



December 7-8, 2016, New Delhi



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Vipin Sharma CEO, ACCESS Development Services









WELCOME TO LIVELIHOODS ASIA 2016

For the last six years, ACCESS Development Services has successfully organized its flagship initiative, the Livelihoods Asia Summit. The Summit is aimed at showcasing best practices, sharing experience and addressing key challenges and issues faced by the livelihoods sector and also informing and influencing policy. For the past two years the initiative has been restyled and broadened to span the Asia region, thereby setting the stage for a variety of stakeholders to come together and deliberate on critical issues that impede and advance the livelihoods of the poor. The broad ambit of discussions at the Summit aims to arrive at a consensus on strategies that will deliver sustainable livelihoods outcomes.

The Livelihoods Asia Summit 2016 is being held between December 7 and 8, 2016 in New Delhi, India. The Summit will see participation of over 450 delegates from around 8 countries in the region and the 13 sessions across the two days will explore policies, programs, scalable solutions and various approaches that address the issue of poverty & livelihoods across countries in Asia. The Focus Country at the Summit 2016 is Sri Lanka.

This year the Summit begins with the Session on Sustainable Development Goals – Achieving Inclusive and Equitable Growth. Other important sessions at the Summit will focus on Doubling Farmers Income by 2022, Youth in Agriculture, Climate Resilient Agriculture, Self-Employment, Inclusive Value Chains, Revitalizing the Handloom Sector, Technology Led Skill Development, Rethinking Cooperatives, Making Agriculture Markets Inclusive for Women, Financing Climate Change and Corporate Social Responsibility.

As per tradition, the annual State of India's Livelihoods Report (SOIL) will be released at the Inaugural session of the Summit. The Sitaram Rao Case Study Compendium, another annual publication, will be released at the Valedictory session. This year the compendium focuses on Sustainable Innovations in Agriculture.

I take this opportunity to gratefully acknowledge the support of our Core Sponsors the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation and The World Bank; our Co-Sponsors NABARD and IFAD and our Technical Partners GIZ and IRMA; our Anchor Partners Hand In Hand, CARE-India, ACTED-Sri Lanka and Chrysalis; and our Knowledge Partner Rabobank.

I hope that the knowledge shared through the Summit sessions will contribute to research, practice and further dialogue on livelihoods initiatives for the poor across Asia and we anticipate that the Livelihoods Asia Summit will provide an accessible and common platform for policy makers and practitioners alike.

Vipin Sharma CEO ACCESS Development Services



Programme Schedule





9:15 to 10:15 am	Inaugural Session
	Introduction to the Summit and Welcome Address
	Vipin Sharma, CEO, ACCESS Development Services
	Special Address
	 Amarjeet Sinha, Secretary (Rural Development),
	Ministry of Rural Development, Government of
	India
	Presentation on State of India's Livelihoods (SOIL)
	Report 2016
	N. Srinivasan, Expert, Development Finance and
	Rural Livelihoods
	 Girija Srinivasan, Expert, Development Finance and Rural Livelihoods
	Release: State of India's Livelihoods Report 2016
	Inaugural Address
	Amitabh Kant, CEO, Niti Aayog
10:15 to 11:30 am	Plenary Session I: Sustainable Development Goals –
	Achieving Inclusive and Equitable Growth
	While the Millennium Development Goals didn't
	specifically call out the need for economic growth and jobs to alleviate poverty, the introduction of Sustainable
	Development Goal 8 that aims to "promote sustained,
	inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and
	productive employment and decent work for all" is a welcome move. It's also indicative of the move away from
	aid towards trade, growth, jobs and the self-sufficiency
	and dignity of individuals, communities and nations. This
	session will delve into the challenges that countries will
	face and efforts and investment they will need to make in achieving the SDG of inclusive and equitable growth for
	its people.
	Moderator Samik Sundar Das, Senior Rural Development Specialist,
	World Bank
	Panelists
	Gaurav Gogoi, Member of Parliament
	• Rasha Omar, Country Representative in India, IFAD
	Saibal Baroi, Head – Advocacy, CARE IndiaShiranthi Rathnayake, Additional Director General,
	Department of National Planning, Ministry of
	Finance and Planning, Sri Lanka
	Ratnesh, Management Specialist, UNDP
	Nisha Agarwal, CEO, Oxfam India

Livelihoods Asia Summit 2016

11:30 to 12:00 noon	Networking Break
12:00 to 1:15 pm	Plenary Session II: Doubling Farmers Income by 2022
	- The Feasibility of Meeting this Critical Challenge While India has achieved commendable position in food production, farming itself is increasingly becoming non- profitable over time due to rising costs and uneconomical holdings. In order to think beyond food security and give back to our farmers a sense of income security, the Government of India plans to reorient its interventions and commit new investments in the farm sector to double the income of the farmers by 2022. However, when measured in real terms, the income growth between 2002- 03 and 2012-13 was only 5.24 per cent and doubling of income would take almost 14 years at this rate. In such a scenario how realistic is the challenge of doubling the income of farmers by 2022? What needs to be done to achieve a doubling of real income? Are there innovations and best practices on the ground that helps in reducing input costs and enhancing productivity? Would a focus on income from cultivation alone be adequate? The discussion will take into account the above questions while drawing on precedence from other countries in the region.
	Moderator Ajay Vir Jakhar, Chairman, Bharat Krishak Samaj (Farmers' Forum, India)
	 Panelists H.R. Dave, Deputy Managing Director, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Dr. Purvi Mehta Bhatt, Deputy Director & Head of Agriculture-Asia, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Scott E. Justice, Agricultural Mechanisation Specialist, CIMMYT, Nepal Kalikesh Singh Deo, Member of Parliament T. Vijay Kumar, former Special Secretary, Agriculture, Government of Andhra Pradesh
1:15 to 2:15 pm	Networking Break



2:15 to 3:30 pm	Technical Sessions
	Technical Session I: Youth in Agriculture – New
	Generation Agri-preneursThere is a noticeable and welcome trend among a sectionof youth with professional degrees to forsake conventionaljob options and start entrepreneurial agri-based ventures.Mostly coming from non-agriculture backgrounds, theybring fresh insights within the agri-business space and usetheir professional expertise to make the ventures sustainable,scalable and replicable. This session brings a few such agri-preneurs together, and aims to learn from their experienceand insights while looking at their motivation to take thiscourse, the opportunities that they identified, the personaland professional challenges that they faced and share theirexperiences. The session will also aim at identifying the kindof systemic support required to attract more young peopleinto this sector. Moderator Madhukar Shukla, Professor, XLRIPanelists• Ashmeet Kapoor, Founder & CEO, I Say Organic• Biswajit Bordoloi, Founder-President, Axum Agri• Kaushlendra, Founder & Managing Trustee,
	Kaushalya FoundationShashank Kumar, Co-Founder, Farms and Farmers (FnF)
	Technical Session II: Towards Climate Resilient Agriculture in South Asia
	Climate change is a reality that is impacting the world we live in, the air we breathe and the food we eat. With the signing of the Paris Agreement, and India's recent ratification of it, one of the key themes of the Livelihoods Asia Summit in is Climate Resilient Agriculture (CRA). The theme is important because agriculture is central to reducing poverty and increasing shared prosperity in developing economies like India, and South Asian agriculture is especially vulnerable to climate change. The CRA session will invite experts and practitioners to discuss options and solutions to make agriculture and rural livelihoods climate resilient. The session will explore strategies for enabling farmers to cope with climate variability through land, water, crop and livestock management.
	Moderator Priti Kumar, Senior Agriculture Specialist, Food and Agrigutture Clobal Practice, World Bank



Panelists

- Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture
- Crispino Lobo, Co-founder and Managing Trustee, WOTR
- Bharati Joshi, Technical Director, Economic Development Unit, CARE India
- Unnikrishnan Divakaran Nair, Senior Advisor, GIZ
- Meike van Ginneken, Practice Manager, Water Global Practice, World Bank

Technical Session III: Self-Employment: Augmenting Opportunities for Livelihoods

In the developing countries, self-employment is the norm with large sections of the population engaged in the unorganized sector. Today, when economic growth has slowed down and jobs in the organized sector are growing at less than required pace, self-employment assumes even greater importance. However, the self-employed are concentrated in the high-poverty-risk, low-averageearnings categories. Many businesses of the poor are less a testimony to their entrepreneurial spirit and more a symptom of the failure of the formal economies in which they live to provide them with something better. Given this reality, how could Government, Non-government organizations and Corporates synergise their efforts to increase earnings of the self-employed? How can we create an enabling environment to augment the returns for the self-employed in their current activities? This session will deliberate on efforts including innovative models and partnerships to boost self-employment opportunities, issues and challenges faced and look at the way forward.

Moderator

Dr. Madhu Sharan, Vice President - North India Operations, Hand in Hand India

Panelists

- Jaikant Singh, Head-Partnership & State Alliance, National Skill Development Corporation
- K. Saraswati, Secretary General, Madras Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Gamini Herath, President, CEFE NET, Sri Lanka
- Alka Upadhyay, Joint Secretary (Skills), Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India
- Sadna Samaranayake, Project Director, Ultra-Poor Graduation Initiative, BRAC



3:30 to 4:00 pm	Networking Break
4:00 to 5:30 pm	Plenary Session III: Inclusive Value Chains – Developing Models of Distributive Justice
	From a development perspective, value chains are one of the instruments through which market forces can be harnessed to benefit the poor – not just producers, but wage earners, service providers and others. Effective participation in value chains is also attracting attention as a way of achieving broad development outcomes such as poverty reduction. Inclusive value chains have significant impacts on primary producers through enhancing economic sustainability by creating higher incomes and social sustainability by facilitating more equitable distribution of added value among stakeholders. This session will focus on how inclusive value chains can be developed towards greater distributive justice, transparency and greater accrual of benefits to the primary producer. It will also highlight cases of adapting value chain principles in a few sub-sectors as well as some key challenges of working with specific value chain approaches to enable the producers to benefit more.
	Moderator Prof. Malcolm Harper, Professor Emeritus, Cranfield School of Management
	 Panelists Achala Samaradivakara, Director & Co- Founder of Lanka Good Market (Guarantee Limited), Sri Lanka Dr. G. Senthil Kumar, Executive Director, CARE India Mr. Vipin Sharma, CEO, ACCESS Development Services Anil Kumar SG, Founder and Managing Director, Samunnati Value Chain Finance



Day 2: December 08

9:30 to 10:45 am

Plenary Session IV: Revitalising the Handloom Sector – Creating an Enabling Environment

The Handloom Sector is the second largest unorganized economic activity after agriculture and constitutes an integral part of the rural and semi-rural livelihood. Handloom weaving constitutes a rich and vibrant aspect of several economies in South Asia. The sector has an advantage of being less capital intensive, using power minimally, eco-friendly, openness to innovations and adaptability to market requirements. Yet the number of handloom weavers is declining sharply. Currently, the Indian law requires 11 products to be exclusively produced on handloom. It also protects handloom weaves from being copied by powerloom owners. Inspite of this reservation, powerloom products masquerading as handloom products have shrunk market shares substantially. Not only is the skilled labour shifting to other sectors, the younger generation is not adopting weaving profession due to lower wages and tough working conditions. There are other issues as well such as serious constrains of credit availability and markets. In this context, the session proposes to examine the challenges underlying the handloom sector and propose steps to rejuvenate the traditional handloom industry, while learning from other countries in the region.

Moderator

Jaya Jaitly, Founder, Dastkari Haat Samiti

Chair

Alok Kumar, Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India

Panelists

- Adarsh Kumar, Senior Agribusiness Specialist, World
 Bank
- Selyna D. Peiris, Director Business Development, Selyn Fair Trade, Sri Lanka
- Dr. Annapurna M., Sector Expert
- Suraiya Chowdhury, Adviser Design, Prokritee, Bangladesh
- Girija Srinivasan, Expert Development Finance and Rural Livelihoods

10:45 to 11:15 am

Networking Break



11:15 am to 12:45 pm

Plenary Session V: Technology Led Skill Development

Numerous innovations in the technology space are now beginning to show potential for enabling breakthroughs in skilling for delivering higher value to target stakeholders. Technology is being used to lower the costs and bring out substantive improvements in the quality of skill development. In a scenario where the availability of high quality instructors is at an all-time low, technology makes it possible to reach speed, standardisation, scale, cost, and quality across as many trainees as needed. The rapid technological leaps made in recent years also offer the opportunity to trainers for improvements in pedagogy, delivery, the approach to instruction. Use of technology to conduct more nuanced assessments, provides more useful detail about people's innate abilities and a better gauge of personality traits can help increase productivity and reduce turnover. Other firms dedicated to connecting the right job seeker with the right employer in the informal segment, are using internet, mobile apps and a variety of other technology led routes. This session will examine the current ecosystem for technology led skill development across the skill development value chain. It will take a look at some of the innovations in products, services and processes emerging in this space. It will also shed some valuable insights into the opportunities and challenges that could emerge with the use of technology in skill development.

Moderator

Rahil Rangwala, Director, Family Economic Stability, Michael & Susan Dell Foundation

Panelists

- Shivaam Sharma, Founder & CEO, Trans Neuron Technologies Pvt. Ltd.
- Surga Thilakan, Co-Founder & CEO, iStar Skill
 Development
- Sean Blagsvedt, Founder & CEO, Babajob.com
- Mahesh Venkateshwaran, Lead Industry Partnerships and SIMO Project, National Skill Development Corporation
- Guy Halfteck, Founder & CEO, Knack

12:45 to 1:30 pm

Networking Break



1:30 to 2:45 pm	Technical Sessions
	Technical Session IV: Rethinking Cooperation
	Cooperatives have been the preferred form of state policy in the past. There are several examples to show how collective action can lead to poverty reduction and sustainable livelihoods. With greater integration of economies with global markets and value chains, cooperatives as business entities have had to deal with enhanced competition even as their goals of providing greater consumer rupee to primary producers remain. Internally, excessive state interference and regulation has stifled innovation and many cooperatives find it difficult to survive without excessive state patronage. Further, small and marginal farmers, tenants, women and tribals have often not benefitted from and many times excluded from possible advantages of collective action and cooperative enterprises. Recent changes in enabling formation of Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs) in India has helped in greater inclusion and spread of agricultural cooperatives in newer and more competitive institutional forms. However, many of these FPCs often struggle beyond initial promotional stages. The session would seek to draw upon a rich set of experiences to look at conditions under which cooperatives work. It will explore how producer collectives can be part of recent initiatives like Start up India and Make in India. It would also seek to learn from ongoing experiments and discussions on cooperation internationally. Drawing from their own work the panelists would be encouraged to speak on the challenges that they see in rethinking cooperation in today's times.
	Moderator Prof. C. Shambu Prasad, Professor, Institute of Rural Management, Anand
	 Panelists T Nanda Kumar, Chairman, Board of Governors, Institute of Rural Managament, Anand Bala Subramaniam (Balu) Iyer, Regional Director Asia and Pacific, International Co-operative Alliance ICA-AP Pravesh Sharma, former Managing Director, Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) Arindom Datta, Asia Head, Sustainability Banking, Rabobank Smita Premchander, Secretary, SAMPARK



Technical Session V: Financing Climate Change

Climate finance refers to local, national or transnational financing, which may be drawn from public, private and alternative sources of financing. Climate finance is critical to addressing climate change because large-scale investments are required to significantly reduce emissions, notably in sectors that emit large quantities of greenhouse gases. Climate finance is equally important for adaptation, for which significant financial resources will be similarly required to allow countries to adapt to the adverse effects and reduce the impacts of climate change. Equally significant is the way in which these resources are transferred to and accessed by developing countries. Developing countries need to know that financial resources are predictable, sustainable, and that the channels used allow them to utilize the resources directly without difficulty. This session aims to characterize pathways through which climate finance can facilitate the implementation of India's Nationally Determined Contributions contextualized in the broader sustainable development agenda. Such pathways involve multiple actors ranging from public to private sector at different scales from the local to the global. The panelists of this session will present these diverse perspectives and their experiences of working with climate finance in India. They will also discuss the opportunities and challenges for financing climate change in India especially in the context of development of institutional capacities to access finance and a pipeline of projects.

Moderator

Ashish Chaturvedi, Director-Climate Change, Indo-German Environment Partnership-Rural Areas.

Panelists

- Sabine Preuss, Director, Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resource Management, GIZ India
- B. Kalyan Chakravarthy, Director General, EPTRI, Government of Telangana
- Ms. Rajasree Ray. Climate Change Finance Specialist, Government of India
- Sunil Kumar, General Manager, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

2:45 to 3:15 pm

Networking Break



3:15 to 4:30 pm

Plenary Session VI: Corporate Social Responsibility – Mutually Reinforcing Partnerships on Ground

India is the first country to mandate corporates to invest in social programmes. This means that over 16,000 companies will be required to invest over INR 15,000 Crores annually under CSR. While several Companies have their own Foundations to take forward their CSR mandate, many more are seeking partnerships on the ground, looking for credible partners. How Companies are developing these partnership parameters, what due diligence mechanisms they are putting in place and how some of these experiences have gone are issues that this session will explore. The session will also look at how NGOs need to build their capacities to better respond and partner with corporates.

Moderator

Vijay Mahajan, Founder, BASIX Group

Panelists

•	Manoj Aggarwal, Head – Business Development &
	Public Affairs, Cairn India Ltd.

- Animesh Kumar, Head HR, Brand & Foundation, IDFC Bank
- Sonia Shrivastava, Head, Vodafone Foundation
- Dr. Joy Deshmukh Ranadive, Global Head, Corporate Social Responsibility, Tata Consultancy Services

4:30 to 5:30 pm

Valedictory Session

Summary of Deliberations

Prof. Malcolm Harper, Professor Emeritus, Cranfield School of Management

Special Address

Dr. Arvind Mayaram, Former Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Government of India

Release of Sitaram Rao Livelihoods Asia Case Study Compendium and Felicitation of Winners

Valedictory Address

Sanjaya Senanayake Mudalige, Director General, Department of National Planning, Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs, Sri Lanka



Guest Speakers & R<u>esource Person</u>s







Amitabh Kant CEO, Niti Aayog

Mr Amitabh Kant is presently posted as CEO, NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India). He was till recently Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP). Amitabh Kant is a member of the Indian Administrative Service, IAS (Kerala Cadre: 1980

Batch). He is the author of "Branding India – An Incredible Story" and has been a key driver of "Make in India", Startup India, "Incredible India" and "God's Own Country" campaigns which positioned and branded India and Kerala State as leading tourism destinations. These campaigns have won several international awards and embraced a host of activities – infrastructure development, product enhancement, private-public partnership and positioning and branding. Amitabh Kant has worked as Chairman & CEO, Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corporation, CMD – ITDC, Joint Secretary – Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, Secretary – Tourism, Government of Kerala, Managing Director, Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation, District Collector, Kozikhode and Managing Director, Matsyafed. Amitabh Kant did his schooling from Modern School, Delhi, Graduation in Economics (Hons) from St. Stephens, Delhi University and M.A from Jawaharlal Nehru University. He is a Chevening Scholar.



Dr. Arvind Mayaram Former Finance Secretary of India

Arvind Mayaram has a PhD in Finance. Presently he is an independent thinker and Chairman, CUTS Institute for Regulation & Competition. He has earlier held the positions of Finance Secretary and Special Secretary in Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India. He has also

been the Alternate Governor for India on the Boards of World Bank, ADB and African Development Bank. He was India's finance deputy in G20 and BRICS. He was also on the Boards of the Reserve Bank of India and the Securities Exchanges Board of India. He was India's chief negotiator for BRICS New Development Bank and Asian Infrastructure Development Bank, and co-chair of the Framework Working Group of G-20. He spearheaded the establishment of the framework for mainstreaming Public Private Partnership in India and designed the first PPP module for delivering infrastructure in the rural areas. He was Vice President of the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA), formed under the aegis of UNCtAD, UNIDO, FIAS and MIGA for two terms in early 2000. He has been an investment promotion expert with the UNCTAD for several years and his expertise in the area of PPPs is internationally acknowledged.





Sanjaya Senanayake Mudalige Director General, Department of National Planning, Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs, Sri Lanka

Mr. S. S. Mudalige is currently serving as the Director General of the Department of National Planning which comes under the purview of Ministry of National Policies and

Economic Affairs. The Department is the apex body of the country responsible for the formulation of the Public Investment Strategy and the Public Investment Programme. The Department is also involved in preparation of long/medium terms plans, recommendation of project proposals for funding after review and provision of necessary policy inputs to line Ministries and agencies. He has obtained a BSc degree in Physical Science with Honours from the University of Kelaniya and a Post Graduate Diploma in Regional Development Planning and Management from the University of Dortmund, Germany. He has also obtained a Master's Degree in the field of Regional Development Planning and Management from the University of Philippines, Manila. He joined the Sri Lanka Planning Service in 1994 and has served in various positions as a planner at national and regional levels. In addition, he has held Director positions in various Government Organizations.



Amarjeet Sinha

Secretary (Rural Development), Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India

Amarjeet Sinha is a 1983 batch IAS officer of Bihar cadre. He has over 30 years of experience in government, largely in the social sector. He has played a major role in designing Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the National Rural

Health Mission. Amarjeet has published many books and articles. His book, "An India for Everyone - A Path to Inclusive Development", was released by Nobel Laureate AmartyaSen in 2013. He has been conferred the Honorary Fellowship of the Indian Public Health Association and is a Member of the International Independent Review Committee of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI). He has carried out many assignments for international agencies. Amarjeet has also served as the Education/ Human Development Adviser with the Department for International Development, Government of United Kingdom, 2001-2005. Amarjeet was nominated a Member of the High Level Expert Group on Universal Health Coverage and a Member of the Inter Ministerial Group on Malnutrition and ICDS reform. A student of St. Stephen's College, Amarjeet is a recipient of the National Talent Scholarship, the Rhodes Scholarship, and the Oxford Cambridge Society of India Scholarship.





Manoj Aggarwal Head – Business Development & Public Affairs, Cairn India Ltd.

Manoj has 30 years of experience in the industry in India. He is currently responsible for multifaceted coordination and service operations at the prolific Rajasthan oilfields of the company, conceptualizing, planning, implementing and

monitoring CSR activities; strategic relationship building; policy advocacy at various industry associations, State Government of Rajasthan and Gujarat; Government of India as well as community elders and other members of civic society in the operational areas of Cairo. Manoj also spearheads the operational facilitation and regulatory compliance management of core operations in our Oil and Gas exploration and projection activities on one hand and supporting key initiatives such as new business development, land management and major CSR initiatives on the other. Manoj holds a Bachelors' Degree in Mechanical Engineering and an MBA in Management Control Systems from IIM Lucknow. He also holds a Degree of Masters in Administration & Public Management from University of Paris – Pantheon Sorbonne. He has also been trained at French National Academy of Administration, Paris and Academy of International Law, Hague. His work experience prior to Cairn includes a stint with Highways – DSC Limited as CEO, a stint with Delhi Integrated Multi Modal Transit System, and a long career spanning over 15 years with the Government in various regulatory and development domains.



Nisha Agrawal CEO, OXFAM-India

Nisha has been working on poverty, inequality and development issues for more than three decades. She has been the CEO of Oxfam India since its inception in March 2008. Prior to that, she has worked with the World Bank on development issues for 18 years. Nisha has extensive

experience of working in countries in the East Asia Region (Cambodia, Vietnam and Indonesia) and in the East Africa Region (Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda). She has a Doctorate in Economics from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, USA. She has also worked as a Research Economist at the Impact Research Centre, University of Melbourne, Australia.





Saibal Baroi Head – Advocacy, CARE India

Saibal is an impact oriented and results driven professional proficient in leading national programmes. He has designed and managed country wide initiatives with expertise in working with government, alliances of civil society, community and donors. He has also successfully designed programmes for

marginalized social groups. Influencing public policies and strengthening civil society engagement for sustainable socio-economic development around education health, child rights, gender and livelihood in India are his areas of engagement. He possesses a strong niche in leadership, networking, team building and presentations for working within multi-stakeholder environment.



Dr. Purvi Mehta Bhatt

Deputy Director & Head Agriculture-Asia, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Dr. Purvi Mehta-Bhatt has her formal education, upto PhD, from M.S. University, India, Tokyo University, Japan and North Carolina State University- USA. She is working with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation as senior advisor and

heads the foundation's agriculture programs in South Asia. Dr. Mehta has worked with the CGIAR (International Agriculture), as head of Asia of the International Livestock Research Institute, with IFPRI and USAID. Trained as an agriculture biotechnologist, she is well known for her work in translating scientific research into large scale development programs, scaling and policy interventions in over 17 countries. Dr. Mehta is on the Board of several organisations, including IAEH-Canada and ICRA-Netherlands. Dr. Mehta has two books and over 48 publications to her credit. She has given talks and addresses in over 90 international conferences in 53 countries. She has been a recipient of several national and international recognitions, including the recent national award on 'Agriculture Leadership' from Agriculture Today magazine.





Sean Blagsvedt Founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Babajob.com

Sean Blagsvedt is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and founder at Babajob.com, India's largest livelihood marketplace, facilitating jobs for the next billion. At present, Babajob has seven million job seekers and over 450,000

employers. Before starting babajob.com, Sean spent 9 years with Microsoft in the Office, Windows and Research groups. In 2004, he moved to Bangalore as the 3rd member of Microsoft Research India, heading the Program Management and Advanced Prototyping team, focusing on novel approaches to mobile phones and technology in emerging markets. Prior to Microsoft, he was working at the White House with Internet Policy Czar–Ira Magaziner. Sean holds a degree in Computer Science and Public Policy from Brown University. Sean's vision for Babajob stemmed from his focus on innovative technology adoption in emerging markets, and Duke University and World Bank research. For his contribution to organizing the informal sector in India through Babajob, Sean received the Namma Bengaluru award for Best Foreign Resident in 2014. He is a TED Fellow and is married to Jaaga.in founder Archana Prasad, with whom he shares a wonderful son, Vyom, and dog, Berlin.



Biswajit Bordoloi Founder-President, Axum Agri

Biswajit Bordoloi is the founder of Axum Agri, which works in Margherita Sub-Division of Assam with a vision to "Transform Traditional Farming Communities into Sustainable Livelihood Ventures". He is a Mechanical Engineer who passed out of UPTU in the year 2007. After

that, he worked for Mahindra Satyam as a Software Developer for a span 3 years. During his stint at Mahindra Satyam, Biswajit had the opportunity to work for reputed clients like National Australian Bank which provided him with an exposure to the cross-cultural, highly professional corporate world. In 2011, Biswajit quit his job to pursue higher education at XLRI, Jamshedpur, where he opted for its unique Entrepreneurship Management Program. It is at XLRI that Biswajit found his calling in the field of agriculture.





B. Kalyan Chakravarthy Director General, Environmental Protection Training and Research Institute, Government of Telangana

B. Kalyan Chakravarthy is the Director General of EPTRI. EPTRI has had many achievements spanning financial performance, building internal systems and certifications, training, innovative initiatives and gaining many important

foreign assignments. B. Kalyan Chakravarthy joined the Indian Administrative Service in 1995. As part of District Administration, he worked on controlling extremism in North East, initiating measures for development of youth and working on women's empowerment. He has worked on the 'Look East Policy' and was the originator of a Pilot for taxation information system for the North East, later adopted for the country. He has also been a Key Member for VAT Policy implementation in the country. Shri. Chakravarthy has been responsible for successfully implementing the World Bank assisted the Assam Agricultural Competitiveness Project (AACP). As General Manager, Food Corporation of India, he has worked on maintaining quality standards of procurement in the second largest procurement state of the country Andhra Pradesh, started the depot online system which ensures food security for the country and introduced transportation through ships for food grains. Shri. Chakravarthy has a B.Tech (Mechanical Engineering) from IIT, Madras; Post Graduate in Management from IIM, Ahmadabad; Bachelor of Law from Osmania University, Hyderabad and is pursuing a Ph.D in Management and Economics from Osmania University.



Ashish Chaturvedi

Director-Climate Change, Indo-German Environment Partnership-Rural Areas, GIZ India

Ashish specialises in climate change mitigation and adaptation, waste management, sustainable consumption and production, and environmental policy. His current focus is on policy and knowledge management aspects of climate change.

During 2014-2016, Ashish worked as a Fellow in the Green Transformations Cluster of the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Sussex and as a Senior Fellow with adelphi, a German think tank. From 2006-2014, he led the Policy for Environment and Climate component of the bilateral Indo-German Environment Programme. As a Senior Advisor with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, he advised the Indian Ministries and Departments at various levels of Government and implemented projects in the area of waste/resource management, climate change and economic instruments. Ashish has published extensively in books, journals and general interest magazines. He has also presented at various national and international conferences. A PhD in Economics from the University of California, Ashish's PhD thesis explored the role of influence activities on democratic policy making processes.





Suraiya Chowdhury Advisor – Design, Prokritee, Bangladesh

Suraiya Chowdhury is Director / Advisor / PMT member / Design & Research at Prokritee, Bangladesh. She has been a Designer at Ten Thousand Village USA, Mennonite Central Committee. Suraiya has also worked as an art teacher and an instructor in a shelter workshop for mentally and physically

disabled children. She is a member of National Craft Council, Bangladesh and SWAN (South Asia Women's Network) for which she attended the meeting in Myanmar in 2016. She has participated in the South Asia Sub Regional Meeting of NGO's on safe guarding intangible Cultural Heritage for Sustainable Development which was held in Goa, India in 2016. Her work experience involves working with artisans in the area of product design and product development on craft and textiles. She has worked with over 2000 rural artisans for livelihoods (handicraft mainly) self-reliance. As a Fair Trade organization, Prokritee creates and promotes income generation programs for the benefit of artisans in marginalized situations. Prokritee promotes ecofriendly products and also organizes the domestic market --Dhaka Craft Bazaar, to promote crafts persons and weavers.



Samik Sundar Das

Senior Rural Development Specialist, World Bank

Samik Sundar Das is currently working as Sr. Rural Development Specialist with the Food and Agriculture Global Practice - The World Bank, New Delhi, India. His experience varies from working in rural development, agriculture, <u>health and nutrition</u>, watershed, food security and enterprise

promotion in rural space. He has worked in large scale development projects in South Asia, South East Asia and East Africa. Prior to joining the World Bank he worked with several international and national non-governmental organizations such as Seva Mandir – Udaipur, CARE-India and Action Contre la Faim – France. His forte lies in project designing, supervision and implementation management of community large-scale development projects focusing on rural communities across sectors. Samik has participated in several international and national seminars, workshops and trainings in India, USA, France, Italy, Indonesia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Ethiopia and Senegal. Samik holds a Masters in Sustainable International Development from Brandies University, Waltham – MA, USA and a Masters in Social Work from Tata Institute of Social Sciences.





Arindom Datta Asia Head, Sustainability Banking, Rabobank

Arindom Datta is Head of Sustainability Banking, Asia and Head of Rural & Development Banking/Advisory for Rabobank Group in India. Arindom has over 21 years of experience in Rural Finance, Agribusiness, Cooperative Banking and Sustainability. He heads Rabobank Group's

sustainability business initiatives in Asia and also heads the Rural banking and advisory portfolio in India. He also oversees the Rabobank Foundation projects in rural & agriculture cooperatives and microfinance. His earlier experience was with NABARD, IDBI Bank and CARE India. Arindom is a graduate from St. Stephens' College, Delhi and has an MBA with specialization in Finance and Strategy from IIM Kozhikode.



H. R. Dave

Deputy Managing Director, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

H.R. Dave is Deputy Managing Director of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). He holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Management from Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. Concurrently, he

is also the Chairman of Agri Business Finance Ltd. and a member of Board of Directors of NABARD Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd. (NABCONS) - a premier consultancy organization of India and Bankers' Institute of Rural Development (BIRD), Lucknow - a world class learning centre for rural banking and development. Shri Dave has represented NABARD in several international fora including Micro Credit Summit, APRACA, Green Climate Fund and also negotiated collaborations with multilateral and bi-lateral funding agencies.





Kalikesh Singh Deo Member of Parliament

Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo is a second-time sitting Member of Parliament from Bolangir in Odisha and a prominent leader of the Biju Janata Dal. Kalikesh was elected to the state legislative assembly in 2004 representing Saintala Assembly Constituency as the youngest member of the House at the

time. He started his career as an investment banker and worked with the energy giant, Enron. He has represented India in shooting and basketball. He is currently a member of the Finance Committee on Estimates, the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas and the Consultative Committee on Finance and Corporate Affairs. He initiated the LAMP (Legislative Assistance to MPs) programme, where young graduates assist MPs in legislative research work. He attended the Doon School, Dehradun and graduated in Economics from St. Stephen's College, Delhi.



Meike van Ginneken

Practice Manager, Water Global Practice, World Bank

Meike van Ginneken currently leads the World Bank's South Asia water division. She leads a team of 30 water professionals that helps governments in South Asia to improve access and quality of water services and to develop

and manage their water resources. She is responsible for oversight of World Bank operations, strategic staffing, business development, and providing high quality knowledge services. Ms Van Ginneken has been working on infrastructure and natural resources management in the World Bank for 14 years in positions of increasing responsibility. Before joining the World Bank, Ms Van Ginneken was a driving force in the development of the Global Water Partnership and worked for the humanitarian NGO Doctors Without Borders. Her 20+ years career includes extended assignments in Bangladesh, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Colombia, El Salvador, Israel, Sudan, and Tanzania. Her work has included policy formulation, legal and institutional development, capacity building, applied research, project identification, formulation, implementation, and evaluation. Meike van Ginneken holds an MSc Water Management, Environmental, and Sanitary Engin¬eering, School of Civil Engineering, Delft University of Technology in The Netherlands and an Executive Masters in Consulting and Coaching for Change from HEC Business School in Paris, France





Gaurav Gogoi Member of Parliament

Gaurav Gogoi is a Member of Parliament of India (LokSabha), representing the Kaliabor constituency in the state of Assam. He is a member of the Indian National Congress and its national spokesperson. He is a member of standing committee on Railways, Consultative Committee on Information

Technology and Committee on Violation of Protocol Norms. He completed his master's in public administration from the New York University (NYU). After 10 years of professional experience in social work and development in India and the US, he returned to his native state Assam. His mission is to serve the people of Assam and contribute to the state's socio-economic and cultural prosperity. He is passionate about education, agriculture, youth development and foreign policy. Since joining politics, he has travelled across the state to listen to the aspirations of farmers, panchayat members, teachers, religious leaders, women and young people. He started a foundation where the plan is to educate 3000 children about entrepreneurship in organic farming. His foundation Youth Forum on Foreign Policy has conducted many policy seminars where young professionals learn about international politics and meet foreign diplomats. He is on the advisory committee of both NGOs and private companies. In the past he has worked with Heifer Foundation, Amnesty International, permanent Mission of India to the UN, Pravah and Airtel. He has also volunteered in many countries including Cambodia and Palestine.



Guy Halfteck Founder & CEO, Knack

Guy is the founder & CEO of Knack. He grew up in Israel and served as a ship vice-commander in the Navy. He later studied law, economics and game theory at the Hebrew University, Columbia University, and at Harvard. He founded Knack after getting turned down for an early-

career management-training program at a New York hedge fund. That experience led Guy to look for a better, smarter way to signal one's talent and potential than traditional credentials, diplomas, tests, and interviews. Going back to his notes from a game theory class he took at Harvard, he realized that micro-behaviors and signaling in games were the key to solving this problem. Building on these insights, Guy brought together a world-class team that includes people from game theory and game design, computer graphics, cognitive science, social and personality psychology, computational neuroscience, software engineering, artificial intelligence, and talent and workforce development to develop a technology that empowers people from all walks of life and socioeconomic backgrounds to discover and broadcast their talent, connect with skilling, education and employment opportunities, and fulfill their potential for employability and secure livelihoods — all through the massive reach of mobile phones and the universal appeal of videogames.





Prof. Malcolm Harper Professor Emeritus, Cranfield School of Management

Educated at Oxford, Harvard and Nairobi, Malcolm Harper, worked in marketing in England, and then taught at the University of Nairobi. He was for twenty years Professor of Enterprise Development at Cranfield University in England,

and since 1995 he has worked independently, mainly in India. He has published on enterprise development, micro-finance and livelihoods, and on child protection. He was the Chairman of Basix Finance for ten years, and is the Chairman of M-CRIL. He is Chair and board member of many other institutions, and has worked on poverty issues in South and SE Asia, Africa, China, North America and Europe since 1970



Gamini Herath President, CEFE NET, Sri Lanka

Gamini Herath is the President of CEFE NET Sri Lanka,the association of Trainers, business counsellors and consultants providing business development services to MSME sector. He has over 30 years of work experience in the private and public sector with specialization in entrepreneurship

development, promotion of MSME development, MSME policy formulation, MSME development project conceptualizing, planning and implementation, export marketing, management training and consultancy, vocational training, organizing international trade fairs and exhibitions, trade and industry chamber development and promoting new technology in SME sector in Sri Lanka. He has conceptualized, planned and implemented several MSME promotion projects for UNDP, GIZ, IOM, OXFAM, ACTED and UNIDO in Sri Lanka for over 15 years. He is CEFE International Chief Advisor and holding advisory roles in several ministerial advisory committees set up for SME promotion of various industries. He has undertaken assignments in countries such as Bhutan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Vietnam, UAE, China and Sudan among others. He also functions as the Managing Director of the Boat Building Technology Improvement Institute in Sri Lanka, promoting the boat manufacturing and exports.





Bala subramanian (Balu) lyer Regional Director Asia and Pacific, International Cooperative Alliance ICA-AP

Bala subramanian (Balu) Iyer joined as Regional Director for the International Co-operative Alliance Asia-Pacific in April, 2014. He has extensive multi-sector experience managing international development operations and overseeing multiple

country offices. Balu worked in India in co-operative development before moving abroad to work on Asian regional concerns for overseas agencies. His project experience extends in the areas of education, cooperatives, business associations, water, food-security, women's empowerment, and economic development. He has worked with the Asia Foundation, the International Development Exchange, ActionAid India, and the Aga Khan Rural Support Program; and served as Adjunct Faculty at Southern New Hampshire University where he designed and taught online courses on economics and development that examined domestic and international issues. Balu was born in India and educated in India and the United States. He has a degree in Civil Engineering from the National Institute of Technology, Durgapur, India; a Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Management from the Institute of Rural Management at Anand, India; Masters in Public Policy from the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley; and Masters in Community Development from the at Southern New Hampshire University.



Jaya Jaitly Founder, Dastkari Haat Samiti

Jaya Jaitly is the founder of an association of crafts people called the Dastkari Haat Samiti, which enables traditional workers to gain confidence in the marketplace through many innovative strategies. She regularly guides crafts people in design, organization and marketing all over India and

organizes major exhibitions promoting India's arts, crafts and culture in India and abroad in which crafts people are an intrinsic part. She is the creator of the concept of Dilli Haat and saw to its establishment in Delhi. It enables thousands of artisans with sustainable livelihoods to preserve their cultural heritage and is one of the best-known and popular spots for visitors and Indians alike. She was in mainstream politics for 25 years and headed the Samata Party as its national president in 2001. She is a prolific writer and has published books like Crafts of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh, the Craft Traditions of India, Viswakarma's Children, a socio-economic study of crafts people, and Crafting Nature. She has created vast documentation on the arts, crafts and textiles of India through 24 highly artistic and unique maps of all the states of India, called Crafts Atlas of India. She has also written stories on crafts children that were published by Penguin. She has also assisted in creating a syllabus for schools of India's craft heritage for NCERT. She is the editor and Publisher of The OtherSide, a monthly journal of democratic socialist thought and action. She has been deeply involved in heritage and livelihood issues at all levels and has received awards for her work in culture and the arts and as a role model for women leaders.





Ajay Vir Jakhar Chairman, Bharat Krishak Samaj (Farmers' Forum, India)

Ajay Vir Jakhar is a citrus farmer based in Village Maujgarh in Punjab, India. He is Chairman of Bharat KrishakSamaj (Farmers' Forum, India) which was formed in 1955 and is a non-political, non-sectarian association of farmers advocating

for farmer prosperity. Farmers' Forum is a platform where all those who are interested in strengthening the agricultural economy of the country can meet and utilize their intelligence, resources and energy to help those engaged in agriculture to produce more from their land. He regularly holds Seminars and Conferences on issues of relevance to the farming community and speaks at various National and International Forums. His articles appear regularly in various newspapers and publications. He is the editor of agriculture magazines; "Farmers' Forum" and "KrishakSamachar" targeting farmers, policy makers and those that influence policy in India.



Bharati Joshi Technical Director, Economic Development Unit, CARE India

Bharati has over 17 years of experience in livelihood programming, team building at multiple levels, and program quality assurance. As Technical Director of CARE India's Economic Development Unit, she is currently spear-heading

organisation's programming and strategizing in the livelihood space, and in a dynamic socio-economic and environmental context. With her team, Bharati also ensures quality of and technical backstopping to CARE's livelihood initiatives in tribal and dalit dominated geographies, wherein resilience a key cross-cutting theme.





Scott E. Justice Agricultural Mechanisation Specialist, CIMMYT, Nepal

An American trained in anthropology, Scott has been working on issues relating to agriculture and rural mechanization and development in South Asia for the last 20 years. Based out of Nepal for the whole of this time, he has also worked in East

Asia, Africa as well as Haiti and Afghanistan.



Ashmeet Kapoor Founder & CEO, I Say Organic

Ashmeet is the founder of I Say Organic, a company working towards making organic products in India conveniently available and accessible, with the belief that consumer demand will lead the shift towards ecological agriculture. He started the company after moving back to India from

the US while traveling widely across the country. This inspired him to tap into the enormous potential agriculture presents to create prosperity, while addressing the various environmental and economic threats the country faces. Ashmeet has been focused on developing market driven approaches to fight poverty. Previously he was a founding member at an early stage company designing a water purification device for rural communities. Ashmeet holds a Masters in Innovation Management & Entrepreneurship from Brown University, and Bachelors in Electrical Engineering from University of British Columbia.





Kaushlendra Founder & Managing Trustee, Kaushalya Foundation

Kaushlendra, a Cochran Fellow 2012 of United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) & Working Committee Member of National Institute of Hydrology (Ministry of Water Resources, Govt. of India), is a social entrepreneur

and is the Founder & Managing Trustee of Kaushalya Foundation (KF), Founder & President of Bihar Entrepreneur Association (BEA) Bihar and Chairman of EkangarsaraiKrishi Producer Company Limited (a FPO) and promoter of the brand Samriddhii, MBA Sabziwala. He is a Gold Medalist from Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad and a Yale (Yale School of Management, USA) Social Fellow. He is an Ashoka Fellow & is included in the list of 25 future heroes of India, published by India Today. He was the Founding Curator of the World Economic Forum's Global Shaper Community Patna Hub. He is the member of 5 member committee of Startup Bihar policy formed by Govt. of Bihar. He is awarded with the Amazing Indians Grassroot Soldiers Award 2012 by Times Now. His entrepreneurial venture has been awarded the Sankalp Award 2011 by Intellecap. His organization is also awarded Wantraprneur 2010 by Villgro&TheLemelson Foundation. Indian Institute of Management Indore (IIM Indore) has published a management case study in its management journal January-March 2011 on his journey - Samriddhii in 2011.



Adarsh Kumar Senior Agribusiness Specialist, World Bank

Adarsh Kumar is a Senior Agribusiness Specialist with the Food and Agriculture Global Practice at the World Bank. His work focuses on skills training and enterprise development, with a focus on the agricultural sector. Prior work stints include founding an investment promotion facility for agri

producer enterprises; co-founding AIACA, a non-profit organization that works to strengthen enterprise growth in the crafts sector; and working on strengthening microcredit institutions and livelihoods initiatives across South Asia at the Ford Foundation. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from Georgetown University and a Masters Degree in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Adarsh has been nominated as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum and has been awarded both the Echoing Green and Ashoka fellowships for social entrepreneurship.





Alok Kumar Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India

Alok Kumar (53 years), is an IAS Officer of 1988 batch of Uttar Pradesh Cadre. He joined as Development Commissioner for Handlooms at the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India and as ex-officio Chairman at the

National Handloom Development Corporation we.f. on 1st May, 2015. He holds a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and an MBA in Finance. As Development Commissioner for Handlooms, he has contributed to the development of a policy framework to promote e-¬marketing of handloom products and also the India Handloom' Brand, an initiative of Ministry of Textiles for branding of high quality handloom products from different parts of India which was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. He has wide experience in various sectors. He has served in many important positions in the Central and State Government of Uttar Pradesh including CMD of UP Power Generation Company, UP Power Transmission Company, MD of UP State Road Transport Corporation, Secretary Government of UP in Housing, Industries, Vocational Education Departments, Secretary, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, Director General of Employment & Training/ Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Labour & Employment.



Anil Kumar SG Founder and Managing Director, Samunnati Value Chain Finance

Anil is founder and CEO of Samunnati, an enterprise focused exclusively on value chain finance primarily in the Agriculture & Allied activities, for Inclusive Growth. Anil started his career with Canara Bank and then joined

ICICI Bank. He is also the founding Trustee of IFMR Trust. In his career of over 23 years he has extensively worked in the areas of General Banking, Retail Banking, Microfinance, Rural& Agricultural Finance. Over the last decade Anil's work focused on creating newer institutions across the country and operating in the financially excluded markets with corresponding support structures for their capacity building. Anil has done his Mater's in management from Asian Institute of Management, Manila, Philippines. He has another Master's in Business Administration from Symbiosis Institute of Management, Pune and Graduation in Humanities from Osmania University, Hyderabad.





Animesh Kumar Head - HR, Brand & Foundation, IDFC Bank

Animesh is a member of the Executive Committee of IDFC Bank and leads the Human Resources and Marketing functions. In addition, as the CEO- IDFC Foundation he is responsible for driving the corporate responsibility agenda for IDFC group. Following the successful launch of IDFC

Bank on October 1, 2015, his immediate focus area is to manage the transition of IDFC Bank into a significant player in the mass retail banking segment by building an organization that is agile and fluid in design, has a cultural ethos built around service and a strong, deeply held sense of purpose across employees. Animesh has over two decades of experience in leadership roles in Human Resources across Banking and FMCG sectors. Animesh holds a Post Graduate in Human Resources from XLRI, India and is an Economics graduate from Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi.



Priti Kumar

Senior Agriculture Specialist, Food and Agriculture Global Practice, World Bank

Priti Kumar is a Senior Agriculture Specialist in the Food and Agriculture Global Practice of the World Bank. She serves as a Task Team Leader of projects in areas of agriculture, watersheds, rural livelihoods and climate resilience in a number

of Indian states. She was program manager of the World Bank's multi-donor trust funds on climate change in the Maldives and Bangladesh and has worked on analytical studies and technical assistance activities on climate resilient agriculture in India and Nepal. Ms. Kumar has been associated with the World Bank since 2000. In 2004, she became an Environmental Specialist in the South Asia Environment and Social Unit in the Sustainable Development Network and Senior Environmental Specialist in 2007. In 2012, she joined the South Asia Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Unit and moved to the Food and Agriculture Global Practice in South Asia in 2014. Ms. Kumar holds a Masters in Systems Design Engineering focusing on groundwater systems from the University of Waterloo, Canada; a Masters in Mathematics from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi; and a Bachelors in Mathematical Statistics from University of Delhi, India.





Dr. G. Senthil Kumar Executive Director, CARE India

Senthil Kumar is the Executive Director for Program Quality and Learning in CARE India. Senthil has more than 16 years of rich experience in social research and programming, spanning humanitarian and long term social development in diverse socio-cultural settings. Being part of CARE India

since 2006, his work spanned areas of research, strategic planning, program design, and project management. Before CARE India, Senthil worked with various national NGOs on the issues of governance, micro finance, and enterprise development. He has worked with a range of partners, and brings a vast experience in building and nurturing partnerships with government, private sector, and NGOs. Senthil has a doctoral degree in political science, where his research focused on understanding the role and effectiveness of micro finance promoting institutions in advancing women's empowerment.



Shashank Kumar Co-Founder, Farms and Farmers (FnF)

Shashank started Farms & Farmers (FnF) in 2010 with an aim of maximizing profit per unit area of small farmers, he. Over the past 6 years, he has developed a unique model "DeHaat" which is a technology innovation to offer end to end agri services to small and marginal farmers at

affordable cost. Earlier, Shashank has worked as an Associate for 2.5 years in a management consulting firm in supply chain, retail and FMCG sectors. Shashank has completed his B.Tech from IIT Delhi in 2008 and has also done minor MBA from Department of Management Studies, IIT Delhi in the same year. He has been awarded as "Ashoka Fellow" in the year 2013. He has also been awarded as the "Entrepreneur of the year" in 2013 by Honorable CM of Bihar. In 2014 he got featured as one of the 30 brightest Indian youths by Forbes-India. He has also been featured among Amazing Indian by Times Now in 2014. Shashank has led his team to many milestones including winning Millennium Alliance (2014), Vodafone Mobile for Good (2015) & Action for India-AFI (2016). He has also delivered TED talk at TEDx IIT Kanpur in 2012 & TiECon Silicon Valley in 2016. He was selected for PM-India delegation to Kenya for promoting Technology in Agriculture for small farmers in Kenya in July 2016.





Dr. Sunil Kumar General Manager, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

Dr. Sunil Kumar is currently working as General Manager, NABARD at its Head Office in Mumbai.Has 28 years' experience of working in various departments and offices of NABARD. He has worked as faculty member in Bankers

Institute of Rural Development (BIRD), Lucknow for 5 years and as Vice President in NABARD Consultancy Pvt. Limited (NABCONS) for two years. Currently, he works inClimate Change vertical of Farm Sector Policy Department of NABARD at its head office Mumbai.His areas of interest include farm sector policy formulation, climate change, farmers' access to markets, commodity futures market, producers groups, project management, risk management, investment and treasury management, etc. He is a Fellow (PhD) of IIM Lucknow, completed his MBA from IRMA and CAIIB holder. He holds a Masters in Economics



T. Nanda Kumar Chairman, Board of Governors, Institute of Rural Management, ANAND

T. Nanda Kumar has over 44 years of experience in development policy and administration, working in various positions in Government of India, particularly in the areas of agriculture including dairy, rural development, international

trade in agriculture, food security, food safety and WTO related issues. He has worked with United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) for 3 years, in an international organization dealing with jute and natural fibres. He has represented India at the policy making level at FAO, IFAD, CFC and WFP. In the recent past he has been the Chairman of the Boards of National Dairy Development Board of India, IDMC Ltd., Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) and Mother Dairy Fruit & Vegetables Ltd. In the past he has also been a Member of National Disaster Management Authority, India (NDMA); Secretary to Government of India, Agriculture and Cooperation; and Secretary to Government of India, Food and Public Distribution. Other past functions involved a 5 years stint as Chairman, Spices Board of India. He has written a report on the Uruguay Round and Global Spice Trade which was published by ITC (WTO/UNCTAD) and Common Wealth Secretariat as a book. He has also written articles for major national newspapers on agriculture related subjects.





T. Vijay Kumar

Advisor, Ágriculture and Co-operation, Government of Andhra Pradesh & Former Special Secretary, Agriculture, Government of Andhra Pradesh

T. Vijay Kumar is currently working as an Advisor to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for Agriculture and Co-operation and in charge of implementation of natural

farming in the state. He joined the Indian Administrative Service in 1983 and served in various positions in Government of Andhra Pradesh till 2010. He was on deputation to Government of India for 5 years from 2010 to 2015, leading the National Rural Livelihoods Mission and returned to Government of Andhra Pradesh in April 2015 as Special Chief Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation and superannuated from this position on 30th September, 2016. In July, 2016, he was empaneled as Secretary (equivalent) in Govt. of India. He has spent more than 28 years in tribal development and rural development. He has completed his B.Sc. (Hons) in Physics from St. Stephen's College, Delhi University and obtained his M.B.A from Faculty of Management Studies, Delhi University.



Crispino Lobo Co-founder and Managing Trustee, WOTR

Crispino Lobo has over 25 years of engagement in rural development issues from ground level implementation, program management to policy engagement. His areas of expertise include natural resource management, watershed development, integrated water resources management,

sustainable agriculture, climate change adaptation, institutional and policy development. He was Program Coordinator of the large-scale and well acclaimed Indo-German Watershed Development Program (IGWDP) in Maharashtra for 13 years. He initiated, together with NABARD in 1999, the establishment of the Watershed Development Fund by the Government of India, which has resulted in watershed development activities being implemented across the country, through NGOs. Recently (2014), together with NABARD, he initiated the establishment of the National Adaptation Fund (NAF) by the Government of India. Mr. Lobo has co-founded 4 non-profit institutions – Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR), the Sampada Trust (ST), Sanjeevani Institute of Empowerment and Development (SIED) and Sampada Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Foundation (SELF). He is an alumnus of the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University; has 5 academic degrees covering the fields of philosophy, theology, psychology, economics and public administration. He has authored/ co-authored/ helmed several articles and 7 books, 3 of which have been published internationally.





Vijay Mahajan Founder, BASIX Group

Vijay Mahajan is a Distinguished Alumnus of IIT, Delhi and IIM, Ahmedabad and Fellow of the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, USA. He was named among "60 outstanding social entrepreneurs of the world" at the World Economic Forum

Davos in 2003. In 1981, he founded PRADAN for livelihood promotion of the poor. In 1996, he founded the Basix Social Enterprise Group, which has supported the livelihoods of three million poor households. Vijay was one of the co-founders of Sa-dhan in 1999 and also of MFIN in 2009, member of the Rangarajan Committee on Financial Inclusion 2007, the RaghuramRajan Committee of Financial Sector Reforms 2008 and Board Member and then Chair of the World Bank hosted Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP) from 2007 to 2013.



Dr. Annapurna M. Sector Expert

Annapurna, an engineer from Manipal, started working for Andhra handloom cooperatives in the early 1990s with Uzramma and supported setting up Dastkar Andhra, an NGO that supports livelihoods of vulnerable handloom weavers in rural India. She then went to the Netherlands'

Maastricht University for a PhD in handloom weaving as sustainable sociotechnology. She is currently pursuing postdoctoral research at Maastricht University on responsible technology innovation for solving farmer problems in Punjab.





Unnikrishnan Divakaran Nair Senior Advisor, GIZ

Mr. Unnikrishnan Divakaran Nair holds a master's degree in agricultural sciences and is a development professional with over 14 years of experience in the areas of Climate Change Adaptation & Mitigation Project Development, Policies on Climate Finance, and International Accreditation

to Climate Funds inducing the Green Climate Fund (GCF). His expertise is in climate vulnerability and livelihood issues in Agriculture, Water, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Forestry in the Rural Development Context of India and Least Developed Countries (LDCs). He has worked as a consultant for the adaptation programme for UNFCCC at Bonn and is currently working as a Senior Policy Advisor at GIZ India, leading the climate finance portfolio.



Rasha Omar Country Representative in India, IFAD

Rasha Omar is currently the IFAD Country Representative in India. She is an agricultural economist and has been working in the field of agricultural and rural development since 1992. At the start of her career, she worked with agricultural extension workers and social workers to improve

their communication and organization skills. Her work on gender mainstreaming paved the way for stronger involvement in the design and supervision of projects and programmes. Prior to joining IFAD, she worked in the Kuwait Institute of Scientific Research as Research Assistant and in the Center for Development Services in Egypt as training and technical assistance manager. She joined IFAD in October 2001, and since then, she has participated in the management of country programmes focusing on natural resources management, community development and rural finance as means to alleviate rural poverty and foster social equity in countries as diverse as Lebanon, Yemen, Tunisia, Sudan, South Sudan, Djibouti, Democratic Republic of Congo and Republic of Congo. She managed large IFAD investment portfolios, exceeding 100 million USD, in the Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. She holds a Diplômed'Ingénieur from the Institut National Agronomique de Paris-Grignon and a MSc degree in Rural Environment and Planning from Wye College, London University.





Selyna D. Peiris Director - Business Development, Selyn Fair Trade, Sri Lanka

SelynaPeiris (Attorney-at-Law) is a graduate of Law from the University of Hull and has Masters Degrees in International Business Law from University College London and Advanced International Relations from the Diplomatic Academy of

Vienna, Austria. She is Director - Business Development at Selyn Handlooms, Sri Lanka's only fair trade guaranteed Handloom Company and one of the country's largest social enterprises. She has previously worked at the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation and also works as a consultant for various government, non-governmental and international organizations in the area of social business and development.



Prof. C. Shambu Prasad Professor, Institute of Rural Management, Anand

Dr C Shambu Prasad is a Professor in the General Management (Strategy and Policy) area at the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA). At IRMA he coordinates the Centre for Social Entrepreneurship and Enterprises (CSEE) and the newly created Verghese Kurien Centre of

Excellence on producer collectives. His expertise is in science and innovation policy (rural innovation in particular) and his education has been multidisciplinary with a basic training in mechanical engineering, a Masters in Industrial Management with specialisation in science policy (both at IIT Madras) and a doctorate in science, technology and society studies from IIT Delhi. He has helped IRMA launch its incubator ISEED (Incubator for Social Entrepreneurs and Entrepreneurship for Development) for social enterprises recently. Dr. Shambu Prasad was awarded the Villgro-CSIE award for 'Academic Contribution to the Field of Social Entrepreneurship' in April 2013 and was the Fulbright Nehru Senior Research Fellow attached to Cornell University. His action research includes coordinating a consortium of institutions (Livelihoods MANTHAN; leading a network on Knowledge in Civil Society (KICS) and an ongoing engagement with understanding social innovations that enable sustainable transitions through SRI. He has been a member of a Sub Group on Upscaling Innovative Technologies in agriculture for the 12th Five Year Plan.





Dr. Smita Premchander Founder-Director, Sampark

Dr. Smita Premchander has 34 years' experience in international development. She consults with a wide range of national and international agencies and clients across the globe. Smita has led several evaluations of projects relating to microfinance, gender, enterprise, social development,

livelihoods, climate change and environmental sustainability. She has completed consultancy and teaching assignments in India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand, Philippines, Jordan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Sri Lanka, Netherlands, Italy, Switzerland, France, UK, USA, Brazil, Kenya, and Uganda. She is on the Advisory Board of the United Nations University's Institute of Environment and Human Settlements in Bonn. She is a Visiting Professor and offers a course on Microfinance Management at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIMA). She is a member of Task Forces of three state governments on poverty reduction and cooperation: Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. She has a Phd from Durham University, UK, an MA in Economics from Miranda House, University of Delhi, and a Post Graduate Diploma in Business Management from the Indian Institute of Bankers. Dr. Smita Premchander is the Founder-Director of Sampark, an NGO engaged with empowering models of microfinance and wider development issues in Bangalore, India.



Sabine Preuss

Director, Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resource Management, GIZ India

Sabine Preuss is a social and environmental socialist and holds a rich body of experience, of nearly 30 years, in the domain of environmental policy, natural resource management, strategies for sustainable development in emerging economies

and rural development. She currently serves as the Director of the Environment and Climate Change portfolio of GIZ India. In her multiple roles, she has steered strategic decisions on projects and implementation, brought partners together on common goals, fostered political dialogues and initiatives and has created change processes in public administration, civil society and the private sector.





Dr. Joy Deshmukh Ranadive Global Head,Corporate Social Responsibility, Tata Consultancy Services

Dr. Joy Deshmukh Ranadive is currently Global Head, Corporate Social Responsibility, Tata Consultancy Services, Mumbai. She is responsible for giving direction, formulating policies and driving the CSR programmes for TCS nationally

and globally. She has over two decades of experience in the development sector. Her work has included: interdisciplinary research with a view to bridging research and policy; Power dynamics at individual and collective levels; Conceptual and interdisciplinary analysis of household, family and macro environments; Women and development, empowerment, women's leadership issues; Issues related to poverty alleviation, globalization, structural adjustment, sustainable livelihoods, community mobilization, micro finance; Economic, social and cultural human rights and rights based approaches to development; Designing training modules on Microfinance, ESC (Economic, Social, Cultural) Human Rights, Gender, Women's Leadership, Behaviour Change Communication for social change.She has several books and publications to her credit in these areas. Dr. Deshmukh Ranadive has earlier been Director, Indian School of Microfinance for Women, Ahmedabad. India and Country Director, International Center for Research on Women, India Office, New Delhi, India. She holds a MA and PhD. in Economics from the University of Bombay (now, Mumbai) and is a gold medalist at her masters.



Rahil Rangwala Director, Family Economic Stability, Michael & Susan Dell Foundation

Rahil Rangwala is the Director of the Family Economic Stability team in India and oversees the foundation's investments in the financial inclusion and livelihoods sectors. He spent over seven years at Bridgewater Associates, a global

macro hedge fund, before making the transition to the development sector. Rahil has a bachelor's in computer science from the University of Texas in Austin and a master's in public administration with a focus on international development from New York University. He represents the Dell Family Foundation on the boards of LabourNet, Kinara Capital and iStar.





Dr. Cherukumalli Srinivasa Rao Director, CRIDA

Dr. Ch.Srinivasa Rao was born in the village Anigandlapadu, Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh. He completed his B.Sc (Agri) and M.Sc (Agri) from Agricultural College, Bapatla followed by a Ph.D. from IARI and Post-Doctoral at Tel-Aviv University, Israel. He worked at the Indian Institute

of Soil Science, Bhopal; IIPR, Kanpur and CRIDA, Hyderabad. He has also held the position of a Project Coordinator at AICRP for Dryland Agriculture. Earlier he has been on deputation to International Crop Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Patancheru, 2006-2008. Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao is presently working as Director, Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture. His contributions are on participatory soil health management, carbon sequestration, climate change, and contingency planning and dryland agriculture. He has received numerous awards such as the Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Research Institute Award-2014, Padmasree Dr. I.V. Subba Rao Memorial Award from Rithunestam, 2012; ISPRD Recognition Award, 2006-07 and many more. He has also received several Fellowships and is the Editor/Chairman of many societies.



Ratnesh Management Specialist, UNDP

Ratnesh works for UNDP's India country office as a Management Specialist. He has more than 25 years of experience in working with marginalized social groups and disadvantaged regions. His specializations include Local Area Development, poverty alleviation, financial inclusion, skill and

entrepreneurship development, microfinance, livelihood promotion. He has worked with government agencies, financial institutions, private sector players and technical agencies and provided technical assistance, project implementation expertise and policy advice in various areas related to inclusive growth. He is part of an international network of development professionals in financial inclusion, MSME finance and microenterprise development. He is currently supporting a number of state governments in their successful rollout of the Sustainable Development Goals. He has received multi-disciplinary academic training in Economics, Banking, Development Finance, Sociology from university of Manchester, U.K. and Delhi. He has received prestigious academic grants viz. British Chevening Fellowship, University Grants Commission Research Fellowship. He is a certified associate of the Indian Institute of Banking and Finance.





Shiranthi Rathnayake Additional Director General, Department of National Planning, Ministry of Finance and Planning, Sri Lanka

Shiranthi Rathnayake holds a Master of Public Policy and Management from the University of Melbourne. She has a Postgraduate Diploma in Development Studies in IDEAS

Japa and also a Postgraduate Diploma in Economic Development. She is a BSc. Honors Graduate from the University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka and TOT in Micro Finance. Being a member of the Sri Lanka Planning Service she counts 20 years working experience in the public service in various capacities. She has worked as a Director in the Department of National Budget and has been involved in the preparation of the Annual Budget estimates and Medium term budgetary framework interacting with spending Agencies in the Rural Economy Cluster. Currently Mrs. Rathnayake works as an Additional Director General in the Department of National Planning and oversees the Agriculture, Environment, Regional Development and Social Protection Divisions. She has participated in a number of training programmes, seminars and conferences locally and internationally. She has also served on number of Boards and Government Authorities.



Rajasree Ray Climate Change Finance Specialist, Government of India

Rajasree Ray is a Climate Change Finance specialist with the Government of India. She is presently heading the Climate Change Finance Unit in the Indian Ministry of Finance, and is responsible for India's policies related to Climate Change

Finance, Agriculture and Food Management. As part of Government of India, Ray has a wide and diverse experience having served in Indian Ministries of Agriculture, Commerce and Industry, Railways, Environment & Forests and Finance. Ray was a key member of the Indian national negotiating team in the UNFCCC and other bodies such as G-20 working groups for the past 5 years. She has also served as Assistant Economic Advisor to the Board of the Indian Railways where she was responsible for economic and financial appraisal of Railway investments relating to new lines, electrification, gauge conversion etc. and also research on various modes of transport. In addition, she worked as Deputy Director in the Indian Directorate General of Foreign Trade handling India's foreign trade, and in the Ministry of Agriculture where she specialized in agricultural price policy of India. Ray completed her post graduation with distinction in Economics from the prestigious Calicut University in Kerala, India.





Achala Samaradivakara Director & Co- Founder, Lanka Good Market (Guarantee Limited), Sri Lanka

Achala has a Bachelors Degree in Management, a Certificate in Human Resource Management, and a Diploma in Rural Development from the University of Colombo. She has a Mastersin Business Administration from the University of

Cardiff, United Kingdom witha specialisation in Social Enterprises. Previously, Achalahas worked as Project Coordinator for the Alcohol and Drug Information Center (ADIC) before joiningSevalanka Foundation in 2006. The Good Market was started in 2012 as a mission-driven social enterprise to highlight and promote products and services that are "good for people and the planet." In Sri Lanka, Good Market now has more than 350 approved vendors and a Facebook following of nearly 100,000. Achala serves on the Board of Directors of SUN Peoples Forum supported by the World Food Program where she handles the Economic & Food Security program.



Sadna Samaranayake Project Director, Ultra-Poor Graduation Advocacy

Project Director, Ultra-Poor Graduation Advocacy Initiative, BRAC

Sadna manages consulting services and technical assistance to external governments and INGO's related to BRAC's pioneering Ultra-Poor Graduation approach. She leads teams of consultants from BRAC USA and BRAC in the delivery

of technical assistance, feasibility assessment, program design, implementation oversight, and knowledge products to several clients. Currently Sadna is leading teams in the delivery of graduation programs for the Government of Kenya and the International Fund for Agriculture and Development (IFAD), alongside implementing partners CARE Kenya and The BOMA Project. She is also designing a program with the Philippine Department of Social Welfare and Development. Other clients include UNHCR, the World Bank, the Governments of Lesotho, Malawi, Tanzania and Indonesia, and NGO's such as Save the Children and World Vision. Sadna also manages the creation and dissemination of knowledge products and global advocacy efforts related to the Graduation approach, including outreach and engagement with implementing and funding agencies, immersion training, and speaking engagements. Sadna's work has spanned a variety of development sectors including livelihoods programming, post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation, microfinance, affordable housing and access to finance initiatives. She has worked extensively in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India, Kenya, Tanzania, Brazil and Colombia.





K. Saraswathi

Secretary General, Madras Chamber of Commerce and Industry

A former banker in Bharat Oversees Bank, Ms. K Saraswathi has over 3 decades of work experience, of which nearly two have been in industries regulation and trade development areas. Prior to joining as Secretary General of the Madras Chamber of Commerce

and Industry in 2010 and being the first woman to head this post since its inception in 1836, Ms. Saraswathi was the Director of TANSTIA-FNF Service Centre (TFSC) from 1999 to 2008. During her tenure, in addition to regulating SME industry related issues, TFSC also emerged as a think tank for SME related issues and policies. In 2008, she joined UK Trade & Investment (UKTI), as Senior Trade & Investment Adviser. Ms. Saraswathi is a post graduate in Mathematical Economics from Madurai University with an MBA in Operations Management through ICFAI.Ms. Saraswathi is one of the three awardees of 'Woman of Excellence in Leadership,' for 2006 by JC international, Chennai Royal. She has also been awarded the 'Woman Achiever,' of 2013 by the Centre of Women Studies SIET college.



Dr. Madhu Sharan

Vice President - North India, Hand in Hand India

Madhu Sharan is a Livelihoods and Gender Specialist with over two decades of extensive field research and global work experience. She has worked as Project Director of Hand-in-Hand, India (2004-07) and Executive Director of BALM, Chennai (2007-2010) before shifting to Delhi in 2011, where she worked as a regular Consultant

with several multilateral and bilateral organizations including The Asian Development Bank, India Resident Mission and GIZ, New Delhi on projects related to financial inclusion, livelihoods and women's empowerment. Ms. Sharan re-joined Hand-in-Hand India in August 2013 where she is currently working as Vice President, North India, and oversees projects related to SHGs, microfinance, skill training, livelihoods, women's empowerment and community development across the States of Odisha, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. Dr Sharan is a Sociologist, having completed her graduation from Delhi University and her post graduation, M Phil and PhD from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.





Pravesh Sharma Former Managing Director, Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) & Founder-CEO, Sabziwala

Pravesh Sharma took voluntary retirement from the IAS in January 2016 after a career spanning 34 years and is the founder-CEO of Sabziwala, a start-up which aims to

link fruit and vegetable farmers to urban consumers. In his last assignment, he served for five years as Managing Director of the Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (2010-15), Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India. He is an alumnus of St. Stephen's College, Delhi University, where he read for a Master's degree in History (1976-1981). He served for over 20 years in Madhya Pradesh, where he held postings as District Magistrate in 5 districts, besides other senior level assignments. He also served for 3 years in the Prime Minister's Office between 1999 and 2001. Pravesh Sharma spent one year as Visiting Fellow at the Center of International Studies, Princeton University, USA (1994-95), researching food policy issues. He served on a 5-year UN assignment with the IFAD between 2001 and 2006. Pravesh Sharma has written extensively on issues of agriculture, rural development and rural finance. Among his current affiliations are Visiting Senior Fellow, ICRIER; Adviser (Agriculture and Food Processing) to FICCI; Chief Adviser, Madhya Bharat Consortium of Farmer Producer Companies, Bhopal. He is also on the Boards of DCM Shriram Ltd. and NABKISAN Finance Ltd. (NBFC promoted by NABARD)



Shivaam Sharma

Founder & CEO, Trans Neuron Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

Shivaam is an engineer with a dream to leverage technology to benefit the vast majority of the populace with skill enhancement and seamless connect to the world at large on a tech enabled platform. Shivaam has three start ups to his

credit in his journey till date in technology and healthcare. eKaushalis a passionate entrepreneurial initiative founded by Shivaam Sharma to leverage technology, bring multiple stakeholders together on single platform and increase and enhance the skill quotient of the nation. eKaushal, within just a few months of its launch is already used by Andhra Pradesh Governmentfor all skills activities in the state under Andhra Pradesh State Skill Development Corporation (APSSDC); few hundred ITIs in Karnataka and KEONICS for its Kaushal Karnataka initiative. Few State Governments and International Organisations have invited eKaushal to work with them.





Vipin Sharma CEO, ACCESS Development Services

Vipin Sharma is the founding CEO of ACCESS which was set up in 2006. Starting his career with the Reserve Bank of India, Vipin has thirty six years of experience in banking, agriculture and rural development, micro enterprise development and microfinance in varied institutions including NABARD,

Rural Non- Farm Development Agency (RUDA), Govt of Rajasthan and CARE India. As Executive Director of RUDA, Vipin helped the Govt of Rajasthan to develop strategies for promoting non farm sector in the state through a sub-sector approach. At CARE, Vipin was the Programme Director of the Microfinance Unit and a part of the Regional Leadership Team. In the last ten years, Vipin has also helped to set up two specialized affiliates of ACCESS viz. ACCESS-ASSIST to support and advance financial inclusion in India and Ode to Earth to help primary producers sell their products in mainstream markets. He holds a BA (Hons) in History from St. Stephen's College, Delhi University and a MA in History, besides attending programmes at Cranfield school of Management, Boulder and School of Management, Yale University. Vipin has been a part of a few task forces set up by Govt. of India. Vipin is a member of the Smart Campaign Steering Committee, working on issues relating to client protection.



Dr. Madhukar Shukla Professor, XLRI

Madhukar Shukla is Chairperson, FrArrupe Centre for Ecology & Sustainability and Professor (Strategic Management & OB) at XLRI Jamshedpur (India), and has keen research and teaching interest in the development sector and social entrepreneurship. Madhukar has been serving as

an assessor for the Echoing Green Fellowship Competition, a global competition to identify social entrepreneurs, and is on jury for the Oikos Case Competition on Social Entrepreneurship. He is also a Member, Livelihood India Advisory Group. He serves on the advisory board of many social ventures such as Empower Pragati, Green Leaf Energy, Opportune Jobs, etc. He has been the Conference Coordinator for the National Conference on Social Entrepreneurship since 2009, and was a lead assessor for the India NGO Awards 2007, 2008 & 2009. In 2011, he was awarded the Social Enterprise Academic & Research Award for his by Villgro Innovation Foundation and Center for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship (IIT, Madras). Madhukar holds a Masters degree in Psychology from Lucknow University and is a PhD from IIT, Kanpur. Prior to Joining XLRI in 1990, he has worked with National Productivity Council and Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad. He was also a visiting faculty to ESADE, Barcelona during 1993-94.





Sonia Shrivastava Head, Vodafone Foundation

Sonia Shrivastava heads the Vodafone Foundation. Over a career spanning a couple of decades, Sonia has had a unique and rich cross-sectoral and entrepreneurial experience across both Indian and multinational companies as well as NGOs. Prior to joining Vodafone, she headed CSR at Intel, Moser

Baer and ABB and has also worked for the development sector. She has a Bachelors in Science and an MBA in International Business. She was instrumental in the formulation of the South Asian Forum for Responsible Business and has co-authored a book on Corporate Foundations in India. Passionate about inclusive development, she has spearheaded several social and economic empowerment programs specially focused upon the disadvantaged and marginalized sections of our society and has contributed as a member of several industry committees to a range of development issues. Sonia has been selected to the 100 Most Talented CSR Leaders list in India and conferred with the Responsible Business Leader Award and the Leadership in Social Innovation Award by the World CSR Congress.



Jaikant Singh Head -Partnership & State Alliance, National Skill Development Corporation

Jaikant is the Head of Strategy and Programme Development team at NSDC. His role at NSDC involves new business opportunities in the skills space. He is also responsible for managing State engagements and developing the research

base for skills at NSDC.





Girija Srinivasan Expert, Development Finance and Rural Livelihoods

Girija is an expert in development finance and rural livelihoods with extensive international experience of consulting, technical assistance and studies. She had been a development banker for 12 years. She has authored books and documents on community based approaches in finance and livelihoods. She has authored the Social Performance Report for the years

2011 to 2014. She serves on a few trust boards of governance.



N. Srinivasan Expert Development Finance and Rural Livelihoods

N. Srinivasan has been a development banker for 30 years in Reserve Bank of India and NABARD – the apex rural development bank. He holds a master's degree in economics and is a certified trainer. Since leaving NABARD eight years ago, he has been involved in design, supervision and evaluation of policy, strategy and implementation of several

development finance and rural development projects in India and abroad. His areas of interest are development banking, microfinance and rural finance, livelihoods and financial inclusion. A prolific writer, he has authored Microfinance India SOS Reports for four years. He has jointly authored the State of India's Livelihoods report for 2015 and 2016 as also an assessment of Rural Finance in India. He has co-authored three books in the area of development finance. He currently serves as an independent director on the boards of one small finance bank, three companies, three development trusts, industry bodies dealing with microfinance and rural finance. He has been a member of the Indian Microfinance Equity Fund supervisory board (SIDBI/GOI) for over three years. He is a member of Inclusive Finance India platform advisory group. As an international development finance expert, he works with World Bank, IFAD, CGAP, GIZ, KFW, Microsave and other principals as a consultant and advisor.





Surga Thilakan Co-Founder & CEO, iStar Skill Development

Surga Thilakan co-founded iSTAR Skill Development Private Limited in 2009 and serves as its Chief Executive Officer. Prior to iSTAR, Surga worked at Ujjivan Financial Services, India's leading microfinance institution as their Head, Marketing and designed and executed several innovative loan products for the urban poor. She has also worked at

Goldman Sachs, London in their private equity and structured finance groups, on the origination desk, managing Goldman's investments in infrastructure assets across the UK, France, Italy, Spain, Greece, Germany, Belgium and Turkey. She also worked at Ernst and Young, India advising clients across FMCG, Oil & Gas, Power, Hospitality, Pharma, Telecom and Retail industries on taxation related transaction structuring. Surga has an MBA from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad and is an associate member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. She is a gold medallist at the board, university and chartered accountancy levels. Surga loves travelling, painting, poetry and hopes to produce an animated feature film someday.



Alka Upadhyaya

Joint Secretary (Skills), Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India

Ms. Alka Upadhyaya is an IAS Officer of 1990 batch from the Madhya Pradesh Cadre. She is currently holding the position of Joint Secretary (Skill Development) at the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India. She has previously held various positions such as Chief

Executive Officer of M.P. Rural Roads Development Authority; Secretary, General Administration Department and Secretary Finance in the Government of Madhya Pradesh Executive; Director of the Environment Planning and Director Disaster Management Institute, and Commissioner Health Services in Government of Madhya Pradesh among others. Alka Upadhyaya holds a Graduate Degree in Biology and Post Graduate Degrees in Chemistry and Economics. Besides training in India she has also received foreign training in the United States of America in Tax Analysis & Revenue Forecasting and a Master's Degree Course in Public Administration.





Mahesh Venkateswaran Lead – Industry Partnerships and SIMO Project, National Skill Development Corporation

Mahesh Venkateswaran is part of the executive team at the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), the PPP arm of the Government's Skill India mission under the ambit of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship.

He leads a highly motivated team to strengthen the ecosystem through industrydriven greenfield/brownfield skilling projects across various sectors, and mobilize CSR and multi-lateral contributions to the National Skill Development Fund (NSDF). He also setup and led the Innovation fund at NSDC, focused on early stage funding for entities addressing skill development challenges until recently. Prior to joining NSDC, Mahesh led a social enterprise focused on integrated rural development in Jharkhand. An electronics engineer from the 2001 batch of Vellore Institute of Technology, he has a master's degree in electrical engineering from the US and worked in research and consulting till 2009. In his spare time, he is also actively involved with initiatives that address last mile access to basic services.





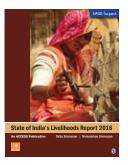
Associated Publications





ASSOCIATED PUBLICATIONS

State of India's Livelihoods Report (SOIL Report) 2016 State of India's Livelihoods (SOIL) Report is an annual publication that addresses contemporary issues in the livelihoods sector. It is the only document that aggregates the experiences and challenges of the sector, analyses case studies and reports on progress of both government and privately run program. This volume of the report continues to carry an overview of the livelihoods situation from the macro viewpoint, an update on the policies, legal and fiscal framework for livelihoods and a review of important government pro-



grams, as in the last year. It also covers some new and topical themes such as the likely effects of climate change in India with a focus on agriculture and a deep dive into handloom sector to look at the production and employment trends in the sector, the current government's initiatives and challenges for marketing of handloom products. The decade long employment guarantee program National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) has been taken up for a detailed review. The report analyses the current opportunities and challenges for the people in the Northeast in various sectors such as agriculture, sericulture, livestock, forestry, arts and crafts, and tourism. Financing of livelihoods is also covered in the report. A concluding chapter summarizes the key challenges for livelihoods of the poor in the future.

How to order ?

Please contact SAGE Publications India Pvt. Ltd., B-1/I-1, Mohan Cooperative Industrial Estate, Mathura Road, Post Bag 7, New Delhi 110 044, India, T: +91 (11) 4053 9222, www.sagepub.in, marketing@sagepub.in

Sitaram Rao Livelihoods Asia Case Study Compendium

Dedicated to Late Sitaram Rao, mentor and guru of Indian microfinance and livelihoods movement, the Case Study Competition seeks to compile best practices, breakthroughs on the ground, sectoral innovations and efforts that have helped the poor to move from subsistence to sustainable levels of livelihoods. The Compendium which is a part of the Knowledge Series is envisaged to inform and influence practitioners, promoters and policy makers supporting livelihoods promotion. The theme for the SitaramRao Livelihoods Asia Case Study Competition 2016 was 'Innovations in Sustainable Agriculture'. The Case Study Compendium



covers cases from across the region that provides evidence of sustainable approaches to agriculture. The cases cover themes of sustainable production of crop, livestock and aquatic animals, organic farming systems, food safety and agricultural standards, sustainable management of agricultural land and water resources and environment, agroforestry, water and soil conservation, urban farming and preserving bio-diversity and indigenous breeds.

How to Order?

Please contact ACCESS Development Services 22, Hauz Khas Village, New Delhi 110016 TEL: +91 (11) 26250915



ASSOCIATED EVENT



Side Event: Livelihoods Asia Summit 2016 The Claridges, New Delhi, India 9th December 2016

"INNOVATE – Fostering innovation through inclusive non-traditional financial services."

The INNOVATE Symposium will present and discuss a White Paper on types of non-traditional financial services that leads to smallholder uptake of innovations in agriculture, from technologies and techniques to behavioural and attitudinal changes. Mennonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA) is carrying out the INNOVATE research project with the aim to improve financial approaches that can be scaled to help smallholder farm families achieve positive outcomes in agricultural sectors. The research is based on a theory of change that finance, when appropriately designed and accessible, is not only a key enabler for smallholder farmers but can be replicated at scale in different contexts.

The program, funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is in two phases. Phase One is a Proof of Concept that involves the development of a White Paper which will be vetted at regional Symposia to receive broad-based feedback from a range of colleagues and leaders in the field. This phase will be followed by a longer term, evidence-based field research Phase Two that involves piloting and learning of local research organizations, implementing organizations and/or private sector companies. The longer-term goal (in Phase Two) is to provide IDRC and the global development community with concrete guidance and replicable examples of non-traditional financial products and services that can empower female and male smallholder farmers to adopt agricultural innovation. We would expect some institutions in the region would be interested in participating in the Phase Two research through capturing existing learnings or piloting new approaches.





Sponsors and Partners





CORE SPONSORS

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Guided by the belief that every life has equal value, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation works to help all people lead healthy, productive lives. In developing

countries, it focuses on improving people's health with vaccines and other life-saving tools and giving them the chance to lift themselves out of hunger and extreme poverty. In the United States, it seeks to significantly improve education so that all young people have the opportunity to reach their full potential. Based in Seattle, Washington, the foundation is led by CEO Dr. Susan Desmond-Hellmann and Co-chair William H. Gates Sr., under the direction of Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren Buffett.

Michael & Susan Dell Foundation

Founded in 1999, the central mission of the US-based Michael & Susan Dell Foundation is transforming the lives of children living in urban poverty through better education, family economic stability and health.

The foundation opened its India office in 2006 to foster high-quality education and improve family economic stability among India's urban poor. Employing a range of financial tools, from traditional philanthropic grants to mission-driven impact investments - the foundation aims to have an immediate and measurable positive impact on the lives of individual children, while at the same time catalyzing systemic change. To those ends, the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation partners with a range of stakeholders, including governments, businesses, NGOs, implementation experts, community organizations and other philanthropies.

Since 2006, the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation has invested more than INR 983 crores in non-profits and social enterprises in India. Learn more at http:// www.msdf.org/india

The World Bank

The World Bank Group encompasses five closely associated development institutions: the International Bank for

Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Development Association (IDA), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID). Each arm plays a different but supportive role in the World Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity in a sustainable manner. Three of these entities work actively in India: IBRD, IDA and IFC. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)





Michael & Susan Dell FOUNDATION







aims to reduce poverty in middle-income countries and credit worthy poorer countries by promoting sustainable development through loans, guarantees, risk management products, and analytical and advisory services. In India IBRD supports projects across a range of sectors, including energy, transport, water supply, river clean up etc. The International Development Association (IDA) is the largest multilateral source of concessional financing and focuses on the poorest countries of the world. IDA lends money on concessional terms charging little or no interest and repayments are over 25 to 38 years. In India IDA projects support the Government of India's program in social sectors such as health, education, social protection, rural livelihoods etc. IFC is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector and works closely with businesses in developing countries to help them succeed in ways that promote prosperity for all. They provide investment, advice, and asset management.

CO SPONSORS

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

IFAD invests in rural people, empowering them to reduce poverty, increase food security, improve nutrition and strengthen resilience. Since 1978, we have provided about US\$18 billion in grants and low-interest loans to projects that have reached some 462 million people. IFAD is an international



Investing in rural people

financial institution and a specialized United Nations agency based in Rome – the UN's food and agriculture hub. Since 1979, IFAD has invested a total of over \$928 million in 27 programmes and projects in India, with a total cost of \$2.6 billion including co-financing, directly benefitting 4.4 million households.

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

MISSION:

Promotion of sustainable and equitable agriculture and rural development through effective credit support, related services, institution development and other innovative initiatives.



MAJOR ACTIVITIES

- Credit Functions : Refinance for production credit (Short Term) and investment credit (Medium and Long Term) to eligible Banks and financing institutions
- Development Functions : To reinforce the credit functions and make credit more productive, development activities are being undertaken through
- ✓ Research and Development Fund
- ✓ Financial Inclusion Fund (FIF)



- ✓ Financial Inclusion Technology Fund (FITF)
- ✓ Farm Innovation and Promotion Fund (FIPF)
- ✓ Farmers' Technology Transfer Fund (FTTF)
- ✓ Watershed Development Fund (WDF)
- ✓ Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)
- ✓ Tribal Development Fund (TDF)
- ✓ Cooperative Development Fund (CDF)
- ✓ Rural Innovation Fund
- Supervisory Functions: NABARD shares with RBI certain regulatory and supervisory functions in respect of Cooperative Banks and RRBs.
- Provides consultancy services relating to Agriculture & Rural Development (nabcons@vsnl.net)

NABARD Head Office Plot No. C-24, G-Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Post Box No- 8121, Bandra (E), Mumbai – 400051 Visit us at: www.nabard.org

KNOWLEDGE PARTNER

Rabobank Group

Rabobank Group ("Rabobank") is an international full-range financial services provider founded on cooperative principles more than 110 years ago. Headquartered in the Netherlands, the Group's operations include banking, asset management, leasing, insurance and real estate services, serving over 8 million clients in 40 countries. Internationally the Group's focus is providing financial solutions to food and agribusiness companies and commodity traders. In the Netherlands, Rabobank is a market leader in financial services, catering to all sectors.



In terms of core Tier-1 capital (the core measure of a bank's financial strength from a regulator's point of view), Rabobank is among the world's 30 largest financial institutions and is consistently awarded a high rating by all rating agencies. As per 31 December 2015, Rabobank had EUR 670 bln in assets, with a net profit of EUR 2,2 bln and core Tier-1 ratio of 16.4%.

The Rabobank Foundation was established in 1973 as an independent foundation. The organization is funded by local member Rabobanks and Rabobank Nederland, which donate a small percentage of their profits to the Rabobank Foundation. The Rabobank Foundation helps underprivileged and disadvantaged people to become economically active and independent. The support provided by the Rabobank Foundation reflects Rabobank's unique history and roots and is consequently focused first and foremost on enabling the development of small co-operatives located in rural regions. This support is provided through donations, loans, trade financing and technical assistance. In line with Rabobank's own co-operative background, the Rabobank Foundation especially focuses on establishing and promoting co-operative savings and loan systems.

TECHNICAL PARTNERS

GIZ

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is a global service provider in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development with more than 17,000 employees. GIZ has over 50

years of experience in a wide variety of areas, including economic development and employment, energy and the environment, and peace and security. Our business volume exceeds 2.1 billion euros. As a public-benefit federal enterprise, GIZ supports the German Government – in particular the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) – and public and private sector clients in around 130 countries in achieving their objectives in international cooperation. With this aim, GIZ works together with its partners to develop effective solutions that offer people better prospects and sustainably improve their living conditions.

Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA)

Ever since its inception in 1979, the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA) has been sending out management graduates into the rural space empowered with the knowledge and professionalism required for transforming the rural sector and ameliorating rural

poverty related issues. It has also been enabling rural producers to prosper both economically and socially.

IRMA's educational and training programmes provide state-of-the-art pedagogy with strong emphasis on experiential learning. IRMA's bellwether, its celebrated Postgraduate Diploma Programme in Rural Management (PRM), is designed to instill participants with rural realities and sensitivities. The coursework section of the programme is covered by the classroom segment relying on concepts, theories, and knowledge while the village fieldwork segment concentrates on rural realities.

IRMA's other course offering – the Fellow Programme in Rural Management (FPRM) – is for those seeking careers in research, teaching, and specialized knowledge based positions in institutions of higher learning, research, and development organizations.

Academic proficiency apart, IRMA has been reaching out to in-service managers and officers working with cooperatives, NGOs and so on through its much sought Management Development Programmes or MDPs.

IRMA is also deeply involved in research and consultancy. Our faculty is constantly engaged in rigorous research that is evidence-based and meaningful with the intention of making a difference. Besides, the institute has been doing its bit to aid the emergence of the new 'knowledge society' through its five Centres of Excellence that cater to shared facilities in the context of research and scholarship.









ANCHOR PARTNERS

ACTED in Sri Lanka

ACTED launched its operations in Sri Lanka in January 2005, in the immediate aftermath of the tsunami in December 2004, providing immediate



disaster relief and rehabilitation activities to tsunami-affected populations in the Eastern Province.

Since the end of Sri Lanka's civil war in 2009, ACTED has been focusing on improving governance and enhancing the livelihoods of Sri Lankans, especially vulnerable and conflict-affected communities. With a view to engaging in long-term sustainable development, ACTED supports bottom-up development of strong local economies in vulnerable areas of the Northern and Eastern Provinces, builds the capacity of civil society organizations (CSOs), works with communities and local authorities on the establishment of community-based models to reduce disaster risk, strengthen government authorities' capacities, engage with lawyers, judges and media professionals on fundamental rights and freedoms, and seeks to link communities to local authorities to promote inclusive pro-poor growth and community-driven development.

Our programs focus on the themes of:

- Promoting Inclusive and Sustainable growth
- Strengthening Civil Society and Effective Governance
- Responding to Emergencies and Building Disaster Resilience
- Promoting Fundamental Rights and Freedoms
- Peacebuilding and Reconciliation

CARE

CARE India has been working in India for over 65 years, focusing on alleviating poverty and social injustice. We do this through wellplanned and comprehensive programmes in health, education, livelihoods and disaster preparedness and response. Our overall goal is the empowerment of women and girls from the most marginalized communities leading to improvement in their lives and livelihoods. We are a member of the CARE International



Confederation which is working in over 90 countries across the globe, and in FY 2015 had a global reach of 65 million people, through 890 development and humanitarian aid projects.

CARE India's livelihood programme focuses on generating sustainable livelihoods for women who are engaged in smallholder subsistence agriculture, as labour, or own / operate in micro, small and medium enterprises, through a combination of approaches encompassing, but not restricted to, capability enhancement, collectivization, Inclusive value change promotion, and engagement of men and other key actors.



Chrysalis

Chrysalis is a Sri Lankan headquartered social enterprise working to empower women and youth by fostering inclusive growth.

Our story is unique. Established as part of CARE International's phasing out of Sri Lanka, we embody the skills, experience and networks developed over 60 years of



CARE's work in Sri Lanka, regionally and globally, and continue to champion its social development interventions and mission.

As strategic partner to CARE, we are ideally positioned, with an established network of qualified technical advisors and partnership specialists who are able to combine both development and private sector perspectives and skill sets, committed to understanding the challenges of our clients and delivering excellence in professional services with a focus on empowering women and youth.

Building on CARE Sri Lanka's focus on women and youth as an impact group, we at Chrysalis will continue to focus on these target two groups, providing services in the form of project design and strategy planning, project management and quality control, facilitation and networking, conducting research, gender audits and impact assessments, providing skills development training, and enterprise development.

Chrysalis works across multiple industries and spheres of influence to ensure a holistic approach in programming. As working with the private sector is critical for development and equality, we collaborate to influence inclusive business models that lead to **economic, environmental** and **social returns.** We also offer our expertise to government and other civil society actors to fulfil their obligations to women and youth.

Hand in Hand India

Hand in Hand (HiH), India, is a public charitable trust working to alleviate rural poverty through job creation,



livelihoods promotion and integrated community development. Registered in 2002, the organization works in areas of women's empowerment, skill development, microfinance, livelihoods, child labour elimination, education, health and environment. Having started its operations on a humble scale in Kancheepuram district of Tamil Nadu in 2002, HIH India has now expanded its work across 10 States of India and its model of 'job creation' replicated in over 10 countries across the globe through its partners. Since its inception in 2003 and until September 2016, HiH India has mobilized over 1.3 million women living at the bottom of the pyramid into 97,814 SHGs and created over 2.58 million jobs in the rural and semi urban areas of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Pondicherry, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Odisha and West Bengal. With a dedicated team of over 1314 employees and 54,642 volunteers, the organization is steadily moving towards achieving its mission of creating 5 million jobs by 2020!

Committed to creating for sustainable businesses for poverty alleviation, HiH India inaugurated its Academy for Social Entrepreneurship in February 2016. The mission of the Academy is to provide integrated practical and theoretical knowledge to create social entrepreneurs and build sustainable businesses that address social priorities.



















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