We have always wondered to be part of the part of the process which decides the structure of growth of the country for 5 years. We always say that government does not know what to do. The Planning Commission is undertaking an open & wide reaching process of consultation with diverse stakeholders, than it has, in the past, as it prepares the Approach to the 12th Plan. It was a great opportunity for Centre for Sustainable Development to participate in this Regional Consultative Workshop organised by Planning Commission of India and CII at CII Northern Region Headquarters, Chandigarh and give its inputs for the 12th Plan. The workshop was attended by representatives of industry, universities, NGO, farmers, research institutions and Govt. Departments. Mr. Arun Maira, Member, Planning Commission presided over the Consultative Workshop. Mr Maira interacted with members in depth & on a wide scale. The participants were broken down into groups each having participants from diverse backgrounds and had discussions on various issues of governance. In the report back sessions the groups reverted back with their recommendations. In the Plenary Session the whole process was summarised into key areas which require attention from the Planning Commission.

Some of the areas which have emerged out by to ensure improved outcomes of the 12th Plan are bottoms-up approach to allocate funds where the actual beneficiaries at ward level decide the priority areas and amount of funds to be allocated, substantial restructuring of education system, rational industrial policies, financial and infrastructural convergence of Government departments, social audit and greater role for citizens in the planning process for this country. You may login to http://www.12thplan.gov.in/ or http://www.facebook.com/TwelfthPlan and make your point. It will be better if we represent more number of people. Instead of regretting, let login now and let your recommendations on approach to 12th Plan reach the Planning Commission. It is an opportunity to make our country what we want it to be.