

[Monthly Update](#)

Oct 07

**Asia**

## About Micah Network



According to participants at our recent consultation in Malaysia, Micah Network means...

- "much work and prayer"
- "encouraging and challenging others"
- "learning and best practice"
- "being ministered to"
- "connecting across country groups for collaboration"
- "growth, benchmarking, lever, lens, focus..."
- "opportunities to engage with God's people across cultural, political and language divide"
- "to be a spoke in the wheel of holistic transformation of society"

Invite your peer organizations to be part of Micah Network or consider becoming an individual member.

If you would like to request a brochure or membership form or would like to explore membership, please email **Anita Deutschmann** [support@micahnetwork.org](mailto:support@micahnetwork.org) or visit our website [http://en.micahnetwork.org/home/about\\_micah\\_network/brochures](http://en.micahnetwork.org/home/about_micah_network/brochures)

## Asia Pacific Consultation

*Marginalised People – Our Christian Response*



Artist Shelley Parkinson represented some of the key themes of the consultation in her work

320 participants from 31 countries joined together for Micah Network's Asia Pacific consultation for a time of learning, worship, nurturing and prayer. Key things we learnt together:

- "We need to sustain the advocacy of justice at the local church level"
- "The key thing that I learnt from this consultation is that it is high time to break barriers of class, gender and disability in order to reach out to our brothers and sisters...."
- "Disability should permeate all programs"
- "Our organization needs a policy on disability"
- "...the potential power of collaboration with other like minded people..."
- "Prophetic advocacy"
- "...gender issues...both for our organisation and ministry..."
- "Disability and gender stuff..."

Papers from Micah Network's Asia Pacific consultation are now available on our website.

Plenary papers:

[http://en.micahnetwork.org/home/past\\_events/malaysia\\_2007/plenary\\_papers](http://en.micahnetwork.org/home/past_events/malaysia_2007/plenary_papers)

Small group sessions:

[http://en.micahnetwork.org/home/past\\_events/malaysia\\_2007/small\\_group\\_sessions](http://en.micahnetwork.org/home/past_events/malaysia_2007/small_group_sessions)

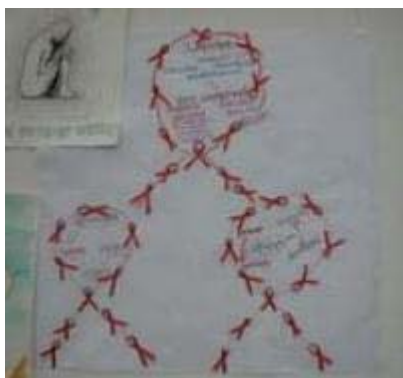
World Café artwork:

[http://en.micahnetwork.org/home/past\\_events/malaysia\\_2007/world\\_cafe\\_artwork](http://en.micahnetwork.org/home/past_events/malaysia_2007/world_cafe_artwork)

Once we have fully processed feedback from participants we will have more news to share with you.

If you were a participant at the consultation and missed out on your CD, please contact **Anita Deutchmann** [support@micahnetwork.org](mailto:support@micahnetwork.org)

## Theological educators face the challenge of HIV



Alongside Micah Network's Asia Pacific consultation, 58 theological educators from institutions across the region learnt from one another and from resource people about key issues related to HIV:

- A holistic approach to HIV
- Sex and Sexuality
- Gender
- Prevention
- Stigma and discrimination

The educators also worked on a course outline together – with a view to introducing courses on

HIV into their institutions.

Micah Network will now be setting up an electronic forum for the theological educators, so that they can continue to share their learnings and encourage one another in their next steps.

For further information on this project, contact **Jane Furniss**

[ic@micahnetwork.org](mailto:ic@micahnetwork.org)

### Africa

## Upcoming event – Francophone consultation in Burkina Faso

*Last chance to register*

Don't miss out on Micah Network's inaugural francophone consultation in Africa on *Integral Mission and the Role of the Church* being held in Burkina Faso, from 19 to 23 November 2007.

Further details are on our French website:

[http://www.reseaumichee.org/home/evenements/evenements\\_a\\_venir/burkina\\_faso](http://www.reseaumichee.org/home/evenements/evenements_a_venir/burkina_faso)

Enquiries: **Anne Simpore** [sympanna@hotmail.com](mailto:sympanna@hotmail.com) or **Ines Lompo**

[Ines.Lompo@tearfund.org](mailto:Ines.Lompo@tearfund.org)

### Forum

## Disability Forum

*Report from the inaugural meeting*



Cambodia mine victim, CBM Australia

The Micah Network Disability Forum had its inaugural meeting alongside the Asia Pacific Consultation.

Draft terms of reference for the new forum are being considered by the groups members. The purposes of the group include:

- to link Micah Network members working on or concerned with disability
- to advocate on disability inclusion as a critical development and ministry issue for Micah Network members and the broader community
- to share information, learnings, strategies and resources (eg technical support publications, theological reflections, case studies, good practices, policy and briefing papers and training materials)
- to better equip one another to respond to disability to link and integrate disability and development practice
- to develop the Micah Network website section on disability as a resource for information sharing, case studies, reflection and learning on disability  
<http://en.micahnetwork.org/home/resources/disability>
- to provide a space for fellowship and prayer for our work on disability
- to provide a space for development and dissemination of theological reflection on disability in different cultural and contextual settings
- to develop good practice guidelines and other resources where needed to act as a resource for the wider Micah Network member base (eg capacity building, speaking into the church and advocacy)

To find out more about the Disability Forum, contact **Paul Deany** at **Christian Blind Mission International (Australia)** [pdeany@cbmi.org.au](mailto:pdeany@cbmi.org.au) or **Mary Martin** at **United Mission to Nepal** [mary.martin@umn.org.np](mailto:mary.martin@umn.org.np)

## Gender Forum

*A new forum for gender practitioners*

A new forum for gender practitioners and those who'd like to learn more about gender issues will be forming next month.

Please contact **Mandy Marshall** [Amanda.Marshall@tearfund.org](mailto:Amanda.Marshall@tearfund.org) if you'd like to be part of the initial group. More news about the Gender Forum next month!

## Advocacy Forum

*News from Micah Network's Advocacy Forum*



**climate change will become a priority of advocacy forum in 2008**

A report from the Advocacy Forum meeting held in Malaysia earlier this month can be found on our website:

[http://en.micahnetwork.org/home/forums/advocacy\\_forum](http://en.micahnetwork.org/home/forums/advocacy_forum)

The priorities of the Micah Network Forum are currently:

- To develop joint actions/lobbying and/or to provide a platform for strategic support for members' actions
- To develop specific Christian messages on particular policy issues
- To provide discussion/learning – 3 or 4 facilitated discussions per year
- To provide policy support to Micah Challenge campaigns

A series of facilitated discussions will be taking place in the Advocacy Forum, with the first one entitled "How to develop active citizenship" to be facilitated by **Michael Smitheram**.

To find out more about the Advocacy Forum, or to join, contact **Ben Thurley** [ben@tear.org.au](mailto:ben@tear.org.au)

### General

## Media for Mumbai churches

*Story of member agency, IMCARES*

**Timothy Gaikwad** from **IMCARES** India shares with us a youtube video of his organisation's work in Mumbai. It's called *Masiha Aaya Hai – A Saviour is Come* (English subtitles).

Please visit the following site to view the video: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N3\\_IzMtwnw0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N3_IzMtwnw0)

## Invitation to Australian members

*Upcoming seminar series*

Member agency **Co-Aid** would like to extend an invitation to Australian members of Micah Network to a series of seminars in Melbourne (28 Nov), Sydney (29 Nov) and Brisbane (30 Nov) focusing on tax and compliance issues relating to overseas aid organisations.

For more information, or to register your interest, please visit <http://www.co-aid.org/page.php?page=whatiscoaid>

## Prayer

*Recent prayer requests*



Sue Lee Chew, Malaysian Care

Please pray for:

- Micah Network's inaugural Francophone consultation being held in Burkina Faso from 19-23 November 2007
- The second meeting of Micah Network's Africa coordinating group, to be held in Burkina Faso on 24 and 25 November 2007
- The crisis in Zimbabwe over the ongoing economic problems and the impact of the AIDS virus.

We encourage all our members to contribute to the weekly prayer update.

Please email any requests for prayer by each Friday to [support@micahnetwork.org](mailto:support@micahnetwork.org). Thank you for your prayers.

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### CONTACT MICAH NETWORK

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Sent by: Anita Deutschmann (E) - [support@micahnetwork.org](mailto:support@micahnetwork.org)

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Micah Network,  
Australia

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The vision of organization  
appears here  
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