

Towards Socially Responsible Higher Education: Incorporating SDGs in HEIs



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Research and Social Responsibility
in Higher Education



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of Victoria



Knowledge is Power
PRIA

The 3 E's of Responsible Higher Education

Engaged Teaching

- Learner-centric; contextually relevant
- Development of knowledge, awareness & skills

Engaged Research

- Devising research questions in collaboration with local societal actors
- Opportunities in CBR/CBPR/PR

Engaged Service

- Developing a deep sense of citizenship
- 'Learning to be'

Fostering Social Responsibility & Community Engagement in Higher Education Institutions in India

Major focus:

Compulsory Community Engagement Courses

Adapting Existing Courses for Community Engagement

Offering New Courses

Undertaking research in partnership with local community

The need to Educating the Mind, Body and Heart:
Applying Gandhian worldviews of Higher Education

GUNI's Report on Higher Education

GUNI SERIES ON THE SOCIAL COMMITMENT OF UNIVERSITIES 5

HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE WORLD 5

Knowledge, Engagement & Higher Education:
Contributing to Social Change



- Transformative knowledge drives social change
- **Cross-sectoral partnerships** as key for establishing community-university dialogues
- Social responsibility emerges as the need to reconsider social relevance of universities, through dual engagement at local & global levels
- HEI responsibilities includes ensuring achievement of **SDGs** & building capacities for **SDG** policies, planning and management
- HEIs to adopt a mantle of **civic university** – pursuing ‘public good’ & working collaboratively with other HEIs to maximize impact



Higher Education in the World 6

Towards a Socially
Responsible University:
Balancing the Global with the Local

Institutional Responsibility: Commitment to SDGs

CUNO GLOBAL UNIVERSITY
NETWORK FOR INNOVATION



- Working on the Frameworks of Institutional Social Responsibility of HEIs
- Practicing Sustainability in Higher Education
- Supporting implementation of SDGs through teaching & research
- Undertaking long term cooperation projects in rural areas

Emerging International Approaches



- Knowledge For Change Global Consortium of trained and certified Community Based researchers
- Knowledge society, beyond economy: Living Knowledge Network
- Knowledge commons, open source
- Science with and For Society: Responsible Research & Innovation(RRI), Science Shop model

KNOWLEDGE AND ENGAGEMENT
Building Capacity for the Next Generation of
Community Based Researchers



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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Incorporating SDGs in Higher Education

- Curriculum and course outlines are often follow rigidly specified disciplinary requirements
- Pedagogy of teaching tightly specified too
- Need of cross disciplinary teaching and research.
- Similar Challenges with professional Education Frameworks.
- Encouraging high quality research on SDGs: *new solutions, through appreciating and incorporating alternative perspectives of knowledge.*
- Students and Faculty to contribute towards deeper understanding and implementation of SDGs

Role of Higher Education: Resources

- Partnering with Higher Education for SDG 17 (<http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/pdf/Partnerships%20for%20SDG.pdf>)
- Community Based Participatory Research and SDGs (http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/pdf/resource/BHALL_Community_Based_Research_ENG_Dec13.pdf)
- Adopting the mantle of a ‘civic university’ (Hall, et. al., 2015: http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/pdf/resource/Hall_Budd_StrengtheningCommUniversityPartnerships_2017rev.pdf)
- Imparting knowledge, skills & competencies needed to make SDGs a reality (Tandon et. al., 2016b: http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/pdf/resource/Knowledge%20&%20Engagement_26-09-16_pdf%20over-mail.pdf)

About Dr. Rajesh Tandon

Founder, President of Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), a voluntary organization providing support to grassroots initiatives in South Asia and continues to be its Chief Functionary since 1982.

Appointed as the Co-Chair of the prestigious UNESCO Chair on Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education, for two terms (2012 – 2016 and 2016 – 2020). More details can be found [here](#)

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