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PHD

Chairman & CEO, South Asia Development Gateway
The Development Gateway (USA)
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PROFILE

Senior Consultant on Policy, Strategy, Monitoring and Evaluation in **Educational Planning and Administration, ICT4D, e-Government and Gender Mainstreaming**

EDUCATION

Master of Laws (Information Technology & Telecom Laws) Sept 2005 – Nov 2006
University of Strathclyde, Glasgow (UK)
Marks: 61%

Studied Legal Aspects of Information Security, Intellectual Property Rights in IT, Liability on Information Society, Access to Public Information (online) and submitted a Dissertation on "*Conflict Between Intellectual Property Rights and Protection of Traditional Knowledge*"

Post-Doctorate, Instructional Technologies March 1999 – Aug 1999
Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok (Thailand)
Specialized in Instructional Technology and Virtual University Systems. Developed a specialized syllabus and instructional programme on English for Specific Purpose (ESP) to be used by the students of Engineering degrees.

PhD, New Technologies in Teaching March 1997 – March 1999
Tezpur University, Tezpur, Assam (India)
Specialized in Scope & Use of New Technologies in Teaching Classrooms. The study explores the availability, use and scope of new technologies like Multimedia computer assisted language learning systems, CD-ROMs etc. in the English Language Teaching (ELT) classrooms in technical institutions.

Bachelor of Education, Educational Planning & Administration July '96 – June'97
College of Education, Assam University, Silchar (India)
Marks: 70%
Studied Educational Psychology, Secondary Education & Teacher Functions, School Practices, Teaching Methods in English and History.

Bachelor of Laws (LLB), International Laws July 1992 – Dec 1995
AKC Law College, Assam University, Silchar (India)
Specialized in International Law, Administrative Law, Drafting & Conveyances, Corporate Law, Arbitration Laws, Laws of Crimes and Evidence.

MA (English), Applied Linguistics Aug 1990 – Aug 1992
Aligarh University, Aligarh (India)
Marks: 64.6%
Specialized in Applied Linguistics and Commonwealth Literature. Submitted a Dissertation on "Students' attitude and response in Technical Institutions"

Bachelor of Arts (BA), Honors in English Language & Literature 1987-1990
Aligarh University, Aligarh (India)
Marks: 68.4%
Majors in English Literature & Language, with minors in Political Science and Bengali

Core Competencies:

Policy Analysis

Strategy Review and Planning

Educational Planning & Administration

Human/Women/ Child Rights

Development Communication

Survey & Baseline Study

Legal Framework Drafting & Documentation

Evaluation and Monitoring

Legal Pleading

Computer

Adobe
MS Office Suite

Certifications

Licensed by the Bar Council of India,

Advocate, Gauhati High Court, India

WORK EXPERIENCE

Chairman & CEO, January 2007 – Present

South Asia Regional Development Gateway (SARDEG), Guwahati (India)

The Chairman and Chief Executive Officer ("Chairman & CEO") is the most senior officer of South Asia Regional Development Gateway (SARDEG), the South Asia wing of The Development Gateway (USA). The CEO's fundamental responsibility is to lead the general direction, development and management of the business and affairs of the Regional Gateway and its partner states and Country Gateways (India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka) in accordance with the corporate strategy and Business Plan approved by the Development Gateway HQ. Within the authority limitations delegated by the Board of Directors, the CEO reports to the SARDEG Board of Management. It is an international organization that provides Web-based platforms that make aid and development efforts more effective around the world. Acts as its Head of Mission cum 'Envoy Extraordinary' and exo-officio Director, DG Online Education Institute and overall Programme administrator.

Consultant on Mid-Term Review of Mauritius National ICT Plans Oct 2010 – Mar 2011

African Development Bank
Ministry of ICT, Government of Mauritius

Served as an international Consultant Mid-term review of the Mauritius national ICT strategic plan (2007- 2011) undertaken under the long-term development objectives, which centers economic development on moving away from low-wage, labor-intensive exports to more skilled, high value added, knowledge-based ones. It seeks to deepen the reforms initiated in 2006, and also supports more immediate Government's efforts (medium-term program 2009-2011) to help the country ride out the current economic turbulence.

DELIVERED:

- Undertook a current state assessment of activities that have been implemented for each of the 124 projects (grouped in 15 programs) under the National ICT Strategic Plan (NICTSP) 2007-2011 and identified whether the objectives and targets that were set for the NICTSP 2007-2011 have been realized or are on track.
- Reviewed the proposed institutional framework in the NICTSP 2007-2011 and come up with a revised proposal as regards the appropriate institutional set up for Mauritius.
- Prepared a report on the achievements made for each of the 15 programs of the NICTSP 2007-2011 and made recommendations on improvements that are needed to be made to programs and projects to achieve the intended objectives and review the budget estimates for each project over the next 3 years.
- Reviewed the implementation of the National Information Security Strategy and proposed measures that need to be addressed to ensure that the strategy meets the intended objectives.
- Organised a stakeholder workshop to present the results of the study and to stakeholders.

Consultant on ICT Policies and e-Government Sept 2003 – Dec 2006

Development Information Services Division, UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
ICSTD, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

- Served as the lead Consultant for UNECA to develop the e-Government Strategy and the National ICT Policy & Plans for **The Gambia and Sierra Leone**. Conducted a National Baseline study and developed a national e-Govt Strategy.
- Worked as the UNECA ICT Policy Consultant for the Development of regional e-Government Strategy for the **COMESA** (Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa) a regional mechanism for the promotion of sub-regional economic integration. The e-Government Strategy was developed for the 18 member states of COMESA in tandem with its vision to "be a fully integrated, internationally competitive regional economic community with high standards of living for all its people ready to merge into an African Economic Community"
- Served as the UNECA Consultant on the East African Community (EAC) Regional E-Government Strategy to develop a harmonized and co-coordinated regional e-government strategy for East Africa. The strategy was designed to promote harmonization and coordination of ICT policy and strategy, to create a framework for sharing, promoting collaboration on cross-border political and data flow issues to avoid duplication, error, and aggregate resources for the benefit of the sub-region.

Chairman, Rural Technology Council, Assam (India) June 1999 – Jan 2007

State Rural Technology Promotion Council, Government of Assam (India)

Served as the Head of the Council and led the planning and preparation of various ICT related programmes in the state specially targeting the disadvantaged and remote communities. Led a number of ICT initiatives in rural areas of northeast India conducting training & education on ICT through institutional and NGO network.

Associate Professor, Nov 2002 – July 2004

Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

Taught postgraduate classes and supervised dissertations. Coordinated and planned the Computer Assisted Learning System through university LAN/WAN and V-SAT facility. Direct online/collaborative teaching with the Alliant University (USA): Technology in teaching. Worked on UN Committee on Dev. Information Third Meeting (CODI-III) in the area of ICT/E-governance and development data transparency and administration. Researched on Gender issues, HIV/AIDS and Information dissemination strategies in Reproductive Health matters in Africa. Guided and examined PhD and three MA Theses.

Associate Professor, Mar 2002 – Nov 2002

National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT), India

Taught Postgraduate classes in educational planning and administration. Worked with local NGOs on Education of the children with disabilities (Indo-Danish Programme)

Senior Lecturer, April 2000- March 2001

Kigali Institute of Science and Technology, RWANDA

Taught Engineering Classes and designed a Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) Center. Supervised publication and regular updating of Institute's WebPages at www.kist.ac.rw. Edited the Institute's Publication - KIST ECHOES.

Consultant, Functional Literacy Survey Aug 1999 – Dec 1999

UNESCO, Cambodia

Planned, designed and conducted training for national project officials for the Cambodian National Functional Literacy Project .

Lecturer & Head / Coordinator, Educational Technology May 1994 - March 2002

National Institute of Technology (Deemed University), Silchar, Assam India

Taught graduate programmes in Engineering and served as the Head/Coordinator of the *Center for Educational Technology.* Also served as the (i) Coordinator, Environment Education Resource Center: a network of knowledge sharing institutions & NGOs on environmental awareness; (ii) Programme Officer, National Service Scheme (NSS), a nationwide scouts programme of Govt of India for university students. Conducted social service activities with student volunteers; (iii) Supervisor/Teacher Adviser for the institute's journal REXIAN for three years from 1996-98. Served as an Expert member on the Total Literacy campaign committee of the province set up by the government for the National Literacy Mission. Coordinated with NGOs involved in total literacy campaign.

Executive Director, Jan 2001 – Dec 2008

PFI Foundation, An international NGO based in India and Ethiopia

Served as the CEO or the organization and coordinated a knowledge-sharing network with local organizations. Areas of focus were vocational and Life Skill Training, Information Technology for Development (ICT4D), technology transfer and integrated rural development programmes. As the Executive Director, led the Foundation to receive *The World Bank 'Certificate of Recognition'* twice at the Development Marketplace Global Competition for its work on the disabled children in Ethiopia (2003) and Eye Care for the Tribals in Northeast India (2007).

PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH

A. BOOKS/MONOGRAPHS/REPORTS

1. National ICT Policy & Plans for Sierra Leone UN-ECA, Addis Ababa (2006)
2. Regional e-Government Framework for East African Community; UNECA, Addis Ababa Publication, 2006
3. National ICT Policy & Plans for the Gambia UN-ECA, Addis Ababa (2004)
4. e-Government Strategy for The Gambia UN-ECA, Addis Ababa (2004)
5. The Assessment of functional Literacy Levels of Adult Population in Cambodia, UNESCO, Cambodia, 2000
6. LSG Involvement in Non Formal Education, UNESCO Publication, UNESCO PROAP, Bangkok, 1999
7. *Social Justice & Other Issues* (Ed) REC Silchar Publication. Silchar 1998
8. *English for Science & Technology: An Audio Visual Approach,* Shaddhanjali Publications, Silchar, 1997

B. PAPERS

1. e-*Commerce: Laws and Cyber Crimes*. In Road Map Towards a Cyber Crime Deterrent Mechanism (ed.) N. Deka. 2008, SAN, Guwahati, India
2. *Regional Integrated Development in India* . In *Economy Review* (Dec 2007), IIPM, New Delhi
3. *ICT for Poverty Reduction: The African Perspective*. In *Encyclopedia of Digital Governance*, 2006. Idea Group Inc., Hershey, PA 17033 USA
4. *ICT for Poverty Reduction: The NICI Gambia Experience* . In *Communication and Development*. World Conference Proceedings, FAO, WB, 2006, Rome.
5. *ICT for Socio-Economic Development: ACTION Model* . In *African E-Markets*. Eds. Aida Opoku-Mensah & M. Salih. International Books & UN, The Netherlands, 2007
6. *The African Renaissance* . Book Review published in The Ethiopian Review, Oct 2003 Issue.
7. *e-Governance: The Indian Experience* . in *ICT Focus*, Vol:2 Issue:3, Nov/03; Addis Ababa
8. *ICT for Education in Ethiopia*. In *Ethiopian Herald*, June 2003.
9. *Making of an Outer Circle in Language: TEFL as an avenue for Gender Sensitization* In *ILS Proceedings*, 15thAnnual Conference, Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa; 2003
10. *Computer Networks as Mass Media: Exploring Possibilities of Computer Initiatives in TEFL in Ethiopia* (Co-auth: Demisse T.) In *ILS Proceedings,* 15thAnnual Conference, Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa; 2003.
11. *Towards ESP In Ethiopia: A 3D English Language Needs Survey* In *Proceedings of 2nd Interdisciplinary Conference* English Language Teaching, Unity University, Addis Ababa; April 2003.
12. *Access & Equity Issues in Crossing the Digital Divide through Open & Distance Learning*. In AAOU XV Conference Volume, 2002, IGNOU: New Delhi. Visit http://www.ignou.ac.in
13. *Cultural Content and Foreign Language Acquisition: A Case for Paradigm Shift in Ethiopia* . In Annual *OSSREA Conference*, Organization for Social Sciences Research in Easter and Southern Africa; Addis Ababa June, 2003.
14. *Woman Rights Education* . In Literacy Online Journal, University of Pennsylvania Journal Visit: http://www.literacyonline.org/products/ili/webdocs/baharul.html
15. *Open & Distance education for Displaced Persons : An Avenue to social Welfare*. In *Open & Distance Education*, Eds. Mukhopadhya, M & M. Parhar, New Delhi 1997.
16. *Problems, prospects and future of education for minorities in India: a case study of Madrassa education in Assam* . In *Management of School Education in India* (Ed. Neelam Sood) New Delhi, A.P.H., 2003.
17. *Systemic Deprivation of Minorities (2009)*. In *Al Ittihad,* Asimia Senior Madrassa Journal, Vol: 8, 2008-09.

Other Publications (25+)

- Regular write-ups in Magazines
- Featured TV Shows.
- Appeared on BBC World Debate on *Is Free Media Necessary for Development* . Anchored by Stephen Sucker of BBC, at Rome, 29 Oct 2006

PROJCTS COMPLETED ON EDUCATION

1. **2003**: Project Coordinator , Computer Assisted Online Teaching-Learning collaboration with Alliant Intl. University (USA). Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia): DFLL / ILS.
2. **2002**: Project Coordinator, National Database, Training and online Support System for the Education of the children with disabilities in India under Indo-Danish Programme of Assistance in Development (IDPAD) of Indian Council for Social Sciences Research, 2002: Delhi. Dept of Education in Social Silence (DESSH), Regional Institute of Education, NCERT, MYSORE 570006 India
3. **2002**: Project Designer & Coordinator, Virtual Classrooms for Quality Improvement of the Technical Professionals and Teaching Faculty: Sanctioned by the Ministry of HRD, Govt. India. Centre for Educational Technology, NIT (Deemed University), Silchar India
4. **1999:** Project CEO / Chairman, Mass Programme for ICT: REACT (Rural Education and Awareness in Computer Training). Computerization of 1000 Rural Schools. Project cost: $3.30 Mil.
5. **1997-99**: Project Leader & Head of the Center , Establishment of a state-of-the-art Center for Educational Technology for Teacher Training & Research on ICT and Development funded by the Ministry of HRD, India under Thrust Area Scheme. NIT (Deemed University), Silchar 788010 Assam India
6. **1995-97**: Project Coordinator & Head of the Lab, Establishment of a Audio-Visual and Multimedia Instruction Laboratory for Training & Research on ICT and Education funded Sanctioned by the Ministry of HRD, India under Modernization and Removal of Obsolescence scheme of Govt of India. NIT (Deemed University), India

ACTIVITIES & AWARDS

Majaz Gold Medal, 1992 for outstanding Literary & Cultural activities in the university
Education Star Award (Urdu Sokhsha Ratan Purashkar), Hyderabad, India 2008.
University Merit scholarships, Undergraduate and Post-Graduate Level, 1987-90, 1990-92
Member, ASIA – CALL (Computer Assisted language Learning)
Member IATEFL, UK

REFERENCES

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