

Annual Report 2022-2023

**FAIR TRADE
FORUM
INDIA**



The National Network for Fair Trade in India





Rajesh Kumar

President

Dear Members and Stakeholders,

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for Fair Trade Forum India (FTF-I) for the year 2023, a testament to our collective resilience, organizational stability, and unwavering commitment to promoting fair trade principles. In the face of unprecedented challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, FTF-I has not only weathered the storm but emerged stronger and more focused on its mission.

Recovery from Post-COVID Challenges:

The past year has been marked by our steadfast efforts to recover from the challenges posed by the global pandemic. With the dedication of our member organizations and the tireless work of the Executive Council, FTF-I successfully navigated the complexities of the post-COVID landscape. Through innovative strategies and collaborative initiatives, we adapted to the new normal, ensuring that fair trade continued to thrive in India.

Organizational Stability:

I am pleased to report that FTF-I has achieved remarkable organizational stability despite the uncertainties of the past year. This achievement is a testament to the resilience of our organization, the support of our member organizations, and the strategic guidance of the Executive Council. The robust financial health of FTF-I allows us to continue our vital work in promoting fair trade practices across the country.

Reconnecting with Member Organizations:

One of our key priorities has been to strengthen our ties with member organizations. Through concerted efforts, we have successfully reconnected with our diverse network of members, fostering a sense of solidarity and shared purpose. This re-engagement has not only revitalized our community but also paved the way for collaborative initiatives that will shape the future of fair trade in India.

MOU with MS University, Vadodara:

A significant milestone for FTF-I this year was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with MS University, Vadodara. This collaboration opens new avenues for research, education, and advocacy in the field of fair trade. We are confident that this partnership will contribute to the academic and practical aspects of fair trade in India.

Facing Future Challenges Together:

Looking ahead, we recognize the looming challenges of a global economic slowdown, shrinking markets, and geopolitical tensions. The war in the Middle East and the Ukraine-Russia conflict are intimidating factors. However, I firmly believe that together, in solidarity, we can overcome these challenges. Our strength lies in unity, and by facing these challenges head-on, we can continue to build a fair and just trade system in India.

Acknowledgments:

I extend my sincere thanks to all member organizations for their unwavering support and commitment to the principles of fair trade. Your dedication has been instrumental in our collective success. I would also like to express my gratitude to the Executive Council for their leadership and strategic vision. The tireless efforts of the FTF-I National Secretariat staff have been pivotal in realizing our goals, and their commitment deserves our highest appreciation.

As we reflect on the achievements of the past year, let us look ahead with optimism and continue our journey toward a fair and equitable trade system in India.

In closing, let us reaffirm our commitment to fair trade principles and approach the future with resilience, optimism, and a united front.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Rajesh Kumar
President, Fair Trade Forum India



Anurag Mittal

SECRETARY

Dear Esteemed Members and Supporters,

As we reflect on the challenges and triumphs of the past year, it is my honor to share the strides made by the Fair Trade Forum in 2023. The global upheaval caused by the pandemic tested our resilience, yet our commitment to fair trade principles remained unwavering. The operational recovery from the Covid fallout stands as a testament to our collective dedication. We navigated uncertainty with adaptability, ensuring continued support for fair trade producers and communities amidst unprecedented disruptions.

The successful implementation of the STREE programs stands as a beacon of empowerment. These initiatives have not only empowered women but also fostered sustainable growth, amplifying our impact within local communities.

Reviving the membership at FTF-I was a pivotal milestone. Reinvigorating engagement and collaboration among our esteemed members has fortified our foundation, fostering a stronger, more inclusive fair trade community. Looking ahead, the horizon brims with promise. Future collaborations beckon, promising innovative partnerships that will propel our mission forward. Embracing these opportunities, we aim to forge alliances that amplify our impact and broaden our reach, embodying the spirit of solidarity at the heart of fair trade.

Furthermore, the exploration of new project possibilities ignites our collective imagination. These ventures hold the potential to carve new paths, ensuring a more sustainable and equitable future for all stakeholders involved. As we compile the Annual Report for 2023, it is with a sense of pride and gratitude that I commend the unwavering dedication of our members, partners, and supporters. Together, we have weathered storms, celebrated victories, and emerged stronger, guided by the ethos of fairness and solidarity.

With warm regards,

Anurag Mittal
Secretary
Fair Trade Forum – India

Key Program Activities of 2022

Community Level Workshops

Community Facilitators conducted community-level workshops on design thinking workshops in their artisan community groups across India. Each community facilitator will facilitate learning for 40-50 women artisans in their respective communities. A total of 65 community-level workshops were conducted.



Glimpses of community-level training



Key Program Activities of 2022

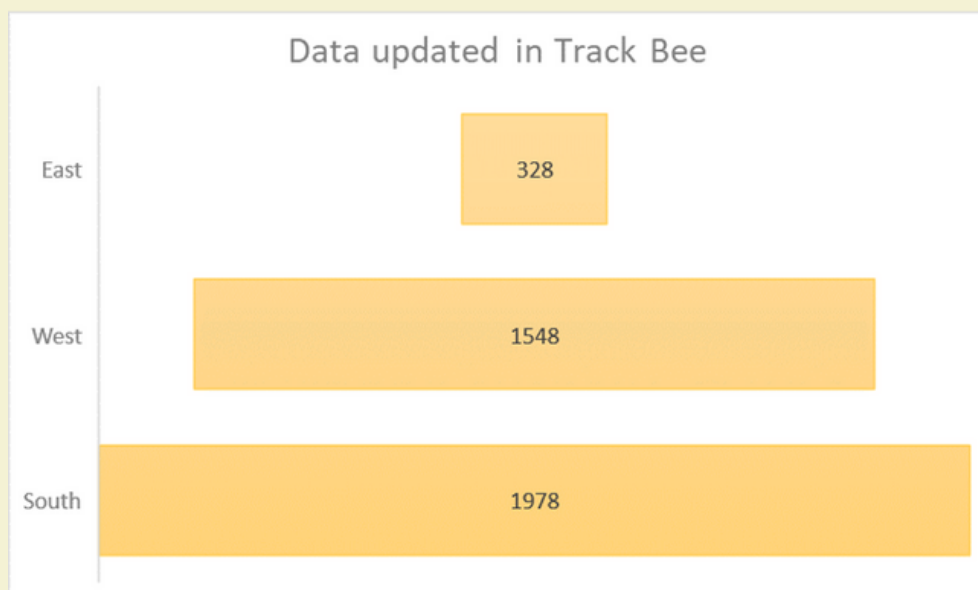
Artisans Trained

The Design Thinking and Product Innovation Workshop along with community-level workshops and online mentoring, 1469 artisans reached out to this year. The final pending workshops and mentoring are underway this year to reach 10,000 women artisans across India



Digitization of Artisan's Data

In a unique attempt to systematize & and digitize the socio-economic data of the artisan community, an application was built – Track Bee App. This application will also help evaluate the STREE project at its completion. This year data of 3854 artisans were uploaded reaching a total of 8299 women artisan's data.



Key Program Activities of 2022

Training of CSOs on organizational development, leadership, and group cohesiveness in New Delhi

A 3-days workshop was organized in New Delhi on Organizational Development, Leadership, and group cohesiveness for the CSOs under STREE. 20 CSOs from the Northern region participated and are part of the STREE project. It emphasized the bettering of management leadership to empower the organization and its staff to be more resilient to face the changing policies, social discourse, and funding processes.



Key Program Activities of 2022

National Convention 2022- Agra, Uttar Pradesh

National Convention 2022 was held in Agra, Uttar Pradesh, from 10th to 12th November 2023. The Annual General Meeting for Fair Trade Forum India was held on 12th November in Clarks Shiraz, Agra. It was attended by the Board Members, Staff, trainers, and Member Organization.

The agenda of the National Convention was to present updates on different projects and activities of the FTF-i.



Clear Vision India 2022

Fair Trade Forum- India collaborated with Vision Spring Foundation for eye screening of up to 50000 Artisans and Weavers across India in the operation areas of member organisations and providing eyeglasses to those who require them.

The partnership was launched at India Habitat Centre on 29th March, 2022 in the presence of Ella Gudwin- CEO, VisionSpring, Anshu Taneja- Country Director, Ms. Moon Sharma-Treasurer, FTF-I and Mr. Anchal Kumar- Executive Director, FTF-I during the Clear Vision India 2022.

Swavlamban Project

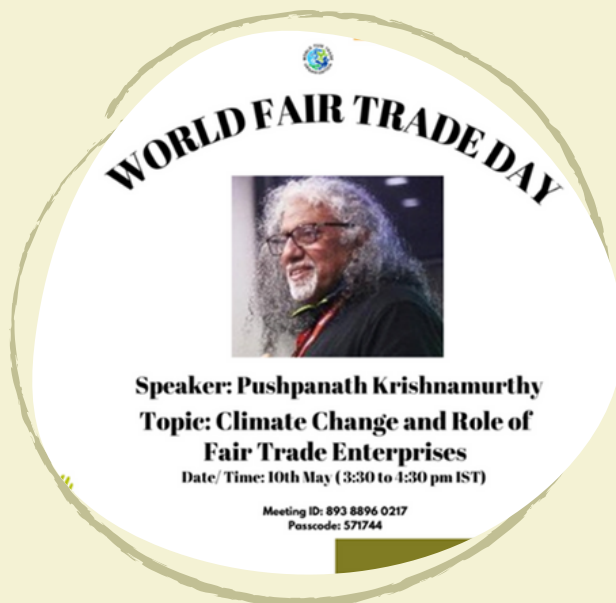
Fair Trade Forum India, supported by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) launched Project- Swavlamban-Self Reliance support to refugee men and women. Under the project, the FTF-I worked towards broadening the protection space for the refugees protected under the mandate of UNHCR India, by generating livelihood opportunities in the local economy.



Key Program Activities of 2022

Webinar on Climate Change and the Role of Fair Enterprises

On the occasion of World Fair Trade Day in May 2022, Fair Trade Forum India organized an interactive webinar on Climate Change and the Role of Fair Enterprises. The Key Speaker for the occasion was Mr Pushpanath Krishnamurthy, who was the key speaker of the webinar. He is well-known for his advocacy of social justice and the eradication of poverty.



Webinar on Environment and Climate Justice

FTF-I hosted a webinar entitled "Environment and Climate Justice: Perspectives from Fair Trade Enterprises" on June 10, 2022. The speakers were Dr K. Panchaksharam- President, FTF-I, Indro Dasgupta- Board Member, WFTO, Leida Rijnhout- Chief Executive, WFTO, and Mansoor Lari- Kalatmak Handicrafts.

Campaign for Fashion Revolution

Revolution Week is our annual campaign bringing together the world's largest fashion activism movement for seven days of action. This year, we collectively organized a digital campaign from 18 – to 24th of April 2022 for an equitable fashion system for people and the planet along with the support of our member organizations.



Key Program Activities of 2022

Capacity Building on Digital Marketing Workshop in New Delhi

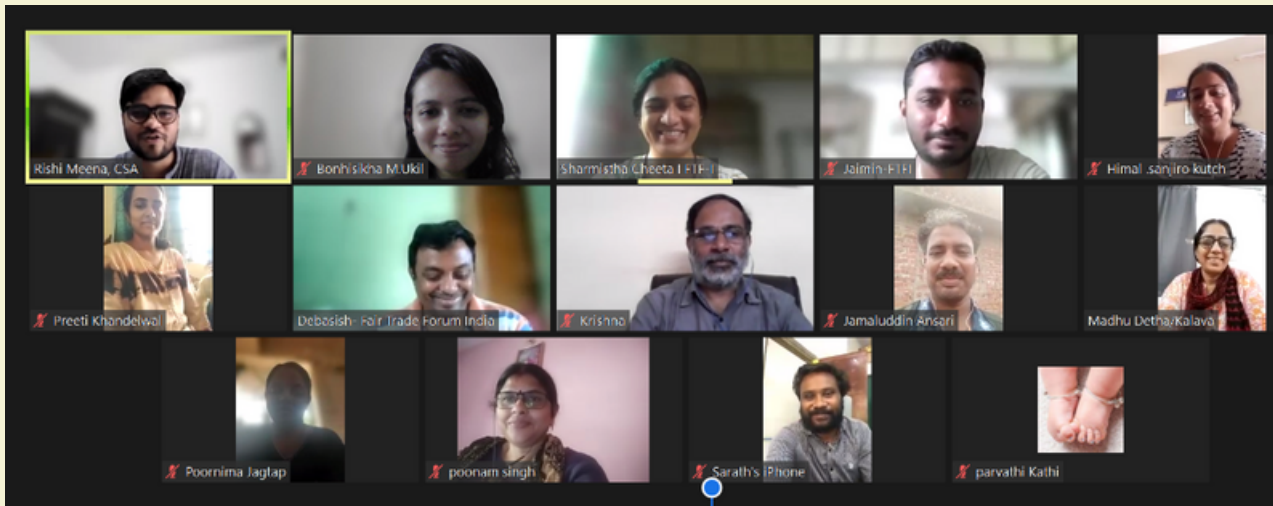
A 1- day workshop was organized for the marketing officers/managers of the CSOs under STREE in New Delhi. 12+ CSOs under the STREE participated in the workshop. It was aimed to give a clear understanding of the building blocks that constitute digital marketing, to develop cohesive market strategies, and to prepare and execute effective digital marketing campaigns.



Key Program Activities of 2022

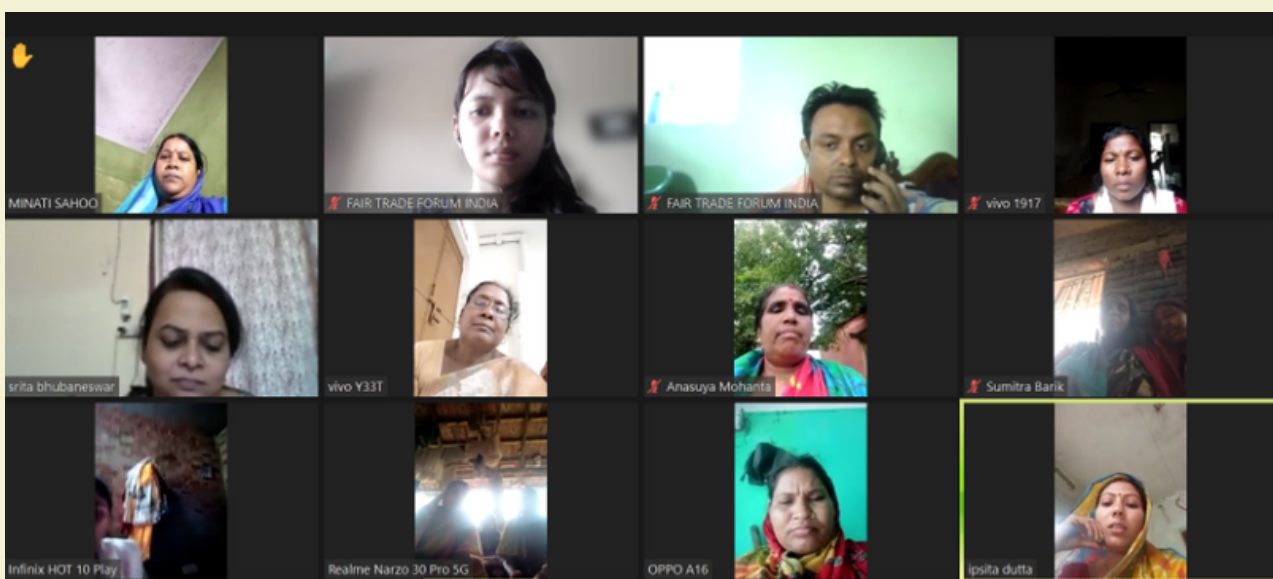
Mentoring Sessions of Master Trainers

Online mentoring sessions and a refresher session were held for the Master Trainers under the STREE project by Civil Society Academy.



Online Mentoring Sessions of CFs

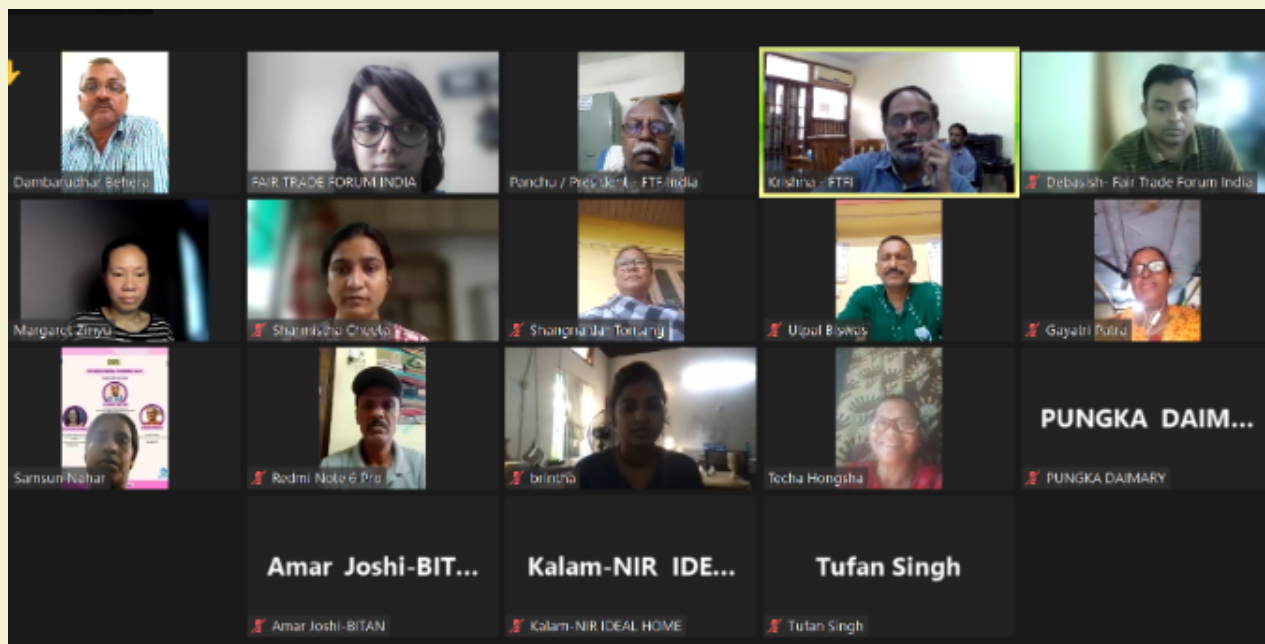
Community Facilitators received mentoring and refresher training through online platforms after completing their 3-day residential trainings.



Key Program Activities of 2022

Interaction meetings with CSOs & Member Organizations

Dr. K. Panchaksharam, President, FTFI, interacted with all CSOs of the 4 regions under STREE through online platform to better understand the needs and hopes of the CSOs from the project.



Meeting on Annual Progress & Planning for no-cost Extension

A meeting was held in New Delhi in July to review the progress of the project STREE as well as planning for the no-cost extension of the project. The meeting was attended by Mr. Pattabiraman Subramanian, Senior Programme Manager – International Co-operation, Delegation of the European Union to India, the Executive Council of FTFI and all its team members.



Regional Exhibitions

Surat

Dharohar Foundation and Banyan Tree participated in five days of national level exhibitions in Surat, Gujarat from 15th to 19th September 2022 organized by Craftroots. Craftroots organized the exhibition with 70+ artisans who participated with 60+ crafts in Surat Gujarat. The exhibition provided an opportunity to STREE artisans to showcase their products and receive exposure to customer interaction.



Ahimsa Santhai









Ahimsa Santhie was a 5 day flagship event of Nonviolent Economy Network. The Santhie was an example of showcasing socially – equitable & environmentally – conscious enterprise & livelihood models in south India that also inspire peaceful coexistence. 8 CSO's from the STREE project participated & showcased their product in this event.



International Women's Day

FTF-I welcomed and celebrated 2022 International Women's Day by drawing on WFTO's IWD theme #SheLeadsTheWay. FTF-I identified 8 women leaders across its network organizations in India and interviewed them, which went onto all major social media platforms and gained popularity within the larger fair trade community.

On International Women's Day, we hosted a successful webinar graced by our three eminent panelists, R. Alice Vaz- IAS (Chief Guest), Roopa Mehta - WFTO President and CEO of Sasha Association for Craft Producers followed by Prof. Anjali Karolia - Director Institute of Fashion Technology and Dean of Faculty of Family and Community Sciences, The MS University of Baroda. Smriti Kedia, CEO of Sadhna and member of the FTF- I executive council, effectively moderated the webinar.

1ST MARCH 2022	2ND MARCH 2022	3RD MARCH 2022	4TH MARCH 2022	5TH MARCH 2022	6TH MARCH 2022	7TH MARCH 2022	8TH MARCH 2022
							
Laxmi Sisodia CEO-Dharohar Craft	Deepa John Community Facilitator-Street Project	Rozina Suleman FOUNDER CEO- Powher	Gayatri Patra ASST SECRETARIAT - CSWS	Souvenir Duidang FIELD COORDINATOR- Hao Craft	Sunita Kashyap FOUNDER - Mahila Umang Producers	Mayura Balasubramanian- FOUNDER- Craftizen	Roopa Mehta- PRESIDENT- WFTO

Social Transformation and Economic Empowerment of Women Artisans in India (STREE) Program

The STREE Project, a joint partnership between FTF-I and the European Union, is a PAN India program implemented in collaboration with 100 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Member Organizations of the Fair Trade Forum-India (FTF-I).

The STREE Project envisions empowering and strengthening 10,000 women artisans by enabling them to achieve sustainable livelihoods while preserving traditional handicrafts and contributing to broader development goals. The project aims to increase the participation of CSOs, especially women-led CSOs, in advocating supportive economic and trade policies for traditional handicraft products.

There are two groups of participants involved in this project:

Community Facilitators/Master Trainers:

These individuals receive specialized training and in passing on their knowledge and skills to a broader group of artisans.

Women Artisans:

They are the direct beneficiaries of the project. They receive training and support from the community facilitators/master trainers.

The STREE Project is achieved through different program interventions-

1. Capacity Building of Women Artisans
2. Empowering and Strengthening of CSOs
3. Last Mile Market Linkages for Artisans and CSOs
4. Policy and Advocacy Interventions for the Craft Sector



1. Capacity Building of Women Artisans

Under the STREE Project, the capacity building of the women artisans is done by providing them with training assistance on different subjects- Design Solutions, Creative Product Development, Digital Marketing, Branding, Computer and Financial Literacy, and Communication and Storytelling Skill development. It is provided via Community Facilitators Training and Community Level Training.

a. Community Facilitators Training using a Cascade Model:

This training model involves a “Train the Trainer” approach, where master trainers receive training and further disseminate the knowledge and skills to a larger group of artisans. This cascade process helps empower artisans to participate in scaling up their enterprises by building their capacity is a strategic move toward sustainable development.

b. Community-Level Training:

The trained community facilitators conduct workshops at the grassroots level directly with the artisans to educate them on design thinking, digital marketing strategies, financial literacy, and effective marketing techniques. They help artisans to understand how to manage their internal systems efficiently and align production with market demands.



Community Facilitator's Training Program

Integrated Capacity Building Training Program in Agra Uttar Pradesh from 24th to 26th July, 2023

Location- Agra, UP

The Community Facilitator's Training program was held in Agra, Rajasthan from 24th to 26th July, 2023. This initiative aimed to empower women artisans in handicraft organizations by educating them on consumer-centric product creation techniques utilizing design thinking tools. The training was additionally designed to improve their knowledge of digital marketing, communication, and financial literacy.

The objectives of the training were:

Comprehensive Understanding: To assist participants, in grasping various aspects essential for running a successful craft enterprise, and understanding the interdependence of these aspects.

Community Facilitator Training: To provide community facilitators with the required skills and knowledge to allow them to replicate their learning. This entailed allowing them to give training sessions in their communities, so improving the lives of the people with whom they worked.

The initiative sought to empower not just the women artisans but also the community facilitators by achieving these goals, resulting in a positive influence on the local handicraft sector and the communities involved.



Community Facilitator's Training Program

Community Workshop Training in Udaipur, Rajasthan from 26th to 28th October 2023

Fair Trade Forum India organized a Community Workshop Training from 26th to 28th October 2023 in Udaipur, Rajasthan. The workshop was conducted on the "Design thinking process", emphasizing "Designing, Financial Literacy, and Digital Marketing". The training program was attended by 30 women artisan leaders.

The women artisans through the workshop enhanced their capacities by gaining insights into design thinking, financial literacy, and digital marketing. Additionally, fostering skills among women artisans can lead to increased financial independence, improved entrepreneurship, and a positive impact on the local economy.

The five phases of design thinking—empathize, define, innovate, prototype, and test—were covered in the session. It gave a clear grasp of how this method of problem-solving is user-centered.



Community level training

Mahila Patchwork- community level workshop

Community Workshop Training Sessions, Ahmedabad

Community Workshop Training Sessions that were conducted on August 21st, 22nd, and 23rd, 2023 in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. The workshops were organized by Mahila Patchwork on subjects like Design Thinking, Digital Marketing, Financial Literacy, and Communication Skills.

The training aimed to equip participants with skills related to design thinking, meeting client expectations, marketing, social media, and financial literacy. The participants, especially newcomers, showed enthusiasm and eagerness to learn, explore markets, and embrace new techniques and ideas.

The workshop offered knowledge and skills to the artisans, fostering their interest in market dynamics and empowering them with essential skills for their profession.



Community level training

Community workshop training- Human Welfare Association

Community Workshop Training Program, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh

The Community Workshop Training Program was conducted in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, on the 5th and 6th of September 2023. These activities are aimed at empowering artisan women through skill enhancement, training, and support. The efforts to conduct workshops and facilitate the provision of kits show a dedication to uplifting and empowering the artisan community, which aligns with the organization's long-standing commitment to social development and empowerment.



Community level training

Community Level Training at Aagor Daagra Afad in Chirag, Assam

Community Level Training at Aagor Daagra Afad in Chirag, Assam

The Community Level Training Program was conducted by Aagor Daagra Afad in Chirag, Assam, under the STREE PROJECT, aimed at empowering underprivileged women. The initiative focused on enhancing technical and professional skills essential for contemporary workplaces.

The event was attended by 30 women artisans from diverse backgrounds, including self-help groups, tailoring, handicrafts, sales, marketing, and inventory management.

The training provided a unique and comprehensive skill set that is often not covered in formal education, empowering women to thrive professionally and personally. It provided insights on subjects, including Design Thinking, Digital Marketing, Computer and Financial Literacy, and Communication skills.

The training was thorough, encompassing various aspects to equip the women artisans with essential skills for both personal development and professional settings.



2. Empowering and Strengthening of CSOs

The FTF-I facilitates internship and fellowship programs for strengthening and empowering artisans associated with registered CSOs under the STREE Project.

A. Internships

FTF-I, under the STREE Project, collaborates with Design and Business Schools, including the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), the Indian Institute of Crafts and Design (IICD), MS University, Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS) to provide interns to the CSOs.

The program aims to bridge the gap between academia and practical industry applications. This collaboration benefits the organizations by availing specialized skills and providing valuable real-time experience to the interns, allowing them to apply their knowledge in an organizational setup.

B. Fellowship

FTF-I, under the STREE Project, is conducting the STREE VIKAS Fellowship Program 2023. It is a 6-8 months training program that focuses on building and deepening the leadership pipeline for the fair-trade craft sector. The fellows are 20 emerging artisan leaders who work with craftsmen based on fair trade principles in CSOs.



Empowering and Strengthening of CSOs

“STREE” VIKAS FELLOWSHIP program

The Fellowship is a six-month leadership program divided into two phases; the first phase of on-site training will be held in New Delhi from 9th to 13th October 2023.

Structure of the Fellowship Program:

- Phase 1- It entails a three-month project to work with artisans to develop their skill capacity for innovation and marketing using the principles of design thinking and integrating digital marketing.
- Phase 2- It is a three-month project that focuses on improving the CSO's internal systems/procedures by involving the CSO leaders and focusing on manufacturing, quality, marketing, and technological advances.

What will the Fellows learn?

- Gain knowledge of current trends in the craft and fair-trade sector.
- Integrate the personal, managerial, leadership, and entrepreneurial dimensions.
- Experiment with application through organizational and community projects.
- Deepen learning through contact module experiential learning.
- Broaden understanding through peer learning and cross-learning.

What kind of programming does Cohort have in the Fellowship?

- Candidates will undergo an entry-level assessment of their abilities, including assertiveness, communication, leadership, and entrepreneurship.
- A tailored learning plan will be developed for the candidates.
- The candidates will be offered mentorship opportunities where they can develop their work while collaborating with FTF-I mentors.
- Candidates may receive support to advance the work they started based on their performance.



3. Last Mile Market Linkages for Artisans and CSOs

FTF-I, under the STREE Program, supports women artisans CSOs) by facilitating access and participation in trade fairs and retail outlets.

A. Participation in Trade Fairs: FTF-I enables participation in regional, national, and international trade fairs. This allows artisans to showcase and sell their products, gain exposure, and explore potential markets.

B. Display Places in Fair Trade and Craft Shops: FTF-I assists CSOs in displaying places in fair trade shops and branded retail chains. This support involves bearing the commercial costs of securing space for artisans' products in these outlets.

Logistics Support: FTF-I reimburses courier charges for the transportation of artisanal products to various trade fairs or retail outlets. This helps reduce the financial burden on artisans and CSOs.

Marketing Assistance: FTF-I supports marketing efforts via promotional materials, branding, and marketing strategies to enhance the visibility of artisans; products in these display spaces.

Financial Support for Travel and Accommodation: FTFI reimburses travel, boarding, and lodging expenses incurred by artisans when participating in trade fairs or events. This assistance enables artisans to attend and showcase their crafts without facing financial obstacles.





UP International Trade Show

Uttar Pradesh International Trade Show held in Noida, Uttar Pradesh from 21st – 25th Sept, 2023.

It provided a comprehensive platform that showcased the diverse range of products and industries in Uttar Pradesh. With a focus on promoting local businesses and products, the event brings together various sectors, from agriculture and manufacturing to tourism and technology, providing a unique opportunity for both B2B and B2C interactions. The inclusion of different categories such as ODOP products, GI-Tag products, and various others demonstrates the rich cultural and economic diversity of the state.

The participation of stakeholders such as government agencies, buyers, investors, and marketing professionals indicate a collaborative effort to boost the state's economy and global market presence. The five-day event allows ample time for participants to engage with potential clients, strike deals, and explore various promotional and development schemes.

The Trade Show was a promising initiative, fostering connections, collaborations, and growth opportunities for businesses in Uttar Pradesh while promoting the state's unique products and industries on a global scale.





Gift World Expo 2023- Bangalore

Gifts World Expo was held in Bangalore, Karnataka from 7th to 9th Sep, 2023. The expo offered a comprehensive platform for businesses in the gifting and promotional industry. The event focused on providing opportunities to both established companies and startups to generate leads, gain industry insights, and explore sustainable solutions.

The expo served as a platform for the launch of new products, live product testing, and instant feedback. The ability to analyze industry trends, generate creative ideas, meet with dealers and distributors, and conduct market research and competition analysis adds to the value proposition for both exhibitors and visitors.

Gifts World Expo 2023 ensured that businesses attending the event can find tailored solutions to meet diverse client demands by catering to a wide range of gifting needs, including corporate, festive, and celebratory occasions. This comprehensive approach reflects the expo's adaptability and responsiveness to the market's changing needs.





Monsoon Mela' 23, Nature Bazar, Andheri Modh, New Delhi

Monsoon Mela' 23, Nature Bazar was held in Andheri Modh, New Delhi from 10th to 21st August 2023. The event was organized by the Civil Society Organization (CSO), Dastkar, and was attended by 180 artisans from 10 states across India.

The Monsoon mela had 90 stalls with indigenous handmade products, including handloom garments, Gond painting, Glass jewellery, bell metal products, Pattachitra painting, Golden grass paintings, Ayurvedic products, Organic food items, Kanpuri footwear, Dhokra products, etc





Hunar Mahotsav was held in Secunderabad

Hunar Mahotsav was held in Secunderabad-Hyderabad from 13th to 24th October 2023 in the Gymkhana Ground.

The event was organised by Social Asset Foundation, supported by the STREE Project of the FTF-I. The Hunar Mahotsav accommodated 205 stalls of different craft products, including textiles- fabrics and dress materials, sarees, printed and embroidered fabrics, toys, wooden handicrafts, pottery, metalcrafts, bamboo-crafts, food products, etc. As per the official report, the exhibition attracted over 2.2 lakh visitors over 12 days.



4. Policy and Advocacy Interventions for the Craft Sector

FTFI supports policy research by distinguished Craft Sector scholars. The strategy is to communicate the research policy outcomes through workshops at the state and national levels, with the participation of diverse stakeholders including the government, NGOs, CSOs, the FTFI member network, academia, and the artisan community.

The objective is to advocate for favorable economic and trade policies to promote traditional handicraft items. Through its reach in the craft sector, FTFI reduces the cost of policy research and the provision of research scholars and organizes dissemination workshops with the government and associated stakeholders.



Regional Presence and Work of the FTF-I

Fair Trade Forum- India, under the STREE Program operates PAN India from different geographical locations. The program is executed from four regions- East, West, South, and North.

North Region:

The Regional Office of North is located in New Delhi. It covers states- Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Himachal Pradesh.

West Region:

The Regional Office of West is located at Vadodara, Gujarat. It covers states- Rajasthan and Gujarat.

South Region:

The Regional Office of West is located at Kochi, Kerala. It covers states- Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

East Region:

The Regional Office of East is located at Kolkata, West Bengal. It covers states- Odisha, West Bengal and North-East.

Brief Description of the Achievement

The FTF-I, under the STREE Project, is currently working with around 125 CSOs across India.

The achievements of the STREE project cover the 4 program interventions: namely the number of community facilitation training workshops and rural community training.

Regional representation of no of Women Artisans



1725

North Region

3889

West Region

2985

East Region

2899

South Region

Total no of women artisans reached across India is 11498

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Testimonies

Asha Bharti

The journey of Asha Bharti is incredibly inspiring and motivating as it shows the value of determination and hard work to advance in life. Her story highlights the profound effects that empowerment and guidance can have on individuals' lives.

Asha is a young, dynamic, and differently-abled person. She was trapped in the hardships of life and wanted to get out of the vicious circle. While searching for external support, she became a part of the Maximising Employment to Serve the Handicapped (MESH), the Member Organization of the FTF-I. In association with the organization, Asha gained technical skills, knowledge, and confidence to achieve her dreams. She is now living a wholesome life with her husband and child.

Asha's determination to overcome obstacles and her unwavering belief in herself serves as an inspiration to others facing similar challenges. Her story resonates with the message that with perseverance and self-belief, one can surpass hurdles in life.

By continuing to share her journey and giving credit to the FTF-I, Asha is empowering herself and uplifting and motivating countless others with struggles and shortcomings. Her story reinforces the idea that support, determination, and self-belief are instrumental in achieving one's dreams despite adversities.

FTF-I offers internship opportunities to young graduates/students by sending them to work with its member organizations. The interns upskill the individuals in these organizations by providing them with insights and knowledge on subjects like Digital Marketing, Designing, Capacity Building, and Communication Skills. Asha was one of the beneficiaries of the program.



Testimonies

Parween Kaukar

Parween Kaukar is from Afghanistan where she was a professional working for a company before coming to India. She has four daughters- 3 have completed 10th grade and one is in school. Parween migrated to India in 2007 as a refugee due to growing violence and bloodshed in Afghanistan. The family faced financial crunches and barely had anything to eat along with difficulties in finding a decent job.

In India, she was residing in a locality having Afghani refugees. Through one of her Afghani friends, she came in contact with Archisa, a Civil Society Organization (CSO) affiliated with FTF-I, that works only with refugees from Afghanistan. Parween, after joining Archisa, learned multiple skills and gained training for cutting and sewing clothes.

The activities were introduced via the FTF-I internship program. The interns while working with the CSO- Archisa, provided training on product design. Parween learned to make purses, bags, toiletry bags, and ornaments.

She is now working as a professional tailor and leading a stable life with her daughters. She aspires to teach product design to other refugees and provide them with employment opportunities.



Consolidated audited financial statements 2022-2023



FAIR TRADE FORUM - INDIA

A Registered Association, Registration No. 37844 / 2000
40/35 First Floor, Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi -110019

Income & Expenditure (Consolidated) for the year ending 31st March 2023






Expenditure	Amt as on 31st Mar 23	Amt as on 31st Mar 22	Income	Amt as on 31st Mar 23	Amt as on 31st Mar 22
To Swavlamban UNHCR 2021			By Contributions, Grants & Donation		
- Self employment/business facilitation	-	70,37,771.00	- Grant -Swavlamban- UNHCR 2020	-	13,19,252
- Employment Facilitation	-	73,39,137.00	- Grant -Swavlamban- UNHCR 2021	33,967	36,96,000
- General Managemnt Ser. Provided	-	2,41,902.00	- Grant -Swavlamban- UNHCR 2022	-	1,02,22,208
			- Interest Recd on SB A/c - UNHCR	-	68,927
To EU Project- STREE (FCRA)			- Mem Donation/Participation Fee	4,500	-
- Human Resources- stree	44,87,336	53,71,160	- Contributions - Entry Audit Fee	50,000	2,000
- Travel -EU	7,87,994	7,80,050	- Voluntary Cont/ Donation	-	-
- Equipment and supplies	-	-	- Interest Received on FDR	1,06,468	1,01,709
- Local Office EU	10,62,099	9,66,029	- Saving Bank Interest Received	31,786	23,219
- Other costs / Services	13,46,292	20,78,113	- Fair Fund -Covid Support	-	1,71,250
- Indirect Costs	11,40,400	11,54,150	- Rent - Office Premises	60,000	1,80,000
- Others	5,58,092	1,66,201	- SFURTI-IMDF	-	5,12,400
To Fair Fund -Covid Support	-	1,33,500	- Grant -Stree 2022-23	2,23,246	-
			- Grant Balance B/f -SFURTI	4,35,700	-
To EU Project- STREE (Local)			By FCRA Grants & Aid		
- Legal Fees-Stree Projects	2,01,600	-	- Interest on FDR - Hivos	1,88,289	1,85,281
			- EU STREE	2,52,79,683	1,92,50,266
To New India Artisan Fellowship-2021			- Grant Recd COVID Crowd Funding	-	18,387
- Selection Committee Meeting	-	-			
To Administrative Expenses:					
- Audit Fee & Certification	59,000	94,400			
- Bank Charges	1,342	771			
- Brokerage /Donation Paid	-	3,000			
- Conveyance & Travelling	20,648	43,653			
- Depreciation	8,196	9,845			
- Entry Audit (Membership) Expenses	12,121	-			
- Staff Welfare Expenses	4,223	-			
- TDS/FC-4 Late Filing Fees	1,03,000	4,399			
- Misc expenses	10,330	-			
- Legal & Professional / Charges	59,000	32,096			
- Office Rent	-	1,08,000			
- Staff Salary	3,38,150	56,500			
- Printing Stationery	6,684	-			
- Repair & Maintenance	698	25,000			
To Other Admin Expenses- FCRA					
- Audit Fees	35,400	-			
- Bank charges	11,893	8,218			
- Interest on TDS	4,631	-			
Sub total C/F	1,02,59,129	2,56,60,214	Sub total C/F	2,64,13,639	3,57,50,899

Income & Expenditure Account (Consolidated) - 2022-23...Page 1 of 2

For Fair Trade Forum-India

President/Secretary/Treasurer

Consolidated audited financial statements 2022-2023

<div>  FAIR TRADE FORUM - INDIA A Registered Association, Registration No. 37844 / 2000 40/35 First Floor, Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi -110019 Balance Sheet (Consolidated) as at 31st March 2023 </div>					
Liabilities	Amt as on 31st Mar 23	Amt as on 31st Mar 22	Assets:	Amt as on 31st Mar 23	Amt as on 31st Mar 22
Capital Fund: FTF-I Corpus: FCRA Capital Fund: FTF-I Corpus: LOCAL Opening Balance: 14,66,633 Add: Surplus / (Deficit) 99,029 Add: Member's Contbn to Corpus 4,54,580 FTF-I Building Fund: Opening Balance: 42,90,500 Add: Addition during the year -			Fixed Assets: Equipments / Electricals 10,529 Computer/printer 933 Furniture - Fittings 46,938 Fire Extinguisher 135 Land & Building 42,90,500 Purchase of Software 729 Investments: Fixed Deposits - CBI - Local 21,89,006 Interest Accrued on FDR - Fixed Deposit with CBI (FCRA) 39,11,140 Interest Accrued on FDR -		
Current Liabilities: (Local) Sundry Creditors - 865 Sundry Creditors: Local 25,29,895 Sundry Creditors: UNHCR - 1,31,760 Salary / Exp. Payable 37,350 Advance Membership Fee (23-24) 2,62,500 Expenses Payable 14,100 Security Deposit - ISDS 25,000 Duties & Taxes 500 FTFI- Management Cost ISDS 4,22,813 Fair Fund Covid Support - 2022 CF 37,750 Audit Fee Payable 59,000 Grant Balances: (Local) Grant Balance - UNHCR 2020 - 23,672 Grant Balance - UNHCR 2021 - 6,87,577 Grant Balance SFURTI 2021 - 4,35,700 Grant Balance SFURTI 2022 5,12,400 Grant Balance - STREE 21,646 Current Project Liabilities: (FCRA) Grant Balance (C/F) - Pro-Sustain 25,42,514 Grant Balance (C/F) - EU STREE 1,58,45,546 Grant Balance (C/F) - THF-2020 91,597 Grant Balance (C/F) - THF-2021 65,137 Exchnage Fluctuation - Hivos 2,39,098 Bank Interest 16,61,696 Covid Crowd Funding 18,387 Current Liabilities: (FCRA) Audit Fee Payable 35,400 Program Exp. Payable 12,898 Sundry Creditors 8,47,000 Salary / PPF Payable 1,208 Gratuity Payable 22,454 Expenses Payable 8,260 Duties & Taxes 41,537			Current Assets: (Local) Sundry Debtors: Local 7,02,914 Sundry Debtors: UNHCR - Others Recoverable 1,77,080 TDS Recoverable 3,79,733 Security Deposit - Rent 1,67,000 Advance TDS Deposit 99,000 FCRA Penalty_Late Fees - Cash in Hand 2,610 Current Assets:(FCRA) Sundry Debtors 1,91,980 TDS Recoverable 5,00,723 Security Deposit - Advance to Staff (15,000) Cash Balance - FTFI STREE Fund Share FY 2020-21 - Bank Balance: CBI - Savings Account 11,80,519 CBI - Current Account 1,87,958 IDBI - Savings Account-UNHCR 81,595 IDBI - Current Account 7,16,516 CBI - FCRA A/c 1,20,65,725 SBI - FCRA A/c 47,78,163		
Total	3,16,66,427	2,56,26,261	Total	3,16,66,427	2,56,26,261
Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to the Account forms an integral part of these financial statements					
<div> <div>  <p>As per our separate report of even date For S. R. Agarwalla & Co. Chartered Accountants</p> <p>UDIN: 23094188BGTRRC7990 Date: 30-09-2023 Place: Delhi</p> </div> <div> <p>(CA Rajesh Agarwal) Partner [M No.94188] FRN: 000994C</p> </div> <div>  <p>(President)</p> </div> <div>  <p>(Treasurer)</p> </div> <div>  <p>(Secretary)</p> </div> </div>					

Consolidated audited financial statements 2022-2023



FAIR TRADE FORUM - INDIA

A Registered Association, Registration No. 37844 / 2000
40/35 First Floor, Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi -110019

Receipts & Payments Account (Consolidated) for the year ending 31st March 2023

Receipts	Amt as on 31st Mar 23	Amt as on 31st Mar 22	Payments	Amt as on 31st Mar 23	Amt as on 31st Mar 22
To Opening Balance:			By Program Expenses		
- Cash in Hand	66,000	-	- UNHCR Swavlamban 2021 Exp	-	1,33,96,796
- Cash in Hand (FCRA)	-	-	- Fair Fund -Covid Support	-	1,33,500
- CBI Current A/c.	1,44,928	1,35,401	- SFURTI-IMDF	-	-
- CBI Savings A/c	10,29,743	4,77,197			
- IDBI Bank - Current A/c - UNHCR	7,16,516	7,16,516	By Administrative Expenses		
- IDBI Saving A/c (UNHCR)	6,92,862	42,08,532	- Bank Charges	1,342	776
- Central Bank of India- FCRA	1,642	99,19,925	- Conveyance & Travelling	20,648	85,885
- State Bank of India- FCRA	81,49,930	-	- Entry Audit (Membership) Expenses	12,121	-
			- Legal & Professional / Charges	-	32,096
To Contribution to Corpus			- Commission and Brokerage	-	3,000
- Membership Fee - 2022-23	4,49,580	-	- Staff Welfare	4,223	-
- Membership Fee - 2021-22	5,000	3,75,000	- Office Rent	-	1,08,000
			- Misc expenses	5,989	6,320
To Current Liabilities			- Repair & Maintenance	698	-
- Advance Membership Fee - 2023-24	2,62,500	-	- Staff Salary	3,37,677	49,343
			- TDS Late Filing Charges	-	2,208
To Other Receipts			- Printing & Stationery	6,684	-
- Voluntary Contributions	-	-			
- Donation on Entry Audit Fee	50,000	2,000	By EU Project- STREE		
- Rent - Office premises	60,000	1,20,000	- Human Resources- Stree	94,62,986	97,72,870
- Grant -Swavlamban- UNHCR 2021	-	1,02,22,208			
- Fair Fund -Covid Support	-	1,71,250	By Other Payments:		
- SFURTI-IMDF	-	5,12,400	- Payment to Sundry Creditors-UNHCR	865	2,02,213
- Grant Stree 2022-23	2,23,246	-	- Exp. Payable	-	1,12,101
- Membership Application Fees 2022-23	4,500	-	- Duties & Taxes Paid	14,350	34,123
			- FCRA penalty paid	-	1,03,000
To Bank Interest :			- Audit Fees Payable	1,18,000	-
- Bank Intt Received	31,786	23,219	- Grant -Swavlamban- UNHCR 2021	6,77,282	-
- Bank Intt Received - UNHCR 2021	-	68,927	- Payment to Sundry Creditors	4,390	-
- FDR Bank Interest Received	1,06,468	1,01,709	- Salary Payable	1,51,594	-
			By Other admin expenses		
To Sundry Debtors :			- Bank charges	11,893	8,218
- Others	60,000	10,000	- Interest on TDS	4,631	2,191
			- Payment to Sundry Creditors	5,68,353	-
To FCRA Grants & Aid :			- Duties & Taxes-FCRA	73,526	52,025
- EU - STREE	1,87,13,450	81,35,633	- Audit Fees Payable	70,800	-
- Covid Crowd Funding	-	18,387	- Salary Payable	3,756	-
			By Current Assets		
To FCRA Bank Interest & FDR:			- Advance Paid to Creditors-FCRA	49,374	-
- Bank FDR Withdrawal	-	-	- Security Deposit-FCRA	-	72,000
- Bank FDR Intt	1,88,289	1,85,281	- Advance Salary-FCRA	-	15,069
			- Tax Receivable -FCRA	20,345	18,505
To Other Receivables:			- Tax Deducted at Source- Local	11,538	61,387
- Salary Receivables	20,000	-	- Security Deposit-Local	70,000	72,000
- Advance to Creditors	4,626	-	- TDS Advance paid	2,040	-
Sub Total	3,09,81,066	3,54,03,585	Sub Total	1,17,05,105	2,43,43,625



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For Fair Trade Forum-India

[Signature]

President/Secretary/Treasurer

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Consolidated audited financial statements 2022-2023



Income & Expenditure Account (Consolidated) - 2022-23...Page 2 of 2

Expenditure	Amt as on	Amt as on	Income	Amt as on	Amt as on
	31st Mar 23	31st Mar 22		31st Mar 23	31st Mar 22
Sub Total B/F	1,02,59,129	2,56,60,214	Sub Total B/F	2,64,13,639	3,57,50,899
To FCRA C/F Grant Balances:					
Intt. On FDR transf to BS - Hivos	1,88,289	1,85,281			
Grant Bal transf to BS-EU STREE	1,58,45,546	86,88,754			
Grant Balance transfd to BS-COVID	-	18,387			
To Local Grant Balances:					
Grant Bal. - UNHCR 2021	-	6,87,577			
Grant Balance SFURTI 2021	-	5,12,400			
Grant Balance COVID Support Fund	-	37,750			
Grant Balance Stree	21,646	-			
Excess of Income Over Exps.	99,029	(39,464)			
Total	2,64,13,639	3,57,50,899	Total	2,64,13,639	3,57,50,899

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to the Account forms an integral part of these financial statements.

As per our separate report of even date
For S. R. Agarwalla & Co.
Chartered Accountants

(CA Rajesh Agarwal)
Partner [M No. 94188]
FRN: 000994C

For Fair Trade Forum - India




(Treasurer)

(President)

(Secretary)

UDIN: 23094188BGTRRC7990
Date: 30-09-2023
Place: Delhi

Consolidated audited financial statements 2022-2023

					
Receipt & Payment Account - Consolidated 2022-23 ..Page 2 of 2					
Receipts	Amt as on 31st Mar 23	Amt as on 31st Mar 22	Payments	Amt as on 31st Mar 23	Amt as on 31st Mar 22
Sub Total B/F	3,09,81,066	3,54,03,585	Sub Total B/F	1,17,05,105	2,43,43,625
			By Investment:		
			- Interest on FDR - CBI-Reinvested	94,930	91,562
			- Interest accrued on FDR-FCRA	1,67,944	1,66,776
			By Closing Balance:		
			- Cash in Hand	2,610	66,000
			- CBI Current A/c.	1,87,958	1,44,928
			- CBI Savings A/c.	11,80,519	10,29,743
			- IDBI Current A/c (UNHCR)	7,16,516	7,16,516
			- IDBI Saving A/c (UNHCR)	81,595	6,92,862
			- Central Bank of India (FCRA)	1,20,65,725	1,642
			- State Bank of India (FCRA)	47,78,163	81,49,930
Total	3,09,81,066	3,54,03,585	Total	3,09,81,066	3,54,03,585
Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to the Account forms an integral part of these financial statements.					
 <p>As per our separate report of even date For S. R. Agarwalla & Co. Chartered Accountants</p> <p>(CA Rajesh Agarwal) Partner [M No. 94188] FRN: 000994C</p>			 <p>For Fair Trade Forum - India</p> <p>(President) (Secretary) (Treasurer)</p>		
UDIN: 23094188BGTRRC7990 Date: 30-09-2023 Place: Delhi					

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Shagufta Perween
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Arjun Rai
Finance Manager- FTF-I



Poornima Jagtap
Field and Marketing
Coordinator- FTF-I



Sunil Kumar
Office Assistant- FTF-I



Mohammad Sharique
Program Coordinator-
(North Region)



Sharad Sharma
Admin FTF-I



Jemimah Christian
Program Coordinator (West
Region)

News at glance

Ms Rashmi Dhariwal

Fair Trade Forum- India member Ms Rashmi Dhariwal was part of the Indian women's delegation to the 15th BRICS Summit 2023 and the BRICS Women's Business Alliance (WBA) held in South Africa in August 2023.

This international relations conference was attended by the Heads of Government of the five member states: Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.

The theme of the BRICS business conference, "Making Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development a Reality," was held from August 22nd to 24th, 2023, at the Sandton International Convention Centre in Johannesburg, South Africa.



Award Winner- Mrs. Laxmi Sisodia

Awarded By- Rotary Club Vadodara Heritage

Mrs. Laxmi Sisodia was awarded as the "Inspiring Woman" by the Rotary Club Vadodara Heritage on March 8th, 2022. She was recognized for her inspirational contributions and achievements. This acknowledgment underscores her remarkable efforts and impact, serving as a source of inspiration for others through her work, accomplishments, and dedication.



Mr. Mallikarjuna lythaln

a commendable initiative to recognize and applaud outstanding contributions in the field of entrepreneurship benefiting persons with disabilities, the Delhi Government conferred the State Award for Persons with Disabilities on Mr. Mallikarjuna lytha. Mr. lytha, the Founder and CEO of the Inclusive Divyangjan Entrepreneur Association & Beleive India, was presented with this prestigious award by Mr. Arvind Kejriwal, the Chief Minister of Delhi.

This recognition from the Delhi Government serves as an inspiration for other individuals and organizations to prioritize inclusivity and actively engage in initiatives that promote the welfare of persons with disabilities.



Award Winner- Mrs. Swati Bedekar

Awarded By- Gujarat Employees Association

Mrs. Swati Bedekar was honored with the “Stree Shakti Award” by the Gujarat Employees Association on July 1st, 2023. This recognition signifies her outstanding achievements and contributions, specifically in the realm of women empowerment or Stree Shakti.

The Gujarat Employees Association acknowledged Mrs. Bedekar's remarkable efforts, dedication, and impact, likely in empowering women or supporting causes related to women's development and strength. This award stands as a testament to Mrs. Swati Bedekar's significant role and influence in promoting the cause of women's empowerment.



KIDS received Kalavishkar Pradharshini Award

Kottapuram Integrated Development Society (KIDS) participated in the 16th Yellow Ribbon NGO Fair organized at Pune Creativity Mall. The event was under the leadership of the Ishanya Foundation, based in Pune. It was held in collaboration with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

The Kalavishkar Pradharshini Award (Rs. 30,000/-) was jointly presented to KIDS by NABARD and Ishanya Foundation for the best stall exhibiting unique, attractive, and diverse products at the fair. KIDS is unique in its vast array of products made by differently-abled individuals and women who have traditionally worked in the craft sector.

- Natural fiber craft products of the KIDS were the attraction of the exhibition.
- It displayed diverse products such as bags, table mats, office files, and decorative items.
- It was presented in the stall made of Screpine, a Geographical Indication (GI) product from Kerala and made of Kulavaza.
- Coconut shell products were available at the stall as well.

The event was attended by prominent personalities including movie stars Padmini Kolhapuri, Sailesh C. Mehta- Ishanya Foundation Trustee and Chairman, and Dr. Pradeep Parate-General Manager, NABARD Pune.





The National Network for Fair Trade in India

FAIR TRADE FORUM – INDIA

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