

FAIR TRADE FORUM - INDIA

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



Volume:
Oct-Dec 2021

INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

209 COMMUNITY LEVEL WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED ALL OVER INDIA

-CF Training in South Region
-CF Training in East Region
Page - 10



National Level Exhibition:

Dharohar Foundation and Banyan Tree participated in a three days national level exhibition. (Page : 2)



16 days of Activism : Orange The World

The Fair Trade Forum India's celebration of the 16 Days..... (Page: 4)



Annual Monitoring Workshop:

The annual monitoring workshop was held for all STREE project team members on the 23rd and 24th of December 2021 at the FTF-I's New Delhi office. (Page: 12)

International day of persons with disabilities

FTF-I, in collaboration with the JNU Development Professional Forum and Idea, came together (page: 3)

Session on Mental Health, Well-being and Livelihood

Covid-19 has caused significant adversity and distress among the marginalized and vulnerable (page:5)

UNHCR Project- Swavlamban

The Government of India (GOI) takes an excellent approach to refugees and asylum..... (page:8)

NATIONAL LEVEL EXHIBITION

Dharohar Foundation and Banyan Tree participated in a three days national level exhibition in Vadodra, Gujarat from 31st December 2021 to 2nd January 2022 organized by Craftroot. More than 50 artisans from all over India participated in the exhibition and exhibited 80 plus varieties of crafts. One of the CSOs, of the Banyan Tree of STREE project (Social Transformation and Economic Empowerment of Women Artisans in India), also participated in the exhibition.

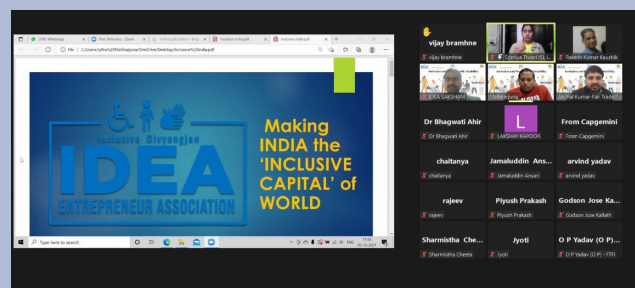
The event was attended by the Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh. Along with the Governor, the other attendees were Smt. Ranjan Bhatt - MP, Smt. Darshana Jardosh - Minister of State for Railways and Textiles, Shri Keyur Rokadia- Mayor VMC, Shri Bhargav Bhatt - Gujarat state minister, Smt. Anar Patel - Founder and managing trustee of Gramshree and mentor of Craftroots, Shri Piyush Shah - chairman & Managing Director of JHL, Smt Tejal Amin - Chairperson of Navrachana Education Society and Dr Parul Patel - Managing Trustee and Vice President of Parul University.



International Day Of Persons With Disabilities

FTF-I, in collaboration with the JNU Development Professional Forum and Inclusive Divyangjan Entrepreneurship Association (IDEA), came together to celebrate International Day of Persons with Disabilities on December 3, 2021. We hosted a virtual colloquium to discuss innovative models, break down stigmas associated with disabilities, and create an inclusive environment.

The virtual colloquium provided a forum to discuss innovative models for removing the stigma associated with disabilities and creating an inclusive environment. Total 80 people participated in this colloquium from member organizations & CSOs.



16 days of Activism: Human Rights Day



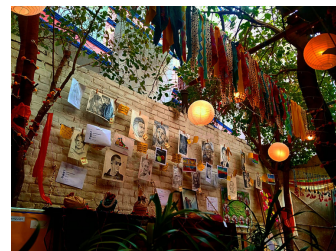
The Fair Trade Forum India's celebration of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence provided a platform for approximately 100 refugee artisans from Delhi, Jaipur, and Mewat to showcase their products.

Their handcrafted items represent their tenacity and determination.

In addition, FTF-I organised cultural events and exciting activities for visitors at the store.

Fair Trade Forum India commemorated Human Rights Day and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on Day 16 of the 16 Days of Activism to End Gender-Based Violence.

"Orange the World" was the theme of this year's activism.



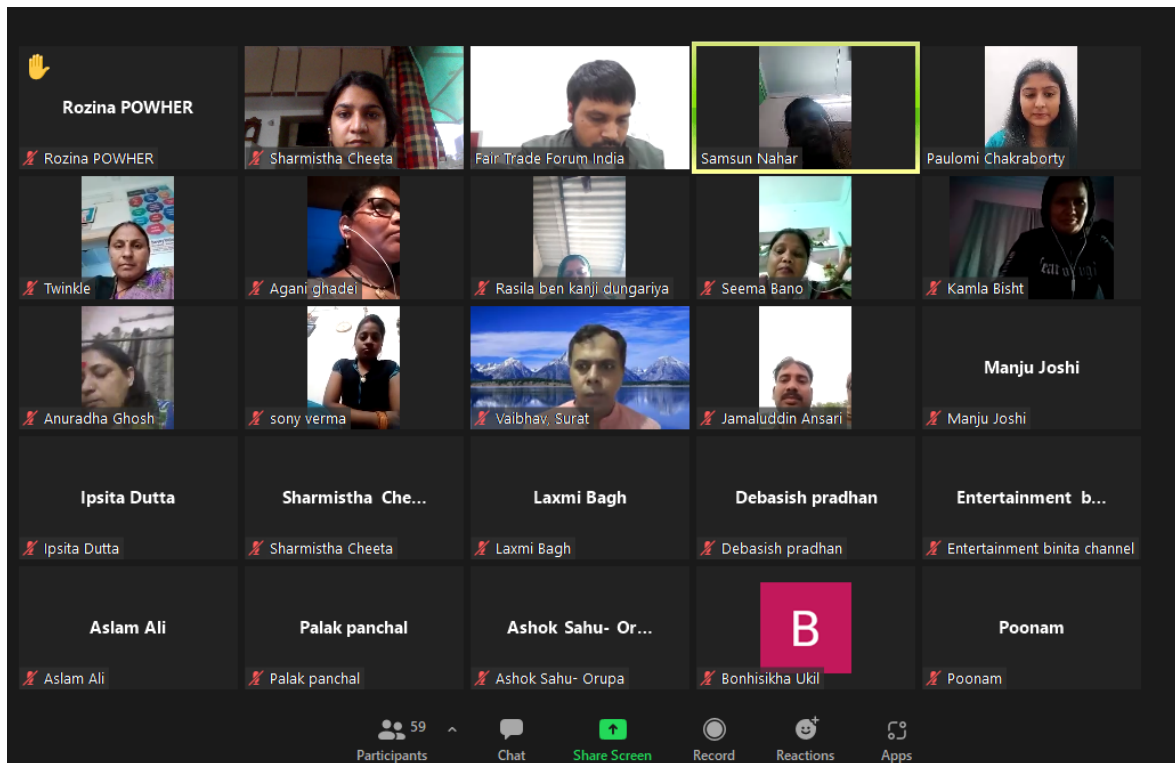
16 Days of Activism is an annual campaign celebrated by the global civil society that aims to raise awareness and advocate for the abolition of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.

It begins on November 25th, known as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, and comes to an end on December 10th, International Human Rights Day.

<https://rb.gy/h8xqn7>
<https://rb.gy/0jxxsn>



Session on Mental Health, Well-being and Livelihood (for CFs of STREE)



Covid-19 has caused significant adversity and distress among the marginalised and vulnerable, particularly producers, , artisans and farmers.

During a review mission with member organisations and other CSOs as part of the STREE project, we discovered that a lack of employment opportunities impacts daily functioning, behaviour, and interaction among families and communities.

This aspect, however, is the most neglected, and there is very little awareness.

To address this concern, we organised a session on Mental Health, Wellbeing, and Livelihood for the STREE project's Community Facilitators on November 22, 2021. The session was led by Paulomi, a professional mental health counsellor and co-founder of the organisation Well Heard.



PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS



Partnership with American India Foundation Fellowship Program

In November 2021, FTFI was selected by American India Foundation to host one AIF Banyan Impact fellow after a rigorous process.

Amana is an AIF Banyan Impact fellow. She is a graduate in Political Science Honours from the University of Delhi and has a diploma in Women Empowerment and Development. Along with that, she holds certifications in Human Rights and Legal Literacy.

She'll be working with Fair Trade Forum India on communication, advocacy and branding of the STREE project.



A virtual roundtable: Strengthening the anti-trafficking ecosystem in India

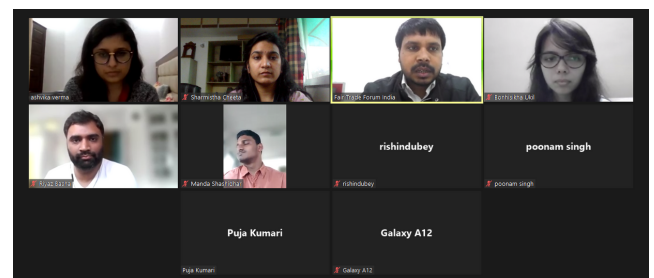
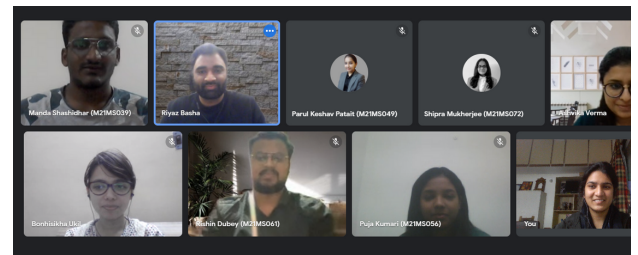
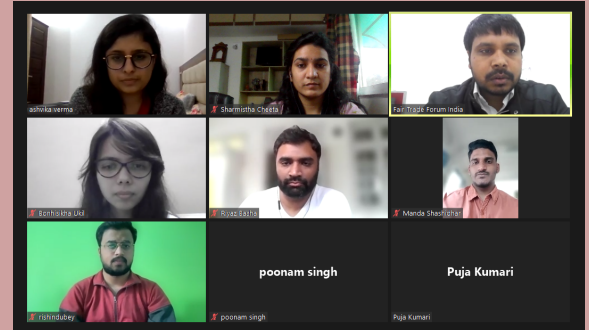
FTF-I was invited in virtual round-table organized Thomson Reuters Foundation on Strengthening the anti-trafficking ecosystem in India. The panel discussion was a multi-stakeholder event that brought together senior representatives from India's private sector, civil society, and media freedom organizations. The event invited participants to explore innovative and collaborative approaches to strengthen the response to human rights abuses in supply chains and beyond through presentations, Q&A, and roundtable discussions. The event's goal was to lay the groundwork for a committed network of stakeholders to launch a collaboration to strengthen the Indian ecosystem and contribute to a more potent and effective response to human trafficking and forced labor abuses in the country.

O.P Yadav (E.D of FTF-I) and Anchal Kumar (Program Manager), as a panelists, expressed their views on role of civil society and collaborative approaches to strengthen the anti-trafficking ecosystem in India and how the Fair Trade Forum India Member organisations are creating sustainable and safe value chains in the craft sector.



Collaboration with IIT Jodhpur through internship programme

F'TF-I provided internship opportunities to six interns from IIT Jodhpur. They worked on daily operations, create digital catalogues and wrote case studies to understand better the journeys of our member organizations, artisans, community facilitators, and CSOs of the STREE project.



UNHCR Project- Swavlamban

The Government of India has been strongly committed to assisting the asylum/refugee population under the framework of the Indian constitution.

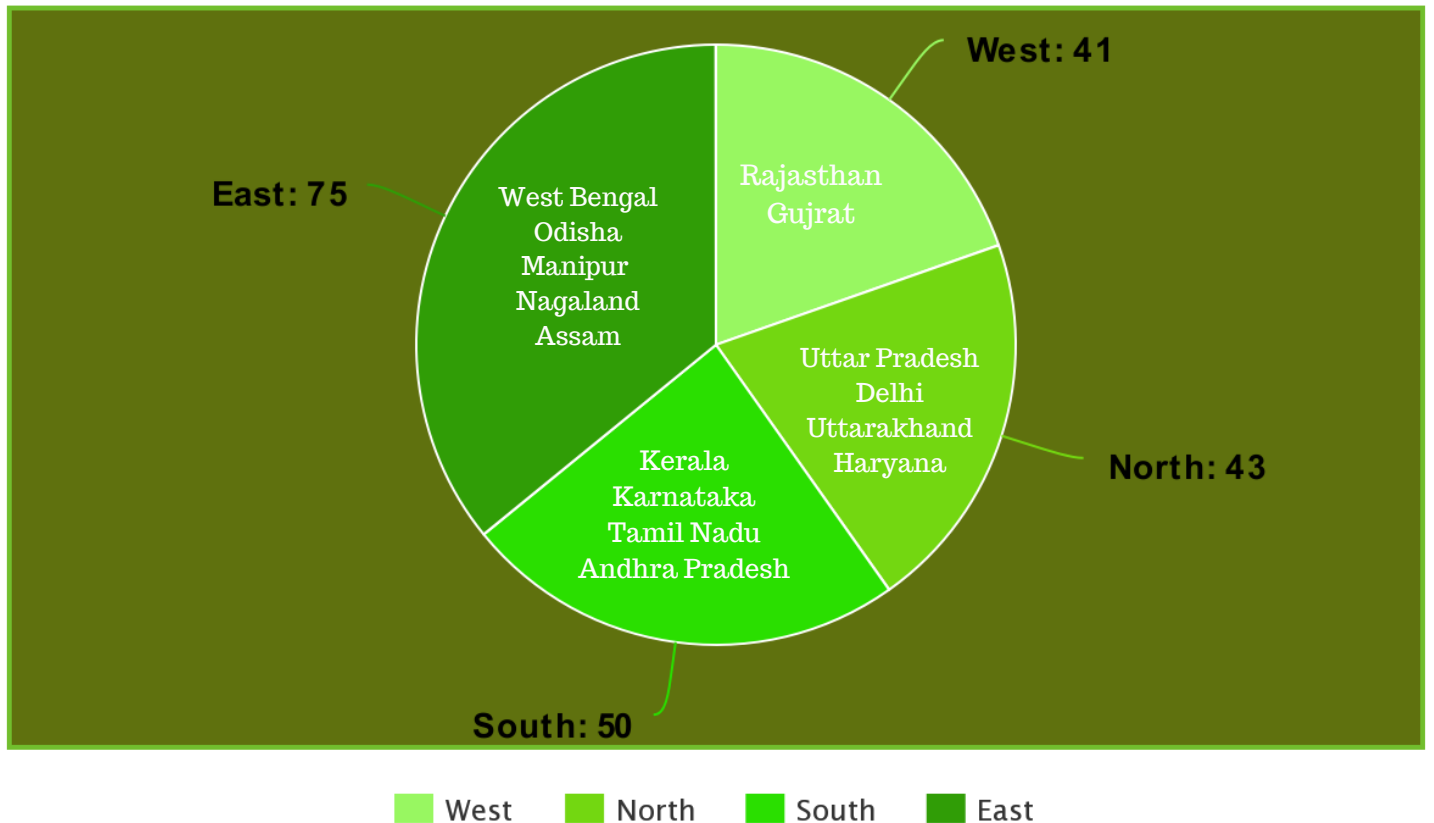
The Fair Trade Forum-India has been an implementing partner of UNHCR India since 2018 for the Swavlamban "Self Reliance Support to Refugee Men and Women" project. "Swavlamban aims to broaden the protection space for the refugees protected under the mandate of UNHCR India, by generating livelihood opportunities in the local economy.

After four successful years, the agreement of the project Swavlamban's has been ended on 31st December 2021. From October to December 2021 total of 138 POCs (Population of concerns), women-headed households have been provided support of INR 34,50,000. These livelihoods support were given in the form of micro-business grants in Delhi-NCR, Jaipur and Mewat. An additional target under the multi-partner trust fund. We have also supported 25 POCs in Delhi-NCR under the regular project. An implementation arrangement was done by J.K.S.M.S, Believe India, The Child Trust, Archisha, Conserve India in Jaipur and Mewat.

All the micro-grants have been utilized by the POCs to start their own businesses mainly tailoring shops, grocery stores and beauty parlors.



COMMUNITY LEVEL WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED



CF Training in South Region

Thrissur, Kerala - (24th-26th) October 2021:

Our Community-Level Facilitators training in Thrissur, Kerala, focused primarily on design thinking and product innovation. Twenty-six Community Level Facilitators (twenty-three women and three men) from six CSOs in Tamil Nadu and Kerala participated.

The participant CSOs are the following:-

- Kottapuram Integrated Development Society (KIDS),
- Jawaharlal Memorial Social Welfare And Public Co-operation Centre,
- Poragai,
- Aahram,
- CADRE INDIA,
- Banana Fiber Natural Product Trust

The training focused on building the capacity of community facilitators and artisans in the areas of product design development, as well as understanding the need for manufacturing that is in sync with market demand and Fair-Trade Practices.

This training also provided information on the FTF-I, the STREE Project, and Fair-Trade Practices to government and local government officials.

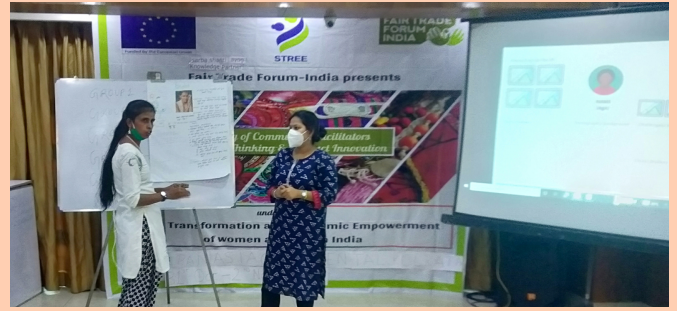


CF Training in East Region

1. Kolkata, West Bengal - 31st Oct.-2nd Nov. 2021

CF training workshop on Design Thinking and Product Innovation in Kolkata took place from 31st October -2nd November 2021. FTF-I organized the event along with its Knowledge Partner for the east region, Sarba Shanti Ayog, in Hotel Pan Asia Continental, Kolkata. The event saw the participation of 22 CFs, including one divyangjan and 4 CFs from Majuli, Assam, for the 3-day residential training. The participant CSOs are the following:-

1. Beyond Welfare
2. CSWS
3. Amar Kutir
4. Suchetana
5. Nir Ideal Home
6. Ruab SEWA
7. Ayang Trust



Master Trainers Ms Sayantani Das and Mr Arun Khatua took the training over the 3-days and delivered the learnings in the languages of Bengali & Hindi. The event was started by lighting diyas and a pata-chitra performance by CF Monimala Chitrakar. The final day saw the presence of Prof. Prashant Ghosh & Mr Tufan Singh from Amar Kutir (CSO), Mr Abdul Kalam from Nir Ideal Home (CSO), Mr Nikhil Burman from CSWS (CSO) along with Roshni Ma'am and Mousumi Ma'am from Sasha (member org.).

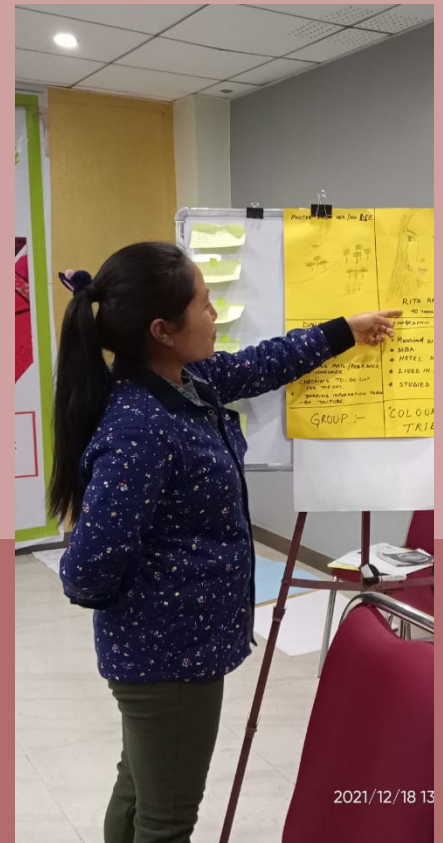


CF Training in East Region

2.Kohima, Nagaland - (16th-18th) Dec. 2021

By training community leaders in design thinking and product development, FTF-I was able to reach out to the isolated tribes and sub-tribes of Kohima, Nagaland.

This programme aided in the capacity building of community facilitators and craftsmen in the areas of design, product creation, market demand understanding, and Fair-Trade Practices. URA Collective participated in this CF Training.



2. Imphal, Manipur - (18th -20th) Dec.2021

The CF training workshop on Design Thinking and Product Innovation at Imphal took place from 18th to 20th December 2021. FTF-I organized the event in Hotel Yaipabha, Imphal, Manipur, which saw the participation of 4 CFs and one translator from across 3 CSOs in Manipur. Master Trainer Ms Melody ZAIREMMAWI conducted the workshop; she delivered the 3-day workshop in English, Hmar& Meetei Loan languages to facilitate the CFs from varied tribes and communities of Manipur. The workshop was a success due to the immense support from Ms K. Shangnaidar Tontang from Weaker Section Development Council (CSO), Mr Filler Duidang from Hao Craft (CSO) and Ms Melody from Rural Women Upliftment Society (CSO).

The participant CSOs are the following:-

- Rural Women Upliftment Society
- Weaker Section Development Council
- Hao Craft



COMMUNITY-LEVEL WORKSHOPS:

The community-level facilitators of FTF-I conducted design thinking workshops in their community groups. A series of FGDs and Fair Trade workshops were held by community facilitators, with mentoring support from Master Trainers. These helped the artisan groups to understand and integrate Fair Trade practices within their working and inculcate an understanding of how to manage their internal systems, gear up for production in tune with market demand, and benefit of getting collectivized to reach economies of scale.



Each community-level facilitator facilitated learning for 40 women and was paid a fixed honorarium and organizing cost. Altogether 10,000 women artisans participated in these workshops across the four Regions.

The Community Facilitators used a toolkit designed by FTF-I that included a facilitation guide, image cards, and other required materials to conduct community-level design thinking and Fair Trade sessions.



Annual Monitoring Workshop:

The annual monitoring workshop was held for all STREE project team members on the 23rd and 24th of December 2021 at the FTF-I's New Delhi office.



It was led by our Vice President, Mr Ranvir Sisodia, and ED, Mr O.P Yadav, and included presentations from team members about previous work in their respective regions.

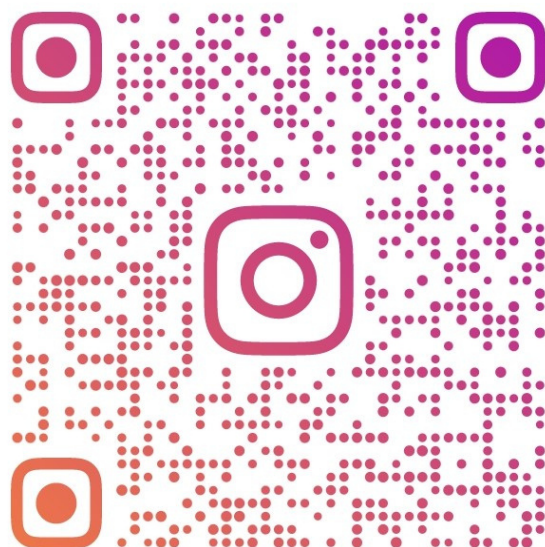


Major Upcoming Events

1. AGM of Fair Trade Forum-India - Jan 2022
2. Community Level workshops on Design Thinking and Product Innovation.
3. Mentoring sessions of the Master Trainers & Community Facilitators/Leaders.
4. Collaboration with relevant ministries and Government Departments.
5. Collaboration with Premium Design Institutions.
6. Workshop on promoting digital marketing and e-commerce.
7. Training of CSOs on organizational development.
8. Registration/Strengthening craft producer companies under STREE project.
9. Participation in regional and national exhibitions/fairs
10. Training on advocacy.
11. Identification and curation of products of the member organization and CSOs of STREE project
12. Materializing partnership private businesses and business associations for inclusion of sustainable products in their procurement and gifting options.
13. National Level Policy Workshop on handicraft related policies to generate inputs for a policy paper.
14. Fair Trade Portal development.
15. Development of success stories & case stories.
16. Celebration of International Women's Day.

For regular updates on our events and activities, kindly like our Facebook page or scan this QR code to follow us on Instagram.

<https://www.instagram.com/ftfindia/>
<https://www.facebook.com/fairtradeindia>



FTFINDIA

