

E-MOTIVE LEARNING VISIT

PLACE OF VISIT: INDIA (JAYPUR, AHMEDABAD, DELHI)

DATE 16 TO 26 JULY

KEY LEANINGS

- Community ownership ensures sustainability
- There should be no charity in the name of development
- To sustain the knowledge and skills within community it is best to identify who will remain within the community
- We should recognize and disseminate extra-ordinary knowledge and innovation of village people
- Non certified quality training is more effective than certified low quality trainings if that can create work opportunities

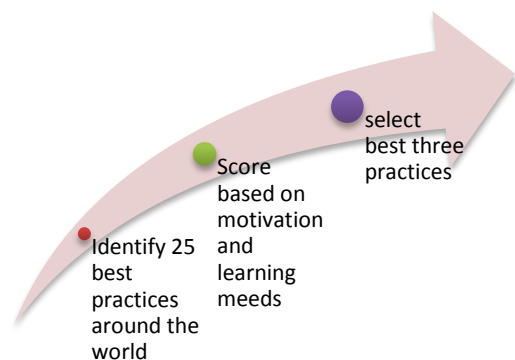
Background

Empower Youth for Work (EYW) is a 5-year project of Oxfam Novib, funded by the IKEA foundation. Within the EYW project the learning approach of E-Motive is used to bring in new knowledge and inspiration for fighting against urgent challenges. The EYW-project aims to create jobs and opportunities for entrepreneurs that are suitable for young people who are living in the rural areas of Pakistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia and Ethiopia. These regions are affected by climate change, which makes traditional agricultural life more difficult. As a part of this, EYW-Bangladesh will demonstrate a model of for vocational & life skills training, climate change info and local job market information. Through e-motive platform three best practices in India had been selected out of 25 best practices. This learning exchange visit took place from 16 July to 26 July 2017.

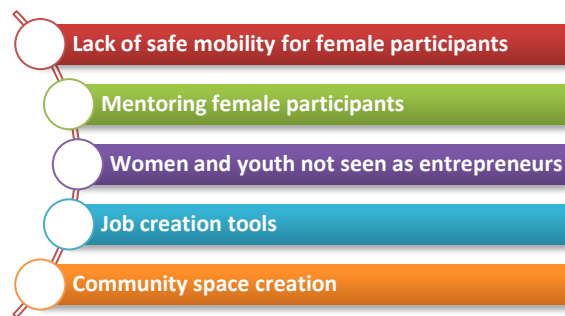
Objective

To set up mutual learning exchanges between local peers from the districts in Bangladesh and these 3 initiatives in India to share their expertise for creating space for young female entrepreneurs in rural areas

Selection of Best practices



Motivation and learning needs



Read more at : <https://emotiveprogram.org/challenge/rural-hub/rural-hub-bangladesh/>

Participants from Bangladesh

- 2 participants from EYW team, Oxfam in Bangladesh
- 2 participants from EYW local partner, CODEC (Khulna)
- 2 participants from youth groups
- 1 local administration representative
- 1 female entrepreneur

Barefoot College (Tilonia, Jaypur):

The Barefoot College (BC), as the Social Work and Research Centre (SWRC) is not inspired by books or by the theories of academics or practitioners based in urban areas. It is the result of extra ordinary knowledge of poor people, hours of work of the villagers and commitment of the women above 35. The areas on which the Barefoot College concentrated are Groundwater, education, solar, medical care, women's programmes, youth parliament, Agricultural extension, handicraft, solar power, animal husbandry, communication through traditional media like puppetry, community radio etc.



Two village women are running the dental unit

Distinctive strategies taken by Barefoot College (BC):

- The main target groups are poor women (mother and grandmother) aged between 35 to 50 because they are the people who remain in the community
- They hire rural illiterate and semi-illiterate rural people rather than someone with degree. BC wants poorest peasants to participate in their own development, use their own knowledge, skills and experience.
- There is no written contract with any staff of barefoot college and they do not provide any certificate.
- BC believes in equality. The interaction within the between the BC and its target populations had to be informal, without hierarchies of any kind. Employees in BC will not get more than 100 USD and the ratio of salary difference cannot be more than 1:1.2.
- They demystify the sensitive medical and engineering technologies like solar panel, solar cooker, solar water heater, dental treatment, medical test, water test etc. in order to make it more human, accessible and understandable for illiterate people. Therefore, the BC does not depend on electricity from the grid but has electrified the whole campus with solar energy.
- To mobilise resources from within the community, no service should be given free of charge. There should be no charity in the name of development.
- The BC had to be based in a village. It could not and should not be involved in development by proxy or by committing from an urban base.

To learn more please visit here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a2JPwotX9hY> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6qqqVwM6bMM>

Honey bee Network (Ahmedabad):



Grassroots innovators are presenting their innovations

Honey Bee Network is a crucible of like-minded individuals, innovators, farmers, scholars, academicians, policy makers, entrepreneurs and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and Government. The Network believes that a knowledge system in order to become sustainable has to be both just and fair. They collect knowledge from the traditional knowledge holders and grassroots innovators in remote areas, the Network has made it a norm to scientifically verify and acknowledge the knowledge provider with name and patent and otherwise if not desired by the knowledge provider. They also do some value addition of local traditional knowledge and innovation and arranges the business case by linking the technology with private sector from which a fair and reasonable share goes back to the knowledge holders. If the innovator is capable to become entrepreneur then they support him or her to plan and expand the business. Over the last twenty years they have

documented more than 1,00,000 ideas, innovations and traditional knowledge practices. This model is relevant as a relatively successful rural financing model for particularly innovative products & services, as well as a way to empower grassroots entrepreneurs & innovators.

Distinctive strategies taken by Honey bee network:

- The network believes that 'Minds on the margin are not marginal minds'. They are promoting, scaling up, validating, testing and sustaining the grassroots technologies
- This network brings together innovators, farmers, scholars, academics, policy makers, entrepreneurs and non-governmental organizations and an ensuing cross-pollination of ideas, creativity and grassroots genius takes place.
- They started this network with like-minded individuals, then they formed an organizational body called SRISTI and then an autonomous body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India formed there.
- They developed a unique model of group entrepreneurship model specially rural women.
- It also invests in high-risk projects, particularly in technologies and products for which either market does not exist or may be very limited. Key criteria for selection include potential returns as well as social impact potential.
- They provide IPR to the grassroots innovators and also do dissemination and social diffusion through social movement, campaign, festival of innovation, award ceremony at organizational as well as national level. Through these initiatives they also create market of innovators' products.

To learn more please visit here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHk9YVjkh7c>, <http://nif.org.in/bd>; http://nif.org.in/sanctioned_projects

READ Centre (Delhi)

READ is a non-profit organization working in rural Asia (Bhutan, India, and Nepal) to build community library and resource centers (READ Centers) and launch small businesses. READ establishes community library and resource centers (READ Centers) by partnering with rural communities, where a majority of women are illiterate, and most families live below the poverty line. All of the READ Centers are owned and operated by the local community. Each Center has a library, computer room, women's section, children's room, and training hall. With each READ Center, they seed a for-profit "sustaining enterprise". Sustaining enterprises range from tractor rental services and agricultural cooperatives, to community radio stations or sewing cooperatives.



READ's pre-school as a part of their for-profit sustainability initiative

Distinctive strategies taken by READ center:

- Every READ center is a "sustaining enterprise" — a small business that creates local jobs and generates profit to support the ongoing costs of the Center.
- In every center they appoint local people and train them so that the community people own the centers.
- To ensure the sustainability of the centers READ creates a management community and different sub-committees in every center with the community people.
- The space for the center are provided by the community and in some cases community people constructed permanent buildings or renovated the old one with the profit from the center.
- They are establishing the centers in such areas where safe mobility is a problem. As the centers are located in nearby areas of community people the female youths can move safely.
- They do not create the job opportunities for them. They provide trainings and mentoring support on different issues and the local females identify the nearby hospitals, industries and other institutions where they can work then they receive the trainings.

To learn more please visit here: <http://www.readglobal.org/our-work/programs> and <https://emotiveprogram.org/solution/read-center/>