

## **Outcome of the Course**

The Orientation Course has been a dialogic process of learning; awareness building and producing critical knowledge and advocacy work in the area of forced migration, conflict resolution, peace building and refugee studies.

- **Peace and Conflict Resolution Education**

The core strength of the Course has been to widen the scope of forced migration and incorporate the South Asian experiences of multiple vulnerabilities like ethnic violence, refugee flows and massive displacement of population due to environment related issues in its three month long distance education segment and the fifteen day workshop. The Course builds on the discourse of human security where the state and non- state protection mechanisms of refugee care and internally displaced persons are reviewed and discussed in great detail. This is probably the only course in South Asia which has managed to build a huge research archive on peace and conflict resolution in the area of mixed and massive flow of population in South Asia.

- **Awareness about Forced Migration Issues among South Asian Scholars, Personnel Working in Humanitarian Institutions and Activists**

Through the Orientation Course CRG has been able to build a network of scholars, human rights activists and personnel working in national human rights commissions in South Asia. This network has been particularly useful in establishing linkages among key stakeholders and institutions working in the area of forced migration and strengthening various organizations. Our alumni has been involved in organizing short workshops in their respective institutions and has played a key role as resource groups in various forums like International Association for the Study of Forced Migration including the Fifteen Day Course on Forced Migration.

- **Sustained Collaboration with Other Institutions in South Asia**

One of the key outcomes of the course is the sustained collaboration with various institutions in South Asia and special mention should be made of National Human Rights Commission, India, Sri Lanka and Nepal which regularly nominates personnel to join the Course. Secondly, CRG has been able to build up a sustained collaboration with various departments and faculties in University of Calcutta, Rabindra Bharati University through co-hosting public events. CRG is indebted to the St. Joseph College, Darjeeling in making the field visit successful. Thirdly, the resource persons on many occasions have played an important role in building a sustained collaboration with the Course through nominating participants and encouraging exchange programmes. In South Asia, CRG is grateful to UNHCR, India; Ain-O-Salish Kendra, Bangladesh; Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies, Sri Lanka; International Organisation for Migration (IOM), Nepal and various others for nominating participants to the Course.

- **Expanding Network and Visibility of South Asian Experiences and Dimensions of Forced Migration in National and International Forums**

The Course has evolved itself into a forum of well established scholars and activists who are constantly engaging with various issues of forced migration, displacement and refugee studies. The course owes its success to the strength of its faculty members who occupy significant positions in International forums such as International Association for the Study of Forced Migration where Paula Banerjee, Former Course Coordinator was elected as the Vice President of the Association 2008-2012. CRG is going to host the 14<sup>th</sup>

IASFM conference in January 2013 not only to showcase its own research on forced migration but to create a platform for an inter-disciplinary exchange and communication to stimulate debate and discussion on the research priorities and policy issues on forced migration in South Asia. Several other ex-Course participants are actively involved in various such networks on a voluntary basis. Owing to the success of CRG's Course on Forced Migration and its contribution in the area of forced migration studies Refugee Research Network and Refugee Study Centre, Oxford University have recognized CRG as one of its partner institutions.

- **Research and Resource Centre on Forced Migration**

CRG has produced and collected various documents which need to be archived for the purposes of future research and advocacy work on forced migration. The South Asia Resource Centre on Forced Migration, one of the newest developments under the wings of the Winter Course on Forced Migration, has been formed to facilitate further research on forced migration.