

UNITED NATIONS PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATION, INDIA

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CONCEPT NOTE

Expert Database of UN Retirees in India

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Background

UN retirees in India represent a vast and diverse reservoir of expertise across a broad spectrum of disciplines, UN entities, and geographic regions. Many continue to actively contribute to society through professional consultancy, volunteering, mentoring, academic engagement, and policy advice.

This initiative is being carried out in active partnership with the three other UN retirees' associations in India—AFUNPI, AFSM-WHO, and UPGI. Together, we are working in close cooperation to ensure that this collective endeavor reflects the full spectrum of skills, experiences, and interests of UN retirees across the country. The database will comprehensively include members from all four associations, reinforcing our shared commitment to collaboration, inclusivity, and mutual support within the UN retiree community.

Rationale

Retired UN personnel in India carry a wealth of institutional memory, global exposure, and interdisciplinary experience in areas such as development, diplomacy, governance, health, education, human rights, disaster response, and more. Despite this rich legacy, there is currently no consolidated platform to recognize, organize, or mobilize this expertise effectively.

This collaborative initiative aims to:

- Recognize and value the collective experience within our memberships. Respond effectively to opportunities for advocacy, outreach, and collaboration.
- Facilitate the deployment of relevant expertise in mentoring, consultancy, and voluntary roles aligned with the UN's values and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



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• Strategically position our associations as credible knowledge partners for the UN System in India, academia, corporate CSR, and civil society organizations.

The initiative is also aligned with the goals of the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021–2030), which emphasizes continued engagement, inclusion, and recognition of older persons in societal development.

Objective

To develop a dynamic, secure, and accessible Expert Database of UN retirees in India that will:

- Identify and organize professional expertise.
- Enable purposeful engagement, mentorship, and collaboration.
- Support institutional partnerships and community impact.

Methodology

- Launch a voluntary online survey to collect basic professional and contact information.
- Compile the responses into a secure, searchable, and categorized database.
- Share anonymized insights in the periodic bulletins of the four associations.
- Explore opportunities for engagement with UN agencies, academic institutions, CSR initiatives, and civil society partners.

Scope

The initiative will collect voluntary information on:

- Areas of professional specialization and past roles.
- Current location and availability.
- Interest in participating in mentoring, advisory, or voluntary capacities.

Confidentiality

All data will be collected with explicit consent. Information will be used solely for internal planning or selectively shared for collaborative purposes, only with prior permission of the concerned individuals.



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Intended Outcomes

- Creation of a categorized and searchable Expert Database to facilitate both internal networking and external collaboration.
- Greater visibility of the depth and diversity of skills among UN retirees in India.
- Establishment of thematic working groups and advisory panels for key areas (e.g., education, development, diplomacy, governance, sustainability, public health).
- Strengthened partnerships with UN bodies, NGOs, universities, and corporate CSR initiatives.
- Opportunities for UN retirees to mentor youth, support community initiatives, and contribute to policymaking.
- Regular showcasing of members' expertise through bulletins, forums, and events—fostering engagement and pride within the retiree community.

Prepared by: Venkatasubramanian Srinivasan President, UNPAI Date: 21 April 2025