



BREAK OUT SESSION – DIALOGUE

Bridging the information gap for an effective ecosystem

Format: Roundtable

Background

The aim of the roundtable was to foster discussions on bridging the information gap to create an effective entrepreneurial ecosystem. This session sought to enable participants to cover a wide range of subjects such as collaborative dialogue and learning processes, community situational analysis and contemporary and conventional dialogue tools among others, reflecting on how to unlearn most of what we 'know'. It was envisaged that the session would come up with shared understanding on the necessary processes and tools that positively inform and influence enterprise development ecosystem.

Discussion and Observations

There were two major discussion points:

- *Concrete problems of job-creation and information gaps*
- *Dialogue as a means to effectively resolving these problems*

It was highlighted that most development approaches are top-down and there is a dire need to transition into bottom up approach, in which education has a big role to play. Dialogue as a concept to gather data from ground receive feedback from entrepreneurs and stakeholders was also emphasized.

This concept was taken further broken down into internal and external dialogue. There is a huge gap in the opportunities provided to women w.r.t. male entrepreneurs was discussed and the challenges faced by women were highlighted in terms of socio-cultural constraints, mobility and lack of access to information. The need to enable smooth information flow to reach out to women in rural areas of Bundelkhand and eastern UP. The need for "deep listening processes" to bridge gaps between policies and realities on the ground was brought to fore. Facilitation without orchestration was seen as the approach which would allow for working in tandem with local needs, also leading to a better understanding of **what is to be delivered**. The need to build **networks** within the community, and create local leaders who will serve as **role models** and enforce ownership was spoken of.



Facilitator

Parvathi Menon, Managing Director, Innovation Alchemy

Discussants

Dr. Kanta Singh, State Project Head, UNDP
Shriya Sethi, Associate Director, International Innovation Corps
Sonia Sharma, Founder, Nature Organic,
Samar Nanda, Director, MSME,
Ashutosh Garg, Founder, Guardian Lifecare,
Varun Kashyap, Co-founder, letsendorse,
Varun Arya, Director, Aravali Institutions,
Shailja Ranganjan, Founder and Director, Rimaged,
Jai Kumar Gaurav, Sr. Manager, GIZ
Dr. Pallavi Tak, Co-Founder, Start up Oasis,
Prema Gera, Independent Development Consultant
Anuj Srivastava, Founder, SVSS
Avanish Kumar, CEO, PRERANA
Dr. Meenakshi Mittal, Associate Professor, Delhi University