

National Round Table Discussions on Governance

28th November, 2017

**NABARD Chair Unit
Xavier University Bhubaneswar**

In partnership with

NABARD, TATA TRUSTS, DMI & NIAM

While the intent in many of our initiatives towards sustainability; whether in production, organizations, institutions, governance, and culture of relationships have been noble; inconsistencies between the intent and approaches, methods, tools, techniques and actions often make these initiatives unsustainable over time. The inherent inconsistencies and tensions in designs and lack of synergy across different sub-systems even in small communities perpetuate lock-in effects, path dependencies and greater external control than freedom leading to inequity and unsustainability of smallholder communities and our society at large. It appears that unless people and communities recognize the realities of these tensions and simultaneously make efforts to unlock themselves from the various lock-in effects arising out of the various dimensions; our transition to sustainability will only be partial at best.

NABARD Chair Unit, Xavier University Bhubaneswar announces the third Round Table Discussions (RTD) on **Governance** on 28th November 2017. This RTD will deliberate and discuss the hidden challenges of unlocking sustainability in **Governance** and help discern the possible combinations of paths to transit towards sustainable communities. A select group of senior academicians, practitioners, policy executives, and delegates from the governments, civil society organizations, development agencies and corporations are being invited to participate in the deliberations.

Issues of Community Governance

A community system not only consists of certain number of families in a cluster of villages but also a certain extent of geographical spread with its ecosystem. Accordingly, micro-watershed, the basic unit of ecology forms the technical base of our community system. However, for optimization of size for economic viability especially under diverse production system and easier identification of physical boundary by the people; a Gram Panchayat (GP) or Ward that may consist of 4-2 micro watersheds depending on whether it is in hilly, plain or coastal region has been taken as a community system for analysis.

The tentative factors for analysis here include **frequency of interactions** adopted in community governance, **decision making method, problem solving approach, resource dependency, and governance architecture & responsibilities**. While the desirable direction of each of these factors may have been well understood, there is a need to figure out ways to overcome the challenges of community governance that can facilitate sustainability of a community. Further, we would like to deliberate on the institution-governance dynamic interactions for sustainability of communities.

Background of RTD on Community Governance

To initiate holistic deliberations on the issues of sustainability of community systems, NABARD Chair Unit-Xavier University Bhubaneswar organized two National Round Table Discussions (RTD) on Optimal Designs of Farmer Producer Organizations and Sustainable Agricultural Systems on 18th and 19th January, 2016. Further, it organized First symposium on Transition Strategies for Sustainable Community Systems: Design & Systems Perspectives during 18-20 January 2017 to deliberate and discuss the various lock-in-effects arising out of design and systems of our Relationships, Sustainable Agricultural Systems, Organizational Design, Institutions, and Community Governance; that apparently hinder our transition to sustainable communities. The proposed national RTD on Governance is an effort to understand the core factors of governance that are applicable at different levels of governance with specific reference to bottom-up governance and synthesize these factors for technical consistency with factors of other dimensions for overall sustainability of communities and society at large.

Focus of the RTD

This round table discussion on Governance proposes to focus on the following factors. Additional factors; fundamental to understanding governance from sustainability perspective are welcome for discussion.

Low	←	Frequency of Interactions	→	High
Indirect Participation (of elite groups)	←	Decision_making Method	→	Direct Participation (of diverse groups)
Positivism	←	Problem Solving Approach	→	Constructivism
External	←	Resource Dependency	→	Internal
Unbounded	←	Governance Architecture & Responsibilities	→	Bounded

Invited Delegates:

The delegates/participants shall include a few scholars/researchers working on this subject, practitioners with deep passion on the subject, donors/funding institutions that have heavily invested in this sector. The maximum number of participants to be invited for the round table discussion is estimated to be twenty (20).

Proposed Venue & Date:

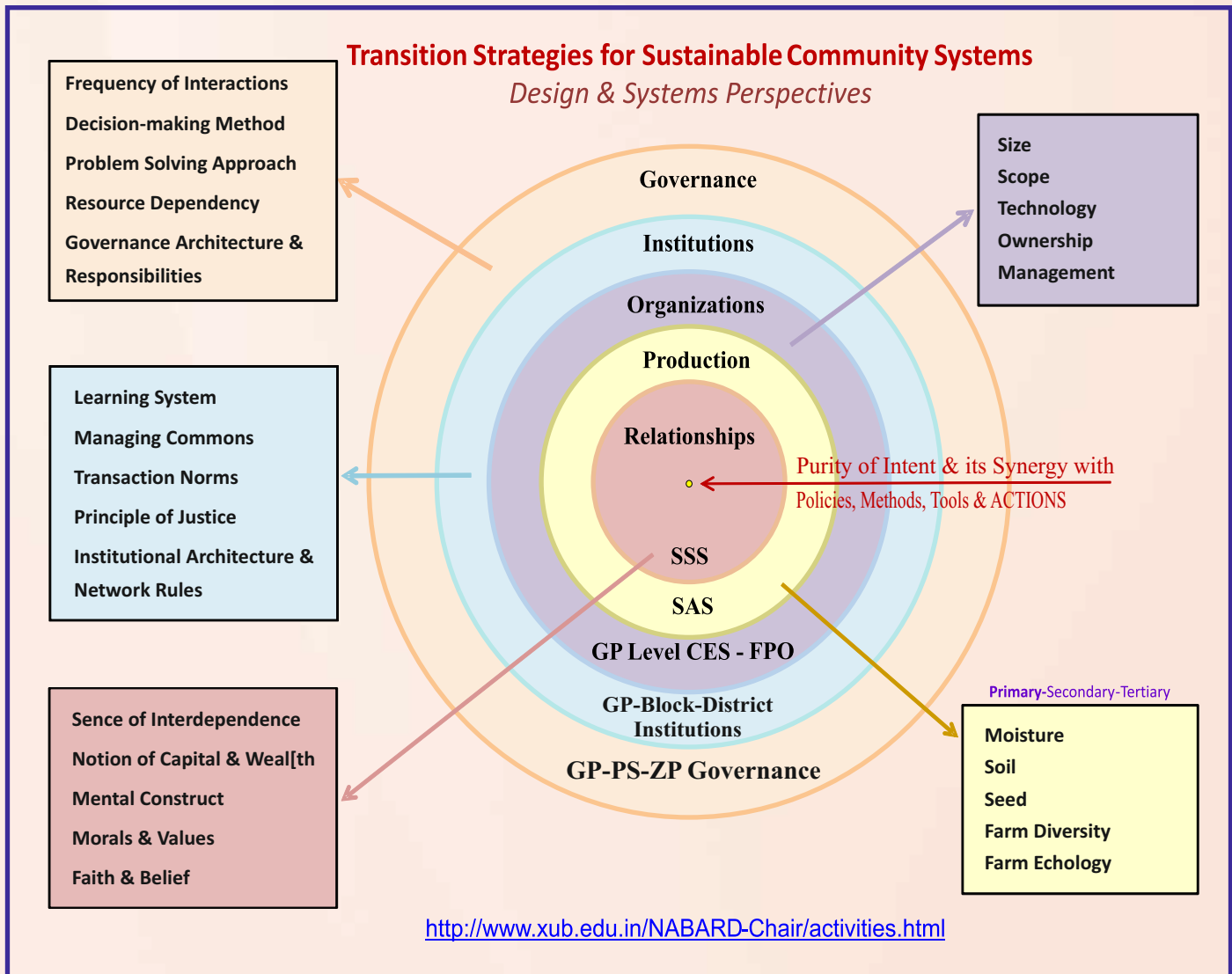
Xavier Institute of Management Bhubaneswar, 28th November, 2017

Expected Outputs of Deliberations:

The discussions and deliberations are expected to provide conceptual clarity, identify key areas of research and policy suggestions on sustainable local governance. The outcomes shall be shared with all concerned to facilitate sustainability in local governance.

Advisory & Executive Committee:

- U.S. Saha (Dr.), Chief General Manager, DEAR - NABARD, Mumbai
- V.S. Vyas, Professor Emeritus, Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur
- T.M. Thomas Isaac, Professor & Minister of Finance, Kerala
- Manoranjan Mohanty, Distinguished Professor, CSD, New Delhi
- S.M. Vijayananda, Former Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala
- Padamvir Singh, Director General, ABVIGGPA, Bhopal
- R Radhakrishna, Professor Emeritus and Chairman, CESS Hyderabad
- Subhash Mehta, Trustee, Devarao Shivaram Trust
- K.V. Raju, Senior Professor & Director, Development Management Institute, Patna
- Anup K. Dash, Retired Professor of Sociology, Utkal University
- R Balasubramaniam (Dr.), Chairman & Founder, GRAAM, Bagalore
- Jugal K. Mohapatra, Former Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India
- M. S. Sriram, Professor, Center for Public Policy, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore
- Irina Garg (Dr.), Director General, NIAM, Jaipur
- Amar Nayak, Professor of Strategy & NABARD Chair Professor, Xavier University Bhubaneswar



For more information and up-dates please visit:

<http://www.xub.edu.in/NABARD-Chair/>



Coordinator

Dr. Amar KJR Nayak

Professor of Strategic Management & NABARD Chair Professor
Xavier Institute of Management, Xavier University Bhubaneswar

Email: amar@ximb.ac.in, Tel: 0674 - 6647706

