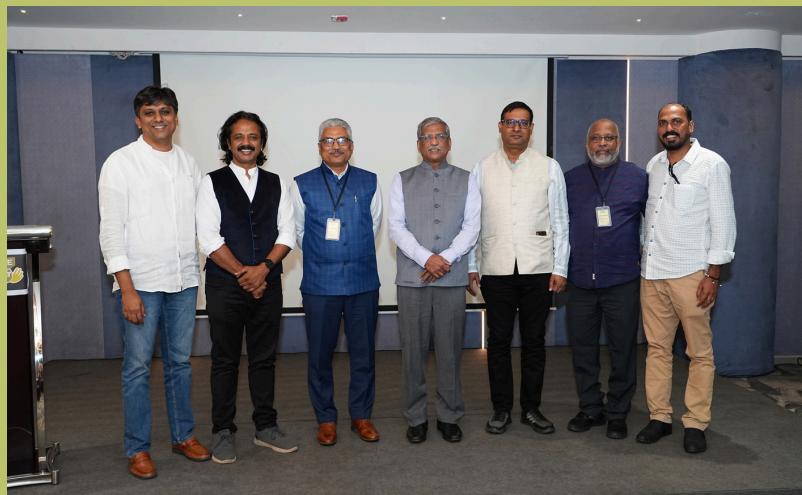




Fair Times

Quarterly Newsletter October-December 2023





From the Desk of the Editor

The much-awaited event of the quarter was the National Convention 2023 from the 8th to 10th December 2023 at Hotel Clarion, Bangalore. It brings us joy to let you know that we had active participation from 63 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and 31 Member Organizations. The event commenced with an inaugural session graced by esteemed guests Ms. Roopa Mehta, President of the World Fair Trade Organization, and Ms. Ratna Prabha (IAS Retd.), Former Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, followed by an engaging cultural program.

The second day of the Convention, on 9th December 2023, the participants of the National convention were addressed on key topics on strategy, collaboration, e-commerce, and the life journeys of eminent personalities. The program started in the morning where the distinguished speakers from various industries shared their expertise: Ms. Payal Nath, Co-founder of “Kadam Haat,” spoke on “Power of Collaboration”; Mr. Vinodh Parameshwaran, Co-Founder of Springboard Digital, discussed “E-Commerce”, Mr. Paul Thomas, Founder of ESAF Group of Social Enterprises, addressed “Micro Finance & MSME”. The post-lunch sessions included Mr. Nirmal Narayanan, Senior Vice President, NRR Sons Group, focusing on “Environment - Achieving Carbon Zero & Plastic Zero Norms”; Mr. Abhishek Jani, CEO of the Fair Trade India project, delved into “Strategies for Our Times”; and Dr. Javed A Khan (ED, IPAS) presenting on “Public Finance & Government Schemes.”

The National Convention 2023 wrapped up with the Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) on 10th December 2023, where AGM Members appreciated the FTF-I Board for their stability, accomplishments, and shared valuable insights into marketing and membership strategies.

Moreover, the ongoing activities for the quarter includes the Community Facilitators’ Training Program, Community Level Workshops, Trade Fairs, and STREE Vikas Fellowship Program. Notably, 2 CF Training Programs were conducted in Udaipur and Kolkata, attended by 30 and 35 artisan leaders, respectively. Through the trained CFs, we organized 59 Community Level Workshops that benefitted 2650 women artisans. Additionally, 4 internship opportunities were provided to young graduates, and 20 fellowship opportunities to emerging women artisan leaders. Collaborating with CSOs and our member organizations, a total of 9 Trade Fairs were successfully conducted PAN India in the last quarter.

**Xavier Selvan
Program Director**

Highlights of the Quarterly Report October-December 2023

Key Events

National Convention 2023

- Inaugural and Cultural Evening
- Leadership Capacity Building
- Annual General Body Meeting

Program Interventions

- Community Facilitators Training, Kolkata
- Community Level Workshops
- Trade Fairs
- STREE Vikas Fellowship 2023



National Convention 2023

8th to 10th December 2023

National Convention 2023 was held in Bangalore, Karnataka from 8th to 10th December. The program brought together leaders from Civil Society Organisations, F'TFI member organisations and stakeholders from the craft sector.

Chief Guests

- Ms Roopa Mehta (President of the World Fair Trade Organisation)

Ms. Mehta interacted on zoom and updated the audience on fair trade movement on national and international level. Her insights shed light on how Fair Trade initiatives are empowering communities and creating equitable global marketplace.



- Ms. Ratna Prabha (IAS Retd.), Former Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka.

Ms. Prabha discussed her career trajectory within the Civil Services, detailing her journey as a women leader with challenges and achievements garnered in her long career. She elaborated her current involvement in development sector highlighting some of the projects and programs she was involved and asked FTF-I to explore partnerships.



National Convention 2023

8th to 10th December 2023

The second day, 9 th December 2023, the participants of the National convention were addressed on key topics pertaining to strategy, collaboration, e-commerce and life journeys of imminent personalities.

Morning Sessions

There were three sessions delivered in the first half of the day. The guest speakers of the session was- Ms. Payal Nath, Co-founder of “Kadam Haat”. She delivered the session on “Collaboration and Creative Dignity”. Mr. Vinodh Parameshwaran, Co-Founder of Hopter Digital & Springboard Digital spoke on “E-Commerce”, and Mr. Paul Thomas, Founder of ESAF Group of Social Enterprises took session on “Micro Finance & MSME”.



National Convention 2023

8th to 10th December 2023

Afternoon Sessions

There were three sessions in the afternoon delivered by Mr Nirmal Narayanan, Senior Vice President, NRR Sons Group on “Environment - On achieving Carbon Zero & Plastic Zero - Norms”, Mr. Abhishek Jani, CEO of the Fair Trade India project, conducted a session on the topic “Strategies for Our Times”, and Dr. Javed A Khan (ED, IPAS) conducted a comprehensive presentation on “Public Finance & Government Schemes”.



National Convention 2023

8th to 10th December 2023

The National Convention 2023 wrapped up with the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 10th December 2023. The AGM Members appreciated the Board of FTF-I for bringing stability and accomplishments and gave insights into marketing and membership.

Board Members for Financial Year 2023-24



Mr. Rajesh Kumar
President



Mr. Anurag Mittal
Secretary



Mr. Devendra Dhariwal
Vice President



Fr. Paul Thomas
Joint-Secretary



Ms. Moon Sharma
Treasurer



Dr. K. Panchaksharam
Member



Ms. Sujata Goswami
Member

Community Facilitators Training

Community Facilitators Training Program was held in Kolkata, West Bengal from 21st to 23rd November 2023. The training program was attended by 35 artisans. The participants gained knowledge on Designing, Financial Literacy, and Digital Marketing.



Community Level Workshops

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

The total number of training workshops provided from October to December is 41 and have impacted 1896 number of artisans.

Regional Representation of the Community Level Workshops

East-12

West-16

North-11

South-2

Artisans Impacted

East-517

West-864

North-415

South-100

Community Level Workshops East Region

12 Community Level Workshops in the East Region were conducted in West Bengal and Assam.



**Weaker Section
Development Council**



Kalyani Mat



Sagarika Embroidery



Dokra Handicraft



Ayung Trust



A Head Initiatives

Community Level Workshops West Region

16 Community Level Workshops in the West Region were conducted in Gujarat and Rajasthan.



Social Asset



Sadhana



RMKM



GVSS



Dharohar

Community Level Workshops North Region

11 Community Level Workshops in the North Region were conducted in New Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand.



Human Welfare Association



Abhyudaya



Mijwan



Sanjeevani

Community Level Workshops South Region

2 Community Level Workshops in the South Region were conducted in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.



Craftizen

Regional Trade Fairs

8 Trade Fairs were organized from October to December 2023



German market Exhibition
Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium,
New Delhi



Dastkar Winter Exhibition,
New Delhi



Swiss German Christmas Market
Embassy of Switzerland,
New Delhi



Desi Oon Festival,
Mandi House, New Delhi



Exhibition,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu



Exhibition
Bangalore, Karnataka



Regional Fair
Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

National Trade Fair Aapno Varso 2023

F'TF-I in association with Dharohar Foundation conducted the Aapno Varso 2023, Art-Craft and Heritage Mahotsav, from 21st to 25th December at Atithi Gruh, Akota, Vadodara, Gujarat. The National Trade Fair, supported by European Union, featured 48 stalls from different organizations in the Indian craft sector, providing a platform for showcasing and selling their products. F'TF-I facilitated the participation of 14 associated CSOs and member organizations, contributing to the overall success and diversity of the program.



Community facilitators Exposure Visit

Community Facilitators Exposure visit was organized by FTF-I to the PACIFIC Academy of Higher Education and Research University in Udaipur, Rajasthan, on October 28, 2023. The primary purpose of the visit was to explore and engage with the design institution's activities and engage with the students who showcased their artistic creations.



STREE Vikas Fellowship 2023

The FTF-I launched the STREE Vikas Fellowship Program 2023 in New Delhi on 9th October, 2023. The fellowship cohort has 20 fellows who are emerging women artisans' leaders from across India.

The phase-1 on-site training or 1st Contact Module was conducted from 9th to 13th October, 2023. During the one week program, the participants were acquainted with the fellowship roadmap through different activities, including design thinking, market trips, mentoring sessions, exploring assumptions, and identifying their leadership abilities.



Contact

FAIR TRADE FORUM – INDIA

40/35 (First Floor) Chittaranjan Park
New Delhi-110019

Phone: 011- 41328730

Email: ftfindia@gmail.com



<http://fairtradeforum.org.in/>

