



Harriet Vidyasagar is an entrepreneur and professional volunteer, involved in several social projects and global initiatives, including as founder of a global network called Women of India. Harriet's goal is to leverage her wide-ranging contact networks and vast experience in utilizing technology tools to set up innovative arts-based education projects for elementary school children as well as to creatively link story narratives from the daily lives and memories of Indian diaspora women.

Harriet previously worked in The Reliance Group (one of India's largest telecom companies) in the field of e-learning, where she was instrumental in setting up the Digital Bridge Foundation to work with US-based OLPC's (One Laptop Per Child) maiden projects in India.

Harriet continues to volunteer for many nonprofits and currently serves on the Council of Advisors for CARTHA, a 501c3 nonprofit based in Iowa City. Harriet first connected in October 2010 because of her affable personality with Usha Balakrishnan of CARTHA at a US State Department gathering with Indian-American diaspora leaders. Harriet and Usha have extended that first friendly encounter into many of their wider Collaborative Doer networks, and are engaged in a number of cross-border partnerships.

One such collaborative program is the Saree Conversations program launched in Iowa City in April 2014. Featuring Harriet's friend Pavithra Muddaya of the VIMOR Handloom Foundation, this initial programming includes memory-sharing gatherings; discussions on Global Entrepreneurs; and an academic lecture at the University of Iowa's South Asian Studies Program on *Molkalmuru's Adikegini, A Lost Heritage* which highlights the historical, cultural, social, and economic contexts (e.g., recent motif design revivals in fabrics) of an ancient handloom weaving community in Karnataka. Harriet has organized additional Saree Conversations programs for Spring 2014 with performing artists, cultural centers, and diaspora women in Washington DC and Ottawa, Canada.

Harriet has an MBA from the Xavier Institute of Management in Jamshedpur, and is a Certified Knowledge Manager through the KM Institute in Virginia. Trained in video production, she has to her credit many hours of valuable archival videos. Harriet co-founded Channel 6, a city magazine in Hyderabad and also published a book of Hyderabad Limericks to celebrate 400 years of the city.

Harriet's interests include photography, video, music, singing, crafts, and cooking. She currently lives in Mangalore when not in Washington DC, where as a member of the World Bank Family Network she has organized several programs to promote Indian Arts. Harriet and her husband Rajesh have two daughters who live in New York City and Los Angeles.