

India/Inde

(106)

UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme

Progress Report

Period of activity: April 2007- March 2008

UNESCO Chair in Peace, Human Rights and Democracy

Report established by: Prof. Dr. Vishwanath D. Karad, UNESCO Chairholder,
Maharashtra Institute of Technology, Pune, India

I. Activities

1. Academic activities

During the 2007-2008 activity year, the UNESCO Chair offered workshops on: World Religions, Science and Spirituality; Women Rights; Human Rights, Democracy and Peace; Political, social and economic dimensions of world peace; and Sustainable development.

Target group:

School children, college students, teachers, university faculty, social workers, NGOs, government employees and human resources managers.

2. Conferences/ Meetings:

Title: World Peace Conference

Date: January 30- February 2, 2008

Title: Commemoration of the 66th Anniversary of Quit India Movement

Date: August 9, 2007

Title: Week-long World Tolerance Day Celebrations

Date: December 1-7, 2007

3. Community Activities

AIDS Awareness Programme

Date: December 1, 2007

Participants: students at Maharashtra Institute of Technology, general public

Blood Donation Camps

Participants: members of the World Peace Centre (Alandi) and general public (Pune)

River Clean-up Programme

Participants: members of the Youth Forum of the World Peace Centre (Alandi)

4. Partnerships

World Peace Centre, India

Maharashtra Institute of Technology, India

II. Impact

The UNESCO Chair in Peace, Human Rights and Democracy promotes the culture of peace among students at the Maharashtra Institute of Technology (MIT) and the community in Pune, India. The Chair has collaborated in the construction of a rural hospital, library, gymnasium and industrial training centre in the province of Rameshwar (Rui). The students at MIT are actively involved in the education and awareness of HIV/AIDS.

III. Forthcoming activities

The Chair will promote research in areas related to the themes of peace and democracy. Several projects at the Maharashtra Institute of Technology (MIT) will focus on: spiritual sciences, peace studies, human values, ethics, meditation, human psychology and the history of democracy.