Two Day Capacity Building Programme on CSR

NFCSR under IICA successfully conducted a 2-day Training Program on CSR for the implementing partners of GAIL India. Dr. Garima Dadhich Asst. Professor, and Head NFCSR IICA marked the commencement of the programme with a welcome address.

THE PROGRAMME AIMED AT TRAINING THE PARTICIPANTS TO LEARN ABOUT

- Building strategies to raise funds for their organisation utilising CSR funds
- CSR Project development, and its implementation,
- Monitoring and Evaluation of the project’s progress,
- Troubleshooting and documentation pertaining to CSR compliance,
- Conducting CSR audit and prepare compliance report

INAUGURAL SESSION BY MS. NITA CHOWDHURY - IAS OFFICER

Citing numerous examples from her enriching experience, Ms. Chowdhary highlighted that with the growing need for improving and innovating implementation processes, companies should now inculcate effective project designing techniques to amplify their impact. She also shed some light upon the importance of participation of local people and engagement of local institutions in the development of a village.

SESSION ON CSR LAWS AND REGULATIONS

BY DR. GARIMA DADHICH - HEAD NFCSR, IICA

The session summarized Companies Act and Post Act Implications on GAIL. Dr. Dadhich highlighted how organizations have become more socially and ecologically aware of the community they’re functional in.

SESSION ON UNDERSTANDING WHAT COMPANIES WANT AND CSR PROJECT OBJECTIVES

BY MR. PRAVEEN KARN - GROUP HEAD CSR - SPARK MINDA

The case study based interactive session by Mr. Karn discussed about CSR best practices for capturing relevant issues to foster sustainable growth. He suggested implementing partners to gain an understanding of CSR policy of the company and then target strategies as per their strength areas.
SESSION ON ASSESSING COMMUNITY NEEDS BY DR. IMTIAZ AHMED - MISSION HEAD- HELPAGE INDIA

Dr. Imtiaz emphasised that before engaging in community-based work, make sure that the organisation has gotten a solid lay of the area to better understand the capacity for executing a CSR project. This should be accompanied by an assessment of what’s needed in the community. He insisted the implementing partners to make sure to set clear guidelines for initiative success and communication with relevant stakeholders about the progress.

SESSION ON ALIGNING CORPORATE STRATEGY TO COMMUNITY NEEDS BY MR. DINESH AGRAWAL - FORMER GM - NTPC

Sharing examples from the experiences of CSR projects, Mr. Agrawal discussed about how data from needs assessments may be used in a baseline study, but only if it reliably captures the relevant conditions. He stressed upon the fact that the main outcome of Need Assessment surveys includes getting insights about the needs and problems of the community both at individual household as well as village level related to a particular thematic areas so that impactful projects can be created.

SESSION ON STRATEGIC STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT BY MS. PADMA RAGHAVAN- CRO - SMILE FOUNDATION

Ms. Raghavan discussed about the primary objective of corporate stakeholder engagement is to build relationships with stakeholders to better understand their perspectives and concerns on key issues. The session aimed at the process of identifying and implementing the key concepts and good practices related to project completion and exit and maximize sustainability of outcomes.

Day Two commenced with a recapitulation session of the Day One by the program manager, Ms. Divya Banerjee, SRA- NFCSR.
SESSION ON PROJECT REPORTING AND DOCUMENTATION BY MR. DEBADIDEB DATTA - DIRECTOR F&O - ISC
A very lively and interactive session was delivered by Mr. Datta on fundamentals of Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) tools for program activities. He further explained the logical framework through Goal, Purpose, Outputs and Activities. Participants discussed case studies to majorly understand project description, verifiable indicators, means of verification and assumptions of risks, during his session.

SESSION ON FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT BY MR. ANJANI KUMAR SHARMA - CO-FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR - SAGA
The financial and technical aspects of CSR fund management was simplified by Mr. Sharma. He dealt with various challenges arising at the financial front for the NGOs. He threw light upon specific details pertaining to financial recording and accounting of CSR funds received by implementing partners and project management board.

Participants at the end of the workshop, had a comprehensive understanding of their roles and responsibilities for implementation of CSR projects vis-à-vis CSR systems, processes, policy and guidelines. All the sessions delivered by the subject matter experts were well connected to each other and helped participants understand concepts better. The sessions were highly appreciated by the participants. They shared their feedback and described the programme to be very engaging and informative. Mr. Sanjay Gupta, DGM (CSR) and Ms. Anjali Sood (Senior Manager) from GAIL India graced the programme with their presence. GAIL continues to ensure commitment at all levels in the organisation, to operate its business in an economically, socially & environmentally sustainable manner, while recognizing the interests of all its stakeholders.