

CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IIT MADRAS NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE FACULTY COORDINATOR, CSIE IIT MADRAS

Dear Reader,

Welcome to another issue of the CSIE Newsletter! As always, the issue presents a broad perspective of activities undertaken by the Centre in the past few weeks. With an increasing quantum of projects on hand, there is no shortage of interesting work at hand. While the Centre is somewhat understaffed for the scope of work undertaken, it is a dedicated and passionate team that believes in the value delivered by social entrepreneurship, and thrives on that belief. CSIE's current focus is on raising an Endowment that will allay any uncertainty regarding its long-term sustainability. While CSR funds have in the past been generally targeted towards projects with tangible on-the-ground deliverables, the IITM Office of Institutional Advancement is attempting to change that mindset. In the meantime, contributions by alumni such as Prof. Dinesh Kumar Kant and potentially by graduating Classes such as the Class of '84 are enabling the Center to build a sizable corpus. More such contributions are always welcome.

CSIE has, since its inception, benefited from the mentoring provided by a Governing Council. From this issue onwards, we intend to feature one GC member in every issue, starting with the latest to be inducted-- Mr. Ganesan ('82 alumnus). His association with CSIE will certainly make a difference. CSIE's circle of faculty & friends is ever-expanding. Its global footprint continues to evolve with multinational Schools & Workshops. The focus on rural India is, of course, unwavering, exemplified in this issue by a short report on Idea Spark 2019-20. This competition, sponsored by Fullerton India, as usual brought forth a torrent of innovative ideas-- many of which could become the "next big things" with proper nurturing.

CSIE welcomes all to visit the website (<http://csie.iitm.ac.in>) to learn more. Do visit IC & SR to talk to CSIE Staff in person. Take advantage of a vast network of social innovators and entrepreneurs. If you have a socially-relevant concept, and you want to see it become reality, CSIE is the place to go. They'll make it happen for you.

Prof. R. Nagarajan
Faculty Coordinator, CSIE

Head, Dept. of Chemical
Engg., IIT Madras



OUTREACH

International Winter School on Sustainable Architecture. 9 - 14 December 2019

From the success of the first 3 editions of the International Summer/Winter School on Social Entrepreneurship, CSIE embarked on a new theme - 'Sustainable architecture' in its flagship programme 'International Winter School' in December 2019 and came out with enthusiastic participants by their interactions with architects, academicians and entrepreneurs symbolizing Indian architecture. While developing such a tailored programme on the new theme, CSIE was able to tap not only the IITM ecosystem but also the relevant departments of local state governments such as 'Slum Clearance board' and renowned PPP projects in the city.

"It is highly valuable. I was able to get inputs on environmental sustainability as well as architecture and the intertwining aspects of these domains. The site visits are incredible and conveyed us how the traditional housing models had such environmental concerns in the core and how we need to adapt in the current scenario." – **Ryan Mueller, Architecture Student- Swinburne University of Technology**

"Interesting challenges, we observed here in the context of sustainable housing. Tackling the social and environmental concerns along with the individualistic preferences in adapting to sustainable housing was well covered through the field visits. The interactions with the builders were incredibly useful for students. Innovation at India with targets of rapid construction for houseless was unveiled by these exposures. The course content also covered the cultural context and the urbanization led challenges in South Indian architecture"– **Prof. Marcus White, Swinburne University of Technology**

To find out more about the experiences of the participants who have been part of the previous 3 editions and to know about the application procedure for the upcoming International Winter School, please visit our website.

<http://csie.iitm.ac.in/socentschool/>

PROJECTS

Idea Spark 2019-20

CSIE as part of its social entrepreneurship promotion project sponsored by Fullerton India, conducted the Grand Finale of Idea Spark competition along with Shaastra, the annual technical festival of IIT Madras on 06 January 2020 at New Academic complex (NAC) Building at IIT Madras.

The theme of the event was "Promoting Sustainable Livelihood Technologies of Indian Artisans". The main objective of the event was to facilitate technology transfer to the Indian Artisans who lack modern technological support. The participants included students from Engineering and Arts colleges of Tamil Nadu. The jury comprised of faculty from IIT Madras and Mr. Ethirajan Bhaskaran, Joint Director, Dept. of Industries and Commerce, Tamil Nadu. Staff members from Rural Technology Action Group (RuTAG), IIT Madras also took part in the event. The program comprised of power-point/video presentations and demonstrations of prototypes by the student participants. A cash award of Rs. 1,75,000/- has been announced to the top three teams. Details below:

1st Prize - Team Agri Stars, Kongu Engineering College, Perundurai, Erode.

Prototype : Seed Sowing Machine

2nd Prize - Team Kongunadu Mechanizers, Kongunadu College of Engineering & Technology, Thottiam, Trichy.

Prototype : Engine Care Equipment

3rd Prize - Team Inspired Innovators, Kongu Arts and Science College, Erode.

Prototype : UNISONOUS- A Hearing Aid Equipment



Livelihood Enhancement Project at Pathamadai

In addition to the existing two machines, 4 more machines have been installed by RuTAG IIT Madras in January 2020. CSIE plans to support the next cohort of trained weavers with new designs and social media marketing in the next financial year. For this, CSIE has submitted proposals to Government agencies and Corporate sector.



Mohd. Fatima
Manager, Common Facility Centre

Skill Development Project in Nagapattinam District

The first batch, comprising of 21 persons for tailoring and 6 persons for IT have passed out in December 2019. Certificate of completion was issued to the participants in a function presided by chief guest from CPCL on 09 January 2020. A motivational workshop conducted by faculty from Puducherry University was organized on the same day. It is planned to start a self-help group for tailoring based economic activity and also to setup an e-seva center for the first batch of participants.



Second batch of skill training in tailoring and IT started from the 2nd week of January 2020. In addition to the above skills, spoken English training is being given on weekends to the school students and women from the village.

MSDE - UKIERI Building Social Entrepreneurship Capacity

CSIE along with Social Impact Lab at University of Southampton, UK is working towards "Building Social Entrepreneurship Capacity among Technology Graduates". As part of the project, a 3 - day Faculty Development Program was conducted on 25 -27 November 2019 at IIT Madras focused on Skill based Social Entrepreneurship. 11 colleges participated in the program. Various possibilities of course implementation were discussed at the end of the program, and Free Elective and Certificate courses were deemed feasible by most of the participating colleges. CSIE is now working towards preparing and implementing the course in the participating colleges.



<http://ukiseen.org/msde-ukieri>

PROJECTS

Technology transfer initiative for MCRC

After technology transfer of Biochar, SSV Oil Mills have started normal production at 50 Kg per day capacity. Marketing and sales is done locally to goldsmiths and laundry workers. SSV Oil Mills is planning to expand the capacity with more features. A meeting with the vendor was organized in November 2019. The machine is expected to be delivered in March 2020.



EngineeringforChange (E4C) Research Collaboration

CSIE guided two research fellows of E4C in their research work titled "Challenges for commercialization of sustainable technologies". The final report is published in the E4C website. [Click Here for the report.](#)

MoU with Sustainable Livelihood Institute (SLI), Auroville

The centre's rural outreach and livelihood promotion in empowering entrepreneurs derive enhanced realization through formalized relationship with institutes strengthening grassroots livelihoods. The signing of MoU with SLI remarks this with collaborative action plans ahead.



IITM - RWTH Student Entrepreneurship Summit

The "IITM-RWTH Student Entrepreneurship Summit 2019", jointly organized by IIT Madras and RWTH Aachen University brought together young innovators from India and Germany to create lasting connections and to enable cooperation in environmentally and socially relevant fields of action. The event was embedded in a 2-week-stay of students of RWTH at IIT Madras and was conceptualized as a joint initiative by CSIE and RWTH Aachen University, International Office, Division International Strategy.



The summit built upon prior connections between CSIE and RWTH and the two teams of Enactus e.V. Aachen and Enactus IIT Madras, both engaged in social entrepreneurship initiatives, who co-organized the event. An ongoing cooperation existed in the field of biotechnology, which enabled an involvement of iGEM Aachen e.V. and iGEM IIT Madras. The summit aimed at expanding these success stories to include topics like electric mobility, app development, and architecture and clean water and energy efficiency.



Altogether 16 people from RWTH came to Chennai, representing 6 different initiatives and start-ups. With the inclusion of exchange students and guest scientists, ca. 20 persons with RWTH-affiliation took part in the event. Through the IITM-internal network, CSIE enabled the inclusion of outstanding entrepreneurs based in IITM's Research Park and invited senior IITM faculty members. **The summit was presided by the Chief Guest, German Consul General Ms. Karin Stoll.**

Corpus Funds

Having proven with the initiatives on 'capacity building' and 'livelihood promotion' for rural entrepreneurs, the centre has been bestowed with funds from Prof. Dinesh Kumar Kant, RMIT University, Australia, an IITM alumnus of 1982 batch has generously donated to CSIE a corpus fund of Rs.50 lacs. CSIE thanks Prof. Kant for the support and the faith in the mission of CSIE. The proceeds from the interests of the corpus will be targetted towards women entrepreneurship promotion & sustainable innovation imbibing chanakya's principles of vedic management.



Featuring our Governing Council - Series

Mr. Rangarajan Ganesan

Mr. Rangarajan Ganesan is a Mechanical Engineer, graduated in '82 from IITM. He comes with a rich experience of 35 years in Indian manufacturing industries, spanning automotive tyres, auto components, batteries, inverters & Ups systems. Setting up green field & brown field projects and turn around of operations.

In Manufacturing, he has also played a key role in establishing & sustaining a Continuous Improvement culture through implementation of TQM, TPM & Six Sigma initiatives.

Being a LEED accredited professional in Building Design & Construction and a certified EDGE expert by IFC, he is an ardent canvasser for Sustainable Manufacturing & Green Buildings.



Mr. Rangarajan is also associated with PARFI (PanIIT Reach for India) foundation as Advisor Quality & Training, which is doing phenomenal work of providing vocational training & education to thousands of under-privileged boys & girls from rural India. He is also a Project Advisor at Centre for Technology & Policy (CTaP), working closely with Tamil Nadu Education department to bring about quality improvement in education in government schools through technology intervention.

"I am happy to be part of the Governing Council of CSIE which is doing great work in promoting social entrepreneurship through its various activities, especially the "Skill and Livelihood" enhancement activities. It is interesting to guide the centre closely through their journey and see it grow. CSIE has an amazing team and am sure they will do more meaningful activities with a greater impact in the near future" - Mr. Rangarajan

Gallery



Entrepreneurs at the IITM - RWTH Student Entrepreneurship Summit 2019

Gallery



Group picture of the participants of International Winter School



Finalists of IdeaSpark 2019-20

Prof. Gavin Melles, Swinburne University, Australia taking a hands-on session on Design Thinking during the 3-day Faculty Development Program as part of the MSDE - UKIERI project.



Quote

“People have to understand that unless social enterprise is experimental, it will not succeed in making a difference.” – Jacqueline Novogratz, Founder, Acumen



INTERNATIONAL WINTER SCHOOL ON SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Earn &
transfer
credits!



Program dates: 7th dec- 19th dec 2020
Early bird deadline: 11th may, 2020
Regular deadline: June 1st 2020

Course structure :

- Lectures and Workshop
- Interactions with accomplished Social Entrepreneurs
- 2 Field trips to local social enterprises
- 1 day cultural trip
- Total credits awarded – 12

Testimonials :

"The two week training molded me, changed my thought process and taught me why I want to be a Social entrepreneur and how. I am happy to say we started a food business 'Only-Idly' by December and is running successfully."
- Sriram Anax, Participant, Summer School '17

"This was my very first course on SE and I am extremely glad that I got a chance to attend this course. Clearly I have a long journey to travel on this path and this certainly was a great start"
- Ayushi Sharma, Participant, Winter School '17

Early bird Fee: USD 1000
Regular Fee: USD 1200

This will cover tuition fee, teaching materials, field trip costs and living expenses

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IIT Madras - CSIE
(Center for Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship)

