NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL INNOVATION

17th November, 2018
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Message from the President & the Vice President

Dear Friends,
It gives us great pleasure to put before you the report of the 6th National Conference on Social Innovation (NCSI). The conference celebrates innovation applied to some of the pressing societal problems faced by our nation. The conference started its life as a congregation of social innovation stalwarts like Dr. DR Mehta (Jaipur Foot), Dr. Devi Shetty (Narayan Hrudalaya), Prof. Anil Gupta (Honey Bee Network) who discussed the challenges of, and ways of addressing, the disparity in the Indian society.

Those deliberations and discussions helped the conference evolve to its present form in which it provides a pan-India platform to discover early-stage disruptive innovators who present their ideas to a group of audience comprising of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Departments, Impact Investors, Incubators / Accelerators, Government, Media, Academia and young students.

This year, Honourable Minister, Mr. Girish Bapat, Cabinet Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection, Food and Drugs Administration, Parliamentary Affairs in Government of Maharashtra, was the chief guest for the programme and he gave away the Anjani Mashelkar Inclusive Innovation Award to Dr. Vinay Kumar for his ‘Lab on Palm’ idea, which will help the poor get 6 critical tests (Glycated Albumin, Blood Glucose, Haemoglobin, Serum Albumin, Microalbuminuria, Urine Creatinine) done in an affordable and timely manner. He also provided words of encouragement to the 18 innovators who presented their innovations in the 3 categories of Tribal, Rural and Urban innovations. The shortlisted innovators came from 17+ states of India – from Nagaland to Gujarat, and from Jammu & Kashmir to Tamil Nadu and the event was also attended by 40+ organisations including CSRs, Impact Investors, and Incubators / Accelerators.

The Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme that we had announced last year has seen the emergence of early success stories that you will be reading in ensuing pages. The Social Innovation Lab (SIL) of the Centre also received Corporate Support from Citibank and JSW Foundation and is working on a Shared Service Centre for Social Enterprises (SSC-SE) that will allow Social Enterprises to access best-in-class services from reliable service providers at an optimal cost.

The Social Innovation Lab continues to engage with the government through Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship on developing and evolving the Social Enterprise Policy. The team also got involved in the creation of the NGO Governance policy paper that is due to be published shortly.

Social Innovation is one of the most satisfying parts of our PIC journey. It has always been a focus area at PIC and we leave it to the Head of Social Innovation Lab to elaborate on the 6th NCSI further.

We also invite your ongoing support and engagement in researching, discovering, and nurturing innovative solutions that help reduce the increasing disparity our society faces.

With kind regards,

RA Mashelkar, F.R.S., President, Pune International Centre
Vijay Kelkar, F.N.A.E, Vice President, Pune International Centre
Message from the Head, Social Innovation Lab

Dear Friends,

It is my privilege to take you through this year’s journey of NCSI and update you on NCSI and other programs being carried out under the Social Innovations umbrella.

This year, we started application scouting for NCSI with an outreach programme that reached across the length and breadth of the country and connect with 200+ institutions engaged in Social Innovations and Entrepreneurship. We received 135+ applications of various innovators in the Tribal, Urban, and Rural categories. All applications were subject to two rounds of screenings and on the basis of this quantitative screening, 30 applications were shortlisted.

All the shortlisted applications were then sent to an Evaluation Committee that comprised of
- Shri Pradeep Bhargava, President, MCCIA
- Shri Pradeep Lokhande, Entrepreneur and Founder Rural Relations
- Dr. Vipin Kumar, Director, National Innovation Foundation
- Commodre Anand Khandekar (Retd), entrepreneur and mentors
- Shri Pramod Athalye, Operations expert and Mentor, Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme
- Shri Anil Kulkarni, Marketing expert and Mentor, Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme
- Ms. Sharayu Bhakare, Professor of Entrepreneurship at Symbiosis University

This committee gave us the final shortlist of 18 innovators who eventually presented their innovations to an audience comprised of 40+ CSR, Impact Investors, Incubators and Accelerators. The full list of the logos present at the conference is available as part of the annexures and I want to thank the corporates who gave us their trust through their repeat participation and all the CSR representatives, Impact Investors, Accelerators and Incubators who came to the conference for the first time.

The team at NCSI also arranged for an invigorating Day 2 for the selected innovators that was led by Ms. Anshu Bhartia, CEO – Unltd India, a leading Social Enterprise incubator who took on various questions and introduced social innovators to the ‘Theory of Change Framework.

I would also like to thank our partner institutes National Innovation Foundation (NIF) and Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) who were instrumental with their help and support at all stages of the program, the judges for their time, the entire team of Pune International Centre especially Ms. Mithila Tupekar for her overall coordination, Ms. Vaibhavi Pingale for the outreach effort, the young LetsEnterprise team, the interns, and everyone else who worked tirelessly behind the scene to ensure a smooth passage of programme. The media was generous in its coverage and we would like to thank them for highlighting these stories of social impact.

Beyond the conference, we have strengthened our mentorship programme and have 15+ mentees in our programme. As mentioned by the President and Vice-President, the lab is also working on a Shared Service Centre for Social Enterprises (SSC-SE) which will not only augment the capacity of our existing mentors but would also let a social enterprise access a reliable service partner from anywhere in the world. On research sides, the team is contributing to the PIC Policy papers on NGO Governance, Social Enterprise Policy, and Migration.

The efforts of the Social Innovation Lab are a small drop in the ocean of social impact that we need in our country. We invite you to write to us at si@punteinternationalcentre.org and provide your suggestions, support, and feedback. We also look forward to receiving your ongoing blessings and build on the work done over last few years and help make PIC an important contributor to the journey of Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship in India.

With Kind Regards,

Hitendra Singh
Head, Social Innovation Lab
Pune International Centre
Introduction:
Dismantling income inequality in a country like ours will take decades. However, till then, can we do the magic of achieving equality of access, or at least access to the essentials of life, despite income inequality? (Mashelkar, ANU, 2018) The 6th National Conference on Social Innovation, organized by Pune International Centre (PIC), National Innovation Foundation (NIF) and Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), was held on 17th November, 2018, and provided platform to 18 innovators who are applying the power of innovation to some of the most pressing social problems facing our country.

Pre-NCSI

The Social Innovation Lab at PIC runs a Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme (SEMP), where the mentors who are PIC members, work with innovators for six months, help them understand where they are and what they want to achieve, and guide them through. SEMP has been very helpful in aiding social innovators achieve their goals and there are many examples of this.

BAIF fellow Mr. Vats invented an indigenous sanding and hole drilling machine which costs 1/10th of the currently available machines in the market. This machine has enabled tribal artisans to produce bamboo pens and generate income from its sale. UN India covered Mr. Vats’ initiative to harness technology to induce a social change. The Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme not only connected him with a renowned product designer for bamboo pens but also helped him increase efficiency in production by 50%.
Breast cancer patients need post-mastectomy care which is unfortunately sidelined in many countries. This inspired Dr. Mehrotra to develop a single holistic device the ‘Poorti Kit’ that provides breast prosthesis and associated accessories required post mastectomy. The Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme helped him to acquire CSR support for manufacturing trial kits. His innovation was hailed as a product reducing women woes and received ‘Padmashri Suri Innovation Award’ at IIT Delhi.

The environment-friendly ‘Electric Conversion Kit’ developed by Mr. Randive can convert any fuel driven car into an electric car. This kit is particularly beneficial for boosting income of tribal people living in forest areas. Cars equipped with this kit are cost-efficient i.e. they cover more safaris in a day with significantly less cost. The Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme of Social Innovation Lab helped Mr. Randive throughout the process, from testing the vehicle at Ranthambore National Park to receiving an order of 40 kits.
Safety of women and senior citizens can be ensured by empowering and making them self-sufficient. Dr. Kohli was inspired by his concept and designed a self-defense device called ‘Samidha Bhawani’. It consists of a distress signal button, a siren and torch, pepper spray, stun gun with non-lethal shock, and a samurai baton weapon. With the help of Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme, Dr. Kohli started manufacturing the device and was incubated at BHAU-COEP, Pune. The Wall Street Journal published a video on Samidha Bhawani and it received recognition from National Innovation Foundation (NIF-India).

Samidha Bhawani by Dr. Pavan Kohli

The aim for this NCSI was to bring forth more innovators such as these and to provide them a platform to present their ideas and products and to begin the process of realizing their vision. For this year’s NCSI, applications opened on 15th August and closed on 2nd October, 2018. A total of 100 institutions from across the country were reached out to and application calls were circulated amongst them all. NCSI received an immense response with 125 plus applications being submitted, across 17 states and one Union territory. A jury was set up to select the finalists from this pool. The panel of jurists included, Cmdr. Anand Khandekar, Mr. Pramod Athalye, PIC member and mentor for the Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme (SEMP), Mr. Anil Kulkarni, Mr. Pradeep Lokhande, founder and CEO, Rural Relations, Dr. Sharayu Bhakare, Mr. Pradeep Bhargava and Dr. Vipin Kumar, Chief Innovation Officer at National Innovation Foundation. Through the rigorous process of two weeks, the panel chose 18 innovators which were from 11 states.

A pre-conference session was arranged, a day before the conference, with these 18 social innovators. In this session, Mr. Sanjay Kanvinde and Mr. Pramod Athalye, mentors of Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme (SEMP) provided feedback to the innovators on their respective presentations and presenting skills and how to effectively persuade the CSRs, incubators and investors.
The Conference

Agenda:

The conference was carried out over 2 days with the following agenda and details:

Day 1:
- Inauguration and Felicitation of the winner of Anjani Mashelkar Inclusive Innovation Award
- Presentations by Tribal Innovators
- Presentations by Rural Innovators
- Presentations by Urban Innovators
- Networking Session
- Fostering Social Innovation - Past, Present and Future
- Conclusion and Next Steps

Day 2:
- Activity ‘Know your innovator’
- Address by Ms. Anshu Bhartia, CEO, Unltd India
- PIC Mentors’ Interaction with the innovators
The Chief Guest for the conference was Shri Girish Bapat, Hon’ble Minister of Food, Civil supplies and Consumer Protection for the State of Maharashtra.

Each invited guest was given a Kit, which included different products from past mentorship programme mentees. The Kit itself was made from flex banner, a creation of Mr. Amit Inamdar. Each kit included, the bamboo pen by Mr. Anant Vats and postcards curated by Khula Aasmaan, a platform which encourages and allows kids to exhibit their creations in the areas of art and technology.

This year, the conference was attended by not only CSRs, but also donors, investors and incubators. More than 40 organizations attended NCSI 2018, including CSRs, incubators, investors, donors, academic organizations and NGOs.
The conference started with The Anjani Mashelkar Inclusive Innovation award, presented annually to either an individual or organization. This year it was given to Dr. Vinay Kumar for his ‘Lab on Palm’ idea, which will help the poor get 6 critical tests (Glycated Albumin, Blood Glucose, Haemoglobin, Serum Albumin, Microalbuminuria, Urine Creatinine) done in an affordable and timely manner.

The next part of the conference was divided into three main sessions; Tribal, Rural and Urban, with a total of 16 constituent sub-themes, such as agriculture, health, sports, waste management, to name a few, and six innovators presented in every session. The Tribal session was chaired by Mr. Pramod Athalye, a member of PIC and mentor of Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme (SEMP). Mr. Pradeep Lokhande, the founder of Rural Relations, chaired the Rural session of the conference. The Urban session was chaired by Mr. Sanjay Kanvinde, a member of PIC and a mentor for the Social Innovation Mentorship Programme (SEMP).

The conference addressed a wide spectrum of issues that people across the country face. Within the Tribal session, social innovators presented ideas and products which dealt with problems in tribal areas such as, single-crop dependency, food insecurity, animal care, lack of sports training, and lack of alternative means of livelihood. Mr. Gamandi Mulewa and Mrs. Sitabai Mulewa presented their idea of layered farming which could generate 4 crops in the same soil at the same time. This idea of more crop options would help farmers move away from dependency on a single crop, such as cotton. The innovators had already helped 30 farmers through this idea.

Similarly, in order to decrease agricultural dependency, Ms. Saloni Sacheti presented jewelry made by Tribals using locally sourced Manvel bamboo, which has 180 plus designs for earrings, neck pieces, bracelets and rings. Meanwhile, troubled by the low levels of sports trainers in tribal areas, Mr. Nitish Chiniwar presented a training programme which helps in facilitating sports training in order to increase the number of trainers in tribal regions. Mr. Sridhar Lakshmanan addressed the problem of lack of alternative means for livelihood for people in tribal communities in the Western and Eastern Ghats regions in Tamil Nadu. The primary source of income for the people in these communities is, the collection of wild honey, which is a seasonal activity. Mr. Sridhar, through his company Ecologin, has identified other honey sources across Tamil Nadu. The honey from these other sources can be sold throughout the year. Another social innovator, Mr. Ashwin Pawade, addressed the issue of food insecurity. He noted that due to lack of facilities for storage, farmers lost crops, not only as a source of income, but also as food. He therefore created a Solar Conduction Dryer, which is powered by solar power, and dehydrates food for later use and thus built the whole chain of market linkage.
In the Rural session, issues such as alternative means of livelihood, menstrual health, reproductive health, border zone rehabilitation, and food insecurity were addressed by the social innovators. Mr. Shubham Singh, who addressed the issue of crop residue and how it can be used, presented a straw panel board produced through crop residue. This ensures that crop residue is reused and that it provides farmers with an additional income. Tackling the issue of menstrual health, Ms. Smriti Kedia presented bio-degradable, reusable, non-allergic, sanitary pads, which are also cost-effective. Another social innovator observed the many challenges to climbing electric poles which electricians face, that make the job difficult and unsafe. Showcasing an innovation in utility, Mr. Nannam Thirupathi presented a cost-effective pole climber which can be worn with slippers and allows for a hands-free and safe climb for the user. Social innovator, Mr. Adhik Kadam, presented his idea of Basera-e-Tabassum (BeT) which translates to ‘Abode of Smiles’, which aims to provide care, safety, security, education and rehabilitation for girls, women and children in Kashmir. Addressing the 10-25% of post-harvest loss that occurs due to lack of appropriate storage, Ms. Shravani Ladkat, presented her ‘Hot and Cold Storage System’, which uses the heat release from cold storage to dehydrate the food, which is a cost-effective method of storing the food while maintaining its nutritional value.

In the Urban session, issues of education, waste management, digital inclusion, disability, sanitation were tackled by the social innovators. Understanding the need for greater volunteering, Ms. Meenakshi Singh, through her idea of ‘Donate an Hour’, addressed the greater need for education by asking volunteers to provide support, not through monetary aid, but by dedicating some time to the education of underprivileged kids. Addressing the fact that many physically challenged people are unable to afford a wheelchair, and must use a board to aid them was the aim for social innovator, Mr. Vishrut Bhatt. He presented a device that provides easier movement for physically challenged individuals that can be used both manually and mechanically and is also cost-effective. Bringing to light the large amounts of sanitary waste which is left un-processed, Mr. Ajinkya Dhariya, presented an economical sanitary waste sterilization product, which can be used in colleges, hostels, hospitals and public-private offices. A social innovator emphasized on the fact that, in this age of technology, it is important that with greater accessibility of this technology, people should also be able to use it. Ms. Sonia Garcha, presented a tailor-made module, which will provide greater digital literacy to women, in order to further empower them in their lives and communities. With an increasing population, there is also an increase in the waste which is produced. This means more work for sanitation workers, who work in difficult, un-safe and unhygienic conditions.
Social innovator, Mr. Gaurav Acharya, addressed this problem through his presentation of a semi-mechanical tool for waste collection for sanitation workers. This allows for sanitation workers to do their job, systematically, safely, and hands free. Visually challenged individuals continuously face a lack of educational content in Braille. Ms. Akshita Sachdeva, presented, a mobile app called ‘KITAB’ which aims to bring more than two lakh books and educational content, in multiple Indian languages, to visually challenged individuals, thus providing them with more sources of learning which they can access independently.

A feature of NCSI 2018, which was not a part of previous years, was the networking session, of an hour, held after the presentations of the 18 social innovators. The session was aimed at providing a more personal networking opportunity for the social innovators, CSRs, investors and incubators to interact with each other. It allowed for a more comprehensive discussion on the presented innovations and also for the future of the ideas and products, as stalls were set up, so that a more up-close viewing of the ideas and products was also possible. Additionally, it presented innovators like Mr. Anant Vats, Ms. Saloni Sacheti and Mr. Amit Inamdar an opportunity to make a sall their products, like the bamboo pen, jewelry made from bamboo and products made from flex. The networking session was very well received by the social innovators and CSRs, investors and incubators.
For the first time in NCSI, a winner from each category was chosen, who also received a cash prize of Rs.50,000. To decide the best innovation from each category, live voting was conducted. The votes were from the curated list of guests which included, CSR's, incubators, investors, PIC trustees and members.

From the Tribal innovators, the winner was, Mr Ashwin Pawade, co-founder of S4S technologies for their Solar Conduction Dryer, which dries horticulture produce for later use. In the Rural session, the winner was, Mr. Shubham Singh for his straw panel board, which is made from crop residue. For the Urban session, the winner was, Ms Akshita Sachdeva, for her product called KITAB, a mobile app which increases availability of books in multiple Indian languages for visually challenged people.

After declaring the winners, a session was organized to foster social innovation. A discussion was held between CSR's, incubators, investors and earlier NCSI innovators and a mentee of the mentorship programme.
Day 2:

Day 2 of the conference commenced with the same enthusiasm as the first day. The participants included NCSI 2018 finalists, PIC Mentors, Ms. Anshu Bhartia, CEO of UnLtd India, and Mr. Shirish Joshi, Independent consultant and eminent social sector researcher. The focus was on the interaction between mentors and the innovators, understanding the obstacles they face in their journey and a brief guidance on their future path.

It started with an activity, “Know your innovator”, which helped all the innovators present in the room understand each other which in turn helped them to know more about themselves. After this activity, a keynote address was given by Ms. Anshu Bhartia, CEO, UnLtd. India. She addressed a very crucial subject of entrepreneurship, ‘Journey of an innovator to being an entrepreneur’. She explained, how an innovator may not end up becoming an entrepreneur and an entrepreneur may not be an innovator. The example present in the room was, one of the NCSI finalists’ Mr. Sikanto Mandal, the innovator and Mr. Gaurav Acharya, the entrepreneur, who took Sikanto’s innovation to next level. She advised innovators to find out their key strengths and weaknesses and align them with what they want to achieve and that’s where mentorship comes into play. She emphasized on having a good mentor, who makes the entrepreneurial journey easier. She added, how a mentor can help an innovator/entrepreneur to see through himself, expand his vision, identify his/her goal and help him/her work on those lines. She concluded her keynote speech giving innovators much needed food for thought for their future entrepreneurial journey.

The next session involved interaction with PIC mentors. Any dilemma or confusion of the innovators was answered by the mentors Mr. Sanjay Kanvinde and Mr. Pramod Athalye.

Adding up to the Mentorship Programme, the mentors also informed about the Shared Service Centre (SSC-SE) which is being launched by Social Innovation Lab. The centre will offer services like Digital Marketing, Accounting, Legal, etc. at a subsidized rate. The service providers will be curated and validated by PIC to avoid any trouble faced by any Social Entrepreneur while approaching them. This is important as often, such processes can deter social innovators and entrepreneurs from pursuing their ideas. Through SEMP and the SSC, innovators and entrepreneurs can receive the support and guidance they need to ensure that their idea or product is able to achieve its maximum potential.
The whole conference was covered by various national media outlets. The Hindustan Times focused on different innovations that were presented at the conference, the Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme (SEMP) and the launch of the Shared Service Centres (SSC). In addition, the Times of India, Sakal and the Maharashtra Times also covered the conference, reporting the importance of the platform which PIC has provided for social innovators and how by connecting them to various CSRs, incubators and investors, had made this process easier for the innovators. There was further reference to the whole premise of NCSI, i.e. as put by the President of PIC and renowned scientist, Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar of converting ‘moment into movement’. The newspapers reported of the success of SEMP and how its eight mentees have already passed through a year’s time and have benefited from the immense guidance that SEMP provides. The newspapers also discussed the aim of NCSI to inculcate greater social innovation in the country and to provide a platform for innovators across the country, where they can present their ideas and products and come together for the betterment of society.
'गुणवत्तेमुळे भारत नेतृत्व करिल'

म. दा. प्रतिनिधिय, पुणे

'भारतीय नागरिक मरी आपले,
तरी ते हुपाहार, आहेत. तक्षणातमके
मोडत निर्णयक पुढीलाच आहे, स्वतंत्र
गुणवत्तेमुळे खेळाडू सर्वांना भारताला नमुने
लेवो करावावर तरीही विविध प्रभाव
आहे,' तसा नायक यांच्याकडे निरंतर भाषण
करत यांनी वास्तवायी स्थान केले.

'पुणे इंटरनेशनल सेटर' (पीआयआई),
'तहत इंटरनेशनल और सोसाल संपन्नमुळे'
आणि सोसाल इंडस्ट्रीज फाउंडेशन सिद्धेता
सोसाल सोसाल तरी आर्थिक 'सोसाल
कर्मचाऱा आणि सोसाल इंडस्ट्रीज'चे
उद्घाटन करून येऊसर हक्के वाचवत.
ज्येच सीईसी व पीआयआईला आधुनिक
रंगचक्र प्रसंसते गिरवर,' आयएलएसी
सिद्धेता (आयएलएसी सिद्धेता) अभ्यास
देणाऱ्यांना, 'पीआयआई'च्या मानदृष्ट
पुष्पो इंटरनेशनल सेटर, दादा इंटरनेशनल और सोसाल सोसाल आणि सोसाल इंडस्ट्रीज फाउंडेशन इंडस्ट्रीज आर्थिक आकर्षित नेतृत्वकर्मी आणि सोसाल इंडस्ट्रीज या कार्यक्रमात आवश्यकतानुसार संथेच वा ध्येयात्मक प्रवेश करताना जेवणमुळे आलेले विविध संस्थेच.
1. Mr. Anant Vats (NCSI 2017), who’s product the Bamboo Pen received enquiries from the Reliance Foundation and Emcure.

2. Mr. Amit Inamdar (NCSI 2017), who’s products are created from flex boards, received enquiries from the Reliance Foundation.

3. Mr. Imna Meren Imsong (NCSI 2018), was visited by the Assistant Commissioner of Animal Husbandry, Pune, for his animal operation table and he indicated his interest in buying the table with some modifications.

4. Mr. Ashwin Pawade (NCSI 2018), received enquiries from Praj Industries, for their Solar Conduction Dryer.

5. Mr. Imna Meren Imsong (NCSI 2018) has received manufacturing and commercialization support through Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme (SEMP).

6. Two of NCSI 2018 innovators, Mr. Sumanth Mudaliar and Vishrut Bhatt (Shashwat Front Edge Technologies Pvt. Ltd.) and Ms. Smriti Kedia (Jatan Sansthan) presented at their innovations at ICCIG4 organised by SRISTI. At the same event, the team Shashwat Front Edge Technologies received an order for 100 devices of ‘Handicare’ from Goonj Foundation.
Mr. Sumanth Mudaliar with co-founder Mr. Vishrut Bhatt received the silver level Aarohan Social Innovation Award which also included a cash prize of Rs. 50 lakhs. Another NCSI 2018 innovator Mr. Ajinkya Dhariya won jury mention Aarohan Social Innovation Award which included a cash prize of Rs. 15 lakhs.

Mr. Ajinkya Dhariya also won the BIRAC-Innovation Challenge Award - Solutions for Community Health (SoCH) and received Rs. 50 Lakh cash prize as well as technical and business mentorship at one of BIRAC’s BioNEST-incubators. He also won the Maharashtra State Innovation Society - NASSCOM Innovation award.

Another NCSI 2018 Innovator and mentee of PIC-SEMP, Mr. Imna Meren Imsong received the Late Dinanath Pandey Memorial Smart Idea Innovation Award at the innovation festival organized by the regional Science Center at Guwahati.
TRIBAL INNOVATORS
Name of the Innovator: 
**Ms. Saloni Sacheti**

Organization: 
Baansuli- Bamboo Artisan Socio-economic UpLiftment Initiative

Location: Dang, Gujarat

Online Presence: 
Facebook: baansuli.dangs
Instagram: baansuli.dangs

**Problem:**
Dang is one of the most economically distressed district out of 640 districts in India having 98% of the tribal population. The major source of income is agriculture but due to hilly terrain, post monsoon Dang faces water scarcity creating discouragement for cultivation practices. As a result, Dangs observes seasonal migration of cultivators and agriculture laborers. Ms. Saloni Sacheti observed that this area is bamboo abundant and decided to use bamboo as a source of income generation for the tribal people. She founded a project called 'Baansuli- Bamboo Artisan Socio-economic UpLiftment Initiative' in which uniquely handcrafted bamboo earrings made from locally sourced variety of Manvel bamboo. This contemporary jewellery uses german silver, semi-precious stones, tussles etc. to make it more attractive.

**Solution:**
Ms. Saloni Sacheti after pursuing Law, started working as a lawyer in electricity law where she had clients like PowerGrid, NTPC, Railways and so on. Then she applied for SBI Youth Fellowship where she found her inspiration to work for rural population. Baansuli started as a project during fellowship which was initiated to give livelihood options to tribal and to promote handicrafts and tribal skills. Being India's only contemporary bamboo jewellery makers, they have made the sales of more Rs. 2,75,000 in 13 months and introduced 135 plus designs for earrings, 30 plus designs of neck pieces and 20 plus for bracelets and rings. Artisans who were then indulged in manual labour and doing migration started working with Baansuli to revive the art and culture and to earn livelihood and further stop migrating.

**Scalability and Impact:**
The initiative aims to create sustainable livelihood option for these tribals through training these tribals and turning them into artisans. Direct beneficiaries of this project are Artisans working with baansuli and their families and indirect beneficiaries are retailers, distributors, exhibitors and Indian government. They aim to scale it up nationally and globally through national and international exhibitions, website, offline store, expanding product line and expansion of group and replicating in various other areas where bamboo is easily sourced.

**Requirement:**
1. Financial

**Awards and Recognition:**
1. 3M CII Young Innovators Challenge Award under rural category
Problem:
The worldwide population is reaching seven billion with an estimate of going up to 9 billion by 2050. The rising population is posing a challenge to meet an additional demand for food considering the current challenge of food insecurity and hunger. 66 million tons of fruits and vegetables and fish-meat go to waste in India due to lack of post-harvest processing and storage. This results in food shortage, poverty that leads to malnutrition among smallholder farmers and poor-resourceful communities. Inspired by this, Dr. Vaibhav Tidke founded Social Enterprise Science for Society (S4S) which developed Solar Conduction Dryer (SCD), an electricity-free solar-powered food dehydrator that reduces moisture content in agri-animal produce so that women farmers and rural women can preserve seasonal produce up to 1 year without using any chemicals and earn additional income through the sale of dehydrated products.

Solution:
Chemical Engineer with Ph.D in sustainable technologies, Dr. Vaibhav Tidke motivated by his interest in using Solar energy for post-harvest technologies started S4S and invented solar conduction dryer. SCD has one of the highest reported drying efficiency, which is 50% more than across the world for cost of electricity saving. SCD, recognized by the UN DFID, and US-AID maintains 45% better nutrition than open sun drying. Dehydrated products can be preserved at room conditions and used in daily cooking recipes by families throughout the year. S4S technologies rent out SCD to farmers to process 10-30 ton material annually. Total Indian market size for SCD in India is 60 million SCDs.

Scalability and Impact:
Currently, there are 1700+ installations of SCD in 10 countries and over 2000 installations in Nashik, Aurangabad and thane in Maharashtra covering various product categories like fruits, vegetables, spices, leafy vegetables and medicinal herbs. SCD is recognized by UNEP-Bayer Ag (Germany) as top four global sustainable technologies and by University of Texas-Dell as global leading social venture. S4S Technologies decentralized solar conduction dryer with assured buyback market linkage has been mainly focused in Maharashtra and Nepal so far and want to scale it up in North-Eastern India.

Requirement:
1. Government Support

Awards and Recognition:
1. Dell Social Innovation Challenge Award
2. United Nations Environment Leadership Award
3. Covestro Start-up Award (Germany)
4. Winner of Mondialogo Engineering Award-07
5. US-AID (USA) and FICCI Award: Multistage Agro Product Processing Technology
6. University of Texas (USA) and Dell Inc (USA) Award: Grand Winner from 110 countries and 2600 Social Innovations
7. Bill and Melinda Gate Foundation (USA) Award
Name of the Innovator:
Mr. Nitish M Chiniwar

Organization:
Bridges of Sports Foundation

Location: Bangalore

Online Presence:
Website: www.bridgesofsports.org
Facebook: BridgesofSports
YouTube: Bridges of Sports
Twitter: Bridgesofsports
Instagram: Bridgesofsports

Problem:
Sports other than cricket have been a neglected career option in India. One of the reasons is lack of professionals/coach which is a perquisite for a sport person. In terms of numbers India has an annual shortage of 40,000 physical education teachers and over 30,000 sports coaches. The demand for support personnel (trainers, psychologists, nutritionists) will be around 80,000 for each in 2022. During the William J. Clinton fellowship Mr. Nitish Chiniwar spent 4 months with My Angels Academy which teaches football to slum children in Delhi, and from this pivotal experience he learnt the shortage of physical trainers in school and need to bridge the gap between demand and supply. To overcome this, Nitish founded Bridges of Sports Foundation which has ‘Sports Development Programme’. Under this programme, fellows are trained during 10 months period and further they join the partners of foundation and continue to work as coach.

Solution:
Mr. Nitish Chiniwar, a motorsport engineer, found that there is huge market gap in sports industry as in terms of numbers in India, and has an annual shortage of 40,000 physical education teachers and over 30,000 coaches. Collectively there is need to bridge the gap of 2 million sports and sports related jobs. Therefore, he initiated the ‘Sport Development Programme’ under which they started training fellows to be coach with partners. 70% of these fellows come from tribal area of Karnataka, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh. They have identified and are working among 35 partners to be able to provide the livelihood opportunities for the fellows. Among them, is Akshaya Patra, their first set of fellows have already been provided livelihood through football program. The innovative part of the service is through ensuring livelihood through all our coaches, they are able sustain grassroots sports training of children in the tribal regions of India at 99 INR/month/child.

Scalability and Impact:
They are currently working in Karnataka, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh and are training more than 2000 children through this model. They have achieved 100% livelihood creation for all fellows. Now they are developing an online platform through which the fellows can be monitored and developed through remote learning. This will enable us to further reduce unit cost, and to scale and reach out to more geographies.

Requirement:
1. Financial
2. Scaling up

Awards and Recognition:
1. Recognised by Tata Institute of Social Sciences and NSDC as India’s top 6 social ventures.
2. India’s 2nd largest crowd funded organisation as part of Book6million smiles challenge.
3. Recognised by N/Core as India’s top 20 non-profits
Name of the Innovator: **Mr. Imna Meren Imsong**

Organization: M/s Meren Centre for Innovation

Location: Dimapur, Nagaland

**Problem:**
Domestic animals are closely related to the livelihood of people living in rural and tribal areas. When some kind of emergency occurs, veterinary doctors in these areas face basic problems like unavailability of operation tables which affect the health of animals. To solve this issue, Mr. Imna Meren Imsong made an operation table which can operate easily and effectively and can be purchased by rural people/doctors to carry out simple medical routines such as vaccination, castration etc.

**Solution:**
Mr. Imna Meren with his wife, Lucy are developing the products for betterment and ease of living of rural and tribal people. One of the products is the ‘Small Animal Restrain Operation table’ which can be used by veterinary doctors or local doctors or individuals for animals. As local veterinary centres do not have any proper operation table/tools and the animal is restrained by multiple people which cause a lot of stress to the animal.

**Scalability and Impact:**
The product is developed and ready to go in the market for commercialization.

**Requirement:**
1. Financial

**Awards and Recognition:**
1. Recognized in National Competition for Grassroot Innovations and Traditional Knowledge by NIF.
Name of the Innovator: Mr. Sridhar Lakshmanan

Organization: ecoLogin Rural and Tribal Products Pvt Ltd

Location: Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Online Presence: Website: https://thaen.in
Facebook: thaen.honey
Instagram: thaen_wild_honey

Problem:
Wild Honey collection is a predominant livelihood activity of Tribal Communities in the Western and Eastern Ghats regions in Tamil Nadu. In apiculture, the honey is being cultivated artificially from Italian bees. The bees are sometimes fed sugar water & antibiotics during lean season. The honey also filtered and heat treated for longer shelf life. Such artificially cultivated honey is not suitable for using with medicinal purposes. The wild honey is natural and raw without any antibiotics. The wild honey possesses medicinal properties and effectively used in Ayurvedic medicinal purposes. March – August is the predominant season for collecting wild honey, which limits the source of income of tribal people. Therefore, Ecologin initially identified honey sources across the state of Tamil Nadu that can ensure supply throughout year. Over the years, it has expanded its base for sourcing unique varieties to the states of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Kashmir.

Solution:
ecoLogin has packaged, and marketed wild collected honey. In the past four years, the organisation has been able to sell about 4 tonnes as trial and test marketing with good feedback and positive review. It has developed a technology to prevent fermentation of honey, without heat treatment or using stabilizing agents. It has already sold 7 Tonnes of honey over a period of 3 years, with good feedback, positive reviews and repeat orders. The organization sells its honey-based product range under various brand names like Madhumeeta. The current channels of sales are: exhibitions organic melas, shops, telephone enquiries, retailers, and organic shops.

Scalability and Impact:
The organization looks at adding more unique varieties of honey, expanding its sourcing base to other states in Western, Northern and North Eastern India, exploring retail market and other sales channels, and exploring premium markets and export.

Requirement:
1. Financial
2. Partners

Awards and Recognition:
Not Mentioned
Name of the Innovator:
Mr. Ghamandi Mulewa  Mrs. Sitabai Mulewa

Organization:
BAIF Institute for Sustainable Livelihoods and Development (BISLD)

Location:
Indore, Madhya Pradesh

Online Presence:
Website: http://www.baif.org.in/bisld.asp
Facebook: BAIFUP
YouTube: BAIF Development and Research Foundation

Problem:
Tribal families living in Rajpur District, depend on agriculture for their livelihood like any other tribal families. Basically, they used to produce only two crops, maize and cotton; extensive use of pesticides in the production reduced their returns. Farmers in this area suffered a lot due to large scale dependence on cotton and no other alternative crop. With the help of BISLD, Mr. Gamandi Mulewa started Guava plantation and by further experimenting he has standardized the techniques for grafting of acid lime (Kagzi lime) and propagation of ivy gourd (Coccinia grandis) in the area. He is also supplying the planting material to other farmers from the village. The two crops have good potential for ensuring alternative income source to the farmers in the area.

Solution:
Mr. Ghamandi Mulewa as a part of Wadi Programme by BAIF believed that new crops will reduce the dependence of farmers on a sole crop of cotton and help develop sustainable diversified agri-horticulture in the area. He has supplied the acid lime (Kagzi lime) and propagation of ivy gourd (Coccinia grandis) plants to nearly 27 farmers. Without any external support, he is now producing recently around 250 plants annually.

Scalability and Impact:
He has standardized the techniques for grafting of acid lime (Kagzi lime) and propagation of ivy gourd (Coccinia grandis) in the area, and supplying the planting material to other farmers from the village. The two crops have good potential for ensuring alternative income source to the farmers in the area. He plans to test and standardize techniques for other crops like “Kundru” (Tindori/Parval). He plans to develop his farm and adjoining farms as a demonstration for other farmers. He further proposes to increase the scale of plant propagation in order to be able to meet the increasing demand from other farmers.

Requirement:
1. Financial

Awards and Recognition:
1. First award received at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Barwani (M.P.) for Kundru (Tindori/Parval) during exhibition of vegetable cum fruits on March 16-17, 2018.
RURAL INNOVATORS
Name of the Innovator:
**Mr. Shubham Singh**

Organization:
Fuma Labs Private Limited

Location:
Pune, Maharashtra

Online Presence:
Website: www.craste.com
Facebook: CrasteCompany

**Problem:**
India burns 80 million tonnes of crop residue every year which releases 150 Million tonnes of CO2 into the atmosphere. These residues are used as fodder for animals, composting and domestic or industrial fuel. A large amount of unused residue is burnt to prepare for next sowing season. High cost of residue removal due to non-availability of labor and expensive machinery are the primary reasons for crop burning and it takes one rupee for a matchbox to clear the fields in short time. Furthermore, burning of crop residue releases greenhouse gases and affects human health leading to respiratory ailments. Repeated burning leads to depletion of microbial activity and leads to loss of nutrients. Farmers and policy makers are well aware of the consequences of crop burning. However, increased mechanization, use of combine harvesters, decline in livestock, long duration required for composting and unavailability of other economically viable solutions leads farmers to crop burning.

**Solution:**
Mr. Shubham Singh has come out with the solution which is a highly durable, environmental friendly, cost effective, wood equivalent, crop residue derived straw panel. For each panel of 8ftx4ft size and 18 mm thickness, we expect to reduce 30 kg of CO2 emissions. In order to have crop residues not to be burned, a value needs to be added to them. By making them new starting point for a value chain in the material industry, farmers will have an interest in selling the crop residues. They are addressing the problem, therefore by enabling this value chain with bringing an innovation of a new bio renewable adhesive, that can turn crop residues into valuable material.

**Scalability and Impact:**
They wish to setup decentralized particleboard plants with a capacity of 1000 tonnes per annum. With each plant, they will be able to provide secondary income to farmers, equivalent to 80,000 $. This will generate 40,000 boards which will reduce 1460 tonnes of CO2 from the atmosphere which otherwise would have been burnt. They will setup these plants on franchise basis which will lead to creation of village level entrepreneurs. The particleboards can be used for construction of low cost housing in rural parts of India and thus giving a path to a circular economy that demonstrates how waste can be valuable. Further, they are using formaldehyde free adhesive in our boards for creating healthier environments.

**Requirement:**
1. Financial
2. Customer Validation
3. Scale up

**Awards and Recognition:**
1. Top 500 Global Startups by Hello Tomorrow
2. BIRAC SOCH Innovation Challenge Award
3. Finalist for Agricultural Grand Challenge
4. Runner up at Ipreneur 2017 organised by TISS, Mumabi
5. Top 10 Finalist for Academia Industry Training Programme organised by Swissnex and SINE IIT, Bombay
6. Winner, Rural Category at National Conference on Social Innovation
7. Selected for 100+ remote accelerator by AbinBev
Problem:
Menstruation issues are still faced by many women in India due to lack of knowledge about sanitary napkins, but it was studied that these napkins are actually hazardous to health, environment and are costly also. Men have always been excluded from menstruation in Indian society, while in reality they should be in the centre supporting women. To resolve this problem, ‘Jatan Sansthan’ makes ‘Uger Pads’ started in 2011 from cotton which are bio-degradable, reusable and do not cause any allergy.

Solution:
Ms. Lakshmi Murthy has been working in reproductive health for 32 years and now she is pursuing her doctorate in Sustainability of Menstruation Management in IIT Bombay. Her academic study is supported by her practical and real life experience in working on menstruation. Therefore, Uger Pads include men in all their work in order to sensitize them about menstruation. There are two models: It comes at no cost if stitched from fabric harvested from users’ own old garments. Pads made from new fabrics, while priced at Rs. 720 (Prices may vary) for pack of 6 pads, can be reused over 18 menstrual cycles. It brings the cost of one cycle use to Rs. 6 as opposed to Rs. 20 when buying a conventional sanitary pad.

Scalability and Impact:
They advocated for reusable products with NGOs across India through workshops and training session and have reached out directly to more than 20,000 women, 10,000 adolescents and 5000 boys and men through the trainings and awareness campaigns in the past 5 years. They want to Expand intervention on education around menstrual health and management, breaking silence over the subject and supporting local creation of products and initiate new work on menstruation and disability, which has limited attention.

Requirement:
1. Financial
2. Scaling up

Awards and Recognition:
1. Uger Pads was nominated for the award - Index - design to improve life, 2015
2. The Government of India guidelines for Menstrual Health Management has listed Uger Pads as a reusable product option.
Name of the Innovator: 
**Ms. Shravani Ladkat**

Organization: Sanjeevani Disaster Equipments Pvt. Ltd.

Location: Pune, Maharashtra

Online Presence: Facebook: Sanjeevani Disaster Equipments Pvt Ltd

**Problem:**
In India, post-harvest losses account for approx. 10-25% due to lack of storage. The percentage of losses vary according to grains, fish, meat, milk and other products. It was realised by Ms. Shravani Ladkat, a nutritionist that food loss on such large scale need to be avoided in a country like India where population is continuously growing. Therefore, she developed a 'Hot and Cold Storage System' which uses the heat released by cold storage for storing or dehydrating foods. It is cost efficient and also maintains the nutritional value of the food.

**Solution:**
Ms. Shravani Ladkat is pursuing her Ph. D. in Nutrition on the topic ‘Study of quality of stored foods in ‘Hot and Cold’ Storage’. The product has applications in fisheries, bakeries, food processing industries, cold storages, anywhere where refrigeration systems are installed. This is done by adjoining an adjacent hot room to an existing cold storage plant or air conditioning plant. The technology helps maintain a temperature range of 40-45 degrees Celsius required for carrying out the drying for 24 hours unlike solar dryers. This storage system will reduce Post harvest losses which are a big burden on the farmers and BOP market that faces issues with price rise.

**Scalability and Impact:**
After visiting several bakeries they found out that by using the product they could save 33% on the electricity bill which was 10 thousand rupees in one case. They want to implement the a larger prototype of 1 Tonne capacity and conduct studies on the various applications like storing / drying grains, dehydrating vegetables, fruits, fish, papad or any other product requiring dehydration.

**Requirement:**
1. Scaling up
2. Financial
3. Government Support

**Awards and Recognition:**
1. 2nd price in Individual category for 6th level Maharashtra State Energy conservation award.
2. Selected for i3 Western regional fair at IIT Bombay, conducted by DST and CII in 2010
3. Selecting in top 20 semi-finalist in July15 for clean tech award conducted by MSME,FICCI and UNIDO
4. Selected in top 50 of Inclusive Innovation 2013
5. Selected in top 10 from Maharashtra for Take Care Take Charge competition (2012) conducted by CEE, Garnier and Times of India
Name of the Innovator: Mr. Adhik Kadam
Organization: Borderless World Foundation
Location: Kashmir Valley (Jammu)
Online Presence:
Website: www.borderlessworldfoundation.org/
Facebook: borderlessworldfoundation
YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gy6srq60pak
Twitter: adhikkadam7

Problem:
Kashmir is called as ‘Paradise on the Earth’ but it is not the same case for girls, children and women as they are the targets of continuous warfare. This does not just affect their present but also their future. Encouraged by the motive to help these girls, Borderless World Foundation, by providing ‘homes’ for conflict stricken young and orphaned girls, providing care, safety, security, education and rehabilitation. It relies on the principles of rescue, rebuild and revive. This project is called Basera-e-Tabassum (BeT) which means ‘Abode of Smiles’ and it runs three such homes in the districts of Kupwara, Budgaon and Anantnag. Another home is being run in Jammu which houses young girls from Kashmiri families who were displaced due to conflict in the valley. A total of 230 number of girls are presently a part of this project.

Solution:
Borderless World Foundation’s direct beneficiaries are the orphaned girls, widowed young women, girls rescued from militancy, single young mothers (under the age of 18 years), and their dependent families; with emergency healthcare services all communities living in conflict zone, security agencies, are another category of direct beneficiaries. More than 110 girls have got integrated back in the community (Staying with their single mother, married and settled in families, working in communities in various jobs and in small sale businesses). 40 girls are pursuing higher education (Graduation, Post Graduation, Professional courses) in different states in India. A total of full time staff in the entire establishment is of 35. More than 50 volunteers are available on field for any emergency purposes. Every home has a 10-15 member Advisory Committee who are from the local community. More than 15 schools are supporting our girls education in their respective institutions, by providing free or subsidised education, scholarships, concessions in fees, supporting travel and study material costs.

Scalability and Impact:
The scale up model looks at the following objectives: to expand the existing Home Basera-e-Tabassum(BeT), which should be able to accommodate 300 orphan-girls in a span of four years, to establish / build a school for these girls and provide them quality education, this school will be open for day scholars in order to provide for an ‘inclusive’ learning environment and appropriate exposure, to provide for overall and holistic development of these children, educate them aware of their rights, to strengthen local community structure, through self-empowerment and income generation.

Requirement:
1. Financial
2. Scaling up
3. Government Support
4. Networking and Partners
5. Staff

Awards and Recognition:
2. Mother Teresa Award
Name of the Innovator:
Mr. Nannam Thirupati

Organization:
National Innovation Foundation (NIF- India)

Location:
Gandhinagar, Gujarat

Online Presence:
YouTube: youtube.com/watch?v=87cY-oN1gyFc

Problem:
There are certain difficulties in climbing cement electrical poles due to drudgery and lack of safety. Moreover, the pace of work suffered as well in the process, as even after reaching atop manually or through a ladder, staying there for long to work was strenuous. Mr. Nannam Thirupathi developed a simple, useful device that serves as a personal tool for climbing rectangular cement poles. The apparatus can be worn like footwear and allows the user to climb poles without the help of a ladder.

Solution:
Mr. Nannam Thirupathi developed a Pole climber is made with a 16mm square steel rod, shaped into a square and bent suitably. Leather chappals have been fixed onto this bent frame. The grabbing arm of the steel rod goes around the pole providing a temporary yet firm foot hold for the climber during his ascend or descend. Two such pieces are used by one operator. Operator simply shoves his feet into the chappals and climbs the electrical cement pole using this innovation as one climbs a staircase. It is so easy to learn and derive the comfort of climbing which is otherwise a difficult operation. It is safe, as each climber is tested for 450 kg weight.

Scalability and Impact:
The product has been sold actively since end 2016 and in the past fiscal year of 2017, has claimed to have successfully sold over 50,000 units, taking the total sale figure to nearly 80,000. Mr. Thirupathi also deals with various state power distribution/transmission companies which place a bulk order for all its electrical staff. So far in this particular regard, he has served the states of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

Requirement:
1. Financial

Awards and Recognition:
1. Rural Innovators Start-up Conclave (RISC) Awards 2017, organized by National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD): Best Innovator Award (Category: Sustainable Livelihoods)
2. National Societal Innovation Award 2017, organized by National Rural Development Corporation (NRDC)
3. Young Dalit Entrepreneur Award 2017, organized by Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
URBAN INNOVATORS
Name of the Innovator:  
**Ms. Meenakshi Singh**

**Organization:**  
Donate an Hour

**Location:**  
Gurugram, Haryana

**Online Presence:**  
Website:  
www.donateanhour.org  
Facebook: DoaR India  
YouTube: Donate an Hour- DoaR India  
Twitter: Doarindia

**Problem:**  
There are many working people in India who want to volunteer for some social cause but unable to do so mainly because of two reasons, i.e. they don’t know how to help (other than monetary help) and whom to approach. To solve this issue, ‘Donate an Hour’ came up with an idea to be an intermediary platform between volunteers and beneficiaries. Ms. Meenakshi Singh realised that even after many years of Independence, education in India is still a challenge. Therefore, she decided to provide quality education to the underprivileged children. Donate an Hours asks for the most valuable thing from the volunteers which is not any kind of monetary help, but their valuable time for mentoring these underprivileged children.

**Solution:**  
After working in many reputed companies, Ms. Meenakshi Singh founded ‘Donate an Hour’ with her husband for underprivileged children. It basically focuses on providing platform for volunteers to work for social cause near their place so that they can contribute fully to society’s development by teaching the children. This teaching includes subjects like English, Maths and Science, as these subjects are crucial for future of these children. This platform facilitates satisfaction of the needs of volunteers as well as beneficiaries i.e. children, volunteers get chance to actually work for social cause and the children can improve themselves with the help of mentoring.

**Scalability and Impact:**  
Currently underprivileged residents (parents and children) in Gurgaon, Manesar and Nuh from 14 different locations are getting benefited by the work of Donate and Hour. In last 3.5 years they have proved that large scale social impact can be made by dedication and perseverance. Their strong social media presence ensures continuous inflow of volunteers to cover any shortfall/gap created due to volunteer’s movement due to career change or personal reasons. They want to replicate the same model to across India at least in major cities like Pune, Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad and Kolkata.

**Requirement:**  
1. Financial  
2. Scaling up

**Awards and Recognition:**  
1. Finalist in iVolunteer Awards 2016,  
2. Recognized by Kalam Center for the work in child education,  
3. Recognized by Dr Pranav Mukherjee Foundation for the work in Nuh.
Name of the Innovator:
Mr. Vishrut Bhatt
Mr. Sumanth Mudaliar

Organization:
Shashwat Front Edge Technologies

Location:
Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Problem:
A good number of disabled people are economically poor also and can’t afford a wheelchair. Such people use a board with 4 wheels beneath it which gives forward motion when hands push the ground backward. Due to direct contact of hand with ground, they get blisters in hand, dirtiness and unhygienic as they use the same hand for eating. Their hands get very rough and injured. So Mr. Vishrut Bhatt alongwith Mr. Sumanth Mudaliar designed “HANDICARE-A device for specially abled” in which handicap person is not required to touch the ground.

Solution:
In ‘Handicare’ device, handicapped people are provided with a steering in front of device, which needs to be wiggled right and left to move forward. Wiggling speed coordinates the forward moving speed. It works manually and mechanically without any power source or fuel like batteries of petrol. It operates completely on manual wiggling of person. It does not need any maintenance like servicing or oiling. It is cheaper and more efficient than the wheelchairs currently used.

Scalability and Impact:
They have already sold 200+ devices to various institutions and aim to reach maximum physical disable people and help them by making their life better.

Requirement:
1. Government Support

Awards and Recognition:
1. Gandhian Youth Technological Awards at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
2. My Fm Jiyo Dil se Social Work Award at Nagpur.
3. GTU i2i Award
4. Gujarat Innovation Society Trend setter Award
5. SRISHTI-UNICEF Award at IIM Ahmedabad.
7. Recognized by Padmashri AS Kirankumar -ISRO
8. Recognized as start-up by Hiranmay Mahanta at Antrapreneur the Buisness Incubator.
9. Covered on Front page for start-up on GUJARAT GOVERNMENT magazine dated 16/02/16
10. Winners at LJ Innovation Village for two consecutive years.
Name of the Innovator:
Mr. Ajinkya Vikas Dhariya

Organization:
PadCare Labs Pvt. Ltd.

Location:
Pune, Maharashtra

Problem:
An average woman throws away about 150kg of sanitary napkins every year. The plastic used in sanitary napkins, which is non-biodegradable, and even where waste segregation takes place, sanitary pads are not processed and are instead sent directly to landfills. Mr. Ajinkya Dhariya, a mechanical engineer developed rapid, easy, economical & Eco-friendly sanitary waste sterilization, segregation and recycle solution at root cause level. in order to overcome the unaddressed issue of environmental and individual health impact in existence.

Solution:
PadCare Labs, developed a holistic product for sanitary waste management by using a novel reverse osmosis deswelling and chemical sterilization method, which is followed by mechanical shredding, the outcome of which is segregated sterilized shredded waste that can be can be recycled while the rest is compostable.

Scalability and Impact:
PadCare Labs developing a product and giving service to menstruating females having age between 16-50 in colleges, hostels, hospitals, private-public offices in India. Currently they have developed MVP and doing lab testing for the same. They plan to do pilot testing in 25 government institute with guidance of Pune municipal corporation from November 2018.

Requirement:
1. Financial
2. Scaling Up

Awards and Recognition:
1. Recognition from department of water and sanitation under swchhthon 1.0.
3. BIRAC SoCH award from Department of biotechnology.
Problem:
Waste collection and management is becoming a big issue all over India and many entrepreneurs are coming up with innovative ideas to tackle different issues. One such issue is waste collection infection and injuries to the workers. Mr. Gaurav Acharya designed a ‘Technology for the Sanitation Workers’ which prevents Janitorial Worker from injuries resulting from during day to day operations such as cuts from sharp objects in garbage, skin infections and other bacterial infections. There is complete separation of garbage from worker. It facilitates a systematic process for waste collection and eventual waste segregation or sorting, which is very important for overall solid waste management process.

Solution:
‘Technology for Sanitation Workers’, is a manual waste pick – transfer - disposal machine, that picks up garbage, solid waste etc., transfer it from point of use and disposal (direct or indirect) to the point of collection or treatment or landfill; leading to a standardized approach and that too without the use of hands. The technology is helpful in providing a manual & mobile waste tool with picking and dumping function for easier and effective road and public spaces cleaning by sanitation workers. It has Fixed Dust Pan, leg operated stand for placing in rest position. Gripper is very simple and storage space shifted behind the dustbin.

Scalability and Impact:
The technology is helpful in providing a manual & mobile waste tool with picking and dumping function for easier and effective road and public spaces cleaning by sanitation workers. The Technology is transferred to a Gujarat based entrepreneur and is ready to be launched in the market.

Requirement:
1. Financial
2. Scaling up
3. Government Support

Awards and Recognition:
1. Won Inspire Manak Awards
2. Recognized by Shri Giriraj Singh - DCP, Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi
Problem:
More than 50% of the women in the local slums in Pune and Pimpri Chinchwad have access to technology and internet through their smart phones. It is time that we realized that just access to technology is not adequate for the Digital Empowerment of women. Taking on the changing scenario of the Digital Age, at Development Support Team a need was identified to work towards the Digital Empowerment of women.

Solution:
DST team has designed a tailor-made module which includes use of technology in the daily lives of women in self-help groups, the special focus is on use of mobile technology for “Strengthening Self Help Groups”, Use of SMS/Whatsapp technology to disseminate information to all members by Group Leaders and/or Community Workers to ensure transparency and accountability.

Scalability and Impact:
The first round of training as a pilot with the Community Workers and some Group Leaders on use of technology for then based on the initial feedback, modified it and rolled it out through onsite training programmes in the community in Pune, Pimpri-Chinchwad, Chakan and Sangamner. We have trained 400+ urban and rural women on Digital Literacy.

Requirement:
1. Scaling-up support
2. Technology

Awards and Recognition:
1. Awards from Intelliment, Pune and Rotary clubs.
2. Recognition by national and international community development networks.
3. Won the first Asia CSR award and
4. Won the first Sandvik Asia CSR award with Forbes Marshall in CSR in women’s empowerment at Kasarwadi, Bopkhel and Chakan.
Name of the Innovator: 
Ms. Akshita Sachdeva

Organization: 
Trestle Labs Pvt. Ltd.

Location: 
Gandhinagar, Gujarat

Online Presence: 
Website : www.trestlelabs.com
Facebook: TrestleLabs
Twitter: TrestleLabs

Problem:
253 million visually-impaired people worldwide are dependent primarily on Braille, Audio-books and Screen readers for accessing academic, work-related or leisure-reading content. Less than 1% academic content is available in Braille and the available content is not updated, nor in regional language neither serves the purpose of employability. The visually-impaired people are dependent on others which makes them less confident. Motivated to solve all these problems, Trestle labs built three different kinds of content which will improve the situation of visually-impaired individuals.

Solution:
Ms. Akshita Sachdeva and team developed digitized machine-readable, digitized non-machine-readable & printed-resources. 'For Machine-readable content': KITAB mobile app that offers one-stop access to content across multiple Indian languages, formats and channels including Online digital libraries, universities, local publishers as well as self-curated content based on users’ reading. 'For Non-machine-readable content': Content-digitization service where digitized non-machine-readable content is converted into editable accessible machine-readable content in Unicode format. 'For Printed content': KIBO, which is the World’s first personalized intelligent reading and learning device that which offers access to over 2 lac books and reads-out any kind of printed text across multiple Indian languages.

Scalability and Impact:
Exclusive agreements with relevant organizations in this field (such as NAB. NFB, BPA, DAISY) and presence on various fora for students and other members of the VI community (connected to over 2500 VI users) helps Testle labs gain a first-hand understanding and be prepared to position the most relevant product to every customer. They have active engagements with technology partners such as Smartron, design consultancy from Design Alpha (associated with Social Alpha/Tata Trusts) and local manufacturing vendors who have helped in standardizing the product development process.

Requirement:
1. Financial
2. Scaling up

Awards and Recognition:
1. NASSCOM Design for India Award – Immersive category | NASSCOM Foundation | 2018.
2. Top 100 Social Startups – 7th AFI Forum | Action For India | 2018.
3. Top 100 Startups | Maharashtra Startup Week | 2018.
6. Startup Support Programs:
11. Incubation Awards
12. 'Dare to 'Fly' Award | Digital Impact Square, TCS Foundation | 2018.
13. 'Most Immersive Team' Award | Digital Impact Square, TCS Foundation | 2018.
About Organisers

Pune International Centre

Pune International Centre (PIC) is a ‘think-tank’ established in 2011. Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar is the President and Dr. Vijay Kelkar is the Vice-President of PIC. Since the launch of PIC, we have organised more than a 100 quality programmes in the domains of Finance, Energy, Environment, National Security, Social Innovation, Governance and Art & Culture and we have generated policy papers on relevant and significant issues of our time. Over 350 individuals have joined PIC as members and 40 leading academic institutes are institutional members, including Azim Premji Foundation, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), India Habitat Centre (IHC) and National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) and Forum of Federation.

A key feature of PIC for the last five years has been the annual ‘National Conference on Social Innovation (NCSI)’. It was great to have Dr. Vikas Amte and Hon’ble Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri. Prakash Javadekar as the chief guests for the 2016 and 2017 conferences respectively.

Tata Institute of Social Sciences

The Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) was established in 1936 as the Sir Dorabji Tata Graduate School of Social Work. In 1944, it was renamed as the Tata Institute of Social Sciences.

Since its inception, the Vision of the TISS has been to be an institution of excellence in higher education that continually responds to changing social realities through the development and application of knowledge, towards creating a people-centered, ecologically sustainable and just society that promotes and protects dignity, equality, social justice and human rights for all.

In pursuance of its vision and guiding principles, the Tata Institute of Social Sciences organises teaching programmes to facilitate the development of competent and committed professionals for practice, research and teaching; undertakes research; develops and disseminates knowledge; and reaches out to the larger community through extension, at the local, national, regional and international levels.

National Innovation Foundation

Drawing upon the Honey Bee Network (HBN) philosophy, the National Innovation Foundation (NIF) - India was set up in March 2000 with the assistance of Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. It is India’s national initiative to strengthen the grassroots technological innovations and outstanding traditional knowledge. Its mission is to help India become a creative and knowledge-based society by expanding policy and institutional space for grassroots technological innovators.

NIF scouts, supports and spawns grassroots innovations developed by individuals and local communities in any technological field, helping in human survival without any help from formal sector. NIF helps grassroots innovators and outstanding traditional knowledge holders get due recognition, respect and reward for their innovations. It also tries to ensure that such innovations spread widely through commercial and/or non-commercial channels, generating material or non-material incentives for them and others involved in the value chain.
Social Innovation Desk
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