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EVENTS NEWS

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BLOG

AGRICULTURE

*Welcome to the eleventh volume of*  
***IKYA Global Foundation – Newsletter!***

*This Newsletter highlights various events of the month initiated by the foundation that created a Social Impact in Agriculture, Energy and Education sectors. IGF's vision is to facilitate Social Change with a strong emphasis on triple bottom-line congruous with Education, Employment and Environment.*

*Through our newsletters, we will keep you abreast with information that matters to organizations giving a glimpse on significant developments in the areas of Rural Initiatives, Energy, Health and Environment.*

*We hope that you enjoy this edition of our newsletter!*

**Contents**

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Editorial Desk .....      | 2 |
| Events .....              | 2 |
| V-Act .....               | 3 |
| Social Innovation .....   | 3 |
| Environment.....          | 3 |
| Collaboration .....       | 3 |
| Book Review.....          | 3 |
| Social Change Agent ..... | 4 |
| Social Entrepreneur ..... | 4 |

## EDITORIAL DESK

Dear Esteemed Reader,

Hearty Greetings from IKYA Global Foundation..!

It gives me immense pleasure to present yet another newsletter.

This month witnessed high-octane celebrations to promote Liter of Light across the slums in India. Representatives from all across the globe participated in the two weeklong events that started with slums in Mumbai and ended at Bangalore with an official launch of **V-Act**.

There were close to 100 volunteers at the event. A mix of Students from Schools, Colleges and Professionals participated at multiple events in Mumbai & Hyderabad in conducting workshops, seminars and installing liters of light on the rooftops made of Asbestos, Tin, Bamboo Thatch and Polythene.

In an effort to advocate our core philosophies on **Save Environment**, starting this edition for the next six months, our Newsletter will be highlighting the efforts of Environmental Activists in farming that includes non-farming sectors also, within India and beyond. We will start with Dr. Nammalvar, a natural scientist who hails from Tamilnadu.

This month's Social contributions focus on innovative solutions in the area of sanitation.

With Greetings of the Season 2013 to our esteemed readers.

Happy Reading...!!

Ram M Katla  
Group Vice President  
IKYA Global



## EVENTS

### Global Liter of Light Meet

For the first time ever, representatives of Liter of Light across the globe, including the founder of Liter of Light and My Shelter Foundation, Mr. Illac Diaz, came together in Hyderabad, India. Representatives from various parts of the world included Liter of Light Europe, Liter of Light Switzerland, Columbia, Italy, Spain and Mexico.



### ISB Leadership Summit



IGF was a part of a panel discussion held to deliberate on 'Social Entrepreneurship & Profitability' at the backdrop of the two-day event organized by the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad on 24-Nov-12

The eminent panel had a lot to share and debate on using profitability as a term that is not so synonymous with Social Space or the NGO sector. It was quite a heated session among the panelists debated for and against the motion.

The evolved conclusion among the panel is to avoid crossing the ethical parameters that are divided by a thin line, between sustainability and profitability and to ensure not to dilute the spirit of social cause.

### Ability Unlimited



Differently abled kids of Ability Unlimited, trained by Guru Syed Pasha in performing arts have performed at Novotel at an event, organized by The Rotary Club, supported by IKYA Global Foundation. The event was a mark towards the eradication of polio.



The dance troupe comprised of children and young adults. The mesmerizing performances of these children included the depiction of Mahabharatha, sensuous performances to Sufi and classical music amongst others.

### Zero Budget Farming



*Dr. Subhash Palekar seminar at the Institute of Engineers, Hyderabad*

As a mark of respect to the past leader and as a part of Golden Jubilee Year celebrations, Institute of Engineers, AP State Chapter organized a two-day seminar of Mr. Subhash Palekar at the IEI premises in Khairatabad on 26 & 27-Nov-12.

IGF team was a part of this seminar that highlighted on Zero Budget Natural Farming at the Institute of Engineers, an awareness program for agri enthusiasts and students



## V-ACT

### Launch of V-Act

Mrs. Usha Reddy, Director of Butta Group and Mr. Illac Angelo Diaz, Founder of My Shelter Foundation, together launched the new V-Act logo amidst a tremendous applause. Also present were the Liter of Light global representatives. The launch was organized at the Meridian School premises, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad



## COLLABORATION

### My Shelter Foundation (MSF), Philippines.

MSF collaborates with IKYA Global Foundation to promote the concept of up-cycling of non-biodegradable waste into useful solutions. The flag bearer of this is Liter of Light a social initiative which uses an empty pet soda bottle, distilled water and 20 ml of bleach making it a great source of light for the underprivileged who are deprived of light even during the day.

Through this collaboration, IGF seeks to construct community health centers and schools using plastic bottles as eco-bricks. IGF with its credible collaborations with JNAFU and our volunteers from various prominent colleges like IIT Chennai, Mumbai and Delhi will execute these projects.

Mr. Illac Angelo Diaz was in India to execute this agreement formally with IGF.

## SOCIAL INNOVATION

### The Gates-Funded Toilet Of The Future



After an extensive research, the Gates Foundation has given millions to this futuristic power-generating toilet from

Caltech—with the hope that it can be the solution to sanitation problems around the world.

The toilet features a solar panel that powers an electrochemical reactor, which in turn breaks down waste into sanitized solids (a useful fertilizer) and hydrogen that can be stored in fuel cells to power the reactor on cloudy days. A pump sends treated water



to a reservoir on the top of the toilet, where it can be used for irrigation or other purposes.

Aside from the electrodes, which have an estimated lifetime of a decade, all the mechanical parts in the toilet are easily reparable—a key feature in remote areas. "Making the comprehensive prototype is a little challenging. We're looking at different shipping containers so we can ship easily," says Aryanfar. "The good thing is we know the technology works. What remains is the prototyping."



Caltech's solar toilet team now has \$1.6 million in funding from the Gates Foundation; they expect to have a prototype ready to ship to Africa—with a price tag of approximately \$2,200—by December 2013.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Asia's first Eco-Friendly Toilets

Regulanka, a village located in the flood-prone island mandal of Avanigadda in Krishna district, wherein for the first time in the state has embraced an innovative,



Photo Courtesy: The Hindu

eco-friendly, waterless toilet – the ECOSAN. There is a strong reason to choose this village. Over hundred families of the villages & its vicinities have a shallow water table resulting in scarce water resources.

Terre Des Hommes (TDH) sponsored the project and implemented through a Vijayawada based NGO Arthik Samata Mandal (ASM) implemented this project to spare the local women folk, of the hardship of trekking long distance to reach village outskirts to answer nature's call.

It took a long time to persuade the villagers and secure their nod for construction of the toilets with a promise that they will make use of them," as told by the secretary of ASM, Nau Gora. J. Satyapal Reddy, Superintending Engineer, RWS, Krishna district has also claimed to have made efforts to convince the villagers but they failed.

The concept is very well in the lines of SOILET, a model invented by HELP International, to convert solid waste into compost that was implemented in Africa & have been continuously working on an evolved model.

While it was surrounded by a team of local officials, villagers and representatives of many other organizations, Mr. Bergogne and others opened the first ECOSAN toilet vault during November.

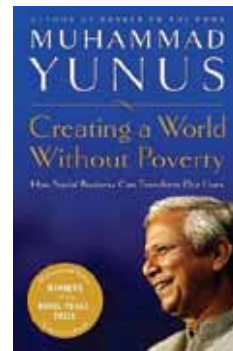
The excreta, which is stored in a concrete chamber for six months and allowed to convert into compost, was being diverted to the fields as fertilizers, said Willy Bergogne, India Country Representative, of TDH. The near 100 kg of compost procured by breaking open the chamber was thin odourless powder. "Use this as manure in the farm and the difference will reflect in the output," said Mr. Bergogne.

## BOOK REVIEW

### Creating a World Without Poverty: Social Business and the Future of Capitalism

– By Mumtaz Yunus & Karl Weber

In the last two decades, free markets have swept the globe, bringing with them enormous potential for



positive change. But traditional capitalism cannot solve problems like inequality and poverty, because it is hampered by a narrow view of human nature in which people are one-dimensional beings concerned only with profit. In fact, human beings have many other drives and passions,

including the spiritual, the social, and the altruistic. Welcome to the world of social business, where the creative vision of the entrepreneur is applied to today's most serious problems: feeding the poor, housing the homeless, healing the sick, and protecting the planet.

Creating a World Without Poverty tells the stories of some of the earliest examples of social businesses, including Yunus's own Grameen Bank. It reveals the next phase in a hopeful economic and social revolution that is already under way—and in the worldwide effort to eliminate poverty by unleashing the productive energy of every human being

## SOCIAL CHANGE AGENT

Dr. Nammalvar



Safe food cultivation practices of a bygone era are slowly evolving giving a ray of hope for the future generations. Though there are no such standard practices in Organic farming, many scientists, progressive farmers and agriculture enthusiasts are taking up pesticide free cultivation through various methods and practices.

One such popular practice is by Dr. Nammalvar, who hails from Tamilnadu. Dr G Nammalvar, a B.Sc.



*Nammalvar preaching kids*

graduate in agriculture, is an organic scientist who has been working on sustainable farming and organic practices. For over four decades, he has been educating farmers against large-scale mono-crop farming and against international patents on Indian traditional knowledge.

He not only practices organic farming himself, but also trains farming aspirants by motivating them to take up organic farming. He has been setting up training centers in Tamil Nadu for three decades that consist of over 1000 farmers. Dr. Nammalvar says that with chemical farming becoming uneconomical and grain yields declining, more and more farmers are switching to organic agriculture.



*Trained youth in organic farming*

Dr. Nammalvar began training farmers in social forestry activities in the year 1981, starting an organization, Kurumbam. However, the Forest Department's stubborn attitude towards farming practices hindered his purpose. Consequently, he realized the need for a systemic approach to improve the conditions of rural farmers and their problems.

Steadily, as organic farming evolved into the next big thing with Karnataka and Maharashtra are actively practicing it for over a decade, inspiring others. Dr. Nammalvar believes that the younger generation is not far behind in pursuing farming as a career in the future.

## SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR

Namita Banka

Family values and culture did not let Namita Banka to work with any other company. That did not stop her to get in to any profession. She started off her career with jewellery design and manufacturing. She moved with her husband to different parts of the country doing successful business in jewellery everywhere.

Once she caught up with her dream to do something in the Environment, Namita didn't want to continue with the jewellery business. To fulfill this inner urge, she pursued professional training in running a social business during 2009. Post this, she started her own entity leaving her earlier assignments as a service agent for Vibhu Composite works and Aikon Technologies, original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) of controlled discharge toilets."

The Eco-Friendly toilet 'BIO-LOO' that she has invented has flexibility to place anywhere and the fitting does take more than a day. The process uses



*Namita the emerging Social Entrepreneur explains about BIO-LOO at her office in Hyderabad.*



*Namita the emerging Social Entrepreneur explains about BIO-LOO at her office in Hyderabad.*

bacteria to convert solid waste into water that is 99% pathogen free. And found to be an ideal solution for areas where there is no connection to conventional sewage systems. The water let out coming from the bio tank can be used for gardening purposes."

This technology helped her company Banka Enterprises to turn as manufacturer and help it stand among major companies to whom it provided services. Talking about the challenges, she says, it is very difficult to compete with big companies and win big ticket orders, since the challenge is that even bureaucracy also doesn't support small companies."

Her organization, Banka Enterprises aims to construct these toilets at public places, rural areas, and construction are—as, hilly areas and the areas where there is no sewage connection. With the growing awareness

among public, the company which currently has a turnover of Rs.75 lakh last fiscal is aiming for Rs.2 crore by March '13.

Namita in collaboration with IKYA Global Foundation has conceptualized an integrated toilet. The prototype is constructed in Charlapally in the vicinities of Hyderabad

### TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

Feedback on the newsletter is always welcome. Share your comments and insights at [info@ikyaglobal.net](mailto:info@ikyaglobal.net).

We're waiting to hear from you!

