## Towards Socially Responsible Higher Education: Incorporating SDGs in HEIs











United Nations • UNESCO Chair in Community Based Educational, Scientific and • Research and Social Responsibility • In Higher Education

Dr. Rajesh Tandon Chandigarh University November 18, 2019

## 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

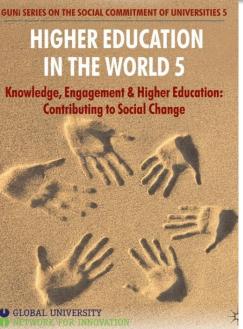
Adapting Existing Courses for Community Engagement

Offering New Courses

Undertaking research in partnership with local community

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

## GUNI's Report on Higher Education





Higher Education in the World 6

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

- 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



#### Institutional Responsibility: Commitment to SDGs



- 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



Rajesh Tandon, Budd Hall, Walter Lepore and Wafe Sing

## SUSTAINABLE G ALS



































## 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 (<a href="http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/pdf/Partnerships%20for%20SDG.pdf">http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/pdf/Partnerships%20for%20SDG.pdf</a>)
- Community Based Participatory Research and SDGs (<a href="http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/pdf/resource/BHALL\_Community\_Based\_Research\_ENG\_Dec13.pg">http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/pdf/resource/BHALL\_Community\_Based\_Research\_ENG\_Dec13.pg</a>
- Adopting the mantle of a 'civic university' (Hall, et. al., 2015: <a href="http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/pdf/resource/Hall\_Budd\_StrengtheningCommUniversityPartnerships\_2017rev.pdf">http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/pdf/resource/Hall\_Budd\_StrengtheningCommUniversityPartnerships\_2017rev.pdf</a>)
- Imparting knowledge, skills & competencies needed to make SDGs a reality (Tandon et. al., 2016b: <a href="http://unescochaircobrsr.org/pdf/resource/Knowledge%20&%20Engagement\_26-09-16\_pdf%20ver-mail.pdf">http://unescochaircobrsr.org/pdf/resource/Knowledge%20&%20Engagement\_26-09-16\_pdf%20ver-mail.pdf</a> )

## 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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