

Localising the Sustainable Development goals at the rural level provide an institutional framework that can align with national and global priorities.

Sustainable development goals (SDGs) are a global effort to comprehensively cover social, economic and environmental dimensions. India is committed to achieving 17 SDGs - and the 169 associated targets as a part of the resolution, Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development.

Localising SDGs at the rural level:

If India is to achieve the goals by 2030, it must build an effective mechanism locally.

i) Institutional framework in existence:

* On basis of Gender equality - 76 million women have been mobilised in self-help groups under the National Rural livelihood mission.

* On basis of poverty reduction - Southern states have played a significant role in curbing poverty. Eg. Participation of adolescent girls in secondary, higher secondary education.

* On basis of decent work and economic growth:

With women gaining education, they could leverage skills and diverse livelihood opportunities through collectives and SHGs.

Suggestions:

- i) Panchayati Raj Institutions being the tier closest to people can focus on their developmental role and there should be effective leadership role in achieving SDGs.
- ii) Economic efforts must be taken in villages and poor households to leverage systems and institutions to move up faster.

Way forward:

In order to achieve the ambitious targets by 2030, India must tackle the problems locally and find effective solutions to be in sync with national and global priorities.