



## Speaker



**K Vijaya Lakshmi**

*Vice President & Head of Innovation Systems Branch  
Development Alternative Group*

She heads the Innovation Systems Branch of Development Alternatives. Dr. Vijaya Lakshmi, Doctorate in Chemistry from Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, has began her journey as environmental scientist 23 years ago with Development Alternatives. With over 23 years of relevant experience in environmental management, Dr. Vijaya Lakshmi has been responsible for strengthening DA's capability in designing solutions for the blue and brown issues of the environment i.e., air, water and land pollution due to industrialization and urbanization and the related socio-economic implications on people and ecosystems. She took upon the challenge of demystifying the science of water quality testing and purification and decided to make sure that the common person has access to simple, reliable, easy to operate tools, leading to development of Jal-TARA water testing Kits and Jal-TARA water Filter.

She has successfully made the journey from experiment and innovation in a research laboratory to applications in the field. Responsible for programme planning, management and business development involving trans-disciplinary teams, she represents Development Alternatives in various national and international forums and network meetings. She is a recipient of the Ministry of Science and Technology's **National Award** for Women's Development through Application of Science and Technology for the year 2007 from the **President of India**. She has been serving on various committees and boards such as: Member, Project Advisory Committee of Water Technology Initiative of DST, Regional Council Member of GWP-South Asia, Member of Gender and Water Alliance (GWA) among various others.