

অসম চৰকাৰ



GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



CONCLAVE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 1 (NO POVERTY) AND GOAL 2 (ZERO HUNGER)

Organised by

Panchayat and Rural Development Department

&

Agriculture Department

Government of Assam

In collaboration with

**Centre for Sustainable Development Goals,
Assam Administrative Staff College.**

**8th June, 2017
Guwahati**



Assam's Endeavors in Achieving the SDGs

The **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** were universally adopted in January 2016 as a call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. The 17 Goals which are to be achieved by 2030, were designed based on the learnings from Millennium Development Goals, through a global consultative process, to include many more new areas of focus such as Climate Change, Sustainable Consumption, Peace and Justice, and Innovation among many other key areas. The SDGs are based on the principle of forging partnerships and setting clear guidelines to achieving these targets as per the needs of each region.

The **Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi**, in his speech addressing the United Nations on 25th September 2015 at the UN Sustainable Development Summit stated, 'Today, much of India's development agenda is mirrored in the Sustainable Development Goals.'¹ Government of Assam, mirroring this commitment, under the leadership of **Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal** strived to take forward the SDGs in Assam. Under the guidelines structured in the vision document titled, '**Assam 2030: Our Dream, Our Commitment**', a strategy was created to start the process of inducting SDGs into the policy planning processes of the Government of Assam. It is one of the first states in India and globally to start bringing SDGs into the policy discourse of the state.

To take forward these goals in Assam the **Centre for Sustainable Development Goals (CSDGs)** was established in the Assam Administrative Staff College.

- The CSDGs was established as a think-tank to provide research and technical support to all departments in the Government of Assam, to take forward their SDG targets.
- The Transformation & Development Department is the nodal department for coordinating all the activities within the departments for achieving the SDGs. An SDG Cell has also been established within the P&D Dept. to provide support to take forward SDG related activities. It reports directly to the Additional Chief Secretary, P&D Dept.
- SDGs Strategy Support Group (SSSG) is also being set-up to provide a platform for collective generation and incubation of new ideas and innovations, and as a knowledge exchange, functioning in a semi-formal manner. The Chief Secretary, Government of Assam is the Chairperson for this group.
- Partnership creation has played a central role in taking forward the SDG Agenda. International organisations such as UNDP, UNICEF, WHO and others are collaborating and providing support to the Government of Assam in designing their mission to take forward SDGs.
- The UNDP has given high priority to the 2030 Agenda and believes that government, philanthropic organisations, and businesses need to work together to achieve the SDGs. UNDP is providing support to governments to integrate the SDGs into both the development plans and policies of nations.² UNDP has allocated two State Technical Officers for assistance to the Government of Assam, for working specifically on the SDG Agenda of the state.

SDGs Planning in Action

The work towards strategizing for the SDGs started with the Government Order (GO) dated 28th December 2015 issued by **the Chief Secretary, Government of Assam**. This was followed by an orientation conducted on 5th January 2016 and at the end of which 8 working groups were constituted to prepare the Strategy Paper and Action Plan (SPAPs) against the 17 SDGs. A second GO issued on 4th March 2017, by the Chief Secretary, Government of Assam, reinstated governments initiative and plans for taking forward the SDG goals. In preparation for the finalisation of

¹Government of Assam (2016): Assam 2030, Our Dream, Our Commitment: Vision and Strategic Architecture Document, July 12th, 2016. Extract from message from the Chief Minister.

²UNDP (2016): <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>. Accessed: 20.04.2017

these SPAPs 8 conclaves (based on 8 groups) have been planned by the Centre for SDGs and T& D Department for covering all the 17 goals. The process of finalisation of SPAPs has already begun with the first conclave held on 24th April 2017 on Health, Water and Sanitation by the Health and Family Welfare Department and Public Health Engineering Department.

This conclave is jointly being organized by **Agriculture Department and Panchayat and Rural Development Department for Goal 1 on 'Ending Poverty' and Goal 2 on 'Zero Hunger' on 8th June 2017, at AASC, Khanapara, Guwahati.** The decisions from this conclave will pave the way for finalizing the strategy and action for the lead and other supporting departments who are working towards taking forward Goal 1 and Goal 2.

Goal 1 'End poverty in all its forms everywhere', focuses on eradicating extreme poverty for all through implementation of nationally appropriate social protection measures for all. Everyone, especially the poor and vulnerable, should have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services. Goal 1 focuses on building resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters. It highlights the need for mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions. It reinforces the need to create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions³.

Goal 2, 'End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture', focuses on ending hunger and ensuring access for all people to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food all year round. It sets out targets to reduce malnutrition, wasting in children under 5, and address nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons. It highlights the need to double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment. It focuses on sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production. It highlights the need to maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks. Goal 2 targets focus on the need to adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information⁴.

Outline for Discussions

Inaugural Session: This session will lay the foundation for the basis of organizing this Departmental Conclave on Goal 1 and Goal 2. It will pave the way for understanding the overall picture of the SPAPs prepared by the lead departments and will create scope for engaging in thematic group discussion and panel discussions in the next session.

Thematic Panel and Group Discussions : For these thematic discussions for Goal 1 there will be three panel discussions and for Goal 2 there will be thematic group discussion moderated by an expert with participation from department officials from both the lead departments and supporting departments.

Goal 1	Discussion Points
Theme 1: Poverty Alleviation and housing and basic services for the poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Housing and basic service delivery a factor for poverty alleviation ● Identification of poorest of the poor ● Ensuring vulnerable accessing the basic services ● Strategy for providing basic services and housing for substantial coverage ● MGNREGA and its affect
Theme 2: Social Protection for the poor and vulnerable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identification of poor and vulnerable ● Analysis existing programme on social safety net ● Participatory need assessment of the poor ● Strategy for ensuring minimum national standard for social assistance and substantial coverage by the safety net

³ Based on the SDG Targets for Goal 1 set out by UN: More information can be accessed through, <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

⁴ Based on the SDG Targets for Goal 2 set out by UN: More information can be accessed through, <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

Theme 3: Community Mobilization for socio-economic development

- Strengthening of Participatory decentralize planning
- Need based planning
- Gaon Panchayat Development Plan

Goal 2

Discussion Points

Agriculture and Allied

Theme 1: Increasing farmer's income through enhancing production & productivity

- System/Methodology for effective knowledge transfer to extension officials and farmers leading to their capacity building
- Technology to overcome the constraints in increasing production in fragmented land holdings
- Soil health, quality seeds/ planting materials, plant nutrients, leveraging agricultural mechanization

Theme 2: Developing robust marketing system

- Facilitating farmers in obtaining adequate return from their produces at farm gates and markets
- Modern & effective market information networks
- Supply chain of perishable produces
- Price stabilization mechanisms of agricultural commodities

Theme 3: Stabilization of farmer's income

- Integrated farming system
- Organic crop production
- Apiculture
- Organic value chain
- Integrated Horticulture

Fisheries

Theme 4:

4.1 Enhanced Fish Production and creation of livelihoods opportunities

- Activities to be undertaken to increase fish production

4.2 Sustainable Fisheries through Resource Mobilization

- Increasing awareness among the stakeholders
- Training and capacity building program
- Community participation
- Financial resource mobilization

4.3 Resource conservation and management

- Habitat conservation
- Conservation of fish stocks
- Conservation measures suggested for the protection of brood stock and juveniles

Theme 5: Supporting Departments

Convergence and Presentation of Thematic Discussions

The last session will focus on:

- i. Presentations by moderators/ group leaders of the thematic/ panel discussions for the 8 themes (both from Goal 1 and Goal 2, in not more than 3 slides) on the aspects of the SPAPs discussed and the key recommendations and suggestions made based on these discussions (7 minutes for each group/panel)
- ii. Open discussion based on the 8 thematic presentations and inputs from experts, and participants from the lead and supporting departments
- iii. Resolution for Adopting of the final SPAPs based on these discussions
- iv. Concluding Remarks

For any queries and feedback, please write: csdgs.assam@gmail.com

