 Afghanistan developed IYCF action plan based on WBTi assessment
Department of Public Nutrition, Ministry of Public Health, Government of Afghanistan used WBTi assessment findings to identify the gaps and develop a plan of action to improve policies and programmes on IYCF in a national workshop on infant and young child feeding action plan from 20- 22 October 2014 in Kabul organised in collaboration with IBFAN Asia RCO. The workshop resulted in developing national and provincial IYCF action plan for year 2014 and 2015. Participants included 34 provincial nutrition officers and 34 provincial NGO focal points, and representatives of UN agencies.

Analysis
There has been a good progress as regard to the training on WBTi of new countries as well as impact on specific policy and programmes. WBTi has been introduced to many new countries, some of which have already started the process to undertake the assessment. The IBFAN Asia RCO has assimilated new and revised WBTi tool and process with more staff members trained in-house to be the trainer. A new tool complementing the WBTi process, WBCi has been developed and disseminated through launch meetings and trainings. Thus, a country has a complete set of processes at her disposal, namely, WBTi to assess implementation of the Global Strategy for IYCF, find gaps and prepare a national action plan for bridging the gaps and using WBCi to develop a financial plan.
2. Building capacity at all levels

2.1. Reviewing and updating the “4 in 1” training programme

One to one or group counselling on breastfeeding is important to increase breastfeeding rates. Complementary feeding could also be improved through nutrition counselling, although additional measures may be necessary in food insecure settings. Mothers and newborns need help to initiate breastfeeding within one hour, and to practice exclusive breastfeeding during the first six months. The help includes assistance, education about breastfeeding, answers to their questions, and prevention of breast conditions like sore nipples and mastitis as well as tackling these if they do arise. Skilled and adequately trained health and nutrition care providers are needed in the community as well as in health care facilities. Capacity building of these care providers is essential to ensure access to appropriate counselling support to mothers.

BPNI conducts training for National Trainers, Middle Level Trainer (MLTs) and Counselling Specialists using the training package titled “BPNI/IBFAN Asia Infant and Young Child Feeding Counselling: A Training Course (An Integrated course on Breastfeeding, Complementary feeding, Infant feeding & HIV and Growth Monitoring)-The 4 in 1 Course”. Following information provides an insight into the activities on capacity building on IYCF counselling undertaken by BPNI/IBFAN Asia during this year.

Over the years, BPNI training cell has been undertaking strengthening of the content and updating of the training programme including scientific content regularly. In 2013, based on the feedback from the trainers, trainees and other experts, BPNI undertook a comprehensive external review of the course contents and process to further strengthen the training course and assigned this task to an independent expert, Ms. Nirmala Selvam. The review included comparing the scientific content with regard to breastfeeding, complementary feeding, feeding in HIV and special
circumstances and growth monitoring with the training guidelines issued by WHO and UNICEF. Review process also included observing trainings in progress for different levels of trainees Training of Trainers, Counselling Specialists, Middle Level Trainers and training of Front Line Workers. The reviewer also used individual interviews and focus group discussions with nutritionists/others, trainees as well as mothers to evaluate the effectiveness of the training methodology and content. BPNI training cell discussed the report submitted by the expert and accepted most of the recommendations to revise the training modules. Since then, the trainers guide, participant’s manual and the teaching aids have been suitably revised under the supervision of Dr. MMA Faridi, co-coordinator of BPNI training cell.

2.2. Training Workshops
Using the '4 in 1' training programme, several trainings were held, including Master Trainers’ training course, training of Counselling Specialists, Middle Level Trainers and Frontline Workers.

Training of the National (Master) Trainers: A training of National Trainers was conducted at University College of Medical Sciences and GTB hospital, Delhi from 18-31 August 2014 for faculty members of National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) from Delhi, Bangalore and Indore and BPNI project officers (Trainings). In the second part of the training, 21 functionaries of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme were trained as Counselling Specialists. More details about the training is available at: [http://bpni.org/project/India-TOT-report.pdf](http://bpni.org/project/India-TOT-report.pdf) The national trainers participated as trainers in various training workshops to impart trainings to the Middle Level Trainers of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme of Government of India at Lucknow, Bangalore, Indore and Guwahati. Middle Level Trainers trained in these workshops will further train frontline workers of ICDS scheme in various states.

Training of the Middle Level Trainer (MLTs): BPNI in collaboration with National Health Mission, Bihar; National Health Mission, Haryana; National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) and National Children’s Fund (NCF) conducted several training workshops to develop trainers for training of Frontline Workers of government child health and nutrition programmes in the community. A total of 398 MLTs were trained in 20 training workshop of 7 days each during January 2014- December 2014. These MLTs further trained 2128 frontline workers of National Health
Demonstration and role play during IYCF training workshop
Mission programme of Government of Haryana and 1740 frontline workers of health and nutrition care programme of Government of Bihar. This will help in providing IYCF counselling services to the mothers nearer to their homes. On a conservative estimate, each trained frontline worker in the community may help 10-12 breastfeeding mothers in a year. Resource material for trainings of frontline workers in both the states was provided by BPNI. More details of these trainings are available at: http://bpni.org/training-2014; http://bpni.org/Training/Report-Training-IYCF-Counselling-for-10Districts-Haryana.pdf; http://bpni.org/Training/report-capacity-building-of-trainers-IYCF-NCF-NIPCCD-2015.pdf

Training of the IYCF Counselling Specialists: BPNI conducted a total of 7 Counselling Specialists training workshops (7 days each) including at Gaya, Bihar with National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and UNICEF (2); at Puducherry with Mother Theresa Post-graduate & Research Institute of Health Sciences, Government of Puducherry (1); at Manipal, Karnataka with Manipal College of Nursing (1); at Raipur, Chhattisgarh with National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and UNICEF (1); and at New Delhi with Lady Harding Medical College and University College of Medical Sciences (2). A total of 189 medical, nursing and nutrition experts were trained as Counselling Specialists in these workshops. Counselling Specialists trained in these workshops will provide IYCF counselling in the government and private hospitals and other institutions where they are working.

2.3. Training in Nepal using ‘4 in 1’ training programme
Three representatives from Nepal Breastfeeding Promotion Forum, (IBFAN, Nepal) were trained as master trainers by BPNI/IBFAN Asia in 2013 in a 13 days training workshop. This team utilised its’ skills and trained 8 Master trainers and 37 counsellors at Kathmandu, Nepal Institute of Medicine, Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital, Maharajgunj Medical Campus Maharajgunj, Kathmandu, Nepal from February 9th to 28th, 2014. Master trainers trained in the workshop have further strengthened the training capacity of Nepal Breastfeeding Promotion Forum. The counsellors trained in the workshop will provide IYCF counselling services at district level hospitals.
2.4. National Trainers Training in Afghanistan

Ministry of Health, Government of Afghanistan organised a 4 in 1 training programme for its provincial officials in November 2014 in which 6 national trainers and 24 counselling specialists were trained. IBFAN Asia in an international training workshop in New Delhi earlier trained the course director and other trainers.

Analysis
The cascade-training programme developed by BPNI/IBFAN Asia gained further strength when it was further reviewed and updated this year. BPNI/IBFAN Asia is using the programme for capacity building in Asian countries including India. This year, Nepal and Afghanistan IBFAN groups made good use of the master training imparted to them by further implementing training programmes for institutional and community based health and nutrition care providers in their respective countries. The training programme was also effectively used with various government agencies in India to train trainers, counselling specialists and community level counsellors.
3. Addressing especially challenging environments/situations

BPNI works on challenging situations for breastfeeding like infant feeding and climate change and Breastfeeding and gender with awareness generation, capacity building, and networking. Following activities were accomplished in these areas of work:

3.1. Formula For Disaster, an Information Booklet
BPNI/IBFAN Asia developed, published and disseminated an information booklet on weighing impact of formula feeding Vs. breastfeeding on environment, titled “Formula for Disaster”. The booklet is a culmination of efforts by the IBFAN Asia working group on Environment and Climate Change and Infant Feeding. Ms. Alison Linnecar from Switzerland is the lead author and IBFAN Asia RCO team member contributed in it. The booklet puts breastfeeding as an environment friendly feeding option while highlighting how using infant formula adds to increasing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions as well as its contribution to toxic chemical, garbage and waste load. The booklet has been widely shared electronically with partners. Printed copies of the document have been shared with the governments during Climate change discussions in the WHO Executive Board meeting in January 2015. In the LAC region the document was shared with environment groups. The document has catalysed a discussion around the issues of environment like researchers using it for referring “Breastfeeding saves use of Scarce Water Resources”. This has been widely shared across the world electronically through email groups, Facebook and twitter. The document can be downloaded from: http://bpni.org/documents/FormulaForDisaster.pdf. WABA disseminated the document through the website (http://waba.org.my/newsite/?p=165) and the Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/groups/31307243403/search/?query=formula+for+disaster). This document has been printed in 1000 copies and will be disseminated in 2015 to reach out to policy makers. This document will be used as a background document for further collecting data on the GHG emissions in Asian countries and prepare a report in the year 2015.

3.2. IBFAN Asia electronic Working Group on Climate change and Infant feeding
BPNI/IBFAN Asia coordinates an electronic working group titled “Environment and Climate Change and Infant feeding” having 11 experts from 9 countries from Asia and Europe as its members. The group works actively to share new research and information on the subject periodically.

3.3. Gender Training Workshop
A gender-training workshop was organized jointly by
BPNI and IMCH, Uppsala University, Sweden from 22nd - 24th January 2014 at New Delhi. Ten participants including doctors/paediatricians, nutritionist, lactation counsellors etc. attended the workshop. Jill Trenholm and Amal Omer-Salim from Uppsala University, Sweden facilitated the workshop. The three-day workshop was organized with the objective to learn/reflect upon the Western understanding of the concept “gender” and to explore and discuss how the term “gender” is understood in the Indian context.

3.4. Bulletin on Breastfeeding and Gender

As a joint effort of Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI) and International Maternal and Child Health (IMCH), Uppsala University a bulletin on breastfeeding and gender was developed and published. 50,000 copies of this document were disseminated to health and nutrition professionals, medical teachers, policy makers from government departments, journalists, professional organisations like Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecological Societies of India (FOGSI), Indian Academy of Paediatrics, UN agencies etc. This newsletter compiled available research from India and other countries related to gender and breastfeeding. Paige Hall Smith, Co-coordinator Gender Working Group, World Alliance for Breastfeeding Advocacy wrote the preface for the bulletin, while Amal Omer-Salim from IMCH, Uppsala University contributed as a reviewer. (See: http://bpni.org/Bulletin/Bulletin_37.pdf)

Analysis

IBFAN Asia has undertaken work on a relatively new area of action for us, namely, infant feeding, environment and climate change. As a significant step, a booklet titled “Formula for Disaster” containing basics of the subject was developed and disseminated widely. This work has ignited a discussion around the issues of environment and infant feeding among the researchers and environmentalists. IBFAN Italy has undertaken an Italian translation of the document.

Gender sensitivity has been the core principle of BPNI/IBFAN Asia work ethos reflecting in our recruitments, working guidelines, publications and training materials. This year we could sensitise some of our staff members through a gender-training workshop.
For effective policies and legislative framework in India and Asia, BPNI/IBFAN Asia works constantly with governments, civil society partners and UN agencies. During 2014, following activities were undertaken in this area of work:

4.1. IBFAN Asia Working Group on the implementation of the International Code
IBFAN Asia established a working group on the International Code, which is housed at AIMI, Indonesia. MOU has been signed between IBFAN Asia RCO and AIMI for the work responsibilities based on the IBFAN Asia work plan, which includes capacity building, awareness campaigns and information sharing.

4.2. Regional training workshop on implementing the International Code of marketing of Breastmilk Substitute
IBFAN Asia, and Indonesian Lactating Mother Association (AIMI, Indonesia) jointly organised IBFAN Asia regional training on implementing the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitute on 20-23 October 2014 in Jakarta and experts from International Code Documentation Centre (IBFAN-ICDC), Penang, Malaysia, facilitated training. Twenty participants from eight countries from Asia and Europe, namely, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Switzerland and Thailand were trained on Code implementation and multi-levelled Code-advocacy work. Participants included breastfeeding advocacy groups, officials from Ministry of Health, Paediatricians, Lactation counsellors, Consumer rights advocates, Independent academic researcher, Human rights lawyer, Medical researcher, Civil rights advocates, and observers from UNICEF Indonesia and UNICEF Thailand. This training increased capacity of IBFAN groups in participating countries in advocacy, awareness generation and monitoring for Code implementation. Follow-up to this training, IBFAN Asia has planned to have awareness campaigns in select Asian countries. More information about the workshop is available at: http://www.ibfan-icdc.org/index.php/news/icdc-update

To strengthen effective implementation of IMS Act in the states of India, BPNI organised sensitisation workshops for government functionaries and other partners in collaboration with various state governments under the World Bank Project SAFANSI. More details about these workshops is available at: [http://www.bpni.org/safansi-2014](http://www.bpni.org/safansi-2014)

**IMS Act Workshop in Assam:** BPNI in collaboration with Association for Promotion of Child Nutrition (APCN), and National Health Mission (NHM), Assam organized a one day sensitization workshop to enhance awareness on provision of the IMS Act on 17th November'2014 in Guwahati. The participants were the joint directors of health services and food safety officers from 27 districts of Assam. In addition, representatives from IAP, BPNI state life members, UNICEF representative and officers of maternal and child health division of NHM, Assam attended the workshop. Government of Assam functionaries expressed their desire to effectively implement the IMS Act. As a follow-up to the workshop, BPNI wrote to the Mission Director of National Health Mission, Assam with action ideas.

**IMS Act Workshop in Odisha:** A sensitization workshop for health professionals to enhance awareness on provisions of the IMS Act was organised at Hi-Tech medical college, Pandra, Bhubaneswar on 28th October, 2014. 44 participants from State Institute of Health and Family Welfare; National Health Mission, Orissa; Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPi); National Neonatology Forum and Hi Tech medical college, Bhubaneswar were present in the workshop. Recommendations of the workshop included conducting an awareness survey among the health professionals on the IMS Act and conducting a knowledge attitudes practices (KAP) survey on IYCF indicators in selected districts of Odisha. BPNI is working with the National Health Mission, Government of Odisha and a civil society organisation, People's Action for Integrated Development (PAID) to implement these activities.

**IMS Act Workshop in Jharkhand:** A one day sensitisation workshop for health professionals to enhance awareness on the provisions of the IMS Act was organised at Ranchi by National Health Mission (NHM), Jharkhand; State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Jharkhand (JSCPCR); and Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India on 28th November, 2014. The workshop was attended by civil surgeon of 24 districts of the state, officials of NHM and officials of JSCPCR and consultants from UNICEF. The workshop provided opprotunity to interact with the state health policy makers who expressed a desire to have capacity building training on IYCF counselling for the functionaries of the National Health Mission (NHM) in the state. BPNI has sent a
communication to the Mission Director of NHM to kickstart the discussion for organising the trainings.

**IMS Act Workshop in Uttar Pradesh (UP)**: BPNI, in collaboration with BRD Medical College, Gorakhpur, UNICEF and the State Government of Uttar Pradesh organized a one day sensitization workshop on 20th December, 2014 in Lucknow to enhance awareness on provisions of the IMS Act. The participants were officials of state government, medical officers, members of faculty of law from University, members of faculty from medical colleges, representatives from Indian Academy of Paediatrics, UNICEF, and civil society. Objectives of the workshop, namely, informing sharing on objectives and reasons of IMS Act; on the provisions of the IMS Act; action required for the implementation of the Act were achieved. A plan of action was listed out for effective implementation of IMS Act in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

**4.4. Submission of 'BPNI’s Annual IMS Act Monitoring Report’ to the Government of India**
BPNI is an authorized agency by Government of India to monitor the IMS Act and take legal action against the violators of the law. Just like previous years, BPNI submitted a report of all the activities related with the implementation of the IMS Act to the nodal ministry, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. The report included activities like monitoring the violations of the IMS Act; development and dissemination of resource material on IMS Act; organising advocacy meetings; training on the IMS Act; pursuing the legal proceedings in a case against Nestle and submission of relevant information to the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India periodically about the violations of the IMS Act.

**4.5. Participation in the International Conference on Nutrition Civil Society Organisation (ICN CSO) Forum**
BPNI/IBFAN Asia participated in the International Conference on Nutrition Civil Society Organisation (ICN CSO) Forum on 17th and 18th November in Rome, which was held just before the 2nd International Conference on Nutrition - ICN2. IBFAN brought up important issue of human rights and rights-based approach to food and nutrition security. During the CSO Forum, IBFAN along with 150 participants of the Forum contributed in developing a joint CSO Declaration to the ICN2 containing some recommendations for platforms as appropriate for the follow-up:
- To establish the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS) - reaffirming its role as the foremost inclusive government-led global platform among all concerned actors.
- Member states should ensure that the post-2015 development framework is consistent with the imperatives of food and nutrition security and includes ambitious goals and targets, with robust indicators and accountability to those ends across all relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Member states must also establish nutrition targets and intermediate milestones, consistent with the timeframe for the implementation of the agreed six World Health Assembly (WHA) global nutrition targets (2025) and the relevant targets in the WHO Global Monitoring Framework for Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs).
- Member states should request that the human rights council ensures that the ICN2 follow-up and related policies are coherent with the respect, protection and fulfillment of the right to adequate food and nutrition and related rights.

**4.6. Workshop on Implementation of Mothers’ Milk Substitute Act of Nepal**
BPNI supported Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital and Nepal Breastfeeding Promotion Forum (NEBPROF), the IBFAN group for Nepal, to host a two days workshop on Implementation of Mothers’ Milk Substitute Act of Nepal at Kathmandu, Nepal on 13th and 14th October 2014. It brought together 23 participants working in the various sectors related to childhood nutrition in Nepal. The participants included representatives from Ministry of Health, Government of Nepal; Nepal Paediatric Society; Perinatal Society of Nepal; Hellen Keller International; Consumer Rights Protection Forum and UNICEF Nepal. The law in Nepal had been silently lying for over 20 years. This workshop helped in developing monitoring tools, translating the law into English for better dissemination, developing a plan of action to implement it at district level which government committed to take it forward. It helped to link International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) groups of Nepal with government counterparts closely. (For more details please see: [http://bpni.org/project/BMS-code-workshop-Nepal.pdf](http://bpni.org/project/BMS-code-workshop-Nepal.pdf))
4.7 Coordinating Alliance Against Conflict of Interest (AACI) activities
IBFAN Asia/BPNI led Alliance Against Conflict of Interest (AACI) shared information to its members of Google-groups and hosted meetings with relevant partners on the issues of Conflict of Interest to orient on moving towards a bill on conflict of interest. AACI members include public health activists, people’s health movement, rights activists, women health, media, lawyers, and health professionals. During the year, an update was published to provide specialised information on the issue of conflict of interest in food, health and nutrition sectors to the concerned people including members of AACI, public interest groups, people fighting corruption, interested policy makers and others and also to provide specific focus on seeking a legislation to curb the conflict of interest.

4.8. Organising a consultation on the legislative bill on prevention and management of Conflict of Interest
BPNI with partners, drafted a legislative bill on Prevention and Management of Conflict of Interest and held an expert discussion on it in New Delhi on 13th September 2014. The meeting was organized against the background of numerous cases of conflicts of interest being reported in the press on one hand, and the Prime Minister’s inclusion of the issue in his 17-point plan of action. Noted legal experts, representatives from civil society, ex-bureaucrats, medical professionals, journalists, and scientists participated in the meeting. Conflict of Interest was highlighted in the process of policymaking, implementation of programmes, development of scientific guidelines etc. Participants gave suggestions to move forward to tackle conflict of interest in above-mentioned areas. It was decided to constitute a working group to strengthen the draft of the legislation and to submit it thereafter to appropriate authorities. As a follow up action, a meeting of the working group has been held to take the draft to the next level.

4.9. Contribution in the National Nutrition Mission
Dr. Arun Gupta, Central Coordinator, BPNI contributed as an expert member of the core committee of National Nutrition Mission, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India to the development of this important policy document of Government of India and provided valuable inputs on IYCF to be included into the policy document.

4.10. New Working Groups on Codex Alimentarius established
This year, IBFAN Asia established a specific working groups, namely, 'Working group on Codex Alimentarius'
being coordinated from the regional coordinating office with members from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Mongolia, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Lao PDR. Information about Codex activities like e-WG registration and relevant documents on the ongoing work are shared with the group members. Members are also supported to establish an effective mechanism at the country level.

Afghanistan has started the process to establish national committee on CCNFSDU. Bangladesh is contributing to the e-WG on various proposals in CCNFSDU. Efforts are on to facilitate Codex work in Maldives and Sri Lanka. Country delegates are also supported to attend international meetings of Codex committee.

4.11. Contribution in the Codex Alimentarius process

Dr. JP Dadhich, National Coordinator, BPNI, as a member of the Shadow Committee on Codex Committee on Nutrition and Food for Special Dietary Use (CCNFSDU) for India, participated in the deliberations of the committee and contributed in preparing India’s viewpoint in various agenda items for the meeting of CCNFSDU, 2014 at Bali, Indonesia, namely, proposed draft amendment of the ‘Standard for Processed Cereal-Based Foods for Infants and Young Children (CODEX STAN 74-1981)’ to Include a new part B for underweight children; UNICEF proposal on Ready to Use Foods and proposal on Follow Up Formulas. He also attended 36th session of CCNFSDU meeting at Bali, Indonesia as a member of IBFAN global Codex team from 24th-28th November 2014 and contributed for networking and advocacy with country representatives from Asian and African countries by helping in briefing about 25 delegates in three specially arranged side meetings on two important agenda item, UNICEF discussion paper on Ready to Use Foods (RUFs) and proposal on Follow-up Formula (FUFs). Briefing included development of PPT presentation, making presentation, and sharing of briefings documents on the scientific evidence on the use of commercial RUFs vs. home made foods, standards for FUFs.


IBFAN raised concerns over the scientific evidence for the use of RUF in the treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and the nutritional necessity or benefits of RUF. The delegation of India, supported by the delegation of Bangladesh, did not support the current proposal due to lack of sufficient data, lack of differentiation between therapeutic and supplementary food and strongly supported the need for using local food in accordance with national policy.

On FUF, IBFAN suggested that the products were not nutritionally necessary citing WHA resolution 39.28 of 1986 and WHO Statement of 2013 on use of FUF. It was also noted that they could cause confusion with infant formula and undermine the role of breastfeeding and the use of home foods and local foods. The delegation of India reserved its position on this agenda item stating that the country supports exclusive breastfeeding until 6 months and continued breastfeeding until 2 years with complementary feeding from 6 months onwards, as per the adopted resolutions at the World Health Assembly on Infant nutrition. India requested the committee to re-examine, by voting, the issue on the cut-off age for Follow-up Formula, which should be above 12 months of age as opposed to 6-36 months as of now.

4.12. Press Conference on growing influence of big food companies in the food systems

BPNI/IBFAN Asia along with a group of organizations including the Alliance against Conflict of Interest (AACI), India Resource Centre and Working group for children under six of (Jan Swasthya Abhiyan and Right to Food Campaign) showed their deep concern about the growing influence of big food companies in the food systems of India at a press conference held on 28 July 2014. Together, these organisations made demands to the Government of India to bring in a strong legislation to prevent direct and indirect conflicts of interest in public policy making and public programmes;
infant and young child feeding for each of the reviewed countries at the 66th session of the committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in Geneva from 26 May to 13 June 2014. IBFAN groups BPNI and AIMI provided inputs for the reports on India and Indonesia respectively. India report is available at: http://www.ibfan.org/CRC/IBFAN%20report%20%CRC%202013_India_FINAL.pdf

IBFAN Asia is moving towards strengthening the Code in Asia through decentralised capacity building as well training of different individuals in drafting and code implementation. This will help in an enhanced monitoring of Code violations action in the region. IBFAN Asia is effectively contributing in another core activity of IBFAN, namely Codex Alimentarius process helping in ensuring appropriate and safe infant feeding options.


Down to Earth, Jyotsna Singh; Jul 31, 2014 - http://www.downtoearth.org.in/content/south-asia-conference-nutrition-delhi-held-amid-controversy

4.13. Submission to the Committee on the Rights of the Child

IBFAN submitted alternative reports on the situation of infant and young child feeding for each of the reviewed countries at the 66th session of the committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in Geneva from 26 May to 13 June 2014. IBFAN groups BPNI and AIMI provided inputs for the reports on India and Indonesia respectively. India report is available at: http://www.ibfan.org/CRC/IBFAN%20report%20%CRC%202013_India_FINAL.pdf

Analysis

IBFAN Asia is moving towards strengthening the Code in Asia through decentralised capacity building as well training of different individuals in drafting and code implementation. This will help in an enhanced monitoring of Code violations action in the region. IBFAN Asia is effectively contributing in another core activity of IBFAN, namely Codex Alimentarius process helping in ensuring appropriate and safe infant feeding options. The Conflict of Interest is one of the very important work areas for IBFAN. IBFAN Asia is providing valuable inputs to this work by documentation, awareness generation and capacity building.
5. Social Mobilisation, Networking, Advocacy and Information Communications

Social mobilisation, networking and advocacy activities are mainstay of BPNI/IBFAN Asia work. Developing various information documents, research papers etc. are also an important activity for the organisation. Some of the activities undertaken this year are mentioned below:

5.1. Global and regional contribution in World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) activities
This year, National Coordinator BPNI, contributed as a reviewer in the development of global action folder on the World Breastfeeding Week by World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA). The theme of the World Breastfeeding Week 2014 was “Breastfeeding: A Winning Goal for Life”. In South Asian countries, WBW action folder prepared by WABA was disseminated by BPNI/IBFAN Asia. It was translated in the local language in Afghanistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Maldives and Sri Lanka by the country IBFAN groups and disseminated during the Week.

5.2. World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) activities in India
In India, the action folder prepared by WABA was adapted according to the local needs, printed and disseminated all across the country. It was also translated in 6 Indian languages namely Hindi, Urdu, Odiya, Kannada, Marathi and Telugu. BPNI conferred best activities awards to various individuals and organisations for observing the week in different innovative ways by government departments, professional organisations, civil society organisations, and individuals. BPNI received a total of 108 reports from various organisations and individuals from different parts of the country. An Expert panel assessed the reports and selected 15 winners from organisational category and 5 winners from individual category respectively. Details are available at:
http://bpni.org/wbw-2014
5.3. Information sharing through electronic media

For effective sharing of information BPNI/IBFAN Asia RCO maintains several organizational and programme websites and updates them periodically with documents, reports and publications from time to time. (See more information below)

- The Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI) -  www.bpni.org
- The International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) global website- www.ibfan.org
- The International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) ASIA- www.ibfanasia.org
- The Alliance Against Conflict of Interest (AACI)- www.aaci-india.org

During 2014, all websites experienced good traffic with excellent number of visits and hits.

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5.4. Information Sharing through Social Media

BPNI team maintains and regularly updates following social media pages, and a YouTube channel

- BPNI page on Facebook -- https://www.facebook.com/bpni.org
- IBFAN Asia page on Facebook -- https://www.facebook.com/ibfan.asia?fref=ts
- BPNI YouTube Channel - https://www.youtube.com/user/bpniindia

5.5. Publications

BPNI/IBFAN Asia publishes some regular publications like the Newswire etc. throughout the year while some special documents were also developed and disseminated this year.

**Book on Complementary foods**: BPNI/IBFAN Asia developed, published and disseminated a book on the complementary food recipes titled 'Best Feeding'. This is a collaborative effort in which experts from 20 Asian countries contributed over 100 recipes of local complementary foods. The book was released by Her Royal Highness the Princess of Brunei Darussalam Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajah Masna benti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa’adul Khairi Waddien. This book explains the nutritional needs of infants and young children, and how these can be met in easy and simple ways, using healthy foods that are locally grown or available. The book was shared internationally with various IBFAN partners, UN agencies, participants of Codex meeting in Bali, and policy makers and other partners in India. The book is available at: http://ibfanasia.org/docs/Best-Feeding-CF-asia2014.pdf

**The Newswire**: The Newswire periodically presents a summary of important activities undertaken by BPNI/IBFAN Asia. This year, five issues of this electronic publication were developed, published, and disseminated through a special self-developed mass mailing software. These publications are available at:

- IBFAN Asia Newswire Series -9 , December 2014
- IBFAN Asia Newswire Series -8 , October-November 2014
- IBFAN Asia Newswire Series -7 , September 2014
- IBFAN Asia Newswire Series -6 , July-August 2014
Research Briefs: BPNI research team developed and disseminated three ‘Research Briefs’ in which information and data from IYCF surveys done by BPNI in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh were included. These publications are available at:
- Series 3 December: Nizamabad district shows progress on breastfeeding indicators
- Series 2, November: Bihar lags behind on breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices!
- Series 1, October: Uttar Pradesh slogging on breastfeeding practices!

5.6. Report of trainings in Haryana

A report of Middle Level Trainers’ training on IYCF counselling for 10 districts of Haryana was developed, published and disseminated to partners. The report included information about 4 training workshops to train medical officers and nursing personnel as trainers of the frontline workers of National Health Mission (NHM), Government of Haryana.

5.7. Research Articles

BPNI/IBFAN Asia team published following article in the indexed scientific journals:

5.8. Advocacy efforts and contribution to IYCF policy making and programme implementation

BPNI contributes nationally and globally through various positions in the committees, policy making/administrative bodies on nutrition and health etc.
- Dr. Arun Gupta, Central Coordinator, BPNI is a member, PM Council for India’s Nutrition Challenges which is a premier policy making body chaired by the Prime Minister of India. He is also a member of the expert core group for drafting the National Nutrition Mission of India by Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. He has contributed in the important deliberations for formulating the nutrition policy of India.
- BPNI is an agency designated by Government of India to monitor violations of the Infant Milk Substitute Feeding Bottles and Food (Regulation of Production, Supply & Distribution) Act 1992 and Amendment Act 2003 (IMS Act) and takes legal action in the court of law. BPNI continued to document violations and report them to the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India this year also.
- Central Coordinator, BPNI as a member of Committee on Breastmilk Banking, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India is helping in formulating a policy and guidelines for breastmilk banking in India.
- National Coordinator, BPNI is a member of Institutional Review Board (IRB) of National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD), Government of India and helps in reviewing the research proposals submitted to the institute.
- National Coordinator, BPNI is a member of Shadow Committee on Codex Committee on Nutrition and Food for Special Dietary Use (CCNFSDU), Government of India and contributes in formulating Government of India’s position on various issues being discussed in the committee at global level.
- Central Coordinator, BPNI contributes in ongoing decision-making process of IBFAN as the Chair of IBFAN Global Council.
- BPNI/IBFAN Asia RCO works in close cooperation with World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA).
as its focal point for eight South Asian countries, disseminating important information received from WABA secretariat and facilitating World Breastfeeding Week celebrations.

- National Coordinator, BPNI is a member of the policy council of IBFAN Asia as the sub-regional coordinator for IBFAN - South Asia and contributes in the decision making process for IBFAN Asia.

- National Coordinator BPNI is the official liaison person of IBFAN in WABA General Assembly. He officially communicates with WABA on behalf of IBFAN.

- Central Coordinator, BPNI participated as a resource person in the International Symposium on ‘Human Development in Global South: Emerging Perspectives in the Era of Post-Millennium Development Goals’ organised by Institute for Human Development New Delhi on 28/29 April, 2014. He presented a paper on “Providing Food Security, Tackling Undernutrition” and also used the opportunity for advocacy to position breastfeeding in post 2015 agenda and for tackling issues of conflict of interests on nutrition governance.

- IBFAN Asia Participated in the global conference on the role of extraterritorial obligations (ETOs) titled “Rights-based governance beyond borders” at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand on September 2-3, 2014. It brought together some 150 persons from civil society organizations, academia, UN and government institutions. The purpose was to raise awareness of the importance of extraterritorial obligations of States (ETOs), share lessons on their implementation in Asia, and explore their role in rights-based national and global governance. The Conference was convened by the ETO Consortium, a worldwide network of CSOs and academics, by MAIDS (Chulalongkorn University’s Master of Arts Program in Development Studies), by Asia Pacific Women in Law and Development, by Focus on the Global South and by the Stockholm Environmental Institute.

- BPNI participated in the meeting of partner agencies of National Health Mission (NHM), Government of Haryana on December 9, 2014 in Chandigarh and made a presentation on BPNI’s contribution to NHM Haryana as well as ideas for future collaborations.

- BPNI team attended South Asia conference on policies and practices to improve nutrition security, organized by coalition for food & nutrition security and Save the Children, India On 30-31 July 2014, in New Delhi and made important interventions, which led to inclusion of IMS Act implementation in the final recommendations of the meeting.

- BPNI team attended a conference “Together for Nutrition” by International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) on 29th and 30th October 2014 in New Delhi. The conference deliberated upon the need of different sectors to work together in order to improve nutrition in India.

**Analysis**

The year saw a plethora of action on social mobilisation, advocacy, information sharing and communication. World Breastfeeding Week was successfully observed in India and other countries of Asia, technical and information documents were developed and shared, social media was increasingly used for information sharing, and research publications were achieved. Information documents were developed and shared. Advocacy efforts continued leading to better policies and guidelines on IYCF.

BPNI leadership teams members are recognised as experts on various issues related to IYCF and invited by Government & other agencies for expert contributions.
6. Strengthening and rejuvenating the breastfeeding movement

BNI/IBFAN Asia works closely with partners including national and provincial governments, UN agencies, civil society, professional organisations and others to strengthen the breastfeeding movement and to protect, promote and support breastfeeding nationally in India, regionally in Asia as well as globally. Some of the activities are included below:

6.1. One Asia Breastfeeding Partners’ Forum

As a follow up of the Asia Pacific Conference on Breastfeeding in 2003 in New Delhi, India, the South Asia participants met and took a decision to mobilize groups, governments, UN and other partners to focus on policies and programmes to enhance IYCF in the region. It led to the organizing of the South Asia Breastfeeding Partners Forum each year in a different country of South Asia. The major objective was to strengthen the breastfeeding movement and its linkages with the governments and the UN agencies. Enhancing interest and action on infant and young child feeding was the considered outcome. In the year 2009, participants from Southeast Asia and East Asia also joined the Forum and the event was rechristened as the One Asia Breastfeeding Partners’ Forum. The Forum is being organised each year in a different country. In 2014, IBFAN Asia in partnership with Ministry of Health, Brunei Darussalam organized the One Asia Breastfeeding Partner’s Forum at Bandar Seri Begawan on October 27-30. The Forum brought together over 200 participants from 21 countries and areas of Asia.
and Oceania region. The participants represented governments, civil society, professionals and other organizations from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, People’s Republic of China, Hong Kong SAR, Chinese Taipei, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Nepal, Malaysia, Myanmar, Maldives, Philippines, Republic of Palau, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam. The theme of the Forum was “Complementary Feeding of Infants and Young Children - Give Moms Access to Appropriate Food, No Child will Go Hungry”. Forum participants adopted a - Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) (See: http://www.ibfanasia.org/OABPF-10/Bandar-seri-begawan-declaration.pdf). The Forum was inaugurated by Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar ‘Ali Saifuddien Sa’adul Khairi Waddien for Infants and Young Children: Give Mom Access to Appropriate Food, No Child will go Hungry’ during a ceremony held at the Al-Afiah Hall of the Ministry of Health. The Minister of Health, Pehin Orang Kaya Johan Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Adanan bin Begawan Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Mohd Yusof as well as the permanent secretary and deputy permanent secretaries at the ministry also graced the inauguration ceremony. Her Royal Highness presented a sabda and officiated the launch of two books, namely, ‘Brunei Darussalam: Journey Towards Comprehensive Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition’ depicting the history of health services for mothers and infants in the Sultanate since 1939 as well as its recent developments; and ‘National Strategy of Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition in Brunei Darussalam 2014-2020’ depicting the framework and national strategy for this target group and describes the journey and achievements of the Health Care Foundation since its inception. Keynote address was delivered by Dato (Dr) Anwar Fazal, Chairperson Emeritus, World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action. He spoke about ‘Feeding the Future Challenges and Opportunities’. He described breastfeeding as a wonderful gift of nature highlighting the ‘Panchshila’ of breastfeeding like a beautiful flower with five petals breastfeeding is an essential medicine, good nutrition, ecologically friendly, economically good and representing the wonderful bond of love of mother and child. He made three suggestions - that everyone should support wonderful IBFAN project WBTi; Brunei should consider organizing a World Conference on Child Care in Islam; and IBFAN, WABA, WHO, UNICEF and Brunei together institute an annual global award ‘World Breastfeeding Prize’. Forum participants deliberated upon a need to re-look on the existing global guidelines on complementary feeding, promotional activities for Follow-up Formula from Asian countries and ways to address them, appropriate IYCF practices during emergencies, Using home-made, local foods to treat Acute Malnutrition, role of food in preventing diseases, Protecting food safety and food security through Codex Alimentarius, dangers of junk foods, water and
environment protection, innovative food resources and community participation for complementary feeding, maternal and young child nutrition and World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative.

6.2. Contribution in the South Asia Food And Nutrition Security Initiative (SAFANSI)

As a part of South Asia Food And Nutrition Security Initiative (SAFANSI) of the World Bank, IBFAN Asia coordinated various activities to enhance IYCF practices, particularly breastfeeding in the four focus countries of South Asia including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, and Nepal. Activities in this initiative included capacity building on IYCF in Nepal, training on BMS Code in Nepal, sensitization workshop on BMS Code in Bangladesh, workshop on national plan of action in Afghanistan, qualitative research on complementary feeding in district Lalitpur, India.

South Asia Regional Workshops: As a component of the SAFANSI project, IBFAN Asia organised two regional review workshops for South Asia.

- The South Asia Regional Workshop -2 (SAR-2) was organised in partnership with the World Bank at Barog, India from 23rd-26th March 2014 in India. It brought together 23 participants from 7 South Asian countries - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, including government representatives, expert from World Bank and civil society groups. Participants undertook a review of activities on strengthening IYCF programmes all 7 participating countries including the focus countries in the SAFANSI project. During the workshop, BPNI/IBFAN Asia financial and budgeting tool WBCI was introduced to the participants with a hands on practice on the excel based tool. As an additional subject, a discussion on Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) was held in which Dr. Arun Gupta briefed the participants about the initiative while Dr. Chandrasada from Sri Lanka gave a first hand account of functioning of SUN in his country. In the final session, a discussion on the planning ahead for 2014-15, including 2015 WBTi assessment was held. All four focus countries narrated the proposed activities and the timeline to achieve them (See: http://bpni.org/report/SAR-WS-Report-June%202014.pdf)

- IBFAN Asia organized the South Asia Regional Workshop “Strengthening Infant and Young Child Feeding Policies and Programmes in South Asia Region” (SAR - 3) from 9th to 12th December 2014 at Parwanoo, Himachal Pradesh, India. It brought together 52 participants from seven South Asian countries - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, including six governments. The participants included government officials and representatives of civil society organisations from these South Asian countries. Various sessions included progress on IYCF action plan with outcomes, existing gaps and lessons learnt; Best practices/models on IYCF programmes from different countries; Sida Work Plan for IBFAN Asia 2015-2017; preventing & Managing Acute Malnutrition: sharing country experience; WBT the revised tool for assessment of Policy & Programmes, WBTi Assessment & its impact on policy & programmes (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka Country Presentations), sharing experiences of using the WBCI tool and planning ahead for 2015-17. More details of the workshop are available at: http://bpni.org/project/SAR3-Workshop-Report.pdf

6.3. Participation in the World Health Assembly (WHA)

IBFAN Asia team attended World Health Assembly (WHA) meeting from 19-24 May, 2014 at Geneva and contributed in development of IBFAN statements on various agenda items. IBFAN Asia team approached various member states apprising them about the issues being discussed and sharing IBFAN’s statement/position about relevant agenda items. IBFAN Asia also organised a side event during the Assembly to launch the WBC tool. During the WHA meeting, IBFAN Asia team participated in various side events including:

- Screening of a film on junk food in Mexico titled ‘Sweet Agony’ leading to obesity and diseases like diabetes mellitus in Geneva Press Club on 22nd May 2014.


6.4. End project review meeting of the Sida Partner Driven Cooperation (Sida PDC) project

BPNI has been coordinating a Sida Partner Driven Cooperation (Sida PDC) Project titled ‘Using Evidence-Based Advocacy to Improve Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF), Health and Survival in India’ in
information about this project is available at: http://bpni.org/pdc-project

6.5. Financial strengthening and seeking donations through the 'Global Giving'

BPNI communication team worked on donor communication, coordinating with professional communication and design agency for copywriting and designing donor communication through proving technical inputs and constant coordination for 'Global Giving' which is a charity fundraising web site that gives social entrepreneurs and non-profits from anywhere in the world a chance to raise the money that they need to improve their communities. See more details at: http://www.globalgiving.org/donate/25909/breastfeeding-promotion-network-of-india-bpni/info/

Analysis

BPNI/IBFAN Asia continued action to strengthen the breastfeeding movement in India and Asia and contributed significantly to national and international policy discussions and programme implementations with governments and other agencies. The organization is recognised as a credible voice in the field of child and maternal nutrition and IYCF. This year, BPNI also succeeded in getting enrolled on the international charity website Global Giving, opening up an alternative source of funding.
Assumptions/Risks and mitigation strategies

Internal

1. Retirement of long-serving staff: This has led to transfer of responsibilities to the younger staff members. To mitigate the impact of retirement of staff members, RCO has been training its staff in all areas of work, like WBTI. More over regular technical briefings/discussions are also held; this is to prepare them to know the issues well. This year for example Radha Holla retired and her work has been taken over by Shoba Suri (Conflict of interest), JP Dadhich (Right to health) and Nupur Bidla (Right to food). Radha’s role in leadership team has been now taken over by Shoba as she was brought in to leadership team one year back as interim and is now promoted to be a part of it. Similarly PK Sudhir retired from the training, Fariha Siddiqui has fully taken on the training coordination work. All this has been done by a systematic method of ‘appraisals’ introduced in BPNI from this year.

2. Insufficient funding: Sufficient funding for programmes has been a constant challenge for IBFAN Asia office. Mitigation efforts include scaling up and diversifying efforts to identify and secure new sources of funding. Discussion with Government of India is on to develop a resource centre with BPNI to support Government of India on IYCF activity. The World Breastfeeding Costing Initiative (WBCI) tools are now fully developed and launched in many countries would help raise local resources.

International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) has joined as a Co-lead in a working group with UNICEF in the Global Breastfeeding Advocacy team and this is likely to create more opportunities for use of the tools developed by Asia.

3. Centralised programme implementation: Presently programmes are being implemented from IBFAN Asia RCO. There has been a growing realisation that strengthening the network with decentralisation of work will help in better implementation of programmes. International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) Asia strategy to develop AIMI into leading the Code working group is helping in decentralising as well strengthening its work and first time 6 country training on Code has been held in Asia through this arrangement. Second is policy council of IBFAN Asia, which is getting more involved through a new structure and new communication tools, more frequent participation and interactions.

External

1. Impact of economic crisis: Relative poverty in the region is on the rise due to rise in prices particularly in the middle and low income countries. In Asia, given the commercial marketing push to baby foods it is going to be a big challenge for governments to regulate promotion of baby foods. Moreover most of the countries are now facing double burden, obesity is coming fast in children and processed foods, high sugar foods are to be regulated through again responsible marketing that needed controls.

2. WHO and UNICEF diminish their strong levels of support: UNICEF and WHO are entering into partnerships with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and SUN. They are in principle promoting public private partnerships which a huge problem. Going by recent reports, that these PPP don’t work (http://www.world-psi.org/sites/default/files/rapport_eng_56pages_a4_lr.pdf) it would require strong support to breastfeeding from the governments itself that they would have to invest in breastfeeding interventions to make it work. That too in all interventions not just the promotional campaigns on breastfeeding.

Mitigation: BPNI/IBFAN Asia continues to be viewed as valuable partners by governments and also provide active support to UN and NGO allies; IBFAN and BPNI receive media and web coverage for their actions. International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) Asia organised 10th One Asia Forum in Brunei in partnership with Ministry of Health. Forum came out with a Declaration at Brunei http://www.ibfanasia.org/OABPF-10/Bandar-seri-begawan-declaration.pdf that clearly highlighted core issues of marketing, malnutrition and poverty. RCO works very closely with governments in the region within India and with Bangladesh, Bhutan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Laos PDR, Nepal and many others.
Partnerships/Collaborations and Donors

BPNI/IBFAN Asia acknowledges the support and contribution of all partners (National and International) who have helped and extended support to BPNI in its endeavors to protect, promote and support breastfeeding.

International Partners
- Swedish Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), are primary funding agencies for our work.
- The World Bank, India has supported our work through the SAFANSI Trust Fund (contribution by DFID and AUSAid).
- Ministry of Health, Government of Brunei Darussalam hosted the One Asia Breastfeeding Partners Forum-10.

National Partners
- The Planning Commission, Government of India
- Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India
- National Health Mission (NHM), Bihar
- National Health Mission (NHM), Assam
- National Health Mission (NHM), Jharkhand
- National Health Mission (NHM), Chhattisgarh
- National Health Mission (NHM), Haryana
- National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) headquarter, New Delhi
- NIPCCD Regional office, Bangalore
- NIPCCD Regional office, Lucknow
- NIPCCD Regional office, Guwahati
- NIPCCD Regional office, Indore
- National Children’s Fund (NCF)
- University College of Medical Sciences and Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, New Delhi
- Lady Harding Medical College and Kalawati Saran Children Hospital, New Delhi
# Audited Account Statement

As on 31.3.2014

Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India
BP-33, Pitam Pura, Delhi - 110034

### Balance Sheet as on 31 March 2014

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<td>Sundry Creditors</td>
<td>614,592.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses Payable</td>
<td>11,617.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Assets Fund</td>
<td>1,122,653.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant in advance</td>
<td>5,484,166.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TDS payable</td>
<td>112,599.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7,345,627.89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total:** 9,357,844.04

### Application of Funds (Assets)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>As per accounts &quot;AC&quot;</th>
<th>Amount Rs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Assets</td>
<td>316,322.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Bank Balances</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in Hand</td>
<td>30,618.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canara Bank (Corpus)</td>
<td>70,033.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canara Bank FCRA</td>
<td>1,516,664.51</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canara Bank a/c 17392</td>
<td>10,500.91</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canara Bank a/c 20670</td>
<td>33,232.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICICI Bank a/c 015401012949</td>
<td>173,870.11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deposits with Bank</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits with Bank</td>
<td>4,525,914.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total:** 9,357,844.04

As per our Report of Finances, Date Attached
For BHAHITA ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants

Date: 07/01/2014
Place: Delhi

For Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India

Dr. Arun Gupta
Central Co-ordinator

Dr. Pawan Garg
Treasurer
Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India  
BP-55, Pitam Pura, Delhi - 110034

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grant Received</td>
<td>15,610,269.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBFAN Asia Project</td>
<td>621,039.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBFAN Oceania</td>
<td>5,907,622.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMCH-PDC- Improving Infant Health &amp; Survival</td>
<td>11,285,382.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAFANSI project; Strengthen IYCF Capacity in SAR</td>
<td>44,164.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WADA MOU travel reimbursement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity Building IYCF trainings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate course-2013 Lady Hardinge Medical College-1</td>
<td>250,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate course-2013 Lady Hardinge Medical College-2</td>
<td>185,903.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate course in IYCF, Neyveli</td>
<td>230,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training of Middle Level Trainers, Patna</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Training-1</td>
<td>156,529.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Training-2</td>
<td>132,347.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Training-3</td>
<td>115,064.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Training-4</td>
<td>107,235.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Training-5</td>
<td>97,223.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IYCF Specialists Training, Gaya</td>
<td>157,029.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT trainings in Gaya</td>
<td>156,974.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IYCF Training Unicef, Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>101,694.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT 2014 NMCH-1, Patna</td>
<td>167,136.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Course 2013- Karnataka (Unicef)</td>
<td>490,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Training Haryana Gurgaon-1</td>
<td>162,677.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Training Haryana Rohtak-1</td>
<td>129,614.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply of Publications</td>
<td>413,582.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training Course Fee</td>
<td>170,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Interest received</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donation received</td>
<td>165,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest received on refund of Tax Deducted at Source</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misc. Income</td>
<td>7,254.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short &amp; Excess w/o</td>
<td>0.48</td>
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</table>

Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year

930,128.48

37,038,031.83

621,201.25

37,659,233.08

As per our Report as on [Date]
For BHARATYA ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants

For Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India

Date: 30/9/2014
Place: Delhi
# Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India

**Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Amount Rs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grant Expenses</td>
<td>15,610,319.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBFAN Asia Project</td>
<td>638,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBFAN Oceania</td>
<td>5,907,622.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMCH-PDC- Improving Infant Health &amp; Survival</td>
<td>11,285,382.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAFANHi project: Strengthen IYCF Capacity in SAR</td>
<td>78,692.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAABA MOU travel reimbursement</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capacity Building IYCF trainings</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate course-2013 Lady Hardinge Medical College-1</td>
<td>196,710.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate course-2013 Lady Hardinge Medical College-2</td>
<td>175,068.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate course in IYCF, Neyveli</td>
<td>173,456.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Training of Middle Level Trainers, Patna</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Training-1</td>
<td>156,529.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Training-2</td>
<td>132,347.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Training-3</td>
<td>115,064.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Training-4</td>
<td>107,235.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Training-5</td>
<td>97,223.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IYCF Specialists Training, Gaya</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT trainings in Gaya</td>
<td>156,379.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IYCF Training Unicef, Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>156,974.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT 2014 NMCH-1, Patna</td>
<td>101,694.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Course 2013- Karnataka (Unicef)</td>
<td>167,136.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Training Haryana Gurgaon-1</td>
<td>406,234.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLT Training Haryana Rohtak-1</td>
<td>162,677.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervision of FLW Trainings, SHFW, Karnataka</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supervision of FLW Trainings, SHFW, Karnataka</strong></td>
<td>6,880.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production of Publications</td>
<td>996,923.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BPNL Core Activity Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advocacy Expenses</td>
<td>126,931.11</td>
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<td>Audit fee</td>
<td>23,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank Charges</td>
<td>14,714.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>BPNL Admin. Costs</td>
<td>112,928.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>BPNL Core expenses</td>
<td>1,806.00</td>
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<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>137,506.17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff Welfare &amp; Amenities</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Expenses</td>
<td>1,360.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest or TDS</td>
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<td>Meeting Expenses</td>
<td>1,025.00</td>
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<td>Membership Subscription charges</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postage &amp; Courier</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing &amp; Stationery</td>
<td>75,619.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Repairs &amp; Maintenance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephone &amp; communication expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travelling &amp; Conveyance</td>
<td>98,274.72</td>
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<tr>
<td>Write offs</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>37,659,233.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As per our Report on Date Attached
For Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India

For BHARGAVA ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants

Date: 01/09/2014
Place: Delhi

Dr. Pawan Garg
Treasurer
Dr. Arun Gupta
Central Coordinator

Breastfeeding Promotion
Network of India
B-53, Phase II, Gurgaon-110 004
# BREASTFEEDING PROMOTION NETWORK OF INDIA
BP-33 PITAMPURA, DELHI-110088

**FIXED ASSETS AS ON 31.03.2014**

## ADDITIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Opening Rate</th>
<th>Depreciation WDW as on 31.03.2012</th>
<th>Before 30.09.2013</th>
<th>After 01.10.2013</th>
<th>Sold/ Disused TOTAL</th>
<th>Depreciation for the year</th>
<th>Closing Loss on sale of assets as on 31.03.2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>135,334.50</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>97,290.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>232,624.50</td>
<td>110,387.00</td>
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<td>Cooler</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>1,726.20</td>
<td>258.93</td>
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<td>Cycle</td>
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<td>3,955.00</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>3,955.00</td>
<td>593.25</td>
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<td>Furniture</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>6,750.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>122,760.03</td>
<td>12,276.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>75,033.57</td>
<td>11,255.04</td>
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<td>Electrical Motor</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>639.92</td>
<td>95.99</td>
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<td>Electrical Fans</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>951.58</td>
<td>142.74</td>
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<td>Inverter</td>
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<td>10,923.61</td>
<td>1,638.54</td>
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<td>Room Heater</td>
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<td>2,761.02</td>
<td>414.15</td>
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<td>1,986.77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geyser (Electric)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>976.80</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>976.80</td>
<td>146.52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total              |             | 346,344.00                       | 10,705.00         | 97,290.00        | 0.00                | 454,339.00               | 137,506.17                                   | 0.00                                          |

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As per Our Report of even date attached
For BHARGAVA ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants

For Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India

Dr. Pawan Garg
Treasurer

Dr. Arun Gupta
Central Coordinator

Date: 30/09/2011
Place: Delhi