

## **Strengthening Place-Based Philanthropy and Foundations in India**

Pradeepta Kumar Nayak, Senior Fellow, International Fellows Program ~ 2013

### **Abstract**

Philanthropy can—and often does—play a pivotal role in individual, regional, and national development. At its most successful, community philanthropy possesses the ability to affect change at the local level by reducing dependence, increasing self-sufficiency, and encouraging civic participation. India’s enormous population, particularly those from rural areas and of low socioeconomic status, would benefit enormously from community philanthropy; however, as this paper reveals, civil society organizations in India have not, as of yet, taken sufficient steps to promote this model.

Pradeepta Kumar Nayak sees community foundations as a viable tool to combat increasing inequality and he explores methods by which place-based philanthropy can be encouraged, including readings, seminars, meetings, and conversations. By studying other successful international community philanthropy models, including the Brooklyn Community Foundation (BCF), Community Investment Network (CIN), Kenya Community Development Foundation (KCDF), Community Foundation for South Sinai (CFSS), and Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF), Mr. Nayak delineates strategies he sees as suitable for promoting the growth of community philanthropy within the Indian subcontinent. Ultimately, through what Mr. Nayak terms “peace-based development,” such community organizations will encourage local advancement and engagement by focusing directly on the needs of the communities they serve.

For the full version of the paper, please click [here](#).

