

## Bhavishya Alliance Gathering -25<sup>th</sup> May 2007



*Sharing and reflections by lab team members*

The Bhavishya Alliance began more than a year ago with the advent of the Maharashtra Change lab. The lab ended in June 2006 and our gathering on May 25<sup>th</sup> held in Belapur, Navi Mumbai marks a day for the Lab Team Participants, Champions and other partners to come together to learn from and share with each other the learnings in the past year.

The goals were to:

- Strengthen the Alliance.
- Get an insight into what has been happening post lab- for the issue and also for each other.
- Deepen the reflective space to understand what could be the role one could play in the current context.

24 partners representing the organisations- Vachan, Tata Teleservices, RSCD, ICDS, Dr. M L Dhawale Memorial Trust, Micronutrient Initiative, Aga Khan Health Services, SNEHA, Chetna, PFI, MAHAN, GMC, RJMCHN Mission, UNICEF and Sraddha attended the meeting.



*Ujjwal Uke, Commissioner, ICDS discussing role of Bhavishya Alliance*

### **Sharing and Discussion**

The progress on different activities and events was shared which included a general overview, progress in the rural, urban progress, corporate engagement, baseline survey, supply chain management, and the

development of a 'Nutrition and Development home' by Vachan as an example of NGO-Government partnership and actions taken by ICDS based on ideas that emerged in discussions with BA.

Discussions evolved around issues in partnership, involving lab members, best practices of other organisations, need for strengthening database, developing mechanism to measure impact, monitoring and evaluation tool, documentation, sharing of initiatives and strengths of organisations which can be helpful.

Bhavishya Alliance continues to evolve. Following way forward were suggested by the members:

### **Way Forward For Bhavishya Alliance**

- Utilise the skills, collective wisdom and time of Lab team members to take things forward.
- Define roles of members; establish systems for overseeing of roles to ensure accountability.
- Prepare database of best practices, existing initiatives, study lab teams work, match individuals, local strengths and involve members.
- Quarterly meetings need to be more productive with regard to decisions on action steps. Governing council and trustees to participate in these meetings.
- Revisit the ideas, complaints and suggestions given in the lab process.
- Documentation, baseline data, logical framework of outcomes, monitoring and evaluation tools needs to be put in place. Also measurable indicators, strategy and plan of action to be defined.
- Develop mechanisms for improving external and internal communication.
- Strengthening its role as a catalyst in the tri-sectoral partnership. Ensure partners align, have concrete plans and responsibility. Also expand the forum by including more people and organisation.
- Guiding principles to work as a group and MOU between partners to be developed.