

trialogue2047 traces Pathways for Co-creating Local Green Economies for Building Back Better



Image (top, left to right): Dr. Ashok Kumar Ghosh and the panelists launching the Toolkit for Facilitating Fly Ash Brick Enterprises in Bihar; the panelists lending their perspective to the event's theme; Ms. Vineetha Hariharan engaged as a panelist; and a participant during a Q&A round.

Development Alternatives Group flagged off the 25th edition of *trialogue2047* - the curtain-raiser to TARagram Yatra 2022, on 3 November, 2022 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. More than 75 stakeholders representing policymakers, entrepreneurs, financiers, social investors, and research think-tanks, among others, joined the event to map out the discourse of '**Co-Creating Local Green Economies**', with focus on the unique business models that can well serve as catalysts for building back better.

trialogue2047 was set in the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, that has led to an increased focus on the benefits of localisation of inputs such as raw material and labour, and acknowledge the economic and societal benefits a business set within a community can reap. Enterprises are now more openly adopting resilience-based practices while attempting to understand, and better integrate circularity and resource efficiency into their operations. While none of this is new, the pandemic can be credited for pushing enterprises, especially micro and small, to think beyond today and prepare for the future – thus, inadvertently paving a way for mainstreaming of Local Green Enterprises or LGEs.

Dr Ashok Kumar Ghosh, Chairman, Bihar State Pollution Control Board opened the event with the launch of the **Toolkit for Facilitating Fly Ash Brick Enterprises in Bihar**, a sector-focused, but highly customisable end-to-end guide for green entrepreneurs to start and expand their businesses. It was

followed by a focused discussion with a diverse set of panel – in which, Ms. Vineeta Hariharan, Chief-Externally Aided Missions, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Dr Anubha Prasad, General Manager, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) represented Government; Mr Pankaj Gupta, Chief Executive Officer, Mufin Finance and Mr Nicky Sehwani represented financiers; and Mr Nikhil Toshniwal, Vice President - Network & Digital Partnerships, DeHaat represented entrepreneurs.

Among the pathways discussed by the panelists, the amalgam of technology and finance for supporting micro and small enterprises to transition came out strongly. Investment in infrastructure at the last mile, mechanisms for strengthening information support and development of taxonomies to weave the ecosystem together were other takeaways of the panel discussion.

Dr Ashok Khosla, Chairman, Development Alternatives Group said about the event, “In the whole conversation around India’s post-pandemic revival, it is vital that we do not ignore the incredible diversity of livelihoods in the country. Without losing sight of the bigger picture, it is crucial that we build an ecosystem where growth is inclusive and is built from the grassroots up. Creating local and sustainable economies should be our priority; this will help India achieve a more equitable growth paradigm.”

Dr Ashok Kumar Ghosh commented on the significance of the theme and remarked "Following the green agenda, on which we have had very fruitful discussions at the trialogue2047, will prove to be immensely beneficial for each one of us, from governments and corporate organisations to civil society and individuals. There are many positives that we can take away from the conference."