



# PERSPECTIVES

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## Editorial

Dear readers

The EDPs carried out in 2005 were aimed at two objectives: to explore the entrepreneurial potential of the poor and to evaluate the relevance of the informal economy to the development of local and national labour and financial markets.

In the UN International Year of Microcredit, 16 EDP participant from business and development cooperation backgrounds explored the implications of savings and credits (microfinance services) in Uganda.

For the first time, EDP e.V. cooperated with German trade

unions to organise an EDP with SEWA in India, dealing with precarious employment arrangements.

The evaluation of EDP e.V. presented in April 2005 by Prof. Dr. Karl Gabriel

(University of Münster) and Prof. Dr. Heribert Weiland (Arnold-Bergstraesser-Institut Freiburg) dealt with the question whether EDPs can open up new working perspectives for the people involved.

The fields of impact monitoring and quality management at EDP e.V. were tackled together with the Institute for Development Studies (IDS) and the Develop-

ment Studies Institute (DESTIN - London School of Economics). This international cooperation explored the possibilities of measuring the effects of EDPs.



Networking participants, EDP India 2005, © EDP e.V.

## International Cooperation

In cooperation with the Institute for Development Studies (IDS) and the Development Studies Institute (DESTIN - London School of Economics, EDP e.V. wants to develop tools which allow measurement and tracking of the impact of EDPs.

In initial talks in July 2005, the representatives of IDS (Robert Chambers, Rosalyn Eyben) and DESTIN (Jo Beal, Teddy Brett) showed great interest in the refinement of the EDP method and in the activities pursued by EDP e.V.

In addition to the IDS policy briefing „Immersion for Pol-

icy and Personal Change“ (cf. PERSPECTIVES II, p.4), there has been another publication entitled „Learning from poor people's experience: immersions“ which gives a comprehensive overview of the work and experience of EDP e.V.

In a next step, Christian Koch (University of Hohenheim) is going to work on an impact monitoring system, taking the EDP in Uganda in November 2005 (p.2) as a basis.



**Learning from poor people's experience: immersions**

Renwick Irvine,  
Robert Chambers and  
Rosalind Eyben



This IDS document can be downloaded at  
[www.livelihoods.org/lessons/docs/immersions2.pdf](http://www.livelihoods.org/lessons/docs/immersions2.pdf)

## „Decent work for all“

The EDP on „Decent work for all“ was carried out in Ahmedabad, Gujarat/India, from 10 to 19 September 2005. It was organized in cooperation with SEWA (Self Employed Women's Association), DGB /Federation of German Trade Unions) and the German Commission for Justice and Peace.

The EDP was intended to bring representatives of specialized trade Unions and DGB in direct contact with the liv-

ing conditions, problems and prospects of female workers in the informal sector. SEWA, the partner organisation which organises 700.000 female workers, has an integral approach and provides a number of services for their members which go beyond the usual trade union functions. This allowed the participants to get insight into the organisational structures of SEWA and the reasons for an ever growing membership. Personal contact

and dialogue have helped to establish direct relations between the German trade unions and SEWA. The aim of this EDP was to intensify cooperation in organizing informal workers at local, national and international level.

*„Informal work will only disappear, if you organize the workers!“*

Renana Jhabvala, National Coordinator SEWA, Sept.05



Ingrid Sehrbrock and Jeviben participants  
EDP India 2005  
© EDP e.V.

## „2005 - UN International Year of Microcredit“

In the Uganda microfinance EDP from 27 October to 6 November 2005, which was organized in cooperation with the Federation of Catholic entrepreneurs, 16 participants from business and development cooperation backgrounds made a follow-up of the UN initiative to improve access of the poor to savings and credit facilities. Which insights can be obtained by personal encounter with „enterprising poor“ and learning from the working methods

of consolidated micro– and deposit banks, in order to mobilise additional resources, especially in the private sectors in Germany and Uganda? Can the development of creative and customized saving and credit products encourage more financial service providers, for example from among the major commercial banks, to increase investment in microfinance projects? The new EDP partners, *Centenary Rural Development Bank* and *Uganda*

*Microfinance Union (Ltd.)*, whose clients have been visited, facilitated deep insights into life and work of small traders and farmers in East Africa. It became clear that microfinance services can make an important contribution to the improvement of the host families' living conditions.



*„Change is possible“*  
Karl Starzacher and Mariam participants  
EDP Uganda 2005  
© EDP e.V.

## Democratisation processes in Bolivia

In Bolivia, where EDP e.V. has already organised three EDPs with the partner organisation CEPROLAI, the political situation is still difficult, even after the resignation of President Carlos Mesa and the appointment of an interim government, which will be in office until the December 2005 elections. The uncertainties connected with the elections, the problems relating to a further fragmentation of the spectrum

of parties as well as politically and ethnically motivated conflicts are only some aspects that characterise the present situation in Bolivia.

In cooperation with Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation in La Paz and CEPROLAI, EDP e.V. is now planning to focus on „participation and democratisation processes among indigenous groups in Bolivia“. This will be the subject of another exposure and dialogue

programme which is scheduled to take place in Bolivia in April/May 2006. Bolivian decision-makers from political and civil society backgrounds will be the primary target group of this endeavour. German participants (max. 5) will include members of the German parliament and representatives of Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation.



Participants and Kaziken (village council)  
EDP Bolivien 2004  
San Javierieto (Chiquitania)

## Summer school 2006 - EDP to promote global learning

In July/August 2006, there will be another follow-up step with a focus on global learning and universal Church activities. It goes back to an EDP which was carried out together with the German Catholic university pastoral service three years ago. German and Guatemalan students will stay and work with small farmers in Guatemala and subsequently volunteer at *Caritas El Quiché*, promoting their personal and

professional development. „*What does development mean to me?*“ This will be the guiding question for the meeting between young people from Germany and Guatemala, which is supposed to deepen the mutual understanding of general societal and individual living conditions. As the project, which is supported by the *Proyecto Ija'tz* students scholarship service and counselled by EDP e.V., will be addressed to

potential future decision-makers in Guatemala, all cooperation partners hope to promote development of poverty-orientated elites who are urgently needed in Guatemala as well as in Germany. Further details concerning application and preparation procedures are available from the German partner *Arbeitskreis Hochschulgemeinden (AKH)*. Please contact [junkmann@fhok.de](mailto:junkmann@fhok.de)



Preparation meeting in Rastede August 2005,  
© Klaus Hagedorn

## Water, the valuable resource - EDP with WOTR

Water is a valuable resource and it is running short. The increasing shortage of water and growing desertification cause great problems, especially in certain Asian and Southern African regions. This was also confirmed by the Stockholm Water Conference last August. Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR), our long-standing partners in Maharashtra, India, have devel-

oped a successful approach for the participatory self-government of watershed areas which are threatened by desertification. In cooperation with the friends of WOTR; EDP e.V. is planning to realize an exposure and dialogue programme in November 2006. The objective will be to make key persons in the business world, in foundations and in NGOs familiar with the

WOTR approach and with the local living conditions so that they will be able to make use of the WOTR approach and the WOTR team's expert knowledge for the water management in other regions. In addition, Indian organisations and members of parliament will be invited to take part in a round table discussion subsequently to the reflection phase.



Female water carriers in Maharashtra, India,  
© Ute Bernauer

## Evaluation of EDP e.V.

Last year, the work of EDP e.V. was evaluated by Prof. Dr. Karl Gabriel (University of Münster) and Prof. Dr. Heribert Weiland (Arnold Bergstrasser-Institute, Freiburg). The study covering the period from 1996 to 2004 was carried out in cooperation with Dr. Geller (University of Münster) and Carina Sarstedt (University of Freiburg) and is based on previous evaluations carried out by Prof. Dr. H.

Brandt /DIE in 1996 and by Dr. Wolfgang Schneider-Barthold/Ifo-Institute in 1998. The latest research project was intended to examine the self-image of EDP e.V. and the utility of EDPs for international Church learning projects. It turned out that EDPs are closely in line with the integral development concept as it is backed by Catholic social teaching and that the programmes, by integrating decision-makers as participants,

have an influence on strategies against poverty alleviation and exclusion. The researchers also said that there is no other comparable method available today that gives expression to the subjectivity and multiple dimensions of the ecclesiastic development concept.

*„... There is no other approach that is so serious about the truth that moral values and change rely on intense experience.“*

Research report,  
December 2004

## Activities Partner Organisations

### Karl Kübel Stiftung

In cooperation with their Philippine partners *Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC)*, *Karl Kübel Stiftung für Kind und Familie* carried out an exposure programme in CEBU City, Philippines, on 8th and 9th February 2005. This EDP focused on the problems of commercial sexual exploitation of children and child trafficking.

The 20 EDP participants from Australia, Sweden, Korea and Germany were delegates at an international conference on the same subject. The international conference guests were given the opportunity to gather first-hand information and to talk with the children concerned. In the course of the EDP, the participants came to realize that this „industry“ is widely controlled by commercial and political interests. Political dialogue, public awareness, support from all public authorities such as police, courts, local and national authorities and international politics are needed to put an end to the trafficking of children and their sexual exploitation.

For further details please contact: [t.westermann@kkstiftung.de](mailto:t.westermann@kkstiftung.de)

*„What we have seen there, is almost incomprehensible. The entire dimension was revealed when we met the children and the locals. I am convinced that we all are responsible and I intend to make this experience the subject of my future political work. The intense experience and first-hand information will help me to go on.“*

Michael Gahler, vice President of the European Parliament's committee on development, EDP participant

### Church in Guatemala

In the course of a summer school, which is scheduled for 24 July - 12 August 2006, the Diocese of El Quiché will carry out an exposure with students (please see article p. 3). For further details please contact: [junkmann@fhok.de](mailto:junkmann@fhok.de)

### GRAMEEN BANK (Bangladesh)

An international dialogue programme with financial experts and decision-makers from all over the world took place in Bangladesh from 16 to 27 September 2005. Grameen Bank also provided training courses in China, Bolivia, Nepal and Indonesia.

[www.grameen-info.org](http://www.grameen-info.org)

### WOTR (India)

The *Watershed Development* exposure and orientation programme for executives of government institutions and business organisations was carried out from 26 to 30 July 2005. A new schedule for future national and international exposure and orientation programmes will soon be published at [www.wotr.org](http://www.wotr.org)

For further details please visit the respective websites or write an e-mail.

## Preview

### EDP Bolivia 2006

An EDP on „participation and democratisation processes among indigenous groups“ will be organised by Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation in cooperation with CEPROLAI (for further details please see article p.2).

### EDP India 2006

Another EDP is planned to take place at WOTR in Maharashtra, India, in November 2006. It will be organized in cooperation with the friends of WOTR (For details please see article p. 3).

## NEWS

### Organisational bodies of EDP e.V.

The new members of the expert council and the board of trustees were appointed by the general assembly of EDP e.V. in March 2005. The constituent meeting of the expert council was held in April 2005. Michel Steeb (AGEH) was appointed chairman, Bruno Wenn (KfW) co-chairman. More detailed information will soon be available at: [www.exposure-dialog.de](http://www.exposure-dialog.de)

### Publications

Elke Löbel, Ulrike Müller-Glodde: *„Wir sind keine Bettler“*, - documentation of an EDP on debt relief and participation in Bolivia. The publication is available on a multimedia CD and can be ordered against payment at the EDP e.V. office: [edp@exposure-dialog.de](mailto:edp@exposure-dialog.de)

Jörg Hilgers: *„Entwicklung bekommt ein Gesicht“* - Gerechtigkeit für Anfänger. Jahrbuch für Arbeit und Menschenwürde, Wissenschaftliche Arbeitsstelle des Oswald-von-Nell-Breuning-Hauses, Bd. 5.

Available at [lit@lit-verlag.de](mailto:lit@lit-verlag.de)

Gertrud Casel: *Weiterbildung durch Begegnung.* - Welttag des Friedens 2005, Arbeitshilfe 187.

Available at [sekretariat@dbk.de](mailto:sekretariat@dbk.de)

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