

Work4Progress Annual Conference 2023



DA Team along with members of W4P Global Network

Development Alternatives (DA) presented their work in the area of Inclusive Entrepreneurship at the Work4Progress (W4P) Annual Conference in Barcelona, Spain. The Conference was held from 9th to 11th October and brought together more than 15 organisations who are a part of W4P Global Network and other initiatives supported by "la Caixa" Foundation.

Work4Progress is a flagship programme of Development Alternatives, supported by "la Caixa" Foundation that focuses on creating dignified and meaningful livelihood opportunities for marginalised women and youth in rural India through entrepreneurship development.

Being the oldest W4P network globally, DA shared their learning, achievement, and challenges from applying social innovation approach for entrepreneurship, and how it has enabled creation of dignified jobs for more than 20,000+ individuals in the last 3 years. DA's core partners in the W4P programme, Rang De and Transform Rural India, were also a part of the Conference and shared their work in the area of enabling access to affordable credit to entrepreneurs through peer-to-peer lending and leveraging government institutions and infrastructure for mainstreaming of the social innovation approach, respectively.

At the Conference, Shrashtant Patara, CEO, Development Alternatives, was part of a round table titled "Key aspects and challenges of systemic change", wherein he shared insights on achieving scale through a systems change lens. He highlighted "to truly drive change, we must commit deeply to systemic transformation, delving into root causes rather than rushing into solutions".

Additionally, Kanika Verma, Lead - Green and Inclusive Entrepreneurship and Associate Vice President, DA, shared insights from application of the unique social innovation approach for entrepreneurship, in a session titled " Group sensemaking and group co-creation". The session was attended by more than 25 people from Spanish NGOs supported by "la Caixa" Foundation, who are working in diverse areas of education, skill development and entrepreneurship, with an objective to enable them to adopt social innovation tools and methodology in different contexts.



Session in progress



DA with representatives from partner organisations from India

The Conference presented an unparalleled opportunity to learn from the experiences of other organisations that are a part of the W4P network in Peru, Mozambique and Columbia and explore opportunities for collaboration.