

RFYN Young Adult Network

The RFYN are a global network of young adults with the capacity & commitment to take action that enhances Religious Freedom and Human Rights. We work closely with spiritual & political leaders in our localities, to build up greater understanding, mutual trust & support for our work.

Over the year 2012–2013 the RFYN had good opportunities to organize many events designed to bring change in the society. They enabled thousands of young adults to understand the importance of Religious Freedom and Human Rights.

The RFYN project proposal for 2012-13 was approved by the IC for the following activities:

- 1 - A national-level conference for RFYN, with local resources; 2 – An international RFYN Gathering; 3 - RFYN activities for website content

RFYN activities over the past year can be classified under three main headings:

1. International and National Projects;
2. Peace Activities;
3. Human Rights trainings.

1. International and National Projects

- a) **Madurai Conference:** Organized by Bro. Albert Xaviour and other Young Adults, the International Young Adult Conference at Nobili Pastoral Centre, Madurai, India on 24th -28th Sep 2012, in collaboration with the Angelo Province of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, India. The theme was “Discover the Treasures of Peace & Harmony”. Many young adults new to peace activities were recruited to become involved.
- b) **Mysore Conference:** Organized by Anbumani Arumugam (“SACC-RFYN”) in parallel with the India Chapter Conference, supported by India Chapter & SACC at Sri Adhichunchanagiri Mutt, Mysore, 29-30 October 2012. RFYN initiated a new crop of young adults through trainings, human rights education, capacity-building sessions, etc.

Conference	Duration	Participants	Local Supporter	Total Expenses	Local resources	Fund from IARF
Madurai	5 Days	85	Angelo Province, India	330,200	292,500	37,700
Mysore (SACC-RFYN)	2 Days	296	India Chapter, SACC, Sri Adi. Mutt	4,00,000	4,00,000	NIL
Total				330,200	292,500	37,700

2. Peace Activities

- a) **Hiroshima Day – Bangalore:**–The Hiroshima & Nagasaki Day was organized by Janhvi Gupte (who was taken to Hiroshima by Dr. Thomas Mathew) on 6th August 2012 at Infant Jesus Matriculation School, Bangalore. She educated the school children about the bombing at Hiroshima which she had gathered from one of her special meetings in Hiroshima with the *Hibakusha* Mrs. Sadanobu-san. The damage to city life, flora & fauna etc. were shown with pictures taken by her at the Museum, & posters which she gathered. She also taught them the folding of paper Peace Cranes, and about their significance.
- b) **Indo-US Meeting at Madurai:** – A half-day Indo-USA Young Adult Meet was organized by Indian IARF-RFYN at Mannar Thirumalai Naicker College, Madurai, Tamilnadu, India on 18th May 2012. US Chapter Chair Prof. Hal French and sixteen of his students had come to Madurai to visit the famous Meenakshi Amman Temple. Prof. Hal requested Bro. Albert Xaviour to have an interactive session with Indian RFYN during their visit. With the support of Adv. Rengapashyam and Mannar Thirumalai Naicker College, the RFYN organized half-day program for Indo-US cultural understanding & mutual education.
- c) **RFYN Meeting Bangladesh:** – Organized by president of SACC Bangladesh Chapter Dr. Kazi Nurul Islam of the Department of World Religions, Dhaka University, 23-24 Sept 2012. RFYN President Anbumani presented a paper on “Role of Youth in Religious Freedom in South Asia”, and the following day RFYN in Bangladesh was inaugurated.
- d) **Peace Walk – Chennai:** – The Peace Walk was organized by Anbumani Arumugam and young adults from Chennai at Marina Beach, Chennai on 23rd January 2013, in consonance with the UN-declared Interfaith Harmony Week (February every year) to be observed by organizations across the world. This peace walk opened a new platform among the inter-faith leaders to meet again in the near future for a longer program to create awareness among the younger generation for a better environment.
- e) **International Women’s Day:** – The International Women’s Day was organized by Br. Albert Xaviour along with other three RFYN Janhvi Gupte, Yashika Kim and Pramod Rao at BIRDS, Bangalore on 9th March 2013, in collaboration with BIRDS. It is to emphasize respect and equal rights for the women in society.

The RFYN Chhindwara also celebrated the International Women’s Day with the support of *Madhya Pradesh State Human Rights Commission* at Chhindwara on 8th March 2013. They visited several rural communities to encourage awareness about women’s rights.

In February 2013 the Tony Blair Faith Foundation published [an article](#) by RFYN President Anbumani under the theme “Women & Religion”.

Costing of RFYN Peace Activities, showing Local Financial Support (in INR)						
Program	Duration	Participants	Local Supporter	Local resources	From IARF	Total Expenses
Hiroshima Day – Bangalore	2 Hours	120	Infant Jesus Met. School, Bangalore	2,500	0	2,500
Indo-US Meet at Madurai	4 Hours	160	Mannar Thirumalai Naicker College, Madurai.	50,000	0	50,000
RFYN meeting Bangladesh	2 Hours	10	Rev. Miwa	1,000	0	1,000
Peace Walk, Chennai	1 Hour	893	SACC	0	29,150	29,150
International Women’s Day - Bangalore	2 Hours	56	BIRDS, Bangalore	3,800	0	3,800
International Women’s Day- Chhindwara	4 Hours	260	Madya Pradesh State Human Rights Commission	42,800	0	42,800
Total				99,100	29,150	128,250

Human Rights Activities

a) Human Rights Education Training (HRET) programs:- This year RFYN also came forward to organize HRETs (trainings) for young adults in India, to support the creation of video content for the IARF website. Currently, most IARF HRETs in India are organized by the SACC Office, and mostly involve elders training young adults. But HRET is found to be more effective when the Facilitator is a young adult. Therefore this year both Bro. Albert Xaviour & and Prof. Anbumani Arumugam (both young adults) facilitated HRETs – the former organizing 6 events in five different states (see table below), the latter (as ‘SACC-RFYN’) 1 event (see separate table):

	HRET 1	HRET 2	HRET 3	HRET 4	HRET 5	HRET 6
Venue	Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering & Technology, Chennai, T.N	BIT Engineering College, Hindupur, A.P	St. Xavier’s College Gils Hostel, Ahmedabad, Gujarat	St. Xavier’s College, Ahmedabad, Gujarat	Danielson Degree College, Chhindwara, M.P,	BIRDS, Bangalore
Date	22-23 Nov 2012	26Nov 2012	29-30 Nov 2012	25-26 Jan 2013	28-29 Jan 2013	9-10Mar 2013
Supportive Facilitator	Ms. Janhvi Gupte	Ms. Janhvi Gupte	Ms. Janhvi Gupte	Ms. Rincy Philip	Dr. Brown	Ms. Janhvi Gupte
Participants	60 Engineering Students	35 MBA Students	20 Degree Students	60 Degree Students	40 Degree Students	NGOs & Master Students

Organizers	Adv. Rengapashyam	Hindupur RFYN	Rincy Philip & Friends	RFYN, Gujarat	RFYN Madhya P	RFYN, Bangalore
Local Supporter	Adv. Rengapashyam & SVCET	Angelo Institution & BIT College	Sr. Shibi Philip & St. Xavier's College	St. Xavier's College	Danielson Degree College	BIRDS & Angelo Institution
Special Invitee	Robert Papini	Robert Papini	Robert Papini	College Principal	Former Judge	State Human Rights Member
Program Outcome	Organizing HRET for Engineering colleges in TN	Supporting local RFYN	HRET new Team to organize programs for marginalized	Spreading the message to the Rural communities	Joining with State Human Rights Commission	NGOs collaboration with IARF organizing HRET
Local Contribn	17,605	1,850	11,300	13,700	11,580	17,150
Contribn from IARF	10,820	2,720	13,210	12,970	12,290	0
Total Expenses	28,425	4,570	24,510	26,670	23,870	17,150

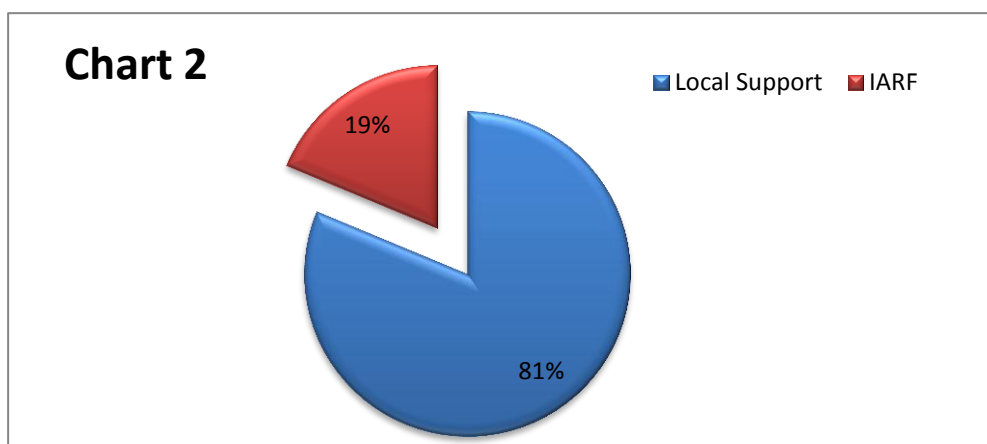
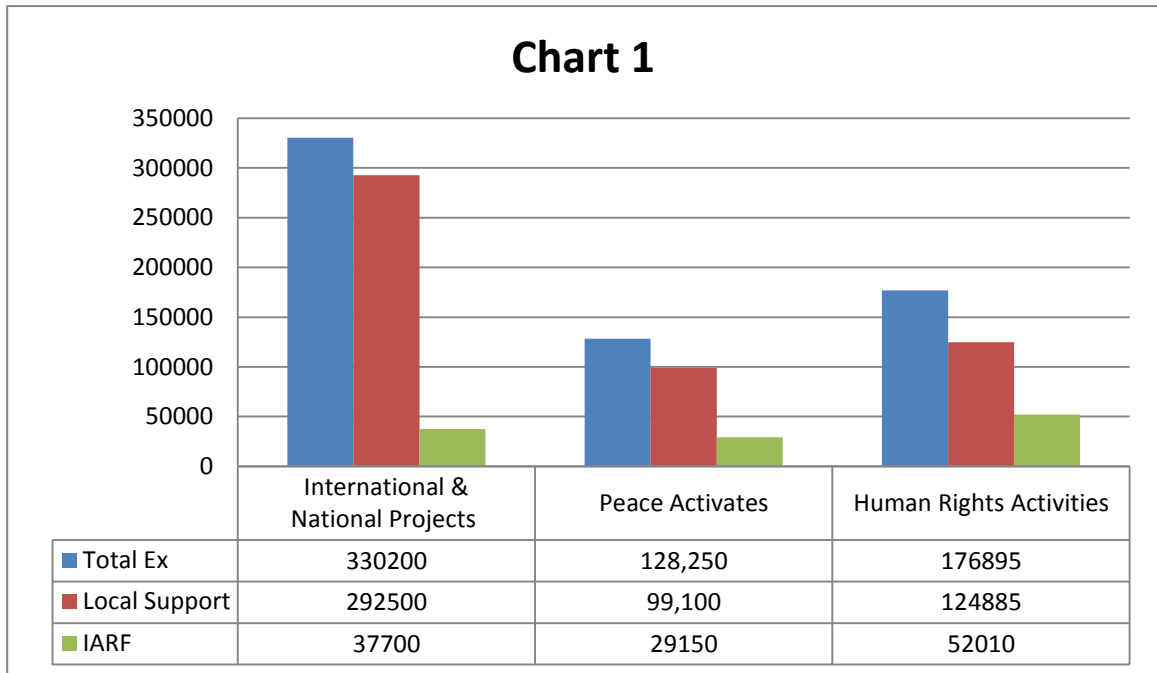
SACC-RFYN	Venue	Participants	Local Funding	IARF funding
HRET Bengaluru 4-5 April 2013	KLE Society Law College, Bengaluru	54	10,000	15,000

- b) **International Human Rights Day:-** The RFYN celebrated International Human Rights Day in India this year as well. Most of RFYN have participated in HRET programs actively involving Religious Freedom and Human Rights activities to bring harmony in society, and this celebration motivated our workers to help the country celebrate International Human Rights Day in future.

Place	Duration	Participants	Local Supporter	Total Expenses	Local resources	Fund from IARF
Bangalore	4 Hours	180	Adv. Rengapashyam & the College	13,000	13,000	0
Chhindwara	6 Hours	320	Madya Pradesh State Human Rights	38,700	38,700	0
Total				51,700	51,700	0

RFYN Income & Expenses for 2012-13

Showing self-funding initiative



Future Plans

RFYN will be very happy to adopt a Human Rights Education Training program as part of our project offering along with our regular projects, since historically, 95% of IARF India's HRET participants have been young adults. Moreover, most currently active RFYN members have already participated in HRETs organized by IARF, providing a solid base for holding Trainings of Trainers to extend our talent pool.

We will encourage each event's participants to raise local funds for their particular program, as we were successful in doing during 2012. In future we can then draw upon committed as well as multi-talented young adults coming forward to work for us – as future Facilitators, local organizers, networkers, *and* fundraisers.

Program Proposals for 2013

1. RFYN International Conference

An RFYN International Conference will be organized at Bangalore, India in February 2014. It will be a residential program for four days. We will select 100 young adults who have participated in the HRETs organized by RFYN from June 2013 up to Feb 2014.

Costing:

Program Details		Particulars	Amount
Venue	Bangalore	Food and accommodation (350 x100 x 4 days)	175,000
Date	February 2014	Transport (1,000 x 100)	100,000
Participants	100 YAs who are trained in HRET	Stationery	12,000
Special Invitees	Rev. President & Council members	Printing	5,000
Organizers	Bangalore RFYN	Gifts and Mementos	10,000
Local Supporters	RFYN Bangalore, local institutions and NGOs	Remunerations	15,000
		Video and Photo	5,000
		Miscellaneous	7,000
		Total	329,000
		Local Recourses	185,000
		From IARF	144,000
			(\$2,640)

2. RFYN Human Rights Education Training Program

The RFYN will organize 15 HRET programs in India over the next year. The project duration will be eight months, from June 2013 to February 2014. During the annual RFYN conference (see above) there will be annual evaluation of HRET program facilitators. And there will be a bi-monthly periodic review, the report to be sent to the Secretariat based on an agreed format.

HRET (Training Event) Cost	Local Contribution	IARF	Total
Facility charge (Room and Chair)	3,000	0	3,000
Refreshments (Tea, snack etc.)	3,000	3,000	6,000
Visual Aids (VCD/DVD prayer charge)	500	0	500
LCD and Audio hire charges	1,500	1,000	2,500
Administrative fee (Stationery)		1,800	1,800
Printing and photocopying	800	2,000	2,800
Postage and courier		200	200
Travel costs (Facilitator's travel costs)		1,000	1,000
Hospitality (Accommodation & transportation from boarding to venue (50 Km))	3,000		3,000
Facilitator's Remuneration		3,000	3,000
Miscellaneous	1,000	2,000	3,000
Total	12,800	14,000	26,800
Total US\$ (@ 12 April '13 -- \$1 = 54.5)	\$ 235	\$ 257	\$ 492

Summary: The total *local contribution* for each HRET (training event) will be INR 12,800, and as the *IARF contribution* we request 14,000, giving a total cost per HRET event of **INR 26,800**.

Since RFYN is not requesting any administrative costs, we ask 14,000 for each HRET as it includes all expenses (admin included).

Proposed RFYN-HRET budget for the year 2013-14 is therefore:

$$15 \text{ HRET programs} \times \text{INR } 14,000 = \text{INR } 210,000 \quad (\text{US\$ } 3,850)$$

Future Prospect: **IARF Human Rights Resource Centre, near Bangalore**

The *Brothers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, India* has stated that it is prepared to donate to IARF a building and land in the town of Hindupur, Andhra Pradesh (one hour from Bangalore), to start a Human Rights Resource Centre, with training facilities.

The Congregation also grants freedom to Bro. Albert Xaviour in the organization of HRET programs based on IARF's standards & norms.

All RFYN-HRE programs in India can therefore be organized from an office in Hindupur.

Bro. Albert Xaviour