**United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs)**
**Professor Shiva Ji**
**Department of Design for Sustainability Lab**
**Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad**
**Module 32 Lecture 66**
**Nodal Agency for Implementation in India**

(Refer Slide Time: 00:11)



Hello everyone, I welcome you all to the module 32nd of the course of UN SDGs. This module, we are going to cover 4 units first nodal agency for implementation in India, second effective strategy for implementation in Indian scenario, third State level reports and fourth assessment of implementation and checking its effectiveness.
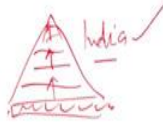
(Refer Slide Time: 00:39)



So, unit first nodal agency for implementation in India for SDGs is you are aware of is the NITI AAYOG. So, let us see what NITI AAYOG is and its objectives and features. So, NITI AAYOG's objectives and features are divided here into the four parts, it works for design policy, program and flame working monitoring and evaluation, foster cooperative federalism at Indian level national level and fourth Think Tank and knowledge and innovation hub.

(Refer Slide Time: 01:20)



So, in objectives, let us see in detail manner, objective 1, to evolve a shared vision of national development priorities sectors and strategies with the active involvement of states, second to foster cooperative federalism, through structured support initiatives and mechanisms with the states on a continuous basis recognizing that strong states make a strong nation, third to develop mechanisms to formulate credible plans at the village level and aggregate these progressively at higher levels of government.

Well, there are a few more, let me explain these, so, you can see here in the first one, there is a vision shared vision of national development priorities. So, how we can take our country forward at a much faster pace I am bringing everyone together is among the topmost priorities of NITI AAYOG. And with that, it works with the involvement of state of India our states and union territories together, point 2.

So, it works to foster cooperative federalism, like India is a federal country maybe you can search it separately, well, this word is not typically in much use in our country, but the nature of the of our union is this federalism, federalism actually is a kind of a model of governance which includes equally each and every state on the common platform and works according accordingly with the togetherness, so, that is our federal structure where, every state is equally important.

So, this is this mechanism. So, NITI AAYOG actually is trying to enhance this structural mechanism also at Indian level, the mechanism which states on a continuous basis. So, strong states make a strong nation. You see a very, very interesting you will underline you will make a point over here, if every state is growing definitely the whole country is also growing.

So, with this purpose, NITI AAYOG actually focuses on involving each and every state at parity to bring nation to the forefront to develop beginners to formulate credible plans at village level this is very important you if you see this an organization such as NITI AAYOG is focusing and keeping villages at its main in focal area is really amazing to see, because, this is where in still the majority of the India lives and comes from and this is where actually the need for improvement also lies in humongous, scale of intervention is desired is required in these hinterland villages rural areas. So, NITI AAYOG actually has kept the villages at its focus, so that it can work, bottom up, all of these villages, of the country, definitely will boost up the whole federal structure and the whole country will be in a stronger position.

(Refer Slide Time: 04:46)



Fourth to ensure on areas that are specifically referred to it, that the interests of national security are incorporated in economic strategy and policy. So, a secure country a safe country, can only guarantee freedom a free working opportunities peaceful life cohesive life growth and development etcetera. So, a secure country is a absolutely essential if you see the world history

and different countries also some of the countries also at this time if they are not secure if they are not able to defend their borders.

So, the whole country actually goes into a chaos and the public actually starts losing on anything and everything. So, basic immunity is food security, education, health, everything gets compromised so, first and foremost, national security, which works for economic strategy and policy.

So, with this keeping in the end these things in mind, you frame your national security policy, fifth to pay special attention to the sections of our society that may be at the risk of not benefiting adequately from the economy problems. So, you may be aware often the people from, some straight the people who are below poverty line and unfortunately, the benefits of growth and development of our country has not reached to them in equal proportion the way they should have.

So, to help actually these sections with the priority is the aim of even objective of NITI AAYOG, sixth to design strategic and long-term policy and program frameworks and initiatives and monitor their progress and their efficacy, the lessons learned through monitoring and feedback will be used for making innovative improvements including necessary mid course corrections. So, long term policy and program frameworks, which is cohesive for the growth and development.

7, to provide advice and encourage partnerships between key stakeholders and national and international live minded think tanks as well as educational and policy research institutions. So, in a way, you can see, think tanks of the moment it comes at individual level organizational level, country level global level.

So, to bring it all of them together for a common shared platform giving them a common platform take their feedbacks and frame policies accordingly. So, bringing all of the friends and equal minded countries and organizations to be the part of this whole exercise, 8 to create a knowledge innovation and entrepreneurial support system through a collaborative community of national and international experts practitioners and other partners.

So, here the focus is on bringing more and more youth to entrepreneurial activities, so that they can go alone and create it for job for many other people. So, a lot of startup, mechanism a lot of new companies are coming up and such r&d activities are happening. So, with the help of such things, how to nurture a new economic model, which is based on your, entrepreneurial, activities more and more. Objective 9, to offer a platform for the resolution of inter-sectoral and interdepartmental issues in order to accelerate the implementation of the development agenda.

(Refer Slide Time: 08:43)



10th to maintain our state of the art resource center, be a repository of the research on good governance and best practices in sustainable and equitable development as well as help their dissemination to stakeholders. So, state of the art Resource Center, 11th to actively monitor and evaluate the implementation of programs and initiatives, including the identification of the needed resources, so as to strengthen the probability of success and scope of delivery.

12th to focus on technology upgradation and capacity building for implementation of programs and initiatives so, major focus on technology, 13th to undertake other activities as may be necessary in order to further the execution of the national development agenda and the objectives mentioned above, so overall keeping national development agenda at forefront and doing whatsoever necessary to achieve that.

(Refer Slide Time: 09:52)



Let us see some features, of NITI Aayog, NITI Aayog is developing itself as a state of the art Resource Center with the necessary knowledge and skills that will enable it to act with speed, promote research and innovation provide strategic policy vision for the government and deal with contingent issues. It is supported by an attached office development monitoring and evaluation organization DMEO a flagship initiative, Atal innovation mission AIM and an autonomous body National Institute of labor economist research and development NILERD.

(Refer Slide Time: 10:36)

NITI Aayog's entire gamut of activities can be divided into four main heads policy and program framework, cooperative federalism, monitoring and evaluation, Think Tank knowledge and innovation hub. So, as we saw in the founding premises for the NITI Aayog it is divided miserably into four policy and program frame working cooperation federalism, monitoring and evaluation taking feedback and lastly, acting as a think tank for knowledge and innovation hub.

(Refer Slide Time: 11:20)



The different verticals cells attached and autonomous bodies of NITI provide the requisite coordination and support framework needed to carry out its mandate the list of verticals and cells is given below that you can see here the parts of NITI Aayog. So, it will give you a look how it works also and what are the major verticals under, NITI Aayog administration, agriculture and allied sectors, aspirational districts program cell communication and social media cell, data management and analysis frontier technologies, economics and financial, education, governance and research.

Governing Council Secretariat and coordination industry one, industry two, infrastructure connectivity, infrastructure energy, Natural Resources and Environment and Island development project appraisal and management division, public private partnership, Rural Development, science and technology, social justice and empowerment and voluntary action cell, social sector one skill development Labor and Employment urban development, social sector two health and

nutrition women and child development, state finances and coordination, Sustainable Development Goals Water Resources Pradhan Mantri  Krishi Sinchee Yojana land resources.

So, these are the major verticals so, you can see clearly laid out over here apart from other regular verticals we have SDCs also has one of the vertical inside NITI Aayog. And you may be aware NITI Aayog is the nodal agency at Indian national level to implement and carry out plans and programs and even executions for SDG related initiatives.

(Refer Slide Time: 13:22)



So, under SDGs, you can see what are the different other aspects on which NITI Aayog actually focuses and works and these are available on the website of NITI Aayog in public domain I would recommend no browsing through this and seeing and reading the reports. So, India specific actually SDG implementation and success stories you can find in detail on this portal.

So, you can see inside these SDGs, what are the other things in which information is available, we have India MPI baseline report, SDG India index 2020 to 2021, an overview of his disease dashboard e guide FAQs India's commitment to the SDGs SDG conflict 2020, SDG India Index report 2019 to 20 mapping of the Ministries of goals and targets, national and regional consultations you can see over here in these ones, you can have detailed overview of the state level or regional level performances. Then NITI Aayog role SDG India index dashboard,

seminar on sustainable development goals and their evaluation, United Nations High Level political forum on sustainable development.

(Refer Slide Time: 14:50)



So, NITI Aayog's role NITI Aayog has the twin mandate to oversee the adoption and monitoring of the SDGs in the country and promote competitive and cooperative federalism among states and UTs. The task at the hand of NITI Aayog is not just to periodically collect data on SDGs. But to proactively realize the goals and targets, the Ministry of statistics and program implementation has already undertaken a parallel exercise of interaction with the ministries to evolve indicators reflecting the SDG goals and targets.

NITI Aayog in consultation with Mo SPI has prepared a draft mapping of the goals and targets as an initial step further the centrally sponsored schemes including the core of the core, core and optional schemes implemented by the states and some of the recent initiatives undertaken by the central government have been mapped. Moreover, ministries and states are implementing Central Sector schemes and state schemes respectively aligned with one or more SDGs this mapping can be accessed on NITI Aayog's website.

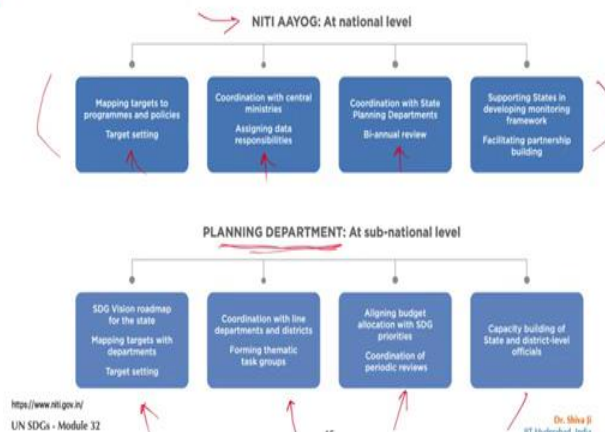So, the nodal bodies for institutionalizing SDGs there you can see here at the top we have NITI Aayog at national level mapping targets to programs and policies, target setting, coordination with central ministries, assigning data responsibilities, 3rd coordination with state planning departments by annual reviews, supporting states in developing monitoring framework facilitating partnerships.

So, at national level, these are the activities which NITI Aayog actually carries out and then at sub national level and the bottom part you can see planning department comes in the role which carry out these four activities namely SDG vision roadmap for the state mapping targets with departments target setting, second coordination with line departments and districts forming automatic task groups, third aligning budget allocation with the SDG priorities coordination of periodic reviews, forth capacity building of state and district level officials.

(Refer Slide Time: 17:22)
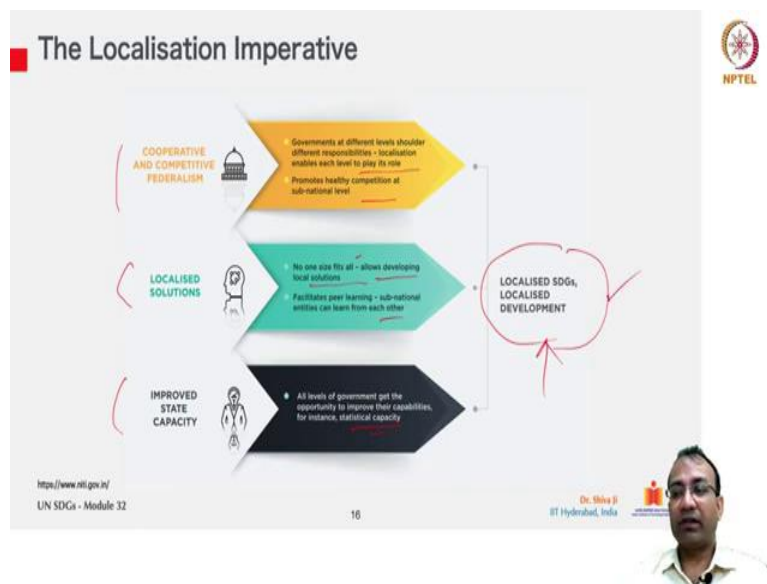


Localization imperative if you see this how it works so, we have cooperative and competitive federalism on the top then localized solutions here improved state capacity. So, governments at different levels shoulder different responsibilities localization enables each level to play its role promotes healthy competition at sub national level and it contributes to localize SDGs localized development here localized solution, no one size fits all allow, developing local solutions.

So, see, localization is always a key to achieving greater extent of success. Because whichever policy and whichever guideline comes, if it is not built and rectified at the place, it may or may not carry out in successful achievements. So, because there are always some localized factors which play role in any such similar situations that is why it says no one size fits all.

So, you need actually tailor-made customized approaches for an effective implementation facilitates peer learning, subnational entities can learn from each other. Lastly, improved state capacity, all levels of government get the opportunity to improve their capabilities, for instance, statistical capacity then together it gives rise to the localized agencies.

(Refer Slide Time: 18:59)
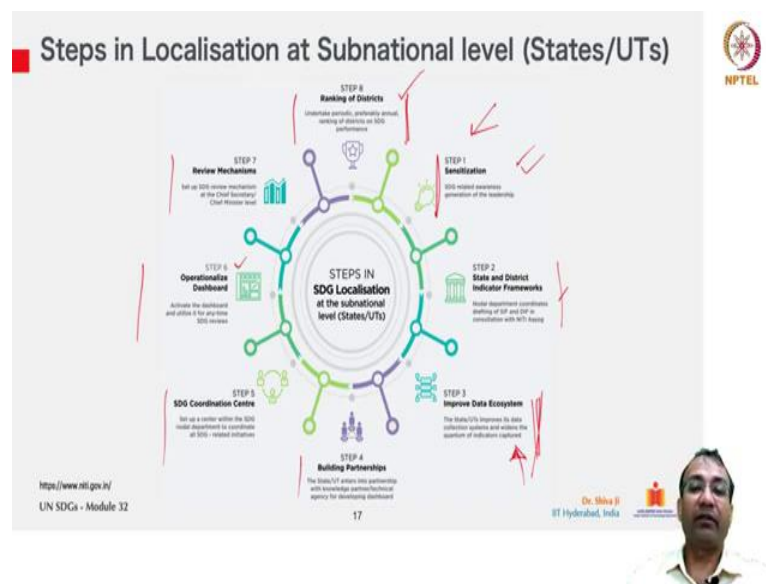


Next point comes what are the steps in localization at sub national level states and union territories? So, you can see from here, step 1 sensitization, creating awareness, SDG related awareness generation of the leadership. So, the first and foremost unless and until people are not aware of this and how are they going to work for it.

So, it is very essential to inform about SDGs to each and every person. And that is why we are undertaking this course that is how I vision a this course and put it up on SDGs because you can only be part of it on once you are aware of it. So, the first and foremost thing before doing anything is to know about it in proper detail, so that is sensitization. Second state and district indicator frameworks, nodal department, coordinated drafting of SIF and DIF. Consultation with

NITI Aayog. Third, improve data ecosystem, the state UTs improve its data collection system and widens the quantum of indicators scattered. So, factual information about indicators and how they are performing over the years and give you the clearer picture of what to do next.

So, the next point step four building partnerships state UT enters into partnership with knowledge partner, technical agency, for developing dashboard. Fifth SDG Coordination Center, set up a center within the SDG nodal department to coordinate all SDG related initiatives. Step 6, operationalize dashboard, activate the dashboard and utilize it for any time SDG (())(20:48).

So, this dashboard will help you in real time what are the number of activities going on which location, what are who are the stakeholders, etcetera. What is the success rate case studies and all of those things, so that it is a one stop solution for all sorts of queries and knowledge. Step 7 review mechanisms set up SDG review mechanism at the chief secretary or chief minister level so that it can be controlled with a stronger will. Lastly, step 8 ranking of districts undertake periodic preferably annual ranking of districts on SDG performance.

So, taking now stock of situation taking feedback, assessment and evaluation is also essential. And otherwise, all of these exercises may go bust if it is not bearing any fruit we need to make a revision in the policy or implementation strategy itself. So, effective actually monitoring and assessment is essential for achieving the proper success.