



## Speaker



**Vanita Viswanath**  
*CEO, Udyogini*

- Vanita Viswanath is currently the CEO of Udyogini. Udyogini works to empower poor women through enterprise - focusing on training, value chain development and market linkages in north and central Indian states.
  - **Experience:** Prior to joining Udyogini in 2000, Vanita worked with the World Bank in Washington DC. She has also consulted with several international organizations including Oxfam International, Conservation International, DFID, UNDP and the Asian Development Bank. Vanita has several books and articles to her credit on a wide-range of issues including political development, gender, development practice, microenterprises and Corporate-NGO partnerships. She was a member of a Planning Commission Working Group on Clustering and Aggregation of Enterprise in the 12th Five Year Plan.
  - **Awards:** In 2012, she was one of three finalists for the Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award instituted by the Schwab Foundation, a sister organization of the World Economic Forum. In 2011, she was one among 11 global non-profit leaders to be selected by the Synergos Institute, New York as a Senior Fellow. These fellows work with the Senior Fellows Network to help lead the global agenda for poverty alleviation and social justice.
- **Education:** Vanita received her PhD at the University of Texas, Austin, USA.