Engaging civil society in implementing SDGs

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Background

MDGs were more about sectoral goals such as health, and education

SDGs are holistic and inclusive focus on triple bottom line principle, to ensure universal peace, through partnerships for action

17 global goals emphasize on inter-linkages

Call for unique partnerships between government, business, civil society, and academia

Success will depend on how well we are able to engage with people through such partnerships

Education is critical to attainment of the 17 global goals
Setting in context: the background

• Goals
  – finalize goals: where do you want to go (Ambitious/Transformative)
  – fix/set processes: how will you go (Leave no one behind/Integrated)
  – collective identity: ownership of goals (Universality)
The process

• Communication and meaning:
  – deconstruct
  – contextualize

• Targets and indicators:
  – develop measurable indicators: how do you know you have reached where you wanted to go
  – how did you fare: assessing processes and outcomes
  – sectoral contributions: recognizing interdependencies
  – who were left out: aggregation/disaggregation; inclusion/exclusion
The process

• Processes:
  – Managing and sharing resource
  – Managing stakeholder expectations
  – Monitoring outcomes
  – Evaluating outcomes
  – Networking
The process

• Prerequisite
  – Proper and timely information and sharing of data
  – Financial support
  – Create opportunity for participation; institutionalize dialogue structures to include the marginalized
  – Define stakeholders
India’s achievements on MDGs

1. Poverty reduction target
   - Hunger

2. Enrolment in schools

3. Eliminating gender disparity in primary and secondary education, and in all levels of education

4. Under-five mortality achieved

5. Maternal mortality ratio

6. Combatting HIV/AIDs

7. Safe drinking water and sanitation

8. Partnerships

- Red: Fell short
- Yellow: Close to target
- Green: Achieved
Challenges and opportunities

- Challenges: geography of poverty; increasing inequality; local-global connections; avenues of finance
- Opportunities: convergence of new actors like civil society, philanthropic foundations, technology companies; economic, social and human capital to deliver on the ambitious agenda
Current situation in India: Some demographic facts

- As per Census 2011, the total population of India is 1210.6 million.
- Rural population constitutes 68.8% and Urban population 31.2%
- Population density is 382.
- Sex ratio-943 per 1000 males.
- Literacy: 763.5 million literates; Rural-482.7 million; Urban: 280.8 million; Male: 434.7 million; female: 328.8 million. Effective literacy rate: 73% (Male: 80.9% and female: 64.6%)
Some facts: development

- Poverty rate: 21%
- Gender equality index: 0.56
- Human development index for SCs: 0.33
- Human development index for STs: 0.27
- Proportion of land covered by forest: 24.01%
- Proportion of seats held by women in parliament: 12%
- Growth of economy: annual rate of 7.26 percent over the past five years
Changes in the socio-political context

• The government has introduced numerous social security and financial inclusion schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) - to ensure access to financial services, along with schemes for the upliftment of urban and rural poor - by enhancing livelihood opportunities through skill development and other means.

• Education and Skill development programmes targeting the youth have also received greater impetus under literacy programmes such as the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the recently launched Padhe Bharat, Badhe Bharat.
Changes in the socio-political context

• The National Rural Health Mission has strengthened public health systems by increasing community participation.

• As part of the Housing for All by 2022 Mission, construction of around 20 million houses for the poor and slum dwellers in urban areas has been approved.

• In 2014, India launched the Clean India mission, a countrywide sanitation initiative with an outlay budget of US$9.4 billion.
Changes in the socio-political context

• Efforts to provide electricity, safe drinking water, telephones and broadband connectivity to remote villages are also continuing and have been enhanced under the Digital India programme.

• In 2015, the Indian government, with an aim of decentralizing the planning process and enhancing state involvement in economic policy making, replaced the Planning Commission with the National Institution for Transforming India. The NITI Aayog, headed by the Prime Minister is a policy think-tank of the government, which provides strategic and technical advice to the central and the state.
Outcome and way forward

- Increasing participation between national and local governments and CSOs (Partnerships)
- CSOs inherent closeness to the population - especially marginalized and excluded groups - this platform should be harnessed - institutionalize dialogue spaces where they can come and participate (Inclusion)
- The dialogue and action space is presently harnessed by Niti Aayog in its dialogue with the civil society actors. While the efforts were more sectoral in previous times, the current efforts are building more on partnerships.
Outcome and way forward

- There is clear dialogue emerging on SDGs, trying to identify the role of actors and organizations in implementing SDGs with clear outcomes.

- Overall, the civil society efforts have seen a sea change in the efforts. From initial five year planning periods where they were more focused on issues of food security and interventions were mostly charity based, the organizations have seen phase of development where along with basic needs, focus also shifted towards aspects of equity and participation.
Civil society and SDGs

• While civil society clearly points out at the manner of inclusion of aspects such as gender, equality with respect to SDGs; broader concerns that are shared now pertain to the implementation and delivery aspects.

• South Asia and India in particular has seen strong civil society emergence in terms of: sectoral interventions in several areas of operation such as energy, livelihood, health, poverty, energy etc.

• The inclusion of inclusive growth for the last two five year plans in India has also seen tremendous pressure from the civil society and advocacy groups. This group has a huge role in monitoring and ensuring just and equitable outcomes.
Civil society and SDGs

• As far as the means of implementation is concerned, effective policy framework seemingly have emerged in over the last decade where transparency and sharing of information (Right to Information) have been emphasized alongside broader goals of poverty eradication and fundamental rights to education, health and livelihood.

• New partnerships have emerged but a lot of ground needs to be covered starting primarily from data collection, sharing and analysis
Some areas of intervention: Energy

• Civil society and think tanks have been for a long time talking about clean fuels and pollution and the shift to CNG in Delhi is an outcome of the civil society effort (much before SDGs)
• They have also done considerable work in energy access, primarily in off-grid sector: particularly through solar
• NGOs are based placed to facilitate energy intervention through partnership: *between the Govt./Technology suppliers and communities/beneficiaries; between financing/ non-financing entities and communities/beneficiaries; between local development authorities and communities/beneficiaries*
• NGOs also are entrusted to take care (largely O & M activities) of the energy projects
Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

TERI’s Lighting a Billion Lives (LaBL), a global initiative for energy access

• Facilitated solar electrification of villages, schools, rural enterprises, tribal hostels and health centers
• Awareness for #SDG7 in over 3000+ villages through a network of 1500+ village level entrepreneurs (VLEs), partner NGOs and SHGs
• Steered capacity building of Corporates, NGOs, Women led Self-Help Groups, Home based enterprises and Financial Institutions

- Over 4.5 Million Lives Impacted
- 8,98,000+ households illuminated
- 1,70,000+ Solar Lanterns Disseminated
- 27,700+ Integrated Domestic Energy System Installed
- 17,700 Solar Micro Grid Connections Provided
- 7,600+ Solar Home Lighting Systems Installed
- 60,000+ Improved Cook Stove Disseminated
- 3,100+ Villages Lit Up
- 24 States Covered
- 13 Countries
- 3,000+ Green Jobs

*As on 30th March 2016
Lighting a Billion Lives: How it operates?

Manufacturer

Product supply, Warranties, Credit, Spare parts

Grass root Partner (NGO)

Awareness, Benefits, New Market Access

End User

Product Range
Lanterns, SMG installations, panels, home light systems, IDES, improved cook stoves, spares and luminaries

Energy Enterprise

Technical & Business Capacity Building

Interest buy-down, Facilitation Fee

Local Financial Institution (RRB / MFI)

Linkages with Manufacturers, suppliers & FIs

Brandishing, Marketing & Promotions

Access to Rural Distribution Channels, Product Innovation, Policy Change

Manufacturer

Equipping the EE to provide reliable and responsive after sales maintenance services

End User

Small Consumer Loans, Interest subsidies

Interest buy-down, Facilitation Fee

Local Financial Institution (RRB / MFI)
Lighting a Billion Lives: Approach for SDGs

- Evidence creation through scientific interventions: Project Surya
- Dovetailing energy access initiatives in cross-cutting areas
- Nurturing value chains
- Design of financial instruments to enable uptake of clean technology
- Use of ICT for monitoring of progress and knowledge sharing
Right since its inception in 2008, #rural entrepreneurship has been the driving principle at LaBL.

Establishment of Energy Enterprises/Retailers at block and district levels

Village level entrepreneurs who operate and manage solar facilities

SHG and Home Based Enterprises that provide local support
ASHA Worker Satyabhama Madhai attending to a patient. The lanterns are very useful in conducting medical check ups in the night. Laxmiposa, Odisha
“The children in my village couldn’t read despite being in the fifth standard. I opened a free-for-all tuition centre, and solar lighting has helped me tremendously”, says Sumitra Majhi, who is the only girl from the village to have cleared class 10th examinations, Ambabeda, Odisha.
JEEViKA-TERI Partnership
In Bihar over 15,000 women SHG members have partnered with LaBL and secured loans for purchasing solar home light systems.
Grooming a cadre of experts at grassroots for CC Mitigation

**GOAL 8**

**PROMOTE SUSTAINED, INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH, FULL AND PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK FOR ALL**

**Foundation:**
Basic operations and management of solar facility

**Intermediate:**
- Exposure visits,
- Shadowing
- Technical training

**Advanced:**
- Blended training for Business skills & Technical skills
- Initial handholding
- Value chain linkage

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>100+ Youth Volunteers</th>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Work with local partner NGOs: Mobilize communities</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2500 +VLEs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>200+ Technicians</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>150 + Uttam Urja Kendra Owners</td>
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- Provide basic energy services to rural households and enterprises
- Undertake maintenance service
- Provide employment
- Install and commission solar systems
LaBL is facilitating the transition of communities to cleaner energy solutions

Small markets in Jagdishpur, usually run on kerosene and paraffin lanterns. Few local entrepreneurs have now invested in the solar micro-grid model and have started to reap big benefits. Local businesses have flourished and customers now experience clean and bright lights in the market.
LaBL is a partner of UN SE4ALL’s Clean Energy is Life campaign and Project Surya
Grooming youth for SDGs at TERI University

Unique Masters and PhD programs

Thousands of graduates working in areas of Climate Change, SDGs, CSR, Business Sustainability & Inter-disciplinary research

Short term experiential learning courses
• Corporate and Multi-lateral /Bi-lateral supported:
  BLISS School and Sustainable Earth Leadership Program (SELP)
Emerging roles of civil society

- Policy Research/Evidence based research
- Advocacy
- Data generation and sharing
- Direct implementation
- Awareness generation, training, capacity building
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Action research
- Partnerships- with government and private actors

(https://niti.gov.in/writereaddata/files/SDGsV20-Mapping080616-DG_0.pdf)
Thank you