



# **Sama Resource Group for Women and Health**

*Report of Activities  
April 2017- March 2018*

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**Activity Period: April 2017- March 2018**

Sr. No	Event/Activity	Place	Date	Description
1	SRHR workshops with girls and women	Banaras, Uttar Pradesh Ranchi, Jharkhand	September October November 2017	Assessment of health issues and access to healthcare for girls and women from dalit communities in select areas of Benares, UP and girls and women from Ranchi, Jharkhand was carried out through meetings with girls and women local health care providers, organisations. Workshops with girls and women were conducted to build their awareness about menstruation, maternal health, uterine prolapse, etc., and relevant health programmes and schemes in their areas such as Janani Suraksha Yojana, Mamta Diwas, etc.
2	Research Project- "Assessing the Status of Health System Delivery and Factors Determining Access to Quality Healthcare for Tribal Communities" by Sama in collaboration with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)	Select areas of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Odisha	April 2017 – March 2018	Field work for the research was carried out during this period. The main objectives of the research were to understand the current status of public health care delivery system in the selected study areas, public healthcare utilization among tribal communities in the study areas and barriers faced in access to health care. An interim report regarding the progress of activities under the project was submitted to NHRC in December 2017.

3	Symposium on Ethical and Scientific Issues of Gene Editing Using CRISPR –Cas9 Technology by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Department of Biotechnology (DBT)	National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi	27-28 April 2017	One representative from Sama participated in the Symposium by ICMR and DBT in collaboration with Inserm. This meeting aimed at establishing a dialogue on the use of genome editing technologies between European and Indian experts.
4	Workshops with adolescent girls in Delhi	Delhi- Tughlakabad, Haiderpur, Lajpat Nagar, Kamla Nagar	2017- 2018	Six workshops were conducted during this year to build awareness of adolescent girls about their reproductive health issues, on gender, etc.
5	Discussion on draft 'National Pharmaceutical Policy 2017' by Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers	Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, New Delhi	2017	Sama representative participated and provided feedback on the draft from a public health perspective and highlighted issues of lack of access to essential and life-saving medicines, for e.g. the Anti Diphtheria Serum and Hydroxyurea in states such as Odisha, Chhattisgarh, etc.
6	Visits to Disha clinics (Adolescent Friendly Health Clinics) in North East Delhi	Delhi	2017-2018	Visits were made to Sanjay Gandhi Memorial hospital, Bhagwan Mahavir hospital, Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar hospital, PUHC Sonia Vihar and other places in North East Delhi where the DISHA clinics are located towards updating the current status, functionality and their outreach in the community and for adolescents.

7	Workshop for Trainers of Peer Educators of the Adolescent Programme at Jan Swasthya Sahayog (JSS)	Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh	July 2017	The 3-day workshop focused on content on gender, sexuality, and communication with adolescents as well as methodology that could be employed for workshops with the adolescents. The workshop included role plays, interactive exercises that the trainers could adapt in their trainings with adolescents.
8	State Level Dissemination Meeting on findings of Sama study on 'Exploring Mental Health Issues among Young Women'	Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh Jaipur, Rajasthan	28 July 2017 1 August 2017	The dissemination meetings organised by Sama were attended by organisations working with young women on various issues related to their health, education and participants from organizations, who were working in the areas where the research was conducted. Government representative, i.e. State Nodal Officer Mental Health, UP and the Rashtriya Kishore Swasthya Karyakaram (RKSK) Consultant in Rajasthan also attended.
9	National Dissemination Meeting on 'Exploring Mental Health Issues among Young Women'	New Delhi	11 August 2017	The dissemination meeting organised by Sama to discuss mental health issues based on Sama's study as well as the work by other organisations through panel discussions. About 45 persons from 34 organisations, networks, groups and individuals working directly with communities, engaged with research and advocacy on a range of issues including with young people, participated in the meeting. A representative from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) in charge of the Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram (RKSK) also attended.
10	Short Course on Challenges to Access to Medicines	Delhi	16- 18 August 2017	The Course organised by Sama focused on various issues that affect or are related access to medicines such as universal healthcare, access to medicines in the human rights framework, ground realities relating to accessing life- saving medicines, drug pricing, experiences of free medicines schemes in Rajasthan and Odisha, ethical issues in research and access to medicines.

11	Meeting of the Experts cum Monitoring Committee of the National Registry of ART Clinics and Banks in India, organised by Indian Council of Medical Research	Delhi	6 September 2017	Representative from Sama attended the meeting and provided inputs to the ICMR on this issue.
12	NITI Ayog working group on Health meeting	Niti Ayog	13 October 2017	A representative from Sama was invited to be part of the working group discussion on health.
13	World Congress-International Association for Adolescent Health (IAAH) organised by Mamta	New Delhi	28 October 2017	Sama presented on 'Addressing gender based violence as a public health issue' in the session on Public Health and GBV.
14	Dissemination Programme of ICMR National Ethical Guidelines 2017	AIIMS, New Delhi	16 November 2017	Two representatives from Sama participated in the dissemination programme organised by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). ICMR has revised National Ethical Guidelines for Biomedical and Health Research Involving Human Participants and also released the National Ethical Guidelines for Biomedical Research Involving Children.
15	GBV Related Assessment in Odisha on Implementation of State Level SOP	Odisha	December 2017	Sama undertook visits to district hospitals in the five districts of Khorda, Jagatsinghpur, Cuttack, Puri and Jajpur to assess the health system's response to GBV and implementation of the protocols. The team interacted with hospital administrators, doctors and other staffs in the health facilities. Meetings were also conducted with relevant government officials/departments to get insights into the implementation of the protocols.

16	Meeting by Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD)- 'Conference of Partner NGOs : Implementation of Policies, Schemes and Programmes for Women and Children: Challenges and Way Forward'	New Delhi	October 2017	Sama was invited to the meeting which focused on challenges and way forward with regard to implementation of policies, schemes and laws concerning issues of women and children in India. Sama provided inputs on issues and gaps with health system response to gender based violence; a written submission of issues and recommendations was also handed over to the Ministry.
17	Conference on Upholding Women's Human Rights: Transnational Dialogue on Gender Biased Sex Selection", organised by OP Jindal Global Law School	New Delhi	10 December 2017	Sama representative presented in the Panel discussion on Transnational Dialogue on Gender Biased Sex Selection.
18	Training at the S.C.B. Medical College and Hospital	S.C.B. Medical College and Hospital, Cuttack, Odisha	March 2018	Sama conducted the training on the Odisha Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on gender based violence and other recent policy guidelines for updating the existing response by hospitals to GBV survivors. Sama conducted the training for about 40 participants which included - health care practitioners-doctors, nursing staffs, medical students, and administrative heads of the departments in the SCB hospital.