

एस. एम. विजयानंद
S. M. VIJAYANAND



सचिव
भारत सरकार
पंचायती राज मंत्रालय
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SECRETARY
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Ministry of Panchayati Raj
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D.O.No.SPR/2/2016-Sol.Ex.

February 23, 2016

Dear Dr. Nagambika,

I am writing this in continuation of the discussion we had in the Secretaries Conference on 15th February. UNDP runs a very innovative knowledge facilitation service electronically through Solution Exchange. The basic objective is to get the best ideas from practitioners and others interested in a development topic. May I request your proactive support on the following? :-

- (1) To enroll as many persons as possible who can contribute significantly in matters relating to decentralization and Panchayati Raj to the Solution Exchange. This may be done in a planned and systematic manner so that experts, professionals, key officials – serving or retired, academics, activists and elected representatives are encouraged to contribute their ideas.
- (2) To pose key issues on which you need comments and suggestions.

2. Ideally, the SIRD&PR of your State could professionally support you in this regard. I am enclosing a note and the membership form for your reference.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(S.M. Vijayanand)

Dr. N. Nagambika Devi
Principal Secretary,
Panchayati Raj Department
Government of Karnataka,
Bangalore - 560001.

23/2/16

Jeevi
29/2/16

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ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 8196/2016
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ಸಚಿವರು, ಕೃಷಿ ಭವನ, ನವ ದೆಹಲಿ-110001

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Decentralization Community



What is Solution Exchange?

Initiated in 2005, Solution Exchange India is a knowledge facilitation service of the United Nations Country Team in India. Solution Exchange offers a unique approach to building capacities for addressing development challenges. Working through the modality of Communities of Practice (CoPs), Solution Exchange helps Community members to address the day-to-day issues they face, and to increase the effectiveness of their individual efforts. By tapping into the collective knowledge of diverse practitioners across this field, Solution Exchange connects colleagues who share interests and concerns, and who would like to learn from each other's knowledge and experience.

What is the Decentralization Community?

The Decentralization Community brings together individuals who are concerned with strengthening the institutions of local self government- the Panchayats and Municipal Bodies- to enable them to govern more effectively. The Decentralization Community deals with political, functional, administrative and financial decentralization in both rural and urban contexts, including those relating to sectoral decentralization, delivery of services, access to justice and other issues in local governance.

All members of the Community participate in a mail-group facilitated and moderated by a Resource Team located in UNDP, who helps members to connect, share and collaborate virtually as well as face-to-face. The Decentralization Community offers members the opportunity to also discuss specific issues in smaller sub-communities, formed around specific interest areas.

What are some of the issues to be covered by the Community?

The Decentralization Community focuses on issues related to decentralized governance in the light of the 73rd and 74th Amendments and on challenges and opportunities resulting from this framework for delivering services and programmes in different sectors and through various governmental and non-governmental channels:

- **Renewing public interest and political buy-in** for establishing effective local bodies as per the 73rd and 74th Amendments
- **Devolving powers and resources** from central and state authorities, for ensuring adherence to existing laws, including issues relating to fiscal decentralization
- **Ensuring clear accountability lines-** functional boundaries and responsibilities of line agencies vis-a-vis local authorities; transfer of functions and functionaries; interrelationships between bodies working with similar objectives at various levels
- **Building capacities** of urban and rural local bodies
- **Impact of decentralization** on local economic development and poverty reduction

Write to tina.mathur@undp.org or se-decn@solutionexchange-un.net.in

Who can become a member of this Community

Decentralization Community members are practitioners from a wide range of public and private organizations who share an interest in decentralization and local governance:

- Government and semi-government functionaries working in policy planning or policy implementation in a decentralized set up
- Local level functionaries and elected representatives at all tiers of local government both rural and urban
- Representatives of multilateral and bilateral donor agencies supporting projects and programmes on decentralized development, or otherwise interested in local governance and decentralization
- Members of NGOs working in local governance and/or decentralized development
- Academics and researchers working on decentralization or local governance
- Other stakeholders and professionals concerned with decentralization and local governance

Who are the leaders of this Community?

The Community is guided by a **Resource Group** of authorities representing key agencies in the field of decentralization and local governance:

- Government of India and State Governments
- UN Agencies
- International Donor Agencies
- Non-governmental Organizations
- Academicians
- Local government functionaries (both rural and urban)

The Resource Group and Community is facilitated by UNDP.

For further information on the Decentralization Community contact:

Tina Mathur
Resource Person
Decentralization Community
E-mail: tina.mathur@undp.org
Tel: 011-46532467
at UNDP 55, Lodi Estate, PO Box 3059 New Delhi-110003

Write to tina.mathur@undp.org or se-decn@solutionexchange-un.net.in



Membership Form
Solution Exchange India

I want to Join Decentralization Community:

1. *Title (Mr,Ms,Dr, Prof, Mrs):

2. *First Name: Middle Name Last Name

3. Gender (Male, Female, Transgender , Prefer not to Disclose):

4. Your Date of Birth: (dd/mm/yyyy)

5. *Primary Contact Number:

6. Secondary Contact Number:

7. *Preferred Email Id :

8. *Designation:

9. *Your Contact Information (Complete Postal Address with Pin Code)

10. *Name and location of your Organization: (If you are an independent consultant please mention here)

11. Functional Expertise: (please put Y , in front of your choice)

Please indicate your expertise in functional roles. You may have expertise in more than one functional role e.g. capacity building and Monitoring & Evaluation. Please provide a maximum of five functional roles with which you are currently engaged.

Programme Management and Implementation	
Capacity Building	
Research and Documentation	
Policy Analysis and Advocacy	
Monitoring and Evaluation	
Project Designing/Formulation	
Others	

12. Areas of Interest

Please provide a brief list of areas/ issues which are of significant concern to you in your work, separate by comma

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13. How do you plan to use Solution Exchange? (please put Y in front of your choice)

This information would help design better services for you

For getting more knowledge	
For Sharing Knowledge	
For keeping yourself updated in your interest area	
For purposeful networking	
For getting solutions/sharing solutions to the problems	
Others	

Note: please fill the form and send to the community email ID provided below for signup.

se-decn@solutionexchange-un.net.in or tina.mathur@undp.org