



Building effective entrepreneurship ecosystem through Regional Coalition Workshops

There exists a variety of enterprise opportunities and innovative enterprise models in the rural entrepreneurship landscape. What is missing, however, is support at the larger ecosystem level if these innovative models are taken to scale.

In this direction, the 'Entrepreneurship for Empowerment' programme has initiated an innovative step towards building an effective ecosystem through its flagship event, 'Regional Coalition'. The coalition is a learning and action platform for building a strong ecosystem for micro enterprise development across the target geographies. The aim here is to create a joint group that enables various stakeholders to listen and co-create solutions with a network of partners including representatives of government, financial institutions, academia and civil society, along with entrepreneurs. These solutions will then be prototyped for a large scale impact.

In line with this, as part of the programme, a total of seven regional coalitions (five in Bundelkhand and one each in Uttarakhand and NCR) have been conducted so far. These witnessed participations from over 150 individuals (96 males and 54 females) including local entrepreneurs, government representatives, national bank representatives, technical institutions, industry traders, CSOs, CSR agencies, media and development sector professionals. The coalitions were featured in regional and national newspapers across all regions.

The coalitions have attempted to (i) Develop a learning and action platform through network of partners to build a strong ecosystem, movement for micro enterprise development at Hamirpur (Uttar Pradesh) (ii) Promote a listening and learning discourse on entrepreneurship and job creation with various and (iii) Undertake collective action and influence local initiatives to help communities access information, opportunities, and integrated businesses support services – especially the vulnerable and the marginalised.