CHAPTER - 3
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

3.1   Human Development, by contrast, brings together the production and distribution of commodities and the expansion and use of human capabilities. It also focuses on choices - on what people should have, be and do to be able to ensure their own livelihood. Human development is, moreover, concerned not only with basic needs satisfaction but also with human development as a participatory and dynamic process.

3.2   The human development approach does not replace one aggregate statistic (GNP) by another (HDI) and then seek to maximize the numerical value of the replacement. Rather it views the objective of development as inherently multi-dimensional. The concept of human development provides an alternative to the view of development equated exclusively with economic growth, human focuses on people, and it sees economic growth and higher consumption not as ends in themselves but as means to achieve human development.

3.3   "The paradigm shift from measuring national incomes as development to improving people's lives and choices as human development occurred in the 1990s. Creating an enabling environment is not an end in itself but the focus is on ensuring long, healthy and creative lives for people." This statement reflected in the first Global Human Development Report, after which, yearly global reports have been released on various issues relating to human development.

3.4   While Rajasthan had its first Human Development Report in the year 2002, National Human Development Report of India released in 2001 advocates a governance approach to human development, adopting the UNDP's concept of governance. Further, it views governance as a continuous interplay between (a) institutions, (b) the delivery mechanism and (c) the supportive and subordinate framework of rules, procedures and legislation. This conception of governance, however suggests structural and procedural changes at the national level but human development approach needs changes at all levels. It proposes an alternative model of governance in which the institutions of decentralized governance -Panchayats (statutory, democratically-elected, self-governing local authorities in rural areas) and civil society actors - are seen to have a central role.

3.5   The central message of the National Report of 2001 is that human development can be promoted only if the following are ensured:

> ➢ devolution of power to manage local affairs and decentralization of decision making;

- civil service reforms aimed at improving transparency, accountability, efficiency and sensitivity in public administration at all levels;

- enforcing incentive/disincentive structures that truly reflect social values and norms;

- procedural reforms covering all aspects of government's interface with public; and

- empowerment, particularly of women, the marginal and the excluded.

3.6 Empowerment is a pre-condition for grass-root development schemes, communities that lack the capacity to identify and act on their needs may remain disempowered, which means that a vicious cycle can persist. Fiscal decentralization requires appropriate mechanisms to ensure reporting and transparency, as well as resources. Effective decentralization also requires transferring power and responsibility rather than simply implementing policy formulated at higher levels.

3.7 In Rajasthan, 5 subjects have been transferred to the local government with funds, functions and functionaries in 2010 besides various efforts to strengthen decentralized planning system. The State Government is also implementing a UNDP supported project 'Capacity Building for District Planning' under the Government of India and Planning Commission's Convergence Program. The program is being implemented in Sawai Madhopur, Barmer, Sirohi, Chittorgarh and Udaipur districts on pilot basis. The districts were selected on the criteria, such as, low Human Development Index, high Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe population, high Infant Mortality Ratio. This program aims at the following:

- Assistance to the State in attaining MDGs by 2015

- Strengthening of the Integrated District Planning process

- Improvement in service delivery in important sectors viz. Education, Health and Livelihood

- Advocacy for replication

3.8 For above-mentioned objectives, it aims to empower district Panchayats for more effective service delivery and to meet the MDGs.

3.9 Activities under the project 'Capacity Development for District planning' could be categorized as follows:

- **Strengthen training institutions in Rajasthan**: HCM-RIPA and Indira Gandhi Panchayati Raj Sansthan, Jaipur have been identified as partners as these training institutions are engaged in imparting training to Government and Panchayat officials.

- **Build capacities of Officials and Panchayati Raj Institutions on development issues**: Focus is on District Planning Committees.

- **Mobilize community for strengthening of decentralized planning system**: In particular, focus is on making Gram Sabhas inclusive and participatory.

3.10 Udaipur has been identified as focus district and a Change Management Initiative is being piloted in the district. The initiative intends to strengthen decentralized planning process and includes the above three categories.

Strengthening of Training Institutions

3.11 A Capacity Building Needs Assessment workshop was conducted under the guidance of Dr. N. C. Saxena in which inputs were sought from the Directors of HCM-RIPA and IGPRS, Jaipur. Following the recommendations of the workshop, following activities have been undertaken in the project:

- Though HCM-RIPA at Jaipur is equipped with the required accessories but its Udaipur OTC lacks the IT and other supports to have qualitative trainings. The project has supported up-gradation of classrooms at OTC, Udaipur with IT and equipments required.

- The project has facilitated exposure and learnings. Faculties of IGPRS and HCM-RIPA along with PRI members and Officers from the Planning department have been sent to respective State Institute of Rural Development in Kerela, Andhra Pradesh and Maharastra.

- Centre for Good Governance, HCM-RIPA has been engaged in various research and documentation assignments.

- An e-learning tool has been developed to make Planning Commission Guidelines on Decentralized Planning easier to understand.

Building capacities of planners

3.12 A comprehensive training module is being prepared on Millennium Development Goals. As selected five districts are different in their characteristics, the project aims to development of not only district specific modules but also of different set of modules for State, District and Block levels. This effort will help to understand the local issues, challenges in attaining MDGs and it is envisaged that better contribution could then be garnered from all levels of planning.

3.13 Two day's consultative workshops have been organized in each of the selected five districts to identify issues and challenges in strengthening decentralized planning.

3.14   A District Planning Unit in selected districts has been set up with IT equipments and a library with literature on development issues.

3.15   A "Best practices" document on decentralized planning is being prepared to identify successful efforts in the State for replication.

3.16   District Human Development Reports have been facilitated for these five districts under the project and now handouts are being prepared in order to share findings and recommendations of the DHDRs widely.

3.17   Gender Sub-Plan of Udaipur is being prepared under guidance of Ms. Feroza Mehrotra. While Ajmer and Pali districts have also been prepared Gender Sub-plan as per Planning Commission guidelines. Udaipur Gender-Sub Plan is being prepared.

3.18   A workshop was organized on 'Environmental Issues in Decentralized Planning' for knowledge enhancement of planners on including issues relating to environment in local plans.

Mobilising community to make Gram Sabha inclusive and participatory:

3.19   National United Nations Volunteers have been deployed under the project to interact with the community on importance of Gram Sabhas and signification participation in decision making.

3.20   A radio jingle and a video spot promoting participation in the Gram Sabhas have been prepared and are being broadcasted on television and radio.

3.21   A street play was prepared at Jawahar Kala Kendra under guidance of professionals. In the Street Play Workshop, young volunteers from Nehru Yuva Kendra, NCC, NSS and NUNV participated. Followed by the workshop, performances were made in the Gram Panchayats by the trained volunteers.

3.22   The program is being implemented by Directorate of Economics & Statistics under Planning Department in guidance of State Level Steering Committee chaired by the Additional Chief Secretary (Development). Similarly at the district level, Chief Planning Officers under District Collectors are implementing it in guidance of District Level Management Committee. Working in the institutionalized way has been opted to ensure replication of successful initiatives.