

ENV Developmental Assistance Systems (INDIA) Pvt. Ltd., is a consulting organization, providing management and technical support to a wide spectrum of clients on Social Development, Natural Resource Management and Integrated Infrastructure Development – Rural and Urban.

DAS (INDIA) has been working since 1992 (from 1992 to 1994 as A. Prasaad & Associates) with a commitment towards Social Development. DAS (INDIA) has been amongst the forerunners in providing a more community centre approach to technology led sustainable development at the grassroots. It has worked consistently with the government on developmental projects with the intent of promoting good governance and best practices- decentralized decision making, accountability and transparency, thereby bringing about extensive work culture changes within the government departments.

Since its inception in 1994, DAS (INDIA) has been associated with a diverse range of developmental initiatives with the government and its agencies, at both national and state level. Initiatives thus undertaken with these agents of development have been duly acknowledged that evinces in increasing request for our assistance in people-centred reform program. Some such areas where our expertise has been sought for includes, agriculture and livelihood, wasteland development, rural water supply, urban water supply, drainage and sewerage.

In its capacity as technical and management consultants, DAS (INDIA) has been associated with a number of assignments/ initiatives across the country. DAS (INDIA) has worked on developmental projects in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Orissa, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh. Furthermore, it has strong linkages with the Government, non-government and other developmental agencies in other states like Karnataka, Tripura, Manipur, Sikkim, Mijoram and Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir.

Our Geographical Spread

Services Offered:

Technical support and assistance extended by DAS (INDIA) to its clients is diverse. On the one hand, our services have been solicited in monitoring, appraisal / evaluation and impact assessment of programmes and projects while on the other, in preparing Government organizations for sector reform policy and implementation, designing of implementation strategy and technical assistance in successful implementation of these programmes.

Broadly, DAS (INDIA) offers the following services to its clients:

- Project Management
- Participatory Management Packages' customized to client situations
- Information Systems Development
- Monitoring and Evaluation studies
- Policy Development Assistance

- Infrastructure Development Consultancy
- Environmental and Public Health Engineering Consultancy

In-house Expertise

Training and capacity building of the implementing organizations and agencies (Government, Non-government organizations as well as the community) is another area where our expertise has received recognition. Capacity Building of implementing organizations encompasses both ‘hands-on’ support as well as imparting requisite trainings, through our large network of collaborating institutions and organizations which assist in the “expose and experiment” methods.

DAS (INDIA) has a strong, committed pool of Human Resource with varied experiences and expertise in Social development, management, finance, systems development and Information technology, agriculture and forestry. It includes people from leading educational institutions of national and international repute with demonstrated field and grassroots experiences. This multidisciplinary pool of Human resource has enabled us to provide a wide-spectrum of appropriate, well-targeted and diligently implemented multidisciplinary consulting support, taking into cognizance the specific requirements of our clients.

In 1998, DAS (INDIA) diversified, setting – up an infrastructure division, primarily composed of specialists in water-resources, structural & environmental engineering. This was a strategic expansion to cater to an increasing demand for technical and ground level inputs on major ‘people- centred’ infrastructure initiatives at the grassroots.

Our Clientele

Over the span of 14 years, there has been a manifold increase in our clientele. Some of our major clients include the central and state governments - its departments and agencies. We have also been associated with other International Development agencies like The World Bank, Department of International Development (DfID), and The European Commission besides others.

Among our clients are:

1. A. Government of India

1. Ministry of Rural Development
2. Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission

1. B. State Governments; Other agencies:

1. 1. Uttar Pradesh

1. Uttar Pradesh Bhumi Sudhar Nigam Limited
2. Department of Irrigation, UPWSRP (PACT),

3. Department of Agriculture
 4. Diversified Agriculture Support Project (UPDASP)
 5. Mahila Kalyan Nigam
 6. Directorate of Sericulture
 7. U.P. Jal Nigam
 8. State Pollution Control Board
1. 2. Andhra Pradesh
 1. Commissioner for Development of Municipal Areas
 1. 3. Madhya Pradesh
 1. Mahila Vitt Evam Vikas Nigam
 1. 4. Bihar
 1. Gandak Command Development Agency (GADA)
 1. 5. Himachal Pradesh
 1. Department of Forests
 2. Department of Irrigation and Public Health Engineering
 1. 6. Jharkhand
 1. Tata Iron & Steel Company
 1. C. Multilateral and Bilateral Development Finance Agencies:
 1. European Commission, Brussels
 2. The World Bank
 3. Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Mumbai
 4. Department for International Development (DfID), United Kingdom
 5. Gesellschaft fur Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), Germany
 6. Find Your Feet, United Kingdom.

Our Core Strength

Hands-on Approach to Services:

In its endeavors, DAS (INDIA) has consistently supported clients with a 'hands-on' approach to service- through need based inputs and hand holding support to the change agents, thereby giving impetus to the process of reform and community- centred development. These cover catalysing and management of 'Think tank' services, assistance in contracting external consultant services, management of 'exchange and expose' visits to field situations and co-coordinating trainings programmes through collaborating institutions.

Also, personnel from DAS (INDIA) are seconded to the project locations across the country. The experiences from the fields enable us, frame and adapt our programmatic

strategies and interventions accordingly.

Customized Participatory Management Packages:

The development delivery agencies have gradually come around to accepting the concept of community ownership of interventions, thereby participation. The critical issue however is that there cannot be a uniform, “one fits all approach” towards participation in developmental initiatives. It is crucial that the intervention strategy be customized in accordance with the geographical, as well, as the existing social and cultural dynamics of the region. This is premised on our belief that communities perceive external developmental initiatives through the lenses of their respective socio-cultural settings. These factors also determine the extent to which the communities would support initiatives, thereby impacting the successful implementation of the project. Our strength lies in our capability to analyze the ‘soft factors based on hard facts’, which helps us design successful implementation strategies coupled with strong management skills.

Beneficiary Ownership of Reform Initiatives:

It is imperative that the community especially the beneficiary associates with the project with a sense of ownership. This is crucial in the interest of the sustenance of the project at the grassroots. This sense of ownership can emerge only with a decentralized planning and implementation strategy. The community would relate to the project only when it has an important say in the decision-making. The target group/ communities need to be involved at every stage of the project, be it planning, implementation or the maintenance of the project created assets.

DAS (INDIA) has worked successfully with the involvement of the community in the projects and oriented them in favor of the communities. We have worked towards preparing the community to effectively carry forward the developmental initiatives and its maintenance.

Community ownership of development and infrastructure has always emerged as the most significant feature of our services-both technical and managerial. This has been an important component of our interventions in our Rural Water supply programmes, ‘SWAJAL’, Sodic land Reclamation projects, to name a few.

Socially Acceptable Models of Technology Led Sustainable Development:

Our pool of Human resource with a specialization in social development is equally matched with proficient technical and management skills. We have thus been able to provide socially acceptable, technology driven development at the grassroots that has been recognized by the community. This combination of skills and expertise has enabled us to make technology comprehensible to the people. The sharing of vernacularized technology with the community while at the same time, acknowledging the rich local knowledge resource has lent a more acceptable face to technology.

Micro Finance and Non-formal Credit:

Since its initiation in the early 1990's, DAS (INDIA) has been associated with methodologies and issues of internal resource mobilization and self-help in developmental interventions. The savings and credit groups, commonly referred to, as the Self-Help Groups have been some of our successful experiments in North India.

Our initial experiments with the UP Sodic land project (in Phase-I) has resulted in a highly successful non- subsidy based micro-finance initiative in Uttar Pradesh. One of its conceptual follow-ups (initially prepared by us for NABARD co-financing) has been the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)- World Bank- Rural Women Empowerment Project "Swashakti", which has now expanded to cover 9 states in India.

Our experiences of grassroots institutions working as platforms for multiple functions integrates well with the desired Panchayati Raj Institutions empowerment and decentralized decision making. We have successfully demonstrated the apprenticeship they provide to village institutions for managing public-finances and procedures.

Our Core Work Areas

Natural Resource Management:

- Watershed Development
- Water Management
- Participatory Irrigation Management and Drainage
- Wasteland Reclamation/Development
- Soil and Water Conservation
- Agriculture Extension and Management
- Forestry (including social forestry)
- Rural Livelihoods and Poverty Alleviation

Integrated Rural Development:

- Rural Infrastructure
- Rural Water-Supply
- Non-formal Credit
- Agro-industry

Social Development:

- Social Assessment
- Equity and Gender Studies
- Stakeholder Analysis
- Social Analysis & Engineering
- Social Infrastructure

Services Offered

1. 1. Project Management and Technical Assistance
 1. Project strategy development and documentation
 2. Stakeholders analysis
 3. Institutional Capacity Assessment and Development

1. 2. Information System Development
 1. Development of Management Information Systems (MIS)
 2. Development of computerized progress monitoring systems
 3. Management of Websites
 4. Development of customized software's
 5. Providing systems support for project management,

Managing and processing of data, organisation of database, computer aided designing and computerized project management systems using procedures like CPM (Critical Path Management), PERT Chart, Gantt chart etc.

1. 3. Monitoring and Evaluation studies
 1. Baseline studies
 2. Impact assessment of projects and programmes especially Environment Impact Assessment
 3. Mid- term reviews of projects
 4. Pre-Feasibility studies

1. 4. Policy Development Assistance
 1. Policy analysis
 2. Policy formulation, preparing policy papers
 3. Conducting policy studies

1. 5. Infrastructure Development consultancy
 1. Design of water supply and Environment Sanitation systems
 2. Preparing Implementation Plans
 3. Construction Supervision
 4. Appraisal of civil works
 5. Operational manuals and guidelines

1. 6. Environmental and Public Health Engineering consultancy
 1. Designing Water supply Systems for rural and Urban areas
 2. Low cost Sanitation
 3. Designing of Drainage, storm water and sewage systems
 4. Preparation of DPRs (Detailed Project Reports) and Implementation plans
 5. Construction supervision