

Sample Action Plans drafted during AMI Open Forum 12 – 14 April 2007

1. There will be 50,000 AMI members and Affiliated Societies in 50 countries

Purpose

- Increase funds
- Empower Montessori Movement
- Spread understanding of Montessori
- Reach more children

Action Plan

Membership

Related to Awareness

- Increase awareness that anyone can be an AMI member
- Encourage parent membership

Related to Benefits

- Create a range of benefits for AMI members such as discounts on conferences, materials and books, preferential access to a website as an AMI member
- Create incentives to remain members for an extended period of time
- Underwrite cost of membership for everyone attending Congress in India
- Write a document giving a short history of AMI and reasons to be a member

Related to membership fee

- Actively encourage life members
- Actively encourage members to pay by direct debit
- Differentiation of fee to account for local currency

Capitalising on existing members

- Ensure that the fee the Affiliates are charging also includes AMI membership so that every Affiliate member must also be a member of AMI
- Put an effective mechanism in place for keeping students on as members after they qualify

Related to Communicating

- Develop a way of cascading communicating about AMI through Affiliates and Training Centres to schools

Affiliated Societies

- Assess current agreement terms between AMI and Affiliate to make sure that the agreement is comprehensive, empowering and not restrictive
- Identify potential groups that would be interested in Affiliation in countries where there are presently no Affiliates
- Build relationships with potential Affiliate groups
- Plan a symposium or regional seminar for interested groups to explain what is expected of an Affiliate and what support AMI can give
- Develop a document explaining what it means to have this kind of partnership
- Identify existing Affiliates to mentor new Affiliates

Timetable and milestones

The milestones would be measured by counting the numbers of Affiliates and members

Membership

2008 – 2000

2009 – 3000

2010 – 4000

2011 – 5000

2012 – 2017 – 6000 per year

Target numbers would be presented in regions and countries – depending on the current situation and what is perceived to be possible

Affiliates

2008 – 3

2009 – 3

2010 – 3

2011 – 3

2012 – 3

2013 – 2017 – 4 per year

Deliverables

Membership

Motivational Document – what is AMI and why should you join?

Affiliates

Seminar package – ‘How and why to become an Affiliate’

Actions to support the milestones and timetable

- Person responsible centrally – someone from the membership and partnership committee - to track progress and a person responsible locally – one per country and or region
- Existing Affiliates to act as a mentor for new Affiliates

Alarm system

Each person co-ordinating the programme locally should report regularly to the central person. If the milestones are not being reached identify the possible causes and act:

- The local co-ordinator is not the right person
- The local co-ordinator has not fully understood the process
- Additional support needs to be supplied locally
- Suggested milestone was unrealistic

2. Identify research needs and conduct research projects in order to refine our pedagogical understanding and inform the research of others

Identify, encourage and disseminate a body of research that:

- continues the inquiry into universal human development,
- substantiates and furthers the implementation of the Montessori pedagogy,
- creates connections and a dialogue with agencies, institutions, governments and universities that work with children,
- targets the variety of issues that arise in different countries

Goals for expanding the research:

- a means of connection to the outside world
- informing other people/institutions who work with children
- developing awareness of Montessori as being concerned with human development and not just young children's education

Key Areas of research:

- furthering Dr. Montessori's scientific pedagogy by continuing the inquiry into a deeper understanding of universal human development
- duplicate studies on outcomes of Montessori (like the Milwaukee study) but done internationally/cross-culturally.
- set targeted areas of research, for example: the Scandinavian need for studies showing the emphasis on children's social abilities; the Japanese need for documenting the benefits of a multi-age group; the Pakistani need for research showing effective parenting skill programs. Identify areas of Montessori practice that have yet to be documented scientifically.
- identify and incorporate existing (both internal and independent/external) research and developing projects

Means

- tie-in with universities
- look to scientific and medical fields for existing research
- communicate that AMI Montessori has the controlled environments that researchers need – that the variables are all covered through the controls of a prepared environment, controlled ages, consistent materials, and uniform teacher training across cultures.

Timeframe

- initiate 4-6 duplicate studies (i.e. Lillard Milwaukee 2006) in international settings by 2012, with completion by 2017.
- Launch an effort to conduct research on targeted areas by 2010.
- Publish 2+ books correlating Montessori pedagogy with current scientific research by 2015.
- Establish a practice of having 2-4 mainstream professional journal articles annually, in order to create a Montessori presence in academic dialogues.

3. Develop an organisational capacity that fully supports the outreach activities

- Parent Support Initiative: to promote the dissemination of the “aid to life” principles
- To develop the outreach capacity of the ESF.
- To develop a centre of expertise to support the work of specialists in the field of Special Educational Needs.
- To create a liaison to other organisations through specialist AMI Ambassadors for every target group.
- Develop a training structure for non-AMI trained parties.

Parent Support initiative - Key Deliverables by 2009

- Website (Parent Support) (Central)
- Parenting Course-in-a-Box (Central)
- Parent Centres (schools) offering introductions, workshops, seminars, etc. (local)
- Train the Trainers/Seminar Leaders (local)
- Training material/ course giveaways; flyers, booklets, Videos, books (Central)

ESF – Key Deliverables by 2010

- Add capacity through strong liaison with other organisations (UN, Red Cross, etc.) (global)
- Develop unity and strength of group through strategic plans, administrative support. (central)
- Develop research potentials and dissemination. (central)

Special Educational Needs (SEN)– Key Deliverables by 2010

- Develop a Centre of Expertise to disseminate information and to support field workers (website, key contacts, partner groups). (central)
- Develop case study literature, research reports, etc. to highlight efficacy of approach. (central)
- Develop SEN-specific workshops/seminars to share key principles. (local)
- Liaise with other organisations in SEN fields to promote the efficacy of a Montessori approach. (global)

AMI Ambassadors – Key Deliverables by 2012

- Develop a resource of key individuals to liaise with global and national organisations, (UNICEF, UNESCO, UN, Red Cross, Corporate Companies, etc.) including governments (central) to create essential partnering resources (personnel, expertise, finances).
- Provide briefing materials and training for Ambassadors (central/local) to ensure efficacy

Non-AMI Training Guidance – Key Deliverables by 2012

- Develop an effective strategy that addresses issues/historical concerns between AMI and non-AMI trained graduates and to allow open dialogues.
- Develop training courses/strategies to assist non-AMI grads