INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

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"NO SOCIETY CAN SURELY BE FLOURISHING AND HAPPY OF WHICH BY FAR THE GREATER PART OF THE MEMBERS ARE POOR AND MISERABLE" - ADAM SMITH, ECONOMIST.

MANY PEOPLE ARE EXCLUDED FROM DEVELOPMENT BECAUSE OF THEIR GENDER, ETHNICITY, POVERTY ETC. EFFECTS OF SUCH EXCLUSION ARE STAGGERING, DEEPENING INEQUALITY AMONG COMMUNITIES.

DEVELOPMENT CAN BE INCLUSIVE ONLY IF ALL GROUPS OF PEOPLE ESPECIALLY THE POOR AND THE DOWNTRODDEN AVAIL OPPORTUNITIES, SHARE THE BENEFITS OF DEVELOPMENT AND PARTICIPATE IN DECISION-MAKING.
INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT IS NECESSARY FOR MAINSTREAMING THE LARGE SEGMENT OF SOCIETY WHO ARE MARGINALIZED SO THAT REAL AND SUSTAINED SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF SOCIETY COULD BE ATTAINED.

CHARACTERISTICS OF INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT:

- SUSTAINABLE AND STABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH
- REDUCTION OF POVERTY AND INCOME INEQUALITY
- GROWTH OF EMPLOYMENT
- IMPROVEMENT IN ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES
- SOCIAL RECOGNITION TO ALL
ROLE OF COOPERATIVES IN INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

- ‘COOPERATIVES ARE A REMINDER TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO PURSUE BOTH ECONOMIC VIABILITY AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.’
  
  MR. BAN KI MOON, SECRETARY - GENERAL, UN

- RECENTLY HELD RIO+20 MEETING STRONGLY AFFIRMED THE ROLE OF COOPERATIVES IN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, JOBS CREATION, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY REDUCTION.

- COOPERATIVES ARE COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANISATION, ROOTED IN DEMOCRACY AND HAVE PARTICIPATORY INVOLVEMENT, WHICH MAKES THEM WELL SUITED FOR INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT.
COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISES HELP TO :-

- CREATE, IMPROVE AND PROTECT THE INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES OF THEIR MEMBERS

- ENABLE THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN PRODUCTION, PROFIT-SHARING, COST-SAVING ACTIVITIES.
COOPERATIVE HELP INTERACTION WITHIN THE COMMUNITY, BUILD SKILLS & EXPERTISE, DEVELOP LOCAL LEADERSHIP, SUPPORT WOMEN AND YOUTH TO INVOLVE THEM INTO ECONOMIC ACTIVITY, THUS LIFTING PEOPLE OUT OF POVERTY.

COOPERATIVES ARE BASED ON EQUALITY ON THE PRINCIPLE ‘ONE MEMBER ONE VOTE’ WHICH ENABLES INDIVIDUAL MEMBER TO GAIN VOICE, MOBILIZE THEIR ECONOMIC INTERESTS AND TO SECURE SOCIAL PROTECTION.
COOPERATIVE ADVANTAGE TO PROMOTE INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

- MEMBER DRIVEN NATURE
- REACH TO THE UNDERSERVED MASSES
- ‘NOT FOR PROFIT’ MOTIVE
- EMPLOYMENT GENERATION CAPACITY IN ALL SECTORS, REGIONS AND FOR ALL SOCIOECONOMIC GROUPS
- EQUAL INCOME DISTRIBUTION
- DEMOCRATIC DECISION MAKING
- VALUE BASED ENTERPRISE
- MEDIUM FOR ORGANIZING POOR AND MARGINALIZED PEOPLE
CHALLENGES TO COOPERATIVES IN PROMOTING INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

- LIMITED RESOURCES
- LACK OF AWARENESS AMONG MEMBERS
- LACK OF SUPPORT FROM THE GOVERNMENT
- SOCIAL NORMS PREVAILING IN THE SOCIETY
- LACK OF PARTICIPATION OF MEMBERS FROM EVERY SECTIONS OF THE SOCIETY (GENDER, CASTE, YOUTH ETC.)
- LACK OF INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)
THANK YOU !