NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL INNOVATION

URBAN INNOVATION

RURAL INNOVATION

TRIBAL INNOVATION

NCSI REPORT
2020
INDEX

Message from President and Vice President  4
Message from Director/ Head  6
Agenda  8
NCSI 2020 at a glance  9
Media Coverage of NCSI 2020  16

ANNEXURE

    Urban Innovators  19
    Rural Innovators  26
    Tribal Innovators  33

ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS  40
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

This is the 8th year of the National Conference on Social Innovation (NCSI) which began as a platform to bring together, thought leaders from the social sector. The programme has since evolved to become a prominent national platform to curate and bring to fore, social entrepreneurs from across the country. These entrepreneurs are building products and services that help improve the quality of life for the poorest and marginal segments of society.

This year we received 100+ applications from more than 18 states including Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Meghalaya and Nagaland. It is also heartening to know that we continue to see a healthy participation from female applicants.

NCSI has provided a platform to more than 125 social innovators over the past 7 years. The programme is also attended by the CSR representatives of some of the most progressive organisations in the country. We have also been welcoming friends from Incubators, Accelerators and the world of Impact Investment for the last three years.

The NCSI Social Innovation Lab was introduced in 2017 and we are happy to share with you the progress made by this lab. The 'Social Enterprise Mentorship Programme' is being run by Pune International Centre members under this lab for the last 4 years and currently, 20 social enterprises are being mentored in their scaling-up journey from the prototype development stage.

PIC has been organising the National Social Innovation Conference for the last 8 years with the objective of promoting the cause of Social Innovation and providing a fertile ground for collaboration by Social Innovators and CSRs of leading corporate houses. Innovations in Health, Education, Livelihood, Technology and Agriculture are covered in the conference. PIC actively promotes the spirit of social innovation by organising NCSI as a flagship event every year. One of the first initiatives of this conference was the Anjani Mashelkar Inclusive Innovation Award (AMIIA) which has been receiving enthusiastic nation-wide response.

We would like to thank our Chief Guest Mr. Shrikant Vaidya, Chairman, Indian Oil Corporation for a very thought provoking keynote address. We also wish to thank Mr. Vijay Mahajan, CEO, Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, for his valedictory keynote address. The presentations by 18 innovators from
Tribal, Rural and Urban Category covered diverse fields from agriculture to healthcare, education and community empowerment.

We would like to make a special mention of our team of mentors under PIC’s Social Enterprise Mentorship Program, namely, Sanjay Kanvinde, Pramod Athalye, Gireendra Kasmalkar, Anil Kulkarni, Ram Iyer and Amit Bhargava. They have been very active under the Mentorship Program which started in 2017 and have mentored 33 social innovators who benefited from this program. Healthcare, Sanitation and Agri-Tech are the top three sectors represented by these innovators. Other innovators who are under the mentorship program are from sectors such as Education and Med Tech.

With Warm Regards,

RA Mashelkar, F.R.S.
President, PIC

Vijay Kelkar, F.N.A.E.,
Vice President, PIC
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

It is my honour and privilege to take you through this year’s journey of the Social Innovations team at Pune International Centre and update you on the 8th edition of the National Conference on Social Innovation (NCSI) held on 4th and 5th December, 2020.

This year, we started the application scouting for NSCI earlier than the previous years and reached far and wide all over the country through our direct efforts and the support of various organisations. In this regard, a special word of thanks to Venture Centre and BAIF (Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation), our partner organisations in NCSI – TISS and National Innovation Foundation (NIF). We got a few hundred applications from various innovators and each of these applications was categorised under Tribal, Urban and Rural sections. All applications were subjected to two rounds of screenings and 30 applications were shortlisted. All the shortlisted applications were then sent to an Evaluation Committee whose members were:

• Mr. Pradeep Bhargava, Former President, MCCIA (Maharatta Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture)

• Prof. Satyajit Majumdar, Professor, Tata Institute of Social Science

• Mr. Pradeep Lokhande, Entrepreneur and Founder, Rural Relations

• Dr. Vipin Kumar, Director, National Innovation Foundation

• Commodore Anand Khandekar (Retd.), ex-Navy, served on several boards, mentor

• Ms. Kishori Gadre, ex-Maharashtra Government, Researcher, Social Scientist

This committee gave us the final shortlist of 18 innovators who eventually presented their innovations to an audience comprising Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) representatives, Impact Investors, Incubators and Accelerators. The shortlisted innovators then presented their achievements in their respective panels: Tribal, Rural, and Urban. Each of the panels was headed by a distinguished chairperson: Mr. Kiran Kulkarni on the Tribal panel, Mr. Prakash Apte on the Rural panel and Dr. Vipin Kumar on the Urban panel.
The CSR representatives who numbered more than 20 Impact Investors, Accelerators and Incubators, spent two days with us and gave valuable feedback. Some of them have already started engaging with the innovators.

My special thanks to our partner institutes on NCSI: National Innovation Foundation (NIF) and Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), who were instrumental in the success of this program in all the stages.

The media was extremely generous in its coverage and support of the various programs. A big thank you to them as we present a small glimpse of the press coverage this year.

The centre now has a dedicated team led by Mr. Mandar Joshi to drive the social innovation initiative at the Pune International Centre. The team is working towards transforming NCSI into a social enterprise movement. We are happy to share some elements of our progress this year and look forward to achieving greater impact with your support.

Warm regards.

Prashant Girbane
Director (Hon.), PIC
AGENDA

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

**Day 1:**
- Welcome, Introduction Shri. Hitendra Singh, Fellow, Social Innovation, PIC
- Opening Remarks by Dr. R A Mashelkar – President, PIC
- Key note Address by Chief Guest – Mr. Shrikant Vaidya, Chairman, Indian Oil Corporation
- Citation of NCSI Finalists
- Interaction of Chief Guest Mr. Shrikant Vaidya and Dr. R A Mashelkar with the finalists
- Tribal Innovation Session
- Concluding Remarks by Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Vice President, PIC

**Day 2:**
- Rural Innovation Session
- Urban Innovation Session
- Valedictory Keynote Address by Mr. Vijay Mahajan, CEO & Director Rajiv Gandhi Foundation and Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies
- NCSI Prize Distribution
- Conclusion/ Next Steps & Vote of Thanks
Day 1:
The 8th National Conference on Social Innovation was organized online by the Pune International Centre (PIC) in association with the National Innovation Foundation & Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), on the 4th & 5th December 2020.

In addition to Maharashtra, we received 100 applications of Social Innovators from 18+ states including Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Nagaland, etc. It is also heartening to know that we continue to see healthy participation from female applicants. The two-day conference recognized 18 social innovators from urban, rural, and tribal categories out of 100 entries from various sectors including education, health, and environment.

Mr. Shrikant Vaidya, Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation, was speaking as a Chief Guest at the conference in presence of Dr. R A Mashelkar, President, PIC, Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Vice President, PIC, Prashant Girbane, Hon. Director, PIC and Abhay Vaidya, Asso. Director, PIC. Speakers
including Mr. Shrikant Vaidya, Dr. Kiran Kulkarni, Director, and Urban Development were present at the conference on Day 1.

“Entrepreneurship is not new to India. In fact to quote from the Indian Industrial Commission Report of 1960 to 1980, at the time of best of Europe, the birthplace of modern industrial system was inhabited by uncivilized tribes, India was famous for the wealth of the rulers and for the high artistic skills of our craftsmen and even at a much later period, when the merchant adventurers from the west made their first appearance in India, the industrial development of this country at anyway not inferior than the most advanced European nations”, commented Mr. Vaidya on Entrepreneurship in India.

“Despite having finances to invest in industries, technical support, and availability of credit post-independence, entrepreneurial growth is yet to take off in India. To generate and accelerate the economy and create more jobs, we have to embrace innovation and empower entrepreneurship among locals particularly in the rural areas. For startups today, there are different levels of financial support that has come to provide the initial seed capital in the form of incubators, angel funds or venture capital funds, followed by private equity and debt in that order. I represent the Indian petroleum and natural gas industry and this sector has witnessed one of the world’s most extensive socio-economic reform programmes” said Mr. Vaidya.

“To transform the country into a USD 5 million by 2020 is a big challenge as literacy levels of 80 percent of the labour workforce is below average. We need educational and economic regulations to provide opportunities and better jobs,” he added.
Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar said, “Due to the COVID19 pandemic lots of lives were lost and livelihoods were affected so now it is time to recover and for that, social innovation is the key. We need disruptive innovation, which is sustainable. Young India is progressing now and we have access to talent and technology, which is going to change the course of the future.”

Six innovators from the tribal category gave a presentation on Day 1 (4th Dec) over their innovations in different streams.

Dr. Kiran Kulkarni said, “Tribal are considered as underprivileged in India but the fact is that they are culturally more advanced. In Maharashtra, 9 percent of the state budget goes toward tribal welfare therefore focus on the development of the tribal is very significant.”

**Day 2:**

Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Vice-President, PIC, Vijay Mahajan, CEO and Director, Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, and Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies, Abhay Vaidya, Asso. Director, PIC, Prakash Apte, Chairman, Kotak Mahindra Bank, and Dr. Vipin Kumar, Director, National Innovation Foundation were present at the conference on Day 2.

Twelve innovators from the Urban and Rural category gave a presentation on the second day about their innovations in different streams.
Prakash Apte said, “Article 1 of the constitution says that India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States. Rural areas can be referred to as Bharat as it comprises 70 percent of the population, while the rest 30 percent of the population lives in urban areas. To be able to progress, we’ll have to enable Bharat to connect with India by providing all basic facilities including...
education and employment opportunities to everyone in rural and urban areas. We have to make our social responsibility.”

“I was delighted to hear the 18 social innovators today and the two who got the awards yesterday so 20 of them and there was more than once while listening to them particularly the two yesterday who got the award what that you know, one felt that this is such a fantastic way to apply one's knowledge and one's position in society but we have to hold hands and we have to build as the term you already use ecosystem”, said Vijay Mahajan, CEO and Director, Rajiv Gandhi Foundation and Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary studies while speaking as a valedictory keynote on the second day of the 8th National Conference on Social Innovation (NCSI).

“We must stop material-intensive activities like mining, quarrying, and forest logging and should only promote Green growth. We should also combine matter and energy with information and go digital and stop depending on government for resources for setting up enterprises and rely on own capital, and bank loans”, Mr Mahajan further added.

“I first of all want to congratulate NCSI and the organizers for doing a great job for your mentors Dr Mashelkar, Dr Kelkar and others you know people like Sanjay who are acting as mentors to the entrepreneurs. I greatly admire what you're doing but I have some suggestions as a friend the first is need to go truly all India if you are indeed for national then it can't be a Punecha Mulga it has to be and I am glad there were entries from Nagaland and Tamil Nadu.”
“We need to build an ecosystem for supporting innovation-based enterprises if we have to promote at least 10,000 ideas per annum with that I really want to once again complement not just the 18 who appeared in front of the jury today but there were many hundreds who applied others who are watching and others will try and I want to of course applaud the role of you know of Dr. Mashelkar, Dr. Kelkar, and the rest of the you know people behind the NCSI idea. I must say that I am an alumnus of IIM, Ahmedabad and though professor Anil Gupta was not there when I was a student but I know him well and you know it’s great to see that he was also involved with the NCSI idea and the NIF so it was really wonderful to be with all of you thank you so much”, said Mr. Mahajan in his concluding remarks.

The innovators will be given a chance to join the PIC’s mentorship program, which will help them scale up their enterprises through networking, understand challenges, and assist them with financial support to help them sustain. Pune International Centre (PIC) announced winners under 3 categories including Urban, Rural, and Tribal at its 8th National Conference on Social Innovation (NCSI).

Each category had 6 innovators, out of which 1 from each category was chosen as a winner. The Winners at the 8th National Conference on Social Innovation, under 3 categories included Nitesh Bhardwaj, Founder of Ulgulan Foundation in the Tribal category, Ayush Nigam, Founder of Distinct Horizon in the Rural category, and Shashank Nimkar, Founder of Earth Tatva in the Urban category.
Ulgulan Foundation in Tribal category is working to create social awareness and raising local issues by using mobile films in tribal areas of Maharashtra.

Distinct Horizon in Rural category is innovating agricultural machinery that can double the profits of farmers and reduce GHG Emissions in 5 times lesser cost than solar panels and half the time.

Earth Tatva in Urban category works to reduce mining for natural resources by making products from recycled ceramics under closed-loops zero-waste manufacturing process.

The winners won a cash prize of Rs 50,000/-.
NCSI 2020 MEDIA COVERAGE

The whole conference was covered by various national media outlets. Times of India focused on the attendees, conference and the winners of the 8th National Conference on Social Innovation along with the important message about embracing Innovation to accelerate economy. The Indian Express focused on Mr. Vijay Mahajan’s (CEO Rajiv Gandhi Foundation) message to promote green growth and entrepreneurial self employment.
NCSI 2020 MEDIA COVERAGE

The Hindustan Times focused on the organization of the conference and the partnership of Tata Institute of Health Sciences and National Innovation Foundation. Maharashtra Times focused on the winners of each category, i.e, Tribal, Rural & Urban. Sakal focused on the Mentoring program that the finalists can opt for following the conference.
PROFILES OF INOVATORS

- Urban
- Rural
- Tribal
URBAN INNOVATORS
Name of Innovator: Shashank Nimkar
Organization: Earth Tatva
Location: Ahmedabad (Gujarat)

Problem:
- Every year thousands of tonnes of ceramics from industrial rejects go to landfills. This not only degrades the land but also is a waste of natural resources. As per archaeology, ceramics once burnt don’t biodegrade for centuries.
- At Earth Tatva, we convert this inert waste into a reusable ceramic material. Since it is a material, it is scalable into any desired product through conventional production processes, hence, keeping the production costs affordable by eliminating upfront costs of new technology or machinery.

Solution:
A unique material composition that reduces mining for natural resources by 60% through recycling of burnt post-industrial ceramic waste, made under closed-loop zero-waste manufacturing process, adhering to the principles of circular economy, supporting SDG-12, turning linear ceramic production into a circular process. Essentially, doing more and better with less.

Scalability and Impact:
MVP is ready. About to start production.

Financial Requirement:
Yes
Name of Innovator: Swapnil Joshi  
Organization: Eco Regain Solutions Pvt. Ltd.  
Location: Pune (Maharashtra)

Problem:
- Over 10 million tonnes of clothing are discarded every year.  
- Decomposition of old clothes takes 40 to 100 years’ time span. Decomposition produces carbon dioxide and methane. Methane traps heat 28 times more which is causing global warming.  
- Burning of old clothes also emits CO2 causing global warming.  
- As per a world resources institute report, 1.2 billion tons of CO2 is released into the atmosphere per year by fast fashion industries.

Solution:
Eco Regain is the first initiative in India to Recycle and Reuse old clothes to handcraft new products, inspired by 'Swachh Bharat Mission' and 'Start-up' India.

Eco Regain was founded with a mission to provide a sustainable solution to old clothes waste. To date, we have collected 28,000 KG old clothes waste and have recycled it into creative products consisting of Handbags, Travel Bags, Travel Pouch, Kitchen Apron, Sack, Carpets, and more. Thus reducing 108,000 KG of CO2 and methane emission.

Scalability and Impact:
Currently, 4 Ladies work full time for bag production. Production of 500 bags per month. 2 Resellers in Pune. Sales Representative present in Pune and Bangalore. Collection of 2000 KG old clothes.

Financial Requirement:
Yes
Name of Innovator: Sonal Kane  
Organization: Flip (Quirklabs LLP)  
Location: Pune (Maharashtra)

Problem:
- Traditional school systems primarily focus on academics. Social and emotional learning (SEL) is a key aspect of education that is not taught in most schools in India.
- Surveys revealed that 97% of educators believe, teaching SEL skills in school will improve student behavior, learning, and development; but only 35% have a plan in place for teaching these skills. Further, students with SEL instruction showed 11% higher academic achievement scores.
- Even schools that do include some kind of value education do so using theoretical lectures, which do not create enough impact on young minds. They will be better served if these values were taught by application or experimentation.

Solution:
Traditional school systems primarily focus on academics. Social and emotional learning (SEL) is a key aspect of education that is not taught in most schools in India.
Flip focuses on social and emotional learning. Using our mobile app, students create a crowd-sourced library through which they can request books from each other.
Every month, a popular book is selected, and students who have read the book are asked to present a book review as a team

Scalability and Impact:
The Flip platform was launched in November 2019 as a pilot and was used by over 350 who shared more than 1500 books. We expanded into two more schools in early 2020.

Financial Requirement:
Yes
Name of Innovator: Shashank Gupta
Organization: Nom
Location: Thane (Maharashtra)

Problem:
- Human food and beverage consumption behavior leads to ~25% of the overall carbon footprint and ~50% of the single-use plastics generated.
- Alternatives don’t support the shift in consumer behaviour as they are not experience-driven thus failing to solve the core problem i.e. adoption of a sustainable solution as a habit.

Solution:
Via Eatables, we are trying to alter the behaviour of the use and throw practice and move towards a zero-waste society. Building 100% plant-based flavoured edible packaging solutions i.e. flavored edible packaging solutions, flavoured edible ice cream sticks, flavoured edible spoons, and forks.
Highly customizable, 100% biodegradable, ready to eat baked snack items, thus, food first functional solutions. Via Alt meat solution, we are building a plant protein-based seafood which saves us from mercury, unwanted animal hormones, and chemicals that are used while breeding them, and we'd be saving tones of greenhouse gases, water, energy, land, and other precious resources.

Scalability and Impact:
Currently manufacturing flavoured edible drinking straws and exporting to 7+ countries.

Financial Requirement:
Unspecified
**Name of Innovator:** Purav Desai  
**Organization:** Recube Circular Solutions Pvt. Ltd.  
**Location:** Mumbai (Maharashtra)

**Problem:**
- Currently solving the single-use plastic packaging crisis across the foodservice packaging and the FMCG industry, as well as the issue of crop burning and making quality products affordable & accessible to all.

**Solution:**
Our proprietary renewable material made up of crop waste binders helps us create a strong base. We make packaging out of rice husk, bamboo fibers, wheat straw, etc. We create reusable, durable, and sturdy products that can last longer than current standards.

We have developed a vehicle that dispenses everyday home care & hygiene care liquids without the use of packaging. It reduces primary and secondary packaging as well as carbon emissions.

Our company is built on the lifelong principle of Reducing & Reusing, keeping recycling as the last option. So, from an environmentally impactful point of view as well as taking inspiration from historical data, we are differentiating ourselves from a fad that might not last.

**Scalability and Impact:**
Under Restaurants, our cups are safe to use for hot and cold beverages. They are mainly used as a delivery & takeaway option and are given off to customers as collectible.

Under FMCG, we have developed an Eco Refill truck that enables refills of home care & hygiene care liquids at your doorstep without any primary & secondary packaging and least carbon emissions. We are operating with six different liquids such as sanitizer, hand wash, laundry, dishwashing, and toilet & floor cleaners.

**Financial Requirement:**
Yes
Name of Innovator: Deepak VS
Organization: Tilt
Location: Pune, Mumbai (Maharashtra)

Problem:
- Only 18% of Indians own private vehicles. The majority of India relies on public transport. As cities reopen, significantly fewer people will use mass public transport.
- Trends indicate that many will purchase personal two-wheelers, causing traffic congestion and pollution to rise in cities. This will undo years of progress in transportation policy and worsen the condition of many of our cities.
- 70% of all mobility in Indian cities is to-and-from a place of work/study.

Solution:
Our solution to the problem is to offer sustainable mobility solutions to employees, students, and residents via their businesses/organizations.

Working closely with manufacturing plants, IT parks, universities, and townships, we want to offer shared/rented cycles, electric cycles, and electric bikes to individuals in their communities. We will recharge and maintain all the assets. This method ensures rapid impact as it does not rely on government infrastructure or permissions to scale.

Scalability and Impact:
We have piloted with ~100 vehicles so far. We have had 100K+ rides and offset 120+ tons of CO2. We are live in 3 cities (Pune, Mumbai, and Jamshedpur) working with companies like Tata Motors, TCS, Tata Steel, and Jamshedpur City Administration.

Financial Requirement:
Yes
RURAL INNOVATORS
Name of Innovator: Prathmesh Kant
Organization: Aggois Business Solutions Pvt Ltd
Location: Kalaburgi (Karnataka)

Problem:
- Farmers are often faced with the dilemma of having to choose between higher payments (by selling through the government’s MSP channel) or faster payment (by selling at APMC or local mandi). We’re working on the problem of credit in general and that of post-harvest liquidity in particular.
- MSP channel pays a significantly higher price than the APMC channel but payments are delayed because of procedural and bureaucratic reasons. Our product provides an advance against post-harvest receivables originating from creditworthy sources thereby enabling farmers to meet immediate expenses at ease.

Solution:
Our solution to the problem is to offer sustainable mobility solutions to employees, students, and residents via their businesses/organizations.

Working closely with manufacturing plants, IT parks, universities, and townships, we want to offer shared/rented cycles, electric cycles, and electric bikes to individuals in their communities. We will recharge and maintain all the assets. This method ensures rapid impact as it does not rely on government infrastructure or permissions to scale.

Scalability and Impact:
Disbursed loans to 80 farmers in Kalaburgi worth Rs 24 lakhs (paperwork for about 280 processed). Successfully recovered all loans, zero delinquencies or NPAs so far. These disbursals have been done to Kalaburgi tur and moong farmers in primarily 2 seasons.

Financial Requirement:
Yes
Name of Innovator: Ayush Nigam  
Organization: Distinct Horizon  
Location: Delhi

Problem:
- Urea, major nitrogen providing fertilizer is used in paddy cultivation through broadcasting methods. This method results in high costs and lower output as approx. 70% of the urea leaches through the soil and pollute the soil and water. A few of the major problems can be summarized as a low-income realization by a farmer, increased risk of crops to various biotic and abiotic stresses such as insect pests, diseases, high rainfall, etc.
- Excessive use of Urea degrades soil structure and leads to its erosion and degradation. Fertilizers are one of the largest polluters on the planet, especially in crops like Paddy. Urea run-off in flood water pollutes water bodies and causes eutrophication. Farmer’s consumption, govt. subsidy & import for Urea has also increased.

Solution:
At Distinct Horizon, we have developed the world's first successful tractor powered UDP/FDP applicator (DH Vriddhi) which makes it very easy to deploy urea briquettes in soil & reduces the labour requirement by 60 times compared to manual UDP application. It is easily used with tractors or power-tillers. Hence, eliminating the major bottleneck of UDP spread globally. It can cover a hectare area in just 90 minutes.

Scalability and Impact:
We have developed the prototype as market-ready technology. Pilots & demonstrations have been conducted with over 500 farmers across 6 states. Initiated field trials in Bangladesh Our UDP Applicator has been validated by Dr. Reddy’s Foundation, Tata Chemicals & Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture. There has been a visible increase in crop productivity (ranging from 10% to 60% increase in productivity) thereby doubling farmers’ profits.

Financial Requirement:
Yes
Name of Innovator: Kalyani Shinde
Organization: Godaam Innovations Pvt Ltd
Location: Nashik (Maharashtra)

Problem:
- The social issue that we are addressing lies in agricultural sector. 18% of the GDP in India is contributed by the agricultural sector, it also employs more than 50% of the workforce in our country. Maharashtra is the leading onion producing state. It contributes to nearly half of the total onion production of the country.
- Although this scenario shows a positive picture, during our field research we found out that 40-50% of onions are wasted due to post-harvest losses and ill-managed traditional warehouses which leads to huge wastage, financial losses ultimately reducing the farmers’ income.

Solution:
The infrastructure available today for onion storage is old, made using conventional methods. Most of the crop wastage is during the storage period of the crop. We are trying to convert traditional onion warehouses into smart warehouses to reduce the crop wastage in the storage period by implementing IOT based monitoring solution that monitors, analyses, and communicates in real-time the health status of onion stock. This enables the decision-maker to take informed decisions.

Initiatives like SMART INFRA, GODAAM SENSE, GODAAM ANALYTICS, and GODAAM TALK

Scalability and Impact:
Farmer Implementation: 3 locations - 10 warehouses Community warehouse pilot: 2 warehouses DOGR (Directorate of onion & garlic research centre): 2 warehouses John Deere (CSR Initiative): up to 20 Warehouses

Financial Requirement:
Yes
Name of Innovator: Surender Yadav
Organization: Self Reliant India
Location:

Problem:
- A primary survey done by SRI revealed that 55% of students drop out before finishing class 12th and only 2% finished their graduation with appropriate exposure. No students get landed into the formal Job sector.
- The key problem that SRI seeks to address is the problem of “ineffective school environment and unsupportive home & community environment” which results in poor student learning outcomes and early dropouts of students belonging to low economic sections. Because of this, families who have been in poverty since the beginning could not get out of poverty to date.
- It came to our understanding that children with special talent should get an opportunity to progress at a faster pace by getting quality education irrespective of their families' paying capacity.

Solution:
We aim at providing these talented students from extremely backward areas of India, a chance to receive quality education after 5th Standard.

We have an initiative that focuses on primary school kids of Class 5 of Govt. Schools in Haryana and plans to train them in such a way that they are able to pursue secondary education with ease. The Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas are a system of alternate schools for gifted students in India.

Scalability and Impact:
Currently, we are directly working with three districts Rewari, Nuh, and Jhajjar of Haryana State. Last Year we worked with all 22 districts of Haryana with the help of the Government. Also last year we expanded our work in the Ajmer district of Rajasthan with the help of Barefoot College Tilonia.

Financial Requirement:
Yes
Name of Innovator: Akshay Dixit  
Organization: Vesatogo Innovations Pvt Ltd  
Location: Nashik, Pune

Problem:
- In India, more than 58% of the rural households depend on agriculture as their primary source of income, and 85% of them are marginalized, i.e., they have less than 5 acres of land.
- For a farmer: 10-12% of their income is spent in hiring post-harvest logistics. Purchase prices in the markets are unknown. Demand in the market unknown.
- For a vehicle owner, who provides service to these farmers: 20-30% of the vehicle goes underutilized, unaware of the existing demand in the vicinity. There is inconsistency of income.
- For an agribusiness: Limited to no digital penetration. Lots of repeat work is involved due to manual work. Inefficient procurement processes and farm operations.

Solution:
Vesatogo Innovations has developed 2 products Rural Mobility:
- Togo Model: It is a platform which enables market linkage and better logistics options for farmers and efficient procurement system for agribusinesses
- Farm Operations Management Model: It is a web and mobile-based platform through which the agribusinesses can manage their farm operations; it acts as an ERP solution highly customized to agribusiness’s requirements.

Scalability and Impact:
Vesatogo is actively working with key stakeholders and partners in the ecosystem and is currently handling a daily tonnage capacity of 600 tonnes per day (150+ trips daily).

Financial Requirement:
Yes
Name of Innovator: Smriti Gupta  
Organization: Where are India’s Children  
Location: Pan India

Problem:
- UNICEF pegs India's orphaned and abandoned children at 30 million. Children in India's shelters range from 0.3 to 0.5 million, yet the number of children nationally in the legal adoption pool at any point is barely 2000. Once vulnerable children reach the child shelters, their movement through the child protection mechanism to reach a positive outcome (including the legal adoption pool) is not guaranteed.
- The child protection mechanism across 700+ districts in India is a complex and distributed system with excessive dependence on manual processes and human diligence, which can result in children falling through the cracks and languishing in shelters, instead of getting a chance to reach their forever family.

Solution:
The 5 key innovative elements of our proposed technology solution:
Make every child visible; Ensure complete and valid data; Use algorithms to flag eligible children for the next step; dynamically assist the local authorities in decision making; Real-time dashboards and reports.

Scalability and Impact:
After conducting a study of child shelters in the Pune district, we have produced a report on systemic gaps and corresponding technology recommendations to plug those gaps. These recommendations form the basis of our product, Child Lifecycle Management Solution.

Our next step is to build and deploy the product in one or more districts of Maharashtra (and other States) as a pilot. We currently commit WCD Pune to discuss the pilot with MahaIT (Maharashtra's IT department).

Financial Requirement:
Yes
TRIBAL INNOVATORS
Name of Innovator: Rida Gatphoh
Organization: Dakti Craft
Location: Shillong (Meghalaya)

Problem:
- Currently solving the lack of effort to bring geographic identity for the local crafts.
- There is a great opportunity for handcrafted products that are rare and unique to our region especially under the Vocal for Local movement.
- Some of the problems we face are a lack of trained and inspired individuals in the sector to help in scaling up this venture, lack of opportunity for skilled and valuable talent with traditional knowledge, and more.

Solution:
Dak_Ti products are distinct for their simplicity in design and for creating a natural experience. The same can be said about our design approach. Along with creating a functional product we try to pass along some values or a tradition. All products have natural colours and textures.

We believe in creating a sustainable working eco-system where the gifts of nature and human skill are nurtured responsibly. Our idea is to leave a zero carbon footprint and use clean energy in our production process.

Scalability and Impact:
Currently, we are setting up our design studio cum workshop in the Ri Bhoi district of Meghalaya, where we will conduct much-needed training and R&D.

The Dak_ti production model is based on collaboration with the idea of coexisting in harmony with nature. Our activities are spread across various villages in Meghalaya where the crafts belong. With each year we explore a new craft to expand our catalog and our range.

Financial Requirement:
Yes
Name of Innovator: Sai Krishna  
Organization: Fishy Farmers Pvt Ltd  
Location: Mulugu (Telangana)

Problem:  
- As per a UN report, India will be the hot spot of water crisis by 2030. Our System is addressing this challenge by utilizing the scarce water resources to its maximum potential to provide farmers with a yearlong livelihood through the sale of both fish and vegetables cultivated in the system at 95 percent water efficiency.

Solution:  
Fishy Farmers provides farmers with an opportunity of improving their livelihood by cultivating both fish and plants and also provides hands-on guidance till they are well versed with the growing procedure. Fishy Farmers also buy back the produce to relieve the farmers from the extra burden of marketing.

Scalability and Impact:  
At present, Fishy Farmers harvests 4000 kg of fish per annum and about 2500 kg of leafy greens in the outskirts of Hyderabad.

Financial Requirement:  
Yes
Name of Innovator: Atso Chasie  
Organization: Gei U  
Location: Khonoma Village (Nagaland)

Problem:
- Nagaland is a small Tribal state in the North East Part of India. Nagas are music and art lovers (Approx. two to three members of a Naga Family learn or are music students); however, western influence has overtaken the lifestyle and art forms to a great extent.
- The reason our own art forms were not developed professionally or encouraged, is that many are on the verge of extinction. The music of any region and its Arts is important as it has the opportunity and the need to represent the true values and cultural identity through it.

Solution:
Gei-ü - The instrument is more refined in terms of musicality. More musical notes and a higher range. It has the potential to fit in more music rather than just folk, which in turn would encourage more music lovers to explore.

Scalability and Impact:
Team Gei-ü has a band named, ‘Atso Chasie and the Griots’ performing around schools and colleges, introducing a taste of folk fusion music using refined Tati and Gei-ü along with western instruments. This also imparts our cultural ethics and folk stories etc. Since the inception of the instrument, the pace has been slow in introducing the instrument, due to financial instability.

Financial Requirement:
Yes
Name of Innovator: Adinath Ombale
Organization: Shramik Janata Vikas Sanstha
Location: Satara

Problem:
- The tribal community, especially Katkari Tribe in the Satara district is landless and depends mostly on the fishery occupation. They do very few other occupations for their livelihood needs. The Dams where they used to do fishery, were captured by the Thekedars (Local Leaders). These Thekedars don't allow the people of the tribe to do the fishery in the Dams.
- Shramik identified this, and fought for their rights with the government, and took legal permission to do fishery. But that was not enough for their livelihood. Shramik also identified the other opportunity of the business and the creation of income for livelihood necessities. The opportunity was taking out the honey from the honeycomb with a scientific method without burning the honeycomb.

Solution:
In the Jawali block of Satara district, 50 youths from the Katkari Tribe community were trained in the harvesting of honey without violence from the naturally available honeycombs.

The Product developed was called "Wild Honey" from the Venna Valley region, collected naturally without any violence. To overcome the current marketing challenge, we plan to keep the packed honey at the stores and market the product verbally and in the network.

Scalability and Impact:
Currently, we have reached the local market. We are looking to scale the sale with the help of weekly markets in Pune and Mumbai. We also wish to partner with more stores in cities Pune and Mumbai to increase the sale.

Financial Requirement:
Yes
Name of Innovator: Santosh Phad  
Organization: Thinksharp Foundation  
Location: Across Maharashtra

Problem:
- Poor educational infrastructure in rural Government schools.

Solution:
Providing access to better educational infrastructure like digital learning tools, library, games, computer education, financial support, and creating a progressive and positive learning environment by working with the village community, teachers, government, and other stakeholders.

Scalability and Impact:
At present, we are working with 51 rural schools in 13 districts of Maharashtra.

Financial Requirement:
Yes
Name of Innovator: Nitesh Bhardwaj  
Organization: Ulgulan Foundation  
Location: Dhadgaon, Nandurbar (Maharashtra)

Problem:  
- Every year crores of rupees are being spent on different development projects in Dhadgaon but it is not showing the intended results. Although there are many reasons behind it lack of awareness and low level of people’s participation is a major reason behind it.  
- Many people don’t even know how to take benefits of different government schemes or whom to approach. This also causes corruption. Due to lack of proper communication channel between people and government, many relevant issues get unnoticed by the government.

Solution:  
Aadiwasi Janjagruti makes short films, videos, news in the local language (tribal) on local issues. Our volunteers produce videos on the identified issues of their village. They record and edit videos on their mobile phones using free editing apps. Once produced we raise the issue and try to resolve it through a proper channel. Once produced, these videos are screened in different village meetings using mobile projectors or are shared on different social media platforms.

Scalability and Impact:  
We have a team of 3 full-time members and more than 50 volunteers who cover more than 150 villages. Currently, we are fully operational in Dhadgaon Block and expanding in nearby blocks.

Financial Requirement:  
Yes
ABOUT ORGANISERS

Pune International Centre (PIC)

Pune International Centre (PIC), launched in September 2011, is an independent ‘Think Tank’ which deliberates on issues of national importance and contributes to policy-making in India. Its membership comprises 400+ eminent individuals, 50+ national institutes, and several leading corporate, from all over India and world, who pool together their resources, capabilities, and experience in shaping the papers and programs produced by PIC.

PIC in association with National Innovation Foundation (NIF) and Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) has been organizing the National Conference on Social Innovation (NCSI) annually since 2013.

The National Conference on Social Innovation (NCSI) is a unique platform that gives an opportunity to innovators from every sphere of life to present their Innovations on a national level. NCSI has hosted innovators from all possible sectors such as Health, Education, Livelihood, Sanitation, Technology, etc.

NCSI has largely focused on bringing the grass root innovators to the forefront. The objective of this conference is to be able to connect Innovators with CSRs in order to facilitate their collaboration and in the process help the Innovators gain the assistance and impetus they need. Social Innovation is one of the most potent developments of our times and Pune International Centre (PIC) endeavors to work towards the strengthening and promotion of Social Innovation through the NCSI every year.

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The National Innovation Foundation (NIF)

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.

Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS)

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-centred, 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.