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Our focus is helping countries build and share solutions to the challenges of:

- Democratic Governance
- Poverty Reduction
- Crisis Prevention and Recovery
- Environment and Energy
- HIV/AIDS

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Results from 2010

Empowered lives. Resilient nations.



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Message from the Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India

The Government of India and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have a long history of close collaboration and the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) is honoured to be the nodal agency for the Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP). We share a common vision – of equitable growth that benefits millions of the most impoverished and marginalised in the country, and which expands the range of opportunities available to them. In our efforts to achieve this vision, UNDP has played a useful role in piloting innovative prototypes that address implementation challenges in governance schemes and in providing policy space that brings together diverse stakeholders to foster inclusive development.

DEA was closely involved in the mid-term review of the current CPAP. This was a valuable opportunity to reflect collectively on our progress till date. The process of reflection has underscored the need for us to focus on several key challenges - improving the effectiveness of national poverty reduction strategies, reducing inequality, and addressing the impact of climate change. We look forward to strengthening our partnership in the next CPAP and working together to address these challenges.

The support and commitment of all partners is greatly appreciated and we look to many more opportunities to enhance our cooperation in the future.

Dr. Alok Sheel, Joint Secretary

Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance

Government of India

Inclusive Growth, Inclusive Strategies

2010 has been an extremely important year for India. It has been a year of much debate and discussion on issues central to India's democracy and the country's unprecedented growth in the face of the global financial crisis. It has also been a particularly energetic year for discourses to address inclusion – and the millions left behind even as India's growth continues to accelerate.

The findings of the 2010 Global Human Development Report, *The Real Wealth of Nations: Pathways to Human Development* resonate with concern over persistent inequalities. India is one of the top-ten performers globally in terms of income growth but loses 30 percent of its Human Development Index value when adjusted for inequality. Similarly, the India Millennium Development Goal (MDG) Report 2009 calls for us to redouble our efforts in achieving the MDGs of reducing hunger and malnutrition, improving access to sanitation and realising gender equality. Further, poverty is set to rise across eight states in India.

The Mid-Term Review of the 11th Five-Year Plan (2007-2012) has been an opportunity for the country to reflect and take stock of progress made towards the objective of achieving inclusive growth. We commend the Government for ensuring that the consultation included the voices of marginalised men and women. UNDP has played a catalytic role both in the review of the 11th Plan and in planning towards the 12th Five-Year Plan (2013-2017). UNDP supported the first-ever people's mid-term appraisal of the 11th Five-Year Plan and building on the success of this effort, the Planning Commission invited civil society groups to contribute to the preparation of the Approach Paper to the 12th Five-Year Plan. Nation-wide discussions followed among those who rarely take centre stage - dalits (marginalised castes), tribals, elderly, women, migrants, urban poor, people living with HIV (PLHIV) and transgenders. This year was also testimony to the power of knowledge platforms – the Planning Commission used a UNDP-led online platform, the Solution Exchange, to initiate a consultation on decentralised governance, an interaction that included development practitioners, civil society and the private sector.

The United Nations support to the Government of India as articulated in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) to "promote social, economic and political inclusion for the most disadvantaged, especially women and girls" is closely aligned with the goals of the 11th Five-Year Plan and the MDGs. UNDP's Country Programme Action Plan (2008-2012) developed and implemented in partnership with the Government reflects this close alignment. The 2010 Mid-Term Review of the UNDP Country Programme assures us that progress is on track.

This would not have been possible without the support of the Government of India, and in particular UNDP's counterpart in the Government, the Department of Economic Affairs. We thank the Government for outstanding cooperation and partnership.

Many thanks are due to our national partners from government, civil society, private sector and the donor community. We also appreciate the contribution of our committed and dedicated staff which have made these results possible.

Together, we remain confident of and committed to supporting efforts to ensure the benefits of growth reach the poorest and the most marginalised across the country. Much progress has been made and much remains to be done. In this journey, UNDP is dedicated to supporting India's development priorities.

2010 has been an excellent year and we look forward to the year to come.

Caitlin Wiesen

Country Director, UNDP India

United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, India



Introduction

India's economic growth continues to remain an impressive achievement. Absolute numbers of the poor have declined and there has been a marked improvement in several social indicators. Government data suggests the country is well on target to achieving universal primary education, reducing gender disparities in primary and secondary education, reversing the incidence of HIV/AIDS and environmental losses. The implementation of several rights-based legislation frameworks have emerged as the cornerstone of poverty reduction strategies and have generated nation-wide debate on governance challenges. 2010 was a memorable year for champions of women's rights, with Rajya Sabha, the Upper House of the Parliament passing legislation to reserve 33 percent seats for women in Parliament.

However, work remains to be done and UNDP continues to be a committed partner of the Government of India in fulfilling its objective of inclusive growth. In doing so, our focus has been on the seven priority states outlined by the UNDAF that are home to India's poorest - Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Along with Uttarakhand, these states account for 64 percent of the population living below the poverty line. Across India, multi-dimensional poverty continues to rise. Recent government data on poverty based on new methodologies of estimation, has revised poverty upwards and rural poverty has also risen significantly.1 Further, poverty continues to remain concentrated in specific regions and social groups. Poverty levels are also much higher among people belonging to Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs)² who comprise half of the poor and deprived households.

The mid-term review of the UNDP Country Programme (2008-12) in partnership with government counterparts, found progress well on track and outcomes achievable within the programme period. The review highlighted several key achievements – mainstreaming of accountability and transparency in national poverty reduction programmes; designing and implementing pilots to leverage change in national schemes; and ensuring the needs of the most marginalised are reflected in national policies.

UNDP's approach in India has been to develop and sustain strategic partnerships that find innovative solutions to address gaps on both the demand and supply side of development processes. Prototypes

that demonstrate new ways of addressing persistent disparities have empowered communities to improve access to basic entitlements - whether in housing and employment under government schemes or in greater political voice. In 2010, a reconstruction process in Bihar that empowered home owners and communities to drive the process of rebuilding homes was scaled up by the state government to rebuild 100,000 homes destroyed by the Kosi floods of 2008. A biometric prototype that empowers workers employed as part of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) to directly access information on their entitlements is now the guiding force behind a national strategy on biometrics aimed at greater transparency in governance of the world's largest cash-for-work scheme. For the first time ever, women in eastern Uttar Pradesh led the way in local elections as a result of pre-election voter awareness efforts in the area.

Another approach of UNDP has been to bring diverse stakeholders, particularly from the less heard in civil society to the forefront. Sustained advocacy, for example, on behalf of the transgender community has resulted in greater recognition of their specific needs in planning and legal processes. Transgenders can now access free legal aid from the government, and with UNDP support, the community provided policy inputs to the 12th Five-Year planning process.

One of the most significant trends in UNDP's support to the Government of India over the past many decades has been a stronger collaboration on human development, its application in planning and analysing deprivation across the states. A recent evaluation points to the influence of this approach at almost all levels of government.

The task in the years ahead is to strengthen the human development approach, and to examine the structural and institutional underpinnings of inclusion and exclusion.

The UNDP India Annual Report for 2010 highlights some of these results across our five programme areas - poverty reduction, democratic governance, energy and environment, crisis prevention and recovery and HIV and development. In doing so, our focus is both on prototypes that offer the possibilities of change and support that has empowered the poor and marginalised to influence policy making processes across the country.

¹ All India estimates for the headcount ratio of poverty have been revised from 27.5 percent to 37.2 percent and rural poverty estimates have been revised from 28.3 percent to 41.8 percent as per the 'Report of the Expert Group to Review Methodology for Estimation of Poverty', Planning Commission. Government of India. 2009.

² Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) are population groups that are explicitly recognised by the Constitution of India as marginalised groups in need of special assistance.



Results at a Glance: The Year That Was...

Poverty Reduction

UNDP India's Poverty Reduction Programme partners with central, state governments and civil society organisations across the country to improve the effectiveness of poverty reduction and livelihood promotion programmes and build partnerships that enable disadvantaged communities to improve skills and diversify to non-farm activities. Efforts are also aimed at addressing the challenge of financial inclusion through a range of financial products and services that reduce the vulnerability of the poor. Empowering women remains a key area of intervention.

Livelihoods for the poor

The challenge of livelihoods continues to remain acute in India. Several social groups and regions have not benefited from accelerated economic growth over the last two decades. Government livelihood schemes tend to focus on sectoral needs and not on the multiple vulnerabilities of the poor. Responding to the urgency for institutional mechanisms that adopt a holistic and coordinated approach

to promoting livelihoods, UNDP has supported state governments in Rajasthan and Jharkhand to set up these institutions. As a result, nearly 350,000 people have benefited from an increase in income generating activities in Rajasthan and Jharkhand.

In Rajasthan, UNDP was instrumental in setting up the Rajasthan Mission on Skill and

Livelihoods (RMoL). Anchored by the state government, its purpose is to coordinate interdepartmental initiatives, develop prototypes for wider replication and encourage new and emerging areas of employment for the state's 28-million strong workforce. In 2010, RMoL finalised policy recommendations to expand employment in the state and address livelihood needs of specific



disadvantaged groups –migrants and persons with disabilities. The state government also earmarked funds to enable RMoL to upscale successful prototypes for upgrading skills in construction, security services and entrepreneurship. A revamped employment exchange, based on a public-private partnership model successfully tested in Dausa district has been adopted for wider replication in the state.

Similarly, in Jharkhand, the State Livelihood Promotion Society (JSLPS) established with UNDP support, is mandated to improve the livelihood security and employability of poor and marginalised groups in both rural and urban areas and expand employment opportunities in disadvantaged regions. A drip irrigation prototype successfully developed for small and marginal farmers in Ranchi district has provided farmers with sustainable income. The state government is now preparing a policy to enable a large number of farmers to adopt this innovation. Similar prototypes developed for Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs), lac cultivation and paddy are being upscaled.

Both institutions are now exploring links with the Government of India's new flagship programme, the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) to leverage government resources for large-scale livelihood promotion.

Financial inclusion, risk mitigation: Sustainable poverty reduction

Poverty reduction through building and diversifying livelihoods is intrinsically linked to improving the ability of poor communities to access appropriate financial products and services, build asset bases and expand choices. Risk mitigating financial products can also protect the poor from losses associated with production, income and productive assets. Despite rapid strides in improving the financial services in the last four decades, it is estimated that nearly 40 percent of the adult population do not have access to basic banking services, a mere 10 percent have life insurance and less than one percent use nonlife insurance products.

UNDP has partnered with the National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to stimulate demand through customised financial literacy packages and devise strategies to improve access of the poor, especially women, to a range of financial products and services. A prototype in Pakur district of Jharkhand, one of India's 100 most backward districts, with 600 of the poorest households brings together poor and marginalised groups, and providers of financial products to develop financial solutions specific to different livelihood needs and opportunities. Recognising the impact of health shocks on disruption of livelihoods, UNDP has also attempted to strengthen the national flagship health insurance scheme, the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana,3 through a communitybased model that improves access of more than a million poor households to information and healthcare facilities in 15 of the most backward and predominantly tribal districts of the country.



³ The Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) was launched by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India to provide health insurance coverage to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families. The objective of RSBY is to protect BPL households from financial liabilities arising out of health shocks that involve hospitalisation.



Drawing the line better: Below poverty census of rural India

Identifying rural households that fall below the official poverty line is a nation-wide exercise undertaken by the Ministry of Rural Development at regular intervals. The Below Poverty Line (BPL) Census in the past has been subject to much debate with estimates suggesting exclusion to be as high at 40 percent. Responding to the need to better identify poor households in more than 600,000 villages in India, the Ministry has reviewed its methodology to strengthen parameters and processes. As part of a joint UN initiative to provide technical support, UNDP participated in designing and testing a revised methodology to capture the incidence of poverty in rural areas more accurately. Piloted across a sample of 166 villages in 22 states, the rural BPL survey revealed that social identities continue to matter – 50 percent of poor and deprived households comprise marginalised castes and tribal communities. Methodologies used in this sample will now feed into the full-fledged survey to be launched in June 2011.

Safety nets for the poor

India has a history of generous investments in safety nets – estimated at about two percent of GDP. While this is significantly higher than its counterparts in Brazil, Chile and Mexico, many safety net and social protection programmes are not reaching the poor. UNDP supports a range of policy responses to ensure more equitable access for those that have fallen through the cracks. This is achieved through efforts to improve systems of administration and experiments in both conditional and unconditional cash transfers. In Delhi, home to over three million socially and economically vulnerable residents, UNDP supported the first-ever night survey of the homeless aimed at identifying thousands that live on the streets, near places of work and worship, railway stations and on construction sites. As a result, over 60,000 homeless were added to the National Population Register and hundreds were issued smart cards to access entitlements through this identification. With over 50 percent of plan expenditure in the city allocated to social sectors, measures to accurately target and ensure better access to schemes is a critical poverty reduction strategy.

The votes are in: Women lead the way in eastern Uttar Pradesh

Sunita Devi is 36-year-old, uneducated, and worries constantly about how to provide two square meals a day to her three children from daily wages she earns working on a nearby farm. She plays many roles – mother, wife, breadwinner and recently added a new one – representative of her bloc, an administrative unit comprising a number of villages. "I always thought elections were won by money or muscle power, but my self-help group (SHG) members placed their trust in me, and collectively, we were able to ensure that issues took precedence." Between 2005 and 2010, there has been a 200 percent increase in the number of women elected in the local elections. Pre-election awareness campaigns undertaken by the UNDP-IKEA Foundation project reached out to over 20,000 women and recorded a 100 percent increase in names included on electoral roles in several areas.

Empowering women = progress across the MDGs

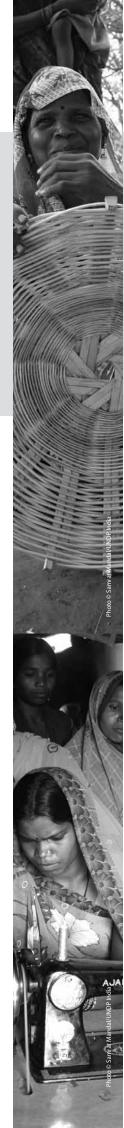
Forty-nine percent of women in India are poor and only 36 percent participate in the labour force. India ranks 122 out of 138 countries in the Gender Inequality Index as per the 2010 Global Human Development Report. Much remains to be done even as there is growing recognition that women hold the promise for a better tomorrow for millions in poverty. According to UNDP Administrator, Helen Clark, "the empowerment of women is a powerful driver of progress across the MDGs."

With support from the IKEA Foundation, UNDP India is working in one of the poorest parts of India – eastern Uttar Pradesh to address various aspects of women's empowerment – social, economic and political. This integrated approach is boosting literacy, leadership abilities and economic opportunities amongst women. By the end of 2010, the project reached out to over 40,000 women in 500 villages through hundreds of newly-formed SHGs of women.

Results are already visible. In 2005, five women stood for elections but none were elected. Fast forward to 2010 – close to 700 women contested local elections, a number unheard of in this part of the world and over 200 emerged victorious. Much of this change can be attributed to intensive pre-election voter awareness campaigns that reached out to over 20,000 women.

Women are also setting up a number of new businesses that are owned and managed by them. As part of the project, UNDP is helping to register a dairy cooperative that employs 12,000 women, in addition to a crafts producer company that provides income to 5,000 women who also participate as shareholders. Over 200 SHGs have availed loans without collaterals - an achievement for a country where 60 percent of the rural population does not have access to banks.

Results to date have demonstrated the value of the integrated approach that addresses women's social, economical and political empowerment. The model will now be up-scaled to reach 2.2 million women and their families in four states – Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and other districts in Uttar Pradesh.





Democratic Governance

The Democratic Governance Programme of UNDP promotes social, economic and political inclusion of the most disadvantaged, particularly women and girls. UNDP supports the Government of India to ensure that accountable and responsive local government systems, locally elected representatives, officials and communities are in place in selected districts in UNDAF states. The aim is to promote equitable and sustainable achievement of the MDGs and local development goals.

Consultation, monitoring and advocacy: Informing policy

2010 has been a crucial milestone for India. The 11th Five-Year Plan (2007-2012) reached its mid-way mark and discussions have focused on the Plan's performance and approach that must be taken to achieve its objectives. With UNDP support, over 3,000 people participated in what is now widely recognised as the first-ever people's mid-term appraisal of the 11th Five-Year Plan. It captured a diverse range of recommendations stemming from people's experiences with the Plan.

India is now gearing up to prepare the 12th Five-Year Plan (2013-2017) aimed at achieving "faster, more inclusive growth." Building on the success of the previous collaboration, the Planning Commission invited civil society groups to contribute to the preparation of the Approach Paper to the 12th Five-Year Plan. Responding to the need to significantly expand the participation of civil society, and marginalised groups in particular, UNDP

support has facilitated an inclusive process driven by over 600 civil society groups that debated priorities and challenges ahead of the formulation of the 12th Plan. It provided women and men from marginalised communities living in remote corners of the country with an opportunity to voice their opinions on key development issues, and in doing so, marked a significant step in making planning participatory. Such has been the diversity of the process that 16 population groups including dalits, tribals, elderly, women, migrants, urban poor, PLHIV and transgenders have contributed to the planning process.

Led by the Planning Commission, UNDP also collaborated on a consultation to provide recommendations on decentralised governance for the 12th Five-Year Plan Approach Paper organised by the Solution Exchange (UN's knowledge sharing platform) Decentralisation Community of Practice. For the first time ever, the Government of India partnered with a UN agency on monitoring the MDGs. UNDP supported the publication of the India Country Report on the MDGs in 2009, and convened a roundtable discussion on governance challenges that hinder their achievement. Technical assistance has also contributed to the calculation of the Inequality Adjusted HDI for Indian states. UNDP supported advocacy groups campaigning in favour of a Women's Reservation Bill in Parliament aimed at reserving 33 percent seats for women. The Bill has now been passed in the Rajya Sabha or Upper House of Parliament.

A human development lens on deprivation and planning

By 2010, India has produced the highest number of HDRs in the world. Building on the success of 21 state HDRs, 80 districts are preparing district level HDRs. Many of these reports have had considerable influence in their respective states' media and policy debates. They have contributed to building greater awareness of human development issues. A UNDP-Planning Commission partnership first launched in 1999, has now focused on the preparation of district HDRs from a human development perspective, capacity development of functionaries on human development challenges, gender sensitisation in planning, advocacy on the findings of the state and district HDRs and strengthening statistical systems.

Unique about India's experience with human development has been the strong ownership amongst state governments to understand disparities through a human development lens and initiate relevant policies. Several states such as Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have increased allocation to social sectors. UNDP has supported the preparation of state-specific guidelines in three states in line with the Planning Commission guidelines for decentralised district planning. A comprehensive training module for centralised planning was formulated based on a review of best practices across the country. An e-learning tool on district planning has also been developed. Village Index Cards and Urban Index Cards piloted in a district in Chhattisgarh have now been scaled up by the state government.



Improving governance of national schemes

Several flagship national schemes have emerged as the cornerstone of efforts to reduce poverty and provide social protection. MGNREGA is the world's largest employment guarantee scheme reaching out to 54 million households in 2010-11. **UNDP** has supported the Ministry of Rural Development in enhancing transparency and addressing bottlenecks in implementation. This has been achieved through lowcost ICT innovations that increase transparency and accountability, and strong concurrent monitoring mechanisms that can enable realtime monitoring of the Programme. Piloted in five states, ICT-based models such as low-cost ATMs and biometric authentication systems capture all MGNREGA processes

like registration, job cards, demand for work with generation of dated receipts, attendance at work sites and wage payments. A touchscreen, sound-based, biometricpowered people's information centre in Bhilwara district, designed to be user-friendly for a largely uneducated and impoverished workforce, is enabling workers to access information on their entitlements at the village council office. Biometric information is being used by village-based business correspondents to pay workers through a mobile phone with information on savings accounts. This biometricsenabled ICT pilot has now been upscaled by the Government and linked with another scheme

underway to improve transparency in governance – the Unique Identification Scheme.

A network of professional institutions built through 70 partnerships across leading academic and technical institutions, agricultural universities, think-tanks and civil society organisations have strengthened concurrent monitoring of MGNREGA by assessing and recommending solutions to overcome bottlenecks in its implementation. Many of these recommendations have been adopted by states to improve programme implementation. The model has now been scaled up by the Ministry to ensure simultaneous monitoring of the scheme nationally.

Guaranteeing payment for work

Thirty-three-year old Rekha Devi is a regular visitor to the people's information centre in the Suwarna village council office in Bhilwara district, Rajasthan. She is one of the millions registered to work under MGNREGA, a landmark legislation that guarantees the right to work in 619 districts and 6,00,000 villages comprising the poorest, and the most vulnerable of India's 1.2 billion populace. At this information kiosk powered by biometric technology, workers register for employment, access updated information on their application status, the number of days worked, wage payments due and importantly, works currently underway in nearby districts. For Rekha, this fascinating room represents change. "Being able to get this information simply through my fingerprint makes me feel more independent. I do not need to rely on anyone for information on my employment."

The next day, Rekha registers her attendance at a nearby worksite through a hand-held device. Later, she marvels at the small mobile phone of a local resident that tells her when payments are deposited in her savings account and helps her withdraw money to buy schoolbooks for her young daughter, all made possible through biometric technology.

The biometric pilot supported by UNDP through the Ministry of Rural Development has laid the ground for a new national strategy recently launched by the Government of India to drive biometrics-enabled ICT for those participating in the job guarantee scheme.

Capacity building for local governance

India has close to three million representatives across 240,000 local government institutions. Capacities of locally elected representatives have to be enhanced to democratise governance and excluded groups particularly women, need to be empowered to participate effectively in decision making processes. UNDP has helped build capabilities of close to one million elected representatives and local body functionaries in Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh to build effective local governance necessary to energise local communities. This has been achieved through technical support aimed at improving quality and outreach of training programmes. Detailed training modules and building a pool of trainers has improved the quality of training programmes in Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Technical inputs were provided for a pre-election voter awareness campaign in Jharkhand which was holding local elections for the first time in 28 years.

Access to justice for the marginalised

UNDP collaborates with the Ministry of Law and Justice in strengthening justice delivery mechanisms to empower marginalised groups to better access justice delivery mechanisms. As a result of convergence efforts, legal literacy has now been integrated in the Shakshar Bharat scheme, the government's adult literacy programme. Legal aid lawyers and representatives of various NGOs, SHGs and civil society organisations have been trained to better assist people from marginalised communities. Efforts have also been made to generate legal awareness among communities through innovative strategies such as forming networks, community radio shows, help lines and sharing updates through SMS and MMS. National and state legal aid authorities are engaging with civil society, judiciary, judicial academies and state governments to identify ways to strengthen the provision of legal aid services to the poor and marginalised.

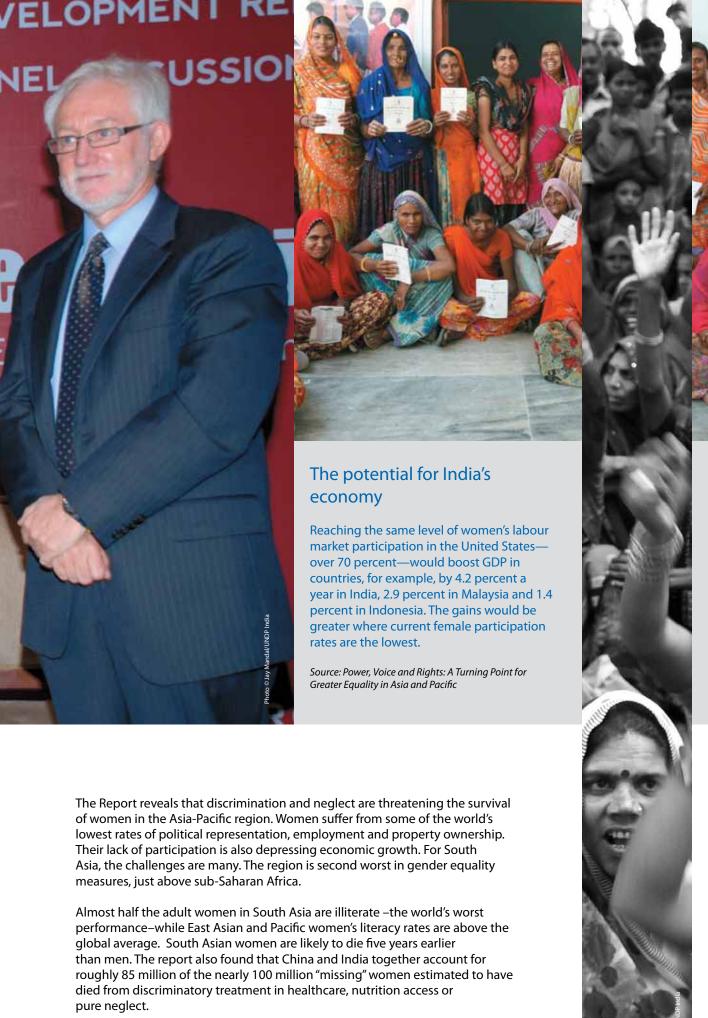




Left to Right: UNDP Administrator Helen Clark releases the Asia Pacific Human Development Report with Ajay Chhibber, Assistant Secretary General, United Nations and Regional Director of the Asia Pacific, UNDP, Syeda Hameed, Member of the Planning Commission and Patrice Coeur-Bizot, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, India

Across Asia and the Pacific, women face severe deficits in power, voice and rights

New Delhi provided the location for the global release of the 2010 Asia-Pacific Human Development Report *Power, Voice and Rights: A Turning Point for Gender Equality in Asia and the Pacific.* The Report was released by UNDP Administrator, Helen Clark and Syeda Hameed, Member, Planning Commission, Government of India. Speaking at the release of the report, the UNDP Administrator highlighted the importance of empowering women as vital for achieving development goals, and for boosting economic growth and sustainable development. While Asia and the Pacific can take pride in the region's vibrant economic transformation in recent decades, this has not translated into progress on gender equality.





Energy and Environment

UNDP is committed to promoting low carbon, climate resilient and inclusive development. We support the Government of India in meeting national development objectives along with commitments under important multilateral environment agreements. Key areas of intervention are climate change (mitigation and adaptation), sustainable natural resource management (conserving biodiversity and addressing land degradation) and integrated chemical management (phasing out of ozone depleting substances and reducing persistent organic pollutants).

Helping India meet energy demand

Much of India's efforts to bring close to 400 million people on–grid will depend on its ability to harness renewable energy and achieve greater energy efficiency in a range of energy intensive sectors. In 2010, UNDP supported key interventions in three areas – demonstrating the potential of biomass as a rural energy source; supporting the government to expand the market for solar energy and enhancing energy efficiency technologies in key energy intensive sectors. A biomass energy prototype in Kabbigere, Karnataka has demonstrated the potential of small-scale biomass power generation units to meet rural energy needs. Lessons learnt have contributed to modifications in national policy to support small-scale biomass power generation units. UNDP is also supporting government efforts to encourage the use of solar energy in thermal applications.

Prototypes in steel, tea and brick sectors largely funded by private equity revealed that energy efficiency can contribute to higher profits. UNDP's intervention in the energy intensive steel re-rolling industry has led to a 15-40 percent reduction in energy consumption. Tea processing units in project areas in the Nilgiri Hills in south India have invested more than US\$ 1.6 million in energy efficiency measures, more than double of what was initially estimated. The project has revealed the potential of saving energy costs between 15-20 percent. The firewood intensive sector is now paving the way in establishing that profits and energy efficiency can go hand in hand.



Traditional medicine, health and livelihoods: An agenda for biodiversity conservation

With UNDP support, state governments across India have made considerable strides in ensuring the sustainable development of medicinal plants and in promoting and protecting the livelihoods of rural populations. In Karnataka, traditional medicinal practices have been incorporated into the curricula of several schools. Twenty-eight government-run Primary Health Centres, established and maintained with the support of UNDP, are now administering scientifically validated, traditional herbal medicines to the local population. These Centres, managed primarily by women, have helped to revitalise traditional healing practices in Karnataka. Across India, a network of 55,000 home herbal gardens in five states have been established. More than 90 percent of these gardens are maintained by women. Local healers have compiled almanacs of traditional knowledge and techniques for the use of medicinal plants. More than 450 Community Knowledge Registers (CKRs) have been released so far. These CKRs ensure that this expertise will be maintained and passed on to future generations, and that traditional healers' intellectual property rights will be protected. UNDP has also helped train local leaders and forestry department officials to establish and operate community-owned ventures geared towards the sustainable and equitable use of local resources.

Strengthening community action, promoting better conservation

A global biodiversity hotspot, India is one of the top ten species diverse countries in the world. This rich diversity has been accompanied by a strong legacy of conservation. It is a relationship that is under threat. Close to 275 million people depend on the ecosystem for day-to-day subsistence and many of India's poorest households derive income, food, shelter and much more from forests. Typically, 'Protected Areas' are the cornerstones of biodiversity conservation in India. However, a significant part of India's biological resources lies outside formal 'Protected Areas' in the form of community conserved areas supported by local initiatives. Recognising the crucial link between conservation, livelihoods and community development, UNDP's assistance to community conserved areas in two states – Madhya Pradesh and Orissa – has expanded the scope of 'Protected Areas' and linked conservation with community development. UNDP projects have demonstrated the potential to lower healthcare costs due to strengthened traditional healthcare systems and greater use of medicinal plants. Further, ecosystem-based micro enterprises developed under UNDP projects have significantly increased incomes of poor rural communities.

Bridging the gap between climate change and development: A framework for India's states

India is highly vulnerable to climate related disasters even as millions, some of them amongst the poorest and most marginalised, depend on climate sensitive sectors such as agriculture, forests, tourism, animal husbandry and fisheries. The effectiveness of national policies will depend largely on action across India's states. Governments at state level have a crucial role to play in integrating climate change considerations in day-to-day governance and developing climate-friendly policies, programmes and regulations. In partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Forests, UNDP has developed a common framework that serves as a guide to states preparing climate change action plans. By integrating these action plans with state planning and budgets, this framework which has been adopted by the Ministry, fills a critical gap between climate change and development policies. Six states have already developed action plans on climate change, a strategic step towards helping India meet national commitments and multilateral environment agreements, and for states to meet development objectives that factor in adaptation and mitigation measures.

Accelerating progress towards international commitments

India was one of the first developing countries to join the Montreal Protocol in 1992 and commit to protecting the ozone layer. UNDP has been supporting government efforts to phase out production and consumption of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), carbon tetrachloride (CTCs), and halons. As a result of this support, the phase-out was achieved 17 months ahead of schedule leading to further partnership on this issue.



Crisis Prevention and Recovery

UNDP's Disaster Risk Reduction Programme supports the vision of India's 11th Five-Year Plan to work towards ensuring that the "most vulnerable, including women and girls and government at all levels have enhanced abilities to prepare, respond, adapt to and recover from sudden and slow-on-set disasters and environmental changes."

India is one of the most disaster prone countries in the world and it is estimated that 60 percent of the country is susceptible to earthquakes and 70 percent to floods. For over a decade, UNDP has been playing a critical role in supporting central and state governments to strengthen disaster management capacities. According to the 11th Five-Year Plan, the UNDP programme in partnership with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India is the largest community-based programme in the world. Over 300 million people have been empowered to deal with disaster risk.

Thinking ahead: From managing risk to reducing risk

The Government of India-UNDP programme (2002-2009) supported large-scale behavioural change and awareness building initiatives to tackle vulnerabilities and manage risk in 150,000 villages and 176 districts. Taking this one step further, the aim of the Disaster Risk Reduction Programme launched in 2009, is to develop capacities for disaster risk reduction by strengthening the government's disaster management institutions at state, district and urban levels. Ten state disaster management agencies

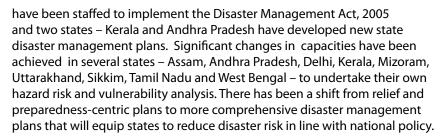
Multi donor framework for cooperation

Included: Australian Agency for International Development; European Commission; Department for International Development, UK; Disaster Preparedness Program of European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Department; Government of Japan, United States Agency for International Development; United Nations Trust Fund; United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

Photo © Jay Mandal/UNDP India

My house, my way

"Sometimes in my sleep I can still hear the sound of the river gushing towards my village," says Sangeeta Devi, recalling the terror of a night – three years ago – when her village in Supaul district of the eastern Indian state of Bihar was devastated by the mighty Kosi river that left 150,000 people homeless. Today she is the proud owner of a disaster-resistant house built the way she wanted under a pilot initiative supported by the Government of Bihar and UNDP. Her pride is palpable. The house also has a toilet and solar lights - not common in these parts. "I no longer dread the long walk in search of privacy every morning", she says. By empowering families to own the reconstruction process, the pilot also resulted in significant savings. For example, when Jurilal Mandal and his relatives from Puraini village decided to share walls between three houses they saved 30 percent in costs. In addition to being community-led, the use of indigenous building materials and traditional designs is another innovation. All the new homes in Sangeeta's village of Orlaha are made of bamboo that is specially treated to last longer. In addition, local masons have been trained in disaster-proofing techniques, to boost livelihoods and revive village economies. This flexible combination of innovation in design, local skills and participation, resulted in the reconstruction of houses, each with its unique stamp and character.



Building community resilience in reducing disaster risk

The Kosi floods of 2008 affected three million people in Bihar, one of India's poorest states. A UNDP pilot in partnership with the Government of Bihar and the Owner-Driven Reconstruction Collaborative that rebuilt 130 houses in two of the worst flood affected villages – Orlaha and Puraini - adopted an owner-driven approach to reconstruction. Under the pilot, affected households in the two pilot villages received INR 55,000 or just under USD 1, 200 each to rebuild their homes. The money was transferred to a joint account on the condition that one account holder was a woman. Given that over 60 percent of rural India does not have bank accounts, this was path-breaking in itself. In addition, people without land were given additional money to buy land, and by adding some of their own money and labour, home-owners were able to get more out of the scheme. Past experience shows that reconstruction is most successful and houses are less likely to be abandoned when communities themselves are empowered to participate in the building process. Recognising the success of this model, the Government of Bihar has up-scaled this pilot to build 100,000 houses in the worst flood-affected districts of Madhepura, Saharsa and Supaul, under its new Kosi Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Scheme.







HIV and Development

UNDP India supports government's efforts to reduce HIV/AIDS amongst vulnerable groups and uphold the rights of the marginalised, including sexual minorities and people living with HIV. We also work to address socio-economic, cultural conditions and norms that influence the drivers of the HIV epidemic.

Whose protection matters

An estimated 2.24 million people live with HIV in India. Advocacy for inclusive policies and programmes for PLHIV is therefore a key challenge. In 2010, UNDP worked towards expanding the scope and inclusion criteria of existing social protection schemes to be more HIV sensitive and reach out to the marginalised, especially women and girls. Ten schemes and programmes have been

amended to integrate HIV concerns in select national ministries and state governments. Ranging from free road transport, subsidised food grain and grants for low-cost housing schemes, UNDP's efforts have contributed to supporting PLHIV to access entitlements and benefit from additional support mechanisms introduced in schemes targeting the most vulnerable and marginalised.

1.2 billion and counting... including transgenders in the equation

Among the most visible of sexual minority groups, transgenders remain largely invisible, isolated and subject to stereotypes. The Census of India is the world's largest exercise to identify and count India's billions. A massive exercise undertaken every ten years, the 2010 Census goes a step further



PLHIV sensitive social protection schemes

- Chhattisgarh provides free road transport to PLHIV and enrolment under BPL category for subsidised rations under Antyodaya Anna Yojana.⁴
- The Government of Orissa has included PLHIVs in the Mo *Kudia* scheme which provides grants for low cost housing to poor families.

from previous efforts to include transgenders in the 'other' category. This result, an outcome of advocacy by UNDP and partners is crucial to addressing the development and health needs of this marginalised group and is a step towards the recognition of legal, political and civil rights. The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has also broadened the inclusion criteria for marginalised groups to include transgender or hijra. They can now access free legal aid from the government. UNDP support enabled the transgender community to provide policy inputs for the 12th Five-Year Plan by the Planning Commission which has also recommended a separate category for transgenders in the Unique Identification Authority of India project⁵.

Strength in numbers: Networks of PLHIVs

UNDP has supported the national network of PLHIV in India to increase the capacities of 30 district networks of PLHIV. Set up or strengthened in project districts in five UNDAF states, these networks have proved invaluable in providing members better access to government schemes

for HIV prevention and care, and in equipping them with necessary capacities and tools for sustained advocacy and rights-based dialogue with government. These networks have significantly improved participation of PLHIV in AIDS responses at national and regional levels.

Including migrants in the national AIDS programme

In recent years, India's National **AIDS Control Programme has** concentrated on expanding reach to key populations facing higher risk. This has included sex workers, men who have sex with men (MSM), transgenders and intravenous drug users. UNDP has contributed to extending this discourse - to an understanding of the significance of migration and its impact on vulnerability to HIV. UNDP supported the National **AIDS Control Organisation** (NACO) in developing a national migration strategy as part of the National AIDS Control Programme. Addressing migration related vulnerabilities will be crucial in ensuring the national programme's continued success.



⁴ Antyodaya Anna Yojana launched in 2000 is a nation-wide scheme to provide subsidised food grains to families living below the poverty line.

⁵ The Unique Identification Authority of India is an agency of the Government of India responsible for implementing the multi-purpose National Identity Card or Unique Identification Card (UID Card) project in India. Established in 2009, the Authority aims to provide a unique number to all Indians and develop a database of biometric data on all residents.



Indian Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh with UNDP Administrator Helen Clark

South-South Solutions

UNDP Administrator Helen Clark made a five-day visit to India in March 2010 to review important areas of cooperation between UNDP and the Indian government. Her discussions with Indian leaders focused on expanding the partnership to facilitate South-South cooperation.

The Administrator called on the Indian Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh to discuss how UNDP could enhance its partnership with the country to foster human development and further areas of South-South cooperation. "UNDP's partnership with India in the 21st century should also have a global dimension. India has many experiences to share and technologies available to assist other developing countries to meet their development challenges," she said.

Recognising that one size does not fit all and today's development solutions can be found in many parts of the world, UNDP India supported several exchanges between India and the South in 2010. A delegation from the People's Republic of China led by Minister of the State Council Leading Group of Poverty Alleviation and Development, Fan Xiaojian, exchanged views with senior government representatives on India's experience

with rights-based approaches to poverty reduction. The team visited a MGNREGA worksite in Rajasthan to understand the potential of the Act in encouraging rural development.

A team from the Bangladesh Planning Commission led by Minister of Planning, A. K. Khandaker discussed India's approach to planning and the possibilities of integrating human development reporting and planning in national and regional planning in Bangladesh.

The India country office also facilitated several technical exchanges between Africa and India. At the request of the government of Nigeria, UNDP established contact between the Nigerian and Indian election commissions to exchange expertise and strengthen local electoral processes in Nigeria. Delegates from the Global Forum on Local Development from Uganda to India explored approaches to addressing MDGs through decentralised planning. UNDP India provided technical support to the Government of India on best practices at the Delhi International Renewable Energy Conference. An interaction between Indian and Brazilian experts focused on sustainable use of medicinal and aromatic plant biodiversity and promoting traditional knowledge.



UNDP Administrator Helen Clark at a discussion with Ashok Gehlot, Chief Minister of Rajasthan (R) and Ajay Chhibber, Assistant Secretary General, United Nations and Regional Director of the Asia Pacific, UNDP (L)





Committed Partnerships

Support for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) puts partnership at the centre of all aspects of UNDP's work. Our partners include government at the central and state levels, civil society organizations (CSOs) and donors.

In the past year, UNDP has benefited from strong partnerships with a range of central ministries including:

- The Planning Commission, Government of India
- · Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India
- · Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India
- · Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India
- · Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India
- · Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India
- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India
- · Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India
- · Ministry of Power, Government of India
- · Ministry of Steel, Government of India
- · Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Government of India
- Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India
- Ministry of Women and Child, Government of India
- · National AIDS Control Organisation, Ministry of Health, Government of India
- National Disaster Management Authority, Government of India

UNDP has forged strong partnerships with state governments and departments across India and we are grateful for this continued collaboration which has strengthened our work across the states.

Engagement with CSOs is critical to good governance, national ownership, accountability and to reach the most marginalised and vulnerable of India's population. In the past year alone, UNDP has gained from close partnerships with 200 CSOs. We thank them for their commitment and support.

UNDP has also benefited from partnerships with bilateral development agencies and the private sector. Donors include:



Italian Development Cooperation

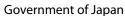


















Swiss Development Cooperation











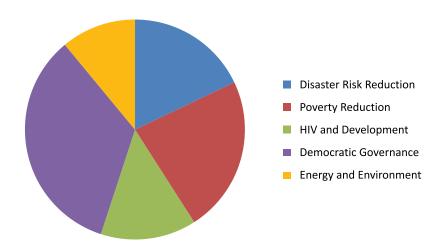




Financials

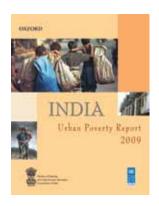
UNDP support to the Government of India across programme areas for the period 2008-2010 is USD 51.5 million from core resources.

UNDP Core Expenditure (2008-2010)



Knowledge Products

Fostering Policy Dialogue



India: Urban Poverty Report 2009

The report analyses the impact of globalisation, development strategies, urbanisation trends, migration, changing economic structures, and the pattern of infrastructure investment on the urban poor.



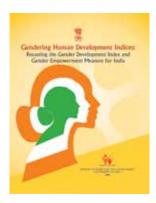
Conditional Cash Transfer Schemes for Alleviating Human Poverty: Relevance for India

An analysis of design and implementation of Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) schemes, with special reference to Latin America, and a comparative analysis of similar schemes in India.



Macroeconomics and Gender (ed. By Ritu Dewan and Seeta Prabhu)

This collection of essays by some of the best known academics and practitioners in the fields of economics, women's studies and development, examine a wide range of areas in which women's studies have made crucial contributions.



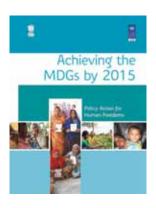
Gendering Human Development Indices: Recasting the Gender Development Index and the Gender Empowerment Measure for India

The report ranks states and union territories in India in gender development and empowerment through calculation of the Gender Development Index and Gender Empowerment Measure, to reveal genderbased disparities that can be used by policymakers and analysts.



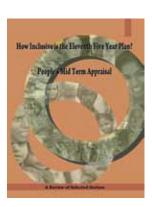
Convergence Initiatives in India - An Overview

The report examines initiatives taken to promote convergence of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme with other government schemes and programmes to enable better planning and effective investment in rural areas.



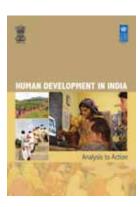
Achieving the MDGs by 2015: Policy Action for Human Freedoms

With five years left to achieve the MDGs, this document provides a quick snapshot of India's progress towards the MDGs and highlights key recommendations emerging from a roundtable discussion 'Achieving the MDGs by 2015: Policy Action for Human Freedoms.'



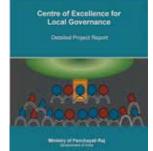
How Inclusive is the Eleventh Five Year Plan? - People's Mid Term Appraisal - Voices of the People

A people's appraisal of the 11th Five-Year Plan, the report consolidates the views of a range of marginalised groups and recommends forward-looking strategies developed through a series of state and regional consultations.



Human Development in India: Analysis to Action

The document illustrates the impact of a UNDP-Planning Commission partnership on mainstreaming human development in government policies and planning. It also highlights successful strategies and constraints reported by the states in achieving sustainable human development.



Centre of Excellence for Local Governance: Detailed Project Report

The report provides broad guidelines on establishing a proposed Centre of Excellence for Local Governance aimed at strengthening the institutional support framework for local governance.





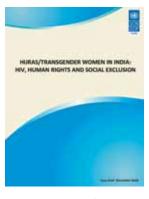
Voices from the Field

The report provides a gender perspective on financial inclusion –hearing from women leaders and financial service providers – drawing attention to the potential of women leaders as agents of change in the process of financial inclusion.



Women's Empowerment, HIV and the MDGs: Hearing the Voices of HIV Positive Women – Assessment of India's Progress on MDG 3 and MDG 6, December 2010

The document captures voices of women living with HIV on two critical MDGs-MDG 3 (Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women) and MDG 6 (Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases). In addition, the report serves as a useful guide to identify focus areas to accelerate progress towards achieving these Goals by 2015.



Hijras/Transgender Women in India: HIV, Human Rights and Social Exclusion

The brief summarises various issues faced by the Hijra and the transgender women community, and highlights the close links between exclusion and vulnerability to HIV and other health risks. The document also outlines a range of recommendations to address other forms of exclusion faced by the community.

Sharing Good Practice



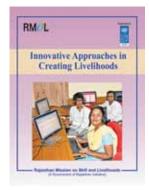
Social Sector Service Delivery Good Practices Resource Book

Published by the Planning Commission, Government of India and UNDP, the report outlines thirty-four good practices in service delivery taken by state governments, and articulates the challenges in effective implementation and delivery of public services.



Good Practices in Water Security: Ideas for Praxis

A repository on good practices that address the challenge of water scarcity, the publication outlines how a joint project in Rajasthan has resulted in a 140 percent decline in expenditure costs per household through community involvement.



Innovative Approaches in Creating Livelihoods

A report on cost-effective, innovative interventions undertaken by state governments and nongovernment agencies across the country to build sustainable livelihoods.



Ready Reckoner on Microfinance

A comprehensive repository of information relevant on microfinance including information on key stakeholders and latest innovations, the document seeks to provide inputs in fast tracking financial inclusion of the poor and encouraging interest in the sector.



Good Practices in Gender Mainstreaming – Case Studies from India

The resource book collates a series of innovative initiatives undertaken by states/civil/women groups to address discrimination and gender inequalities to facilitate experience sharing, mutual learning and replication in other parts of the country.



From Reservation to Participation

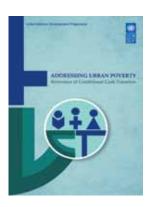
To ensure increased reservation of women in local governance institutions translates into more effective participation, the report highlights the importance of training and presents successful strategies from 10 states to mobilise and build capacities of women.



Low Carbon Lifestyles

A guide to cost-effective, climate-friendly choices we can make in the use of electrical appliances, transport, usage of paper, water, etc.

Discussion Papers



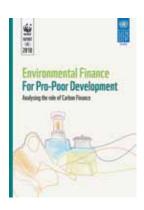
Addressing Urban Poverty: Relevance of Conditional Cash Transfers

This paper from a two-day conference in New Delhi explores the relevance of CCTs in addressing entrenched issues of urban poverty even as there remain few social protection measures that provide safety nets in times of crisis across Asia.



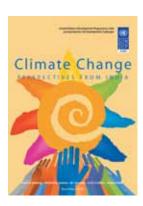
Scoping Paper on Financial Inclusion

To improve livelihoods, generate employment and alleviate poverty, a new paradigm of financial inclusion which goes beyond access to financial services is required.



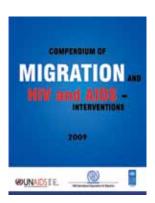
Environmental Finance for Pro-Poor Development - Analysing the Role of Carbon Finance

Against the backdrop of debates on the ability of carbon markets to improve access of the poor to energy, the report highlights the need to link pro-poor energy interventions to carbon markets through environmental, financial and institutional mechanisms.



Climate Change -Perspectives from India

A collection of perspectives on climate change in India outlines the need for greater debate on the links between climate change and development processes in the country.



Compendium of Migration and HIV and AIDS – Interventions

This publication by UNAIDS, UNDP and the International Organisation for Migration examines various dimensions related to migration and HIV and AIDS.



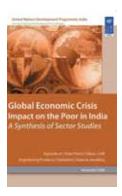
Building PRI Capacities for Disaster Preparedness and Management

The report captures the multiple dimensions of community-based disaster preparedness, and the roles and responsibilities of local self-government institutions in disaster management.



Global Financial Crisis and India's Informal Economy: Review of Key Sectors

This report examines the impact of the global economic crisis on informal sector workers in India, the cause of vulnerability and impact on waste-pickers, home-based garment workers, marginal farmers and chikankari workers in the country.



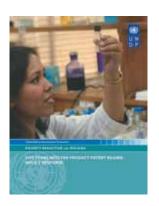
Global Economic Crisis - Impact on the Poor in India: A Synthesis of Sector Studies

Examining the impact of volatile global market on the workers and small producers in six sectors across five major states of India, this report reviews interventions to mitigate the impact of similar crisis in the future.



Workshop on Climate Change Financing

The report, which is a culmination of a one-day workshop organised in partnership with the Department of Economic Affairs, the Ministry of Finance, examines the climate change financing strategies for mitigation and adaptation, experiences of other countries, and implications for India.



Five Years into the Product Patent Regime: India's Response

This study contributes towards understanding the continued role of India as a supplier of affordable medicines five years after having complied with the Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) agreement.

Evaluation Reports



UNDP India - Mid Term Review of the Country Programme Action Plan 2008-2012; Kalyani Menon Sen and A.K. Shiva Kumar

This report assesses progress across programmes and projects to ensure UNDP India remains well aligned to changes in the social, economic and political environment to help address the country's development challenges.



Government of India - UNDP Disaster Risk Management Programme 2002-2009: Evaluation and Review of Lessons Learnt

The report evaluates the impact of the UNDP-Government of India Disaster Risk Management Programme against the National Disaster Management Framework and provides insights into the way forward.



Terminal Evaluation of Information and Communication Technology for Development (ICTD) Project

The document evaluates a range of projects under the Information and Communication Technology for Development (ICTD) Programme on the basis of relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability, and provides recommendations on using ICTS in poverty reduction strategies.



Terminal Evaluation of National Strategy for Urban Poor Project

The report evaluates the national strategy for the urban poor project and includes an assessment of results and sustainability of the project.

Solution Exchange



Contribution to the **Approach Paper to the** 12th Five-Year Plan

This consolidated reply captures the suggestions from the Decentralisation Community on addressing challenges related to decentralisation, empowerment and information identified as the themes to be included in the Approach Paper to the 12th Five-Year Plan. The document was used by the Planning Commission as part of the inputs from civil society and by the Wada Naa Todo Abhiyan in its formulation of civil society inputs to the Approach Paper to the 12th Plan.

ftp://ftp.solutionexchange. net.in/public/decn/cr/cr-sedecn-26111001.pdf



Knowledge Products of Microfinance - A Synthesis of Consolidated Replies

A collection of papers that synthesize discussions emerging from the Microfinance Community of Solution Exchange that brings together people working in financial services to meet basic needs, enhance investment in income generating and asset building activities to address risks of the poor.



Draft Kerala State Disaster Management Policy by Ajith Chacko; Kerala State **Disaster Management** Authority, Kerala

To develop an allencompassing and effective Disaster Management Policy for Kerala, this query provided comments on the existing draft policy and suggestions on areas of improvement. ftp://ftp.solutionexchange. net.in/public/drm/cr/cr-sedrm-10090901.pdf



Guidelines on the Role of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in **Disaster Management**by Sampoornananda Mohapatra, National **Disaster Management** Authority, New Delhi

Provides comments and suggestions on the guidelines on NGOs and disaster management prepared by the National Disaster Management Authority. ftp://ftp.solutionexchange. net.in/public/drm/cr/cr-sedrm-29091001.pdf



Contribution to the **Thirteenth Finance** Commission

The consolidated reply encapsulates the suggestions of the members on funds devolution to local bodies and measures for ensuring recommendations of the Finance Commission are implemented. The inputs were used in the preparation of the chapter on local government finances in the Report of the Thirteenth Finance Commission.

ftp://ftp.solutionexchange. net.in/public/decn/cr/crse-decn-05050901.pdf







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