



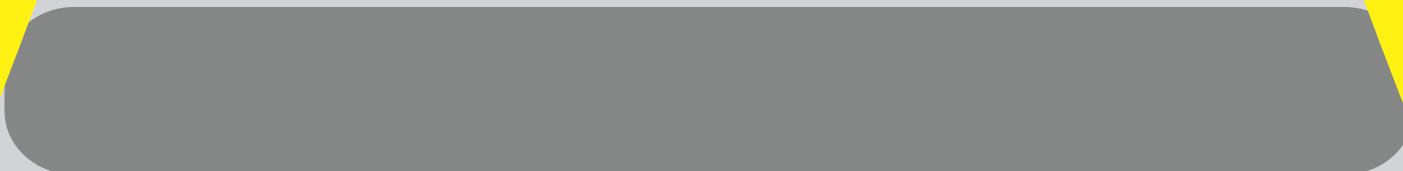
**ACTIVITIES REPORT  
APR 2016 - MAR 2017**

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India remains one of the fastest growing emerging market economies. Due to recent cash shortages, growth is projected to slow temporarily this fiscal year however maintaining the reform momentum is key to stronger growth. India's overall outlook remains positive, although growth will slow temporarily as a result of disruptions to consumption and business activity from the recent withdrawal of high-denomination banknotes from circulation.

But the nation's expansion will pick up again as economic reforms kick in. Creating a platform for the supply and demand side of talent to come together and bridge the demand is the key initiative that FDI took during the year.

India is one of the youngest nations in the world with more than 54% of the total population below 25 years of age. India's workforce is the second largest in the world after China's. However, India's formally skilled workforce is approximately 2% - which is dismally low compared to China (47%), Japan (80%) or South Korea (96%). To leverage our demographic dividend more substantially and meaningfully, the Government launched the "Skill India" campaign along with "Make in India".

During the year we looked at the Skill Development ecosystem in India - the need for Skill Development, initiatives taken by the Government and schemes introduced for skill development by the present government.

Livelihood opportunities are affected by supply and demand side issues. On the supply side, India is failing to create enough job opportunities; and on the demand side, professionals entering the job market are lacking in skill sets. This is resulting in a scenario of rising unemployment rates along with low employability.

 Skilling youth

 Enhancing employability

 Creating Livelihood

FDI during the year ventured into large scale advocacy on companies to spend at least 25% of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds on skill development and set up a Credit Guarantee fund for Skill Development. The Government has also introduced new schemes along with a revamp of few existing schemes. FDI has garnered vast support base for companies to work together with NGO's, Skill development Centres and beneficiaries to realise the intrinsic potential to scale the vocational training amongst youth. FDI also worked closely with media in spreading the government schemes on skills and its benefits for youth. Some of the important socio-economic interventions were undertaken directly by FDI to benefit the farmers and youth living in rural areas.

The Foundation for Development Initiative is a consortium of individuals, organisations and businesses working towards the holistic development of people and communities.

#### **Our goals are to:**

- Promote, Strengthen and Advance non-profit initiatives towards human development.
- Promote Corporate, Donor and Government partnerships with nonprofits.
- Promote Individual Giving and Volunteering.

FDI pursues these goals primarily through network building, interfacing between different stakeholders in the give and take of resources, and building civil society capacities.

FDI, in the past one year, has consolidated its position as an umbrella organisation providing development consultation to its network partners, through project development and fund-raising.

The projects/activities implemented through network partners were selected on the basis of the needs of the local communities.

# OUR ACTIVITIES IN BRIEF

The glimpses of activities undertaken during the year are highlighted hereunder.

## SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

*Over 4,750 farmers were imparted training in leading agronomic practices*

Optimizing the agricultural potential through innovation and creating meaningful involvement of youth in agriculture has always been our core objective and a guiding principle.

We have initiated village empowerment programmes through improved agriculture around a proposed Food Park in Ranchi (Jharkhand) to promote agriculture based livelihood cum employment program. Over 750 farmers from 80 villages in the area have benefited from the program.

To create awareness around nutrient deficiency and pest attacks for crops, we started the 'Crop Clinic Initiative' in 37 villages of Samastipur district in Bihar which has touched the lives of over 3,000 farmers during the year.

In the Rayagada District of Orissa, FDI has been providing practical training to small and marginal farmers of 24 villages from the Sikarpai block to operate hand-held tractors, better storage and market linkages, and multi seed driller for the judicious use of insecticides; this project has touched the lives of more than 1,000 farmers in the project area.

 **SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES**

 **WOMEN EMPOWERMENT**

 **QUALITY EDUCATION & SKILL DEVELOPMENT**

 **SANITATION AND HYGEINE**

## WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Over 3,000 women benefitted from livelihood enhancement programme through Entrepreneurship and skills enhancement

Women in the rural areas of India are financially dependent on their male counterparts and families due to illiteracy and this also curbs the overall earning potential of families.

To address this challenge, we initiated an Entrepreneurship and Skill Enhancement programme. The programme has benefitted over 3,000 women across 40 villages in Jind, Karnal, Sonipat, Hisar and Kaithal in Haryana. The program emphasizes skill development through training programs across dairy, agriculture and micro enterprises with the objective of helping women generate income through development of self-help groups and co-operatives. This has increased the earnings of over 2,700 women members directly. Credit was extended to over 300 women from the area, through self-help groups.

## QUALITY EDUCATION & SKILL DEVELOPMENT

*Over 3,500 children benefitted from our work in education and over 500 youth have got jobs.*

We strongly believe that education has the power to alter the face of tomorrow.

FDI imparted employment linked skill development courses on Quality Assurance and Quality Control, BPO, Sales & Marketing and Hospitality in the state of Gujarat. We also conducted large scale agriculture skill development programmes in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana, Haryana, Punjab and Bihar. These skill development programs have impacted over 500 youth and helped them gain employment.

We also undertook Quality Education Initiative whereby 3,600 children from across 50 schools were taught reading, writing, comprehension and arithmetic. The initiative covered 41 villages in Moga and Sangrur in Punjab. FDI had set up several examination centers in the remote regions of Gujarat where inaccessibility was the prime reason for students dropping out of schools.



# OUR ACTIVITIES IN BRIEF

-  SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES
-  WOMEN EMPOWERMENT
-  QUALITY EDUCATION & SKILL DEVELOPMENT
-  SANITATION AND HYGEINE

## SANITATION AND HYGEINE

*Over 5,000 people were sensitized through WASH program*

Through this program we have sensitized over 5,000 people comprising teachers, children and the community to the importance of sanitation and hygiene in promoting good health and preventing illness.

FDI is also supporting the Government of India's 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan' initiative with important media houses in making people aware on the importance of hygiene through interesting audio visual advertisements.

Change in Infrastructure and behavior are two key elements of our programme. While we have been instrumental in facilitating infrastructure support by the Govt., CSR Funds and like minded partners; we lay our emphasis in behavior change programmes.

It has been observed that our interventions in safe drinking water, sanitation



ACTIVITIES IMAGES