To view PDF, click here
Decentralization Community
Update 86
October 2014
Community Activities **| Updates |** **Announcements**

Dear Members,

We are happy to share the 86th Update on Decentralization Community of Practice!

This update comes to you with news on Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launching 5 new schemes: **Shram Suvidha Portal, Random Inspection Scheme, Universal Account Number, Apprentice Protsahan Yojana, Revamped Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana**.

Additionally we are sharing information on: Gram Panchayat bringing grass-root development in Manipur; release of Rs. 800 crore by government of Andhra Pradesh for gram panchayat's development; recommendation of formation of additional 439 Gram Panchayats in Karnataka by S G Nanjaiahmath committee; launch of scheme named **Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana (VKY)** in 10 states to lift human development indices of tribal people; setting up of **5th Finance Commission by Himachal Pradesh** and Kudumbasree to promote women agripreneurs.

Apart from this, there are interesting readings on: India's achievement on MDGs; Active Gram Panchayat Series- on Sanitation, Drinking water and Governance.

We request members to spread word on: Seminar on **Two Decades of Panchayat Raj in India** going to be organized on 15-16 January 2014 by M. P. Institute of Social Science Research, Ujjain Madhya Pradesh; Workshop on **Capacity Building for Resettlement Management Training** on 24-28 November 2014, at Council for Social Development New Delhi and the vacancy announcements.

We also request members to share their experiences on the ongoing query on **Simple systems of effective participative planning for cities.**

Now members can access the updated Consolidated Replies of all the queries and e-discussions held so far on Decentralization Community **here**.

Hope you would find this edition beneficial.

Regards,
Naveen Das and Aditi Malhotra,
Resource Team
Decentralization CoP, Solution Exchange

Community Activities

Ongoing Queries

➤ **Simple systems of effective participative planning for cities: Experiences and Referral**

Looking at the focus of government in urban areas, it is imperative to put in place systems of smart planning and governance to address the multiple interrelated plethoras of problems of cities. Hence, what is required is 'simple systems' that all stakeholders could apply to effectively build their capacity,

leading to effective planning and implementation. With this background, we request members of the decentralization community to share:

- Simple systems of participative planning which have proven effective, especially in cities?

- Best practices/case studies that demonstrate the application of such systems/tools?

Read the full query here

Please send your responses to se.decn.solutionexchange@un.net

Updates

News

From Resource Team

Gram Panchayat bring grass-root development in Manipur
Yumnam Khunou village in Imphal East is witnessing a boom with the implementation of various government-run schemes by the Panchayat. The people are also happy with the change. A lot of development work related to water supply, pond and irrigation facility has been done by the Gram Panchayat in the village. Read More **here**

AP to release Rs 800 crore for gram panchayat's development
Andhra Pradesh government has ordered for release of Rs 800 crore for Gram Panchayats to facilitate development of infrastructure particularly for laying roads, drainage system, installing street lights and ensuring health and sanitation. This was following a review of the financial utilization of resources of 26 departments. Read more **here**

Committee recommends formation of 439 Gram Panchayats in Karnataka
The S G Nanjaiahmath committee, which was set up by the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj department, Government of Karnataka, has submitted its report, seeking creation of 439 new Gram Panchayats (GPs). The Gram Panchayat Restructuring Committee, which was formed in March this year, travelled across the 30 districts to receive applications and listen to the grievances of people over various administrative issues plaguing GPs in the State. The committee has suggested one GP for every 5,000 to 7,000 people. Read more **here**.

Prime Minister Inaugurates Shramev Jayate and 4 other schemes
Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has launched the following new schemes:
- A dedicated **Shram Suvidha Portal**: Under this, Labour Identification Number (LIN) will be allotted to nearly 6 lakhs units and allow them to file online compliance for 16 out of 44 labour laws;
- An all-new **Random Inspection Scheme**: Utilizing technology to eliminate human discretion in selection of units for Inspection, and uploading of Inspection Reports within 72 hours of inspection has been made mandatory;
- **Universal Account Number**: Enables 4.17 crore employees to have their Provident Fund account portable, hassle-free and universally accessible;
- **Apprentice Protsahan Yojana**: Will support manufacturing units mainly and other establishments by reimbursing 50% of the stipend paid to apprentices during first two years of their training;
- **Revamped Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana**: Introducing a Smart Card for the workers in the unorganized sector seeded with details of two more social security schemes.

Read more **here**

Scheme to lift human development indices of tribal people launched
Union Tribal Welfare Minister Jual Oram launched the Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana (VKY), aimed at improving the infrastructure and human development indices of the tribal population. The scheme is being piloted in Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal

Pradesh, Telangana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra. The VKY will focus on convergence of different Central and State schemes of development with an outcome-oriented approach.
Read more **here**

Himachal Pradesh sets up 5th Finance Commission
Himachal cabinet will set up its fifth state finance commission to give its recommendations for next five years from April 1, 2017 onwards. The commission which would consist of a Chairman and two Members would have same terms of reference as of Fourth Finance commission and would submit its report by April 30, 2016. One of the key areas of reform and recommendations will be panchayat and municipal finances. Read more **here**

Gram Panchayats Roped in to Abolish Child Labour in Odisha
With unending migration throwing up serious instances of exploitation of child labourers in the State, the Odisha Government has developed a **Common Action Plan** for Elimination of Child Labour through strengthening of enforcement mechanism, greater awareness generation, education and skill development training to the vulnerable as well as rescued children, their rehabilitation and a monitoring mechanism. For this, gram panchayats (GPs), panchayat samitis, zilla parishads and district administration would be actively involved in prohibition, registration and rehabilitation activities. Additionally, GPs will be asked to identify the vulnerable families so that they could be brought under the fold of income generating schemes and programmes. Similarly, the sensitisation programmes will be intensified at village, panchayat and urban local bodies (ULBs).
Read more **here**

Kudumbasree to promote women agripreneurs
With a view to promote women *agripreneurs*, Kudumbshree has embarked on a programme providing specialised training for a select group of women in mechanised agricultural practices. The objective is to propagate farm mechanisation at local-levels and thereby equip women to take up women-focused development projects in farm sector, focusing on less manual labour, more profit, improved health and more leisure time, these women farmers will be able to make use of women friendly agro machineries and reap benefits.
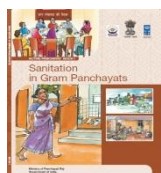Read more **here**

Readings/Web links/Repositories

From Resource Team

MDGs and Targets - Summary of Progress achieved by India
The 'Millennium Development Goals (MDG) India Country Report-2014' captures India's progress towards the MDGs to be achieved by 2015. The year 2014, being the penultimate year for the MDGs, acquires significance in assessing realistically India's progress in meeting the various targets under the MDGs as well as to take a stock of the areas where the progress is not up to expected levels.
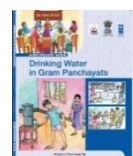Read full report **here**

Active Panchayat Series: Publications

Sanitation in Gram Panchayat
The publication aims to assist elected representatives and government functionaries in developing and promoting sanitary habits in the villages. It guides them on how to keep their village clean, end open defecation, manage liquid and solid waste in an eco-friendly manner and pay attention to hygiene in schools, anganwadis and public places. Read the full publication **here**
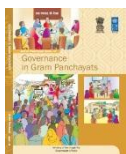
Drinking Water in Gram Panchayats
The publication informs, capacitates and strengthens elected representatives and functionaries to efficiently plan for drinking water security. This includes conservation and augmentation of sources, quality surveillance, and operations and maintenance to

overcome drinking water scarcity. It also aims to help Gram Panchayats render services like safe drinking water availability and supply to households, schools and public places. Read the full publication **here**

Governance in Gram Panchayats

The publication enables elected representatives, especially the newly-elected ones, and functionaries in their day-to-day core activities. It covers a wide range of issues like planning, revenue generation, supervision of schemes, Gram Panchayat and Gram Sabha meetings, account keeping, social audit and voluntary disclosure. Read the full publication **here**

Digital infrastructure in panchayat villages

In the opinion piece, Osama Manzar writes about the need for a digital backbone for Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana and the need to redesign MPLAD fund.
Read more **here**

Making Local Government Work

One could argue that citizens are more aware of local problems than are public officials. However, active citizenry that takes part in decision making on both locally concerning and national issues requires an enabling environment that empowers and incentivizes people. The very aspect of initiatives on local democracy or social accountability should be empowering enough to provide incentive to create an enabling environment for active citizenry. CSO's are in a unique position to emphasize the use of practical tools to mobilize communities' influence on social accountability in addition to theorizing and conceptualizing the definitions. Read more **here**

Upcoming Events

Seminar on Two Decades of Panchayat Raj in India: Experiences, Issues, Challenges and Opportunities, 15-16 January 2015 (Prof Yatindra Singh Sisodia, M. P. Institute of Social Science Research, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh)
M. P. Institute of Social Science Research, Ujjain is organising a seminar on **Two Decades of Panchayat Raj in India: Experiences, Issues, Challenges and Opportunities**, on 15-16 January, 2015. The seminar is aimed to discuss the multi-faceted issues related to panchayats in India. It will be aimed to understand the macro and micro dynamics of decentralised governance in India. This will help to find out the issues, challenges, opportunities and problems of governance at the grassroots level. To participate in the event visit http://mpissr.org/ and refer the brochure here.

Capacity Building for Resettlement Management Training Workshop, 24-28 November 2014, New Delhi (Dr. Poornima, Council for Social Development, New Delhi)
A Training Workshop on 'Capacity Building for Resettlement Management' is being organised by the Council for Social Development from 24 to 28 November 2014. This workshop is designed primarily for planners and practitioners from middle to senior levels dealing with land acquisition, compensation and resettlement issues in government, private industry, non-governmental organisation (NGO) sectors, research and training institutions. For registration and more details visit http://www.csdindia.org/

Announcements/Opportunities

From Resource Team

UNDP

Job Title	Deadline	Location
UN Local Security Associate - (Open to Indian Nationals Only)	7-November-2014	New Delhi

State Project Officer, Enhancing Institutional and Community Resilience to Disasters and Climate Change, (Open to Indian Nationals Only)	9-November-2014	Bhubaneswar, Odisha
Technical Expert, UNDP Project: Supporting Democratic Electoral Management (Open to Indian Nationals only)	16-November-2014	Jammu & Kashmir
Technical Expert, UNDP Project: Supporting Democratic Electoral Management - (Open to Indian Nationals only)	16-November-2014	Haryana
Technical Expert, UNDP Project: Supporting Democratic Electoral Management (Open to Indian Nationals only)	16-November-2014	Punjab
Technical Expert, UNDP Project: Supporting Democratic Electoral Management - (Open to Indian Nationals only)	16-November-2014	Kerala
Technical Expert, UNDP Project: Supporting Democratic Electoral Management (Open to Indian Nationals only)	16-November-2014	Rajasthan
Technical Expert, UNDP Project: Supporting Democratic Electoral Management (Open to Indian Nationals only)	16-November-2014	Karnataka
Technical Expert, UNDP Project: Supporting Democratic Electoral Management (Open to Indian Nationals only)	16-November-2014	Madhya Pradesh
Technical Expert, UNDP Project: Supporting Democratic Electoral Management (Open to Indian Nationals only)	16-November-2014	Tamil Nadu
Technical Expert, UNDP Project: Supporting Democratic Electoral Management (Open to Indian Nationals only)	16-November-2014	West Bengal
Technical Expert, UNDP Project: Supporting Democratic Electoral Management (Open to Indian Nationals only)	16-November-2014	Chhattisgarh

UNICEF

Gender & Development Specialist	18-November-2014	New Delhi

Many thanks to all who contributed to this issue!

If you have items to feature in the Updates, please send it to Solution Exchange for the Decentralization Community at
se-decn@solutionexchange-un.net.in

Solution Exchange is a UN initiative for development practitioners in India. For more information please visit www.solutionexchange.net.in