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2021 Leadership Programme

'Climate Change: Global issues, local actions and transdisciplinary solutions'

Post-assignment

More than ever, because of the increasing economic and habitat impact, the world is taking note of climate change. However, the globally committed mitigation and adaptation actions fall short of limiting warming well below 1.5°C from pre-industrial levels and the responsibility is with everyone today to take substantial climate actions.

Most policy and organisational measures announced to tackle climate change need amplified focus on enhancing their plans to focus on long-term outcomes aligned with the global climate change agenda. Following this, subsequent grassroots actions are required which collaboratively supports regional stakeholders including rural populations, civil societies and MSMEs. Finally, to support the entire ecosystem of climate action there is a significant need to mobilize climate finance, which can enhance entrepreneurship and the adoption of sustainable technologies.

To address these needs a bottom-up community-driven approach can be catalysed to create climate change awareness and support regional climate action projects. This can directly support the affected stakeholders and support regional micro-entrepreneurial ventures. The following section highlights the short and long term actions to mobilise this project.

Short Term

Duration: 1 to 2 years

In the short term, I would work with the rural communities to create awareness about climate change and support community projects for climate action. The short term focus will be on single or specific regions as pilots. The broad focus areas will be:

- **Identify and Understand Stakeholder**: Understanding the rural sector needs based on a demographic assessment and customising an awareness creation program for the region.

- **Identify and Map the Program Challenges**: Collaborating with the relevant stakeholders (civil society, MSMEs, NGOs, residents, etc.) to brainstorm program challenges and identify relevant mitigation techniques.

- **Develop Community Participation Models**: Develop participation programs such as skill development training, technology sessions etc.

- **Identify Value Streams**: Identification of emerging employment opportunities mapped to the skill development cycle. Further, leveraging design thinking approach to encourage rural population to launch their ventures.

- **Develop Financing Mechanisms**: Developing an open database of the projects, detailed project reports and funding needs to develop visibility for the financiers. Further, promoting accessibility by mobilising development aid funds.

- **Measure, Learn and Adapt**: Identify challenges and failures in the project lifecycle. Lessons learnt will be fed back into the model improving efficiency through an iterative learning model.

Impact: The targeted impact for the short term will be develop a scalable program which can support rural stakeholders through awareness creation, skill development, and entrepreneurship.

Long Term

Duration: Beyond 2 years

In the long term, the focus will be on expanding the pilot areas. To scale up the projects various regions can be assessed and collaborated for technology and skills transfer through an interlinked collaboration chain. For example, the skills and technology developed in village 1 can be expanded into village 2 with the support of the beneficiaries of village 1. Simultaneously, aggregating projects and detailed project reports on the open database to provide financiers better visibility and easy access to the rural projects.

Impact: The targeted impact for the long term will be a functional database providing improved visibility of the rural projects, and better access to financing and technical markets.