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About UNESCO Chair

• Unique Chair based in a Northern university and Southern civil society organisation
• Supports North-South-South and South-South partnerships, building and enhancing ‘knowledge democracy’
• Strengthens engagement between communities, civil society & academia
• Advocates mainstreaming of Community University Engagement in academic curriculum
• Promotes discourse on Social Responsibility in Higher Education
• Renewed for second term till 2020

UNESCO Co-Chairs
Prof Budd Hall and Dr Rajesh Tandon
Higher Education @ Crossroads

- Higher education in turmoil: growth, quality, funding
- Systems of governance and regulation need reforms
  - Student and parent expectations soaring
  - Demand for public accountability growing
- Opportunity to make a difference in society
An Engaged University

• **Engaged Teaching**
  ✓ Learner-centric; contextually relevant
  ✓ Development of knowledge, awareness & skills

• **Engaged Research**
  ✓ Devising research questions in collaboration with local societal actors
  ✓ Opportunities in CBR/CBPR/PR

• **Engaged Service**
  ✓ Developing a deep sense of citizenship
  ✓ ‘Learning to be’
• Expressed need for building community capacity to play equitable roles in the research partnerships

• Policy framework oriented towards socio economic transformation, paves way for community engagement (CE)/CURP.

• Most CE structures within HEIs remain under their unilateral administrative control

• National platforms for knowledge sharing with focus on research generates greater momentum at national/provincial levels

• Provision of awards, recognitions and accreditations of universities for engaging in CE activities incentivizes CE.
GUNI’s HEIW 5

- Transformative knowledge drives social change
- Recognizing, acknowledging, & respecting multiple sites/forms/modes of knowledge production
- Community University Engagement informs the education process; links engagement within teaching & research
- Cross-sectoral partnerships as key for establishing community-university dialogues
Social responsibility emerges as the need to reconsider social relevance of universities, through dual engagement at local & global levels.

HEI responsibilities includes ensuring achievement of SDGs & building capacities for SDG policies, planning and management.

Social responsibility involves adopting an engaged approach towards HEI mission – engaged teaching/engaged research/engaged service.

HEIs to adopt a mantle of civic university – pursuing ‘public good’ & working collaboratively with other HEIs to maximize impact.
UN Sustainable Development Goals

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life on Land
16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships for the Goals
Achieving SDGs

- National/HEI leadership to list SDGs as a priority agenda
- International networks/teachers association can play an advocacy role to encourage achievement of UN SDGs
- Action partnerships between higher education institutions and civil society organisations
- Student associations can champion the cause of SDGs; place a demand on university authorities for action
- Actively pursuing modes of engaged scholarships (Community University Engagement, Service Learning, etc.)