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Sida Decentralised Evaluation

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Increased Awareness and Capacity to Protect the Environment through Indian NGOs

- Review of Swedish Support to the Centre for Science and Environment and Toxics Link

Final Report

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Centre for Science and Environment
and Toxics Link

**Final Report
February 2014**

**Thomas Alveteg
Sanjukta Sarkar**

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The views and interpretations expressed in this report are the authors' and do not necessarily reflect those of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Sida.

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Executive Summary

The overall objective of Sweden's development cooperation with India during the last and final strategy period has been to achieve socially, economically and environmentally sustainable development. Environment has been the main area of cooperation with the goal to increase awareness of and capacity to protect the environment and prevent and manage climate change. This report is a review of the Swedish support to two leading environmental non-governmental organisations (NGOs): the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) and Toxics Link which have been part of the cooperation

The Swedish bilateral development cooperation with India ended in December 2013. A priority for the Swedish International Development Agency/Swedish Embassy during the phase out process has been to evaluate and disseminate the results and experiences of the development cooperation.

The aim of the review is to assess the impact of the work of CSE and Toxics Link as well as to provide insight into future perspectives for the two organisations. Conclusions drawn from these long standing partnerships and recommendations that may be useful for the Swedish development cooperation in other countries and regions also form part of the report.

The Swedish financial support and partnership with CSE started in 1989 and with Toxics Link in 2002. It has mostly been provided through core support (institutional grants). The support to CSE for the period 1998 – 2013, including the regional South Asia programme, was 102.6 million SEK (15.4 million USD). The support to Toxics Link for the period 2002 – 2013 was 12 million SEK (1.8 million USD)¹.

CENTRE FOR SCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENT (CSE)

CSE is a research and advocacy organisation based in New Delhi established in 1980 with the aim to increase public awareness on environmental issues, equity and sustainable development. Today CSE has about 150 members of staff and a total income for the financial year 2012-13 of 233 million Rupees (3.7 million USD). It operates within three areas: Research and advocacy, information dissemination, and training and capacity building. The extensive training programme targets government officials, school children and journalists in regional media. CSE's independent pollution monitoring laboratory supports its research and advocacy work. Channels for information dissemination are the magazine 'Down to Earth', the CSE's own website, the Green Clearance watch website and the India Environment Portal, thematic publications and reports, a children's magazine and newsletters.

RESULTS – CSE

CSE has an impressive long-standing track record of campaigns that have led to change in national policies and practices. CSE has for instance been engaged in the air pollution debate contributing to national air quality standards, emissions standards for vehicles, and sustainable urban transport planning; CSE's alert on pesticide residues in the early 2000s had global repercussions forcing even

¹ Exchange rate December 2013: 1 SEK = 0.15 USD.

global brands to review their quality control; The Green Rating Programme of industries has led to amendment of policies and regulations, and improved the environmental performance of some of the heavy polluters such as the paper and pulp industry; The Community Support Programme provides pro bono support to local communities to engage effectively on EIA reports of industrial projects, contributing to increased transparency and public participation; The web based Green Clearance Watch Portal is a public information system that has increased transparency and participation of local groups and organisations in decision making processes.

CSE is and has been chair/member of a number of national committees which are instrumental in forging new national policies and positioning India's stand on a number of issues globally. CSE's presence at these levels has also given them the ability to partner with various government agencies in the region to support environmental policy development.

CSE has shown strategic competence when achieving the attention of global media to achieve their advocacy goals. The international audience has been reached through developing a clear and relevant message disseminated at the right time through effective channels, primarily through global media. One strong indicator of this success is the number of times CSE messages have been picked up by global influential media which have the capacity to spread the message to many more national media and therefore influence decision-makers world-wide.

CSE has been successful in bringing a 'South perspective' to the international environmental debate while at the same time it has stayed firmly rooted in concerns related to environmental issues that affects local communities in India and in the wider region. Examples of this are for instance CSE's contribution to the debate about the climate change agenda, its regional training programmes, and the various campaigns aimed at forcing multinationals to keep the same food standards in developing countries as in the West.

TOXICS LINK

Toxics Link's aim is to develop an information exchange and support mechanisms alongside research and advocacy that will strengthen campaigns to help push industries towards cleaner production and link isolated groups working on toxics issues. The organization was established in 1998 and their target groups includes the general public, politicians, governmental agencies, regulators, NGOs, academics, industry, students and media. Toxics Link has 25 members of staff. Their work focuses on two main areas: Waste and Sustainability (biomedical waste management, municipal waste, hazardous waste, and electronic waste), and Chemicals and Health (toxic chemicals including Heavy Metals, Asbestos, and POPs -Persistent Organic Pollutants). Toxics Link's main channels for information dissemination are its publications and web-site. It also provides training to government agencies and implements awareness programmes in schools.

RESULTS – TOXICS LINK

Toxics Links has been very successful in positioning themselves within subject areas where there are few other NGOs working in India. Toxics Link is a relatively small organisation that nevertheless has had a large impact on policy development and implementation of models for waste handling in India. This is particularly true for the handling and disposal of biomedical waste from hospitals and health centres, reduction of lead in decorative paint, and the work with introducing models for

handling of electronic waste (E-waste). It has also made important contributions to forging international commitments to reduce the use of toxic chemicals such as Heavy Metals (Mercury and Lead). Toxics Link has also played an important role in the region as well as globally in supporting international networks on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPS). The organisation was actively engaged in the process that led up to the Stockholm Convention on POPS and also played a key role in establishing the network for the elimination of the use of POPS (IPEN - network).

Governmental agencies such as the MoEF and CPCB appreciate the dialogue and participation of Toxics Link in various national policy committees and send their members of staff regularly to Toxics Link's training workshop and seminar events. The organisation has also forged strong links with international networks in areas of priority on the global environmental agenda. It is therefore very likely that there will continue to be a strong demand for the services provided by Toxics Link.

LESSONS LEARNED

Long-term core support provides a secure source of funding which enables the organisation to develop and consolidate its core strategy and build technical capacity. It also creates flexibility - seed-money - to explore new ideas and approaches.

It is a useful funding modality for areas where a long-term strategic approach is needed to tackle complex issues (i.e. changing attitudes, promoting policy change and policy implementation) and where results are difficult to achieve within the life span of a traditional two to three year project cycle. Core support is also important for organisations that are working in subject areas where project funding are scarce, for instance in communication and awareness raising programmes.

Sida's long-term support has not only been appreciated by the partners for the financial contribution, but also for the constructive dialogue and partnership with the donor over time.

Regular programme assessments are important tools when providing core support. This provides the organisation with a critical evaluation which can increase the operational efficiency and the internal monitoring framework of the organisation.

CONCLUSIONS

The support to CSE and Toxics Link has clearly contributed to the overall objective of the Swedish development cooperation with India and it has also increased environmental awareness and strengthened capacity in the region as well as internationally.

The long-term character of the Swedish core support has been essential for providing the financial flexibility needed to strengthen the capacity of the two organisations. CSE and Toxics Link stress that the Swedish support has not defined or interfered with the identity of the organisations. They were both established as NGOs before the support started, with clear visions and identities, but the support has been crucial for the strategic growth and consolidation of the two organisations.

CSE and Toxics Link have over the past decades established themselves as highly relevant green think-tanks and advocacy organisations and their work has received recognition in India as well as internationally. The most important factors behind the success of CSE and Toxics Link are that they have managed to combine activism with effective advocacy backed up by evidence based research

and presenting practical workable proposals for change to decision-makers. The quality of the work of both organisations has been recognised by governmental authorities and also by corporate actors. Both CSE and Toxics Link are frequently invited to take part in national working groups that draft new legislation.

CSE has gained recognition in the Asia region and globally as a green think-tank and advocacy organisation and its campaigns are frequently quoted in international media. Their power to influence is visible through their membership of several international committees addressing global environmental threats such as climate change. CSE is recognised for its expertise in the environmental field and the quality of its research based advocacy campaigns. There is probably no other organisations of similar stature within the region. The success has been achieved through a well-designed mix of evidence based advocacy work, effective networking and communication, and not at least the dedication and commitment of its members of staff.

CSE and Toxics Link have both managed to diversify their funding streams and as a consequence reduced the dependency on Swedish support. However, the donor landscape for CSOs in India has changed dramatically over the past years and currently there seems to be no donors that are willing to provide long-term institutional grants. Without such support, it will become difficult to take on controversial issues and sustain long-term advocacy campaigns. The loss of the Sida core funding will therefore lead to profound changes for both organisations.

CSE's training programme activities has increased over the past few years. This is an area that is expected to continue to grow, and may to some extent compensate for the loss of Sida funding

A concern for CSE is the flagship publication Down to Earth and the India Environmental Portal. Down to Earth has over the years had an impressive impact in media in India as well as internationally, but there is at present no funding for the research work behind the articles and campaigns. The information at the India Environment Portal is provided free of charge and this is an important factor behind its success, but so far has CSE not found alternative funding.

Toxics Link sees a clear opportunity in increasing the cooperation with the corporate sector, through CSR funding and selective consultancies within their priority areas of work, as long as it does not compromise the core values of the organisation. This will not replace all of the core funding.

There are very few environmental organisations like CSE and Toxics Link that have developed an effective advocacy position from a South perspective. This will become even more important in the future, as the emerging economies in Asia increase their share in the global economy – and of the global ecological footprint.

CSE are in this respect a unique organisation - a watchdog and green think-tank with a clear potential to continue expand and play a crucial role in providing a constructive South perspective to the international environment and climate debate – a role which mostly is played by organisations from the North. The funding challenge is therefore a crucial issue.

Abbreviations and acronyms

BIS	Bureau of Indian Standards
COP	Conference of the Parties (within the UN negotiations on climate change)
CSE	Centre for Science and Environment
CPCB	Central Pollution Control Board
CPSP	Centre for Study of Public Policy, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow
CPWD	Central Public Works Department
EEB	European Environmental Bureau
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GAELP	Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint
GIZ	German International Cooperation
GoI	Government of India
IFS	Indian Foreign Service
IPEN	International POPs Elimination Project
KemI	Swedish Chemicals Agency
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forestry
MoHW	Ministry of Health and Welfare
MoRD	Ministry of Rural Development
NREGS	National Rural Employment Generation Scheme
PDC	Partner Driven Cooperation
POPS	Persistent Organic Pollutants
Sida	Swedish International Development Agency
SSNC	Naturskyddsföreningen / Swedish Society for Nature Conservation
SPCB	State Pollution Control Board
TERI	the Energy and Resources Institute
ToR	Terms of Reference
ToT	Training of Trainers
TL	Toxics Link
ULB	Urban Local Bodies

Exchange rates: 1 Indian Rupee (INR) = 0.1 Swedish Krona (SEK)
1 SEK = 0.15 US Dollar (USD)
(December 2013)

1. Introduction

This report presents a review of the Swedish support to two environment non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in India: the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) and Toxics Link (TL)².

The Swedish financial support and partnership with CSE started in 1989 and with Toxics Link in 2002. It has mostly been provided through institutional grants. This modality of support provided the two organisations with financial flexibility required to strengthen organisational capacity and to embark on long-term campaigns to tackle complex environmental issues in society – issues that are difficult to address within the life-span of a traditional two to three year project funding cycle. CSE and Toxics Link have also over the past decades established themselves as highly relevant green think-tanks and advocacy organisations and their work has received recognition in India as well as internationally.

India has been one of Sweden's long-standing partners. The development cooperation started in 1953 and has over the years included support to government institutions as well as NGOs. The cooperation has among other areas included support to forestry, environmental issues and health.

The Swedish bilateral development cooperation with India ended in December 2013. During this last bilateral cooperation period, the major share of the support was channelled through partner driven cooperation (PDC). The aim has been to promote relations of mutual interests between actors in India and Sweden (such as NGOs, universities, municipalities, government agencies and businesses). In addition, support has also been channelled to a few Indian NGOs working with environmental issues, including the support to CSE and Toxics Link that is reviewed in this report³.

A priority for the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) in the phase out process has been to evaluate and communicate the results and experiences of the development cooperation with India. This review is part of these efforts. The aim has been to assess the impact of the work of CSE and Toxics Link as well as to provide insight into the future perspectives for the two organisations once the Swedish support ends. The report also presents some conclusions and recommendations from this long-standing partnership that may be useful for the Swedish development cooperation in other countries and regions.

The report is divided into four sections. The first section gives a brief background to the support. This is followed by two sections that separately review the support to CSE and to Toxics Link. Finally, the overall conclusions and lessons learned from the review are presented. It is important to stress that this review is not intended as a comparison of the two organisations, but rather, as they operate within similar fields of work, analyse the contributions of both these organisations.

² Embassy of Sweden, New Delhi, 13 May, 2013. *Terms of Reference for Review of Results of the Support to the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) and Toxics Link (TL)*.

³ Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2009. *Strategy for Selective Cooperation with India 2009 – 2013*. Stockholm: Sweden.

2 Objectives and Scope of the Review

2.1 Objectives of the Review

According to the Terms of Reference (ToR)⁴ the aim of the review is to identify and communicate results of the development cooperation with the Indian NGOs: CSE and Toxics Link. The specific objectives of the review are to assess:

- to what extent the objectives of the support to the two organisations have been met,
- the results (planned and not planned) that the organisations have contributed to,
- lessons learnt, risk and challenges from the cooperation,
- and analyse major organisational implications of Sida's phasing out of the support.

Further, the review should include the following issues:

- Assess to what extent the project objectives (set in the project document) have been achieved and identify and assess the major results (expected and not expected) achieved:
- What results have the organisations contributed to?
- What changes has the support led to? (For instance changes in knowledge, attitudes, behaviour or policy changes),
- Have there been any positive or negative side effects?
- In which areas, or specific problems, have the organisations been specifically successful?
- Assess and analyse major implications on CSE and TL after Sida's phase out. What would be the implications at organisational level? Assess the organisational capacities and preparedness plans for organisational sustainability beyond the Sida support. Provide specific recommendations on sustainability.
- What are the lessons learnt from the cooperation? Which are the good and the bad experiences?

2.2 Review Methods

The data collection was based on review of documentation and interviews. The review of documents included project plans, reports, publications and external reports on applied research studies on environmental issues in India relevant to the areas of work, as well as selected media coverage on work related to the two organisations⁵.

A field visit was made to New Delhi to interview CSE's and Toxics Link's senior managers and programme teams. Selected key external stakeholders were also interviewed during the visit, for instance, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF), the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the Swedish Embassy and other donor agencies that provide support to CSE and Toxics Link (see annex 1).

⁴ Embassy of Sweden, 13 May, 2013. *Terms of Reference for Review of Results of the Support to the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) and Toxics Link (TL)*.

⁵ List of documents reviewed are listed annex 4 (CSE) and 5 (Toxics Link).

As a complement to the interviews, a workshop was arranged with each of the organisations to further explore the lessons learnt from the cooperation and the challenges and opportunities to continue the work without funding from the Embassy of Sweden.

The draft results of the assignment was presented at a debriefing seminar in New Delhi, December 2nd, 2013, when a first preliminary draft of the draft report was also discussed with the CSE, Toxics Links and the Swedish Embassy. The draft report was later shared with the three parties and comments and suggestions included in the final version of the document.

2.3 Scope

The review, according to the ToR, should provide an overview of the entire period of cooperation with the two organisations, with focus on the last period (2009 – 2013).

Sweden has also provided support to CSE's regional Asia programme and support through the PDC modality. The PDC cooperation was reviewed in a separate evaluation and is therefore not be part of this assignment. As agreed with the Swedish Embassy the review did not include an assessment of CSE's Asia regional programme, but looked into the overall impact of the organisation's work in the regional and international arena.

When reading the report, it is important to keep in mind the character of the Swedish contribution: As with institutional grants, the funds provided were not earmarked to a specific activity or product. Therefore, the results cannot be attributed solely to the Swedish support, but as sum of the core support provided by Sweden⁶ as well as project funding from various other donors.

Both CSE and Toxic Links have over the years contributed to a large number of important positive changes within the Indian context as well as internationally. The review does not attempt to provide a detailed description of all these achievements, but the authors hope that the report has been able to highlight impacts and provide good examples of CSE's and Toxics Link's work.

One challenge when carrying out the analysis has been that the reports from both CSE and Toxics Link tends to focus on the outcome level, i.e. the contribution to policy formulation, but not necessarily the actual impact on the people at local level. This is a common challenge for organisations that work with advocacy and awareness-raising campaigns - areas where direct impact on target groups is difficult and/or costly to measure. However the review team has tried in close dialogue with CSE and Toxics Link to include examples of the impact of the work while maintaining an independent view.

⁶ In the case of CSE also the previous core support from the Ford foundation 2003-2008, 2009-2012.

3 Context

3.1 The development cooperation between Sweden and India

India's steady macro-economic growth over the past decades has reduced the need for external support. The net official development assistance expressed as a percentage of GNI decreased from 1.2 per cent in 1980 (USD 2.2 billion) to 0.2 per cent in 2011 (USD 3.2 billion)⁷. In contrast, India's own foreign spending on aid has been increasing and is estimated to reach USD 1.3 billion in 2013-2014, even though the definition of its development cooperation is debated⁸.

The economic growth has not benefitted the poor to the same extent as the increasing middle class. Large inequities still prevail between different sectors in society. In 2010 an estimated 69% of the population was living below the poverty line of USD 2 a day⁹.

The Swedish development cooperation with India started in the 1950s and has been one of Sweden's largest recipients of financial assistance. The contributions peaked during the period 1991 – 1996 reaching an average of USD 65 million per year. After the nuclear test in May 1998, the bilateral development agreement with India was discontinued. Instead the support was channelled through civil society and multilateral organisations¹⁰.

In 2003, the Indian government announced that the country had reached a stage in its development where it should review its dependency on external donors¹¹. The new aid policy, adopted the same year, stated that the country should reduce the number of small bilateral donors¹². As a consequence some donors started to withdraw support, among these the Scandinavian countries. The Swedish Government also began to scale down the development cooperation and focused the support on promoting partnerships between Swedish and Indian institutions (NGOs, private sector, state agencies and universities). The disbursements for the current and final agreement period 2009-2014 are approximately USD 9 million per year (60 M SEK)¹³ mainly targeting the environment and climate sector and the health sector¹⁴. A new modality, partner driven cooperation (PDC) was introduced to stimulate 'the growth of self-supporting relationships of mutual interest'.

As a complement to the PDC, the strategy included 'targeted direct contributions to strategically important organisations in civil society that work in the environment and climate sector'. The core

⁷ <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/DT.ODA.ODAT.GN.ZS>

⁸ Sharan, V., et. Al. July 2013. *India's Development Cooperation – Charting New Approaches in a Changing World*, pages 1,4. Observer Research Foundation. New Delhi: India; and Price, G. 2004. *India's aid dynamics: from recipient to donor?* page 4. Chatham House, London: UK.

⁹ <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.2DAY>

¹⁰ Sida. 2008. *Managing Aid Exit and Transformation, India Country Case Study*. Authors: Groot, A., et. al. Stockholm: Sweden.

¹¹ Government of India, 2003. Finance minister, Jaswant Singh 2003/2004 Union Budget Speech: (<http://www.indiabudget.nic.in/ub2003-04/bs/speecha.htm>), paragraph 126. New Delhi: India

¹² Price, G. 2004. *India's aid dynamics: from recipient to donor?* page 4. Chatham House, London: UK.

¹³ Exchange rate December 2014: 1 USD = 0.15 SEK.

¹⁴ Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2009. *Strategy for selective cooperation with India, January 2009 – December 2013*. Stockholm: Sweden.

support provided to the CSE and Toxics Link (TL) that has been reviewed in this report falls into this category of funding.

3.2 The environment in India – the challenges towards sustainable development

India's environment movement emerged in the 1970s around the same time as when environmental issues were for the first time addressed as a global concern. The first major international conference on environment, the Stockholm Conference in 1972, became an important starting point and source of inspiration. The conference recognised that most of the environmental problems in developing countries were linked to poverty. It challenged developing countries to not repeat the mistakes of the industrialized countries and instead promote economic development while safeguarding the environment¹⁵. India's key environmental legislation was also enacted during this period: the water pollution act (1974) and the air pollution act (1981)¹⁶. However, the new legislation was not translated into action and the emerging environmental movements in the country found very little response to their call for concrete action. According to CSE, the 1970s was for India the 'decade of innocence' - 'India had yet not witnessed the intensification of economic growth that would in turn destroy our environment'.

The 1970s also saw a second challenge to the environment – the equity perspective - the right of marginalised communities to maintain access to natural resources. Resources that had sustained the livelihood of communities for centuries were now under threat, being exploited without any re-compensation or consideration for the needs of local communities.

During the 1980s and 1990s, environmental degradation caused by rampant economic development became increasingly visible. Environmental disasters, such as at the Union Carbide plant in Bhopal in 1996 had world-wide repercussions and should have acted as the alarm bell for India. However, in spite of the large media coverage, those responsible for the disaster were not held to account and industrial and agricultural development continued as before. During this period NGOs like CSE and Toxics Link began to engage in advocacy and awareness-raising campaigns targeting the threat to development caused by environmental pollution.

¹⁵ UNEP. 1972. *Declaration of the UN Conference on the Human Environment - Stockholm June 1972*, paragraph 4.

¹⁶ The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) a statutory organisation under the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) was established under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act (Act No. 6 of 1974). The CBPCB is also entrusted with the powers and functions under the 1980 Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act (Act No. 14 of 1981).

Basically every environment campaign we launched has started with a 'No' – at first they were all rejected by decision makers and by media alike. We were told that we exaggerated the problem or that it was not feasible to address the issue. This meant that in order to achieve change, we had to stay with an idea for a long time period. It has often taken about five to ten years from launching the first campaign on an issue, to actually see any change in attitudes among the public or amendments being introduced to national policies.

- Interview: Sunita Narain, CSE and Ravi Agarwal, Toxics Link.

In the 1990s CSE began to have an impact on the international arena. CSE introduced the concept of equity to the Climate Change debate¹⁷ then a highly controversial issue that today has proved to be one of society's most critical challenges and is a key issue in the current international negotiations. A decade later, Toxics Link made an important contribution to the international campaign to eliminate POPs¹⁸ – as co-founder of the IPEN network which has played an important role in reducing the use of such chemicals.

The environmental movement in India today faces a different challenge. Organisations like CSE and Toxics Link have been successful in creating awareness among decision-makers and the general public. The environment has become a mainstream concern such that no political party or group can afford to neglect it. 'Green technology' has become an important selling point for the corporate sector. In spite of this, the environmental indicators in India show a worrying picture: air pollution in the cities is on the increase, water pollution and contamination from mining and industries is increasing. Implementation of all the good environmental policies still remains a great challenge.

The struggle for the control of natural resources has also intensified. The only exception being the forestry sector where recent data shows that the extension of green areas in fact is on the increase¹⁹. Nevertheless, the local communities that live in India's forests and natural reserves still remain among the poorest groups in society. According to CSE, 'India cannot afford to play the game, which is first-pollute and then-clean-up. We need a trajectory of growth, which leapfrogs us from no-growth-no-pollution to growth-without-pollution²⁰. This is why the work of environmental organisations like CSE and Toxics Link continue to be highly relevant – as green watch dog that advocates for change and propose practical solutions to address the threat against the environment and the long-term development of society.

¹⁷ Agarwal, A., and Narain, S. 1991. *Global Warming in an Unequal World*. CSE. New Delhi: India

¹⁸ Persistent Organic Pollutants: a group of chemical compounds used for instance as pesticides and (brominated) flame-retardants that are resistant to environmental degradation and accumulate in the food chain with significant impacts on human health and the environment.

¹⁹ MoEF. November 2009. *India State of Forest Report 2009*. New Delhi, India.

²⁰ Source: CSE in 2012: *An Assessment*. (Internal document).

4 Review of the Support to the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)

CSE is a non-governmental research and advocacy organisation based in New Delhi. It was established in 1980 with the aim to increase public awareness on environmental issues, equity and sustainable development. CSE today has about 150 members of staff. The total income for the financial year 2012-13 was 233 million Rupees (3.7 million USD)²¹. The operations are based on three main pillars: Research and advocacy, Information and dissemination, and Training and Capacity building. The research and advocacy work in turn is built around seven programme areas:

- Sustainable Urban Mobility and Air Quality,
- Sustainable Industrialisations (including: green rating, consultancy – community support, regulators' programme, food safety and toxins),
- Renewable Energy,
- Climate change,
- Food Safety and Toxins,
- Sustainable Buildings,
- Sustainable Water Management.
- Poverty and Environment are considered cross-cutting issues throughout the seven programme areas.

CSE carries out training programmes aimed at three main target groups: governmental officials (national and state levels), school children (the Green Schools programme) and journalists (Media programme) – training journalists on environmental issues across the country. CSE has also a pollution monitoring laboratory to support its research and advocacy work, which is the only laboratory operated by a CSO in India.

CSE's main channels for information dissemination are the bimonthly magazine 'Down to Earth', the CSE website, Green Clearance watch website and the India Environment Portal, the magazine 'Gobar Times' (aimed at school children), and the fortnightly mail and newsletters amongst other publications and reports on specific issues.

4.1 Sida's Financial Support to CSE

The objective of the Swedish support has been to help improve national capacity for protection of the environment and for mitigation and adaptation of the impacts of climate change in rural and urban India²².

Sida's support was initially limited to specific project activities, but since 2003 has been provided as core support. The total support to CSE for the period 1998 – 2013, including the regional South Asia programme, was 102.6 million SEK (15.4 million USD). For the period 1998 – 2009, Sida granted CSE

²¹ Exchange rate December 2013: 1 USD = 0.016 INR

²² Objective of the Sida support to the CSE's National Programme as expressed in: Sida. August 2009.

Assessment Memo - A strategic intervention in the area of environment and climate in India; Continued support to CSE 2009-2013. Stockholm, Sweden.

51.9 million SEK (7.8 million USD)²³, out of which 30 million SEK was provided as core support²⁴. For the last period, 2009 – 2013, Sida's contribution to CSE's national programme was 21.5 million SEK²⁵ (3.2 million USD), provided as core support. CSE's regional South Asia programme 2008 – 2013 received 29.2 million SEK (4.4 million USD). CSE has over the past decade diversified its donor base, but Sida has remained the most important donor and at present is the only institutional grant provider.

4.2 CSE Results per Programme Area

From the beginning, CSE's core strategy has been to achieve change through initiating evidence based debate raising awareness on key environmental issues that affect society at large and the poor and marginalized groups in particular. This strategy has proved successful and CSE has an impressive long-standing track record of campaigns that have led to change in national policies and practices. The following sections give a brief overview of the results for each of the CSE programme areas (the achievements per programme area are also listed in the logframe in annex 6).

4.2.1 Air Pollution

CSE has been engaged in the air pollution debate for over ten years first focussing on the situation in the capital city, New Delhi. Once some positive results were achieved they continued to work with authorities in more than 17 major cities in the country. CSE has played a key role in campaigns that brought about change to important policies and regulations, such as²⁶:

- the national air quality standards,
- emissions standards for new vehicles,
- fuel economy regulations for cars,
- clean air action plan to improve air quality adopted by the Delhi government,
- the constitution of a committee in New Delhi to review air quality index and public alert system,
- the reform of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) related to transportation,
- dedicated bus-lanes and new buses in New Delhi²⁷.

The work has evolved in stages: The first generation of results contributed to reduced toxic emissions from vehicles and improved air quality standards:

- The campaign for clean fuel led to a large programme in Delhi in which all buses, auto rickshaws and most taxis shifted to natural gas. It contributed stabilise air pollution levels

²³ Exchange rate December 2014: 1 USD = 0.15 SEK.

²⁴ The 51.9 million SEK included funds for follow up of the support.

²⁵ Sida. August, 2009. *Assessment Memo - A strategic intervention in the area of environment and climate in India; Continued support to the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), 2009 – 2013*. Stockholm: Sweden.

²⁶ The section on air pollution based on the CSE Annual Reports: 2009 – 2013.

²⁷ Bus lane and dedicated cycle track established from Ambedkar Nagar to Mool Chand, New Delhi, but enforcement is still an issue due to resistance from the car lobby. Interview: Batra, A, CSE, 4 Feb 2013.

and according to a World Bank study helped save more than 3,600 premature deaths a year in Delhi alone²⁸.

- The campaign for stringent national ambient air quality standards: contributed to the adoption of new standards in 2009 and also to conduct real-time air quality monitoring in New Delhi to communicate to the public daily trends in air pollution risks.

The second generation campaign focused on improving public transport aimed at reducing the dependency on personal vehicles and cut congestion and pollution:

- Bus sector reform: to help Delhi meet its Master Plan target of 80 per cent of travel by public transport by 2020 and the target of 10,000 buses set by the Supreme Court. So far the informal bus system has been replaced with organised bus services that improved quality of travel of 40 per cent of Delhi's commuters.
- Campaign against the increasing number of diesel vehicles: CSE is working to end incentives for/ and increasing fuel tax on diesel cars (a major source of PM10 particles). This has led to a rise in excise duties on SUVs and phasing out of subsidies on diesel fuel.
- Campaign for fuel economy standards: Despite opposition from car manufacturers, the government has approved a target of 20 per cent CO₂ reduction over 2010 levels by 2020, significantly steeper than the 16 per cent reduction proposed by the car industry.
- Campaign for parking policy: New Delhi has endorsed CSE's proposal for a reform of the parking policy. As an interim measure, the Delhi Master Plan has been amended to ban the construction of car parks in green areas,
- Right to walk campaign: CSE's proposal has been included in the new India Road Congress official guidelines for street design, a measure that will have nation-wide impact,
- Improve urban mobility: CSE is working with the authorities in Rajasthan and Maharashtra to improve urban mobility and introduce cycle lanes²⁹.

What has been the impact beyond new policies and standards? In the case of New Delhi, air quality showed a small improvement up to 2005. The SO₂, NO₂ levels have remained fairly stable over the past ten years, while micro particles (PM10), on the other hand have more than tripled³⁰. However, motor vehicles in New Delhi have over the same time period more than doubled, from 3.5 to 7.4 million vehicles³¹. Considering the increase in vehicles, the measures implemented by the Delhi government has in fact had a positive effect, else the situation would probably have been much worse.

4.2.2 Food Safety and Toxins

In the early 2000s, CSE launched an alert on the presence of pesticides residues in soft-drinks. The campaign had global repercussions forcing some global brands to review their quality control³².

²⁸ Anon, 2005. *For a breath of fresh air – Ten years of progress and challenges in urban air quality management in India 1993 – 2002*, p. 28. World Bank, Environment and Social Development Unit, South Asia Region.

²⁹ Roychowdhury, A. 2013. *Good News & Bad News – Clearing the air in Indian Cities*. CSE, New Delhi: India.

³⁰ CPCB, 2011. *Annual Report 2010-11*, page 100. CPCB, MoEF. New Delhi: India.

³¹ Government of NCT-Delhi, 2013. *Statistical Abstract of Delhi 2012*, p 66. New Delhi: India.

³² The Economist, 6 October 2005. *Coca-Cola, in hot water, the world's biggest drinks firm tries to fend off its green critics*. London: UK.

CSE's laboratory analysis and study of lead in decorative paint played an important role in influencing the government to review the current regulations on lead. CSE is part of the expert group that develops the standards. Another CSE laboratory study - on phthalates in children's toys³³ - prompted the Ministry of Health and Welfare (MoH) to assess the need of monitoring chemicals in toys (2009-2010).

Over the years, CSE has continued to draw public attention to the lack of response to the victims of the Bhopal disaster. Chemical residues in drinking water are still a major issue in the area. CSE demanded urgent measures and due to the wide media coverage, the government has been forced to acknowledge the severity of the contamination and has formed an expert group to look into the issue (2009-2010)³⁴.

Following CSE's study on the presence of antibiotics in honey³⁵, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) issued an advisory, banning the presence of antibiotics and pesticide residues in honey. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is also revising the standards for extracted honey.

Soft drinks and pesticides – CSE Challenging the Soft Drink Industry

CSE's report on pesticide residues in some brands of soft drinks sparked a debate on a global scale and made brands like Coca-Cola and Pepsi tighten up their internal quality systems world-wide.

It also attracted large attention in India and the Minister for Health and Family Welfare ordered an independent review:

'The Committee find that CSE's findings are correct on the presence of pesticide residues in carbonated water in 36 samples of 12 brand names. The Committee also appreciate the whistle blowing act of CSE in alerting the nation to an issue with major implications to food safety, policy formulation... and human and environmental health'.

CSE was invited to take part in a government working committee that made a major reform to the regulations for controlling pesticides and safety of food commodities. A new pesticide management bill was adopted by the parliament in 2008.

CSE has continued to follow up the case highlighting the poor implementation of the bill. This prompted in 2013 the Ministry of State for Agriculture to urge all State Governments to ensure that the regulations are followed.

References: The Economist, 6 October 2005; JPC Report 2004; CSE, 2013; Lok Sabha, 2013)

CSE's laboratory study on saturated fats and trans-fats in junk food received large media coverage and contributed to several state governments taking action. In 2011 Uttar Pradesh's government banned the sale of junk food in secondary schools³⁶.

³³ Phthalates are commonly used in plastics to increase their flexibility and durability. It is also found in deodorants and other cosmetic products. The phthalates mimic the body's hormone system and has in laboratory animal tests caused reproductive and neurological damage.

³⁴ CSE, August 2013. *Contamination of UCIL site remains a threat for Bhopal*.

<http://www.cseindia.org/content/contamination-ucil-site-remains-a-threat-bhopal>

³⁵ The study was picked up by the International Journal of Clinical Metal Toxicology and Business and Human Rights Resource Centre. India's largest TV news network, NDTV, aired special coverage on Sonbhadra, and questions were raised in the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly.

³⁶ CSE, April, 2012. *CSE welcomes UP decision to ban junk food in schools*. <http://www.cseindia.org/node/4024>

4.2.3 Sustainable Industrialisation

CSE has carried out a large number of studies towards cleaner low carbon industrial processes. Focus has been on supporting local people affected by industrial and mining activities to get their voices heard. Several of the studies have had a direct impact on policy formulation assuring local people's right to access to information on activities that impact their livelihood. In the case of the mining industry, CSE has also contributed to promote local people's right to have a share in the economic benefits of the mining activities. Three examples of CSE achievements are the Green Clearance Watch Portal, the Green Rating programme and the Community Support Programme:

The Green Clearance Watch Portal is a public information system developed by CSE to track environmental and forest clearances of industrial investments and development projects. The website database includes information on projects from April 2007 to date. Through the wide network of partners throughout the country, the portal tracks public hearings on new industrial and mining projects, tracks the EIA processes and follows public court cases. It has received excellent feedback from the NGO sector as well as from the national public authorities such as the Planning Commission, the SPCB and the MoEF among others. According to the interviews the portal has increased transparency and participation of local groups and organisations in decision making processes on environmental permissions throughout the country³⁷.

CSE has also advocated for introducing a wider analysis than the assessment used in traditional EIAs, by looking at the carrying capacity of a region rather than giving environmental clearance to projects individually. This concept was adopted in a study in 2009 by the CPCB and led to the decision to not grant any new clearances in the most critically polluted areas³⁸.

The Green Rating Programme: CSE has over the last decade made reviews of several industrial sectors in India. The programme has received a lot of attention in media, among decision makers and in the corporate sector.

The rating of the iron and steel sector in June 2012 led to questions in both houses of Parliament on the performance and safety of the sector. The report also had repercussions on investments by foreign entities in polluting industries in India: The International Finance Corporation, has pledged to review its lending guidelines for this polluting sector; and the Crédit Lyonnais Securities Asia (CLSA), an investment bank, stressed the need of better environmental due diligence for investment in industries and reviewing of the performance of the plants³⁹.

The Community Support Programme provides pro bono support to local communities to engage effectively on EIA reports of industrial projects, contributing to increased transparency and public participation. There are several examples where the work of CSE has contributed to concrete

³⁷ Interviews: Bhure, L. EPCA. 5 Nov 2013; Subrahmaniam, G.V, MoEF. 5 Nov 2013; and CSE's Community Support team. 4 Nov 2013.

³⁸ CPCB, December 2009. *Comprehensive Environmental Assessment of Industrial Clusters*. CPCB, MoEF. New Delhi: India

³⁹ CLSA, October 2012. *Long way to green*. CLSA U Research.

actions, for instance the abandonment of the construction of a cement plant on ecologically sensitive wetlands in Bhavnagar, Gujarat⁴⁰.

The Community Support team uses the Green Clearance Watch portal when engaging with local groups, for instance it provides technical assistance to the affected communities by explaining EIA reports and disseminates information on industrial and mining projects.

4.2.4 Renewable Energy Programme

The first impact of this relatively new programme was when the Ministry of New and Renewable

The Green Rating Project – Improving the Environmental Performance of India's Industries

The CSE Green Rating Project is India's only public disclosure project rating the environmental performance of companies. A recently published research paper showed that CSE's rating of the pulp and paper industry (1997 and 2004) had significantly contributed to improving the sector's environmental performance: especially the most polluting plants had improved, the overall pollution load in the sector had been reduced by 50 per cent (measured as chemical oxygen demand – COD), and the water consumption reduced by 70 per cent.

The research paper concluded that 'public disclosure programmes can be effective management tools. Well-connected and technically proficient NGOs like the CSE can sometimes be more effective than public sector agencies in encouraging industries to disclose information'.

According to CSE, the large scale paper industry has also moved from destroying virgin forestry to farmed sources of wood, working with 500,000 farmers on 1.5 million hectare land.

References: Powers, N., et. al., 2011; and CSE, 2013.

Energy set up an Inter-ministerial committee to investigate CSE's claims that national norms and guidelines were bypassed by the solar energy company Lanco.

In March 2013, Down to Earth published a study that uncovered issues with projects getting commissioning certificates without projects being commissioned. The study had a direct effect and according to A.K. Maggu, director of NVVN - the government's energy company, projects were now being inspected more closely and fined for not commissioning their plants on time. Four people in the state authority responsible for commissioning certificates were suspended. The renewable energy team have been highly visible and its work quoted in more than 30 national and international papers and journals.

4.2.5 Water Management

One of CSE's earliest research areas was on traditional/indigenous systems for water harvesting techniques. CSE has since continued to argue that effective water management is the starting point for rural sustainability. As a member of the Convergence Committee by the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), CSE has successfully advocated for the inclusion of water harvesting and other watershed management activities to be included in the National Rural Employment Guarantee

⁴⁰ The Economic Times, 10 May, 2011. *Nirma's Bhavnagar Cement Plant has to relocate: MoEF tells SC.* http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2011-05-10/news/29528069_1_terms-of-environment-degradation-cement-plant-apex-court

Scheme (NREGS). CSE is also a member of the working committee for the National Ganga River Basin Authority⁴¹.

Over the past few years, efforts have also been directed to improve water management in urban areas. CSE's office in New Delhi is in fact a good example of 'practicing what you teach' - the building has localised infiltration of rain water and decentralised treatment of grey and sewage water, demonstrating that such systems can work in densely populated areas. CSE has contributed to incorporating rainwater harvesting and decentralised waste water management in cities within the JNNURM schemes. CSE is presently involved in the design of decentralised water and waste management plans in Chandigarh, Shimla and Noida.

In January 2013 CSE published a report titled 'Excreta Matters'⁴². It was published as part of CSE's State of India's Environment Report. This was followed by an advocacy programme towards state political leaders, urban local bodies, water supply boards and state urban development ministries. This has led to CSE being asked to provide recommendations on waste water management for the states of Bihar, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. CSE's recommendations have been incorporated in the 12th five-year plan of the Planning Commission for Industrial and Urban Water⁴³.

4.2.6 Rural Communities and Climate Change

Within this rather broad area, CSE has focussed its efforts on supporting rural communities' rights to access and management of natural resources. This as a means to build resilience of rural societies and simultaneously engaged on the global arena climate change negotiations.

The 2011 mid-term review concluded that the work on climate change adaption had not yet shown the same strength as CSE's other programme areas, raising the question whether CSE should continue work on this topic⁴⁴. Nevertheless, CSE has continued to work on the subject showing some promising results:

- CSE is member of the governmental high-level panels on climate change of both India and Sweden,
- the declaration by MoEF of bamboo as a minor forestry product, ensuring access to bamboo as a source of income and livelihood for communities (often ethnic minority groups) living in the national parks or the forest reserve areas of the country,
- Contributed to maintain the focus on ecological security of the rural employment schemes (NREGS) aimed at supporting the livelihood of communities.

Following the research and publication of CSE's study on the adaptation challenges in an eco-sensitive region such as the Sundarbans⁴⁵, the Minister of State, Department of Sundarban Affairs, Irrigation and Waterways of the government of West Bengal sought CSE's cooperation to work out appropriate policies and plans for the affected communities.

⁴¹ <http://envfor.nic.in/>

⁴² CSE. January 2013. *Excreta Matters – CSE's 7th Series of the State of India's Environment*. New Delhi: India.

⁴³ Government of India, 2011. *12th Five Year Plan 2012 – 2017, section 4 Water and Environment*. New Delhi, India. http://planningcommission.gov.in/hackathon/index.php?sector=Water_and_Environment

⁴⁴ Pain, A., 2011. *Mid Term Review of Sida support for the Centre for Science and Environment, Delhi*, p. 12

⁴⁵ CSE, 2012. *Living with Changing Climate: Impact, vulnerability and adaptation challenges in Indian Sundarbans*. New Delhi: India.

CSE's contribution to India's position on climate change and equity in the international negotiations at the COP 18 in Doha and now, November 2013 at the COP 19 in Warsaw are clear evidence of this. For instance at a side event organised by CSE and MoEF at the Doha meeting, India's lead negotiator, RR Rashmi, reiterated the imperative for any global agreement to be based on principles of equity, this reaffirming the foundation of India's position in climate negotiations⁴⁶.

At the same time CSE admits, they have not been able to reach out to the grass-root level, to the rural poor, to the extent intended. This is due to the complexities involved in designing a strategy that would enable CSE to engage efficiently with local NGO's and CBO's across. However, CSE has engaged with the grass-root level in rural areas, for instance through the cooperation with local NGOs to reduce pesticide use and promote the cultivation of local crop varieties which are better adapted to the local conditions, amongst small-scale farmers in Gujarat⁴⁷.

4.2.7 Green Buildings

The Green building programme started in 2011, contributing to the review of the environment clearance process (EIAs) for buildings, after a CSE study found wide-spread irregularities in the use of governmental subsidies⁴⁸.

CSE is currently forging partnerships with governmental agencies and city planners on designing a green building rating methodology for EIA and environmental clearance and a new system for energy conservation rating for public buildings. It has prompted the Indian Green Building Council to improve transparency, introducing a section on 'performance monitoring' on its website⁴⁹.

4.2.8 Training and Capacity Building

According to the interviews CSE's training programmes are highly appreciated and the organisation is considered a valued training partner: 'CSE's quality of its research and constructive approach of not only criticizing, but also proposing practical workable solutions is reflected and adds value to the training programme'⁵⁰. In 2012-2013, CSE trained almost 1,500 professionals through various training programmes, such as:

- 125 – 150 officers at the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) receive training every year. The programme is implemented in partnership between the CSE and the Swedish Environment Protection Agency⁵¹,
- Training to staff at the State Public Works Department (CPWD) on delivering code-compliant 'green' infrastructure,
- Training programme on urban transport, clean air and pollution control programmes for staff at municipal level. In 2012-2013 the CSE team trained 155 municipal government officials and grassroots representatives from across the country.

⁴⁶ <http://www.cseindia.org/node/4704>

⁴⁷ Phone interview: Patel, Bharat, General Secretary, Machimar Adhikar Sanghars Sangathan (NGO), Gujarat> India. 5 Nov 2013.

⁴⁸ CSE, 2011. *Green-Building Rating: Overrated*. New Delhi: India

⁴⁹ <http://www.igbc.in/site/igbc>

⁵⁰ Interview Subrahmaniam, Dr, MoEF, 5 Nov 2013.

⁵¹ Part of the PDC programmes supported by the Swedish Embassy.

- Training programme for water, sanitation and waste engineers for urban and rural water management authorities.
- Training on climate change to probation officers within Indian Foreign Service (IFS),
- Training to journalists from national and regional media on environmental issues⁵².
- The CSE 'Green Schools' programme' provide training to 15,000 schools in 18 states in partnership with the MoEF, the National Green Corps and various local NGOs.

4.2.9 CSE - Communications

The CSE Media Resource Centre interacts with media representatives through fellowships and workshops. Over 4,200 media addresses are targeted for press releases. CSE also has sponsorship programme for journalists of regional media in India to attend the international climate change negotiations⁵³.

Down to Earth (DTE) is CSE's flagship publication, a fortnightly magazine that reaches a wide audience in India as well as internationally. The publication plays a pivotal role in CSE's advocacy campaigns and is widely cited in other media. It is recognised for its well-researched articles and ability to address pertinent environmental issues⁵⁴. DTE also publishes an annual review of the State of India's Environment, which is widely referred to in media. There are numerous examples of where issues raised through articles in the DTE have had a direct impact on policy and decision making processes. Some of these have been mentioned in previous sections. Below are a few additional examples from the past few years:

- The MoEF in 2011 withdrew its guidelines on Critical Wildlife Habitats after CSE pointed out that they violated the Forest Rights Act and threatens the interests of indigenous communities (DTE, March 31, 2011).
- An article on the neglect of the rights of the Taungya tribe prompted the Uttar Pradesh government to provide land rights (plots) to 700 families (DTE, May 31, 2011).
- The plan to construct a solid waste disposal facility within Uttar Pradesh's main mango producing orchards was abandoned following an article in DTE (DTE, August 15, 2011).
- Following a DTE web-special, *Homeless and sick* (March 2013), which pointed out the high incidence of Tuberculosis (TB) among Delhi's homeless, the Delhi government launched three schemes to curb the spread of the disease and improve health services for the capital's homeless.

The Gobar Times is the magazine and web portal of the CSE Green Schools Programme⁵⁵. It was first published in 2005 and reaches today more than 15,000 schools throughout India. The magazine brings up and explains environmental issues and challenge school children and young people to critically analyse and to take initiative to improve the local environment.

⁵² Although the outcome of this training events have not been measured comprehensively, CSE reports an increase in news clippings from the medias that the trained journalist are working in (e.g. the 90 journalist trained in 2012-2013 produced at least 100 news articles after the training)

⁵³ These sponsorships are partly funded by the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC) through the Sida CIVSAM allocation.

⁵⁴ Interviews: Harneit-Sievers, A., Heinrich Böll Stiftung. 8 Nov 2013; Sharma, D., Free-lance journalist, 5 Nov 2013; Subrahmaniam, G.V., MOEF. 5 Nov 2013..

⁵⁵ <http://www.gobartimes.org>

The India Environment Portal⁵⁶ tracks research studies and news articles from print and digital newspapers in India and South Asia. The portal is well designed and easy to navigate. At present the database includes information on about 9,000 environmental subjects through more than 400,000 records from various international and national sources. The environmental portal is also the top site on Google for searches on 'India and environment'. According to CSE, various international educational institutions listed the India Environment Portal as one of the 'important electronic free resources on environment'⁵⁷.

The Green Clearance Watch is a valuable source of information that tracks permissions for

The Green Schools' Programme

CSE's 'Green Schools' programme¹ reaches about 15,000 schools in 18 states in India. The students are encouraged to make a survey of the school and its surroundings to find out what is happening to the water, land, air and waste. It has inspired students to engage in environmental issues and to introduce new ideas— from decentralised wastewater systems to innovative ways to recycle and reuse waste. Many schools have included the programme as part in their regular curriculum activities.

The programme is implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Forest's nodal offices and school chains, the National Green Corps and various local NGOs. A training of trainers approach is used to reach out and the school material has been into 6 regional languages (Telugu, Kannada, Punjabi, Urdu, Gujarati and Hindi).

References: www.cseindia.org

extraction/use of natural resources across India as well as updated information on public hearings and on court cases on environmental related issues.

CSE website:⁵⁸ The CSE website has direct tags, which take the reader to the Environmental Portal, the Green Clearance Watch, and to the Indian Climate Research Network website. CSE is also active through social media. According to CSE the number of visitors and downloads from the websites continue to increase year on year, for instance the number of visits to the children's site 'gobartimes.org' increased by 66 per cent and to the India Environment Portal by 23 per cent (see table 1).

⁵⁶ <http://www.indiaenvironmentportal.org.in/>

⁵⁷ CSE, 2012. *Annual Report 2011-2012*. New Delhi: India.

⁵⁸ <http://www.cseindia.org/>

Table 1: Status of visits and page views on the CSE website 2012 - 2013.

SI	Web URL	Visits	Increase from previous year (%)	Page views	Increase from previous year (%)
1	cseindia.org	431,829	31%	1,012,152	14%
2	downtoearth.org.in	925,142	68%	1,709,632	58%
3	indiaenvironmentportal.org.in	735,339	25%	1,529,266	23%
4	gobartimes.org	38,022	74%	79,625	66%
5	greenclearancewatch.org	11,752	New	30,398	
6	icrn.in	4,238	New	9,647	
7	rainwaterharvesting.org	104,955	5%	255,180	2%
8	csestore/cse.org.in	230,328	40%	545,288	32%
		2,481,605		5,171,188	
	TOTAL	2.5 million		5.17 Million	

Source: CSE Annual Progress Report 2012-2013.

One example of the international coverage CSE has achieved is the regular references to their work in the international business magazine *The Economist*, for instance: The special report on the state of the world's forests (September, 2010)⁵⁹; Pesticides in soft-drinks (2005, see below); on the UN's World Summit on sustainable development in Johannesburg in 2002 (with regards to the opportunities for partnership between public, private and the civil society sector)⁶⁰, of endangered amphibian species of the Western Ghats⁶¹, about shared interests of religious groups and environmental scientists⁶². In August 2006, *The Economist* published an article specifically on Sunita Narain and the work of CSE⁶³.

Although CSE has achieved an impressive amount of media coverage both nationally and internationally, the annual reports to the Embassy of Sweden do not include any measurement of progress towards the objective of the communications programme, i.e. whether citizens actually have been empowered. This was also mentioned by the 2011 mid-term review.

4.2.10 Strengthening of the Institutional Capacity of CSE

According to the 2011 mid-term review, CSE had previously interpreted institutional strengthening mainly as an issue of staff turnover and retention, task performance and performance evaluation⁶⁴.

Since then, CSE has focussed on strengthening the mid-level leadership to foster growth in the programme teams. This has helped to identify leaders and increased the capacity of several of the programme managers. There is an increased initiative by the teams conducting research studies,

⁵⁹ CSE, Singh, S., August 2009, *Participatory Forest Management in Mendha Lekha, India*. Cited in the *The Economist*, 23 September 2010. *A special report on forests*.

⁶⁰ *The Economist*, 29 August 2002. *Sustainable development, a few green shoots*.

⁶¹ *The Economist*, 17 December 2011. *Conservation in India, Frog-hunters of the Western Ghats*.

⁶² *The Economist*, 20 September 2007. *Faith upon the earth – In many parts of the world, religious groups and environmental scientists are teaming up – albeit sometimes reluctantly*

⁶³ *The Economist*, 24 August 2006. *The real thing, Sunita Narain, and Indian environmentalist, has dented tow of the world's glossiest brands*.

⁶⁴ Pain A, 2011. *Mid Term Review of Sida support for the Centre of Science and Environment (CSE)*, p. 14. Indevelop. Stockholm: Sweden.

model development and scaling up of activities⁶⁵. CSE has also provided better salary packages and improved working conditions for senior staff which has reduced the number of exits from the organisation. Staff turnover has decreased over the past few years (16 per cent in 2011-2012 and 18 per cent in 2012 -2013). CSE's gender ratio in 2012-13 was 46 per cent women and 54 per cent men. Task achievement has also showed a steady improvement from 67 per cent in 2007-2008 to 80% in 2012 – 2013⁶⁶:

An indication of the capacity of CSE staff members is that they are frequently invited to take in national committees, for instance: the selection committee to choose members of the National Green Tribunal; UTIPEC Working Group of the Delhi Development Authority; the Rajasthan Government State Urbanisation Commission; NCERT (Science and Environment Exhibition); Monitoring & Evaluation of Environment Activities of the Ministry of Environment and Forests; BIS on Water Resources and EIA; the academic board of CEPT University, Gujarat; the Uttar Pradesh State Ganga Committee; as well as the BIS committee on EIA; among others.

4.3 CSE's Presence at International Level

CSE has gained recognition in the Asia region and globally as a green think-tank and advocacy organisation and its campaigns are frequently quoted in international media. Their power to influence is visible through their membership of several international committees addressing global environmental threats such as climate change. CSE is recognised for its expertise in the environmental field and the quality of its research based advocacy campaigns. There is probably no other organisations of similar stature within the region. The success has been achieved through a well-designed mix of evidence based advocacy work, effective networking and communication, and not at least the dedication and commitment of its members of staff.

International advocacy engagement is however not a new issue for CSE but has been a core activity from the beginning. It has consistently strived to expose the relationship between the rapid global industrialisation, the increasing demand for exploitation of natural resources and the negative impact of this on the environment and livelihood of local people and communities. CSE has in this debate not assumed a position against development and economic growth, but rather argued for the need to 'reinvent the growth model of the Western world'⁶⁷ - to explore ways to reduce poverty and create wealth without degrading the environment since it is the resource base for future development. These are highly relevant issues where there is a need for strong civil society based organisations, in particular during the current rapid economic development of many countries in the region.

CSE has been successful in bringing a 'South perspective' to the international environmental debate while at the same time it has stayed firmly rooted in concerns related to environmental issues that

⁶⁵ Examples of such initiative are the Green Rating programme, The Environment Education, the Sustainable Urbanisation, and the Pollution Control Regulators Training Programme.

⁶⁶ CSE Annual Reports of 2011-2012, pp.39-40; and 2012-2013, pp. 15-16. Note: CSE implements also a staff benefit schemes including medical insurance, flex-timings, subsidised canteen, in-house gym and interest-free loans for emergency situations.

⁶⁷ www.cseindia.org / 'About CSE' /

affects local communities in India and in the wider region. Examples of this are for instance CSE's contribution to the debate about the climate change agenda, its regional training programmes, and the various campaigns aimed at forcing multinationals to keep the same food standards in developing countries as in the West.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND EQUITY

CSE lead the efforts in 1991 to introduce the equity dimension on the international climate change agenda. The report 'Global warming in an unequal world'⁶⁸, contested the prevailing ideas at the time that developing countries were equally responsible as industrialised countries for the effects of the emissions of greenhouse gases. It argued for international agreements reducing greenhouse gases in the industrialised countries while providing space for the emerging economies to develop. This is a good example of how CSE's work has influenced the global climate debate and continues to do so. The Indian delegation together with several others among the emerging economies, are now strong advocates for this concept at the international climate negotiations (COP). CSE has been recognised for its constructive contributions to the debate and is member of the governmental high-level panels on climate change of both India and Sweden. It has organised side-events together with the MoEF at the COP negotiations. CSE advocates for a joint South Asian regional initiative and is also a member of the BASIC countries⁶⁹ expert group on climate change.

BUILDING CAPACITY IN THE REGION

CSE has currently partnership agreements with a large group of governmental agencies and NGOs in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka⁷⁰. The activities include joint research activities, training and capacity building programmes as well as needs-based activities such as the development of environmental guidelines and policies. These partnerships are good examples of CSE's ability to make use of their vast experience of training and advocacy for policy change in India to create added value in a regional context.

The establishment of CSE's centre for excellence on climate change has promoted the organisation as a knowledge hub and training partner. CSE plans to further develop this and strengthen its position as a training and resource centre on climate change in the South Asia region.

ADVOCACY THROUGH INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEES

Over the years, CSE has been member of a considerable number of high-level international committees that have been shaping policies and strategies for the environment and development. Some examples of such previous engagements (besides the ones related to climate change mentioned above) are: The Global Environmental Facility, Washington (1997-1999), the Global Water Contract (1997-1999), Co-chair of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Global Reporting Initiative (2000-2002), Co-chair of the coordinating committee of the Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (2002), the IUCN Council (2001-2004), the Executive Board of the Stockholm Environment

⁶⁸ Agarwal, A., and Narain, S. 1991. *Global Warming in an Unequal World*. CSE. New Delhi: India; and insert reference to COP 17 Doha, and COP 18 Warsaw.

⁶⁹ BASIC - Brazil, South Africa, India and China

⁷⁰ CSE has partnerships with 26 organisations in these countries, the majority governmental agencies but also universities and NGOs. Source: *CSE Networking Profile* (internal document).

Institute (SEI), the Executive Board of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Sri Lanka (2004-2006). CSE was also member of the Swedish Development Policy Council (2007-2009).

Currently CSE is member of the UNDP CSO Committee and is engaged in initiatives aimed at promoting clean fuels such as the UNEP Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles and the advisory committee of the Global Fuel Economy Initiative of the International Energy Agency.

EXPOSURE IN INTERNATIONAL MEDIA

CSE has shown strategic competence when achieving the attention of global media to achieve their advocacy goals. The international audience has been reached through developing a clear and relevant message disseminated at the right time through effective channels, primarily through global media. One strong indicator of this success is the number of times CSE messages have been picked up by global influential media which have the capacity to spread the message to many more national media and therefore influence decision-makers world-wide. Examples are news and influential thematic feature stories related to: climate change (BBC, CNN and New York Times; 2013), on cyclists and urban road safety (BBC; 2013) on urban air pollution (Le Monde; 2012 and El País; 2013), on toxins in food and in soft drinks (The Economist; 2005 and Reuters; 2013), on fossil fuels (New York Times; 2010)⁷¹.

4.4 Sida's role in Building CSE's Capacity

From the beginning CSE's work focused on providing evidence based information through research, publications and campaigns to increase awareness among decision makers and the public in general. CSE has over the years managed to maintain its commitment and passion as an activist organisation, but at the same time engaged with governmental authorities and the corporate sector to find workable solutions that have brought about changes in policies and practices. Through this, CSE has gained confidence and credibility and has established itself as a leading green think-tank and lobby organisation with leverage not only on the Indian sub-continent, but also in a wider global context⁷² (see section 4.3).

Sweden has supported CSE since the early 1990s. There is no doubt that the long-term funding and quality of support has been instrumental in building the institution that CSE has become today: Sida's long-term core support provided the financial stability that has enabled CSE to build a unique public interest organisation that delivers a significant service to the public⁷³. It is recognised for the quality of its research work and its activist spirit, but also for its constructive approach to dialogue with governmental authorities and private corporations to find workable solutions. According to the senior management team, it would not have been possible to carry out most of CSE's successful

⁷¹ Detailed list in references, annex 1

⁷² Interviews: Subrahmaniam, Dr, MoEF. 5 Nov 2013; Vinodbabu, Mr, CPCB. 7 Nov 2013; and Harneit-Sievers, Dr, Heinrich Böll Stiftung. 8 Nov 2013.

⁷³ This conclusion is also shared by the 2011 MTR: Pain, A. 2011. *Mid Term Review of Sida support for the CSE*, p. 26. Indevalop. Stockholm: Sweden.

campaigns solely on project based funding, and that Sida's support gave CSE an opportunity to increase its presence in the South Asia region⁷⁴.

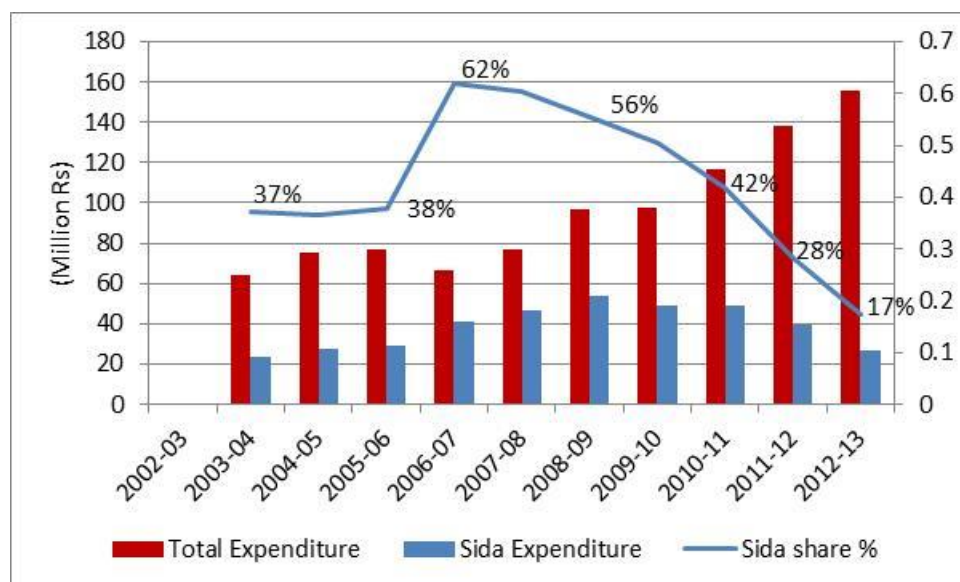
CSE acknowledges that Sida's long standing support to CSE has been strategic as it has strengthened CSE as an organisation, worked as "dialogue by proxy" towards the Indian government and public. This support has reflected positively upon Sweden and Sida as a concerned, innovative and ambitious development partner with high integrity.

Sida's support helped build CSE's character, giving it the ability to work with independence and maintain credibility and at the same time being flexible which gave it the impetus to grow programmatically. The fact that they could use Sida's support as seed money to start working on new issues and then prove a point for further work to take place through other donors and stakeholders has given them their standing as well as their ability to venture beyond its scope of objectives.

4.5 Implications for CSE's operations of Sida Phasing-Out the Support

CSE has over the past decade diversified the donor base and at the same time increased the funding 2.5 times. This to a certain extent reduced CSE's dependency on Swedish funding. The share of Sida's contribution in relation to overall expenditures for CSE's regular programme activities, (i.e. excluding the South Asia programme) was reduced from 62 per cent in 2006-07 to 17 per cent in 2012-13⁷⁵ (see figure 1). Sida, however, has remained the most important donor and at present is the only institutional grant provider.

Figure 1: CSE Proportion of Sida funding expressed as share in expenditures 2004-2013 (Excluding the Sida funded South Asia Regional Programme).



Source: CSE, 2013. *CSE's long-term financial strategy: A review*.

⁷⁴ Based on interviews with CSE's Senior Management Team, Governmental Agencies and Donor agencies.

⁷⁵ Note: Excluding the Swedish funds for the regional programme that has been an 'add-on' to CSE's regular programme activities and 100 per cent funded by Sida.

The South Asia programme is completely funded by Sida. According to CSE, there are at present no other donors willing to step in and fund the programme after the Swedish funding ends. This means that the CSE Regional Programme will close in December 2013. In this context analysing the trend in donor share of expenditures excluding the South Asia programme, gives an indication of CSE' ability to sustain funding of its national programme activities. However, if the South Asia programme is included, the Swedish share of the expenditure increase to approximately 50 per cent (see table 2).

Table 2: Sida share of CSE total expenditure 2008 - 2013 including the South Asia regional programme.

Year	Total CSE expenditure (million Rs)	Total share Sida expenditure (National+ regional) (million Rs)	Total share of Sida (%)
2008-09	96.5	53.6	56
2009-10	97.5	49.3	51
2010-11	116.7	48.9	42
2011-12	138.5	63.3	46
2012-13	156.1	77.8	50
Total	605.3	293.0	48

Source: CSE, 2013

The challenges in securing core support from donors other than Sida have created a certain dependency on Sida funding in order to sustain CSE's business model. According to CSE, even though they are not able to sustain the South Asia programme, they are confident that CSE will continue to operate. But without access to core funding, the character of its work will change.

CSE FINANCIAL STRATEGY

CSE has been very clear from the start that it will not take funding from sources that in any way may compromise its position as an independent public interest organisation. This means that it has turned down funding offers from sources that could be perceived as compromising on its credibility as an independent environmental watch-dog.

CSE has over the years explored various options to diversify income streams to increase sustainability of the operations⁷⁶. The latest review of the financial strategy (June 2013) shows that some important challenges still remain⁷⁷:

- Develop an endowment fund: The target of 40 million Rs (4 million SEK) set in 1998 has been exceeded tenfold and in March 2013 the fund was 440 million Rs. The interest gained could in theory sustain the costs for the management team and the office, but is at present re-invested. Besides Sida, CSE secured endowment grants from Sir Ratan Tata Trust and the Ford Foundation of 26 million Rs. Both grants however, were given for a limited time only. CSE has not been able to find similar support from any other donor and there is therefore no endowment grant secured beyond 2013.
- Diversify the donor base: In 1998 CSE had six donors including Sida. In 2013 the number increased to 19. The fact that many international donors are phasing out their support to India poses new challenges indicating that it may become more difficult to maintain a diversified donor base in the future.
- Reduce dependence on foreign grants: The total funds from Indian grants have tripled, from 5.8 million Rs in 1998-1999 to 15 million Rs in 2012-2013. But CSE's operations have also increased faster: when measured as percentage of expenditures its share has decreased from 15 to 9 per cent over the same time period. There are very few foundations in India that support environmental NGOs it is therefore unlikely that grants from Indian donors will continue to grow at the same pace as during the previous decade.

⁷⁶ CSE, 1998. *Report on Long-Term Financial Sustainability*. New Delhi: India.

⁷⁷ CSE, June 2013. *Draft paper on future financial strategy*. New Delhi: India.

- Explore training programme as a source of income: The income from training programmes showed a steady increase, from 280,000 Rs in 2003-04 to 61 million Rs in 2012-13. CSE considers the training programme as a future area of growth. Land for a new campus has been purchased outside Delhi for the “Anil Agarwal Environment Training Institute”.
- Increase income from CSE products and services: CSE has taken a decision not to take financial support from private corporate groups through consultancies. CSE’s income from publications has increased five-fold, from 30,000 Rs in 2002-2003 to 160,000 Rs in 2012-2013. The revenue corresponds to 10 per cent of the total turnover and is currently re-invested in the endowment fund. According to CSE, it would be very difficult to make any dramatic increase of this income to cover programme expenditures. CSE’s flagship publication, “Down to Earth” covers its costs for printing and distribution, but not all the staff costs involved in research to produce the articles in the publication.

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

CSE was built around a visionary and inspirational leadership and a strong and committed support team. As the CSE has expanded its operations and numbers of staff, efforts have been made to provide incentives to senior managers and build capacity at mid-management level (see section 4.2.10).

CSE has over the years shown the capability to adapt and renew to changing contexts in society. A good example of this is that CSE is today not only focusing on change in national policies, but also increasingly interact with the corporate sector exploring opportunities for green rating of some of the heavy polluters (see section 4.2.1).

Another important factor is the efficiency of the operation. This has not been analysed in this study, but the 2011 mid-term review concluded that CSE runs its operations efficiently with respect to expenditure: Salary costs of professional staff have remained at about 40-50 per cent of its budget, administrative costs at about 20 per cent and its operational costs at about 40 per cent⁷⁸.

DEMAND FOR SERVICES

On the domestic scene, CSE has positioned itself as one of the most influential environmental NGOs. The increasing demand for its training courses, the popularity of its publications and web-site and the fact that CSE is frequently cited in media are all evidence of the demand for the kind of services that CSE is providing.

THE CHALLENGE

There is no doubt that CSE has reached a level where it will be able to sustain activities and ‘survive on its own’ without the Swedish support. CSE has the institutional capacity, dynamic and visionary organisational culture to continue to develop and adapt to the changing context. However, as a public interest organisation the available sources of funding on the national scene are limited.

⁷⁸ Pain, A. 2011. *Mid Term Review of Sida support for the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), Delhi*, p. 22. Indevalop. Stockholm: Sweden.

CSE has come to the conclusion that the organisation will be dependent on support for the foreseeable future. CSE has explored various options to sustain operation once the Swedish core support ends⁷⁹:

1. CSE without core support:

CSE will survive, be able to continue its operation, but the character of the organisation will probably change:

- CSE will probably not be able to sustain long-term advocacy campaigns to work for policy change on the national, regional or international arena
- CSE's independent research activities will not be able to continue as today,
- Instead, the research activities will most likely be narrowed down and focused more on single short-term outputs or products, that can be achieved within the scope and time frame of project funding,
- The Environment Portal and Down to Earth publication will be reduced in size as CSE has not been able to find any donor willing to finance the Portal,
- CSE may re-focus more towards delivering training programmes to public and private sector agencies. There is an obvious potential to continue increasing the training programmes. Although this may generate certain revenues it will probably be difficult to fund larger research based activities from this.

2. CSE with core support :

Will provide CSE with the financial means to:

- Continue consolidating its role as an independent and well-respected environmental organisation among governmental authorities, civil society and corporate sectors alike,
- Maintain the Down to Earth magazine as an in-depth high quality publication and platform for CSE's advocacy work,
- Sustain the Environmental Portal as a public service information hub,
- To continue consolidate CSE as a green international think tank and advocacy organisation with a South perspective,
- Promote or provide support to strengthen environmental CSOs in the South Asia region,
- Potential to continue providing training and capacity building to governmental
- Continue work on long-term programmes/campaigns of relevance for the Indian as well as the regional and international contexts.

CSE's stand point is very clear: Non-marked funding is essential to sustain its identity as an independent green advocacy organisation. Therefore, the key challenge for CSE for the year 2014 and onwards for CSE is to find new donors willing to provide core funding.

⁷⁹ The two scenarios are to large extent based on CSE's financial strategy, p 14. (CSE, June 2013. *Draft paper on future financial strategy*. New Delhi: India).

5 Review of the Support to Toxics Link

Toxics Link is an initiative of the Just Environment Charitable Trust, which is a registered non-profit entity since 1998 and is based in New Delhi, India. The initiative emerged from the need to establish a mechanism for disseminating credible information on toxics in India and for raising the level of the debate on such issues⁸⁰. Toxics Link's vision or overall objective is a 'Toxics free development in India along with protection of environment and human health'. Toxics Link's aims to develop an information exchange and support mechanism along with research and advocacy that will strengthen campaigns against toxics pollution, help push industries towards cleaner production and link isolated groups working on toxics issues. The target group is a wide section of society including the general public, politicians, governmental agencies, regulators, NGOs, academia, industry, students and media.

Toxics Link has 25 members of staff. Its strategy for promoting change in policies and practices is based on three main steps: (i) research activities to present evidence based information, (ii) awareness-raising campaigns through media, and (iii) creating links to decision makers in government agencies, health sector and the corporate sector. The work focuses on two main areas:

- Waste and Sustainability (bio -medical waste management, municipal waste, hazardous waste, and electronic waste),
- Chemicals and Health (toxic chemicals including Heavy Metals, Asbestos, and POPs -Persistent Organic Pollutants).

Toxics Link's main channels for information dissemination are its publication and web-site⁸¹. It also provides training to government agencies and implements awareness programmes in schools.

5.1 Sida's Financial Support to Toxics Link

Sida, through the Embassy of Sweden in New Delhi has supported Toxics Link since 2002. A core support of 7 million SEK (1.1 million USD)⁸² was granted for the time period 2002 - 2009 and 5 million SEK (0.75 million USD) for 2010 - 2013⁸³. The overall goal of the support has been to enable Toxics Link to consolidate its achievements, build organisational strength and scale up its impact nationally and internationally, both at the community as well as the policy level.

Sida aligned its core support to Toxics Link's programme objectives, a) to scale up the impact of the work, b) deepening the research base in-house, c) new engagement with other actors, d) extending outreach in geographical as well as constituency terms, and e) initiating new activities, especially

⁸⁰ Toxics Link mission statement (<http://toxicslink.org/?q=article/our-mission>)

⁸¹ www.toxics.link.org; List of recent Toxics Link publication in Annex 5.

⁸² Exchange rate December 2014: 1 USD = 0.15 SEK.

⁸³ Sida. 18 December, 2009. Assessment Memo – A targeted contribution in the area of environment and climate in India to the Toxics Link, 2010 – 2013. Stockholm: Sweden.

seeking to involve the industry in finding long-term sustainable solutions to issues related to products and their safety⁸⁴.

5.2 Toxics Link – Results per Programme Area

Toxics Link has taken a conscious decision to remain a relatively small organisation focusing on in-depth knowledge generation in their area of work. Toxics Link has over the years developed an impressive track record. The impact in terms of contribution to change in policies and development of models is particularly impressive considering the relatively small size of the organisation. The following sections give a highlight of some of the key results for each programme area (the achievements per programme area are also listed in the logframe in annex 7).

5.2.1 Waste and Sustainability

The Waste and Sustainability programme, consists of two sub-programme areas: (1) Toxics free health care, and (2) Clean Industry.

TOXICS FREE HEALTH CARE

Toxics Link was one of the pioneers in India addressing the health hazards linked to waste from hospitals and medical clinics. In partnership with The Holy Family Hospital - a local hospital in New Delhi - Toxics Link created a model for handling and disposal of biomedical waste. The model was successfully replicated in seven other hospitals in the city in collaboration with SRISHTI, an NGO that supports people working in the informal waste handling and recycling sector. Together, the two organisations developed a manual for health care facilities in handling biomedical waste that was later included in the national guidelines⁸⁵. Toxics Link has also developed a training manual on bio-medical waste⁸⁶.

Toxics Link also addressed the environmental health risk caused by poor practices in disposing of hospital waste. This led to the adoption of new national guidelines for incineration and biomedical waste treatment facilities⁸⁷. The new standards led in New Delhi to the closing of a number of on-site incinerators in favour of common waste treatment facility⁸⁸.

Toxics Link was engaged in a project to improve WHO's policy on health care waste, mercury and immunization waste⁸⁹. In recognition of Toxics Links contributions and expertise in this area, they were invited to become member of the National Steering Committee to develop the national guidelines for the management of waste from immunization campaigns.

⁸⁴ Sida Assessment Memo. 18 December, 2009. *A targeted contribution in the area of environment and climate in India; Continued support to the Toxics Link (TL), 2010 – 2013; and Toxics Link, 2010. Toxics Free Communities in Development – Follow Up Grant Proposal to Sida, January 2010 to December 2013.*

⁸⁵ SHRISHTI, 2000. *Managing Hospital Waste – A guide for health care facilities.*

⁸⁶ Toxics Link, 2005, reprint 2010. *Understanding and simplifying bio-medical waste management – a training manual for trainers.*

⁸⁷ MoEF, 1998. *Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules.* New Delhi: India.

⁸⁸ Interview: Pinto, A. Holy Family Hospital, New Delhi. 7 Nov 2013.

⁸⁹ Through the WHO SEARO project in New Delhi.

Toxics Link – Biomedical Waste and Mercury Management in Hospitals

When Toxics Link started to work on biomedical waste, there was little awareness about the environment health risks involved. The waste was mostly burnt on-site, without proper temperature regulated incinerators and cleaning of the toxic exhaust gases. Toxics Link took a systemic approach to solve the problem and engaged in a campaign that lasted for more than ten years:

- Toxics Link was member of the working committee that drafted the National Bio-medical waste regulations in 1998 and has since taken part in various committees that have amended the regulations,
- Developed and tested models for waste handling in hospitals in New Delhi, which was incorporated into the national regulations,
- Carried out a survey on incinerators and practices in four major cities in India,
- Carried out an economic analysis of on-site incinerators on behalf of the Secretary of Environment, Delhi. This led to the shut-down of the private small-scale incinerators in favour of large plants with adequate technology for reducing the exhaust of toxic gases from the process,
- Developed guidelines for the implementation of the regulations, which contributed to changing the way the waste is handled and disposed of in the country,

The use of Mercury in medical instruments has been recognised globally as a serious environmental health treat. Toxics Link was the first to bring up these concerns in the Indian context in 2003. The work has contributed to the phase out of Mercury from the health sector in India. Today, most health care training programmes have modules on mercury management that was introduced by Toxics Link.

ELECTRONIC AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE

Toxics Links has been engaged on various issues related to the use and disposal of hazardous materials like asbestos, plastic, mercury and packaging material. The organization has researched and published several reports on issues related to waste flows, waste trade and dumping, environment and health concerns from waste handling, trade volumes and issues of urban poverty and waste trade. These reports were critical in initiating dialogues with principal stakeholders and creating new perspectives on environmental impacts of new waste streams.

Handling of electronic waste (E-waste), originating from computer scrap and electronic gadgets was pioneered in India by Toxics Links. When the first pilot studies were made in 2003, there was little awareness about the increasing problem of E-waste. The study analysed the waste collector chain of the marginalized informal sector that are the main handlers of e-waste in India. A particular concern was the health hazards involved in extracting metals from the waste⁹⁰. It took Toxics Link almost ten years of advocacy campaigns and pilot schemes to change attitudes among decision makers.

The introduction of Extended Producer responsibility (EPR) as a core philosophy on E-waste management also brought out new challenges, changed perspectives and helped forge new alliances with industry and created favourable conditions for policy interventions. Toxics Link worked very closely with the electronic industry and other stakeholders and submitted a draft E-waste rule to the MoEF that finally led to the notification of the new Electronic Waste Management and Handling Rule

⁹⁰ Interview: Mahesh, P. Toxics Link, 6 Nov 2013.

in 2011⁹¹. One positive effect of the new regulation is that it recognises the role of the informal sector in recycling e-waste. On the other hand, the implementation has been slow and there is not yet any visible impact of the new regulation⁹².

Toxics Link also worked extensively towards building capacity and integrating informal sector in the business of E-waste handling in changed scenario. This also resulted in securing funding through European Union supported Switch Asia project with other partners to set up clean channels in four cities in India involving the informal sector.

Toxics Link has built a strong credibility on the issue of E-waste and this resulted in an un-expected offer of partnership with Nokia. Toxics Link has, under this partnership designed a campaign for

Toxics Link – E-WASTE

Toxic Link was the first in India to raise awareness on the health hazards created by the increasing generation of E-waste in 2003. There was little understanding of the risks involved among government officials, the industry and the public. Toxics Link has since worked continuously on the issue, highlighting waste dumping as a violation of the Basel convention and the health risks involved for the marginalized groups who handle and recycle the e-waste. Dumping of E-waste in India is now recognised as one of the critical emerging issues in SAICM.

Toxics Link's work awareness and capacity building has been instrumental in changing the landscape of e-waste handling in India. Today there about 80 authorised E-waste recyclers in the country, of which 20 have emerged from the informal sector.

Toxics Link's work on E-waste is increasingly being recognised by the industry. Toxics Link has forged a partnership with Nokia on a training programme for school children to increase the awareness on E-waste.

creating awareness on E-waste and recycling among school students. The programme was carried out by Toxics Link in almost 2000 schools in 12 states across India. The programme started in 2010 is part of Nokia's CSR funding. The first year of implementing the school programme showed very good results even though the pedagogical aspects of the communication/training could be further improved⁹³.

5.2.2 Chemicals and Health

The programme Chemicals and Health consists of 3 sub-programme areas: (1) POPs and Pesticides, (2) Heavy Metals and (3) Clean Products.

Toxics Link has been a key participant, representing the civil society organizations in Mercury inter-governmental negotiations to finalise the Mercury treaty. Toxics Link has been an active behind-the-scenes negotiator to get the environmental concerns of India and other developing countries included in the agenda of the treaty conferences. Toxics Link moved a resolution at the IFCS meeting in Dakar in 2008 to remove lead from paints, which was adopted by the ICCM and subsequently recognized as one of the four emerging issues under SAICAM.

⁹¹ Government of India, 2012. *E-Waste (Management & Handling) Rules*. (Adopted in May 2012); and interviews with Kumar, A. Central Pollution Control Board.

⁹² Interview, Mahesh, P. Toxics Link, 6 Nov 2013.

⁹³ Interview: Prianshu, S. Nokia India Ltd, 7 Nov 2013.

Toxics Link plays a role in several international networks in their priority areas, for instance the International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN), the Stockholm Convention on POPs. Through its international engagement the organisation has contributed to international civil society position on elimination of the use toxic chemicals: Toxic Links is one of the strategic partners of the 'Health Care Without Harm' – HCWH network, an international group looking at toxics free health care⁹⁴ and has helped the group to better understand the particular challenges related to this issue in developing countries⁹⁵.

PERSISTANT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS (POPs) AND PESTICIDES

One of the key concerns with the POPs is the bioaccumulation through the food web with strong effects on human health and the environment. An important milestone was the Stockholm Convention in 2001⁹⁶, which is an international environmental treaty to restrict the production and use of POPs.

Over the past twenty years, Toxics Link has been engaged in raising awareness on the risks involved in the wide-spread use of POPs, for instance in agriculture. Toxics Link has played an important role in the region as well as globally in advocating and supporting international networks on POPs. Toxics Link was for instance actively engaged in the process that led up to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants in 2001. It was also one of the founding organisations of the IPEN network⁹⁷ and Toxics Link's Director is also member of the IPEN Board⁹⁸. Toxics Link was the also the regional South Asia hub in the UN-led project on POPs elimination in the preparation of the implementation of the Stockholm Convention (IPEP)⁹⁹.

In the national context, Toxics Link advocated for eliminating the use of POPs resulting in the national government presenting its National Implementation Plan (April 2011) for the Stockholm Convention¹⁰⁰. Toxic Links contribution to the POPs elimination efforts has been recognized in the report. Toxic Links focuses its efforts on advocating for the implementation of the plan and has organised workshops and seminars on the issue.

HEAVY METALS

Toxics Link has since 2006, been active in the campaign to eliminate lead as an additive in paint and also took part in the UNEP/WHO led network 'Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (GAELP)'. At the national level, Toxics Link's research studies and advocacy campaigns have contributed to a change in the market: Today approximately 65 per cent of the paint sold has very low lead content (below 90 ppm).

⁹⁴ <http://www.noharm.org/>

⁹⁵ Interview: Mahapatra, P., Toxics Link. 6 Nov 2013.

⁹⁶ www.pops.int

⁹⁷ www.ipen.org

⁹⁸ Interview: Dahl, Ulrika. SSNC, Stockholm: Sweden. 14 Nov 2013.

⁹⁹ IPEN, UNIDO, et. al. 2006. *International POPs Elimination Project (IPEP) – Final Performance Report*.

¹⁰⁰ Government of India. April 2011. *National Implementation Plan, Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants*. New Delhi: India.

However, Toxic Link has continued monitoring the market and has found that India's small-scale producers still manufacture high lead content decorative paint¹⁰¹. In the current campaign supported by the EU funded SWITCH Asia programme, Toxic Link promotes national standards, third party certification and a shift towards safer alternatives¹⁰².

Toxics Link has also helped NGOs in the South Asia region take forward the issue of lead in paints in their respective countries. The standards for lead in paints in Sri Lanka can largely be contributed to the study carried out by Toxics Link¹⁰³.

Toxics Link is advocating for improved standards for mercury content in Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL) and CFL waste management. Through studies, meetings with manufacturers, and a joint conference with the MoEF and CPCB, Toxics Link has presented a proposal contributing to the framing of a standard by the BIS.

Toxics Link's report "Toying with Toxics" report raised many parliamentary questions and eventually led to the review of BIS standards on heavy metals in Toys in 2008.

5.2.3 Toxics Link - Communications

The communications team supports the dissemination of information, publications and advocacy campaigns of the two programme areas. Toxics Link has a communication strategy in place, but it has not been revised since 2003.

The work has mainly focused on organising public lecture series, debates, conventions, events and publication of reports and fact sheets. Toxics Link's newsletter is published in English, Hindi, Bengali and Tamil. Toxics Link has recently put more emphasis on increasing its coverage in media. The website has had slow start and has now around 1000 hits per month. 70 per cent of these are returning visitors who visit the website for relatively long periods of time.

Visual documentations and films have been another communications method used by Toxics Link, producing videos about various environmental subjects. They are also organising a bi-annual film festival which includes international representation from countries like Australia, France, Germany, and the USA. Toxics Link considers this to be a useful medium to trigger discussion and debate amongst a cross-section of people instead of just environmentalists.

Monitoring has been focused more on activities related to sharing information and less on the impact achieved by the activities. It is therefore difficult to provide an analysis on the impact of the communications work. However, there are several examples where the combined efforts of the activities related to research studies, advocacy, networking and awareness raising campaigns have resulted in a measurable outcome. One such example is Toxics Link's report on toys of 2006 which was the first report of its kind bringing information on toxic substances (lead, cadmium and

¹⁰¹ Toxics Link, 2012. *Lead in India's enamel household paints-National Report*. New Delhi: India

¹⁰² <http://www.switch-asia.eu/>

¹⁰³ NGOs in South Asia: Centre for Environment and Justice (CEJ), Sri Lanka; Environment and Social Development Organisation (ESDO); D-Net in Bangladesh; Centre for Public Health and Environmental Development (CEPHED) in Nepal.

phthalate content) in toys sold in India. This led to that the Ministry of Commerce revising the Toy import policy (January 2010) and the BIS revising its standards in July 2011¹⁰⁴.

5.2.4 Capacity building

Toxics Link provides training to government agencies and implements awareness programmes in schools. Examples of training events are:

- Three international conferences (in 2007, 2008 and 2009) which gathered a wide group of stakeholders and experts.
- Training and awareness programs in many hospitals across the country (2006-2009), for instance in Mumbai, Chennai, and Delhi to promote the campaign on phasing out mercury from healthcare facilities.
- Toxics Link participated as a resource in a seminar on mercury poisoning organized by All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS). This led to AIIMS replacing Mercury thermometers.
- On biomedical waste management Toxics Link have implemented several TOTs programmes with State Governments (Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and in Uttarakhand). In some states the training has resulted in model hospitals to further disseminate good waste handling practices to hospitals, facility owners, nursing and medical Associations.
- Organized capacity building programmes for the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCB) on E-waste in 17 states. Following the training, four states have carried out surveys and six states issued public notices on E-waste handling.
- Organised training and awareness programmes in two E-waste hubs for informal recyclers in New Delhi and four cities across India in collaboration with GIZ and MAIT Ltd (IT manufacturer).
- Toxics Link has also built capacity among various grass-root organizations at state levels (a list of the local training partners are included in annex 8).

5.3 Sida's role in Building Toxics Link's Capacity

Sida's support has played a pivotal role in Toxics Link growth and development as an organisation. According to Toxics Link, Sida's support has been very important in supporting the organisational development process that has taken Toxics Links from the initial entrepreneurship to leadership model in prioritised programme areas¹⁰⁵. Toxics Link has specialised and developed expertise in a few selected niche areas where few other organisations are working. The most important characteristics of the Swedish support have been the long-term programmatic approach and provision of non-earmarked funds. This has enabled the organisation to take a strategic view when tackling complex environmental issues where measurable results cannot be achieved in the two - three year's life span of a traditional funded project. In most of the areas where Toxics Link have contributed to policy change, the process - from the first research studies, the advocacy campaigns and the proposal for new regulations or guidelines – have taken five to ten years to achieve.

¹⁰⁴ BIS, ISO 9873 (PART 3) : 1999/ISO 8124-3 :Revised in July 2011

¹⁰⁵ Interview: Agarwal, R., Toxics Link. 6 Nov 2013.

The first phase of Sida support (2002-2005) supported the organisation in taking the step from being a small voluntary based activist organisation to becoming an NGO with 25 professionals. During this period Toxics Link moved from primarily being activist oriented to beginning to engage in dialogue with public sector decision makers. The engagement in the international network took also a leap forward during this period.

However, the fast expansion and diverse engagements brought increasing expectations on deliverables. The second phase (2006 – 2009) was geared towards supporting Toxics Link to consolidate its previous work¹⁰⁶. In 2006, a Sida supported assessment of Toxics Link stressed the need to strengthen the organisational capacity and expertise, but at the same time focus its operations on a few specific subjects, identifying ‘gap-areas’ where few other organisations work and to continue focusing on raising the level of informed debate on best practices and influencing policy development for sustainable and equitable solutions¹⁰⁷.

The evaluation of the Swedish strategy for development cooperation 2005 - 2009, concluded that Sida’s selection of Indian NGOs, amongst them Toxics Link, as recipients of support from Sida had been strategic and that the impact of their work on policy making had generally been high.¹⁰⁸ The evaluation further suggests that the direct support to NGOs has the strongest poverty focus and has been the most successful in terms of impact, effectiveness and cost efficiency.

In 2009 an organisational overview¹⁰⁹ was conducted to look at how Toxics Link could organize and focus its work in the future. The report pointed out the specific needs for an organisation development process and the development of a strategy for financial sustainability.

The third period of Sida support (2009 -2013) helped to continue developing Toxics Link’s priority areas of work. In addition, Sida facilitated support, through the PDC modality, helped Toxics Link explore opportunities for partnerships with Swedish actors as the Swedish Chemicals Agency (KemI) and the Lund University, Sweden.

5.4 Implications for TL’s operations of Sida Phasing-Out the Support

As mentioned in the previous section, Sida has played an important role in supporting the development and capacity strengthening of Toxics Link. The following section presents some of the key issues with regards to the future development of the organisation once the Swedish core support ends in December 2013.

Over the past decade Toxics Link has managed to increase its income six-fold, diversify its funding sources and reduce the dependency on Sida’s support. The organization had only three donors in 2002-03 but seven in 2012-13. Sida’s share reduced from 73 per cent to 22 per cent of the total income over the same period (see figure 3).

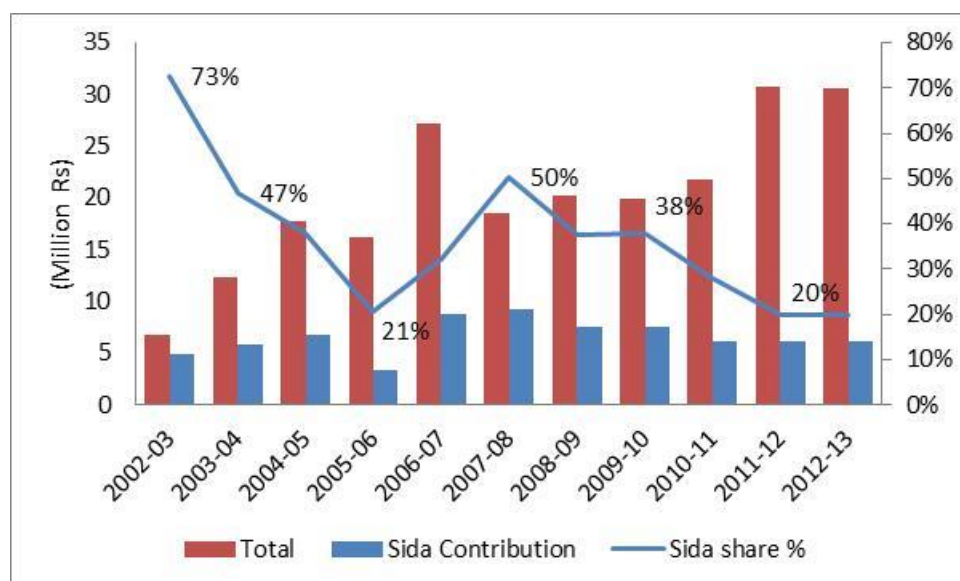
¹⁰⁶ Toxics Link, 2009. *Narrative Report, Sida Support to Toxics Link 2006 – 2009*. New Delhi: India.

¹⁰⁷ Jennervik A., Asnani, P.U., 2006. *End Term Evaluation of Sida support to Toxics Link from 2002-2005*. Sida, Stockholm: Sweden.

¹⁰⁸ Forss, K., September 2009. *Evaluation of the Swedish strategy for development cooperation with India 2005-2009*. Andante Tools for thinking AB, Stockholm: Sweden.

¹⁰⁹ ASK, November 2009. *Report of Organisational Overview of Toxics Link*. Gurgaon: India.

Figure 2: Toxics Link, Sida share of income from donor grants 2002 - 2013.



Source: TL, 2013. *Details of funds received during the period 2002 to 2013.*
 Note: Sida contributions received for the periods 2008-2010 and 2010-2013 have been distributed equally between the financial years

FINANCIAL STRATEGY

Toxics Link has managed to reduce its dependency on Sida funding. Still, approximately a fifth of Toxics Link sources of income come from Sida's core support and new sources of income will be needed to maintain the operations. Toxics Link has not developed a specific financial strategy on how to cover the loss of Swedish funding, but has on the other hand extensively discussed the issue internally over the past year:

- The challenge to maintain the character of the organisation in a changing donor climate: There are few international donors interested in supporting environmental NGOs in India. Most of the available funding sources are project based. However, quality support in terms of institutional grants will be difficult to find, to support the long-term development of the organisation,
- Forging new partnerships: In the past few years, Toxics Link has initiated new partnerships with Swedish organisations (through the PDC programme): KemI and Lund University. It has also a cooperation with the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC). Toxics Link will continue to explore the potential created through these new contacts, and also explore the possibilities of similar partnerships in other countries,
- CSR Funding: Toxics Link has good experiences from the on-going partnership with Nokia. They will continue to further explore this option within the corporate sector in areas where such partnerships do not interfere with the core-values of the organisation,
- Revenue based activities: Toxics Link will explore the potential to generate revenues through expanding their training programme activities. Another possible area is to take on selected consultancy work related to the areas of expertise within the organisation.

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

Toxics Link has taken a conscious decision to not grow further in size, but rather focus and consolidate its expertise in the selected priority areas. It has a small but highly qualified professional team who lead the programmatic work. However, the size of the organisation makes it also vulnerable to changes in staff. The impression from the review is that there is a scope for strengthening the capacity building at the middle-management level, to reduce the vulnerability and consolidate the resilience of the organisation.

DEMAND FOR SERVICES

Toxics Link has been successful in positioning itself within subject areas where there are few other NGOs working in India. Governmental agencies such as the MoEF and CPCB appreciate the dialogue and participation of Toxics Link in various national policy committees and send staff regularly to Toxics Link's training workshops and seminar events¹¹⁰. The organisation has also forged strong links with international networks in areas of priority on the global environmental agenda. It is therefore very likely that there will continue to be a strong demand for the services provided by Toxics Link.

While Toxics Link has managed to maintain focus on a few, but well developed subject areas it has also forged strong relationships with national governmental agencies and with international networks. In spite of having diversified its donor base, it will be difficult to replace the Swedish core funding with similar support from elsewhere. This means that the character of Toxics Link will probably change to some extent, for instance with an increasing focus on CSR funding or selected consultancy work in the future.

¹¹⁰ Interview: Kumar, A., CPCB, 7 Nov 2013.

6 Lessons Learned

Long-term institutional grants - core support is an efficient model of support for the development and capacity building of an organisation. It provides a secured source of funding for a given time period, enabling the organisation to develop and consolidate its core strategy and build up its technical capacity. It may also provide seed-money to explore new ideas and approaches

However, there is also a risk involved in providing core support, as it may create dependency on one donor, which may affect the sustainability of the organisation's business model.

Core support is also important for organisations that are working in subject areas where project funding is scarce, for instance in communication and awareness raising programmes. Then traditional project based support can create positive add-on effects building on the base created by the core support.

Core support is probably the best funding modality in areas where a long-term strategic approach is needed to tackle complex issues (changing attitudes, promoting policy change and implementation), where results are difficult to achieve in the life span of a traditional two to three year project cycle.

Sida's long-term support has not only been appreciated for the financial contribution, but also for the opportunity to maintain a constructive dialogue with the donor over time.

Regular programme assessments, and support to organisational development are important tools when providing core support. They can help provide the receiving organisation with a reality check, improve or develop new strategies, increase the efficiency of the operations and improve logframe and the internal monitoring framework of the organisation.

Sida's initiative to facilitate partnership through the PDC modality, parallel to the core support, has been appreciated by the organisations.

7 Conclusions

The support to CSE and Toxics Link has clearly contributed to the overall objective of Swedish development cooperation with India 'to increase awareness of and capacity to protect the environment, and prevent and manage climate change'¹¹¹.

The rationale behind the support to NGOs working in the environment sector has been that a strong civil society is an important factor when it comes to promoting change, transparency and accountability in democratic processes towards a more sustainable development. The work of CSE and Toxics Link has also indicated that public interest organisations do indeed have an important role to play: creating awareness among people in general as well as among decision makers about threats to the environment and as a consequence to the sustainability of the modern society;

¹¹¹ Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Sweden. July 2009. *Strategy for selective cooperation with India, January 2009 – December 2013*. Stockholm: Sweden.

advocating for change in policies and in practices; strengthening knowledge and capacity among various stakeholder groups towards a more socially equitable and environmentally sustainable development; and to hold decision-makers accountable.

The reviews affirm that CSE and Toxic Links have over the years grown to become key players in the environmental and climate change debate in their respective fields in Indian society, as well as in the South Asia region and globally too.

The most important factors behind the success are that they have managed to combine activism with effective advocacy. This has been backed by evidence based research and presenting practical workable proposals for change to decision-makers. This combination of being a watchdog and a green think-tank has turned out to be an efficient approach: The quality of their work has been recognised by governmental authorities and also by corporate players. Both CSE and Toxics Link are frequently invited to take part in national working groups that draft new legislation.

The Swedish funding to CSE and Toxics Link has mostly been provided through non-earmarked core support. This has given the two organisations the flexibility to take on complex environmental issues, and issues that need a long-term and strategic approach to tackle. For CSE it has made it possible to expand the outreach of the bimonthly magazine 'Down to Earth' and launch public interest platforms such as the India Environment Portal and the Green Clearance Watch Portal. It has also provided them with the possibility to improve financial stability, through long-term planning and the creation of endowment funds. However, both CSE and Toxics Link emphasise that the Sida cooperation has not only been about the funding. The support provided through reviews, strategic evaluations and organisational development consultancies has been equally important. It has helped the two organisations to improve their capacity and the efficiency and sustainability of their operations.

In this context it is important to stress that both CSE and Toxics Link state that the Swedish support has not defined the identity of the organisations. They were both established as NGOs before the support started, with clear visions and identities, but it has played an important role in the growth and consolidation of the two organisations¹¹² (see figure 4).

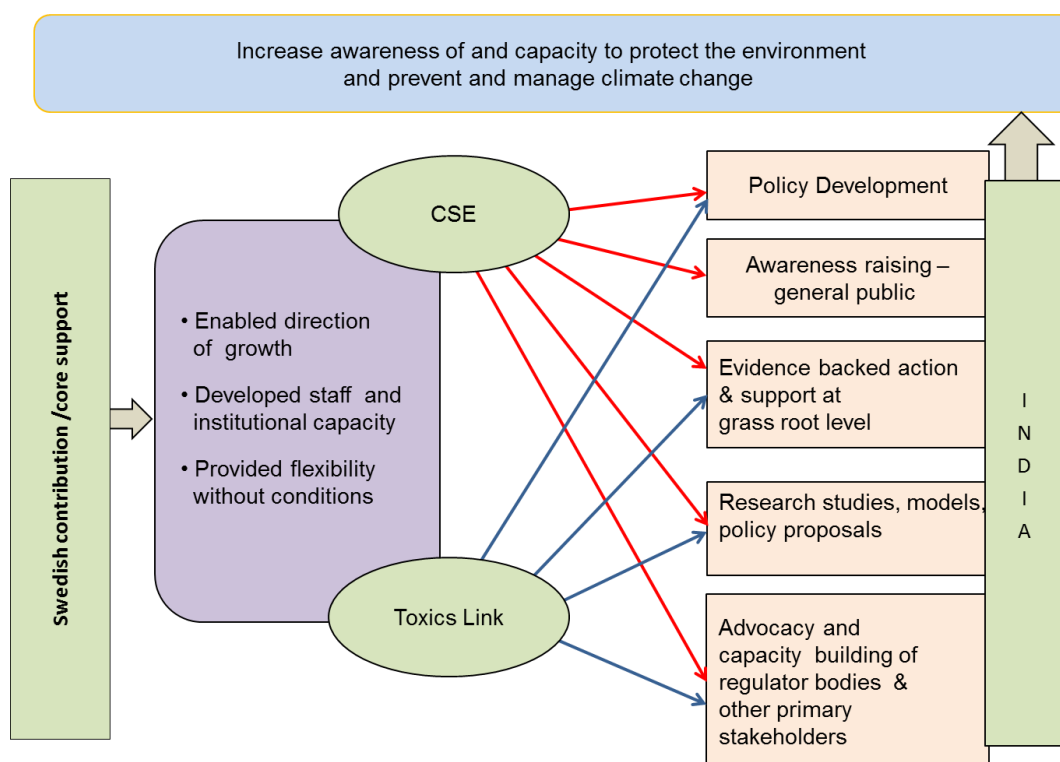
This review has not directly addressed the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the support. Nevertheless, other evaluations have looked into these aspects with positive conclusions: The evaluation of 2005-2009 strategy stated that 'the outputs produced by organisations such as Toxics Link and CSE are many and significant, and are produced at rather low cost. It is unlikely that the multilateral agencies' partnership projects can produce results at such low cost'¹¹³. The mid-term review of CSE in 2011 came to similar conclusions, that the organisation 'runs a very tight ship with respect to expenditure and that there cannot be much concern for the financial efficiency of CSE'¹¹⁴.

¹¹² Agarwal, R., Toxics Link, 6 Nov. 2013; and Bushan, C., CSE, 4 Nov 2013.

¹¹³ Forss, K. September 2008. *Evaluation of the Swedish strategy for development cooperation with India 2005–2009, Final report*. Andante AB: Stockholm: Sweden, p. 18.

¹¹⁴ Pain, A., November 2011. *MidTerm Review of Sida support for the CSE, Delhi*, p. 22. Indevalop. Stockholm: Sweden.

Figure 3: The Swedish Support to Strengthen the Capacity to Protect the Environment through support to the CSOs Centre for Science and Environment and Toxics Link.



Environment is on the agenda in India today. Politicians, governmental agencies as well as the corporate sector express their commitment to a ‘green agenda’. As people in general have become aware of the threats to the environment and their health, ‘green’ has become a selling point and not an obstacle to development – at least in theory¹¹⁵. In this context it is important to remember, that this was not the case 20 years ago and organisations like CSE and Toxics Link have been part of the process to create this shift in thinking, from the environmental issues being perceived as against development, to the situation today, where environmental issues are perceived as a pre-condition to ensure sustainability.

However, this increasing awareness has not yet had visible impact on the environment in India. The State of the Environment in India report shows a clear negative trend for almost all indicators¹¹⁶. This is a clear indication that the role and work of organisations like CSE and Toxics Link is still needed; there are enormous challenges ahead with regards to follow up on the implementation of policies, while at the same time addressing new emerging threats.

CSE and Toxics Link have both managed to diversify the funding streams and as a consequence reduced the dependency on the Swedish support. They have also analysed and explored various options to replace the Swedish core funding. However, for both organisations the absence of core support will have a radical impact on their future operations. The donor landscape for CSOs in India

¹¹⁵ Interview: Chandra Bushan, CSE, 4 Nov 2013.

¹¹⁶ CSE, 2011. *The State of the Environment in India Report*. New Delhi: India.

has changed dramatically over the past years and there seems to be no other donors or funding sources that are willing to provide longer-term institutional grants. The endowment funds set up by both CSE and Toxics Link may provide a 'cushion' to mitigate the immediate effect in the short term, but it will not provide it with the financial means to sustain the operations as they are today. For instance, it will become difficult to take on controversial issues and sustain activities over time, as most donors tend to give project based funding for two to three year time periods only.

Both organisations agree that the absence of the Sida core funding will lead to profound changes in how they operate even though the strategies and solutions to this challenge are perceived slightly differently:

CSE has taken the decision to be very cautious when it comes to accepting funds from the governmental or corporate sector; this is in order to maintain its credibility as independent watchdog on environment and climate change issues. One area that has increased in importance in the past four to five years is CSE's training programme, and this is an area expected to continue to grow in the future. Nevertheless, CSE has come to the conclusion that it will be difficult to continue its research, awareness, information, and communication programme components without access to institutional grants.

Toxics Link sees a clear opportunity in increasing the cooperation with the corporate sector, for instance through CSR funding and selective consultancies within their priority areas of work, as long as it does not compromise the core values of the organisation.

A particular concern for CSE is the flagship publication Down to Earth and the India Environmental Portal. Down to Earth has over the years had an impressive level of impact in media in India as well as internationally, but there are at present no alternatives for funding the research work behind most of the articles and campaigns published in the magazine. The information on the India Environment Portal, is provided free of charge and this is also an important factor behind its success, but so far, CSE has not found any alternative means to fund the operation of the portal.

CSE and Toxics Link within its specific subject areas are playing an increasingly important role as green think-tanks in the South Asia region, as well as on the global arena. There are obviously many other CSO's that play such a role internationally, but most of them have their origin in the US or in Europe. There are in fact very few organisations like CSE and Toxics Link that do so from a South perspective. This advocacy from a 'South perspective' will become increasingly important in the near future, as the emerging economies in Asia take an increasingly larger share in the global economy – and on the global ecological footprint.

Annex 1: List of Interviews

Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)

Name	Position	Date
Banerjee, Souparno	Programme Director, Media Resource Centre	4 th Nov 13
Baruah, Amit	Programme Director, Education and Training	4 th Nov 13
Batra, Aditya	Programme Director, Board and Funding	4 th Nov 13
Bhushan, Chandra	Deputy Director-General	4 th Nov 13
Chandola, Priyanka	Deputy Program Manager, Right to Clean Air Progr.	4 th Nov 13
Dasgupta, Sumita	Programme Director, Education and Training	4 th Nov 13
Debadatta, Basu, Dr.	Advisor, Industry and Environment Programme	4 th Nov 13
Dutta, Arnab	News Editor, <i>Down To Earth</i>	4 th Nov 13
Gupta, Jagdeep	Executive Director, Planning and Operations	4 th Nov 13
Jacob, Nitya	Programme Director, Water Programme (Policy)	4 th Nov 13
Jishnu, Latha	Senior Editor, <i>Down To Earth</i>	4 th Nov 13
Juneja, Sugandh	Deputy Programme Manager, Policy Research & Community Support	4 th Nov 13
Kanchan, Sanjeev Kumar	Deputy Programme Manager, Industry & Environment	4 th Nov 13
Kavarana, Gita	Consultant	4 th Nov 13
Khurana, Amit	Programme Manager, Food & Toxins	4 th Nov 13
Kumar, Sanjeev	Deputy Programme Manager, Industry and Environment	4 th Nov 13
Mahapatra, Richard	Senior Editor, <i>Down To Earth</i>	4 th Nov 13
Narain, Sunita	Director-General	8 th Nov 13
Pandey, Kiran	Programme Director, Environment Resource Unit	4 th Nov 13
Rohilla, Dr. S. Kumar	Programme Director, Water Programme (Training)	4 th Nov 13
Roychowdhury, A	Executive Director, Research and Advocacy	4 th Nov 13
Singh, Disha	Senior Research Associate, Sustainable Building Progr.	4 th Nov 13
Somvanshi, Avikal	Senior Research Associate, Sustainable Building Progr.	4 th Nov 13
Yadav, Nivit	Deputy Programme Manager, Industry and Environment	4 th Nov 13

Toxics Link

Name	Position	Date
Agarwal, Anu,	Consultant, Biomedical Waste	6 Nov 13
Agarwal, Ravi,	Director	6 Nov 13
Bakhry, Shivani,	Senior Program Officer, Communications	6 Nov 13
Kumar, Amit	IT & Systems Officer	6 Nov 13
Mahapatra, Piyush	Program Coordinator, Chemicals	6 Nov 13
Mahesh, Priti	Sr. Program Coordinator, E-Waste	6 Nov 13
Sinha, Satish	Associate Director	6 Nov 13
Thampi, Rahu	Program Officer, Biomedical Waste	6 Nov 13

Name	Position	Date
Tiwari, Prashanti	Program Officer, Communications	6 Nov 13
Tripathy, Rambha	Head of Communications	6 Nov 13

Governmental Agencies

Name	Position	Organisation	Date
Chandrababu, Mr	Coordinator Biomedical Waste	Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)	7 Nov 13
Hota, M	Additional Director (HSMD)	Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF)	8 Nov 13
Vinodbabu, Mr	Senior Environmental Engineer	CPCB	7 Nov 13
Lal, Bhure, Mr.	Chair	Environment Pollution Control Authority (EPCA)	5 Nov 13
Kumar, A, Mr	Coordinator Electronic Waste	CPCB	7 Nov 13
Vinodbabu, Mr	Coordinator Industrial Pollution	CPCB	7 Nov 13
Subrahmaniam, Dr	Advisor	MOEF	5 Nov 13

Donor Agencies / Partners

Name	Position	Organisation	Date
Axelsson, Anna, Dr	Expert Climate Change	Swedish Society of Nature Conservation (SSNC)	19 Nov 13
Behera, S, Ravi,	National Progr. Manager, Environment & Energy	Embassy of Sweden	4 Nov 13
Dahl, Ulrika, Dr	Director, Environmental toxins	SSNC	14 Nov 13
Harneit-Sievers, Dr	Director, India Office	Heinrich Böll Stiftung	8 Nov 13
Heijne, Åsa	Counsellor Development Cooperation	Embassy of Sweden	8 Nov 13
Kennit, Suresh	Programme Officer	Embassy of Switzerland	8 Nov 13
Kullander, Mats	Programme Officer	Embassy of Sweden	8 Nov 13
Singhal, Prianshu	Head Sustainability	Nokia Ltd	7 Nov 13
Patra, Sanjay	<i>Executive Director, (EED fund manager)</i>	<i>Financial Management Services Foundation (Phone interview)</i>	5 Nov 13

External informants

Name	Position	Organisation	Date
Dutt, Umendra Mr.	Director	Kheti Virasat Mission, Punjab (Phone interview)	5 Nov 13
Lal, Bhure Mr.	Chair	Environment Pollution Prevention and Control Authority (EPCA)	5 Nov 13
Patel, Bharat, Mr	General Secretary	Machimar Adhikar Sangharsh Sangathan, Gujarat. (Phone interview)	5 Nov 13
Pinto, Arthur R, Rev	Director	Academy of Health Sciences & Research, Holy Family Hospital	7 Nov 13
Saxena, N.C.	Member	National Advisory Council (NAC)	5 Nov 13
Sharma, Dinesh Mr	Journalist	Free-lance journalist	5 Nov 13
Yogendra Saxena	Chief Sustainability Officer	The Tata Power Company Ltd (Phone interview)	5 Nov 13

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Pesticides in soft-drinks	The Economist, 6 October 2005. <i>Coca-Cola, In hot water, The world's biggest drinks firm tries to fend off its green critics</i> . http://www.theguardian.com/world/2004/feb/05/india.randeepamesh
Climate Change	The Guardian, 9 November 2009. <i>India 'arrogant' to deny global warming link to melting glaciers</i>
Water Pollution	www.bloomberg.com , 28 October 2013. <i>Cancer Express Carries Sufferers of India's Deadly Waters</i>
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Trans-fats in food	www.business-standard.com 9 November 2013. <i>India lags in fight against trans fats in packaged food</i>
Green Rating Project	Academic Paper from the University of Michigan. <i>Does Disclosure Reduce Pollution? Evidence from India's Green Rating Project</i> http://www.erb.umich.edu/News-and-Events/Conferences/arcs-09papers/GRP_JEEMPowers.pdf
Road Safety for Cyclists	BBC News, 25 October 2013. <i>Cyclists feeling the squeeze on India's roads</i> http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-24643106
Air Pollution	BBC News, 9 November 2012. <i>Why Delhi has again become submerged by smog</i> http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/20264212
Urbanisation	BBC News, 17 August 2012. <i>India's millennium city Gurgaon a 'slum for the rich'?</i> http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-india-19044076
Sewage systems	CNN 9 April 2010. <i>Sewage streams into scenic parks? One man's goal</i> http://edition.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/asiapcf/04/08/delhi.pollution.nullahs/index.html?iref=s

	torysearch
Fossil Fuels	New York Times 5 February 2010. <i>India's Future Energy Business Plan -- Shop the World for More Coal</i> http://www.nytimes.com/cwire/2010/02/05/05climatewire-indias-future-energy-business-plan----shop-t-26574.html?pagewanted=all
Air pollution	Le Monde 18 December 2012 <i>La pollution de l'air tue plus de 2 millions de personnes par an en Asie</i> http://www.lemonde.fr/planete/article/2012/12/18/la-pollution-de-l-air-tue-plus-de-2-millions-de-personnes-par-an-en-asie_1807995_3244.html?xtmc=centre_for_science_and_environment&xtcr=1
Air Pollution	El Pais 2 February 2013 <i>Nueva Delhi no logra frenar el aumento de su contaminación.</i> http://sociedad.elpais.com/sociedad/2013/02/01/actualidad/1359733901_132049.html
Pesticides	Reuters 28 July 2013 <i>Insight: The poison pill in India's search for cheap food</i> http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/28/us-india-pesticides-insight-idUSBRE96R01V20130728
Climate Change (IPCC)	BBC News 13 November 2013 <i>2013 'one of warmest' on record</i> http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-24925580
Climate change (IPCC)	CNN 30 October 2013 <i>Report: Climate change may pose threat to economic growth</i> http://edition.cnn.com/2013/10/29/world/climate-change-vulnerability-index/index.html?iref=allsearch
Climate change (IPCC)	New York Times 19 August 2013 <i>Climate Panel Cites Near Certainty on Warming</i> http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/20/science/earth/extremely-likely-that-human-activity-is-driving-climate-change-panel-finds.html

Examples of citations in international media – Toxics Link:

Topic	Reference
E-waste	TBL(Triple Bottom Line), <i>E-WASTE RECYCLING IN POOR COUNTRIES</i> , http://www.tbl.com.pk/e-waste-recycling-in-poor-countries/
	RT, <i>Illegal trash trade: E-waste smuggling contaminate developing countries</i> , http://rt.com/news/e-waste-illegal-environment-uk-043/
	E-waste Ignored in India, http://karlschoenberger.com/ewastIndia.html
	PBS News Hour, <i>Old Computers Causing Environmental Crisis in India</i> , http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/jan-june07/e-waste_2-26.html
	India's computer recyclers exposed to harm, http://www.theage.com.au/news/world/indias-computer-recyclers-exposed-to-harm/2007/07/27/1185339258061.html?page=fullpage
	CNN Money, <i>The other side of India's tech boom</i> http://money.cnn.com/magazines/fortune/fortune_archive/2007/07/23/100135848/
	New America Media, <i>India's Poor Recycle World's E-Waste into Wealth</i> http://news.newamericamedia.org/news/view_article.html?article_id=c2df984bffe1d99715ed96496e015ce5
	Reuters, <i>India's booming economy brings toxic hi-tech waste</i> , http://www.reuters.com/article/2007/02/23/dcbrights-india-environment-ewaste-dc-idUSDEL15336620070223
Lead in Paints	AllAfrica.com, 3 November 2013. <i>Tanzania: Dar Needs Law to Control Lead Paint</i> http://allafrica.com/stories/201311040021.html
Mercury Campaign	ZeroMercury.org, 11 October 2013. <i>Toxic Trade Emerges As Priority Issue For Asia During Mercury Treaty Adoption: Japan Mercury Exports Cited</i> http://www.zeromercury.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=272:pr-toxic-trade-emerges-as-priority-issue-for-asia-during-mercury-treaty-adoption-japan-mercury-exports-cited&catid=3:newsflash
	Heading Closer To A Robust EU Mercury Export Ban http://www.zeromercury.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=86%3Aheading-closer-to-a-robust-eu-mercury-export-ban&catid=38%3A2007&Itemid=82

Annex 3: Terms of Reference

**Embassy of Sweden
New Delhi**

Development Co-operation Section

New Delhi 13 May, 2013

Terms of Reference for Review of Results of the Support to the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) and Toxics Link (TL)

1. Background

Sweden has been involved with development cooperation with India since the 1960ies. Initially India was one of the biggest recipients of economic aid from Sweden. Over the years the character of the support has changed from being state to state cooperation to Sweden channelling its support through multilateral organizations such as the World Bank and UNICEF and direct support to Indian non-governmental organizations.

The current co-operation is governed by a Strategy for Selective co-operation with India, decided by the Swedish government, for the period 2009-2013. The Strategy stipulates that the major form of cooperation should be partner driven cooperation with the objective to stimulate and strengthen the growth of self-sustained relationships of mutual interest between Swedish and Indian actors in order to contribute to achieve socially, economically and environmentally sustainable development. The collaborations are focused on exchange of knowledge and experiences in areas that India has an interest to develop and where Sweden has a comparative advantage.

The major area of cooperation is environment and climate with the aim of increasing the country's capacity to protect the environment and prevent and manage the effects of climate change. In the area of environment, there is also a small opening for targeted interventions which means direct support to NGOs in the area of environment.

The Swedish government has decided that the bilateral development cooperation with India will be end December 2013. A priority for Sida in the phase out process is to identify and communicate results of development cooperation with India. Therefore the Embassy/Sida has decided to carry out a review of the results achieved.

In the category of targeted intervention, Sida provides core support to two Indian non governmental organisations based in New Delhi, Toxics Link (TL) and Centre for Science and Environment (CSE). CSE and TL both work with issues related to environment and sustainable development in India.

Centre for Science and Environment - Profile

The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) is a public interest research and advocacy organisation based in New Delhi. CSE has been working with issues related to environment and sustainable development since 1980. CSE researches into, lobbies for and communicates the urgency of development that is both sustainable and equitable. CSE is engaged in media advocacy, environmental research, awareness creation, education and training programmes, CSE contributes to building awareness on issues relating to environment and civil society including policy development in the country. CSE works on five

programme areas – Communication for awareness, Research and advocacy, Education and Training, Knowledge Portal and Pollution Monitoring.

Sida extended financial support to CSE during the period 1989 to 2013 for its work as core organisation support.

Toxics Link - Profile

Toxics Link (TL) is an environmental NGO based in Delhi with a nodal office in Kolkata, West Bengal. TL is dedicated to bring toxics related information into the public domain, both relating to struggles and problems at the grassroots as well as global information to the local levels. Toxics Link is engaged in disseminating information to help strengthen campaigns against toxic pollution, provide cleaner alternatives and bring together groups and people concerned with, and affected by, this problem. TL works with other groups around the country as well as internationally with an understanding that this engagement will help bring the experience of the ground to the fore, and lead to a more meaningful articulation of issues. Toxics Link also engages in on-the ground work especially in areas of municipal, hazardous and medical waste management and food safety among others. TL works with networks, utilising community outreach and education, policy analysis, research, training and programme development. TL interacts with policy makers and can direct them to pro- people and environmental friendly policies. TL has a unique expertise in the areas of hazardous, medical and municipal wastes, as well as in specific issues such as the international waste trade, and the emerging issues of pesticides and POPs. The present focus of TL is on e-waste issues and have already done assessment studies of e-waste scenarios in major metros in India. Over the years, with hard work and campaigns the organisation could make a strong awareness among the public and stakeholders about toxicity and pollution.

Sida has extended financial support to Toxics Link during the period 2002 to 2013 as core organisation support.

2. Objectives of the Review

The objectives are;

- to assess to what extent the objectives of the support to the two organizations have been met,
- to assess and present results (planned and not planned) that the organizations have contributed to,
- to assess lessons learnt, risks and challenges from the cooperation.
- to assess and analyse major organizational implications after Sida's phase out.

3. Scope

The review will include and assessment of the entire period of cooperation but will focus in more detail on the last period, that is 2009 – 2013. The assessment should build upon Indevlop's Mid Term Review of CSE from year 2011 and possibly other existing studies of the organisations.

4. Issues to be focussed during the assignment

The review shall include – but not necessarily be limited to - the following issues:

- Assess to what extent the project objectives (set in the project document) have been achieved and identify and assess the major results (expected and not expected) achieved. What changes has the support led to? For example changes, in knowledge, attitudes, behaviour or policy changes. What results have the organisations contributed to?
- Have there been any positive or negative side effects?
- In which areas, or specific problems, have the organisations been specifically successful? Why?
- Assess and analyse major implications on CSE and TL after Sida's phase out. What would be the implications at organisational level? Assess the organisational capacities and preparedness plans

for organisational sustainability beyond the Sida support. Provide specific recommendations on sustainability.

- What are the lessons learnt from the cooperation? Which are the good and the bad experiences?

5. Products expected from the assignment

The Consultant shall produce the following:

- a report of not more than 25 pages
- present the findings of the review in one seminar in India and one in Stockholm
- information briefs presenting results from the respective organisation

6. Methodology

Methodology is to be proposed by the Consultant. Data collection should start with the Mid Term Review of CSE made by Indevlop in 2011 and possibly other existing studies and evaluations of the two organizations.

7. Composition of the review team

The team should consist of two consultants, one international and one national. The team should have the strong qualifications, knowledge and experiences in the following areas:

- Review and evaluations of development projects and assessment of NGOs.
- Environment issues, including water, natural resource management, chemicals, toxics, waste management, climate change etc.
- Economic, political and environmental context in India.

8. Time Plan

The report should be submitted to the Embassy in New Delhi no later than 1 December. The consultant shall present the findings of the review at one seminar in Sweden and one in India, time to be agreed.

It is estimated that the assignment will require 25-30 working days for the review (divided between the two consultants) and 4-6 working days for the seminars.

Annex 4: List of publications CSE 2009 - 2013

Selected CSE publications published 2009-2013

Major publications (priced):

Catch Water Where It Falls - Toolkit on Urban Rainwater Harvesting (2012).

Challenge of the new balance: A study of the six most emission-intensive sectors to determine India's low-carbon growth options (2010).

Climate change: A book of activities for children (2011).

Climate change – Politics and Facts (2009).

Excreta Matters - A Students' Special Edition.

Facing the Sun (2012).

First Food – A Taste of India's Biodiversity (2013).

Food as Toxin (2012).

Green Schools Manual for Abu Dhabi (2009).

In to The Furnace (2012).

Mobility crisis: Agenda for action (2010).

Reinvent, Recycle, Reuse - Toolkit on Decentralised Wastewater Management (2013).

Translations of Green Schools Manual in Urdu, Gurmukhi (2009).

Printed publications (non-priced):

Capturing rainwater: A Way to Augment Chandigarh's Water Resources (2010).

Choc-A-Block: Parking measures to address mobility crisis (2009).

Delhi Bus Corridor: An Evaluation (2009).

Factsheets sheets on various environmental issues

Footfalls: Obstacle Course to Liveable Cities (2009).

Policy Paper on Sewage Management in India (2010).

Publ. produced by students of the AAGC courses: Envision, Beacon, Be the Change, Eighty Twenty.

Sharing the Wealth of Minerals: A Report on Profit Sharing with Local Communities (2011).

Sponge Iron Industry: The Regulatory Challenge (2010).

Turnaround: Reform Agenda for India's Environmental Regulators (2009).

Web publications (non-priced)

Briefing Note on Air pollution and Our Health (2011).

Decentralised Waste Water Treatment: A way of Managing Septage in Shimla (2009).

Parking Policy in India: Getting the Principles Right (2011)

Policy Note on Fuel Economy Standards: Getting the Principles Right.

Policy Note on Post 2010 Emissions Standards Roadmap for Clean Vehicles and Fuels.

Roadmap for Rating System for Water Efficient fixtures: A Way to Sustainable Water Management (2010).

Annex 5: List of publications Toxics Link 2009 - 2013

Chlorine Industry - Economics of Conversion in India. Report (2012).

DDT Loosing Grounds in India. Factsheet (2011).

Double Standard: Investigating Lead Content in Leading Enamel Paint Brands in South Asia. Report (2011).

Emission Estimate of Passport-Free Heavy Metal Mercury from Indian Thermal Power Plants. Report (2010)

Eliminating Lead in Paint – Global Study to Determine Lead in Decorative Paints in 10 Countries. (2009).

Ferrous Smelters. Report (2011).

Environment and Livelihood-Hand in Hand. Report (2013).

Establishment of E-waste Collection Bin in Kolkata. Report (2012).

Estimation of Mercury Usage and Release from Healthcare Instruments in India. Report (2011).

Fishing Toxics - Mercury Contamination of Fish in West Bengal. Report (2010).

E-Waste Awareness Workshop - Responsibility of Bulk Consumers. (2012).

E-Waste Tamil Nadu Braces Up for the Challenge. (2009).

E-Waste Management and Handling Rules, 2010 by MoEF (Draft prepared by Toxics Link) (2010).

E-waste - Time to Act. Brochure (2009).

Factsheet 33 on Green Computers: Making of a Greener Computer. (English/ Tamil) (2010).

Factsheet 34 on Candidate POPs : Criteria, Processes and Existing Status. (English) (2009).

Factsheet 35 on Dioxins: Dioxins. (English) (2009).

Factsheet 36 on Food Safety: Food for Thought. (English) (2009).

Factsheet 37 on Radioactive Waste : Radwaste. New Delhi: Toxics Link; 2009.

India's Pesticides Management Bill 2008 - 40 Years on - Has Something Changed? Article (2010).

International Conference on Heavy Metals and E-waste. Report (2009).

Initiatives Towards Decentralized Waste Management in Rashtrapati Bhawan. Report 2011.

Lead in India's Enamel Household Paints. Report (2013).

Mercury in Our Mouth. (2012).

Moving Towards Mercury Free Health Care: Substituting Mercury-Based Medical Devices. Report (2009).

National Conference on Toxic Chemicals Management. Report (2012).

National Workshop on Issues and Challenges in Managing Biomedical Waste in India. Report (2011).

Workshop on Bio-Medical Waste Management and Mercury Phase Out from the Health Care Sector in Manipur. Report (2011).

Public Lectures: "Vultures"; and "The Magnificent Vulture - End of the Road?" (2013).

Recycling of Brominated Flame Retardant Contaminated Plastic. Report (2011).

Toxics in That Glow. Report (2011).

Toxic Trinkets: An Investigation of Lead in Children's Jewellery in India. Report (2010).

Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment. Report (2011).

Workshops on E-waste Management – Perspectives and Challenges. Reports (2011 and 2012).

Workshop on 'Mercury Phase Out In Health Care Sector' in Lucknow. Report (2011).

Annex 6: CSE Programme Objectives, Expected Results and Key Outcomes

The following matrix summarises the programmatic strategies and key outcomes vis-a-vis the expected results to demonstrate the results of CSE's interventions.

CSE Objective	Program Teams	Expected Results ¹¹⁷	Some of the Key Outcomes
To contribute to the development of national policies and corresponding actions aiming at a) strengthening the ability of rural communities to withstand climate change, b) sustainable urban transport and green buildings, sustainable water management, c) sustainable industrialisation	1. Resilient rural societies 2. Sustainable water management 3. Renewable energy 4. Climate change	• Policy solutions in place to catalyse government actions to move towards implementation of policy and institutional measures in areas of: - holistic, decentralised & more efficient management of water in urban and rural areas, - improved energy efficiency, reduced emissions and greater role for public urban transport; - energy, resource and waste efficient buildings; - Improved efficiency in energy and resource use & mainstream pollution prevention technologies. • Voluntary efforts by industry towards reduction of energy and resource use	Obj 1.1: Managing Natural Resources to build resilient rural societies • Declaration of bamboo as MFP • Keeping the focus of NREGA on ecological security and moving towards convergence • Parliamentary committee invited CSE to provide inputs for the new bill on seeds and technology • Understanding adaptation – Climate impacts and adaptation reporting on Sundarbans • Identified as Key National resource Centre of MoRD in sustainable rural drinking water management Obj 1.5: Sustainable water management • Decentralised water & waste management part of 12th 5 year plan • Model projects, best practices and technical guidance • Improving policy and practice of decentralised water & waste management, thus establishing that such models are scalable • Excreta Matters published to generate debate and media interest on the urban water crisis, views incorporated in the 12th 5 year plan of the Planning Commission for Industrial and Urban Water Obj 1.6: Climate Change • Ensured equity at the centre of the climate negotiations • Promoted & improved climate research in India with ICRN network • Advocated and set road map for HFCs under the Montreal Protocol

¹¹⁷ CSE 2009 – 2013 assessment memo 090520

CSE Objective	Program Teams	Expected Results ¹¹⁷	Some of the Key Outcomes
			Obj 1.7: Renewable energy and Energy Access • Changed policy and guidelines for greater accountability in the national Solar Mission • Policy on mini grid and Energy access • Reforming of off-grid solar programme • Shift in capital subsidy to FIT for wind energy
	5. Sustainable mobility (including Right to Clean Air)		Obj 1.2: Sustainable urban mobility & clean air • National ambient quality standards of new toxins taking health into consideration • Set up guidelines under JNNURM for procuring buses • Delhi: Increase in tax imposed on diesel, bus reforms, parking policy, walk ability, city air quality index • Setting fuel efficiency standards now pending • Starting dialogue on air quality and mobility in the cities of Kanpur, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Chennai, Jaipur and Guwahati
	6. Sustainable buildings		Obj 1.3: Green Building Programme • Challenging what is Green and building knowledge • Review of green rating technology and standards, EIA and environmental clearances for buildings, • Advocating for water efficient Fixtures • Indian Green Building Council place performance data in public domain
	7. Sustainable industrialisation (including community support) 8. Anti-toxin and food safety (including Pollution monitoring laboratory)		Obj 1.4: Sustainable industrialisation and Food & Toxins • Government added a provision to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill, 2011, making it compulsory for mining companies to share 26 per cent of their profits with project-affected communities. • Reforming the environment and forests clearance process • Study on environmental performance of iron and steel sector resulted in IFC asking factories receiving its funds to comply with sustainable industrial practices. Led to the green rating of sectors like paper and pulp • Made policy inroads by highlighting loopholes in the EIA procedures, together with lack of monitoring of project compliance. • Starting the debate on low carbon growth • Lab studies on critical food and beverage items resulted, in improved regulation

CSE Objective	Program Teams	Expected Results ¹¹⁷	Some of the Key Outcomes
			and setting of new standards for toxins, including heavy metals and antibiotics in honey. • Lb study led to questions raised in the Rajya Sabha. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) set up a committee to look into the CSE study. • Campaigning against Junk food • Submitted to Planning commission a report on decontamination plan for UCIL, Bhopal
To contribute to capacity building and awareness of national actors (central and state government officials and bureaucrats) and key stakeholders (civil society) in above mentioned areas.	1. Environment education through Green School program 2. Regulators programme 3. Anil Agarwal Training Institute	• Increase people's awareness & participation in decision making and have a positive impact on poor people's living conditions. • Greater public awareness generated in the society on the process of environmental change, its links to climate change and the combined impacts on the lives of the people. • An understanding of the need for a multi-disciplinary and holistic approach in decision-making on sustainable development created among key stakeholders, including government, media, educators and civil society actors. • Improving the role of citizenry in environmental and climate change issues through raising levels of awareness and information to better participate in the development process, take informed decisions and better implement policies.	Obj 2: To contribute to capacity building and awareness • Agreement with the MoEF and SPCB to train regulators has led to the pollution regulators being trained by CSE. • CSE's partnership with CPWD, the principal construction agency for all government properties, to build capacities of its personnel to deliver code-compliant, green infrastructure. • Training of water and waste engineers from urban and rural water management bodies by being designated as a 'centre of excellence' in capacity building. • IFS Probationers undergo a module on Climate change in CSE • Building capacity of Industry, NGOs and CBOs – EIA, SIA, Pollution Control and Waste Management • Studies on polluting sponge iron factories in Chhattisgarh set the stage for local NGOs to advocate for changes in the area. • Studies on Impact Assessments of industries helped affected communities fight for pro-poor industrial practices. • National and Regional Media workshops and Training Obj 2.1: Green Schools • National programme covering 18 states and more than 15000 schools • Now also being promoted in Sri Lanka and UAE • Shift from assessments of schools to assessments of the neighbourhood through children. Developing of educational material
To empower citizens with information on	1. India Environment portal 2. Websites	• New knowledge generated on the links between CC impacts & natural resources and what institutional frameworks & participatory	Obj 3: Empower citizens with information on environment and sustainable development • Media public face of CSE and a key multiplier in CSE's policy advocacy efforts • India Environment Portal reports studies, papers and news from 80 newspapers,

CSE Objective	Program Teams	Expected Results ¹¹⁷	Some of the Key Outcomes
environment and climate change by creating a national portal on environment and sustainable development.	3. Down to Earth 4. Occasional publications 5. Media Fellowship program	strategies are needed to help communities benefit from their efforts to regenerate their natural resource base. • Greater public awareness generated on the process of environmental change, its links to climate change and the combined impacts on the lives of the people. • India Environment Portal updated and maintained to collect, analyse and disseminate environmental information and facilities created for actors to interact and exchange information • The media programme actively cultivates media (briefing workshops / fellowships) to generate in-depth coverage of environmental issues	9000 subjects, 400,000 records, 0.75 million visitors and 1.5 million page views. • Specialised websites like Green Clearance Watch have been set up • Newsletters are sent to around 60,000 email ids • 60-70resources/ information are digitised every day • Analysis of Uttarakhand Disaster – 60% information from CSE database • The media team’s annual workshop for south Asian journalists prior to the CoP meeting attracts more than 100 journalists from TV, radio and print, including dozens of south Asian journalists, offering an opportunity for journalists to meet climate negotiators, climate scientists and researchers from the region. CSE also sponsors several journalists to attend CoP negotiations.
To strengthen institutional capacity of CSE to provide information on environment and climate change and awareness raising activities	• The institutional, human and financial capacity of CSE to effectively manage its operations towards attaining the objectives set for the organization (India and south Asia)	• Management, institutional systems and facilities developed to help staff members achieve professional and personal goals.	Obj 4: Strengthen Institutional Capacity of CSE • New work taken up - renewable, Green Buildings, Training and Portal • Increase in pan- India and international presence • 15% increase in staff strength. More decentralised with more leaders • Corpus of INR 43.2 crores • Attempts to diversify donor base. Indian donor base has increased to 9% • 12% of income share is from publications, training and sale of other products • Building Anil Agarwal Environment Training Institute

Annex 7: Toxics Link Programme Objectives, Expected Results and Key Outcomes

OBJECTIVES	EXPECTED RESULTS	OUTCOMES	STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED
Overall programme: a) Scaling up impacts, b) Deepening the research base in-house, c) New engagement with other actors, as well as d) Extending outreach in geographical as well as constituency terms are key thrusts for the next three years. e) Initiating new activities for longer term impacts on issues of heavy metals, safer products, chemicals management, E-waste and seeking to involve the industry in finding long-term sustainable solutions to issues related to products and their safety			
Waste and Sustainability:			
Bio Medical Waste, Mercury in Healthcare and Green health issues			
1) Build capacity of local groups and improve compliance of Bio medical waste management	Improvement in compliance of the Bio medical waste rules in the country through education awareness and systemic changes.	- Trained appx. 200 healthcare staff and created 21 model hospitals in the states of Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha - Created 5 model PHCs and CHCs in Manipur - Sensitised regulators (SPCB, DoH) in 10 states. TL's partner in Odisha is the NRHM state co-ordinator - DoH Andhra Pradesh starts training doctors on BMW - Number of CBWTFs gone up to 188 - Incinerators at 2 big govt hospitals shut down and talks for tie up with CBWTF is on - In Manipur a pvt hospital with infrastructure acts like CBWTF	- State Department of Health - State Pollution Control Board - Central Pollution control Board - National Rural Health Mission - NGOs - Healthcare Facilities in Delhi - Nursing Association - Medical Association - Common Bio-medical waste Treatment Facility
2) Work towards safe chemical management in healthcare		NRHM Kerala starts training on mercury spill management	- Healthcare Facilities - Nursing & Medical Association - NRHM
3) Facilitate mercury phase out from the healthcare sector		- Impact of work done with State Governments, - State orders on Hg phase out issued in Punjab and Manipur - Kerala Govt. includes Mercury phase out for hospitals in Kerala I Accreditation standards for hospitals. 4 hospitals become mercury free - Gujarat Govt. working on the state template for mercury phase out in hospitals. - TSDf increased from 2 to 22 (hospitals advised to hand over their mercury waste to these facilities)	- State Department of Health - SPCB - NGOs - Healthcare Facilities

OBJECTIVES	EXPECTED RESULTS	OUTCOMES	STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED
4) To advocate a policy on storage of Mercury waste	Adoption of Non – mercury products by the Central government	- Mercury waste Storage Guidelines issued by the Government - Ministry of Health - GoI issues Guideline on Mercury Phase out from Central Government Hospital	- Central Pollution control Board - Ministry Of Health
5) To advocate for a Policy on usage and disposal of Cytotoxic Drugs (CDs)		- CPCB issues letters to all cancer hospitals and SPCBs on inventorization of CDs - CPCB issues letter for stopping malpractices in drug usage	- CPCB - MoH - DoH, Delhi - Cancer Hospitals - Nursing Association - Drug Manufacturers Association
6) Training and Capacity Building		- Better mercury spill management practices in hospitals. - Accident reporting for health care workers implemented. - Perceived resistance to alternates, barriers to cost issues, accuracy etc addressed	- Healthcare staff - Policy Makers - Health managers
Other Wastes: Electronic and Industrial Waste			
1) Advocate and campaign for a separate regulation on Electronic waste.		- E-waste Rules issued in 2011 with EPR as a prime principle - Guidelines issued in 2012 for better implementation	- MoEF, - CPCB, SPCBs, - Industry associations - Individual producers
2) Build capacity among stakeholders and facilitate sound management of E waste		- Initiatives by SPCBs and NGOs taking up the issue at State level - Informal Sector getting due recognition	SPCBs, PSU, large private sector companies, Informal sector and CSOs
3) Continued research and studies develop into a resource centre on E waste.		- Bringing to fore the issues of cross contamination. - Invitation by SPCBs to conduct assessment studies. - Invited as resource person across India on E-waste. - New entrepreneurs approaching TL for information on setting up recycling plants. - New researchers contacting us for guidance.	- Government agencies, - Producers, - Recyclers - Educational institutions
4) Advocate for stricter measures on transboundary movement of E-waste.		- Rules, 2011 talking about Imports - DGFT adopting stricter measures - No new licenses being issued for import	MoEF, DGFT
5) Improve public awareness on the issue of E-waste		- Increased awareness levels, especially in large cities - Awareness levels of students higher - Increased flow of waste in clean channel	Civil Society, Academic
6) Create data on industrial		Ongoing	

OBJECTIVES	EXPECTED RESULTS	OUTCOMES	STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED
hotspots in India			
7) Advocate for EPR as an effective tool to deal with waste		EPR being adopted in E-waste Rules	Government agencies and Producers
Chemicals and Health			
POPs & Pesticides			
1) Function as the regional hub on issues related to POPs and the Stockholm Convention.		- Enhance understanding of the stakeholders on PoPs - Network of NGOs established in South Asia. - Information exchange among groups 34 projects initiated in the region	- Civil Societies (South Asia) - MoEF - Academic Institutes
2) Work towards POPs phase out in the country		- Signing and ratification of Stockholm convention by GoI - National Implementation Plan on PoPs	- Civil Societies , MOEF, industry, CPCBs - NEERI
Heavy Metals			
1) Build TL as a resource centre on Heavy metals and chemical safety.		- Several research reports on heavy metals - Participation in Intergovernmental negotiation committee on mercury - Research data and information used by researchers	Government agencies, researchers. industry
2) Work towards phasing out lead from paints in India		65% of paints sold in India with no added lead - BIS issued a draft standard of 90 ppm lead content in paints sold in India- likely to be gazetted soon. - Select SMEs shift to no added lead paints	BIS, Paint companies, Association of paint manufacturers, Paediatrics association, CSOs, schools & children
Clean Products			
1) Improve chemicals management and safety in India		- Committee appointed for formulating standards for toys - BIS formulating standards for mercury content in CFLs	- Regulators, BIS, - Industries Association
2) Build capacity among regulators and NGOS on chemicals management.		- Issue of guideline on mercury management by CPCB. - Standards for food safety.	CSOs, regulators, ministry.

Annex 8: Local Partners in Toxics Link's Training Programme

State	Name of NGO	Thematic area	Training	TL collaboration
Kerala	Centre for Innovation in Science & Social Action	Clean Technologies, Sustainable Agriculture	Partner trained on the issue of BMW and E-waste through training programme and review process	• Part of the NRHM Committee; mercury spill management for govt. hospitals; 5 model hospitals, • E-waste programmes in schools, also involving district administration.
Andhra Pradesh	Guide Foundation for Development	Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Health	Training on BMW and E-waste	• 3 model hospitals • E-waste school programme and working with APSPCB. World Bank project on setting up clean channel involving informal sector on e-waste
Gujarat	Paryavaraniya Vikas Kendra	organic farming	Training on BMW	6 model hospitals
Bihar	Social Institute for the Development of Nation	Sanitation, Health, Child Labour	Training on BMW and E-waste	• 3 model hospitals • Working closely with educational institutions on e-waste
Uttarakhand	Navjyoti Development Society	Hospital Waste Management Mobile health Unit	Training on BMW	4 model hospitals
Uttar Pradesh	GANGA	Public Interest Litigations, Clean Ganga Campaign	Training on BMW and E-waste	• 3 model hospitals • Working with schools on e-waste
Odisha	Paribartan, Jeevan Rekha Parishad, Bakul Foundation, GSF	Health & Family Welfare, AIDS awareness, Bio Medical Waste Management	Training on BMW and E-waste	Part of the NRHM State Implementation Committee School programmes,
Manipur	Rural Health Organisation, ISRD	RuralHealth, Immunization	Training on E-waste and BMW	• 4 model hospitals • School Programme on E-waste
Assam	ENVIRON	Bio diversity, waste management, water and sanitation, education	E-waste training	School Programme
Jharkhand	Nav Bharat Jagriti Kendra	Health, Hygiene, Sanitation, Girl Child education and empowerment	E-waste training	School Programme organized
Tamil Nadu	ISRD	Watershed based livelihood, Livestock, Children, Women, Technology Transfer,	E-waste training	Working on school programme and also independently working with state educational bodies



Increased awareness and capacity to protect the environment through Indian NGOs

- Review of Swedish Support to the Centre for Science and Environment and Toxics Link

Review of Sida's long term core support to two Indian environment NGOs, Centre for Science and Environment and Toxics Link. The support to CSE started in 1989 and to Toxics Link in 2002. The conclusion is that both organisations have established themselves, over the last decades, as highly relevant and well recognized green think-tanks and advocacy organisations. The long-term core support provided by Sida has enabled the organisations to develop and consolidate their core strategy and build technical capacity.

The most important factors behind the success of CSE and Toxics Link are that they have managed to combine activism with effective advocacy backed up by evidence based research and presenting practical workable proposals for change to decision-makers. The support has contributed to the overall objective of the Swedish development cooperation with India and it has increased environmental awareness and strengthened capacity in India as well as internationally.