

Name of ENVIS Centre : ENVIS Centre on “Environmentally Sound and appropriate Technology”

Host Organisation : Development Alternatives (DA), New Delhi

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Year of Establishment : 1984

About the Host Organization

DA is a non-profit organization established in 1983 to promote sustainable national development. The objectives are to innovate and disseminate means for creating sustainable livelihoods on a large scale and mobilizing widespread action to eradicate poverty and regenerate the environment.



Activities of the Centre

- ⦿ **Resource Centre:** This resource centre has been functioning since 1983. The purpose of the center is to disseminate information on Environmentally Sound and Appropriate Technology (ESAT) and Sustainable Development.
- ⦿ **Providing Reference services to both internal users and external users:** Over 1000 persons, mainly professionals have visited ENVIS centre and got library and information products and services every year.
- ⦿ **Current Awareness services (CAS):**
 - ◆ Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI);

- ◆ News paper clippings;
- ◆ Article Alert; and
- ◆ New Arrivals (for books, journals and other documents).

○ **Databases:**

- ◆ **Joint modules:** These on-line information modules were created within the frame work of the Sustainable Development Communication Network, a knowledge network of seven of the world's leading sustainable development organizations seeking to accelerate the implementation of Sustainable Development through broader integrated:
 - ◆ Sustainable Cities;
 - ◆ Sustainable Livelihoods;
 - ◆ Sustainable Water Management;
 - ◆ Water Module; and
 - ◆ Sustainable Enterprises.
- ◆ **Joint Forest Management :** Joint Forest Management (JFM) is about people's involvement sought to save forests by linking people with the forests. An exhaustive guide to JFM issues, policies and successful initiatives.
- ◆ **NGO directory:** Compilation of NGO profiles in India. Also available on CD-ROM.
- ◆ **Library Database:** Creating a web-enabled Library Database which will be available in the public domain.

ENVIS Publications

○ **ENVIS Newsletter**

- ◆ The theme of the monthly newsletter is on the activities of DA with a focus on issues of Environmentally Sound and Appropriate Technology (ESAT) and Sustainable Development (SD) particularly related to environment. This was started in 1983.



○ Publications

- ◆ **Periodicals and Serial Publications:** Publishing two quarterly publications viz. (i) Vikas Vikalpa published in Hindi and (ii) Swadeshi Democracy published in English. The theme of Vikas Vikalpa is sustainable livelihoods and the theme for Swadeshi Democracy is Constitution and Human Rights.ss
- ◆ **Research Reports:** has published more than 450 research reports.
- ◆ **Books/Manuals/Monographs:** Publishes several books, monographs, and manuals every year.

Services

○ Query Answer Services

- ◆ In a year, over 4000 queries were answered. Most of the queries are from appropriate technology designers, NGOs, research and academic institutions, business groups, Government agencies, embassies and journalists all over the world.

DA Website (<http://www.daenvis.org>)

- List of books, research reports, manuals and other E-Documents published by Development Alternatives; Databases; Latest Newsletter(s) and archives; Link to other ENVIS centers; Link to other relevant resources; and Interactive online query sheet.

Envis Centre : Development Alternatives - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Address <http://www.daenvis.org>

ENVIS CENTRE #4

★ Development Alternatives

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A designated EN VIS CENTRE by the Ministry Of Environment and Forest (MoEF) since 1984 on Environmentally Sound Appropriate Technology and Sustainable Livelihoods

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Envis Newsletter

NGOs working on ESAT & SL
NGO
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Links to other ENVIS Centre
ENVIS Centres

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<http://www.davak.org> Internet

Future Plan

- ◉ Fully operationalize Library Management Software : On-line public access to information
- ◉ Expansion of databases : Water - energy & Shelter (through the BASIN network)
- ◉ Focus on customization of Information Products and Training.
- ◉ Creation of website in Hindi for ENVIS Centre.
- ◉ Uploading an online compendium on ESAT on www.sdaenvvis.org.
- ◉ Updating and creating new bibliographic databases.