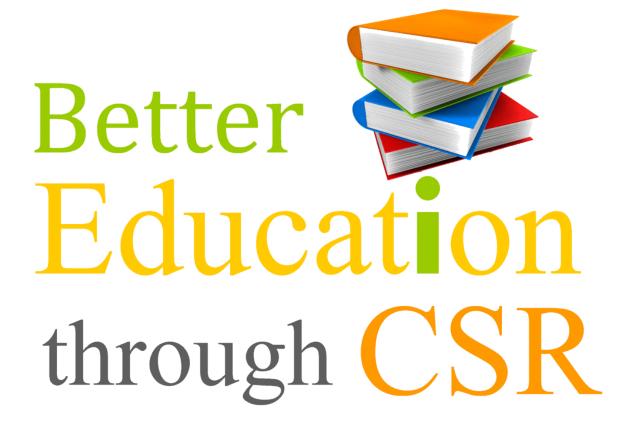
### **Conference Report**

24 February 2014, New Delhi



A conference on the theme of 'Better Education through CSR' was held on 24 February 2014 in Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, New Delhi, jointly by Partners In Change, Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) and Fiinovation in partnership with NGOBOX. The main focus of the conference was on the contemporary and vital issue of engagement of multiple stakeholders in education sector through CSR in India. The forum also deliberated on the matters of quality education and access to education with the help of multiple partners of CSR like corporations, government and civil society and on further scope for innovations. It was jointly discussed by participants from all sectors that CSR in India has evolved and has involved work of multiple levels of governance and policy making. With the advent of the New Companies Act, CSR has found a new meaning in Indian context. CSR intervention in the field of education has been looked as one of the top priorities in the new regulatory provision. The main premise of the conference was to build on new avenues for CSR to work towards maximum utilization of resources such as technology and business know-how in order to build a better educated and skilled nation.



The participants and speakers in the conference were eminent names from government, corporate sector and non-government fraternity. Ms. Chetna Kaura, Chief Programme Executive, National Foundation for CSR, Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) was the Guest of Honour for the event. Experts from corporate sector and non-government sector provided with valuable inputs and innovative ideas in the field of education through CSR. The conference did emphasize on the great potential of CSR in the field of education that can bring forth various innovative and highly efficient models in the way we conceive the aspects of literacy, education and skill. The solutions on how maximum efficacy could be achieved through a holistic ecosystems approach, innovations and dynamism were brainstormed by the speakers and participants.

#### INAUGURAL SESSION

#### **Welcome Address:**

The session started by a welcome note by Mr. Bhomik Shah, Chief Executive, Partners In



Change. He deliberated on the subject of CSR and education by discussing the present scenario of the field where data suggests that still millions of students do not have access to education and a lot needs to be done in this regard. He further discussed about the evolving realm of affairs in the field of CSR in India. He elaborated on the role of Partners In Change as an expert advisor in the field of CSR and further added that in past the organization did struggle in explaining the concepts such as CSR, impact assessment, social

entrepreneurship to many companies but the present context has changed and CSR has moved from back rooms to boardrooms and from grassroots to innovation labs. He concluded his note by welcoming each and every participant to the conference and mentioning that steps such as the conference on Better Education Through CSR are a consolidated move towards better quality and affordable partnerships.



Inaugural Address by the Guest of Honour: Ms. Chetna Kaura, Chief Programme Executive, National Foundation for CSR, Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA)

Ms. Kaura provided an in-depth account of the salient features of CSR provisions in the



newly enacted legislation. She focussed on the role of IICA as a think tank of Ministry of Corporate Affairs. She further elaborated on the role of the National Foundation for CSR as a body of IICA that focuses on the holistic implementation of the provisions on CSR in the new legislation. She mentioned that there are many definitions of CSR in existence but the legislation has a distinctive definition which is clearly set out in the draft CSR rules. She talked about Section 135 of

the Act which clearly describes the role of the CSR committee consisting of at least three directors and independent director. She further elaborated on the draft rules on CSR, mentioning that CSR is the process by which an organization thinks about and evolves its relationships with stakeholders for the common good, and demonstrates its commitment in this regard by adoption of appropriate business processes and strategies. She further elaborated on the role of board through enlisting number of activities which becomes mandatory for the board to undertake. A mandatory reporting on CSR is inevitable as per new rules; the policy should be approved by the board. The board also needs to explain the reasons if minimum 2% of profit before taxes have not been spent and this should be disclosed in the public domain.

- 1. The new Companies Law has a distinctive definition of CSR. CSR in new legislation is described in terms of hard cash spent by the companies in the activities listed in the Schedule VII of the Act.
- 2. CSR is a way of conducting business, by which corporate entities look at visibly contributing to the social good
- 3. Socially responsible companies do not limit themselves to using resources to engage in activities that increase only their profits, rather, CSR is used to integrate economic, environmental and social objectives with the company's operations and growth
- 4. A list of CSR projects/programmes needs to be prepared which a company plans to undertake during the implementation year, specifying modalities of execution in the areas/sectors chosen and implementation schedules for the same
- 5. Focus on integrating business models with social and environmental priorities and processes in order to create shared value needs to be given

- 6. The surpluses arising out of CSR activities will not be part of the business profits of a company
- 7. The CSR Committee shall prepare a transparent monitoring mechanism for ensuring implementation of the projects / programmes / activities proposed to be undertaken by the company

# **Keynote Address by: Satyam Damora, Lead-Family Economic Stability, The Michael & Susan Dell Foundation**

Mr. Satyam Damora clarified the facts about The Michael & Susan Dell Foundation that it is not a CSR arm of Dell Computers; rather it is a funding organization. The foundation has spent approximately Rs, 700 crore in education and livelihoods in India. They have been partnering with organizations such as Pratham, Nandi, Dr. Reddy's Foundation etc. Mr. Damora elaborated the fact that money has not been a challenge but the main bottleneck is to find the right collaboration. He further added that we need to realize the fact that organizations cannot solve all the problems of the society. There is a need to build the internal capability to solve the problems. He focussed on the problem of vertical project and lack of interconnectedness. He further said that the natural owner will have to pick up the sustainability of the project. There is an emergent need to create and validate models through data measurement and assessment. He further focussed on the important issue of cynicism which is there in the minds of corporate and civil society organizations. The need is to realize that they are not competing with governments but are partners in building up of integrated, scalable, systemic change of descriptive innovations.

- 1. There would be serious money involved in CSR after the complete implementation of the provisions of the Act and tangible outcomes would matter.
- 2. There needs to be a measurable matrix for outcomes of the social development activities
- 3. A vibrant ecosystem of third party independent assessment along with the funding organization assessment matrix needs to be created
- 4. The responsibility of businesses is to practice CSR as efficiently as business
- 5. There is a need to get right and good quality people on board
- 6. Co-funding, understanding context, creating opportunities and joint reporting in the field of CSR are very important

# **Keynote Address by: Soumitro Chakraborty, Chief Executive, Innovative Financial Advisors**

The session started with Mr. Chakraborty focussing on the importance of "Better



Education" as a platform of CSR in India. He cited the empirical examples of ghastly state of affairs of education sector. Quoting the data from the relevant sources like PESA/NHDI, he mentioned that it is envisaged by 2020, out of 23 crore of workable population a large number would remain unemployable. He talked about the very vital subject of higher

education and shared that India produces depleted quality of research papers which hardly make approximately 3% impacts on overall innovations as compared to very high impacts produced by researches carried out in US and China.

He further underlined the problems of the approach towards education in India, as the focus is only given on making people literate and a holistic vision is missing. The conformist and compliance oriented aspect of Indian pedagogy does not give scope for innovations. He added that the need is to look into some indispensible factors which have lead to the present disappointing situation of education sector in India, such as dropout rates, quality of teachers and projects not being implemented the way they are planned. He concluded by mentioning the requirement of a close analysis and remedial measure through multi stakeholder partnership for a successful future.

- 1. Innovations in education can solve the problems pertaining to high dropout rates, quality of educators and gaps in programme implementation
- 2. Private sector can bring in the capacity of business functionality into social objectives pertaining to education
- 3. Private sector's involvement into development objectives marks substantive growth in the broad economic avenue of the firm as well
- 4. Making a difference through CSR is not only about money but rational implementation
- 5. There is no dearth of capital to be put in, the need is to bring in the ideas and effective implementation of the same
- 6. There is a need to provide enabling environment to aid the learning process that moves away from conformist framework and streamline innovation providing space/time freedom

#### Keynote Address by: Unmesh Brahme, Country Director, Room to Read

Mr. Brahme drew attention of the participants on one of the shortcomings which actors from all sectors have faced and that is, they have not learnt to work together. He added that education system today has become more of a single line big factory which aims at producing monoclinic robots. He discussed that India has excellent indigenous resources. Harnessing such resources such as tribal metaphors, idioms and creating tools to orient the indigenous population could be great idea. He shared with the audience that empirically it is proven that the three tenets of quality, perception and access to education have not changed much be it the domain of public school or private school. He added that there is a need to mutually learn and co-ordinate in social development endeavours.

#### **Key points highlighted:**

- 1. There is a great potential for change for education in India thus innovations and investments need to be done in order to harness maximum benefit for economy and primarily the society
- 2. Formulation of well defined strategy to change the perspectives towards perception, access and quality of education is required
- 3. There is a need to focus on involvement of trained human resources, and scalable bottom-line
- 4. Coverage of funding through non-competing attitude is the emergent need of the hour in the field of education

# Keynote Address by: Brig(Retd.) Rajiv Williams, Corporate Head-CSR, Jindal Stainless Ltd.

The discussion highlighted on the fact that education is an important facet of progression and directly impacts growth and development. Every corporation has its own configuration and every engagement in social activities has to be focussed on qualitative aspects. Government's responsibility is to protect the society and corporations need to respect the same. Inclusion of 'Shared Values' through getting the processes right, quality of education, improvement of processes and support through technology is needed.

- 1. One of the most important aims of CSR for the organizations should be providing reach out and access to resources and infrastructure to their area of operations.
- 2. Corporations have to fill the gaps in education and skill development to Make local people employable

- 3. Quality of a project is dependent on various factors Access, Infrastructure, Human resource and Technology
- 4. There is a need of providing adequate weight age to secondary and higher education
- 5. Building community relations and opening partnerships at local levels can effectively work towards access to better education

#### Panel Session I: CSR Partnerships for Quality Education and Access to Education

### Moderator: Dr K.K Upadhyay, Head CSR, FICCI

Dr.Upadhyay raised a vital issue of sustainability of any social endeavours. Taking the example of pioneer institutions of India such as BITS Pilani, IIM Ahemadabad etc, he highlighted that such institution were initially opened up by corporations based on trusteeship. The contemporary need is to build up mutual trust to create opportunities in the field of education. The house was opened for panel discussion on how well partnerships could work to bring about desirable changes in the field of engaging businesses

in education initiatives



# Panel address by Mr. Avinash Kumar, Director-Policy, Research and Campaigns-Oxfam India

Mr. Avinash elaborated on the Oxfam India -Right to Education framework. He added that Oxfam works on empowering communities through educating them and making their access to other rights possible. He added that there is a need to go beyond

individual goals towards functional utilitarian goals of education. He further provided the details of the Right to Education Act and focussed on the provision of fully staffed qualified trained teachers which is far from being a reality in present context. He further mentioned that PESA has ranked India very poorly in the education aspects. He focussed on the solutions part and mentioned that in order to build a more holistic, stable, productive and cohesive education arena, there is a necessity to share mutual experiences and build the scope for further experimentation.

#### **Key points highlighted:**

- 1. There is a requirement for collaborative framework, learning from diverse experiences from the ground as to what works with indigenous (tribal/dalit) populations
- 2. Private sector has the advantage and expertise of IT and innovation which should be utilized for development activities in education
- 3. There is a need to start early education for children for better results. The CSR should aim at investing on children from 0-3 years and building on the capacity of the community

#### Panel Address by Dr. Neelam Gupta, President and CEO, Aroh Foundation

Dr. Gupta presented a case study of CSR, partnership, access and quality of a Gail-Aroh partnership project, "Padho Aur Badho". She focussed on the details of the project and mentioned that it aimed to educate children who were engaged in activities of ragpicking/waste- picking. She elaborated on the challenges faced by the project, such as improvement of retention, alleviation of poverty, enrolment and mainstreaming and care and preparatory remedial goal attainment. She further elaborated on the ideas which worked for the foundation to best to combat the challenges. The case study highlighted on the innovative techniques which aimed towards deployment of effective teachers, quality curriculum, engagement of family, child centric approach and integrated support.

- 1. One of the most important aims of CSR should be awareness building among the communities
- 2. Usage of money in the rightful manner and focussing on the area of education can lead to desired behaviour change of enhancement of talent
- 3. Building community relations and opening partnerships at local levels can effectively work towards the larger goals of national integration
- 4. Components such as effective usage of MIS, web portal enhancement, parental counselling, capacity building, networking, strong administration and efficient monitoring and evaluation can lead high success rate in a CSR-NGO partnership project

#### Panel Address by: Lalita Sachdeva, Fundraising Specialist, UNICEF

The panel discussion focussed at the linkages of Right to Education Act and CSR. Ms. Lalita explained that the three year deadline of the Act for better infrastructure, effective teacher-student ratio, quality teaching and learning material and establishment of kitchens for mid- day meals are far from becoming a reality in the present context. She added that there is a need to work together and CSR to take up education investments on priority. The models relevant in the past might not be as relevant today so there is a need to rework at various levels. The problems with CSR projects are that they focus on the implementation of their own education programme; whereas the requirement is not to create parallel structure but support and enhance the existing structures. There is gap in investment on researches at higher levels, which needs to be bridged.

#### **Key points highlighted:**

- 1. Corporate funding to NGOs towards education goals should aim at not only money matters but trust, ownership and enabling environment
- 2. The contemporary need in education is consolidation of partners as one force in creating reforms
- 3. The present definition of CSR has changed and corporations should work as enablers providing technical support and in terms enhancing the capacity of government

#### Panel Address by: Vivek Prakash, General Manager CSR, Jubilant Life Sciences

Mr. Vivek started his discussion by giving a snapshot of the CSR sustainability project of Jubilant Life sciences. He engaged with the participants by raising the matter that CSR spectrum should focus on the tripartite pillars of objectives, action and goals. Providing the example of the CSR projects of Jubilant Life Sciences, he mentioned that the organization works on "impact and influence theory". He further mentioned that the initiatives such as social entrepreneurship and employee volunteer along with CSR have worked very well yielding to desirable results.

- 1. Advocacy, sensitization, community ownership and implementation are four important tenets of success of a CSR project with multi-stakeholder engagement
- 2. The main aim should be to create shared values through multi-stakeholder partnerships and access to infrastructure
- 3. A well thought roadmap for corporations should focus on core competency of the companies that could lead to sustainability along with partnering
- 4. The importance of measurement tools, weightage on community involvement and assessment of processes recognition helps enhance the capacity of a well planned CSR project

# Panel Session II: Role of Technology and Business in Improving Education and Building Skilled India



#### Moderator: Sonia Shrivastava, Head CSR- South Asia, Intel

Ms. Shrivastava discussed the issue of role of technology in premiere institutions on one hand and the struggle to grapple with the provision of primary education on the other. She opened the house for discussion and requested the panellists to address the challenges that arise through the route of educating and building a skilled India.

#### Panel Address by Dr. Anjlee Prakash, CEO, Learning Links Foundation

Dr. Anjlee critically analysed the link between teaching, learning and good governance. Highlighting on the issues of various actors in the state-society machinery, she mentioned that sustained professional development can only come through enabling use of technology .She further mentioned that there should be rational usage of technology. She added that there should be a creation of enabling environment through technology, keeping fundamentals in place

- 1. The main purpose of technology in education and skill development is to build an enabling environment that further reforms the existing system
- 2. Technology should be used rationally
- 3. Research and innovation in technology is as important as technology itself as it further ensures the robustness of the same

- 4. A word of caution should always underline the process i.e workability of technological aids
- 5. There is a need to upgrade the curriculum and corporate can very well bridge the gap. As for example, R&D team of a company and the senior scientists could impart periodic faculty upgradation programme for an institution

#### Panel Address by Abhishek Kumar, Corporate Shared Value, Samsung India

The session provided a brief account on the education initiative of Samsung India that focuses on the enhancement of existing systems. He shared that the organization has adopted 100 Navodaya Vidyalayas across the county and introduced innovative education techniques such as smart board. They have focussed on teacher-student communication and inculcated the habit of usage of laptops to complete class-work and homework. The training to educators has been one of the very important aspects of the initiative.

### **Key points highlighted:**

- 1. Periodic training exercise of the educators in a cost effective manner is one of the important tenets of innovation
- 2. Rural areas need to be on the top priority list when initiation of a project on education is envisaged
- 3. Various mechanisms and resources should be built by keeping the learner and educator in mind

#### Panel Address by: Chitra Ravi, Founder and CEO, EZ Vidya

Ms. Ravi addressed the question posed by moderator as to what the contemporary India needs in terms of goals to build a better educated and skilled nation. She raised a vital point that the child needs to be at the centre of the learning process. She added that unfortunately the eagerness to build resources leaves the issue of requirement of a child unattained. She also focussed on the aspects which are not taken care of while we are educating a child.

- 1. Engaging with a child through child centric methodology enhances learning capabilities
- 2. A learner's profile should be the central aspect curriculum objective aimed at skill enhancement
- 3. IT needs to touch upon new age curriculum to aid better responses of a learner

# Panel Address by: Pooja Gianchandani, Group Head of Policy & Communication and Business Development, IL&FS Education

The discussion focussed on the importance of technology in the skill innovation. It was mentioned that the technology plays a vital role and in the problems of large magnitude. Thus it is important for the community to be involved in the usage of technology as well. The role of technological innovation in youth engagement skill development was showcased in a precise manner by Ms. Pooja Gianchandani. She shared the dynamics between education and skill and clarified that they are undetectable. She further cited the empirical data on Indian labour force. It was added that out of 484 million labour force in India, 40% have not received any literacy, 40% have been dropouts, only 10% of them receive some sort of skill training and 10% reach at a basic 12th grade education level. She added that the target group should be taken as priority and implementer's need clarity on whom they are working for and need is to fast track changes.

#### **Key points highlighted:**

- 1. There is a need to strengthen the demand side of education i.e. employability. Focus should be on employment generation
- 2. Skill enhancement of community resources could mobilize the community to a more evolved state
- 3. The need is to concentrate on local and state centred priorities

#### Panel Address by: Pari Jhaveri, Senior Advisor, Centre for Civil Society

The discussion started with a description on the new model of education which is dovetailed by vocational training. Focussing on the SME sector, Pari mentioned that it consists 90% of informal workforce. There are problems of migration and the core area of concentration should be skilled employment to the people engaged in SME sector. The role of ICT in tier 3 cities has also proven to be very successful. Pari concluded her discussion with examples and substantiated her argument of focussing on the local requirements in the field of education. The skill enhancement and education can go together with the efforts to protect indigenous talents and skills of people

- 1. The CSR activities need to be streamlined in the field of education by adopting a bipartite model wherein educating and skill enhancement works together
- 2. The underprivileged communities should be thoroughly understood in their social and anthropological aspects
- 3. The youth should be given a choice to take life decisions instead of imposing any project on them. The decisions of stay, type of skills one wants to pick up etc. should be completely autonomous

#### Glimpses of the questions addressed:

Some very relevant questions were asked by the participants from varied sectors in the conference, who included members of civil society networks, education professionals, academicians, industry representatives and many others. Selected questions are as follows:

- 1. As CSR is not a match to government spending, how a project oriented approach will ensure that CSR has relevant impact which in terms would work as enabler for the government?
- 2. What is the position of inclusive education and special education in the priority list of corporations when they plan intervention through CSR towards better education?
- 3. How multiple stakeholders would ensure that CSR has a better holistic impact?
- 4. The projects are not time-framed to yield desired results, how CSR activities would ensure the maximum efficacy of the projects and not just be concerned to finish the same in time frame?
- **5.** Will the mandatory CSR reporting focus on the money being spent? How would the impact be assessed for the CSR activities?

#### **Central Reflection Points of Conference:**

- 1. CSR must bring direct benefits to marginalized , disadvantaged, poor or deprived sections of the community
- 2. IICA is creating a database on CSR and IICA certified CSR professionals would be produced who would give the whole initiative a complete professional fervour along with the establishment of Cloud vertical which will have database of generic projects, projects with implementers and collaborative projects
- 3. The onus of monitoring and evaluation of CSR programme efficacy would lie on the respective businesses as per new legal provision on CSR
- 4. The main aim is to concretize the initiatives so that they are more projects based and has a partnership model wherein if one participant has put in money into a project, more money could flow from other partners which could easily fulfil the project goals.
- 5. All companies falling under the provision of Section 135 (1) of the Act shall report the details of their CSR initiatives as part of the Directors' Report in the Annual Report which should also be available on the company's website
- 6. The underprivileged communities should be thoroughly understood in their social and anthropological aspects

- 7. The youth should be given a choice to take life decisions instead of imposing any project on them. The decisions of stay, type of skills one wants to pick up etc. should be completely autonomous
- 8. There is a need to strengthen the demand side of education i.e. employability. Focus should be on employment generation
- 9. Skill enhancement of community resources could mobilize the community to a more evolved state
- 10. The need is to concentrate on local and state centred priorities
- 11. The main purpose of technology in education and skill development is to build an enabling environment that further reform the existing system
- 12. Research and innovation in technology is as important as technology itself as it further ensures the robustness of the same
- 13. Advocacy, sensitization, community ownership and implementation are four important tenets of success of a CSR project with multi-stakeholder engagement
- 14. The main aim should be to create shared values through multi-stakeholder partnerships and access to infrastructure
- 15. A well thought roadmap for corporations should focus on core competency of the companies that could lead to sustainability along with partnering with likeminded actors and stakeholder involvement
- 16. CSR is a way of conducting business, by which corporate entities visibly contributing to the social good
- 17. Socially responsible companies do not limit themselves to using resources to engage in activities that increase only their profits
- 18. They use CSR to integrate economic, environmental and social objectives with the company's operations and growth

### **Participating Organizations**

Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management
USAID India
Oxfam India
Centre for Responsible Business
CSR Expert
South Asian Fund Raising Group
NIIT Foundation
EkGaon
Smile Foundation
One World
Mahindra and Mahindra
Believe India
Centre for Civil Society
Seva Mandir

VANI Tata Teleservices Michael & Susan Dell Foundation **IIFM Bhopal GIZ-RSBY Deworm the World Initiative** SHRI BALAJI ASTHA SAMITHI Krushi Vikas Va GRamin Prashikshan Sanstha **Emmaunel Hospital Association Stones2milestones Eduservices** Jyoti Bahu Udesiya Seva Bhavi Sanstha Pachod Asian Centre for Organisation Research and Development **World Wide Fund for Nature Futurebrands Ltd** Shiv Chhatrapati Shikshan Sanstha **Humana People to People India Health & Social Development Research Centre Trendyworks Technologies Private Limited Anmol Educational And Social Welfare Society CRY - Child Rights and You Rural Institute of Community Education** TISS NCSR HUB **AIIMS** Sarthak Prayas **Charities Aid Foundation YCDA** Christian Children's Fund of Canada **Emmanuel Hospital Association Pratham Books Gene Campaign Preksha Foundation CfBT Education Services Objective Learning Private Limited Synergie CHF International** Amar joti Society, Ranchi Universal Learn Today Pvt. Ltd **IMS Health Information and Consulting Services** Universal Learn Today Pvt. Ltd Ritinjali **Tata Institute of Social Sciences** 

Children International **Pratham Education Foundation BoscoNet** CHINTAN ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND ACTION GROUP **Centre for Environment Education Anglian Management Group** The Energy and Resources Institute **The Green Nest** Pragya **Ujjivan Microfinance** Microsave **Jindal Stainless Ltd Innovative Financial Advisors Room To Read India** NFCSR,IICA FICCI Aditya Birla Centre for CSR Excellence **Jubilant Life Sciences** UNICEF Intel **EZVidya Samsung India Learning Links Foundation** Oxfam-India **Aroh Foundation Centre for Civil Society IL&FS Education Shine Foundation** Mayurbhanj Biological Research NRMC **Ambuja Cement** iVolunteer

#### **Report Prepared by:**

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#### **Event Host and Partners**

#### **Partners in Change**

Established as a not-for-profit organization in 1995, Partners in Change (PiC) has been pioneering the understanding and practice of corporate responsibility issues in India, whilst



simultaneously promoting cross-sector partnerships as a tool to overcome complex development challenges. Partners in Change works with companies, NGOs, business associations and governments for promoting the practice of corporate social responsibility for the all-round sustainable development of the society. We have been Drafting Committee member for the 'National Voluntary Guidelines (NVGs) on Social, Environmental and Economic Responsibilities of Businesses' under Ministry of Corporate Affairs. We were a Steering Committee member for the Planning Commission report on the Voluntary Sector for the Eleventh Five Year Plan. We have been instrumental in designing the Workplace Code of Conduct with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) – GoI. PiC has been working on sustainable supply chain of coffee, cotton, tea and paper. PiC's expertise in organic cotton value chain led to the establishment of Chetna Organic Producer Company.

#### The Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA)

The Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) has been established by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), Government of India to act as a think-tank and capacity building and service delivery institute to support the growth



of the corporate sector in India through an integrated and multi-disciplinary approach. Hon'ble Minister of Corporate Affairs is the ex-officio President of IICA. Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs is the ex-officio Chairperson of the Board of Governors. The state-of-the-art campus of IICA is located at IMT Manesar in the National Capital Region, which was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Dr.Manmohan Singh in April 2012. IICA has been mandated to offer capacity building and advisory solutions to government, statutory authorities, corporate sector, etc. IICA offers its services and advisory solutions through its schools and centres focusing on various aspects of the domain of corporate affairs such as corporate finance, competition law, corporate law, corporate social responsibility, SMEs, etc.

#### **Fiinovation**

A pioneer in development sector in providing research oriented services, Fiinovation not only establishes itself as an integrated solution enabler but also ensures that quality and simplification is embedded in the complete value chain.



Sufficiently justifying its motto, "Opportunity solutions, Simplified." Through the last five years of its research operations they have not only crafted a niche for themselves but have also ensured that the complete process of understanding Corporate Social Responsibility is simplified and is made more consumable both for the stakeholders and the shareholders. The phenomenal growth of the company has been fuelled and catalysed by their exceptional human resource team; the growth has been from a team of four individuals in 2008 to a team of hundred individuals in 2014. Fiinovation takes pride in stating that it has been able to put in place Asia's first proposal research laboratory, which takes the concept research on policy drafting and implementation design a step ahead than the others. A totally separate and an integrated team on corporate social responsibility policy research abreast with the latest

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technological inputs, tools and the scientific research on CSR ensures a near to perfect sustainable, profitable CSR engagement for businesses across Asia and Africa. The strength to design such a policy comes from the detailed research that is carried out during monitoring and evaluation for implementation in extreme geographic and topographic locations. This field research assists Fiinovation in developing a clear and a rational understanding of the core issue on the ground and is complimented by the business research that is carried out for the companies looking at their future objectives and conclusively drafting a design/policy which takes care of the business agenda of the company and directly addressing the core challenge on the ground. The research is further sublimed by the assessment and the rating mechanism that Fiinovation carries out in detail for CSOs in the country who want to engage with any company engaging in effective corporate social responsibility initiative.

With the sector growing at a double digit rate every year, and with the increase in the number of players in the sector which is getting catalysed by the overwhelming prevalence of Corporate social responsibility, Fiinovation is rightly poised to provide its array of research based services to organizations who want to effectively initiate and continue in real terms their corporate social responsibility mandate.

#### **NGOBOX**

As a development sector platform NGOBOX has created a buzz by providing low cost solutions to organizations for their outreach plan, recruitment, event-advertising, networking and campaigning. From job announcements to event planning,



marketing to emailers (1.09 lac NGOs across India), NGOBOX has been delivering services to a range of organizations. NGOBOX is the first development sector portal in India to reach three million marks (page-visit) in less than two years. Our client-list includes WWF-India, IIM-B, NMIMS, United Way of Mumbai, UNICEF, KHPT, iVolunteer, SAMS, Sutra, TERI, Access etc. NGOBOX.org was nominated for 'the Website of the Year' Award in the 'Education and Public Domain' category. For more information please visit <a href="https://www.ngobox.org">www.ngobox.org</a>

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