



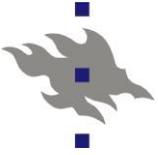
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UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

# Sustainability Experimentation Venture Network (SEVeN): Nurturing local knowledge for global change

Pradip Swarnakar

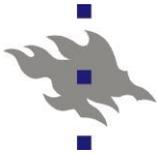
Visiting Fellow, Dept. of Social Research, University of Helsinki

Associate Professor, ABV-Indian Institute of Information Technology and  
Management Gwalior



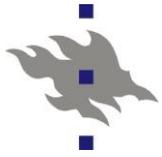
“Sustainable development is the central drama of our time.”

*"Necessity is the mother of invention"*



## My background

- PhD in Environmental Sociology
  - Water scarcity and contamination
- Climate Change Policy Networks
  - [compon.org](http://compon.org)
  - Visiting Fellow, University of Helsinki
- Sociology of Social Networks
- ETSD 2014 with Prof. Zavestoski

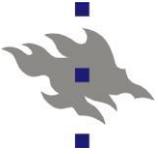


# Aim

■ Un-structure

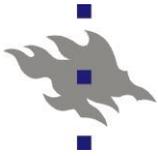


■ Structure



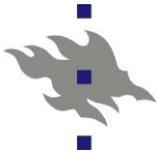
## How?

- Text
- Map
- Image
- Video



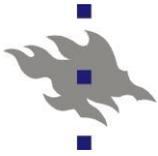
## Sustainability Experiments

- “planned initiatives that embody a highly-novel socio-technical configuration likely to lead to substantial sustainability gains and hold a promise for radical, system-level change” (Berkhout et al, 2010:262)
- Plan?



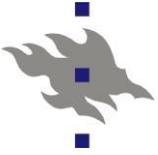
## Experiments

- What is the ideal scale of the sustainability experiments that should be documented?
  - Individual
  - Household
  - Neighborhood
  - Community
- Successful + Unsuccessful experiments



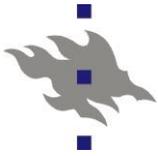
## Key variables for data collection

- Domain of experiment (e.g., climate, energy, water, agriculture, transportation)
- Cost of experiment?
- Speed of implementation?
- Level of technical knowledge required?
- Levels of social capital?
- Identify flexibility?



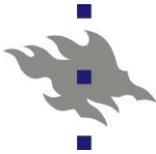
## Types of data

- Peer reviewed articles
- Reports of civil society
- Cases without formal publication
- Technological innovations- start ups?



## Managing Sustainable Development (SAGE 2016)

- Downscaling Climate Change: Perceptions and Adaptive Behaviours of Rural Farmers in West Bengal, India
  - *Farhat Naz, Marie-Charlotte Buisson and Archisman Mitra*
  
- Enhancing Adaptive Capacity of Urban Poor Women to Climate Change: A DevCom- Enabled Approach
  - *Sakshi Saini*
  
- Community Based Climate Change Adaptation: The 3P Model
  - *Rachna Arora, Ashish Chaturvedi, Manjeet Saluja, Nikita Mundra and Arushi Sen*



# NGO



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## Local Innovation And Experimentation For Climate Change Adaptation

By CANSA | July 15, 2015 | Articles | No Comments



Conservation of rain water

The Institute of Himalayan Environmental Research and Education (INHERE) is working with small holder farmers, especially women in the Kumaon and Garhwal Himalayas in the state of Uttarakhand, India. INHERE is supporting them to cultivate climate change adaptation practices that will help them to combat food insecurity.

The strategy adopted will first look at farmers own resources and innovation in solving problems emanating from uncertain weather phenomenon. Once such successful efforts are identified, documented and then shared with other farmers of the region, farmers with similar problems will try out solutions and validate if and in what circumstances the innovation works.



We believe that farmer-led research and experimentation supported by scientific research has good potential not only for adaptation but also for mitigation. Smallholder and resource poor farmers continuously make efforts and innovations to adapt as their life and livelihoods depend on the output of their small farms. Partnership with research institutions, private entrepreneurs and NGOs engaged in agricultural research for development with these enterprising farmer innovators and dissemination of results have great potential for many farmers still struggling with these problems.

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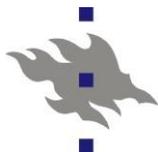
**Ranga Pallawala** @Rangasik 9 Oct  
Natural #disasters get the better of technology [shar.es/1u3Rim](#) @DuryogN1995 @Janathakshan @CANSouthAsia @cepaSL @SciDevNet\_SA  
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# Less documented



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## What is ADATS?

ADATS is a secular Non Government Organisation (NGO) working in 1,252 villages in 5 Taluks of Chickballapur District, Kamataka, for the past 38 years, since 14 December 1977.

ADATS is a comprehensive rural development organisation working in the fields of Community Organisation, Adult Literacy, Children's Education, Community & Referral Health, support to issues and struggles with Legal Aid & Aid Distress, Dry Land Development, Agriculture, alternate Credit, Women's Programmes, etc. We also work on issues of gender justice, secularism and democratisation.

All these are efforts to empower the Coolie caste-class in village society, and build an authentic people's organisation, the Coolie Sangha, at the Village, Gram Panchayat and Taluk levels.

The Coolie Sangha is a membership based people's organisation comprising of small and poor peasant families who struggle to rid themselves of Ryot exploitation and take control of their own lives in order to undertake grassroots planned development activities.

## Main Activities

ADATS is a comprehensive rural development organisation working in the fields of Community Organisation, Adult Literacy, Children's Education, Community & Referral Health, support to issues and struggles with Legal Aid & Aid Distress, Dry Land Development, Agriculture, alternate Credit, Women's Programmes, etc. We also work on issues of gender justice, secularism and democratisation.

All these are efforts to empower the Coolie caste-class in village society, and build an authentic people's organisation, the Coolie Sangha, at the Village, Cluster and Taluk levels.

### Process Map

[Click here to view the ADATS/Coolie Sangha Process Map](#)



## What is the Coolie Sangha?



The Coolie Sangha is a membership based people's organisation comprising of small and poor peasant families who struggle to rid themselves of Ryot exploitation and take control of their own lives in order to undertake grassroots planned development activities.

The Coolie Sangha is a 25 year-old membership based people's organisation formed by small and poor peasant families (landed and landless agricultural labourers) in their respective villages. Small and poor peasant families do not become a part of it merely by virtue of their caste-class. Every year, they have to renew their membership by declaring their annual income a paying a percentage of it to their respective village Coolie Sangha Unit.

- Currently, 9,359 small and poor peasant families are active Members in 397 functioning village Coolie Sangha Units.
- In addition, there are another 14,220 families in non-Coolie Sangha villages who benefit the Climate Change programmes of ADATS, but are strictly not members of the Coolie Sangha
- 31,213 families from the functioning villages as well as 511 dropped out villages are dormant this year.

Within villages with functioning Coolie Sangha Units, population coverage is 20%. Overall population coverage in functioning and dropped villages is 8%. Both figures contribute to a socio-political presence of 22% of the Chickballapur district.

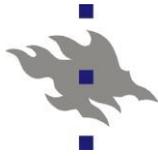
## Who supports ADATS?



ADATS is supported by NGOs in Europe and New Zealand with grants to carry out Coolie Sangha building activities. As on 9 May 2015, we have received a total of Rs 966,779,915 in cash and Rs 3,743,856 in the form of vehicles.

## Where is Bagepalli?

Bagepalli town is situated 100 kms north of Bangalore on the Bangalore-Hyderabad National Highway. The region is just below the southern border of the Rayalaseema desert belt in Andhra Pradesh, South India. It is semi-arid and drought prone with 560 mm of erratic and spatial rainfall.



# Technological innovations- start ups-Energy



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## Solutions



### Smart Metering

Gram Power is providing the industry's most integrated smart metering solution at the lowest cost to organize and manage power infrastructure intelligently!

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### Smart Microgrids

Energy efficient Smart Micro grids provide on-demand, reliable electricity to telecom towers and rural households with an affordable prepaid purchase model.

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### Smart Energy Monitor

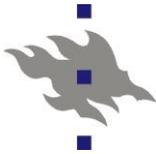
Gram Power's ingenious energy management system makes the understanding, monitoring and control of energy less cryptic.

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## Partners



The screenshot shows the Greenway website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Login', 'Register', 'Empty', 'Total: 0.00 INR', and a 'New cart' button. Below this is the Greenway logo and a customer hotline number '8080-323-023'. A search bar and a list of navigation links (Home, Products, About, Why, Contact Us, Blog) are also visible. The main content area features two large images of biomass stoves: the 'Smart Stove' and the 'JUMBO Stove'. Below these images is a banner that reads 'INDIA'S BEST SELLING BIOMASS STOVES'. Underneath the banner, there are two columns of text describing the stoves, each accompanied by a small circular image of the stove. The 'Greenway Smart Stove' is described as a single burner, high-efficiency cookstove designed for long-term, everyday use, capable of using various types of solid biomass fuel. The 'Greenway Jumbo Stove' is described as a single burner, high-efficiency cookstove based on air-flow technology, suitable for large families and small eateries.



# Technological innovations- start ups-Agriculture

**Surya**  
Power Magic Pvt.Ltd.

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Surya Power Magic is a pioneer in bringing solar irrigation solutions to farmers in power deficit regions.

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**Project Green Transformers:**

We empower the Indian farming community by offering them a reliable and durable solar irrigation solution. Power has always been a problem in India. It is even so for the average Indian farmer. He is at the mercy of the monsoon, fluctuating food prices and erratic power supply. With peak power deficit looking to touch 25% in many parts of India, we have endeavoured to provide the much-needed relief for farmers by providing access to power through our solar irrigation solutions.

Our customers don't need to wait for erratic power supply or suffer from escalating diesel costs anymore. With ongoing research and engagement with knowledge partners, we fundamentally understand the needs of agriculture and have designed proven solutions to their ongoing irrigation needs.

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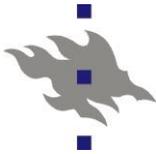
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**ABOUT**

Sickle Innovations is a farming solutions company focused on improving conventional farming practices through design intervention. We work closely with farming communities and offer unique solutions based on their requirements.

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# Other models

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## Climate adaptation planning, research and practice.

weADAPT is an online 'open space' on climate adaptation issues. It allows practitioners, researchers and policy-makers to access credible, high-quality information and connect with one another.

### Explore the Adaptation Layer.

View climate adaptation projects plotted on a global map, browsable by theme or network. Find out who is doing what, and where, alongside climate station data.

[Explore the Map](#)

**Learn**

Explore and learn about current and exciting climate adaptation work, methods and tools.

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Share your climate adaptation work through the platform, and increase your visibility.

**Connect**

Connect and discuss with other climate adaptation professionals and organisations.

## grassroots INNOVATIONS

RESEARCHING SUSTAINABILITY FROM THE BOTTOM UP

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### COMMUNITY INNOVATION FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY (CISE)

March 26, 2012

GRASSROOTS INNOVATIONS

Grassroots innovations are community-led solutions for sustainability. Here we present news and updates from a series of research projects on grassroots innovations, based at the University of East Anglia and University of Sussex. Our research aims to better understand how these innovations develop and grow, and how they can be harnessed to meet sustainability policy objectives.

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**the Alternative Technology Digital Fabrication Event** (Grassroots Digital Fabrication, News)

Grassroots innovations are community-led solutions for sustainability. Here we present news and updates from a series of research projects on grassroots innovations, based at the University of East Anglia and University of Sussex. Our research aims to better understand how these innovations develop and grow, and how they can be harnessed to meet sustainability policy objectives.

**Contributed speakers**

We have a fantastic set of speakers, who will be sharing knowledge from their expertise in digital and sustainable design and manufacturing. The speakers will be: [names]

**EVENT: HOW CAN MAKERSPACES, FABLABS AND HACKERSPACES HELP CULTIVATE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENTS?**

August 26, 2015

The aim of this event on Monday 26 October at the Machines Room in London is to bring together people involved or interested in sustainability activities to share, discuss, and [...]

LINKS

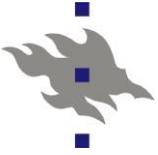
- o Adrian Smith
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