



International Conference
on
Good Rural Governance and Citizen Participation

March 1, 2012 , JGLS, Sonipat, India

March 2-3, 2012, IRRAD, Gurgaon, India

The conference on 'Good Rural Governance and Citizen Participation' is being organized against the backdrop of an initiative 'Good Governance Now' for improving governance in rural India through citizen participation, involving an experiment with the methodology of Clinical Legal Education (CLE) carried out by the Institute of Rural Research and Development (IRRAD) and supported by Clinical Programmes of Jindal Global Law School (JGLS). This initiative aims to prepare rural citizens for becoming effective participants in democracy to effect good governance and to address the disconnect between the promises of law and state policies and their grassroots reality.

Specific Objectives

- Sharing knowledge and experiences of good rural governance for strengthening capacity of practitioners in improving rural governance.
- Exploring ways for deepening engagement of higher education institutions and communities.
- Building partnership with law institutes, academic institutions, NGOs and community-based organizations for replicating 'Good Governance Now' model.
- Drawing on collective expertise and experience on 'citizen action and policy change' in forward looking analysis of policy change in India.

Conference Themes

- Unfolding the 'Good Governance Now' Model
- Higher Education Institutions and Community Engagement
- Citizen Action and Policy Change
- ICT and Social Media in Strengthening Citizen's Voice

The conference will explore the following issues:

- Critiquing 'Good Governance Now' Model
- Strengthening University - Community linkages
- Identifying key actors (social and political) in policy change, analyzing dynamics of interaction between various actors, collaboration for policy change at national level
- Analyzing strengths and weakness of ICT and social media in citizen's mobilization
- Understanding complexities of policy change process and planning for policy change.

Participation in the Conference

Participation is invited from law institutes, academic institutes, community based organizations, NGOs, corporate foundations, students and citizens.

For participation, please contact by January 31, 2012: Navneet Narwal, Program Leader

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The Organizers

The Institute of Rural Research and Development (IRRAD), Gurgaon, Haryana has partnered with **Jindal Global Law School (JGLS)**, Sonapat to organize the conference.

IRRAD: IRRAD is an initiative of the S M Sehgal Foundation, registered as a Trust since 1999 to further the wellbeing of rural communities in India. IRRAD envisions rural people across India motivated and empowered to make their lives more secure and prosperous through education, better health, improved skills and supportive governance. (www.irrad.org)

JGLS: Jindal Global Law School (JGLS), part of O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU), imparts a rigorous and multi-disciplinary legal education with a view to producing world-class legal professionals, scholars, and public servants. JGLS empowers its students with knowledge, skills, and vision to meet the challenges and opportunities of a rapidly changing world. (www.jgls.org)