

Annual Report
2009-10



2009-10 Annual Report

ORGANISATION AT A GLANCE

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Vision

A world where every citizen can live
a healthy, secure and fulfilling life

Mission

To cause the creation of
sustainable livelihoods in large numbers

Approach

Innovation, Implementation and Policy Influence
for Creation of Enterprises

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Part I: Overview

Chairman's Remarks



A Green Economy addresses the economics of the real world - the world of work, human needs, the materials of the earth and how they come together most harmoniously. It is about regeneration - of individuals, communities and ecosystems - and not just about the accumulation of either money or material.

Today, India is increasingly being looked upon as a hub of research and development when it comes to the creation of green solutions. This is due to creative thinking in technology, low-priced manufacture of materials and, in general, a profound knowledge due to a long tradition of working in various fields of development.

If India open-mindedly invests in the potential of having a green economy, not only would it promote a more sustainable and cleaner environment, but the Indian economy would also benefit through the generation of hundreds and thousands of downstream jobs. The nation is in a unique position to create a green economy focusing on low-carbon consumption. It is an opportune point of growth as India is yet to create holistic infrastructure in the fields of services and jobs. It is the choices in financial approaches that will shape the general outlook of the country. If we choose to incorporate environmental sustainability into our business-models, despite immediate costs, it will create long-term economic sustainability.

Ever since its inception, Development Alternatives (DA) has acted as a research and action organisation, designing and delivering eco-solutions for the poor and the marginalised. Over the years, we found out that convention was not entirely without wisdom, but that it was not entirely correct, either. The motivations, aspirations, work cultures of business are entirely different from those of a civil society. The way people work in companies and what "incentivates" them is in many respects the opposite of the way NGOs or government officials work.

Since most of the innovation over the past couple of hundred years has been driven by the desire to make money, it has produced things and processes that are of interest to the rich in society. Moreover, these innovations took place in a world that was believed to have no limits, either for resources or to absorb our wastes. Development Alternatives was among the first to realise, already some thirty years ago, that no mechanisms existed to produce innovations, either in technology or in institutions that took care of the needs of the poor or recognised the constraints of nature. There was no science for the poor. Much less, technology.

Thus the Development Alternative Group was set up - a "conglomerate", called the Development Alternatives Group - comprising different organisations for different purposes. The non-profit Societies, such as the flagship entity Development Alternatives and TARA ("Technology for Action and Rural Advancement") are responsible for research, **innovation, policy, incubation of green businesses and technical support services**. The for-profit Companies, such as DESI Power, TARAhaat, TARA Machines and TARA Enviro are responsible for implementing the work of the Group at scale in a business-like fashion, all under the overall brand name of TARA.

This approach and decentralised structure have helped us to enable local entrepreneurial and community energies and generate multipliers far beyond the wildest dreams of any new initiative. It allowed us to draw upon the Millennial wisdom of our indigenous culture, whose languages are the only ones in the world that have a causative tense for their verbs - "*karwana*" instead of "*karna*", and "*banwana*" instead of "*banana*" - which means to facilitate rather than do. And this resonance with our nation's deep psychology is one of the strongest ways, in which we, as "*Network Enablers*", can short-circuit the process by which every man, woman and child in our country can hope to live a decent and fulfilling life.

The DA Group focuses on the need to understand and incorporate nature as a source of inspiration and innovation - the most essential resources towards the transition into a greener economy and the need for new avenues to measure progress beyond Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

One of the major initiatives planned towards this is the organisation of a dialogue in collaboration with the Green Economy Coalition and in partnership with International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and Ring Alliance (The Ring Alliance of Policy Research Organisation). The coalition will aim to build consensus amongst key stakeholders on key issues in the transition to sustainability.

DA and its partner organisations aim to achieve this by embarking upon the TARAgram Yatra, an annual event to bring together top-level practitioners and policy-makers from across the world and Asia in particular. The event will provide grounds for a proceeding of future actions - e.g. regarding policy-making at local, national and global levels.

I conclude my remarks by reminding one and all that the time is now ripe for the world to join hands in initiating change at a scale, large enough to match the extent and rate at which our planet has been ravaged and people impoverished. The change can be brought about by creating green jobs and sustainable livelihoods, strengthening social capital, empowering citizens, reducing our carbon footprint, reversing the loss of biodiversity and reviving the health of our ecosystems. In short, creating a Green Economy!



Ashok Khosla
Chairman

Development Alternatives

Executive Summary

Persistent poverty and environmental degradation define the challenges for which Development Alternatives (DA) designs and delivers eco-solutions. Over the years, DA has emerged as the torch bearer of sustainable development activities by creating and implementing innovative solutions. It believes that sustainable livelihoods are the key to addressing the issues of the poor. In the past one year, DA's main concentration has been in the areas of **climate change**, in creating **green jobs and policy influence**.

Climate Change

Climate change represents one of the greatest environmental, social and economic threats facing our planet. The threat from the impact to climate change is more for vulnerable communities – women, the marginalised and to those whose livelihoods are climate dependent like farmers. In order to increase the resilience of these communities, it is necessary that they have easy access to knowledge, related to various doable adaptation and mitigation measures and practices. DA conducted a vulnerability and adaptation assessment in collaboration with the **Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF-Defra)** in Madhya Pradesh to study how climate change induced vulnerability fits within the broader vulnerability context. The assessment led to the state government forming a core team to implement the project in partnership with DA.

The *Shubh Kal* campaign of DA is a promise of a better tomorrow by developing and exercising the ability to handle climate risks through adaptation and mitigation practices at the grassroots. Being implemented through several projects in the semi-arid region of Bundelkhand, the campaign was the proud recipient of the **Development Marketplace Award, 2009**. The organisation's Sustainable Civil Society initiative in partnership with the **Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation** led to the formation of common interest groups of farmers, women and artisans. These groups have taken up several interventions, leading to reduced vulnerability and mitigation of climate change simultaneously.

The Climate Technology Programmes offer technology-based, profitable business solutions for cleaning up the environment. The organisation is working on a techno-economically viable, semi-mechanised brick moulding package for small and medium scale brick manufacturers in partnership with the Department of Science and Technology.

Green Jobs

India needs nearly 10 million jobs created each year. However, the current levels of employment generation will be insufficient to lift the unemployed or underemployed above the poverty threshold.

DA believes that "Green Jobs" are key to lifting millions out of poverty. We understand green jobs as

"employment in a green economy that provides green products and services, reducing carbon dependency and regenerating the natural resource base while providing dignified employment and entrepreneurial opportunities that create pathways out of poverty".

The **International Labour Organisation (ILO)** has initiated a demonstration project in India in collaboration with the TARA Livelihood Academy, an affiliate of Development Alternatives, to identify and test pathways towards sustainable development through the creation of Green Jobs.

In pursuit of its mission to create sustainable livelihoods, the organisation has enabled 6700 Households to access entitlements worth Rs 75.8 lakh and continued to support the strengthening of livelihoods in farming and other traditional occupations through demonstration and training and through facilitating the setting up of micro enterprises.

One of the key achievements of DA under its enterprise development initiatives is the introduction of three Rural Entrepreneurship Zones (REZ) at Datia, Radhapur and Gaushalain Orchha.

Policy

Recognising that dialogue and policy and influence are critical for maximising opportunities for the rural poor and conserving the environment, the organisation undertook several policy processes on critical issues that have affected policy guidelines and strategies of the government.

A major initiative was the **State of Environment (SoE) Report of India** which aims to provide policy guidelines and strategies for resource allocation for the coming decades, based on analysis of the state and trends of the environment and provide guidance for national environmental action planning. This was prepared in collaboration with the **Ministry of Environment and Forests** with DA as the **National Host Institute**.

DA simultaneously worked towards developing a process for rural-urban integration and coordination on planning and management of environmental issues, with a focus on water and waste management in the Tikamgarh of Madhya Pradesh.

Another achievement of DA is the **Lok Awaas Yatra** an initiative of basin-SA Regional Knowledge Platform. The Yatra is a journey for sustainable habitat for the people. Led by Development Alternatives, the Yatra aims to build the capacities of the Panchayati Raj Institutions and other stakeholders towards understanding the impact of climate change on rural habitat and gain knowledge about the alternative green technologies available for adapting safe habitat practices.

Apart from **undertaking** policy processes on critical issues, DA has done considerable work on the ground, such as setting up of Self Help Groups (SHGs), working on information and communication campaigns through the web and Radio Bundelkhand, a community radio jointly managed by the local community and DA.

DA's basic needs programme leverages the strength of various groups from the government, academia, private sector and civil society to develop innovative technologies and delivery models that can make green building materials, eco-construction services, safe drinking water, ecological sanitation and clean cooking solutions accessible to everyone in a financially viable manner. It promotes social processes that enable community groups and local agencies to plan, access, manage and monitor services delivery for basic needs fulfilment. DA believes that it is essential for bringing accountability, quality, transparency and equity in services, especially for the unexplored regions of India.

The year 2009-10 saw a new empowering product resulting from the combination of TARA Akshar, DA's laptop-based adult functional literacy programme with **TARA Ganit**, which teaches the basics of mathematical calculations. The new **TARA Akshar+** is a complete package for adult literacy. The programme has already addressed more than 4000 Hindi rural learners.

This financial year has been a year of multiple challenges for The Development Alternatives Group. The organisation's successes and accomplishments are further categorised under the six thematic areas that DA works under.

Development Alternatives

creating sustainable livelihoods

Development Alternatives, probably the world's first "social enterprise", was set up in 1982 with the purpose to deliver sustainable development outcomes in a commercially viable manner. The organisation innovates and delivers technologies, methods and institutions that help the marginalised build affordable houses, solve their water, sanitation and energy needs and generate work using local resources and industrial wastes. And it does all these in ways that are also good for the environment. The organisation's strategic drivers identified for growth and acceleration are:

Innovation for Eco-solutions

Project research over the last 28 years has led to several innovations in concepts, methods, approaches, tools and techniques. These include commercially-viable technologies and environmental management systems in habitat and building materials, community based land, water and energy management systems and enterprises.

Implementation for their delivery

In DA's list of top priorities, two specialised areas - grant-based development services and more business-oriented social enterprises - have pride of place. Technology and Action for Rural Advancement (TARA), its business arm, and its subsidiaries need to be significantly strengthened to provide the specialised attention required for large - scale implementation activities.

Influence for multiplication

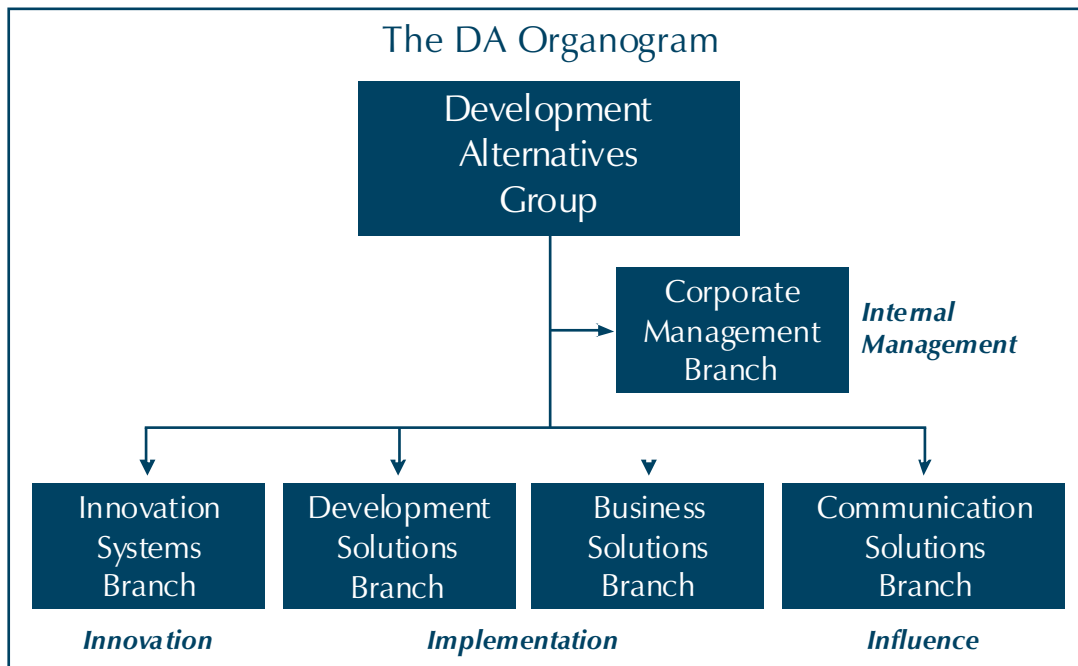
The Group has contributed its modest share to national and global policy change on issues of environment and development and is working towards giving policy research and knowledge communication the required fillip and attention they deserve.

Internal Management systems for large scale Impact

The DA Group has identified the need to processes to address the challenges for ensuring an accelerated pace of growth. These include:

Corporate Planning Systems – including programme audit and quality assurance; IT infrastructure and knowledge management; programme and business development; fundraising and social investment management.

Corporate Administrative Systems – including corporate governance; legal and administrative support; finance and accounts; human resource management.



Through research, action, and policy influence activities the DAGroup aims at:

Empowering Communities through multi-stakeholder action for

- Strengthening of Institutions for the poor and marginalised
- Basic Needs Fulfilment

Creating Green Jobs through promotion and support of

- Employment Skills for Green Jobs
- Enterprise Creation for Social Enterprises

Promoting Low-Carbon Pathways through the design and demonstration of

- Climate Change Adaptation models
- Clean technology solutions for small enterprises



Part II: Synopsis of Activities

Basic Needs Fulfillment *towards empowering communities*

Development Alternatives has taken numerous initiatives towards empowering communities by developing and promoting affordable green solutions and innovative delivery systems for the poor in villages and small towns, so that they are able to fulfil their basic needs e.g. - literacy, water, renewable energy, housing and sanitation and livelihood. In 2009-10, DA developed and transferred seven new products, including Arsenic filters, pre-cast doors and windows and toilet frames for the local communities.

Literacy

TARA Akshar is a laptop-based adult functional literacy programme in Hindi, developed by TARAhaat Information and Marketing Services Limited - the Information Communication Technology (ICT) arm of the Development Alternatives Group. The literacy programme, with special emphasis on women and youth reached more than **4000 learners in 2009-10**. The community was enabled to access government programmes, like *Sarva Siksha Abhiyan* for literacy. A module on the basics of numeracy titled **TARA Ganit**, which teaches the basics of mathematical calculations, was also developed. One of the major achievements this year was the combining of TARA Akshar and TARA Ganit, into **TARA Akshar+**, a complete package for adult literacy. The programme has been offered to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of Madhya Pradesh and is being validated by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India.



TARA Akshar+ offers a complete package for adult literacy

Water

In the year 2009-2010, DA provided access to clean drinking water to households in some of the most drought prone villages of Central India. Some of the major initiatives taken to provide clean drinking water are:

Integrated Domestic Water Management in Bundelkhand Region

The programme 'Water for All and Always' aims at providing access to safe drinking water and better sanitation measures in 10 villages of Jhansi and the Tikamgarh district of Bundelkhand. DA with support of the Arghyam

Trust has delivered key results on the ground to local communities - providing access to safe and sustainable water through water supply systems, village sanitation through toilets, drainage, soak pits and demonstrated waste water treatment; water harvesting and conservation structures and setting up of water enterprises.

The setting up of two enterprise models of Jal TARA filters in village Paricha, district Jhansi, was an exceptional achievement in 2009.

Sodis in slums

The **Solar Water Disinfection (SODIS) project** in 10 slums of Delhi provides a simple, environment-friendly low-cost solution for drinking water treatment at the household level. Supported by **Eawag/Solaqua, Switzerland**, the system uses solar energy (UV-radiation and increased temperature) to destroy pathogenic micro-organisms. The goal is to promote and disseminate point-of-use water treatment methods at the household level and improve hygiene practices to further reduce child mortality and improve the overall health situation in the slums of Delhi.

Sustainable Community Development Programme in Wadi

Working in collaboration with **ACC Cements Pvt. Ltd.**, DA undertook a sustainable Community Development Programme in the Wadi district of Karnataka. Under the programme, DA joined hands with **Vimochana**, a local NGO to install the RO-based Water filtration system for provision of clean drinking water.

Energy

The biggest achievement in the field of renewable energy has been the facilitation and setting up of four community-managed power plants in Rampura, Gopalpura, Radhapur and Gaushala in Orchha - a green energy cluster based on biogas from scrub cattle. DA established these plants in collaboration with **SCATEC Solar, Norway, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)** and the **Department of Science and Technology (DST)**. The organisation successfully introduced diverse Renewable Energy Technology-based revenue models in communities largely not serviced by the electricity grid.

Biomass Energy Service Model in Radhapur: provides paid irrigation and domestic services to farmers.



Clean drinking water for local communities

Methane Powered Gaushala Model: With the support of the **Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC-WEC)**, the community mobilisation team (Orchha), successfully launched the extended Gaushala model. The initiative helped the Ramraja Gaushala to mitigate its cash flow situation, while energy generation stimulated the Gaushala-based livelihood initiatives for women federations.

REZ Model: DA's energy team with the help of the TARA Nirman Kendra (TNK) has successfully demonstrated a Rural Entrepreneurship Zone (REZ) model in TARAGram Datia. The REZ model has been energised to generate power from biomass for the operation of five rural enterprises – manufacturing MicroConcrete Roofing tiles (MCR), door frames, designer tiles, heavy duty paving blocks and fired red bricks. The local women have been encouraged to actively participate in the production enterprises for securing an assured source of income.



Renewable energy for village needs

Community Solar Power Plant Charging Hub: In collaboration with **SCATEC Solar, Norway**, DA's energy team implemented the 'Charging Hub' model in Gopalpura run by solar energy. The village was connected to the grid till the time the hub was set up. However, due to several techno-social issues, the infrastructure was removed from this village.

Livelihood

In pursuit of its mission to create sustainable livelihoods, Development Alternatives focuses on Bundelkhand. DA made considerable progress in Bundelkhand in 2009-10 by enabling 6700 Households to access entitlements worth Rs 75.8 lakh, such as *Kapil Dhara* for water resource development and employment under the **National Rural Employment Generation Scheme (NREGS)**, agriculture and horticulture development under the **National Horticulture Mission** and *Indira Awaas Yojna* for housing which facilitate local jobs and enterprises. These efforts led to the sanctioning of a cattle-breeding centre at Rawoor village to improve the local breed and their production capacity, fetching a leverage of Rs five lakh over a period of three years.

DA has continued to support the strengthening of livelihoods in farming and other traditional occupations through demonstration and training and through facilitating the setting up of micro enterprises. Apart from Bundelkhand, DA in collaboration with ACC Cement limited facilitated the development of several new enterprises in Wadi, Karnataka, which led to the creation of more than a 100 jobs.

Housing and Sanitation

Under the **Sustainable Community Development programme** at Wadi, Karnataka, supported by **ACC Cement Ltd.**, DA tied up with the **Town Municipal Council of Wadi** to leverage Rs.14 lakh for the construction of household toilets. The community has also contributed towards this cause (Rs.3000 per toilet in case of household toilets). The land for the construction of the toilets was provided by both the Gram Panchayats as well as the Town Municipal Council of Wadi.

Based on the learning from the Civil Society Partnership Programme (CSPP)-Minigrad in Rampura, DA and SCATEC Norway plan to design similar projects in 30 more villages. Inspired by the success of **Biomass Energy Service Model in Radhapur**, DA aims to set up such models in other villages.



Institution Development for the Marginalised *for informed and empowered communities*

For nearly three decades, Development Alternatives has been working on diverse institutional models and systems that can contribute towards the development of informed and empowered communities. This is primarily for empowering the poor and the marginalised to access their entitlements and claim their rights.

Community Institutions

Ever since its inception, DA has focused on institution development with a focus on the rural women and youth.



Capacity building of rural women

Tejswani programme for Women Empowerment

Under the **Tejswani programme for Women Empowerment** supported by the **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)** and the **Government of Madhya Pradesh**, DA successfully set up 400 women self-help groups (WSHGs) in the Niwari block of Tikamgarh district. A number of capacity building programmes were organised for these WSHGs to enable the rural women to access different livelihood options.

Innovation and Testing of Habitat (micro) Finance Project

In partnership with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), a research programme was initiated for testing and developing rural habitat finance products under the Rural Innovation Fund. Three habitat products developed under this programme were:

- ▶ Livelihood-linked habitat finance for the rural poor
- ▶ Technical support linked habitat finance for the rural middleclass.
- ▶ Credit to local government for habitat infrastructure development.

The products were field tested and three case studies were created, based on the experiences of habitat finance. One of the important achievements under the project was the formation of 250 Women Self Help Groups (WSHG) in Jhansi District, Bundelkhand. Workshops were held for these WSGS to help them link with the bank for accessing livelihood opportunities.

Community-led Assessment, Awareness, Advocacy and Action Programme in Himachal Pradesh

DA has undertaken community-led assessment, awareness, advocacy and action programme for environment protection and carbon neutrality in Himachal Pradesh, in collaboration with the local communities of the state. The overall aim of the programme is to develop Himachal Pradesh as a sustainable and climate-resilient state by mobilising community responsibility for environment protection and carbon neutrality through a network of eco-clubs, mahila mandals (Women Associations), yuvak mandals (Youth Associations) and local NGOs. HP-CLAP covers four districts in the state, namely Bilaspur, Hamidpur, Solan and Mandi.

Information and Communication

In 2009-10, Communication projects facilitated dialogue with partners, the corporate sector, local, state and national governments and offered communication solutions for stakeholders on diverse issues.

Shubh Kal

One of the biggest achievements in 2009-10 has been the *Shubh Kal* campaign of DA that **won recognition with the Development Marketplace Award, 2009** for creating climate change awareness leading to adaptation. The first year goal of the project was to enhance the capacity of the poor, the marginalised and vulnerable communities to adapt to rapid environmental, social and economic changes and secure livelihood opportunities. Under the *Shubh Kal* campaign, DA developed rural communication tools and products to communicate the present environmental challenges to the rural communities of the semi-arid region of Bundelkhand. These tools and products were developed by understanding the communication needs of the target groups through knowledge mapping sessions and focus group discussions. DA has adopted a two-way communication strategy and action research, which is followed by using innovative rural communication vehicles like:

- ▶ Radio Bundelkhand broadcasting climate change related programmes
- ▶ Nautanki performances
- ▶ Promotional Docket Folders for artisans and farmers
- ▶ Posters and banners

The campaign also played a crucial role in creating policy linkages for sustainable water and



A nautanki performance to raise awareness on climate change

energy use. A status note was prepared on water and energy of the Bundelkhand region. In future the campaign is expected to lead to behavioural changes of vulnerable communities and prepare them to adapt to the changing conditions.

Community Radio – Radio Bundelkhand

Radio Bundelkhand has played a pioneering role in creating awareness and increasing access to information for the rural population. Set up in Orchha, Madhya Pradesh in Central India, the community radio facilitates dialogue and access to information; local communities exchange ideas among themselves and voice their concerns in their own language. Managed jointly by the rural community and DA, Radio Bundelkhand is now well established with the audience in over 120 villages where the broadcast reaches. More than 50,000 issue-based programmes have been broadcasted by Radio Bundelkhand in the last one year.

ENVIS

The **Environmental Information System (ENVIS)** is a national-level information network set-up to provide information related to environment by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Recognised as an ENVIS Centre to provide information on Environmentally Sound Appropriate Technologies (ESAT) in 1984, through the website (www.daenvvis.org), Development Alternatives has collaborative links with institutions and through various query response systems to its users.

The website witnessed a steep increase in the number of hits in the past one year. The quantity of information being downloaded was also high i.e. **919876 Kbytes** in April 2009 to **1563283 Kbytes** in March 2010. The total number of unique sites visiting the website also increased from **4174** to **6533**. In 2009-2010 information on water was uploaded in the DA-ENVIS Portal.

Bundelkhand Village Information System (BVIS)

In 2009-10, DA set up the **Bundelkhand Village Information System (BVIS)** for Jhansi, Chhatarpur and Datia in Tikamgarh district. The software provides demographic details of these districts and intends to facilitate decision making at the district level.

Knowledge Base for Energy Efficiency and Decentralised Renewable Energy in India

DA is working on developing a knowledge base for energy efficiency and decentralised renewable energy in India. In collaboration with the **United Nations Environment Programme's Global Resource Information Database (UNEP/GRID) Arendal**, DA is assisting the Global Adaptation Information Network (GAIN) to create a group of expertise, knowledge and local experiences that result in a '**Virtual Sustainable Livelihood Forum**'. This forum will allow enduring development experiences of one community to be shared, discussed and used by other communities.

The network will link communities all across the world to this forum and help them share practical experiences on how they have been responding to the environmental challenges associated with a rapidly changing world. The project will facilitate the application of increased competence in practice, in selected Indian villages, that could be transferred to other villages and countries. It will demonstrate adaptation to climate change, impact on education, health care and local enterprises through energy efficient decentralised renewable energy solutions.

Policy Networks

In the past one year, DA engaged with local and state level decision-makers to undertake policy processes on critical issues that affect policy guidelines and strategies of the government.

State of the Environment Report

The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, initiated the State of Environment (SoE) reporting process with all state governments and union territories (UTs) through a plan scheme under the Tenth Five Year Plan. In this regard, the Ministry identified Development Alternatives as a **National Host Institute** to prepare the SoE Report of India. The report outlines an **overview of the environmental scenario** of India; also serving as a baseline document to assist in logical and information-based decision-making. The report aims to provide policy guidelines and strategies for resource allocation for the coming decades, based on analysis of the state and trends of the environment and provide guidance for national environmental action planning.

Zoning Atlas for Siting of Industries

Funded by the **Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board** and the **Maharashtra Pollution Control Board**, the project prepared a **Zoning Atlas for Siting of Industries (ZASI)**, based on environmental considerations. The environmental parameters and conditions were evaluated and quantified and the suitability of sites determined, depending on their sensitivity to air, water and land pollution. A State Environment Atlas (SEA), of Rajasthan and Maharashtra, a District Environment Atlas (DEA), a Zoning Atlas for Siting of Industries (ZASI) for Alwar, Kota, Baran, Udaipur, Rajsam and Sirohi, Bhilwara, Jaipur and Dausa districts for Rajasthan and Lathur and Nanded district of Maharashtra, comprising thematic maps and reports, as per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) guidelines, were prepared.

basin-South Asia – A Knowledge platform

basin-South Asia, a Regional Knowledge Platform with its secretariat at Development Alternatives, is committed to facilitating the access of the rural poor to sustainable habitat solutions. Since its inception in 2004, the basin-South Asia platform has provided knowledge support to grassroots agencies and policy makers in their efforts to create sustainable habitat for all.

The regional knowledge platform aspires to become “the leading network committed to developing knowledge systems and promoting collaborative action within South Asia to enable access by the poor to sustainable habitat and livelihoods.” In the first year of operation of Phase II of **basin-South Asia**, the core functions of the Secretariat of the network comprising Development Alternatives, Gram Vikas and UNNATI, from India, were supported by the Building and Social Housing Financing (BSHF) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The membership went up to 14 members in South Asia.

The targets for **basin-South Asia** are:

- ▶ To establish **basin-South Asia** as a preferred



Community workers manufacturing roofing channels

- knowledge platform on rural habitat and livelihood in South Asia
- ▶ To influence policy processes on critical issues that affect access to habitat and livelihood by the rural poor
 - ▶ To consolidate the initiatives carried out in the operational Phase II, expanding the membership and looking at the new areas of cooperation and dissemination within South Asia

Taking the Rural Housing Policy initiative forward in Bangladesh: Discussions have begun to take the policy forward in Bangladesh through the partners. The main objective of this collaboration is to strengthen and influence the policy of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) through discussions and dialogue.

Strengthening District Planning in India - Phase 1

The project aims at developing a process for rural-urban integration and coordination on planning and management of environmental issues, with a focus on water and waste management. Tikamgarh, one of the backward districts of Madhya Pradesh is eligible for the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF). The objective of this project was to build the capacity of key stakeholders (including local government units, line departments, civil society organisations) to understand the importance of environmental protection and management, and integrate them in their BRGF mandated plans so that social and economic development in the district would proceed in a more sustainable, environment-friendly and coordinated manner.

Some of the significant outcomes of the project were as follows:

- ▶ Strengthening of rural-urban integration by capacity building of key stakeholders - Project Advisory Group (PAG) and Project Working Group (PWG) through workshops and training for developing regional environmental vision.
- ▶ Setting up of a Joint Action Plan for Orchha town and selected six villages representing six different Gram Panchayats, as a pilot on water quality, conservation and waste management issues in consultation with the PWG members.
- ▶ A State of Environment Report (SoE) for Tikamgarh district.



Knowledge sharing on adaptation

Climate

The climate initiatives of DA focus on adaptation and mitigation strategies for the benefit of farmers, communities, as well as micro, small and medium enterprises.

National Sustainable Development Policies, Priorities and Programmes Leading to Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

DA has undertaken a study, which besides contributing to the 'National Communication' of India to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), will explore the extent and degree to which environmental mainstreaming has been part of the Indian developmental planning process. The study is funded by **United Nations Development Programme - Global Environment Facility (UNDP-GEF) and Ministry of Environment and Forests.**

The output will be a comprehensive report, highlighting the capability and potential of national

development policies, plan, programmes in contributing towards climate change mitigation and adaptation. The report will give the analytical review of existing national development policies, plans and programmes and their linkages with climate change mitigation and adaptation. The report will also provide recommendations on how to improve linkages and seize upon opportunities of integrating climate change mitigation/adaptation to national development policies.

State-level Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment- Madhya Pradesh

DA undertook an assignment on Environmental resource Management (ERM) in collaboration with the **Environmental Planning and Coordination Organisation, Stockholm Environmental Institute** and funded by the **Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF-Defra)**. The focus of this assignment is to understand the vulnerability of the state of Madhya Pradesh to impacts of climate variability and change and to evaluate the various adaptation options so that they can be further taken up for implementation in the state through research, policy mainstreaming and developmental activities. The project primarily focuses on the agriculture sector.

DA entered into a partnership with the Environmental Planning and Coordination Organisation (EPCO), the nodal agency for environmental issues in the state and talks with the Stockholm Environmental Institute are in advanced stages. A draft vulnerability assessment methodology has been prepared and the site for implementing the project, with focus on wheat and soybean crops, has been finalised. One of the biggest achievements under the project has been formation of a core team by the state government for implementing the project in partnership with DA.

Climate Change and Indian Policy

DA collaborated with The Henry L. Stimson Center to write a paper on India's position on climate change. The paper discussed the options, obstacles and opportunities posed by the need to integrate climate mitigation and adaptation into Indian development policies and objectives. It informed the policy makers about emerging transnational security challenges in the run up to COP15.

Lok Awaas Yatra

The **Lok Awaas Yatra**, *a journey for sustainable habitat for the people*, is an initiative of the **basin-South Asia** Regional Knowledge Platform to build the capacities of Panchayati Raj Institutions and other stakeholders towards understanding the impact of climate change on rural habitat and gain knowledge about the alternative green technologies available for adapting safe habitat practices.

The **overall objective** of the Yatra is to generate awareness and disseminate possible strategies for climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. The aim is to promote safe and sustainable habitat development through dialogue, networking and knowledge sharing through a Participatory Cross-Learning Journey across Vulnerable Geo-Climatic Regions of Rural India.

World Bank Rural Housing Workshop

A two day multi-agency workshop organised in collaboration with the Department of Rural Development, Government of Bihar, in November 2009 in Patna was to understand the different models of housing delivery that have been effective in other parts of the country and adapt them to the needs and conditions in Bihar. It brought together representatives from different stakeholder groups from various parts of the country, who shared their experiences on facilitating housing delivery through innovative institutional systems and appropriate finance mechanisms using alternate and sustainable technologies.

Employment Skills *for creation of green jobs on a large-scale*

Development Alternatives has undertaken major initiatives to promote sustainable livelihood opportunities by enhancing the skills of the marginalised sections of the society, including women, the young and the artisans. It also does this by facilitating the setting up of social enterprises models called 'Green Enterprises'.

The organisation perceives Green Jobs as safe and dignified occupations, instrumental in creating income and social-security for people. Green jobs provide entrepreneurial opportunities that create pathways out of poverty, while reducing carbon dependency, regenerating the natural resource base and contributing towards sustainable growth of the national economy.

Rural women in habitat based livelihood services

The construction sector has emerged as a viable option for livelihood creation for the rural communities, particularly the women and is seen as a poverty alleviation strategy by the governments, civil society institutions and other development agencies.

DA in collaboration with the **International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, Canada**, (IDRC), is undertaking a research project to explore the potential of mutually reinforcing the role of women in habitat based livelihood services - technology development, application and delivery. The research will provide an understanding of the mutual benefits of improvements in the socio-economic conditions of women engaged in the development and delivery of habitat products and services and the value addition to the sector. In doing so, it will bring to fore aspects that need reinforcement, support and facilities that need to be in place, sensitisation that is required, institutional and systemic measures needed and finally the tools and equipment that are required to create a win-win situation. The project is currently in its inception phase and the research will be conducted for two years.



The construction sector has become a viable livelihood option for rural women

GreenJobs

The **TARA Livelihood Academy (TLA)**, a training affiliate in **The DA Group**, is the driving force for skill-development of the marginalised sections of the society. During the year 2009-2010, DA took the initiative of **engaging** with the state governments of **Uttar Pradesh** and **Madhya Pradesh** to reach out to large numbers of stakeholders – spatially and substantially. TLA works closely with the district administration of **Chattarpur, Datia and Tikamgarh** in Madhya Pradesh and **Jhansi** in Uttar Pradesh. A proposal has been submitted to the district administration of Chattarpur for addressing the livelihood options of the poorest and the marginalised community-groups, with special focus on women through self-help initiatives and convergence in two blocks of the Chattarpur district.

The Academy's efforts have paid off in the rural areas. In total, 566 people have been trained in various courses including:

Index	Professional courses	No. of people trained
1	Drivers	96
2	Beauticians	28
3	Computer specialists	20
4	Tailors/Fashion designers	105

Out of 28 people, who have been trained to become a beautician, nine have started their own business in their homes, earning more than Rs 5000 per month; five women are engaged producing and marketing vermicelli and are earning Rs 100 per day around the Wadi town. Nine people, trained in driving are now running their own taxis. An impact assessment study has been initiated.

DA facilitated 8257 personnel with different backgrounds to get employment by training them in different skills, including paper making, masonry, tailoring, driving etc. More than 200 personnel have been linked to employment through different learning programmes such as production of Compressed Earth Blocks, Micro-concrete Tiles etc. DA has also submitted a proposal to the district administration of Chattarpur for addressing the livelihood options for the poorest and the marginalised community groups.

Greening of the Value Chain

The **Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE)** and the **International Labour Organisation (ILO)** commissioned DA under the Skills Development Initiative (SDI) of the Government of India to conduct a skill mapping study on the craft cluster of Moradabad and Firozabad in Uttar Pradesh. The objective of the study was to examine the challenges faced by the industry and seek answers to its problems from a skill development orientation.

The study brought to fore some remarkable facts and challenges faced by these industries. It suggested the necessity of training for achieving the upward mobility of the labour force, linking the skill development systems to the current needs of the labour market, with a future perspective of newer environment and development strategies, technological innovations and changing market conditions. The study sensitised the policy makers to the conditions of the craft cluster.

Enterprise Creation for green social enterprises

Through its enterprise development initiatives, Development Alternatives aims to promote entrepreneurial opportunities through the use of climate-resilient technology and enterprises solutions. This is being done by conducting skill development research, identifying skill gaps, providing marketable skills and enterprise training programmes and facilitating the setting up of green enterprise models.



TARA Machine for
manufacturing green bricks

Rural Entrepreneurship Zones

Three Rural Entrepreneurship Zones (REZ) at Datia, Radhapur and Gaushala in Orchha, Madhya Pradesh have been made operational as green enterprises clusters. There are three operational power plants (two biomass gasifiers and one methane-powered plant) that supply green power for business and enterprises that generate economic value.

	Installed capacity of the power plants	Clean technology enterprises
Datia REZ	40 kW or 250 units per day. At present this plant supplies 70 per cent of total electricity required.	MCR, Door Frame, Paving blocks, Designer tiles (all consume stone dust) and Ecolin, which consumes 30-50% less coal.
REZ Gaushala	7.5 kW or 60 units per day. Due to a shortage of dung, plant utilisation is at 25 per cent.	Organic compost as a by product of this plant reduces methane.
REZ Radhapur	10 kW or 80 units per day. At present the plant utilisation factor is around 50 per cent.	The energy from this plant for irrigation purposes saves diesel use.

Green Social Enterprises through the SDC-SCSI Project

DA has made considerable inroads in enterprise development. In Bundelkhand, 70 enterprise units have been facilitated in the year 2009-2010.

In collaboration with **Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC)** DA initiated a Sustainable Civil Society Initiative (SDC-SCSI) which works towards the economic strengthening of rural people by providing them diverse livelihood options, especially enterprises for improving their adaptive capacity. The project aims at carrying out various technological interventions and providing training programmes and the exposure visits



A green energy cluster based on biogas from scrub cattle (Gaushala)

Women's Energy Clusters: The programme aims at empowering women and enhancing their stake in natural resource management for economic value addition. This will be done by institutionalising them into Women Energy Clusters (WECs), which will then act as change-makers.

Approximately 40 members of women's self-help groups (SHGs), representing five-six villages, own and manage one green energy cluster based on biogas from scrub cattle (Gaushala). The institutional and financial model including leveraging of carbon finance is demonstrated, validated and available for replication. The WEC will provide energy source for 6-8 livelihood enterprises engaging 30 to 40 women. The rural women have gained confidence and are now actively participating in the activities of the Gaushala.

Farmers Adaptation Clusters: The farmers are grouped into 'Farmers Adaptation Clusters' and introduced to various climate-change adaptation and mitigation strategies in the Bundelkhand area. DA helps these farmers to adapt to modern practices that lead to a reduction in the use of fossil fuel-based energy and greenhouse gases. At the same time, the crop yield is stabilised to reduce the input cost and to make agriculture more profitable and a stable source of income.

Artisans Clusters: The project involves grouping of artisans into Common Interest Groups under the **TARA Karigar Mandal** to upgrade them from being just masons to contractors and manage their own work. At present, there are more than 150 masons associated with TARA Karigar Mandal for the area of Niwari and Orchha Cluster of Tikamgarh district.



Trained masons at work

Initiatives under CeShri

CeSHRI is a collaborative venture between **Holcim, Ambuja, ACC Cement Ltd.** and **Development Alternatives**, which seeks to strengthen the delivery of sustainable housing and infrastructure services to rural areas. One of the thematic taskforces of CeSHRI is mandated to operationalise a training and certification model for building artisans, with the objective of skill development and certification in the masonry trade leading to higher wages, continued work and integration into small and medium contractorship. A Policy Analysis report was created on new guidelines for the utilisation of fly ash.

SODIS in Delhi Slums

Under the **EAWAG SOALQUA** (Switzerland)-supported SODIS project initiated by DA, the aim is to provide clean drinking water to slum areas in Delhi and test and customise these technology solutions, according to the needs of the users. DA and its partners are working towards designing marketing strategies to create sustainable business around the developed products and create income opportunities for micro entrepreneurs. Workshops for capacity building are on the anvil, to facilitate local employment and introduce a certification scheme for the entrepreneurs. The marketing entities of DA, TARA and TARAenviro will be involved in the promotion of the technology, transfer, capacity building, commissioning and setting up of a delivery network.





Climate Change Adaptation *towards low carbon pathways*

The technology solutions and processes innovated by DA primarily serve as either climate change mitigation tools or as adaptation technologies. The product technology and process innovations offer alternative livelihood options for adaptation purposes in the fields of building materials, energy generation, waste recycling etc. The eco solutions that DA offers have been widely hailed as unique. This is because they largely employ integrated approaches, are resource efficient, low-carbon and renewable.

During the last financial year, DA pursued its objective of defining and demonstrating low carbon pathways and undertook numerous initiatives. Some of the important initiatives undertaken by DA to promote low carbon pathways are:

Climate Change Adaptation

In collaboration with the **Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)**, Development Alternatives has undertaken a sustainable Civil Society initiative (SCSI) in Bundelkhand. The main objective of the SDC-SCSI project is to provide innovative solutions and support mechanisms to enable the village communities to adjust their natural resource management and production systems and adapt them to the changing climate and provide better livelihood security, while also being low on carbon footprint.

Under the project, the farmers, women and artisans have been grouped into common interest groups or clusters for carbon reduction. These common interest groups have taken up interventions that have been demonstrated to them which, will lead to reduced vulnerability and mitigate climate change simultaneously. Farmers have adopted efficient irrigation technologies and agro-forestry. Women have taken up the production and use of renewable energy for enterprises. Artisans have been trained in using green building techniques and resource efficient materials for construction and started some of the eco habitat practices.

Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment

Funded by the **Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF-Defra)**, DA conducted a vulnerability and adaptation assessment in the state of Madhya Pradesh in partnership with the **Environmental Planning and Coordination Organisation, Stockholm Environmental Institute**. The purpose of the assignment is to gain an in-depth understanding of how climate

change induced vulnerability fits within the broader vulnerability context and explore relevant resilience building and adaptation measures that can be effectively incorporated within the existing development processes.

DA has entered into a partnership with Environmental Planning and Coordination Organisation (EPCO), a nodal agency for environmental issues in Madhya Pradesh. A draft vulnerability assessment methodology has been prepared and the site for the project has been selected with a focus on wheat and soybean crops. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has formed a core team for the implementation of the project in partnership with DA.

Bundelkhand Integrated Development Programme

Several initiatives were undertaken for introducing climate-resilient and new farming technologies for the farming community of Bundelkhand. DA focused on building community partnerships with stakeholders like **Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI)**, **National Research Centre for Agroforestry (NRCAF)**, and **International Crop Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)** to offer development solutions to the farmers. In this regard, a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed with **IGFRI** to demonstrate new farming technologies at the field level. Significant investments were made in **TARAGram Pahuji** to convert it into a single window delivery point for sustainable agricultural practices.

DA partnered with **ICRISAT Hyderabad** to set up a model watershed in the Jhansi district to offer livelihood options to the local communities through Watershed management. With the support of **NABARD, ICRISAT, IGFRI, NRCAF** and **Directorate of Rapeseed and Mustard**, DA demonstrated agri-based livelihood options through crop-diversification with active participation by the communities.

One of the major achievements of DA in Bundelkhand in the year 2009-10 was securing a NABARD-supported project for the execution of the agri-horti model in the Babina Block amongst the Sahariya tribal community.

Adaptation and Mitigation at the grassroots - Wadi, Karnataka

Supported by the **Department of Agriculture and ACC Cements Pvt Ltd**, DA helped **95 farmers** adapt to efficient irrigation systems like drips and sprinklers in Wadi, Karnataka. The demand for these systems has been on a rise. As a pilot, high yielding variety seeds of Bengal and Red Gram were distributed to the farmers of the area resulting in an increase of on-farm income of the farmers by 20 to 30 per cent.



Climate-resilient farming technologies for farmers in Bundelkhand

Clean Technology Solutions *towards low carbon pathways*

The Climate Technology Programmes offer technology-based, profitable business solutions for greening the environment. The programmes and projects adopt and customise technologies, including technologies which use waste, to benefit both large businesses, as well as micro, small and medium enterprises. These solutions serve primarily as innovations that focus on:

- ▶ Carbon footprint reduction, without significant pollution and eliminating hazardous wastes.
- ▶ Natural Resource Management and conservation of the ecosystem by eliminating the use of virgin resources and enhancing resource efficiency.
- ▶ Waste to Wealth management by utilising waste and recycling, creating cleaner enterprises and providing greener livelihood opportunities.

Introduction of Vertical Shaft Brick Kiln (VSBK) in Bangladesh

Brick making in Bangladesh is highly energy intensive and one of the major cause of air pollution. In collaboration with **Practical Action** and the **Government of Bangladesh**, DA has undertaken an assignment to develop a complete package, including a demonstration kiln for the introduction and promotion of Vertical Shaft Brick Kiln (VSBK) – a clean technology with 30-50 per cent reduction in pollution and usage of fuel. The methodologies proposed for this project are as follows:



The VSBK technology is fuel-efficient and reduces pollution

- ▶ **Preparation of draft knowledge products:** The project will prepare various technical manuals essential for adoption of VSBK technology as per the quality of soil in Bangladesh and the brick conditions.

- ▶ **Partnership with brick entrepreneurs:** Since demonstration pilot projects will be implemented in existing brick manufacturing units, legal procedures, including an agreement, will be formulated and bilaterally discussed with all stakeholders, especially the brick entrepreneurs for gaining their confidence.
- ▶ **Pilot demonstration project approach:** The methodology comprises a pilot demonstration project in Dhaka due to its visible impact throughout the country.
- ▶ **Improvement in green brick making:** A specific requirement of VSBK is the use of internal fuels in green-brick making. Internal fuels are generally a medium calorific value waste materials (1000 – 2000 KCal/kg) mixed with the soil during the green brick formation process.
- ▶ **Training and capacity building:** The project will create a pool of trained manpower locally in the vicinity of brick clusters. Training of masons, master masons will be organised to build their capacity for VSBK construction. Specialised training programmes will be organised for workers of pilot entrepreneur and locally recruited brick firemen to develop capacity in VSBK operations and maintenance.

Core Support Programme for Green Livelihoods

With core innovation support of **Department of Science and Technology (DST)**, **Development Alternatives and Technology and Action for Rural Advancement (TARA)**, are developing group-based enterprises to provide sustainable livelihoods to the rural people of Madhya Pradesh in the Bundelkhand region. The project is operational in the Niwari block, district Tikamgarh of Madhya Pradesh.



Dignified livelihood opportunities for rural women

The organisation's role in the project is to support the ongoing livelihood programmes by strengthening livelihood options for the poor and capacity building systems that create value through:

- ▶ **Farm-Based Enterprises:** Through the Improved Agriculture Practice Model, DA intends to sensitise local farmers and women to increase their level of awareness related to soil water conservation, natural soil fertility enhancement through diversification and crop substitution, and awareness of farm machinery, livestock management, vermi composting, organic farming and others.
- ▶ **Non-Farm-Based Enterprises:** DA has identified technology enterprises that can add economic value to resources abundantly available in the region. The resources include mineral materials, spices, groundnuts and paper.

Some of the non-farm based enterprises identified in the area are:

- ▶ Food/Spice/Processing Units
- ▶ Concrete-based enterprises for production of affordable green building components like concrete pavers, door and window frames, planks and joists etc.

- ▶ Oil extraction units for neem and groundnut

As part of the project, DA has demonstrated models of improved agriculture practices in collaboration with the Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI) in four villages through farmers. Till date, 40 farmers have adopted this technology and 92 farmers have benefited by seed distribution from IGFRI. The model will also be replicated by other farmers.



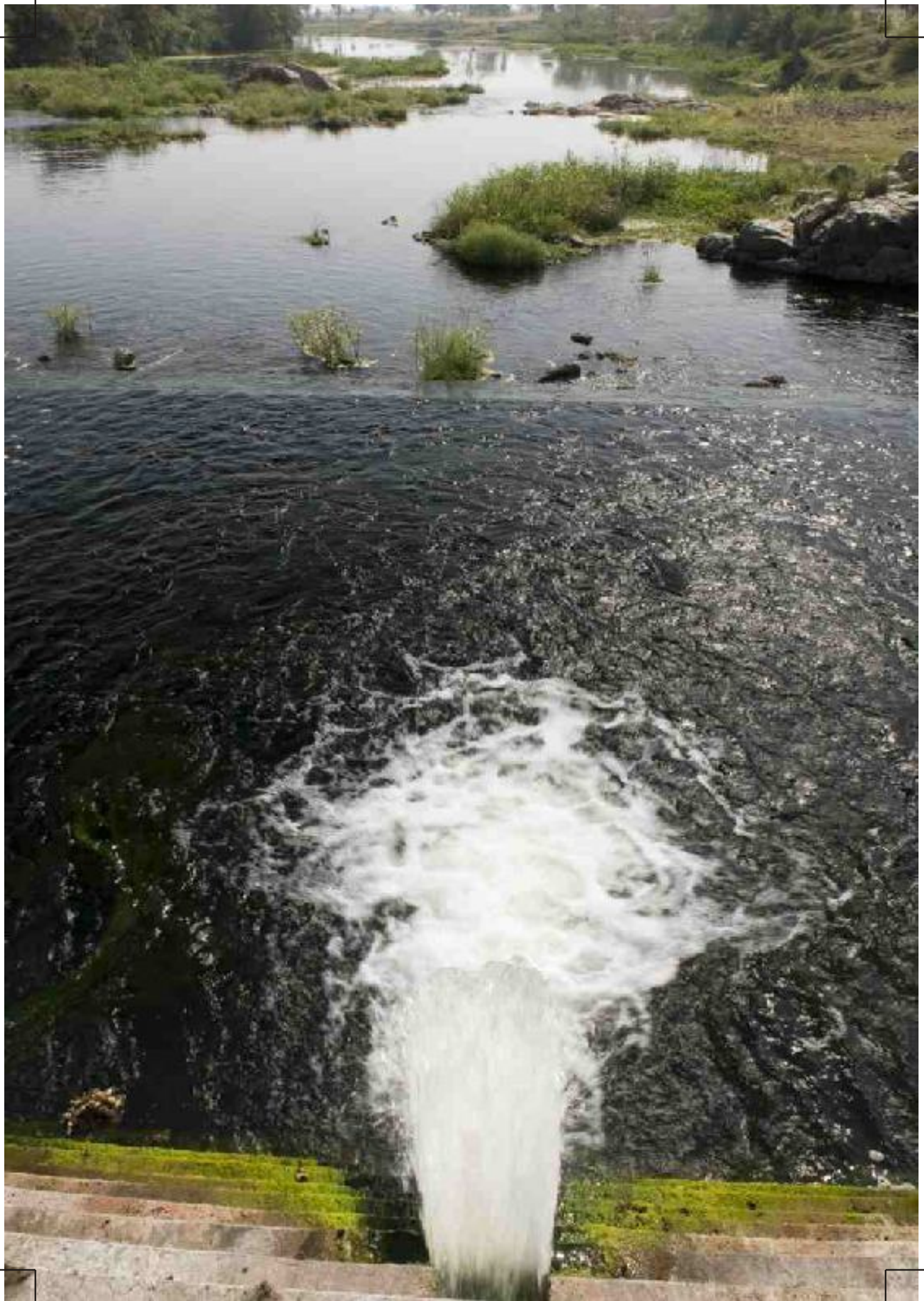
A brick making enterprise

Industrial and Waste Management

The project is a research study to provide an overview of the value chain of e-waste management and subsequently design a sustainable Product Take Back Model for Hewlett Packard.

An eco-health demonstration and awareness generation project for Stone Crushing Units was implemented under the clean technology initiative. The two-year research project **supported by International Development Research Centre (IDRC)** was aimed to design and implement participatory processes resulting in actions by diverse stakeholders to improve the health and social conditions of the communities working in the stone crushing industry. The project covered three representative Stone Crushing Units and two associated villages in the Pratapura area of Niwari block in Tikamgarh district, Bundelkhand.





Climate - The Sustainable Civil Society Initiative

creating greater livelihood security

Perspective

Bundelkhand has been severely impacted by Climate Change, which manifests in long drought periods affecting the agricultural community and their livelihoods and resulting in migration as the already deprived region is not able to provide for its people.

The Sustainable Civil Society Initiative (SCSI), a collaboration initiative undertaken by Development Alternatives and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), aims at developing and demonstrating practical methods by which rural communities and local institutions in the region are able to maximise value addition to local resources, thereby creating greater livelihood security and minimising vulnerability. This is being conducted through the *Shubh Kal* campaign which promotes a better tomorrow through Green growth models.

Intent

Intent of the project is to demonstrate viable adaptation and mitigation measures for Climate change and address global environmental challenges and eradicate poverty on a large scale without destroying the environment.

Objectives

- ▶ To enable farmers to adapt to drought conditions through the use of sustainable agricultural practices, with a focus on efficient use of energy and water
- ▶ To help rural women acquire enhanced stake in natural resource management and economic value addition, thus improving their relative position in the society as a whole
- ▶ To assist the Artisan groups to get better jobs and engage profitably in the delivery of eco-building services
- ▶ To facilitate agencies at local, state and national levels to take cognizance of knowledge outputs and initiate action to amend policy instruments

Key Activities

The project has been designed for three clusters; the approaches seek to reduce carbon foot print

Creation of Farmers Carbon Reduction Clusters

Under the project, trainings were organised for training farmers in various new technologies such as drip/sprinklers, seed treatment, reduced tillage, and agro forestry. To do so, various resource persons and institutions of repute such as the Water Technology Centre at Indian Agricultural Research Institute were involved.



Use of new farming practices - better yield for local farmers

The project also involved leveraging of various schemes of the government, such as the National Horticulture Mission. In order to feed into the policy formulation, stakeholder workshops were organised at Panchayat, district administration, state and national levels. One such workshop was organised at the national level, wherein the Water Energy Status Paper was presented.

Through the *Shubh Kal* Campaign, DA has conducted a vulnerability assessment of the region and developed a strategy for communicating the climate change phenomena, its impacts and possible adaptation measures to local communities and district level decision makers.

Currently, the project involves classification of farmers under the Farmers Adaptation Cluster to introduce various climate change adaptation and mitigation measures. The Farmers Adaptation Cluster includes 44 farmers across 11 villages in Pahuj (Jhansi District). With the help of community animators, it is planned to involve 100 farmers by 2010-2011.

Creation of Artisans Clusters

The project also involves grouping of artisans into Common Interest Groups under the TARA Karigar Mandal to upgrade them from being just masons to contractors and manage their own work. At present, there are more than 150 masons associated with TARA Karigar Mandal for undertaking construction of rural infrastructure in the area of Niwari and Orchha Cluster of Tikamgarh district.



Masons associated with TARA Karigar Mandal

Creation of Women's Energy Clusters

Motivation of women to achieve financial independence by institutionalising them and building their capacities to stand and claim

their rights is also the part of the project. At present, there are 40 women members in the Women Energy Cluster (WEC) for the purpose of managing the cowsheds (Gaushala), biogas-based power plants and enterprises.

Partners

Development Alternatives partners with The Swiss Development Corporation (SDC) for majority of the activities under this project. Financial sources are leveraged from other ongoing projects within DA, as well as from other government bodies and schemes.



Rural women get trained to run a biogas-based enterprise

DA also collaborates at the grass roots level with Farmers, Women and Artisans. Several Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Community Based Organisations (CBOs) and local media.

At a broader level, Industry, Media, Scientists and Advocates from local areas support this project initiative. Additionally, various governmental bodies like the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) along with the social administrative cadre like the Block, District, State and National level administrative staff, partner the initiative.

Achievements

Some of the major achievements of the SDC/SCSI project are:

- ▶ Knowledge exchange amongst the target groups and with external facilitating agencies to select and adapt technologies and practices suitable for the context and promote the interventions amongst local facilitating bodies.
- ▶ Enterprise packaging and development of “green” economic enterprise models and capacity building of the target clusters to practice, promote and replicate these models.
- ▶ Design processes to influence policy frameworks at the state, regional and national levels that would favour the large scale replication of “low-carbon economic growth” for vulnerable communities in the state and across semi-arid regions of India.
- ▶ Process interventions for knowledge dialogue, capacity building and technical support, market and enterprise development, networking and resource leveraging including carbon finance, community institution development, networking and leveraging resources, communication and promotion and policy advocacy, each dealt with in a different manner.

Way forward

In order to take the initiative ahead, the project plans to establish the “**Bundelkhand Knowledge Platform**”. The platform will help in facilitating the process of development and presenting a joint position with relation to climate change in the Bundelkhand region.



Community - CLAP for Himachal for a carbon neutral state

Community Led Assessment, Awareness, Advocacy And Action Programme For Environment Protection And Carbon Neutrality In Himachal Pradesh

Perspective

Climate change is possibly the greatest challenge facing the global society in the 21 century. While the phenomenon is largely global in nature, its repercussions are varied and inequitably being felt across different countries and eco-systems. Himachal Pradesh, being in the eco-fragile Himalayan region, is particularly susceptible to the ravages of climate change.

Depleting water tables, pollution of water sources, increasing levels of air pollution from industries, vehicle exhaust and open burning of waste, rapidly disappearing forest cover and biodiversity are some of the problems, confronting the state. These have serious consequences on the health of the people and pose major hindrance to sustainable economic development.

Intent

The overall aim of the programme is to develop Himachal Pradesh as a sustainable and climate resilient State by mobilising community responsibility for environment protection and carbon neutrality through a network of eco-clubs, mahila mandals (Women Associations), yuvak mandals (Youth Associations) and NGOs.

This situation demands immediate intervention in the management of rapidly growing environmental problems. The quality of the environment needs to be monitored regularly and more importantly, the scientific work must extend beyond the laboratory and become more community centric. While the regulatory agencies continue to play their role, what is required is a movement that is community-based and which can mobilise the community to identify and analyse local environmental problems and take necessary action to improve the situation. Such a decentralised movement would catalyse sustainable development and thereby ensure an environmentally sound and economically secure future for the State.

It is with this mission that the "Community Led Assessment, Awareness, Advocacy and Action

Programme (CLAP) for Environment Protection and Carbon Neutrality in Himachal Pradesh" is being launched with the vision to develop Himachal Pradesh as the first climate resilient State by mobilising community responsibility for environmental assessment, environment protection and carbon neutrality.



DA staff interacting with government officials during Chief Minister's conclave in Shimla

Objectives

The objectives of the programme are to:

- Systematically assess and document the existing environment quality and carbon foot prints
- Generate systematic awareness among citizens, decision makers, communities and other stakeholders in society on the state of environment, causes of environmental degradation and possible ameliorative action.
- Mobilise communities and Panchayats to undertake environmental improvement action at the local level to improve environment and reduce their carbon foot prints.
- Establish vibrant network of eco-clubs, mahila mandals, welfare associations, NGOs, Government agencies and other bodies to promote environmental advocacy for policy change at district and State level.

Partners

The programme is proposed to be implemented across rural and urban areas in all districts of Himachal Pradesh through 'Field Implementing Agencies' comprising eco-clubs, mahila mandals (women clubs) and yuvak mandals (youth clubs) etc. as the prime agents of change under the co-ordination and facilitation of Field Implementation Agencies comprising local NGOs/Institutions.

Development Alternatives, has been appointed as the State Programme Management Agency for the management and implementation of the three year programme.

Key Activities

The key activities for each of the objectives are:

Assessment

- ▶ Preparing "state of environment" baseline for towns and villages
- ▶ Seasonal environment quality monitoring and preparation of thematic database
- ▶ Documenting Carbon footprint at various levels
- ▶ Validation of data indicating adverse environment quality

Awareness

- ▶ Awareness workshops on environmental issues and possible improvement actions to

- ▶ generate community responsibility
- ▶ Rallies, exhibitions, competitions, and other innovative communication methods to spread awareness
- ▶ Use of media and public hearings to reach out to communities
- ▶ Dissemination of environment quality assessment findings amongst the community

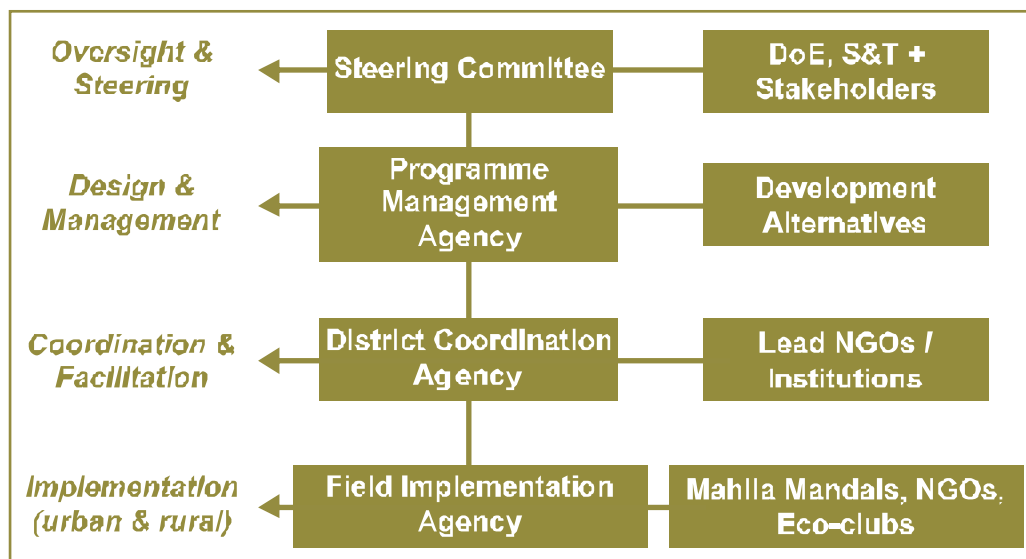
Action

- ▶ Undertake measures to improve environment quality
- ▶ Undertake action for efficient utilization of natural resources
- ▶ Set up demonstration units of best practices and environment friendly technology
- ▶ Undertake environment improvement action by leveraging from community and linking with government schemes

Advocacy

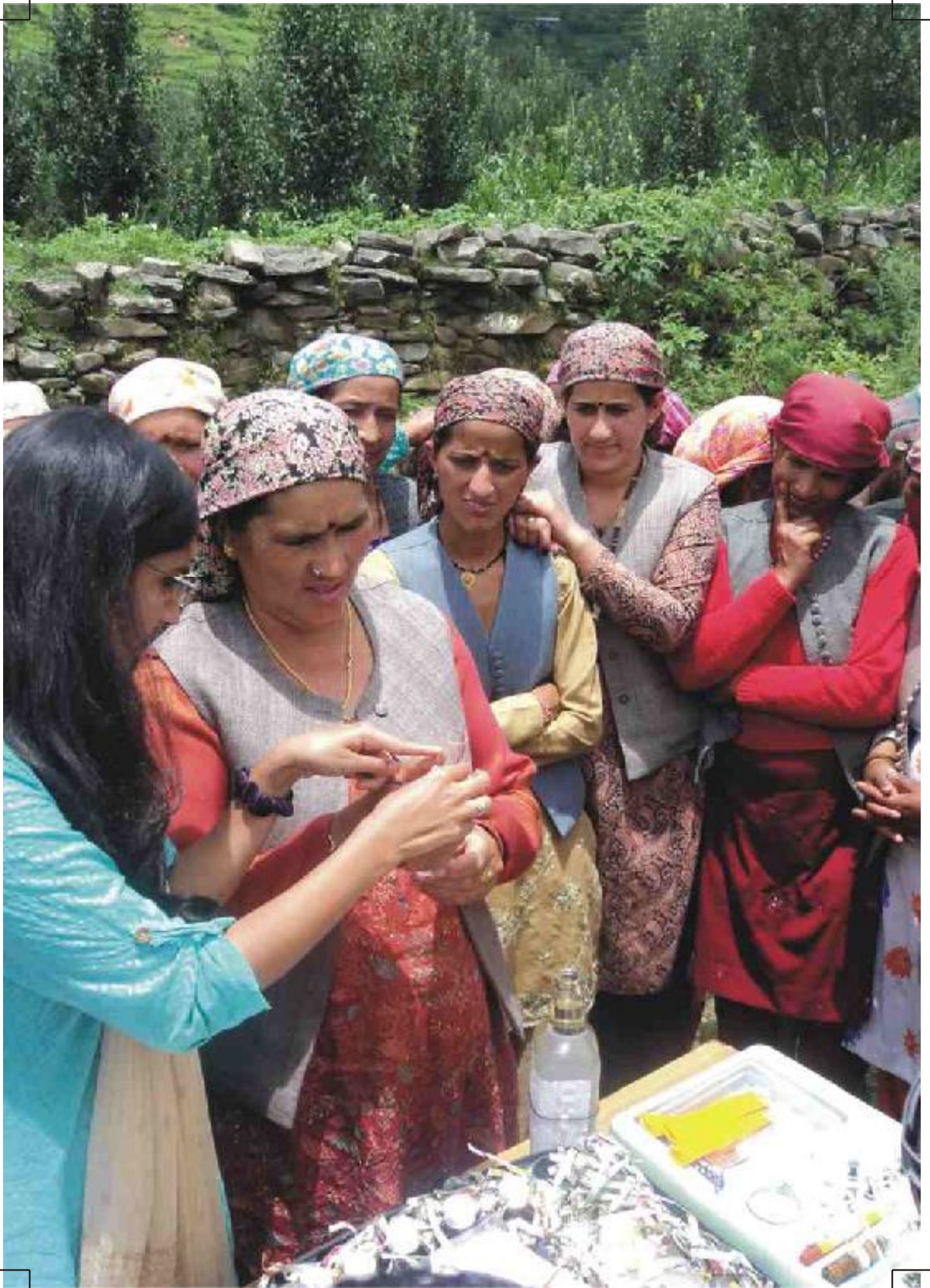
- ▶ State level workshop for sharing best practices and experiences and policy advocacy
- ▶ Publicizing environmental quality data for the attention of authorities to catalyze improvement intervention
- ▶ Post-action advocacy for large scale dissemination of best practices

Operational Structure



Way Forward

The first six months of the programme or the preparatory phase got over on March 31st, 2010 and the programme has now entered development phase wherein on ground activities have started in all districts of the state.



Policy - Lok Awaas Yatra

an eco-habitat journey

Perspective

The housing scenario in India remains grim. Over 40 million people do not have a 'pucca' (constructed) roofs over their heads and construction remains the second largest polluter in the country. Against this backdrop, **basin-South Asia** and DA have launched an initiative for the first rural habitat policy in India with consultations with grassroot and state governments over three years.

The policy draft has been considered by the Ministry of Rural Development and a National Rural Habitat and Housing Policy is on the anvil. Following the consultations for developing the proposed policy, it was felt that exposure of the Panchayati Raj Institutions and agencies that are engaged in implementation of habitat initiatives to "Good Practice" projects is critical. This would serve to develop their capacity if these agencies are to be expected to plan and implement habitat initiatives.

The **basin-South Asia** platform has thus conceived a Lok Awaas Yatra as an exposure programme basically for PRIs, government functionaries, artisan's groups and participants from NGOs and academia. The Yatra is actually a set of five regional yatras across India to identified housing and habitat projects. These projects are being identified on the basis of demonstration of appropriate construction technologies, institutional systems, sanitation and water supply mechanisms suitable for rural areas, livelihood initiatives in the habitat sector etc.

Intent

The aim is to promote Safe and Sustainable Habitat Development through dialogue, networking and knowledge sharing by a Participatory Cross-Learning Journey across vulnerable geo-climatic regions of Rural India.

Objectives

The overall objective of the Yatra is to generate awareness and disseminate possible strategies for safe and sustainable habitat development through dialogue, networking and knowledge

sharing. The Yatra aims at building a common understanding of the practical underpinnings of sustainable habitat development from a policy perspective and contributes to a more enabling policy environment for people-centred sustainable habitat development.

Design of the Awaas Yatra

The Awaas Yatra has been designed as a series of five yatras in five regions of the country. Each sub-yatra has three trails each, taking



Yatris in conversation with a villager

approximately 30 participants to visit about six good-practice projects. These projects have been identified keeping in perspective the demonstration of appropriate construction technologies, institutional systems and sanitation and water supply mechanisms suitable for rural areas and livelihood initiatives in the habitat sector and others.

The six key themes are:

- ▶ Low Carbon Building Technologies
- ▶ Habitat Infrastructure including energy
- ▶ Water and Sanitation Solutions for Rural Habitat
- ▶ Habitat-Based Livelihoods
- ▶ Social Housing Delivery
- ▶ Disaster Risk Reduction

Each regional Yatra is designed to culminate in a regional seminar, which will identify the key enablers for enhancing the quality of rural habitats in the region. The five sub-yatras (with each of their three trails) will culminate into a 'Lok Awaas Karmi Sammelan' at the national level by 2010.

Key Activities

DA has already organised three Yatras. The first Yatra was conducted in the central region between September 8-12 2009, covering Bundelkhand, Marathwada and the Vidarbha regions. These three trails of four days each converged in Bhopal for a regional seminar on habitat development, where key learnings from the three sub-yatras were shared and imperatives for policy change articulated. The regional partners for the Central Yatra were Centre for Science for Villages (CSV) Wardha, Sahyog Nirmitee and Towards Action and Learning (TAAL).

The second Yatra was conducted between 17-21 January 2010 in the western regions of India, covering Saurashtra and Kutch in Gujarat and Rajasthan. It concluded in a regional seminar at

the Centre for Environment Planning and Technology (CEPT) Ahmedabad on January 21, 2010.

The key highlights of the Western Region Yatra were visits to projects related to post-disaster reconstruction, using alternate technologies (traditional and new low-carbon construction technologies) in both Gujarat and Rajasthan. The regional partners, who led the Western Yatra were CEPT, UNNATI and the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA).

The third of the series of Regional Yatras covered Eastern India from 26-30 March 2010. The Yatra comprised three trails, the Bihar trail, the Orissa trail and the Sunderbans trail. The eastern trail provided a constant reminder to the participants that climate change is indeed a reality. The Kosi floods, the increasing vulnerability of coastal Orissa to hydro-meteorological disasters and the changing land conditions of the Sunderbans stand testimony to the reality.

The next two Yatras would be in the northern and the southern region of India in 2010. The states covered under Northern region will be Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. The projects highlighted would be Building technologies, renewable energy, micro hydel models, bio gas models. The Southern Yatra will be in Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu and Kerala and the projects highlighted will be post-tsunami habitat work, social housing projects like Indira-Amma, alternate technologies, renewable energy and water and sanitation projects.

Achievements

Some of the major achievements of the three Yatras conducted are:

- ▶ Setting up of the Lok Awaas Yatra Advisory Committee, with membership from central ministries, state government, multi-lateral and Central Statistics Offices (CSOs)
- ▶ Establishment of the network for multiplication of taking forward of the good initiatives and regional policy influence
- ▶ Growing interest among the people about the Yatra as indicated by approximately 80,000 hits on the Lok Awaas Yatra website
- ▶ Engagement of multi-lateral and corporate sectors
- ▶ Engagement with local and state level decision makers – Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members, Secretary Rural Development, Commissioner, Housing, Technical Universities, National level exposure – Minister of Rural Development, National Housing Bank and National Institute for Rural Development

Way Forward

Encouraged by the success of the three Yatras, DA will look to hosting the remaining two Yatras in the northern and the southern regions and eventually hosting the Lok Awaas Karmi Sammelan. DA along with **basin-South Asia** will also work towards supporting a Sustainable Rural Housing Policy.



Innovation - DST Core Support

innovations to market

Perspective

India is a country of “dual” economy, facing the twin challenges of sustained growth and pro-poor development. On one hand it has emerged as the world’s fourth largest economy, on the other hand, it is still a low income and mainly rural, agrarian economy.

To sustain growth and reduce poverty, there is a need to leverage and improve the country’s innovation potential and its commercialisation process of bringing new inventions to market - the market based scaling up of production from pilot to mass market that transforms new knowledge to wealth. The challenge which the country faces is the process and diffusion of “Innovation to Market”.

Realising the need of “scaling-up” of successful and market-based innovations, **Department of Science and Technology, SEED Division** has been supporting a Core Support Programme involving various groups across the country. The Development Alternatives Group (DA) is a core recipient of this support.

The essence of the DST Core support to Development Alternatives is to scale up available technologies and develop/source new technologies which would strengthen the commercial delivery and community enterprises towards creating sustainable livelihoods in large numbers. The key to achieve sustainable livelihoods in large numbers and the basis of a better future is jobs and creation of self employment opportunities. The major emphasis is on jobs that provide a decent income and give meaning and dignity to life, produce goods and services for the local market, do not destroy the environment or the resource base, but bring the poor and downtrodden, the women and the marginalised, into the mainstream.

Intent

DST offers a multi-year core grant to DA to build its capacities to deliver innovations to the market, especially the poor and the marginalised, incubation of enterprise models and dissemination of technologies.

Objectives

DA has the core organisational competence of technology development and market creation in the areas of building materials & waste utilisation, renewable energy, water purification and community support services for enterprise development. In collaboration with Technology and Action for Rural Advancement (TARA), the incubation arm of DA, technology based enterprises and livelihoods creation are being pursued covering the full spectrum of technologies. The framework of the core support is:

- ▶ **Innovation** with emphasis on sourcing and collaborative R&D for product/technology customization
- ▶ **Incubation**, primarily enterprise development with focus on livelihood opportunities, and
- ▶ **Dissemination** of technologies with focus on:
 - business models for enterprises
 - community based models with S&T application

While implementing in Bundelkhand, this approach is coupled with capacity building of village institutions.

Partners

DA works on the principle of intensification in areas of influence and scaling out through networking with partners. By networking with various partners, DA reaches out primarily to the Civil Society Organisations in the Hindi belt of the country. The business interests are spread out over the entire country and even abroad. The major partners for commercialisation of technologies are TARA and TARA Machines and Tech Services Pvt. Ltd. For pioneering adaptation, partnerships have been established with Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI) and National Research Centre for Agroforestry (NRCAF), Jhansi. For technology dissemination, partnerships have been entered with Practical Action, Bangladesh and Minergy Pvt. Ltd, Nepal. For enforcing financial linkages and support to community institutions, linkages have been established with NABARD, Lucknow and Bhopal; Punjab National Bank, Datia; Canara Bank, Orchha and UP Gramin Bank, Jhansi.



A TARA BrickMek machine

Activities

As a joint effort, DA and TARA teams has customised packages like Soil Feeding Conveyor System for TARA Brick Mek, improved version of semi mechanised/mechanically assisted brick moulding technology and the high performance Fly Ash brick making machine with a capacity of producing 800-1000 bricks/hour. All these technology packages are expected to

benefit small scale enterprises, besides assisting the existing enterprises to diversify. Through training of vendors and entrepreneurs, by providing support services such as test kits, business model preparation and applying for CDM credits etc., large scale dissemination is envisaged.

Pre-cast Toilet technology package has been developed for production of precast concrete panels for construction of toilets. The package includes a set of moulds for manual production of panels and a production manual for training of entrepreneurs. Training has also been given to the TARA team and potential entrepreneurs, in production, application and quality control aspects have been completed. A Precast Door/window Frame technology package has been completed for production of precast door frames. Training to TARA Karigar Mandal (Mason Guild) and community groups has also been done to facilitate replication.

Responding to the needs of brick makers for alternate fuels for brick firing, DA has initiated a

process for testing of alternate fuels from renewable sources for the eco-brick kilns and to study the viability of it.



Promotional brochure for Jal TARA filters

An Arsenic Removal System was developed and field tested in eastern region (Khagaria-Bihar). DA has partnered with MeghPyne Abihyan in North Bihar for initial field validation before getting into the marketing. For promotion of safe drinking water among communities, a plethora of communication and training modules were designed and developed.

As part of **Enterprise incubation** efforts, provision of safe drinking water through an enterprise mode has been tested in five locations in the Bundelkhand region and Rajasthan. A draft business plan along with a delivery model has been worked out. Similarly work has been carried out on Enterprise package for Fly Ash block technology for small scale building material producers. The technology is being marketed by TARA Machines.

The Energy team and TARA Nirman Kendra have demonstrated the **Rural Entrepreneurship Zones (REZ)** at Datia which has resulted in the growth of concrete building enterprises cluster. Production has improved significantly because of skill development and inter-unit coordination. The project team has successfully synchronised production with sales by creating a market pool in Gwalior and Dabra region in Madhya Pradesh. Based upon feasibility study in Datia, connected enterprises powered by 32 KW gasifier and an ICT centre were established.

There has been an emphasis on the **Brick Sector Policy** work and the team worked upon the National Brick sector policy guidelines and came out with a draft Strategy Policy Documents with recommendations.

As part of the **Community Support Services**, improved agricultural practices for enhancing the

livelihood generation for small and marginal farmers linked to farm resources have been initiated. An energy efficient irrigation system has been introduced in farms (in 2008 and 2009 field testing of the model was carried out at TARAgram Pahuj and Gaushala), apart from wide scale propagation of the agro-forestry model. For enhancing the profit of enterprises and increased income of group members, five non-farm based group enterprises have been setup.

Achievements

The most notable achievements during the current financial year of the Core Support were:

1. Development and dissemination of the fly ash technology package

The innovative aspect was to cater to the small/medium manufacturers through a service based approach. Through the formulation of a technology business solution, the Fly Ash Technology (and not merely a machine) Package supporting entrepreneurs and community enterprises is now available through TARA Machines.



2. Dissemination of innovative agricultural practices

The Core team has successfully developed and demonstrated a multi crop agri-horti model of farming practices whereby short term benefits accrue from horticulture. Demonstration/implementation of farm machinery into farmer's field, for optimum management of labour has resulted in farmers getting more income with given resources. DA has demonstrated these in collaboration with IGFR in four villages. Around 40 farmers have adopted this technology and 92 farmers have been benefitted by seed distribution from IGFR. The model will also be replicated by other farmers.

Green jobs through the Brick Mek machine

The Way Forward

The project aims to work towards scaling up of market based innovations and strengthen ongoing livelihood programmes for capacity building and creating employment opportunities for the rural poor. The growth of both farm and non-farm sectors will contribute towards the development of the rural communities.



Part IV: Compliance Information

Partners and Collaborators

DA has had the privilege of partnering with several globally renowned organisations-

International organisations like United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), World Bank, International Labour Organization (ILO), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Canada, Department for International Development (DFID) UK, CIDA, Swiss Red Cross, UNITAR, Practical Action, The Asia Foundation, European Commission (EC)

Academic Institutions like IIT Delhi, IIT Chennai, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) Pune; School of Planning & Architecture (SPA) Delhi, Kalinga Institute of Information Technology (KIIT)

Companies like Microsoft, Shell, Tata Chemicals Limited, Tata Iron & Steel Company (TISCO), Holcim, ACC and Ambuja Cements, Hewlett Packard, Cisco, Samsung and SCATEC Solar.

Government Institutions like Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Ministry of Information Technology, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Labour and Employment and Ministry of Social Justice, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, and the Government of Bangladesh.

21 state governments, Indian Space Research Organisation, Building Materials & Technology Promotion Council (BMTPC), Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), National Wasteland Development Board (NWDB) and the Planning Commission.

Over 3000 civil society partners, financial institutions and foundations like Arghyam, MacArthur, Rockefeller and Ford Foundations.

The Development Alternatives Group

Development Alternatives

Technology and Action for Rural Advancement (TARA)

TARA Nirman Kendra (TNK)

Decentralised Energy Systems India Pvt. Ltd. (DESI Power)

TARAhaat Information and Marketing Services Pvt. Ltd.

TARA Environmental Products and Services Pvt. Ltd.

TARA Machines and Tech Pvt. Ltd.

The DA Group websites

www.devalt.org, www.TARAhaat.com, www.cleanindia.org, www.taraakshar.com, www.empowerpoor.org, www.peoplefirstindia.org, www.dainet.org, www.vsbkindia.com, www.desipower.com, www.tara.in, www.basinsa.net, www.lokawaasyatra.net, www.daenvis.nic.in, www.taragramyatra.org, www.taramachines.com

Society For Development Alternatives
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2019

	Schedule	2019 Rs.	2018 Rs.
SOURCES OF FUNDS			
Capital and other Funds	1	43,814,403	60,331,082
Reserve funds, etc.	2	7,605,898	1,388,870
Deferred grants		111,297,773	21,494,253
Unsecured loan	3	15,363,073	
		<u>178,081,147</u>	<u>83,214,208</u>
APPLICATION OF FUNDS			
Fixed assets	4	103,865,813	114,367,240
Current assets, loans and advances			
Cash and bank balances	5	29,273,892	34,160,434
Loans and advances receivable	6	21,315,213	23,655,168
		<u>50,589,105</u>	<u>57,815,602</u>
Loans & Current liabilities and provisions			
Current liabilities	7	13,877,320	15,410,375
Provisions	8	1,182,901	2,982,214
		<u>15,060,221</u>	<u>18,392,589</u>
Net current assets		<u>35,528,884</u>	<u>41,423,013</u>
		<u>172,621,621</u>	<u>124,637,221</u>

Significant accounting policies and notes to the financial statements

13

The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the financial statements



Dr. Ashok Chandra
Chairman

For and on behalf of the Society

[Signature]
Sudhakar Vajr Rai (IInd)
Manager Finance

This is the Balance Sheet referred to in our report issued to Form No. 10B of the Income Tax Rules 1962 as amended.

[Signature]
for Walker, Chandola & Co.

Chartered Accountants



[Signature]
Ajay D P Singh
Partner

Place : New Delhi

Date : 15 September 2019

Annual Report 2009-10

Society for Development Alternatives Income and Expenditure account for the year ended 31 March 2010

	Balance	2009 Rs.	2009 Rs.
Income			
Technical and grant receipts			
Foreign grants, establishments and infrastructure		41,241,263	41,175,396
Donations		593,997	335,866
Receipts from projects	2	-	5,983,112
Other income	7	1,260,171	2,374,149
Grants for assets of projects		3,276,642	5,013,873
		<u>49,430,967</u>	<u>56,476,885</u>
Expenditure			
Personnel expenses	10	35,819,719	36,461,710
General administrative expenses	11	79,256,346	22,626,207
Finance charges	12	50,759	80,458
Costs of closed projects, net	3	3,211,229	-
Depreciation	4	4,377,820	5,803,664
		<u>123,216,673</u>	<u>65,972,039</u>
Deficit for the year		<u>(73,785,706)</u>	<u>(8,495,154)</u>
Deficit for the year transferred to capital fund		<u>(73,785,706)</u>	<u>(8,495,154)</u>

Significant accounting policies and notes to the financial statements 15

The variables referred to above form an integral part of the financial statements.



[Signature]
Dr. Jitendra Chandra
Chairman

For and on behalf of the Society

[Signature]
W. Suresh Babu (CA)
Managing Director

This is the true and correct copy of the account referred to in our report dated 15th August 2010 of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India.

[Signature]
Waters, Chandesh & Co

Chartered Accountants
(Members of ICAI)

Place : New Delhi
Date : 15 September 2010



[Signature]
B. P. Singh
Partner

Credibility Alliance Norms Compliance Report

IDENTITY

Society for Development Alternatives is registered as a not-for-profit society under Society Act. XXI of 1860 (Registration number 12964).

Society for Development Alternatives is registered under Section 6 (1) (a) of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 (FCRA Reg. No. 231650202)

Visitors are welcome to the addresses given on the "contact us" link on our website: www.devalt.org

Name & Address of main bankers:
Syndicate Bank, R K Puram Sector V, New Delhi 110 022

Name & Address of auditors:
M/S Walker Chandiook & Co., L-41, Connaught Circus, New Delhi 110001, India.

GOVERNANCE

None of the Board members is related to each other.

The Development Alternatives Board members met once in the FY 2009-10 in Dec 2009.

Minutes of Board meetings are documented and circulated.

Gender	Regular staff	Senior Advisors	Consultants	Project Appointees
Male	117	7	8	50
Female	23	2	1	11

DISTRIBUTION OF STAFF (as on March 31, 2010)

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

No remuneration, sitting fees or any other form of compensation has been paid since inception of the Society for Development Alternatives, to any Board Members, Trustees or Stakeholders.

Total cost of national travel by staff during the year:
Rs. 103 lakhs approximately

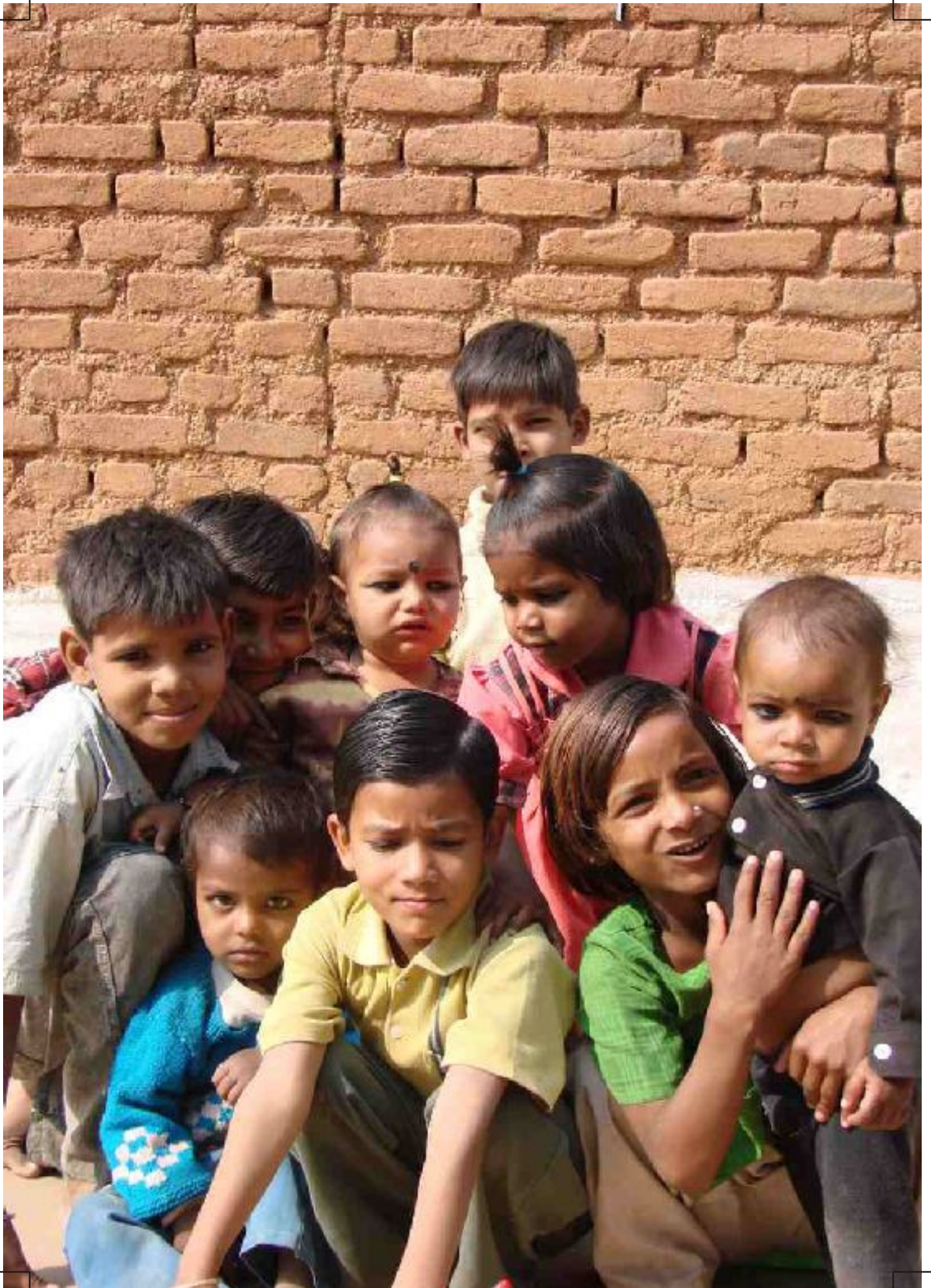
Total cost of international travel by staff during the year sponsored by external organisations:
Rs. 30 Lakhs approximately

Regular staff	Male	Female	Total
<2500	0	0	0
<7000	23	0	23
<15000	45	7	52
<30000	26	10	36
<50000	17	3	20
>50000	6	3	9
Total	117	23	140

STAFF DETAILS (as on March 31, 2010)

Board of Directors

Name	Sex	Position on Board	Occupation	Area of Competency	Meetings Attended
Dr. Ashok Khosla	M	Chairman	Chairman, Development Alternatives	Institutional Development	All
Ms Maja Daruwala	F	Member	Director, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative	Social Law	All
Mr. Lalit Mansingh	M	Member	Former Foreign Secretary	International Relations	All
Mr. Vikram Lal	M	Member	Chairman, Vikram Sarabhai Foundation	Business	All
A V M S Sahni	M	Member	Senior Advisor, Development Alternatives	Watershed Mangement	All
Ms. Geeta Sidhartha	F	Member	Chief Executive, Visual Communications	Communications	All
Mr. Salman Haidar	M	Member	Former Foreign Secretary	International Relations	All
Prof. Amitabh Kundu	M	Member	Prof. Of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University	Development Economics	All
Dr. Arun Kumar	M	Member	President, Development Alternatives	Technology and Business Development	All
Mr. George C. Varughese	M	Member	President, Development Alternatives	Institutional Development	All



Affiliates of Development Alternatives

Business Solutions *creating enterprises for local communities*

The Business Solutions Branch (BSB) works towards creating enterprises at rural levels to create wealth for the local economy. As business groups, the BSB delivers market-driven technology-based products and services, innovated by Development Alternatives. Providing strong support systems like training and handholding, sales, marketing and after-sales they undertake technology-based consulting projects. Other roles include setting up and managing a network of franchised tele-centres and micro-enterprises, promoting environment-friendly products and services, aggregating of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and launching of Special Purpose Vehicles.

1. Technology and Action for Rural Advancement

Technology and Action for Rural Advancement TARA has, for the last 25 years, been incubating micro-enterprise based decentralised models aimed at providing home building services, pure water, light, clean cooking solutions and a range of income generating opportunities to the poor.

TARahaat Information and Marketing Services Pvt. Ltd. creates micro-franchises to deliver IT enabled education and skill building products to young job seekers. **TARA Machines and Tech Services Pvt. Ltd.** promotes sustainable technology solutions for small and medium enterprises. **TARAenviro** is a new company set up to market cutting-edge products to save water and our planet's other vital resources. **DESI Power Pvt. Ltd.** promotes biomass energy based "EmPower" models for rural electrification and enterprise creation. These entities are attracting attention of green investors and social venture funds for business growth and accelerated impact.



**Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurating
TARA Paper Plant at Shimla Secretariat**

The extent to which the DA Group's social enterprises have made a portfolio of development services available to poverty stricken communities can be seen in the Bundelkhand area of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh where oppressive social structures and extreme environmental degradation have held back development for decades. The hubs of these activities are the TARAGram sustainability resource centres at Orchha, Pahuj and Datia that support environmental and social value creation in over 150 villages across the region.

TARA Livelihood Academy

The **TARA Livelihood Academy (TLA)** is the main driver for skill development and capacity building of the marginalised sections of the society. During the year 2009-2010, DA took the initiative of **engaging** with the state governments of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh to reach out to large numbers – spatially and substantially. TLA's business has increased manifold from Rs 26.44 lakh in the year 2008-09 to Rs 103 lakh in 2009-10. It works closely with the district administration of Chattarpur, Datia and Tikamgarh in Madhya Pradesh and Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh.

In 2009-19, TLA increased its reach by identifying new clients, for both new products as well as Institutional clients in the SAARC countries. It has tied up with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and initiated TARA Community College to benefit the marginalised communities in Bundelkhand. TLA is also registered as a Vocational Training Provider under the Ministry of Labour and Employment to offer Life Skill Trainings, Vocational Trainings and Self Employment Trainings to the rural communities.

TLA made contributions towards training the rural communities to set up their own businesses. It offered entrepreneurship training for beginners, enterprise management training for existing entrepreneurs and business expansion training for enterprise associations.

TARA Paper

TARA is a pioneer in hand crafted high quality paper and products. TARA handmade paper is marketed in national and international markets. Some of the esteemed clients include Tribes Shops under the Trifed Umbrella and leading exporters of India. In the year 2009-10, sales of approximately Rs 58 lakh were made and an ambitious plan to scale up in the next three years was drawn.



TARA Paper creates a new range of office stationery

2. TARA Machines

TARA Machines and Tech Services (P) Ltd. markets green technology solutions for building construction, waste recycling and hand made paper production. TARA Machines delivers business solutions to a global network of micro, small and medium enterprises owned by individuals, self help groups or promoted by companies, NGOs, and financing institutions. TARA Machines is a specialist company in Eco Concrete Technology, Eco-Kiln Technology, Fly Ash Technology and Recycling Technology.

Winner of the Sankalp 2009 Award for the Growth Category - Environment and Clean Energy Track; TARA Machines provides total solutions including custom designed machines, technology know-how, training, material testing services and green consultancy.

The year 2009-10 was a year of rapid business expansion for TARA Machines; the full year sales revenue of the company was Rs 210.27 lakh and the profit after tax is Rs 6.44 lakh. The company witnessed an increase in the sale of Paper Recycling Units (45) and TARA Brick-Mek machines (22). TARA Machines set up a captive paper recycling units in the premises of Shimla Secretariat with the support of Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh.



TARA Machines - green technology solutions

In 2009-10 TARA machines, diversified the portfolios of various products, including medium size PaperMek recycling unit, high productivity Fly Ash package, TARA MechBalram - MX producing 10000 bricks/day, and low-cost TARA EcoKiln with a new design of chimney to suit the needs of new customers. New markets have been identified for introduction of the TARA MechBalram - MX package in Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh. Some of the new Eco-concrete technologies introduced this year are the 40 and 70-ton Paving Block machines.

3. TARAhaat Information and Marketing Services Pvt. Ltd.

TARAhaat focuses on delivering, on a financially stable basis, ICT products and services that facilitate sustainable livelihoods for youth through franchised networks. TARAhaat has three business streams.

Education: TARAhaat has skill enhancement programmes for rural youth. In 2009-10 diplomas in computer application (DCA), Diploma in Financial Accounting (DFA), Diploma in IT (DIT), Tally 9 - An accounting programme, Computer Teacher Training Course (CTT) and Master Computer Hardware and Desktop Publishing (DTP) were offered. Life skills trainings on BIT, MCIT & PELP were also undertaken. **TARAhaat has been able to train more than 7500 rural people in year 2009-10** through these courses.

Services: A placement cell becomes operational to provide employment opportunities to the students undergoing/passing various courses offered by TARAhaat. In this regard a lot of tie-ups with corporates have been initiated.

Projects: TARAhaat has undertaken a number of projects. Under TARA Akshar,



TARAhaat offers diplomas in computer application

an ICT-based innovative approach to literacy; more than 4000 learners were addressed in 2009-10. A module on basics of numeracy titled TARA Ganit, which teaches basics of mathematical calculations, was also developed. It was later combined with TARA Akshar, making it a complete package for adult literacy. The programme has been offered to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of Madhya Pradesh and Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India.

The agri-advisory service, Soochna se Samadhaan Sewa (Information to solutions services), continued for the fourth year and **more than 50,000 agriculture queries were addressed** through the system.

4. TARA Nirman Kendra (TNK)

TNK delivers environment-friendly habitat products and services through a range of sustainable building technologies and advisory support. Broadly, TNK provides the following kinds of services:

- ▶ Supply of sustainable building materials and services from its production Centre in Orchha (MP) to a diverse range of clients – house-owners, institutions, government works, etc.
- ▶ Green Building Consultancy services, which include design and technical specifications for green and affordable housing and institutional buildings; water and waste management; training of masons in application of green building techniques; performance standards/guidelines and research into energy efficient buildings.

In 2009-10, for the first time in last four years, the EcoKlin (for making burnt clay bricks) became profitable in January 2010, taking TNK's business to Rs 112.61 lakh from Rs 94.57 in the previous financial year. MCR tile and paver production also started in its Data centre.

New products which TNK added to its portfolio were RCC Door Frames and Pavers (cast in rubber mould). Hydraulic machine for pavers was added to the production infrastructure.

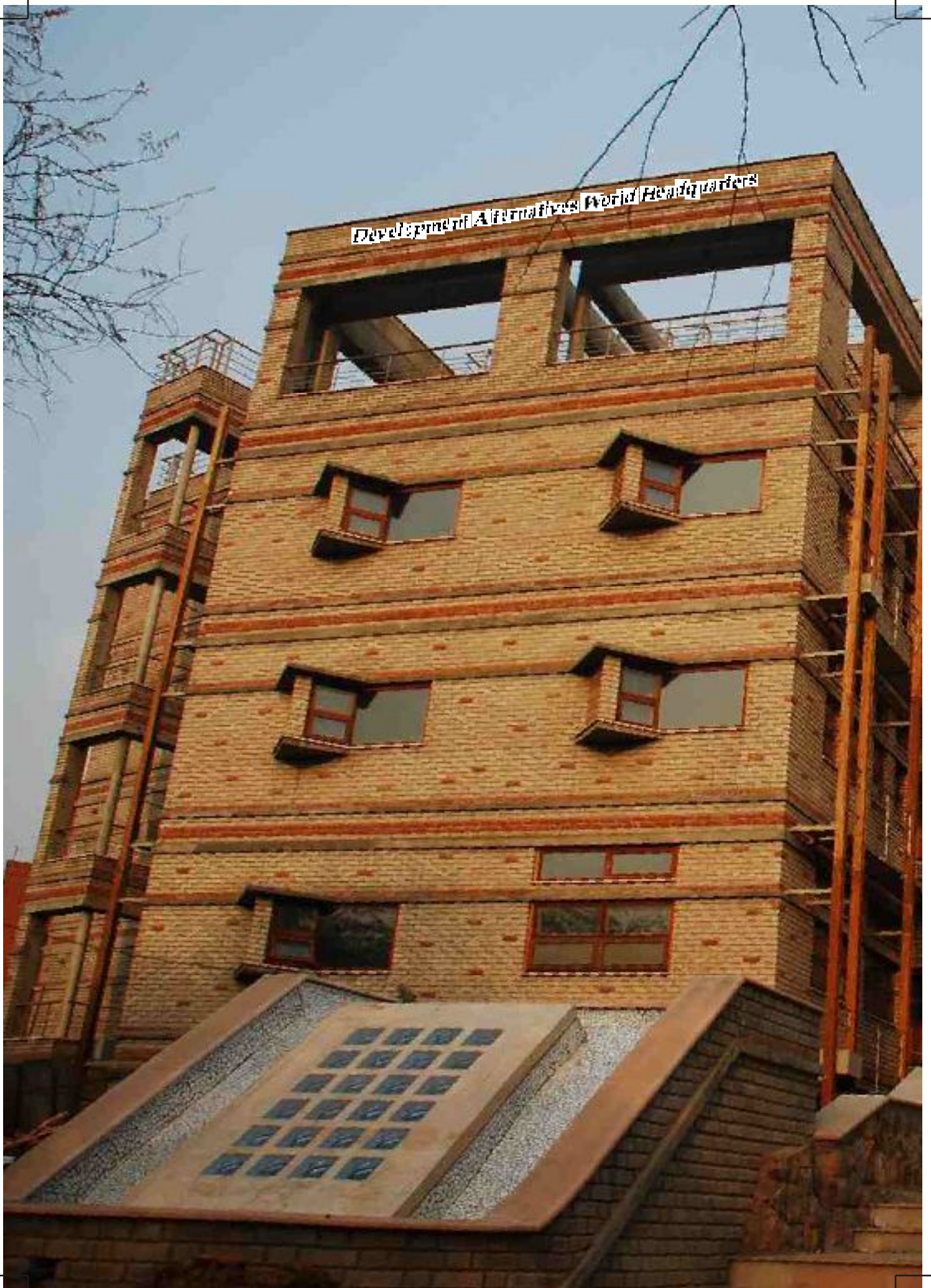
TNK entered into an agreement with Read Global and Read India to act as a consultant for design and technical support to construct Community Libraries and Resource Centres in different states of India, the first one being in Rajasthan. A research was conducted into the baseline scenario of residential buildings in the National Capital region, with Greentech Knowledge Solutions Pvt. Ltd. as part of a large programme on building energy efficiency supported by Swiss Agency for Development Co-operation (SDC) in India.

5. TARA Environment Monitoring Facility (TEMF)

TEMF provides cutting age solutions for air and water monitoring. Water filtration technologies and water testing kits are high quality products being promoted by TEMF. UNICEF and other esteemed organisations have endorsed the TARA water testing kits and are amongst its brand leaders. TARA Water Filters are also being used by rural communities for the provision of safe drinking water. In 2009-10 a business strategy was drawn to scale up the initiative and a Business Model frame work for future to position the products in environmental products is being drawn.



Development Alternatives World Headquarters



2009-10 Annual Report

World Headquarters

Development Alternatives
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Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi 110 016
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Fax: 91 11 2613 0817
e mail: mail@deval.t.org
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Temporary Office

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