



# PERSPECTIVES

NEWSLETTER OF EXPOSURE- AND DIALOGUE PROGRAMME E.V.

## Contents of this issue

- Editorial
- International workshop in  
Lehnin/Berlin
- Recent EDPs in Malay-  
sia/Singapore, Bolivia  
and Albania
- Workshop on "Unity of  
faith and life"
- EDP - UN International  
Year of Microcredit
- Participants' Feedback by  
Bruno Wenn
- Activities of partner  
organisations
- Preview
- News

*"Organising Exposure and Dia-  
logue Programmes is an intelli-  
gent way of promoting develop-  
ment cooperation. It is impor-  
tant to see what happens at  
local level, [...] and to talk  
with the poor, especially with  
those who are actually con-  
cerned. This kind of nearness to  
the people is good for politics."*

Wolfgang Thierse,  
Parliamentary Speaker,  
meeting, 3 March 2004

## Editorial

Dear readers

Thank you very much for the great feedback on the first issue of **PERSPECTIVES** and the numerous replies to our survey.

The results encourage us to continue to inform you on our work and, for the first time, on the current EDP activities of our partners.

Last year, our first newsletter was sent together with a survey on networking initiatives to 761 former participants and interested people in Germany. We received 136 replies.

As most of the readers wish to receive **PERSPECTIVES** in a printed version, we will continue to send out hardcopies by mail.

127 people signalled their willingness to support our work in various ways and 64 readers provided substantial comments on our work. All comments and suggestions will be analysed and will be taken up in our future work. You are cordially invited to give us further feedback.

Your Exposure- and Dialogue Programme e.V. team



Guatemalan host lady weaving,  
EDP Guatemala 2003  
© EDP e.V.

## International Workshop

The international EDP workshop on the *Promotion of Participatory Development Processes in the Fight against Poverty and Exclusion* took place in Lehnin/Brandenburg from 29 February to 3 March 2004. On the one hand, the workshop was intended to intensify cooperation with long-standing and new partner organisations (POs) and to facilitate the exchange of experiences and the creation of networks among them. On the other hand, it was focused on analysing the critical factors for success and the experiences made with the

implementation, the impact and limitations of Exposure and Dialogue Programmes in the past.

It turned out that the new POs basically expect EDP e.V. (registered charity) to provide support for the planning and organisation of EDPs. The long-standing POs on their part expect EDP e.V. to give advice on the creation of internal EDP units which are to be used for management training.

Complying with the POs' wish to see EDP e.V. function as a hub in the network, we will present the POs' initiatives and

agendas in future issues of **PERSPECTIVES** (cf. page 4). At the end of the international workshop, the POs discussed EDP's work with members of the Parliamentary Committee for Economic Cooperation (AWZ).



"Networking" at the end of the workshop 2004 in Lehnin/Berlin  
© EDP e.V.

## Community Building and Spirituality

The Exposure and Dialogue Programme “Community Building and Spirituality – A New Way of being Church” allowed the participants to get a deep insight into the many-faceted implementation of the Asian Integral Pastoral Approach (AsIPA) and into other participatory methods used by so-called Basic Ecclesial Communities (BECs) in Malaysia and Singapore. Dialogue with local bishops and diocesan

officials made clear what degree of importance is attached to BECs in diocesan programmes and planning.

The EDP, which had been commissioned by Missio, took place in Singapore and Malaysia from 22 March to 4 April 2004.

The participants made acquaintance with very lively communities, a variety of pastoral and social services and the practiced unity of life and

faith. This EDP was an enriching new experience of the universal church and provided various impulses for the pastoral work in Germany. The last issue of “KM Forum Weltkirche” (September/October 2004) included a compilation of experiences and important evaluations of the ecclesial and pastoral situation in Malaysia and Singapore.



“A new way of being church”  
EDP Malaysia/Singapore 2004  
© EDP e.V.

## Migration and Land Distribution

The EDP on “Migration and land distribution”, which involved 16 Bolivian and five German political and financial decision-makers, took place in Santa Cruz from 3 to 13 June 2004. This was the third EDP organised in cooperation with the Bolivian bishops’ conference. In his welcome address, Cardinal Terrazas emphasised that dialogue between representatives of various groups of society from Bolivia and Germany is of great significance in

the difficult social and political situation of the country. He indicated that the Bolivian bishops’ conference will carry on their efforts to win Bolivian decision-makers as EDP participants. Apart from Church representatives (pastoral & social care, CARITAS, etc.), former participants include mayors of various Bolivian cities, the Vice-Prefect of Sta. Cruz as well as leading members of trade and landowners’ associations. Following the

positive experience with EDPs, CEPROLAI intends to set up specific working structures for the organisation of EDPs on “good governance” which will be focused on local decision-makers.



*Unequal distances: “Porisaqui is not far from Santa Cruz. But Santa Cruz is endlessly far from Porisaqui.”*

Lothar Binding, participant  
EDP Bolivia 2004  
© Lothar Binding

## Poverty and Migration

The EDP from 20 September to 1 October 2004, which was organised with Renovabis and Church partners, focused on the background of migration in Northern Albania: Families move from extremely poor mountainous regions to the suburbs where they hope to get access to employment, education and health care. Many young men – often well-educated – leave the country to seek temporary employment in

the countries of the European Union and to earn a livelihood for their families at home. Hardly any of the migrant workers wants to leave the country for ever, since there is a strong sense of unity in the families, although public administration and community life are in poor condition.

“It’s good you have come!” – These were no empty words of welcome. They expressed deep felt gratitude for being

recognised as human beings and Europeans. “Albanians are different!” – indeed, different from the stereotypes in our heads.

The partnership between Renovabis and the local Churches has been intensified through personal encounter and dialogue. Moreover the EDP participants realised why they work for and with the people in East Europe, and for what purpose.



„Poverty and Migration“  
EDP Albania 2004  
© EDP e.V.

## Workshop on “Unity of Faith and Life”

A workshop on “Unity of faith and life – EDP perspectives towards universal church and pastoral work” took place on 29 October 2004.

For many years, EDP e.V. has been examining the question as to how EDPs can help to deal with the challenges involved in pastoral care and in matters of the universal church. This workshop helped to make clear how EDPs can be more specifically focussed

on these needs.

On the basis of impulse statements, the workshop explored and analysed the experiences of former EDP participants and the various impacts of EDPs.

Finally the workshop participants tried to identify appropriate fields of activity in the countries of the South and of East Europe, which church agencies and institutions involved considered appropriate

for stimulating spiritual and pastoral learning experience. The results of the workshop will be documented and will be available at the EDP office.



Maya cross from Quiché/Guatemala  
© EDP e.V.

## EDP - UN International Year of Microcredit 2005

The tremendous worldwide growth of the Informal Economy, which in some countries and sectors employs up to 80 % of the labour force, makes clear that the “economy of small people” must not be ignored by development and economic policy programmes. Microcredit has been generally accepted as a tool of poverty alleviation that helps to increase

poor people’s participation in economic processes.

In 1998, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed the year 2005 “UN International Year of Microcredit”. In this context, EDP e.V. will organise a programme in cooperation with BKU (German Association of Catholic Entrepreneurs). This EDP will involve a microfinance institu-

tion in Uganda and is scheduled for autumn 2005. It will bring together decision-makers from business and development banks, state- as well as church-linked development cooperations.

*“Microcredits [...] result in asset creation, employment generation, economic security and empowerment of the poor, particularly the women.”*

United Nations General Assembly 1998

## Participants’ Feedback by Bruno Wenn, KfW

[...] There is no other comparable programme anywhere in the world. This year I have attended some project visits in the context of poverty alleviation organised by the World Bank Institute. They have confirmed once again the uniqueness of Exposure and Dialogue Programmes: the World Bank Institute’s programme did not allow such closeness to and dialogue with the poor concerned and the exchange of experiences with other participants was rather limited. [...] 32 staff members of KfW,

Entwicklungsbank and DEG, mainly from the junior and top management level, participated in various programmes so far. The EDPs provided an important impetus for the internal work of KfW, as the selection and planning procedures are now increasingly focused on self-help oriented poverty alleviation. [...] In the recent years, following the highly positive experience, we have specifically promoted participation in EDPs as an instrument for the professional and personal development of

our staff members. [...]

The interdisciplinary composition of the participants and the exchange with representatives of various societal areas represent added value of these programmes.

B. Wenn, Director of Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), Head of The International Secretariat, extract from a letter dated 07/04



C. Sigrist, KfW, together with the host at the market  
EDP Bolivia 2001 © C. Sigrist

## Activities of Partner Organisations

The listed activities of our partner organisations are only a selection of projects scheduled. For further information, please refer to respective website or send an e-mail.

### Albanian Saving and Credit Union

Mrs. Zana Konini, the Director of ASC Union, participated in the dialogue phase of the EDP on "Poverty and Migration" in Albania (cf. report 3/p. 2). [ascunion@icc-al.org](mailto:ascunion@icc-al.org)

### ADOPEM (Dominican Republic)

ADOPEM invites international investors to participate in a programme with exposure elements in January 2005.

Visit of experts from the United States in March 2005, combined with a short EDP. [www.adopem.org.do](http://www.adopem.org.do)

### CEPROLAI (Bolivia)

On the initiative of CEPROLAI, the international general assembly of MIAMSI (International Catholic Movement) organised a one-day exposure with 150 participants in Madagascar in August 2004. Due to the positive feedback of the participants, this approach will be pursued. [ceprolai-d@accelerate.com](mailto:ceprolai-d@accelerate.com)

### Church in Guatemala

In October 2003, EDP e.V., the German Embassy and local partners prepared an exchange of information between human rights activists in Guatemala and members of the committee on petitions of the German Parliament in Guatemala City.

### GRAMEEN BANK (Bangladesh)

The international dialogue programmes 2005 of Grameen Bank involving financial experts and decision-makers from all over the world have been scheduled for March (4 - 15), June (3 - 14), September (16 - 27) and December (2 - 13).

In November 2005 (20-24), there will be a national dialogue programme with institutions from Bangladesh. [www.grameen-info.org](http://www.grameen-info.org)

### SEWA (India)

The steering committee of the cooperation project "Banks for the poor – Phase III" met on 24 March 2004. The intention of this joint project of SEWA, FIDES and EDP e.V. is to develop instruments for microfinancial services, using the EDP approach.

In cooperation with WIEGO (Women in Informal Employment Globalizing and Organizing) and the Cornell University, SEWA will organise an international conference on "Membership Based Organizations of the Poor: Theory, Experience and Policy" including exposure elements in Ahmedabad/India from 17-21 January 2005. [www.sewa.org](http://www.sewa.org)

### WOTR (India)

From 14-17 December 2004, the „Watershed Development Exposure Orientation Programme“ will be held for managers of government institutions and enterprises. The dates for further national and international Exposure Orientation Programmes will soon be published at [www.wotr.org](http://www.wotr.org)

## Preview

### EDP India 2005

DGB (German Trade Union Federation), Justitia et Pax, EDP e.V. and SEWA plan to organise an EDP on core labour standards/informal economy to take place in October 2005.

### EDP Uganda 2005

In cooperation with BKU (German Association of Catholic Entrepreneurs), an EDP on microfinance instruments will be held in Uganda in autumn 2005 (cf. report on p.3).

### EDP in Kosovo

Preliminary talks about an EDP in Kosovo are being held with Karl Kübel Stiftung (KKS), Kolpingwerk and Justitia et Pax.

### Talks with Business Representatives

A working group composed of representatives of governmental development agencies, from the economic sector and EDP e.V. is exploring common perspectives for a possible contribution of EDP e.V. with regard to an "alliance of development cooperation and economy".

## News

### Recent Publications

#### Teaching Materials

Leben in der Einen Welt – Unterrichtsmaterialien zur menschlichen Entwicklung in der Globalisierung. Folder and CD-ROM. Verlag Berger, 2004.

To be ordered at: [mail@verlag-berger.de](mailto:mail@verlag-berger.de)

#### Institute of Development Studies (IDS) in Sussex/England

"Immersion for Policy and Personal Change", the IDS Policy Briefing portrayed Exposure and Dialogue Programmes of EDP e.V. in its latest issue (22 July 04) along with the "immersion programmes" of the World Bank. Download available at:

[www.ids.ac.uk/ids/bookshop/briefs/index.html](http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/bookshop/briefs/index.html)

#### To be published soon

Dominik Blum & Jörg Hilgers: "Machen Sie sich keine Sorgen – Wir werden einen Weg finden!" Educational stories from personal encounters during the Guatemala EDP, Article in Jahrbuch für Religionspädagogik 2005.

### IMPRINT



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