



AHEAD **Initiatives**



**Addressing Hunger
Empowerment And Development**

About ourselves

AHEAD Initiatives brings together over a hundred years of experience in Rural Development stretching from exemplary grassroots Action Research & Capacity Building to successful Advocacy, which has led to policy changes in Local Governance.

It has been constituted as a Not-for-Profit Association under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956 to ensure greater transparency, accountability and monitoring which would help inspire public confidence and participation. It hopes to transform itself into a widely held Not-for-Profit Association which, while focusing on basic issues of Hunger will also endeavour to bridge the cultural divide and work towards redefining a more sustainable development paradigm

Our Objectives

The main objects are to:

- Alleviate poverty by addressing Hunger and Food insecurity as the primary focus of its development endeavour
- Engage with development in the context and through the medium of human cultures.
- Promote a society where people of diverse cultures are able to define their own development paradigm and fulfill their economic, social, cultural, and spiritual aspirations.

Activities :

This it hopes to do by :

- Strengthening Local Self-Government to become inclusive, participatory, just and efficient institutions of the people which address food & livelihood security, health, education and other primary entitlements.
- Advocating sustainable and decentralized Natural Resource Management as the principal means of addressing hunger and food and livelihood insecurity.
- Promoting the performing arts and artistic expression as the medium of communication whereby we understand our experiences, ideas, feelings and insights and build identity, that essential component of humanity and community which allows us to learn and develop as people

- Supporting communities and in particular the marginalized of the rural milieu to build on their capacity to pursue sustainable development and strengthen their own cultural identities and values through renewal and innovation.
- Advocating necessary changes in society and governance so that powers, responsibilities and functions move from the community outwards only on the basis of necessity through concentric tiers of governance, from the local through the state to the national and global.
- Fostering the use of local and indigenous knowledge as a key resource for empowering communities to combat marginalization, poverty and impoverishment. Knowledge which includes know-how, resource use practices and representations which embody the sophisticated sets of understandings, interpretations and meanings that are part and parcel of a cultural complex that encompasses language, naming and classification systems, ritual, spirituality and worldview to harmonise development with culture and spirituality.
- Advocating a more holistic approach to development which does not divorce the material from the non material and recognizes the unity of all belief systems and the need to relate development to the whole of human existence

AHEAD Initiatives' present work targets the food insecure poor as evinced by the startling data brought to light by the comprehensive Rural Household Survey 2005. It also intends to advocate this focus as part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

Alongside it has launched an effort to forge an alliance of field level organisations which share its belief that development is inexorably linked to local culture

Organisational Information :

AHEAD Initiatives has been issued a special license (100531) as a Not-for-Profit Association by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, New Delhi. Its Corporate Identification number (CIN) is U85300WB2009NPL134655 (2009-2010).

*... go to the people,
Live among them,
Learn from them,
Start with what they know.
Build on what they have.
remember ... that the best leaders,
when their work is done,
the people all remark,
"We have done it ourselves"
- Tao*



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