

Community photography workshop held at Sonapur



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Uthomporn Saelow 15 April 2017 Updated 15 Apr 11035 views

A [group](#) of university students in northeast [India](#) held a [community](#) connect program for neighbourhood villagers.

The Assam [Don Bosco](#) University's Department of Mass Communication, last week organised the [community](#) connect program [as](#) a Communication for [Development](#) (C4D) project at Amguri village in Sonapur outside [state](#) capital Dispur.

As an introduction to C4D tools, the department conducted a participatory photography [workshop](#) for a combination of village elders and youth which included both men and women.

Department head Dr Machun Kamei says, “The [community](#) connect has been designed with an intention to develop a road [map](#) for communication approaches concerning the factors hindering the development of the local communities within the Sonapur area where the university is located and to encourage entrepreneurial ventures using communication [as](#) a tool for social development.”

Some 40 neighbourhood villages have been ear marked for social intervention by students of various departments such [as Social Work, Education](#), Psychological Counselling, Human Rights and Mass Communication.

“The idea was to help villagers focus on problems they face and highlight them in the photographs they take [as](#) part of their hands-on practical exercise,” said mentor and Assistant Professor Mr [Kaushik Bhuyan](#).



“It was amazing to see, the villagers successfully highlighted and portrayed through their photographs the problems of unemployment, improper road conditions, lack of skill based and entrepreneurial [training](#), and irregular connectivity to electricity,” says final year Mass Communication [student](#) and inter university winner of photography Amar Laishram Swital.

[Event](#) Coordinator Assistant [Prof](#) Rose [Mary](#) Ishorari adds, “These photographs will be showcased in appropriate platforms to enable stakeholders concerned and the [community](#) themselves to take relevant corrective measures and initiate means to help developing their own communities.”

Ishorari assures, “While the concerned project will be taken up in phases to achieve the said objective, this was just the beginning.”

The event was part of “Imageind 2017-The Sonapur Edition” sponsored by Indian Council of [Social](#) Science Research (ICSSR-NERC) which included a roundtable conference on “communication for development: critical approaches” with academicians and practitioners from the field, a photography [workshop](#) for students and faculty from institutes around Sonapur and Guwahati in association with Canon [India](#).



Uthomporn Saelow

Originally from Thailand, currently I am a student of MA degree in Mass Communication at Assam Don Bosco University, Guwahati. I did my bachelor's degree from Saengtham College, Nakornprathom, Thailand. My passion is event photography, audio and video editing, and page layout & design.

BY UTHOMPORN SAELOW

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