



## Welcome Message

### DR. BINDU LOHANI

Director General  
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Dr. Bindu Lohani warmly welcomed the KM4Dev Forum participants. He thanked everyone for coming to share their stories, experiences, and expertise on knowledge management (KM), while humbly acknowledging the limitations and struggles of their own organization with regard to the matter. Knowledge, he declared, would drive the economy this century, compared to previous decades.

He also briefly touched on some key points of the Knowledge Management Framework developed in 2002:

- There is a need to try improving *organizational structures*. Sharing in organizations where there are very smart people is a difficult task. It is important to change one's organizational structure in order to share knowledge, to put information into places where people can use them
- There is a need to develop *knowledge products*. Even a simple inventory, putting together a catalogue and bringing it to people who really need it may be considered an achievement.
- There is a need to be *IT-savvy*. Examine existing software and hardware and determine what has to be done in order to move in the area.
- There is a need to expand *communities of practice*. This refers to groups of people with expertise in particular sectors, such as transportation, gender, agricultural, etc. It is critical to capture the abundant knowledge and varied experiences of these experts.

Another point raised by Dr. Lohani was the importance of helping governments not only financially, but also, by providing knowledge. He said that this is a challenge that those in the development sector need to respond to.

In closing, he mentioned that although KM is an area that faces a lot of challenges, and there is much that needs to be accomplished, it is something that can be achieved. Participants were exhorted to have fun, socialize, and learn from the forum experience.



DG Lohani warmly welcomes the Forum participants, after which he introduces the keynote speaker, Prof. Dr. Thomas Menkhoff.