

How Can I Participate?

IDCA is a membership organization. You can participate in IDCA as a Not-for-Profit organization (NPO), as an individual or as a corporation. Individuals can participate as primary member, General Member, Associate Member, and Student member. Corporations can participate as General Member only.

Primary:

Any NPO engaged or interested in supporting development activity in India is invited to become member. Individuals can become primary members by (a) making contributions at the level of Life or patron Memberships, or (b) NPO and individuals paying annual membership. Entitled for 5 votes and leadership roles.

General:

Any individual, NPO or Corporation, which supports the Vision and Mission of IDCA, and pays annual dues as required, is eligible for this category. Entitled for one vote.

Associate: Individuals who support IDCA Mission.

Student: Full-time students who support IDCA Mission.

Membership Benefits:

Members will enjoy one or more of these benefits depending upon their needs.

- A forum for members to network with each other on the basis of their common Interests.
- Access to its database (under development) on funding foundations in the US, and on reliable implementing NGOs in India.
- Sharing best practices to help members become more productive and effective.
- An opportunity to participate in its Annual Meeting, local meetings, seminars, and workshops, where you can showcase your Programs and successes.
- Enjoy personal satisfaction of helping many good causes in India.
- Discount on conferences, seminars, workshops, and publications.
- Honors and Awards to promote and encourage excellence among members.
- Promotion and publicity to community-at-large for supporting the Primary NPO Members.

We expect the members to represent a great diversity of interests rather than restricted to one particular area. The only criterion is that their work must directly or indirectly lead to development in India and benefit India. Therefore the common theme which binds us all is India.

Our 2009-10 Working Team:

Founding Trustee:

Dr. Suri Sehgal, The Sehgal Found., Captiva, FL

Founding Members:

Prof. Kamal Bawa, ATREE	Belmont, MA
Anil Bhatt,	Schaumburg, IL
Mohan Jain, Trustee	Willowbrook, IL
Balbir Mathur, Trees for Life,	Wichita, KS
Vasudevan Rajaram,	Oak Brook, IL
Vivek Singhal,	Oak Brook, IL

Board of Directors:

Prakasam Tata, Chair	Naperville, IL
Manu Vora,	Naperville, IL
Dharampuri Vidyasagar,	Oak Brook, IL
R. Rajagopalan, Univ. Iowa	Iowa city, IA

Executive Committee:

Prakasam Tata, president	Naperville, IL
Ram Krishnan, president Elect	St. Paul, MN
Porus Dadabhoy, VP	Downers Grove, IL
Dileep Thatte, Secretary	Naperville, IL
Viswesh Durga, Treasurer	Naperville, IL

Membership

Porus Dadabhoy	Downers Grove, IL
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Finance/Fundraising:

Viswesh Durga,	Naperville, IL
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Program

Dileep Thatte	Naperville, IL
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Public Relations

Timothy Somers	Winfield, IL
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Publications

Srinivas Rao	Roslyn Hts., NY
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Water

Anupam Mehta	Romeoville, IL
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Education

R. Rajagopal	Iowa City, IA
Avinash Dear	Westmont, IL

Healthcare

Dharampuri Vidyasagar,	Oak Brook, IL
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Livelihoods

Jiwan P. Sondhi	Farmington Hills, MI
Hari Lamba	Downers Grove, IL

Rural India Learning Journey

Ram Krishnan	St. Paul, MN
Ram Narayan,	Buffalo, NY

We invite you to become an active member of IDCA, and support its Mission. info@idc-america.org;

630-848-1933, 630-303-9592, Mailing Address:

IDCA, 1213 Stone Briar Court, Naperville, IL 60540



Invitation to Join



India Development Coalition of America

Inform, Inspire, Empower, Engage

Promote Learning, Giving, Volunteering, Networking, and Sharing best practices among NPOs and NGOs and individuals

Working Together to Alleviate Poverty and Mitigate Climate Change

Happiness depends on what we can give, not on what we can get.

Mahatma Gandhi

Phone: 630-303-9592 / 630-848-1933

Web sites: <http://www.idc-america.org>



Why IDCA?

India has more than 638,000 villages, and majority of them have several unmet basic human needs - such as minimum requirements in education, healthcare, housing, food security, water, sanitation, job availability etc. Awareness for peace and harmony in the community needs to be promoted. We also need to promote judicious application of modern science and technology, respect for the ecosystem and clean environment. In addition creation of Sustainable livelihoods in the rural areas can reduce migration to cities and help solve a myriad of urban problems.

In view of the above dire situation and the burning desire within many of us to help change it, a one day conference, "Understanding and Catalyzing a campaign for Gram Swaraj in India", was organized by NRI-Home-Coming (NHC) group on October 18, 2003 in Hinsdale, Illinois. Representatives of 15 organizations from around the US participated in it. Participants came from 15 states in US and represented 18 states of India. It was noted that for India to become a really developed nation, it will have to pay more attention to its villages where a vast majority of its people live. Following the conference a meeting was held with the leaders of several NPOs on October 19, 2003 in Willowbrook, Illinois. All present recognized the urgent need for organizing an active Federation/Association of NPOs. It would help create a greater awareness about the problems in India and will help accelerate the process of sustainable and just development in India. In furtherance of this objective, in January 2004, many of us attended the Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas to create awareness in the global NRI/PIO community for supporting rural development. It was followed by a workshop on January 12, and a visit to 3 NGOs in Haryana and Rajasthan, which are doing excellent work in several areas. However, we found that still a lot needed to be done. After this eye-opening trip to India, we understood the real urgency of the situation and need to raise a lot more awareness, and resources to support this work.

There are hundreds of Indian organizations in this country. We realized that true strength comes through working together in a Mission mode. In order to realize this goal, it became imperative that we bring these NPOs together to form a critical mass, and create an effective force for promoting sustainable development in India.

Let a new India arise-let her arise-out of the peasant's cottage, grasping the plough; out of the huts of the fisherman, the cobbler, and the sweeper. Let her spring from the grocer's shop, from the oven of the fritter-seller. Let her emanate from the factory, from marts and markets. Let her emerge from the groves and forests, from hills and mountains. Swami Vivekanand

What is IDCA?

India Development Coalition of America (IDCA) is Not-for-profit, tax exempt 501(c)(3), membership organization of NPOs, individuals and institutions. It was conceived in 2003, and incorporated in the state of Illinois in July 2004. It is headquartered in the Chicago area. The following describes its Vision, Mission, and objectives.

Vision

A developed India, free of poverty, ignorance, diseases, socioeconomic disparities, ecological disasters, and social disharmony.

Mission

Empower NRIs/PIOs, NPOs/NGOs to Alleviate Poverty and Mitigate Climate Change by promoting learning, giving, volunteering, & networking.

Objectives

- To promote collaboration and cooperation between NPOs and NGOs and individuals engaged or interested in the development of India;
- To provide a forum to members for networking with each other in person and on the net;
- Promote a spirit of giving and volunteering amongst Indian-Americans to help our Members. Raise funds for selected projects.
- Organize workshops in non-profit management, fund raising, volunteer recruiting, and technology transfer to empower members.
- Organize conferences, seminars, and workshops to share knowledge and help accelerate each member organization's work both in the US and in India.
- To conduct research and share best practices with members.

2008-09 Activities and Plans:

Established contacts with NGOs in India and many NRIs/PIOs around the world during PBD 6 in New Delhi. To carryout its Mission IDCA has organized, 10 Seminars, and workshops to support its members. The seminars focused on the following key development issues:

- Sixth International Conf. October
- Rotary International+ water+ Energy November
- Fifth International Conf., New Delhi January
- Healthcare February
- World Water day March
- Earth Day-Alternate Energy April
- Healthcare May
- Livelihoods/Solar Lighting June
- Education-Pratham USA July
- Water and Sanitation August
- Healthcare September

Major Events:

- Organized Sixth International Conference (October 11-12, 2008) in Chicago. The theme of the conference was: *Strategies to Alleviate Poverty and Mitigate Climate Change*. More than 50 people representing many areas of US, and India participated in it.
- Organized Fifth International Conference in India on January 12 at Institute of Social Sciences, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi on *Strategies to Alleviate Poverty and Mitigate Climate Change*. About 70 people participated from US, and India. Supported by CEE and IRRAD, Gurgaon.
- On January 31, Hari Lamba, Jiwan Sondhi and others organized a fundraising dinner to initiate a Rural Solar Lighting Project in collaboration with Deendayal Research Institute at Chitrakoot in Madhya Pradesh.

Some Activities Planned for 2009-10 are:

- Launch IDCA News Bulletin-Empower India
- Organize Seventh International Conference in Chicago, October 31-November 1, 2009.
- Organize Sixth International Conference in India on January 12, 2010, in New Delhi with CEE and the Institute for Rural Research and Development, IRRAD, Gurgaon.
- P. Tata to secure Rotary Matching Grant for Rural Solar Lighting Project. Initiate more projects.
- Organize Monthly Forums on various issues.
- Organize Eighth International Conference in October.
- Organize meetings in Detroit, Dallas, Houston, Washington, Boston, New York to form Chapters.