

## **Program Agenda**

### **Panel Discussion on “Emerging Perspective from the Global South: Promoting Employment, Education and Skills for Inclusive Development”**

**Date: July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Venue: Magnolia Hall, India Habitat Centre**

The eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), set for the target year of 2015, have brought human development issues to the global centre-stage. The international development discourse is presently focused on the new development framework that will replace the existing set of eight Millennium Development Goals in 2015. As we arrive at the target year, the global conversation is slowly crystallizing around a new set of goals, being termed as ‘Sustainable Development Goals’.

A major cause for concern — articulated not only by the United Nations, but by academic experts and civil society worldwide — is the lack of effective participation of countries of the Global South in this conversation. Since the MDGs were drawn up in 2000, Southern countries, and especially many South Asian countries, have emerged as key players on the world stage. China and India, in particular, have emerged as drivers of economic growth around the world. Brazil, a country from the Global South, has taken major strides in terms of progress in human development.

It is imperative, therefore, that Southern voices are heard and have a leading role in setting the agenda for development in the post-2015 years. In order to strengthen the recommendations for a Southern-led, Southern-focused post-2015 development agenda globally, momentum needs to be built around shaping the agenda by engaging a diverse set of stakeholders. In this regard, the academic community and civil society play a critical role as a key voice.

The Knowledge Partnership Programme (KPP) \* has supported the UN led and CSOs organized effort in getting together over 400 million voices in partnership with WNTA, which included a wide range of stakeholders — civil society organizations, issue based networks, community voices, parliamentarians, and media.

The volume ‘Human Development in the Global South’ brought out by the Institute for Human Development (IHD) in 2015 is a compilation of the ‘Think Pieces’ as a part of KPP, implemented by IPE Global Pvt. Ltd., has added academic perspective with the support of Government of UK’s Department for International Development (DFID).

Taking this forward, KPP with support from DFID plans to organize a panel discussion on ‘Emerging Perspectives for Countries in the Global South in the Post MDG Era’ to further this initiative on July 7, 2015.

With an objective to a) Disseminate the knowledge generated through the earlier consultation processes b) Deliberate on the subjects covered in the publication c) Launch the IHD publication and d) Share the outcome of the deliberations with relevant stakeholders both at national and international levels, including UN bodies, KPP hopes to build a momentum around shaping the agenda by engaging a diverse set of stake-holders. It also gives an opportunity to everyone to contribute to the international policy discussion on sustainable

development; strengthen the voice of Global South on issues that concern them with a hope that it would give a new impetus to the advancement of human development.

In the light of this international discourse and the urgent need for Southern voices to effectively participate in the global conversation around the post-2015 development agenda, this volume carries the voices of the experts and academicians in order to strengthen the recommendations for a Southern-led, Southern-focused post-2015 development agenda globally. It is hoped that the papers from across the globe, with an introduction, contained in this volume will help in building a momentum around shaping the agenda by engaging a diverse set of stake-holders.

*\* KPP is a South-South cooperation programme promoting knowledge sharing in the areas of Food Security, Resource Scarcity and Climate Change; Health and Disease Control; Trade and Investment; and Women and Girls. KPP is funded by the Government of UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and managed by a consortium led by IPE Global Private Limited under its Knowledge Initiative. The main objective of KPP is 'Gathering and uptake of evidence on issues central to India's national development that have potential for replication in LICs and impact on global poverty'.*