

FAIR TIMES

FTF-I Newsletter

May-July 2024



Highlighted News

Women's Leadership Forum

On July 6, 2024, Fair Trade Forum-India (FTF-I) hosted its Women's Leadership Forum at Don Bosco Technical Institute, New Delhi, bringing together artisan leaders, board members, and the FTF-I team. The event began with a warm inauguration by Smriti Kedia, FTF-I's Program Director, which set a celebratory and inclusive tone. Rajesh Kumar, FTF-I President and CEO of Asha Handicrafts Association, delivered an inspiring keynote address focused on ambition and perseverance, motivating attendees to pursue their goals with determination.

The forum featured a notable leadership workshop led by Sujata Goswami, Executive Director of Sarba Shanti Ayog, who provided practical tools for enhancing leadership skills and fostering empowerment. The event also celebrated the achievements of women artisans, including Sony Morya from Mijwan Welfare Society, Rati Singh from Abhyudaya, Pooja from MESH, and Anjali from Believe India. Overall, the forum reinforced FTF-I's commitment to empowering women and advancing the fair trade mission, offering a powerful platform for storytelling, idea exchange, and community strengthening.

FTF-I hosted the Women's Leadership Forum on July 6, 2024, in New Delhi, uniting artisan leaders, board members, and the FTF-I team for a day of activities and stories. 9 artisans shared their journeys, inspiring attendees to embrace leadership and community in the fair trade movement.



Highlighted News

STREE Vikas Fellowship Program

From July 3 to July 7, 2024, Fair Trade Forum-India hosted the STREE Vikas Fellowship Cohort 2 training at the Don Bosco Specialized Center in New Delhi. This five-day program, attended by 20 participants from across India, focused on enhancing skills in fair trade and leadership. The training covered global and local fair trade opportunities, management systems, stakeholder handling, and leadership. It began with an inspiring address by Ms. Moon Sharma, Treasurer of Fair Trade Forum-India. Sessions led by Ms. Lakshmi Raman, Ms. Lalitha Iyer, and compeer Ms. Poornima Jagtap included design thinking, project development, and strategic planning. The program emphasized an entrepreneurial mindset and communication skills, equipping participants with valuable tools to advance their roles in the fair trade movement.

STREE Vikas Fellowship Cohort 2, conducted by the FTF-I in New Delhi from July 3-7, 2024, trained 20 artisan leaders from diverse regions on management, stakeholder engagement, and leadership skills under the guidance and instruction of Ms. Lakshmi Raman and Ms. Lalitha Iyer.



Highlighted News

Community Facilitators' (CF) Training Programs

The Community Facilitators' (CF) Training Programs recently equipped facilitators from civil society organizations across India with essential skills. The Kolkata session, held from May 2 to 4, engaged 18 trainees from West Bengal and Assam, focusing on enhancing community engagement. The Jaipur program, which took place from May 13 to 15, saw 36 participants from 16 organizations across states including New Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan, addressing a range of regional needs. The Bangalore training on May 15 and 16 involved 24 trainees from Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka, targeting the unique challenges of Southern India. These programs aimed to build capacity, share best practices, and improve the effectiveness of community facilitators nationwide.

CF Training Kolkata, West Bengal



CF Training Jaipur, Rajasthan



CF Training Bangalore, Karnataka



Fair Trade Forum India (FTF-I) conducted three Community Facilitators' (CF) Training Program at Kolkata, Jaipur, and Bangalore in May 2024. The CF Training Program was attended by 78 artisan trainers who would further train 3,900 grassroots artisans.

The training sessions covered subjects including design thinking, photography, storytelling, digital marketing, financial literacy, and communication skills.

Highlighted News

Community Level Training Programs

In recent Community Level Training Programs, facilitators made significant impacts across India. In the East, seven community facilitators conducted training at five civil society organizations—Jeevika Development Society, Beyond Handmade, Sahashram, CSWS, and Tantipara Prakritik Tussar Kendra—benefiting 350 grassroots artisans. The West saw seven

CFs conducting programs at Shiv Shiksha Samiti, Vatsalya Foundation, Social Asset Foundation, Rajasthan Mahila Kalyan Mandal, Gramin Vikash Evam Chetana Sansthan, Jan Kala Sahitya Manch Sansthan, and Deepak Foundation, reaching 529 artisans. In the North seven CFs worked with Abhyudaya, Mijwan Welfare Society, and Sanjeevani, impacting 350 artisans. The South had one CF conduct training at Janastu, benefiting 50 artisans.

The Community Facilitators from four regions, after gaining the training, went back to their respective Civil Society Organizations and trained the grassroots artisans with new skills and knowledge for community growth. Through the targeted Community Level Training Programs 24 CFs disseminated their acquired knowledge to 1214 grassroots artisans.

East



West



North



South

