

**A brief summary of the Workshop on**

# **“Concrete Strategic Thinking and Innovation”**

**July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015**

**DST-Centre for Policy Research**

**BBAU, Lucknow**

## **Invited Speakers**



**Professor Alian Wegmann**  
Systemic Modelling Laboratory  
EPFL, Lausanne - Switzerland



**Dr. Anshuman Saxena**  
CEO & Founder - Synaestech Sàrl  
EPFL, Lausanne - Switzerland

July 31, 2015

## Finding solution that works

DST-Centre for Policy Research at BBAU, Lucknow organized a Workshop with Professor Alain Wegmann from Systemic Modeling Laboratory, Swiss Institute of Technology, EPFL, Switzerland

As part of DST-CPR's activities in 2015-16, a workshop on **“Concrete Strategic Thinking and Innovation”** was organized by the Centre on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015. The main objective of the workshop was to provide exposure to researchers and staff of the Centre on interventions of Science, Technology and Innovation through strategic thinking.

At the outset, Dr. Venkatesh Dutta, Coordinator, DST-CPR welcomed all the participants and introduced the key speaker. Professor Alain Wegmann is actively engaged in research, teaching and consulting in Systemic Methods for Strategic Thinking, Enterprise Architecture and Technology Management (SEAM) at EPFL University, Lausanne, Switzerland. Previously, he was the Director of technology at Logitech computers. Researchers at BBAU got first hand information on architecture, functioning and governance of developmental problems and how innovations can tackle them. They also learned from Swiss example of entrepreneurship and innovation. Prof. Alain said that technology has to address the problems of a common man, and the planning has to take a bottom-up approach. Researchers at DST Centre at BBAU are trying to understand role of technology in improving the quality of life of people.

Prof. Alain started his lecture with the formal introduction of innovation and service model system and their variables. He discussed the various parameters related to service model and also asked the audience to suggest the inputs to construct a suitable service model. Further, he presented his views regarding strategic thinking and use of SEAM model and its applicability. He advocated changing observers and evaluation schemes, necessary for innovation. For the concreteness of the model, he finally suggested working with emotions and evidence based research using prototypes.

Dr. Anshuman B. Saxena, CEO and Founder of Synaestech Sàrl also presented his ideas on systematic modeling. Dr. Saxena is expert of Situated and Embodied Approach to Service-oriented Modeling. He talked briefly on these issues of Technology Design for Public Services Innovation, Human-systems modeling for Financial Services Design and Sustainability Discourse Analysis.

The Coordinator of the Centre, Dr. Venkatesh Dutta said that “there are uneven benefits from major scientific and technological innovations, and there are better ways of promoting science in service to society, the challenge is how we could transfer the benefits of S&T and publically-funded R&D to the bottom of the pyramid”. The DST-CPR team has surveyed about 50 villages in Uttar Pradesh covering different districts in eastern and western UP on different thematic areas such as health, water, energy, agriculture and climate change. The Centre has been specially set up by the Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India to work on S&T interventions for promoting inclusive growth. The Coordinator informed that the emphasis is being given on evidence being integrated into planning and delivery of services to small and marginal farmers. “We have gathered evidences of policy failure in major projects, and research studies are being designed filling those gaps that are important to policymakers from the beginning” informed Dr. Dutta.

### **Major findings from the field survey**

1. Most of the beneficiaries are not aware of the programs and their objectives
2. Institutions such as ICAR, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Village Resource Centres do not devote much time on local specific problems
3. Scaling up successful ideas – the last step in innovation is often ignored
4. Private players are earning profits due to poor regulation
5. Development efforts ignore the realities of the end users world which leads to technology or product that do not solve a real issue

At the end of the lecture, mementos were presented to both the speakers. In the workshop, all the staff members of DST CPR were present along with four Co-PIs, COE of BBAU, and some research scholars.

## List of Participants

Sl. No.	Name	Affiliation (DST-CPR, BBAU)
1.	Prof R. P. Singh	Co-PI (Agriculture)
2.	Prof. Shubhini A. Saraf	Co-PI, (Health)
3.	Prof. S. K. Dwivedi	DES, BBAU
4.	Dr. Sanjay Mishra	COE, BBAU
5.	Dr. B. C. Yadav	Co-PI, (Energy)
6.	Dr. Richa Kothari	Co-PI, (Energy)
7.	Dr. Venkatesh Dutta	Coordinator-DST-CPR/ Co-PI, (Water)
9.	Dr. Yogesh Bandhu	Research Scientist
10.	Dr. Matsyendra Kumar Shukla	Post Doctorate Fellow
11.	Govind Kumar	Research Assistant (Agriculture)
12.	Ranjan Kumar Singh	Research Assistant (Climate)
13.	Vinayak Vandan Pathak	Research Assistant (Energy)
14.	Sumit Kaushal	Research Assistant (Health)
15.	Karunesh Kumar	Research Assistant (Water)
16.	Alok Kumar	Field/Technical Assistant
17.	Somveer Singh	Field/Technical Assistant
18.	Arya Pandey	Research Scholar, DES, BBAU
19.	Urvashi Sharma	Research Scholar, DES, BBAU
20.	Chandrabahn	Research Scholar, DES, BBAU
21.	Atin Kumar Pathak	Research Scholar, DES, BBAU
22.	Saubhagya Singh	Research Scholar, DES, BBAU
23.	Devendra Kumar	DES, BBAU
24.	Deepak Kumar	DES, BBAU
25.	Chandan Rai	DST-CPR, BBAU

## Glimpses of the event





