Cluster Development on SIDO Web Portal

Like on almost everything else, Internet is a good source of information on clusters in India and elsewhere. The Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) is currently working on a sub - site exclusively devoted to clusters on its knowledge portal *www.smallindustryindia.com.* This sub-site will host information on clusters in India, collected and compiled from different sources such as the UNIDO Focal Point, Indian National Scientific and Documentation Centre (INSDOC), SIDO's own field offices as well as from studies conducted by other agencies such as TERI and NSIC. It will also feature a list of SME and rural artisan clusters in the country along with preliminary /diagnostic reports on a number of clusters and a detailed map which will facilitate location of clusters along with information on how to get there, name of the industry association active in the cluster, characteristics of the cluster, available reports, etc. The development work is being assisted in substantial measure by the UNIDO Focal Point in India which is making available a large number of diagnostic reports, final intervention reports as well as validated data on clusters. The E-Journal of the UNIDO Focal Point "*E-Clusters News*" will also be hosted at the sub-site so that back issues become available to users and a comprehensive search is made possible.

The sub-site will also provide a comprehensive list of reading material in terms of bibliographic references to which detailed references can be made. In addition, pages on the sub-site will be hyperlinked to other international sites and events on clusters.

The sub-site catalyses together the resource base of a large number of stakeholders on clusters. This would be a growing area on the net to which contributions are welcome. It is expected that the sub-site should go online by the 1st week of October 2003 and it will be accessible at *clusters. smallindustryindia.com.*