



Open-ended Working Group on Ageing  
for the purpose of strengthening the protection  
of the human rights of older persons



UNITED NATIONS  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

## Seventh Session of OEWG on Ageing 12-15 December 2016, UN Headquarters, New York

### Application Form for Accreditation to the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWGA)

Accreditation is a **one-time process** by which not previously accredited non-governmental organizations become eligible to participate as observers in the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing. Accreditation is granted to organizations and not to individuals.

NGOs that have consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) or were accredited before are already accredited to the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing. All other NGOs wishing to participate in the Seventh Session of the OEWGA **MUST** apply for accreditation.

The Application form (**in word document**) should contain all the following information:

**a. The purpose of the organization;**

The Gandhian philosophy of Sarvodaya—all rising, but the last person first—is the basis of GRAVIS' strategy and approach. We work for the collective rise of men, women, and children, regardless of economic situation, caste or religion. To counter this, GRAVIS emphasizes the empowerment of rural communities, and adheres to another Gandhian notion, Gram Swarajya, or village self-rule. We work towards rehabilitation of the rural community, enabling villages to take ownership of their environment, institutions, and relations. We operate under the belief that self-reliance is necessary for survival. Thus, GRAVIS differs from the aid organizations as we seek to actively engage community members in our projects, rather than merely adding resources to a broken system.

**b. Information as to the programmes and activities of the organization in areas relevant to the human rights of older persons;**

GRAVIS is a Help Age Affiliate in India. It works for older people's rights on several fronts. It has led the formation of over 200 Older People's Associations (OPAs). GRAVIS works on OPAs' capacity building, food and water security initiatives for older people and healthcare for older people. It is a string advocacy organization in India

and within the global network of Help Age International on older people's human rights.

**c. Confirmation of the activities of the organization at the national, regional or international level;**

At the national level in India, GRAVIS works with OPAs to provide food and water security to older people, advocates for age-friendly programmes and researches and documents older people's issues. On regional and global levels, it works with Help Age and participates in various advocacy campaigns including Age Demands Action.

**d. Copies of the annual or other reports of the organization with financial statements, and a list of financial sources and contributions, including governmental contributions;**

Attached.

**e. A list of members of the governing body of the organization and their countries of nationality;**

GRAVIS has a General Body which consists of 26 distinguished members. The General Body chooses a Governing Board. Presently, the Governing Board has 11 members:

**Dr. R.P. Dhir**, The President of GRAVIS Governing Board, is a noted agricultural scientist and has worked as the Director of Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI). He has a thorough knowledge of desert environments around the world, agricultural techniques, and water harvesting methods. Dr. Dhir has served on the boards of many non-governmental organizations as well as on a number of scientific committees and research groups.

**Dr. S. M. Mohnot**, The Vice-President, is a former Professor Emeritus of Zoology at JNV University. He is an accomplished and well known scientist. He has been associated with GRAVIS for many years and also heads the School of Desert Sciences. Dr. Mohnot is well recognized for his important contributions towards developmental programmes and research interventions.

**Ms. Shashi Tyagi**, The Secretary, is an educationist and a well-known women's rights activist in India. She is one of the founding members of GRAVIS. She joined the Sarvodaya movement at a young age and has spent over 45 years in public life. Ms. Tyagi has served as a member on the boards of several organizations in India and at an international level.

**Ms. Saraswati Kumar**, Member, is an eminent women's rights activist, writer and social worker. She has worked with several voluntary organizations and has contributed significantly to female empowerment and social reform programmes across India.

**Dr. G. M. Singhvi**, Member, is a retired administrative officer from the Rajasthan Administrative Services. He is a well-known social activist and has also served as a Judge in the Rajasthan High Court. Dr. Singhvi has formed various charitable initiatives and has been a part of the GRAVIS Governing Board for the last several years.

**Ms. Leela Devi**, Member, is a village leader, community activist, and social worker. She comes from a rural background and has lived her life as a child widow. She has taken an active role in many GRAVIS interventions.

**Dr. Prakash Tyagi**, Member, is a physician and a public health professional. He has been actively involved with health and development programmes nationally and internationally, and has served on multiple boards and committees. He also works as the Executive Director of GRAVIS leading organization's administration.

**Mr. N. A. Ansari**, Member, is a civil engineer by training and a retired lecturer of civil engineering at M. B. M. Engineering College. For many years, he has provided his valuable technical support to GRAVIS.

**Dr. Archana Kumar**, Member, is an educationist and an Associate Professor of Development Communication at Lady Irwin College in New Delhi. She is a noted development activist and thinker and has been associated with GRAVIS for the last several years.

**Mr. Laxman Singh**, Member, is a community leader, development activist and a farmer. He brings to the Board the ground level perspectives of communities and of rural issues.

**Dr. Manju Mishra**, Member, is an academician and teaches in a University. She has had a long career around education, community development and social work. She has recently joined the Boar

- f. A description of the membership of the organization, indicating the total number of members, the names of organizations that are members and their geographical distribution;**

GRAVIS is not a membership organization.

- g. A copy of the constitution and/or by-laws of the organization.**

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Attached.

## **DEADLINE**

Please note that the application form should be received by **31 October 2016**. NGOs are encouraged to send their applications by email at [ageing-working-group@un.org](mailto:ageing-working-group@un.org)

**Applications for accreditation must be sent in word document by email to:**

UNDESA DSPD Focal Point on Ageing  
Email: [ageing-working-group@un.org](mailto:ageing-working-group@un.org)

### **Please note:**

- The Secretariat shall circulate to all States members of the Open-ended Working Group a list of new applications for accreditation received from non-governmental organizations **no less than four weeks prior to each session of the Working Group, on a non-objection basis**, except for the first session of the Working Group, when circulation of the list will take place no later than two weeks prior to the session;
- NGOs are encouraged to apply for ECOSOC Consultative Status. Please visit this website to learn more on how to apply: <http://csonet.org/?menu=83>

# Gravis



# Gravis

**GRAMIN VIKAS VIGYAN SAMITI**

Working with Desert Communities for the Empowerment of Poor



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2014-15**

[www.gravis.org.in](http://www.gravis.org.in)



# Gravis

**Annual Report 2014-15**

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## CONTENTS

### Introductory Notes

About GRAVIS .....	09
Progress made in 2014-15 and future thinking .....	15
Administrative, Financial and General Details .....	35
Abbreviations and Glossary .....	48



# Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti (GRAVIS)

## (Articles of association)

### Part A

- **Name of the Association** - Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti
- **Office** - The registered office of the organization will be in village – Jelu – Gagagdi, Via – Tinwari, Dist. Jodhpur (Raj.)
- **Area of operation** - Normally, it would cover the states of Rajasthan
- **Objectives**
  - To work for integrated development of humanity without any discrimination of caste, religion or sect.
  - To empower village communities through activities related to agro forestry, water, livestock development, cottage industries, housing, education, health with emphasis on poorer and weaker sections of society in order to deduce economic and social disparities and create a self reliant and decentralized community system.
  - To train youth, women and field workers in programmes related to integrated development.
  - To generate awareness among rural communities particularly among poor, so that the poor underprivileged people could take benefit from development schemes.
  - To conduct researched and studies in order to make development programmes more effective and to ensure people's participation in those programmes.
  - To help disabled, destitute, widows, elderly and other neglected people and to work for their development.

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- To work for the promotion of mutual cooperation, brotherhood, communal, deaddiction, against untouchability and other human values.
  - To provide relief during calamities and other emergencies.
  - To organize campaigns and people's movements on social issues
  - To provide assistance to organization with similar objectives within the state and outside and vice versa.
- **Methodology**
    - For the purpose of above objectives, to establish centers, sub centers and sub – committees.
    - To mobilize financial assistance from Govt. departments, development agencies, individuals, voluntary organization and other financial institutions in form of grant, donation or gift.
    - To create movable and immovable properties and to do all activities related to properties.

## **Part B**

### **1. Definitions**

- a) Sanstha (Society) would mean Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti.
- b) Sadharan Sabha (General body) would mean Sadharan Sabha of Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti.
- c) Karyakarani (Executive Committee) would mean karyakarni of Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti.
- d) Sanstha Registration Act (Society Registration Act) would mean Rajasthan Societies Registration Act 19858.

- e) Adhyaksha (President) would mean Adhyaksha of Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti.
- f) Upadhyakhsa (Vice - President) would mean Upadhyakhsa of Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti.
- g) Mantri (Secretary) would mean Mantri of Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti.

## 2. Membership

Following would be the members of the organization:

### a) Founder members

Members at the time of inception of the organization would be founder members.

### b) Ordinary members

They would provide an annual membership fee of Rs. 5/- to the organization.

### c) Special members

Some special members would be chosen who take special interests in activities of the organization or those who have vast experience. These members would not exceed 5 and their tenure would be three years.

d) Members as described under a, b, c can only be appointed with the approval for Executive Committee. These approvals will then be certified by General Body.

## 3. Cessation of membership

The membership could be ceased from the organization in following circumstances:

- a) In case of turning mentally retarded or bankrupt.
- b) In case of death

- c) After the General Body accepts the resignation of a particular member.
- d) In case of breaking the rules of the organization or acting against the interests of the organization, the general body can expel a member with two third majority, prior information of which will be circulated.
- e) In case of being absent in three consecutive meetings without prior written information.

#### **4. General Body, its duties and rights**

All members of the organization will form General Body. It will perform following action:

- a) Strategy formulation and providing guidance in activities of the organization.
- b) To review and approve the annual budget, income expenditure statement and progress report.
- c) To elect members of executive committee.
- d) The general body will have the right of amending the constitution of the organization, make new laws and sub-laws and modifying them in the interests of the organization, according to need.

#### **5. Executive Committee, its formation, duties and rights**

For proper functioning of organization's work, there will be an Executive Committee.

- 5.1 The minimum members in the Executive committee will be 7 and the maximum will be 11.
- 5.2 All members would elect the office bearers of the Executive Committee through direct elections. For the selection, a member of executive committee will be appointed as election officer.
- 5.3 Executive Committee's right and duties.
- a) The Executive Committee will be responsible for the management of the organization. It will form sub – committee, centers, sub – centers and will determine rules and regulations for workers.
  - b) It will prepare the annual work plan and budget and present the same in General Body meeting for approval.
  - c) It will acquire movable and immovable properties for the organization, take steps to file court cases and do compromises in the interests of the organization. All financial rights will be with the Executive Committee and the Secretary would perform this function on the behalf of the organization.

## **6. Office bearers and their rights**

### **President**

The president would chair the meeting of Executive Committee and will provide guidance for organisation's functioning. In case of an equal vote, the president would cast its decisive vote.

### **Vice President**

In absence of the President, the Vice President would act as the President.

### **Secretary**

- a) To administrate organization's work properly and appoint managers and workers and determine their responsibilities.
- b) To maintain the income expenditure accounts of the organization and ensure regular audit by a Chartered Accountant.

- c) To prepare annual work plan and budget and present it in Executive Committee meeting for approval.
- d) To call meetings of General Body and Executive Committee with consulting the President, record the minutes of the meetings and act accordingly.
- e) To keep the record of organization's movable and immovable properties.
- f) To prepare annual progress reports, income expenditure statements and present it before Executive Committee for approval.

## **7. Election**

- a) The tenure of General Body and Executive Committee would be three years.
- b) After the tenure of existing Executive Committee expired, fresh elections would be held within six months. Till then the existing Executive Committee would keep functioning.

## **8. Decisions**

All decision pertaining election and other matters would be made unanimously or on majority basis by the members of general Body and Executive Committee.

## **9. Year**

The financial year of the organization would be from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> march.

## **10. Meetings of general body**

- a) One meeting of the General in a year would be mandatory.
- b) The notice about the meeting would be given to all the members 10 days in advance in which venue, date and time of the meeting would be given along with tentative agenda of the meeting.
- c) The quorum of the meeting would be one third of the total members.
- d) If the quorum is not completed within half an hour after the schedule time, the meeting would be postponed and will be organized again after one hour or on another date.

- e) An emergency meeting in special circumstances could be called, prior information of which would be given 3 days in advance.

### **11. Meeting of Executive Committee**

- a) There would be at least two meetings of Executive Committee in a year.
- b) Prior notice of the meeting would be given to the members 7 days in advance.
- c) Emergency meeting could be called with a notice of three days.
- d) The quorum would be more than half of the total members.
- e) If the quorum is not completed within half an hour after the scheduled time, the meeting would be postponed and will be organized again after one hour or on another date.

### **12. Fund**

- a) Organization's fund will be deposited in a bank decided by executive committee and the funds will be used only for the purpose of the organization.
- b) Bank accounts will be administered according to executive committee's decisions.
- c) The income and expenditure statement of the organization will be prepared by Chartered Accountant. The appointment and honorarium of the Chartered Accountant would be decided by the Executive Committee every year.

### **13. Miscellaneous**

- a) Amendments and modifications in the constitution of the organization would be under Section 12 of the Rajasthan Societies Registration Act 1958.
- b) Dissolution of the organization would be done under the Rajasthan Societies Registration Act 1958.
- c) Registrar (Societies) will have the right of supervising organization's functioning, and the suggestion made by the Registrar will be complied by the organization.