

BRINGING PEOPLE IN FROM THE COLD

– ENSURING INCLUSIVE GROWTH IN INDIA

POLICY BRIEF



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Voluntary Action Network India (VANI)

**Bringing People in From the Cold
— Ensuring Inclusive Growth in India**

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— Ensuring Inclusive Growth in India

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Preface

India has been gaining prominence on the international stage as one of the fastest growing economies of the world and as a leader of the South-South Cooperation Framework. Through platforms such as BRICS, G20 and IBSA, India finds itself in a position to influence and shape the Post 2015 Development Agenda. In order to make its voice representative at these forums, it is imperative that the experiences and concerns of India's voluntary sector be taken into account. At the same time, the voluntary sector in India also needs to understand the intricacies of global issues and the debates and processes that have a cascading effect on it.

In this context, VANI coordinated studies on four thematic issues, namely, Inclusive Growth, Financial Inclusion, Sustainable Development and Corruption and Governance with its partner organisations. The four reports which were produced as a result of these studies are intended to provide critical inputs to the Post-2015 Development Agenda from the voluntary sector in India and for this purpose; they will be fed into line ministries and international networks.

It was felt that the reports be condensed into comprehensive albeit succinct policy briefs for wider dissemination. The policy briefs were further translated into Hindi. It is our hope that through these policy briefs, we can help engage, educate and impact small and grassroot organisations in India by addressing the lacunae that exist among them about the policies and decision making processes at an international level and present the voice of the sector, domestically and globally.

Harsh Jaitli
Chief Executive Officer

Bringing People in from the Cold - Ensuring Inclusive Growth in India

Partner Organisation	Author/s	Thematic Issue	Title
Wada Na Todo Abhiyan	Mr. Rahul Banerjee	Inclusive Growth	Bringing People In From The Cold- Ensuring Inclusive Growth in India
Development Alternatives	Development Alternatives	Sustainable Development	Sustainable Development In India- Review And Way Forward
Society for Participatory Research in Asia	Mr. Manoj Rai	Corruption and Governance	Corruption and Governance In India- Current Status And Way Forward
Confederation of Voluntary Associations	Dr. Mazher Hussain, Mr. Roberto G. Le-srauwaet, Mr. M. Murali Krishna	Financial Inclusion	Critical Review of Financial Inclusion- In G20 Countries With Focus On India

Bringing People in from the Cold - Ensuring Inclusive Growth in India

The concept of inclusive growth is defined as “one that enables the poor to actively participate in and significantly benefit from economic activity”. This has been further augmented by stating that it “grants equal, nondiscriminatory access to growth and is disadvantage-reducing”. Defined in this way inclusive growth broadens the sphere of action beyond livelihoods and income to social services like education and health and political participation in governance.

Thus, in the light of the above definition, the key requirements for inclusion are participation of the people and non-discrimination towards them.

Status of Inclusive Growth in India

Despite various institutional and programmatic arrangements for ensuring inclusive growth, the status of various dimensions of inclusiveness such as income, education and health, still leave a lot to be desired. The status of these dimensions is detailed here based on a review of secondary sources.

Income - According to latest India Country Report on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 2014 published by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), in 2011-12 the Poverty Head Count Ratio (PHCR) in India, which is the proportion of people below the poverty line as determined by the Planning Commission, was 25.7 per cent in rural areas and 13.7 per cent in urban areas. The overall PHCR for the country was 21.9 per cent and therefore the MDG target of 23.9 per cent which was to be achieved in 2015 for the country as a whole was met. However, nine states are still way above the national average and these will not be able to achieve the target. These states which can be designated as poverty pockets of the country are shown in Table 1.

Some economists have questioned the methodology of estimation of poverty adopted by the Planning Commission. Over the years the proportion of household expenditure on food items and within food items on cereals has gone down as compared to those on education, health, clothing, consumer durables and shelter. Therefore, the consumer price index only partially reflects the actual rise in the cost of living. Consequently the inflated household consumer expenditure now does not provide a calorie intake of 2400 kcal in rural areas and 2100 kcal in urban

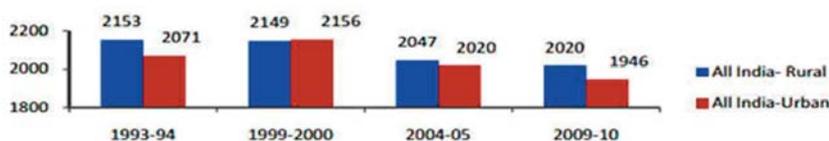
**Table 1:
States with High Level of Poverty 2011-12**

Sl. No.	State	PHCR (% of population)
1.	Uttar Pradesh	29.43
2.	Madhya Pradesh	31.65
3.	Assam	31.98
4.	Odisha	32.59
5.	Bihar	33.74
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	34.67
7.	Manipur	36.89
8.	Jharkhand	36.96
9.	Chhattisgarh	39.93

areas that had been decided as the minimum required for adequate nutrition in Indian conditions. If the household consumer expenditure corresponding to these calorie intake levels is taken as the poverty line, then the proportion of population below the poverty line in 2010 in rural areas was 75.5 per cent and in urban areas it was 73 per cent.

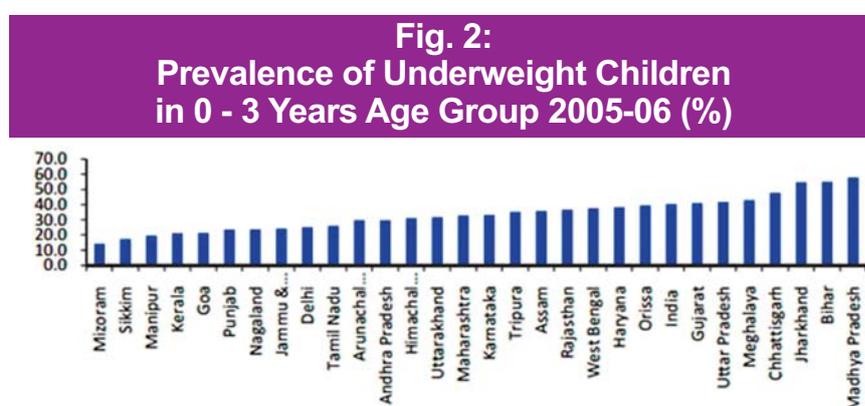
Food Intake - The MDG2014 report paints a very dismal picture of the status of food intake in this country. Based on the estimates of per capita calorie intake prepared from the National Sample Survey data shown in Fig. 1 below, in the rural areas the intake has gone down from 2153 kcal in 1993 to 2020 in 2009-10, which is 16 per cent below the norm of 2400. Similarly in urban areas the intake has gone down from 2071 kcal to 1946 which is 7.3 per cent below the norm of 2100.

**Fig. 1:
Trend in Estimated Per Capita Calorie Intake - All India**



Source: Gol, 2014

The situation with regard to child under-nutrition too is equally dismal. The MDG2014 Report relies on the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) III conducted in 2005 for data on one indicator of child under nutrition - underweight children of age three years (shown in Fig. 2 below). The national average of underweight children in 2005-06 was 40 per cent which means there has only been a 13 per cent reduction from 53 per cent in 1992, at the time of NFHS 1.



Source: Gol, 2014

Apart from regional gaps in tackling under nutrition there are also social gaps with the Dalits and Adivasis being more affected than other communities. Even greater is the gender disparity. Even though girls are born with better nutrition status at birth they invariably lose ground and fall behind later. An analysis of the NFHS III data also shows that women are severely under nourished as compared to men. At the all India level, 35.6 per cent of women show chronic energy deficiency while 55.3 per cent are anaemic with rural women being more affected than urban. This is to be compared with only 28.1 per cent chronic energy deficiency and 24.3 per cent anaemia among men.

Education - An important indicator with regard to education is the level of literacy among the youth aged 15 -24 years because this is the population that is immediately going to provide the country the demographic dividend from its huge population if it is adequately educated and skilled. The national sample survey in 2007-08 on expenditure in education reveals

State Name	% literates among youth: NSSO (2007-08)				
	All	Female	Male	Rural	Urban
Rajasthan	78	64	90	74	89
Uttar Pradesh	80	73	87	79	84
Bihar	67	55	77	64	86
Arunachal Pradesh	84	67	90	80	97
Jharkhand	75	62	86	70	93
Orissa	84	78	91	82	95
Madhya Pradesh	85	77	92	82	93
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	85	63	99	83	97

Source: NSSO, 2008.

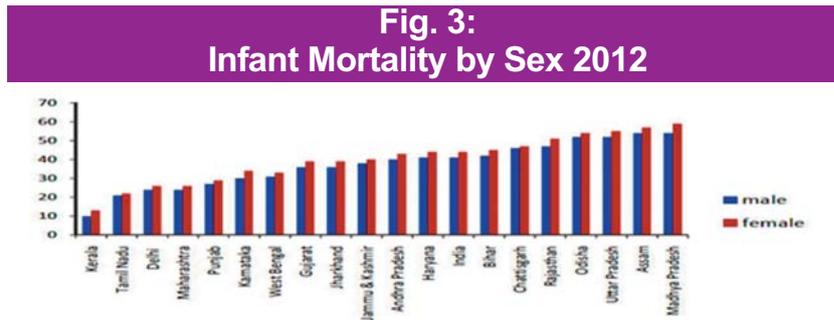
that overall youth literacy was 86 per cent with 80 per cent for females and 91 per cent for males. In rural areas youth literacy was 83 per cent and in urban areas it was 93 per cent. Even though this is a fairly encouraging situation there are some laggard states shown in Table 2 above.

The Net Enrolment Ratio (NER) for primary education which is the proportion of children in the age group 6 to 10 years who are going to school had reached a commendable 99.89 per cent in 2010-11. However, there are two problems with this. The first is that the survival rate of children who were enrolled in class one up to class five was still 83.2 per cent in 2009-10 and this fell to 76.8 per cent up to class eight. The second is that the quality of education and the children's performance in school determined by learning levels remain very poor, even though in many states a substantial proportion of children are in private schools.

Health - The health situation remains a cause for concern and this is reflected in the data given in the MDG2014 Report. The under-five mortality rate for India as a whole was 52 per 1000 live births which is very high.

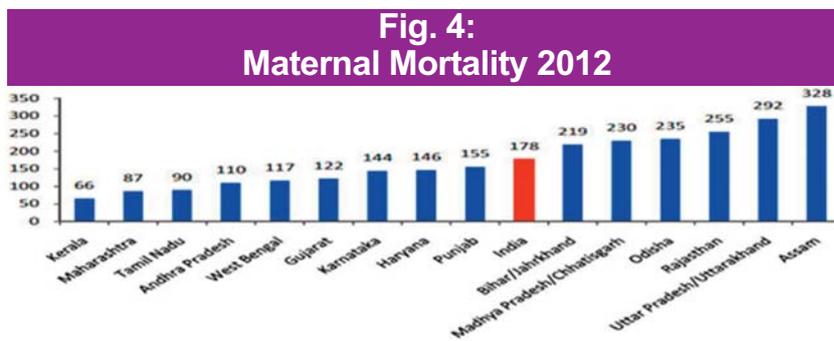
Similarly the situation with regard to infant mortality rate too is bad with the national average being 42 per 1000 live births. Once again some states

which are the usual laggards in all poverty indicators are significantly worse than the national average as shown in Fig. 3 below.



Source: Gol, 2014

Maternal mortality too remains high with the national average at 178 per 100,000 live births in 2011-12. A few states are significantly worse than this figure as shown in Fig. 4 below.



Source: Gol, 2014

Apart from the under nutrition, anaemia and prevalence of domestic violence discussed earlier, another major reason for this high level of maternal mortality is the low level of skilled health assistance available to women at the time of delivery. The national average was 76.2 per cent in 2009. Also only about 80 per cent women get ante-natal care and 60 per cent get post natal care.

Generally Malaria, Tuberculosis, Diabetes, Diarrhoea, Cholera and such other endemic diseases continue to present a public health challenge as their

incidence is still very high even though there has been a significant decline in morbidity and fatality. These cause greater loss of earnings for the poor in whose case due to under nutrition the morbidity and fatality is more compounded also by poverty which prevents them from taking proper treatment. Consequently the health scenario is still a major cause of concern for the poor in this country. Lack of potable water and sanitation too adversely affects health and according to the 2011 Census data only 46.6 per cent households had drinking water facility within the premises and 46.9 per cent had latrines.

Taking the indicators in education and health the Dalits and the Adivasis have consistently done much worse as compared to other sections of the population and the Muslims too have lagged behind as detailed in Table 3 below adapted from a recently published report of a human development survey conducted by the National Council of Applied Economic Research.

**Table 3:
Access to Health Facilities and Education by Social Group**

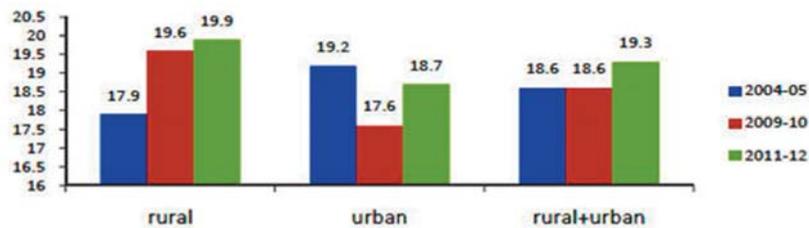
	Treatment for Major Illness (%)			Treatment for Major Illness (%)		Dropout Rate Between Classes 5 & 10 (%)	
	In Govt. Facility	In Private Facility	No Treatment	In Govt.	In Private	Men	Women
High Caste Hindu	16	78	6	20	80	37	48
Other Backward Caste	17	74	9	21	79	52	61
Dalit	17	72	11	26	74	61	66
Scheduled Tribe	24	56	20	32	68	65	69
Muslim	22	73	5	24	58	34	42

Source: Desai et al, 2010

Gender - The Gender Parity Index which is the ratio of girl's enrollment to boy's enrollment in schools was 0.98 at the primary level and 0.87 at the elementary level in 2011 but it drops sharply thereafter so that at higher levels, especially in professional courses there is a high level of disparity. The proportion of female workers in the non-agricultural sector is a measure of the extent to which labour markets are open to women in industry and service sectors and is an important indicator of economic empowerment of

women. As shown in Fig. 5 below not only is the proportion low but it has not shown any significant improvement over the past decade or so. Finally, with regard to political empowerment of women, India in 2013, had only 11.46 per cent women as members of both houses of parliament combined, which placed it at the rank of 108 among the nations of the world.

Fig. 5:
Proportion of Women in Non-Agricultural Sector Workforce



Source: *Gol*, 2014

Gender justice in India is a distant dream given the high level of patriarchy that still exists. A report on the implementation in India of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) has categorically pointed out that there is widespread gender based violence, adverse gender division of labour, trafficking of women, lack of proper reproductive health services, lack of property rights for women, and discrimination against women in education and employment all together resulting in a declining sex ratio.

Environmental Sustainability - The increasing unsustainability of natural resource use, especially of renewable common property resources like forests, land and water, has become a serious problem all over the world and especially so in developing countries like India where the number of poor people dependent directly on these resources for their livelihoods is much higher in number. In India, the demographically numerous poor are mostly either in marginal control of these vital resources or have no access to them. This means that they have no incentive to conserve and develop natural resources for ensuring sustainable livelihoods. This has led to deterioration in both the stock and flow of natural resources and the quality of human

resources causing the rural economy and culture to fall into crisis all over the country.

The Governments both at the Centre and in the States and big private sector Corporations cavalierly flout the Environmental Impact Assessment guidelines and try to bulldoze development projects through, without taking mitigating measures regarding devastation of the environment or the rehabilitation and resettlement of the people to be displaced by these projects. The biggest sufferers of this have been the Adivasis who mostly reside in resource rich areas that are the target of development projects. Thus, environmental sustainability which is an important requirement for ensuring inclusive growth has been seriously compromised in the pursuit of corporatised economic growth and led to an increase in the problems of the poor. These problems have been further compounded by the fact that the adverse effects of climate change are likely to fall more heavily on the poor and especially the rural poor engaged in agriculture, according to a recent Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report.

Local Governance - The Constitution of India provides for 29 functions and the associated funds and functionaries related to local development in rural areas and 18 for urban areas to be devolved to the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) and urban local bodies (ULB) respectively. In addition, many centrally sponsored schemes and missions like the National Rural and Urban Livelihoods Mission, also mandate that the planning and implementation should be carried out with the active participation of the PRIs and ULBs. However, in reality, devolution of power has not taken place in these local governance bodies with several reports establishing that effective control of functions and funds still lies substantially with the State governments and in the absence of Mohalla Sabhas, there is very little participation by the citizens and especially those living in slums.

There is also widespread gender discrimination against women in the PRIs and proxy governance by male relatives. Thus, even though, overall PRIs and ULBs have evolved as a viable third tier of local governance that has increased the participation of citizens and especially women in the planning and implementation of programmes for ensuring inclusive growth, there is major scope for improvement.

Financial Services - A major requirement of any economic activity is the availability of adequate cheap credit, especially to the huge informal sector in the economy constituted by small and marginal farmers, small businesses and labourers.

There is a provision that scheduled banks must provide 40 per cent of their credit to the priority sector which includes agriculture and small industries. However, because of the lower economic viability of the priority sector the proportion of non-performing assets of banks is twice as much from the loans to this sector than from those to the non-priority sector. Consequently, financial institutions generally avoid providing services to the poor. Thus, the situation with regard to financial inclusion in India is very bad as 90 per cent of small businesses do not have any links with formal financial institutions and 60 per cent of the population does not have a bank account. With respect to the agricultural sector, only 20 per cent of farmers had access to institutionalized credit.

India has one of the strongest micro-finance sectors in the world, which provide much needed cheap finance to millions of poor families who are otherwise excluded from institutionalised financial services and have to rely on usurious moneylenders. However, there has been a mushrooming of commercial micro-finance companies which have accessed credit from the scheduled banks under the priority lending segment and then have charged much higher annual interest rates up to 40 percent which reduce the possibility of the loanees to make any substantial savings to take their businesses to a higher level. In effect these institutions have become organised players who have eaten into the share of the informal credit markets dominated by moneylenders taking advantage of lack of regulation of this sector and have not really increased financial inclusion.

Conclusion - The overall poor performance of India with regard to ensuring inclusion detailed above is also confirmed by the fact that the Human Development Index for India has moved up from 0.411 in 1990 to 0.461 in 2000 and 0.554 in 2012 while in the same period that for the world as a whole has moved from 0.558 in 1991 to 0.634 in 2000 and 0.686 in 2012, according to the Human Development Report, 2013. Consequently in recent years the ranking of India has been going down and in 2012 it was 138 among 187 countries. Also, when we consider multi-dimensional poverty as calculated

by the United Nations, it turns out that almost 55 per cent of the population is poor in India. This spectre of non-inclusion arising from a combination of the failure in implementation of many of the pro-poor development programmes and the overall anti-poor thrust of the larger neo-liberal development policies is confirmed in other independent reports like that of the United Nations and of various NGOs.

Civil Society Interventions for Ensuring Inclusive Growth

CSOs have contributed to bringing about inclusive growth through their service delivery work and rights based action to ensure social, economic and environmental justice in India. Various national and broad based coalitions such as Wada Na Todo Abhiyan (WANTA), National Alliance of People's Movement (NAPM) and the Right to Food campaign are concerned with issues of sustainable and equitable development as well as socio-economic justice. There is also a pioneering and robust microcredit movement in this country for the financial inclusion of the poor initiated by the organisation Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) and substantially supported currently with cheap credit from the government by the bank linkage scheme (NABARD).

Funding agencies such as Oxfam India, Save the Children, Caritas, Hivos, Action Aid, Ford Foundation, Tata Trusts, Mahindra Rise and others and finally business entities implementing corporate social responsibilities, which have now been made compulsory under the newly amended Companies Act, have provided generous support to the CSOs in their programmes for ensuring inclusion.

These organisations have all done grassroots development work, undertaken rights based actions, filed public interest litigation and engaged in robust policy and media advocacy for all round development generally and especially for ensuring inclusion.

Income and Food Intake – CSOs have very successfully implemented projects on sustainable agriculture, watershed development, decentralised income generation and micro-credit in many locations across the country which have improved the livelihoods of the small and marginal farmers and have had an all-round positive impact on income and food intake. CSOs also play an important role in conducting social audits and putting pressure

on the administration to ensure transparency and proper planning in implementation of government programmes such as MGNREGA and PDS, allowing for proper functioning and greater impact of these programmes. For example, a commendable impact on incomes and environment sustainability has been witnessed due to successive CSO efforts in improving MGNREGA.

Education and Health – There are a huge number of organisations that are doing worthwhile work in these fields that has been internationally recognised, the most notable being the Azim Premji Foundation, Eklavya and Pratham in education and Population Council, Public Health Foundation of India, Jan Swasthya Sahayog, Chetna, Cehat and the like in health.

Gender - CSOs have been especially active in this sphere and organisations like Caritas India, Care, Save the Children, Child Fund India, The Hunger Project and Welt Hunger Hilfe have through their partners worked for the political and economic empowerment of women, ensuring that women are adequately represented in the workforce and in Panchayati Raj Institutions. CSOs also run various programmes to save and educate the girl child and carry out rights awareness campaigns. Reproductive health of women has been addressed through multiple programmes and innovative models such as ensuring safe motherhood at home for rural women, which have now been recognized internationally by WHO and UNICEF.

Environment – CSOs have continually pointed out the poor quality of planning, lack of oversight and the resultant absence of accountability in government development programmes and the need for awareness building at the grassroots and the conduct of independent evaluations to correct this. In fact, the grassroots environmental movement in this country is quite strong and there have been a number of notable successes where these movements have used a combination of mass mobilisation, public advocacy and legal activism to thwart the big corporations and retain control of their resources.

CSOs have also stressed the need to revitalize PRIs and ULBs to fulfill their constitutionally mandated potential as they are the best participatory, rights based and accountable institutional frameworks for ensuring inclusive growth.

Situation with regard to Inclusiveness in other BRICS countries

Almost 33 per cent of the world's poor (based on the extreme poverty line or people living on less than \$1.25 per capita per day at purchasing power

Table 4: Comparative Inclusiveness of BRICS countries			
Country	Proportion of World Population (%)	Proportion of World's Extreme Poor Population (%)	Comparative Inclusiveness Index
India	16	33	-1.06
South Africa	0.7	0.9	-0.29
China	19	13	0.31
Brazil	2.7	0.9	0.66
Russia	2	0	1

Source: Author's Calculation based on data from World Bank (2014d)

parity) reside in India while it is home to only 16 per cent of the world population. China has 13 per cent of the world's poor and 19 per cent of the world's population and so it is much better placed than India as far as inclusion is concerned. Brazil has 0.9 per cent of the world's poor and 2.7 per cent of the world's population doing better relatively than both India and China. South Africa has 0.9 per cent of the world's poor and 0.7 per cent of the world population so it is worse off than Brazil and China but much better than India. Russia being a developed country has none of its population living below the extreme poverty line.

This Comparative Inclusiveness Index for BRICS countries is shown in Table 4 above. A higher positive indicates higher inclusiveness. India and South Africa have a higher proportion of the world's poor as compared to the proportion of total world population and so their indices are negative. States which have spent comparatively more of the revenue generated from the higher growth to increase allocations on health, education and social safety nets, instituted labour market reforms to ensure job security and increased financial access have ensured greater inclusiveness.

Other parameters which have a bearing on inclusive growth have been measured and compared for the BRICS countries in Table 5 below.

South Africa has the highest income inequality among the BRICS countries followed by Brazil, China and Russia and India has the lowest amount of

Table 5: Comparison of Some Other Parameters of Inclusiveness of BRICS countries			
Country	Gini Coeff. of Income Inequality (%) (2009)	Tax to GDP Ratio (%) (2014)	Government Ex- penditure/ GDP Ratio (%) (2014)
India	33.9	10.1	27.2
South Africa	63.1	27.3	32.1
China	42.1	19.0	23.9
Brazil	54.7	34.8	39.1
Russia	40.1	29.5	35.8

Source: Gini Coeff. from World Bank at <http://povertydata.worldbank.org/poverty/home/>. Tax/GDP and Govt. Exp/GDP from Heritage Foundation at <http://www.heritage.org/index/download>

income inequality. However, in terms of Tax to GDP Ratio, India is a very distant laggard and this is a serious cause for concern because it is affecting the government's ability to adequately provide for the poorer sections through redistribution. Brazil has the highest tax to GDP ratio followed by Russia and South Africa.

Brazil also has the highest Government Expenditure to GDP ratio close to that of developed countries. A considerable portion of this is in the provision of social services and safety nets, the success of which in bringing about inclusion have now been widely acknowledged. Russia too has a fairly high ratio as does South Africa. India and China bring up the rear with considerably lower ratios. Thus, apart from inequality of income in all other parameters of inclusion India is lagging far behind the other BRICS countries.

Towards a Sustainable Development Framework

The main criticism of the MDGs internationally, is that they were not formulated through a process of inclusive analysis and need prioritisation and therefore, do not address the important parameter of achieving equity in development. The MDG Framework was weak theoretically as the goals were arbitrarily decided without taking into account the negative impacts of

political and social deprivation, vulnerability, distributional inequality, violation of human rights and lack of sustainable employment generation. Moreover, the targets are quantitative with little or no regard to quality. The goals have been set out to monitor comparative performances of only developing countries and setting of collective targets for developed and developing countries has been ignored. Also, since the processes necessary to achieve the goals were not discussed, this led to poor planning, distorted national priorities and insufficient attention to the aspect of sustainability.

Consequently, the Commission on Growth and Development set up by the UN proposed certain changes to make growth and multi-dimensional poverty alleviation more inclusive and sustainable. It said that a sustainable framework should include the rights enshrined in various declarations and conventions of the United Nations like CEDAW and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It also said that for sustainable development the focus must be on disadvantaged demographics and geographies such as women and indigenous people and ensuring public participation at the grassroots for a Human Development perspective integrated with a Human Rights perspective. It also called on developed countries to be accountable for the actions that they have to take to improve the development scenario globally in terms of providing enhanced aid, reining in financial speculation and maintaining financial prudence, curbing military spending and adhering to climate change mitigation targets.

With the realization that developing countries alone cannot ensure inclusive growth on their own unless there is a commitment towards this from the developed countries which dominate the global economy, the BRICS countries, in their joint declaration at the Delhi Summit in 2012 specifically mentioned that developed countries had to ensure the stability of the global financial system reform the global financial architecture to make it more representative and friendly to developing countries. They also recognized the pressing need for increasing the flow of development finance in emerging and developing countries and called upon the World Bank to give greater priority to development finance.

The BRICS countries have now set up a development bank of their own in the recently held summit at Fortaleza, Brazil. The representatives of the BRICS nations also made a strong statement for making the post 2015 Development Agenda more inclusive and sustainable at the summit, stressing

that it should include the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. They expressed their commitment to an inclusive, transparent and participative intergovernmental process to building a development agenda which has the goal of poverty eradication at its core and integrates economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development with implementable and measureable goals which take into account differing national realities and levels of development.

Similarly, CSOs in the Group of 20 (G20) nations have created a forum, C20, to lobby for a more inclusive development agenda with the leaders of this powerful group, which includes both developed and developing countries. The C20 recommends the formulation of laws and fiscal policies to sustainably provide stable and quality employment to the poor, check the concentration of wealth through progressive taxation and promote redistribution through quality public services. It also says that fair trade, within nations and internationally, in goods and services must be ensured along with transparency and greater participation of civil society in governance.

Way forward for Inclusive Growth in India

Inclusive growth in India entails a strong commitment on the part of the government towards a substantial redistribution through public provision of sustainable livelihoods, education, health and shelter to the poor to mitigate multidimensional poverty because these are the spheres in which there is maximum exclusion. Since macro level policies do not always translate into alleviation of poverty because of specific local problems which can be addressed only through localised solutions devised in consultation with the poor, a greater role for CSOs needs to be envisaged.

The Twelfth Five Year Plan has also endorsed this view with its push for inclusive growth and much higher outlays than earlier for the social sector. Therefore, there should be a healthy mix with private enterprise ensuring economic growth and the State and civil society engagement ensuring the proper functioning of the social sector and protection of the environment, as recommended by the United Nations and the World Bank.

LIST OF VANI PUBLICATIONS

- Civil Society Accountability Principles and Practice (India Toolkit) (English)
- Enabling environment for Voluntary Organisations A Global Campaign (English)
- Model Policies for International Good Governance in Voluntary Organizations
- The Hand Book in Good Governance for the Voluntary Sector
- Status of the Voluntary Sector in India A Report
- Status of the Voluntary Sector in India (Primer) (English & Hindi))
- Civil Society Engagement in Aid Effectiveness Discourse
- Changing Dynamics Between VOs and Private Sector
- Involving Voluntary Organizations in Governments Plans and Projects
- India's Global Footprints
- India's Development Assistance: Trends, Challenges and Implications for CSOs
- India's Role in the G20: A Civil Society Approach
- Contribution and Challenges of Voluntary Organizations Working on Religious Minority A Primer of the Study Report (English & Hindi)
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- Policy Brief of Revisiting the National Policy on Voluntary Sector and Need for A National Policy on Volunteering (English & Hindi)
- Enabling Environment of the Voluntary Sector in India A Study Report (English)



About Heinrich Böll Foundation

"The Heinrich Böll Stiftung / Foundation (HBF) is the Green Political foundation from Germany, affiliated to the "Greens/Alliance '90" political party represented the Germany's federal parliament. Headquartered in Berlin, and with 30 international office today, hbs conducts and supports civic educational activities and projects worldwide.

HBF understands itself as a green think-tank and international policy network, working with governmental and non-governmental actors and focusing on gender equity, sustainable development, and democracy and human rights.

With a presence in New Delhi since 2002, the HBF India office coordinates the interaction with stakeholders and partners in the country. Its programme focus areas include climate and resource policy, socio-economic policy from a gender perspective, the dynamics of democracy, and India's role in the new global order."

About VANI



Voluntary Action Network India (VANI) is an apex body of the Voluntary Organisations.

- Founded in 1988 to act as a promoter/Protector and collective voice of the voluntary sector.
- Base of 8000 non-governmental organisations spread in 25 states of India.
- Resource Centre for publications, research work, articles, important documents and information about and related to the voluntary sector.

Objectives:

- As a platform, to promote voluntarism and create space for voluntary action.
- As a network, attempt to bring about a convergence of common sectoral issues and concerns for building a truly national agenda of voluntary action in India. In addition, facilitate linkages of various efforts and initiatives of the Indian voluntary sector, which succeed in strengthening a united and sustainable movement of change.
- An an association, work towards fostering value based voluntary action and long term sustainability especially amongst our members.

Areas of work

- Promoting practices of good governance in the voluntary sector.
- Strengthening networks
- Articulating independent voices of the sector.
- Research and advocacy of policies and law effecting the voluntary sector.

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