



Speaker



Shrashtant Patara

*Chief Executive Officer, TARA and
Senior Vice President, Development Alternatives Group*

Mr. Patara has experience in sustainable building materials and technology, micro-enterprise development, rural market development and management of large donor funded programmes. These have included a range of clean technology and enterprise development initiatives such as the dissemination of Micro Concrete Roofing Technology in India, capacity building for promotion of Vertical Shaft Brick Kiln technology, development of housing and clean energy service delivery models for rural households along with coordination of several post-disaster reconstruction projects.

Currently, Mr. Patara is responsible for the management of projects aimed at creating community benefits around the use of renewable energy, particularly through decentralized generation of power; the foremost amongst these being the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation supported "Village Electrification through Sustainable Use of Renewable Energy" (VE-SuRE) project and the Rockefeller Foundation supported "Smart Power for Environmentally-sound Economic Development" (SPEED) project.

Mr. Patara has extensive field experience and strategic insights into capacity building approaches and service delivery mechanisms that are directed towards regeneration of the environment and greater social equity. His commitment to capacity building within the development sector was instrumental in establishment of the TARA Livelihood Academy – a DA Group initiative, led by Patara since 2008, that delivers training services for skill development and entrepreneurship.

He is a qualified group process moderator; at the forefront of designing participatory approaches to the resolution of complex problems and facilitating the evolution of multi-partner institutional networks aimed at promoting sustainable practices and policy change. Over the last decade, he has moderated a number of high-profile dialogue driven cross-sectoral events in national and international fora, for partners that have included USAID, DFID, SDC, UNDP and Ministries of the Government of India.