

**Dr Geeta Malhotra**  
**Country Director**  
**Rural Education and Development (READ) India**  
**Gurgaon**

Dr Geeta Malhotra has been working with READ India since June 2008 and has helped bring 42 READ Centres (Community Library and Resource Centres) to life in 12 States across India. Geeta constantly performs networking for partnerships and fund-raising, apart from outreach activities to bring the best training and capacity-building programs to READ Community Library and Resource Centres while overseeing all operations in India. Geeta uses her strong experience, professional and academic connections to create new opportunities for READ India.

She started her career with Population Foundation of India in 1981. She has been actively working in the development sector to implement a variety of programs in rural Asia, especially on women empowerment and Livelihood, health, youth development, farming, sustainable enterprises and ICTs.

She participated in the DASRA Social Impact Leadership Programme 2014-15 supported by USAID and Harvard Business Publishing. She has also participated in the CSC Leaders Programme 2016, organised by the Common Purpose and HRH the Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conferences and attended the leadership programme in 2018 as Alumni.

She possess Masters in Population Studies, Sociology and PhD in "Role of Elected Women in Reproductive and Health Programmes in India".

In the recent years, Geeta has been focussing on making women as entrepreneurs by training them on variety of aspects to sustain the social enterprises, with special focus on enhancing their existing skills. These programmes are in 7 States with 5000 women who are working on various products and learning the skills on quality control, product design, marketing, online selling, logistics and networking.