



Development Alternatives at the Livihoods India Summit 2019

Development Alternatives (DA) hosted a technical session on ‘Social Innovation for Micro Enterprise driven Livelihood Security’ at the Livihoods India Summit on 29th January 2019.

Livihoods India Summit, organised by ACCESS Development Services, is a national level knowledge sharing and policy advocacy platform, the focus of which is to largely understand and assess the challenges that the poor face in sustaining and strengthening their livelihoods and also to craft a vision and strategy for moving them from subsistence to sustainable levels.

This year DA, under the Work 4 Progress programme, partnered with ACCESS as a technical partner to host a technical session to highlight the need for social innovation based systemic change - driven by processes of transformation that are planned and managed in a participatory and collaborative manner. This session, facilitated by DA, delved deeper to understand this potential and engage with a community of practitioners to throw spotlight on the following areas:

- Disruptive and game changing innovations for unleashing entrepreneurial energies
- Co-creation and collaboration for accelerated impact through learning and action platforms
- Policy interventions that can accelerate enterprise development among rural communities

The session was moderated by Mr. Shrashtant Patara (Senior Vice President, DA). The panel for the session included: Kanika Verma (Programme Director, DA), Achala Savyasachi (State Head, Microfinance Institutions Network), Malini Gupta (Vice President, JCB India) and Vandana Bhansali (Head of Innovation and Special Projects at Mann Deshi). The session was attended by grassroots representatives and entrepreneurs like Mr. Ram Sanjivan Dubey and Mrs. Seema Angad Gavli, who shared their experience. The discussions covered many aspects on the triggers and indicators of social innovation, especially in terms of financing and delivering services to budding entrepreneurs in order to create a conducive ecosystem for micro entrepreneurship.