

CITIZENSHIP, MARGINALITIES AND DEVELOPMENT

MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



09 DECEMBER 2017

INDIAN SOCIAL INSTITUTE
10 INSTITUTIONAL AREA
LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI-110 003

Concept Note

CITIZENSHIP, MARGINALITIES AND DEVELOPMENT: FAITH-BASED / CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the new charter of the global developmental agenda introduced by the United Nations. The new list of 17 SDGs is a successor of the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The SDGs were accepted by all the UN 195 member countries in 2015 with a time frame of 15 years, calling it Agenda 2030. National governments are expected to incorporate these goals and targets into their national policies, to resource and implement these policies, and to measure their implementation. Besides the governments or the state-systems, the UN resolution also proposes that the business or the corporate sector, as well as non-state actors and individuals must also play a significant role in ensuring the achievement of the SDGs.

It appears that there has been considerable progress made on the implementation of the SDGs at the global and national levels since they were officially adopted on January 1, 2016. India submitted its Voluntary Nation Review Report at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), New York, this year in July 2017. Over the year, efforts were made to incorporate the voices of the people at the policy level by drafting the indicators from the perspective of the most marginalised sections of the society. The civil society organizations have also been constantly engaged in popularizing, monitoring and advocating for the implementation of the SDGs. A number of consultations were held at various places and status reports of SDGs were published calling for a common accountability framework from the prism of the most marginalised communities to achieve the agenda of "leave no one behind".

However, with all the positive signs of this potential paradigm shift in the global developmental agenda, there are concerns regarding its reach and impact on the traditionally marginalised and socially excluded communities, particularly the Dalits, Adivasis, and the religious minorities (especially the Muslims) who together form nearly 40% of India's population. Religious minorities have been facing discrimination in their socio-economic and political aspects of life. As a consequence, poverty eradication and the reduction of inequalities continue to be major global challenges and indispensable requirements for sustainable development. The broad development agenda set before the world through the SDGs, to address the root causes of poverty and inequalities that will "leave no one behind" and to strive for a world that is just, equitable, peaceful and inclusive, cannot be achieved without a firm commitment to including marginalised communities.

The involvement of religious organizations in welfare and charitable activities has a long history and they play a crucial role in sustainable development. In the Indian context, which is multi-religious yet secular, some of them have moved out from their traditional spheres of operation, focussing on internal reforms and faith based activities with their

respective communities, to engage in the public sphere or so called “secular sphere” with respect to the provision of education, health and community development across faith communities, thereby reducing marginalization with a non-discriminatory humanitarian motivation. Thus, the engagement of religious organizations in development activities that are non-exclusionary and non-discriminatory would appear to be positively instrumental in reducing marginalisation in contemporary India.

In this context, this Workshop is organized to bring together individuals and organisations, especially Faith-Based/Civil Society Organizations engaged with marginalised communities in order to:

1. reflect on the nature of exclusion experienced by different sections of the marginalised communities and its changing dynamics;
2. share the ways in which Faith-Based/Civil Society Organizations engage with marginalised communities to reduce marginalisation;
3. find out to what extent they were able to take part in the consultation process to decide the SDGs, and how they are interacting with state agencies in their work with marginalised communities in order to achieve the SDGs;
4. deliberate on their knowledge and understanding of the SDGs; and create an informal network of faith groups to engage in popularizing, monitoring and advocating for the implementation of the SDGs as an outcome of this meeting.

Panel Discussion:

SDGs Framework - Reducing Marginalities: Opportunities and Limitations

- Do the SDGs provide a useful framework to tackle ‘sustainable development’ - reducing marginalities globally / in India? What are the opportunities and limitations for Faith-Based/Civil Society Organizations to engage in India?

Participants' Sharing:

Knowledge and Understanding of the SDGs: Our Engagements with SDGs in Reducing Marginalities

- To what extent were you able to take part in the consultation process to decide on the SDGs and set the indicators? To what extent and in what ways are you implementing the SDGs in your work with marginalised communities, with state agencies or independently?

Dr. Paul D’Souza

Program Coordinator
Email: dsouzasj@gmail.com
Mobile: 9968842796

Program for the workshop

Theme:

Citizenship, Marginalities and Development: Faith-Based/Civil Society Organizations' engagements with marginalised communities towards Sustainable Development Goals

Date :

9 December 2017

Time :

10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Venue :

Conference Hall, Indian Social Institute, New Delhi

10.00 – 10.30

Interaction among Participants with Coffee

10.30 – 11.30

Welcome: **Dr Denzil Fernandes**

Introducing the theme and program of the day: **Prof Surinder Jodhka**

Introductory remarks: **Prof Emma Tomalin**

Introduction of participants

11.30 – 01.00

Panel Discussion

Do the SDGs provide a useful framework to tackle 'sustainable development' - reducing marginalities globally / in India? What are the opportunities and limitations for Faith-Based/Civil Society Organizations to engage in India?

1.00 – 2.00

Lunch

2.00 – 3.30

Group Discussions - Knowledge and Understanding of the SDGs

Introduced by **Shabaana Kidy** (Islamic Relief)

- To what extent were you able to take part in the consultation process to decide the SDGs and set the indicators?
- To what extent and in what ways are you implementing the SDGs in your work with marginalised communities, with state agencies or independently?
- Which SDGs have you engaged with most and why?
- FBOs and the SDGs: Key enablers, barriers and next steps towards effective engagement

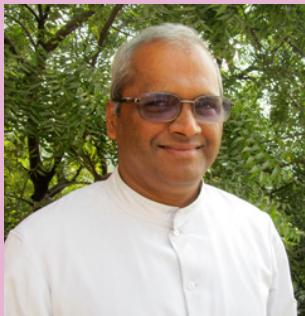
Vote of thanks: **Paul D'souza**

3.30 – 4.00

Tea

PANELISTS

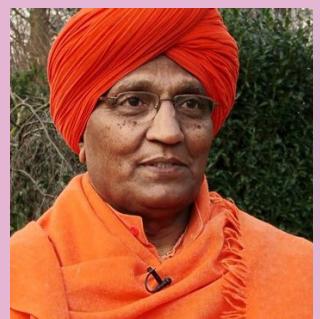
Frederick D'Souza, Director, Caritas India



Frederick D'Souza completed his Masters in Development Studies, from The Netherlands and doctoral studies from London School of Economics. He was heading Chetanayala – the social service center of the Archdiocese of Delhi before moving to Caritas, first as the Director, Regional Forum of Caritas India, then as Assistant Executive Director and now the Executive Director since 2012.

Swami Agnivesh

Swami Agnivesh, winner of the Alternative Nobel Peace Prize (the Right Livelihood Award), 2004. At the young age of 28, he abandoned a promising career as a Professor of Law and Management in Kolkatta for a life of activism. He is better known across the globe in general and India in particular for his campaigns against bonded labour, and is Founder-Chairperson of the Bandhua Mukti Morcha (Bonded Labour Liberation Front). For over four decades, he has campaigned for the rights and dignity of 'bonded labourers' or inter-generational slaves, and child labour, and restored their freedom through path-breaking new legislation. He led campaigns against alcoholism, female foeticide, bonded labour, child labour, injustice to Tribals and Adivasis, as well as engaged in the struggle for the emancipation of women.



Syeda Saiyidain Hameed



Syeda Saiyidain Hameed is a feminist and writer, who is widely recognized for her engagement in public affairs and social issues, especially concerning women. She was a Member of the Planning Commission of India from 2004-2014. In 1997, she was appointed Member National Commission for Women. In this position, she toured the country and wrote extensively on atrocities and injustice faced by Indian women with the objective of fulfilling the mandate of NCW, namely, making systemic changes. She has founded several organizations, including Muslim Women's Forum, Women's Initiative for Peace in South Asia (WIPSA), South Asians for Human Rights (SAHR), and the Centre for Dialogue and Reconciliation. She served as Chancellor of the Maulana Azad National

Urdu University (MANUU) till 2015. The Government of India awarded her the Padma Shri, in 2007, for her contributions to Indian society.

Manoj Gorkela

Manoj Gorkela, Advocate Supreme Court of India, is the Vice Chairman of Lawyers of the World Association. He has established an NGO 'Justice for Deprived' to provide legal aid to the people belonging to the marginal sections of society. Gorkela and Associates are the first 24/7 legal company that provides legal solutions to individuals and companies. It educates individual rights of every person.



PARTICIPANTS

01

Action Aid India

Sandeep Chachra, Director: sandeep.chachra@actionaid.org

Action Aid is an International Non-Governmental organization working against poverty and injustice world-wide. In India they have been working since 1972. They operate out of 12 regional offices spread across 25 states and 1 Union Territory.

02

Action for Food Production (AFPRO)

D.K. Manavalan IAS (Rtd), Executive Director : ed@afpro.org

Action for Food Production (AFPRO) was established in 1966. The Society aims to develop the weaker sections of the rural community and to move towards sustainable development through an overall increase in their knowledge and skills. It has its head office in Delhi and 9 regional offices spread across Indian states.

03

Aga Khan Foundation

Sawhney Tinni, Director : tinni.sawhney@akdn.org

The Aga Khan Foundation is an international development agency founded in 1967. The foundation works in over 30 countries. In India, its focus is mainly on three areas: Health, Education and Rural Development.

04

Bandhua Mukti Morcha (BMM) Bonded Labour Liberation Front

Swami Agnivesh, Founder and Chairman : agnivesh70@gmail.com

Bandhua Mukti Morcha (BMM) was formed in 1981 to wage a battle against the pernicious bonded labour system in India. Against all odds, Bandhua Mukti Morcha has achieved the release of over 1,24,000 bonded Indians from the shackles of slavery. A large number of them have been rehabilitated. BMM has started a campaign for the provision of non-formal, full time education for these children, along with the supply of nutrition to each and also some food security to their poor families.

05

Bharatiya Muslim Mahila Aandolan

Zakia Soman, Co-founder: zakiasoman@gmail.com

Bharatiya Muslim Mahila Aandolan (BMMA) was formed in 2007. It is a secular, rights-based mass organization led by Muslim women, which fights for the citizenship rights of the Muslims in India.

06

The Buddhist Society of India

Shanti Swaroop Bauddha, hellosamyak1965@gmail.com

The Buddhist Society of India has been founded by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar in 1954. The mission of the organization is to spread the message of Lord Buddha. The organization is also running a publication house 'Samyak Prakashan'. The readership comprises primarily of Dalit, Buddhists and marginalized communities.

PARTICIPANTS

CARE India Senthil, Head of the program : senthil@careindia.org CARE India has been working in India since 1946, officially registered in 1950, through the signing of the Indo-CARE Bilateral Agreement. The work focuses on health, education, livelihood, and disaster relief and response programmes to bring lasting change in the lives and livelihoods of marginalized women and girls.	07
Caritas India Frederick D'Souza, Director : director@caritasindia.org Caritas India is a member of Caritas confederation of more than 160 member organizations working in nearly 200 countries, making it the second largest humanitarian network in the world. Caritas India was founded in 1962 as the official development arm of the Catholic Churches in India. Caritas India serves the underprivileged sections of the society, hailing from socially excluded communities, the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes, and religious minorities by exercising preferential actions for the most marginalized. In the past five decades, with a shift from charity and welfare mode to Rights Based Approach, the strategic role of Caritas India has gone beyond funding the projects, hand-holding hundreds of development organizations to increase their capacity for achieving greater levels of effectiveness whilst upholding organizational autonomy.	08
Centre for Educational Research & Training (CERT) Thouseef Madikeri, President : certpost@gmail.com Centre for Educational Research & Training (CERT) was established in February 2017 as a resource and guidance centre for students and researchers, supported by the Department of Education SIO of India. CERT is committed to promote and conduct research programmes in the field of Education.	09
Chetanalaya John Britto, Director : director.chetanalaya@gmail.com Chetanalaya is the social action wing of Archdiocese of Delhi. The organization was formed in 1970 as "Catholic Social Action". It focuses to empower the underprivileged, marginalized and vulnerable society towards self-reliance and human dignity.	10
Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA) Jayant Kumar Sinha : jayant@casa-india.org Church's Auxiliary for Social Action is a national development and humanitarian organization set up in 1947. The organization actively supports and works for a just and sustainable society by creating opportunities for the participation of socially and economically marginalized section in the development process through networking, alliance building and strengthening of their organizations.	11

PARTICIPANTS

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Indian Institute of Dalit Studies (IIDS)

Sanghmitra Sheel Acharya, Director : director@dalitstudies.org.in

The Indian Institute of Dalit Studies (IIDS) was set up in 2003. The Institute focuses on extensive research on the development concerns of the marginalised groups of the Indian society. Its vision is to help socially inclusive character in the Society, Economy, Politics, Governance and Development.

13

Indian Social Institute (ISI)

Denzil Fernandes, Executive Director : ed@isidelhi.org.in

Indian Social Institute is a Centre for Research, Training and Action for socio-economic development and Human rights. The institute, established 1951, is committed to bringing social transformation through socially relevant research, training and action, publication and advocacy works aimed at integral development of the marginalized communities, particularly the Dalits, Adivasis/tribals, women, minorities, unorganized and landless labourers. The ISI is an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

14

Indo-Global Social Service Society (IGSSS)

Nelson John Peter, Director : nelson@igsss.net

Indo-Global Social Service Society (IGSSS) was established in 1960. It works for development, capacity building and enlightenment of the vulnerable communities across the country for their effective participation in development. It has a presence in 25 states and one Union Territory of India.

15

International Justice Mission

John Animesh Gomes, jgomes@ijm.org

International Justice Mission is an International, Christian non-governmental organisation focused on human rights, law and law enforcement. Founded in 1997 by Lawyer Gary Haugen of the United States, it is based in Washington DC.

16

Islamic Relief India

Sibghatullah Ahmed, Programme Manager:

Sibghatullah.Ahmed@islamic-relief.org.in

Islamic Relief India, is a part of Islamic Relief Worldwide, which is a group of faith inspired international relief and development charities which envisages a caring world where people unite to respond to the others, empowering them to fulfill their potential. The organization was founded in the UK in 1984 and works in over 35 countries.

PARTICIPANTS

JAGORI (AWAKEN WOMEN)

17

Geetha Nambisan, Co-Director : geetha@jagori.org

JAGORI (AWAKEN WOMEN) is a women's documentation and training centre, set up with the aim of spreading feminist consciousness to a wider audience using creative media. The organization was established in 1984. The organization has launched a digital archival museum to preserve 30 years content in digital medium.

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

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Stan Fernandes, Regional Director, South Asia : stan.fernandes@jrs.net

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) is an international Catholic organisation, with a mission to accompany, serve and advocate on behalf of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons, who rank among the world's poorest. JRS is present and works in more than 46 countries around the world. JRS operations provide emergency relief, psycho-social assistance, advocacy and multi-level educational services to more than 730,000 refugees in dire need, far from home and safety. JRS operates at national and regional levels.

National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR)

19

Ramesh Nathan, General Secretary : rameshnathan@ncdhr.org.in

National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights is a forum committed to the elimination of discrimination based on caste. A democratic secular platform led by Dalit women and men activists, with support and solidarity from movements and organizations, academics, individuals, people's organizations and institutions throughout the country who are committed to work to protect and promote human rights of Dalits focusing on women and children.

National Confederation of Dalit Organisations (NACDOR)

20

Sumedha Baudhha, sumedha@nacdor.org.in

National Confederation of Dalit Organisations (NACDOR) is a national platform of Dalit Organisations in India. NACDOR is committed to an inclusive, progressive, secular, democratic and non-sectarian society. While firmly believing in equality, social justice and equal dignity for all, NACDOR promotes democracy, human rights, sustainable development and peace and reconciliation with the perspective of the socially excluded Dalits.

National Dalit Movement for Justice (NDMJ)

21

Kamal Chand Kispotta, Policy & Advocacy Officer : Kamal@ncdhr.org.in

National Dalit Movement for Justice is the democratic, secular, non-Party movement of Dalit survivors, defenders, academics, organizations headed by Dalits to initiate advocacy and involve in mass action to address the issues of caste-based discrimination and violence, primarily untouchability and atrocities to ensure dignity, equality and justice.

PARTICIPANTS

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National Foundation for India (NFI)

Radhika Mathur, Programme Officer : radhika@nfi.org.in

The National Foundation for India is an independent, Indian grant-making and fundraising body, helping people improve their own lives. The organization was founded in 1992. It intervenes in seven thematic areas i.e. education, health, livelihood, citizens and society, peace and justice, governance and development journalism.

23

New Education Group–Foundation for Innovation and Research in India (NEG-Fire)

Vengatesh Krishna, Director : vengatesh@negfire.org

National Education Group was a joint initiative of Catholic Bishops Conference of India and Misereor, the German Catholic Bishops organization for Development cooperation. In the year of 2005, the New Education Group – Foundation for Innovation and Research (NEG-FIRE) was formed. It aims to transform the lives of children from marginalized communities through education and by strategic partnership with local NGOs and community groups.

24

Oxfam India

Ranu Bhogal, Director – Policy, Research & Campaign : Ranu@oxfamindia.org

Oxfam is an international confederation of charitable organizations focused on the alleviation of global poverty founded in 1942. In 2008, various Oxfams in India joined forces to form Oxfam India. The organization focuses on four goals in eliminating poverty: 1. Livelihood, 2. Fight for Women, 3. Education and Health, 4. Human Rights.

25

Right Track

Ashraf Alif, Project Manager : righttrack@rediffmail.com

Right Track is a community-based development agency working to improve the quality of life of disadvantaged children in Kolkata and South 24 Parganas. It started in 1988 with a group of enthusiastic social activists who had devoted themselves for creating a just and equitable social environment. In course of time, it started working on the issues of education, health and livelihood generation.

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Save the Children

Rachit Sharma, Campaign Coordinator: rachit.sharma@savethechildren.in

Save the Children is an international organization that promotes children's rights, provides relief and help support children in developing countries. The organization was founded in 1919. In 2008, the Save the Children started functioning as an independent Indian member of the Save the Children International Alliance under the name Bal Raksha Bharat.

PARTICIPANTS

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Rineeta Naik, Social Policy and Inclusion Officer : rineeta.naik@one.un.org

The United Nations Development Programme advocates for change and connects countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life.

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Universal Knowledge Trust (UKT)

Abdul Rashid Agwan, President : agwandelhi@gmail.com

Universal Knowledge Trust (UKT) is a non-governmental organization which is working in the field of education for minority students of professional courses. At present UKT is giving scholarships to 96 students for their various courses. UKT also organized several seminars, workshops and other events in different parts of country related to the burning issues of community.

28

Wada Na Todo Abhiyan

Manshi Singh, Programme Officer : manshi.wnta@gmail.com,

Tanbir : tanbir.wnta@gmail.com

Wada Na Todo Abhiyan is a national campaign to hold the government accountable for its promise to end Poverty, Social Exclusion and Discrimination. There are 270 organizations that form the Campaign Co-ordination Group which ensure that the concerns and aspirations of Dalits, Adivasis, Nomadic Tribes, Women, Children, Youth and the Differently-Abled are mainstreamed across programs, policies and development goals of the central and state governments.

29

World Vision India

K.A. Jaya Kumar, Director : ka_jayakumar@wvi.org

Gunaseelan Selvarathinavaj, Manager - Church Relations : Ratnaraj_PGS@wvi.org

World Vision India is a Christian grassroots humanitarian organisation that serves all people regardless of religion, caste, race, ethnicity or gender. Through development, relief and advocacy, the organization strives to create lasting change in the lives of children, their families and communities living in contexts of poverty and injustice. World Vision works in nearly 100 countries worldwide, and is in India since 1958. Today it works in over 6,252 urban, rural and tribal communities spread over 191 districts in 26 states.

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Zakat Foundation of India

Fahad Karim, Director, Civil Services : projects@zakatindia.org

Zakat Foundation of India was established in 1997 as a grassroots level organization by concerned residents of New Delhi. It is a Non-Governmental/Non-Profit Organization which collects and utilizes 'zakat' or charity for socially beneficial projects in a transparent and organized manner, running an orphanage, charitable hospital, providing stipends to widows etc.

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About a New Network

KEEPING FAITH IN 2030: RELIGIONS AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

<https://religions-and-development.leeds.ac.uk/>

Background

We are convening a new network – funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council in the UK – which involves academics and faith-based development actors. The network aims to enhance international exchange about the role of religions in defining, implementing, and safeguarding ‘sustainable development’, as codified in the UN ‘Sustainable Development Goals’ (SDGs).

Religion is a major cultural, social, political, and economic factor in many ODA recipient countries, which is why understanding the local religious dynamics and the role of faith actors is crucial for sustainable development. While development practice and development studies had essentially subscribed to a modernist, secular paradigm of social change for much of the 20th century, this has begun to change. Greater portions of development aid are now channelled via so-called faith-based initiatives or organisations, and religion is increasingly recognised as a human resource rather than just an obstacle to development. Many religious groups have also been involved perceptibly in development policy, by adopting and heralding the Millennium Development Goals and through consultations in the drafting of the new SDGs.

Aims of the Network

Several issues need addressing in order to broaden existing initiatives in religions and development research and engagement, so that they can better respond to the challenges and opportunities generated via the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We anticipate that this network will

- strengthen voices from the Global South in the production of academic research on religions and development;
- create a platform for exchange and dialogue between scholars and faith actors around religions and development, with a focus on the new SDGs;
- improve how we research and understand contemporary religions and development activity globally, including refining robust and comparable methods for gathering data and generating evidence;

Network Conveners:

- **Emma Tomalin**, Centre for Religion and Public Life, University of Leeds, e.tomalin@leeds.ac.uk
- **Jörg Haustein**, School of Oriental and African Studies, London, joerg.haustein@soas.ac.uk
- **Shabanna Kidy**, Islamic Relief Academy (non-academic project partner), Shabaana.Kidy@iracademy.org.uk

Steering Group Members:

- **Afework Hailu Beyene** - The Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology, Ethiopia, afework.hailu@gmail.com
- **Dereje Feyissa Dori** - Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia, derejefdori2011@googlemail.com
- **Dena Freeman** - Department of Anthropology, LSE, UK, freemand@lse.ac.uk
- **Joanna Sadgrove** - University of Leeds, UK, J.E.M.Sadgrove@leeds.ac.uk
- **Muhtari Aminu-Kano** - Humanitarian Academy for Development, UK, muhtari.aminu-kano@iracademy.org.uk
- **Surinder S. Jodhka** - Jawaharlal Nehru University, India, ssjodhka@yahoo.com
- **Paul D'Souza** - Indian Social Institute, India, dsouzasj@gmail.com

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visit <http://lists.leeds.ac.uk/mailman/options/religions-and-development/e.tomalin%40leeds.ac.uk>