BEST PRACTICE

Title of the best practice : knowledge resource exchange center(center for Higher learning and Research)

Objectives of the practice:-

The major objective is to engage with resource person, social activist, teachers and student. Specific reason behind this practice is to get major inputs from experts to students for intervention with communities issues, besides this there are several objectives like

- Supports peoples efforts at ground level with quality research, information dissemination and policy update
- Extend support and solidarity to various platforms of different groups working on community issues
- Strengthen advocacy efforts on communities issues and problem
- Document based practice and build information and knowledge on these issues
- Build and strengthen strategic linkages and alliances needed to influence polices and implementation on the issues related communities issues.

The context (challenges):-

We as an institution (college) was having broad knowledge based learning center on various communities' issues but we are weak in exchange with our communities. We decided to engage communities and students with input from experts and activists which was supported for outcomes of collective research and grassroots experience for policy influencing and knowledge management purpose.

We were having less partnership and engagement with civil society groups, activists, academics and research institutions to create knowledge forums on critical related issues, which we are not having. We thought this process will help understanding us to share ideas, knowledge through related programs and campaigns at the local level and synergizing with other organization   and also to contribute to the issues and forming policy.

We are having limited networking with key stake holders, civil society activists, media and government at various levels to draw their attention to existing and potential issues from the ground through effective communication strategies, for policy influencing at appropriate levels.

The practice:-

We have invited civil society groups, activists, academics and research institution to create forums on critical related issues. We created this platform to share ideas, knowledge through related academic programs   and synergizing with other organizations and also to contribute to the issues and policy debates.

We are networking with key stakeholders, civil society activists, media and government at various level to draw their attention to existing and potential issues from the ground through effective communication strategies, for policy influencing at appropriate levels. We initiated dialogue and knowledge center to collect documents. We are involving NGO's government officials and institutions for our block placement (field practice). We brought together researchers, social activists and grassroots peoples who are concerned and actively engaged with the issues of national importance like good governance,

economic equity, poverty alleviation, regional and inclusive development, gender equity, environment and ecology, transparency and accountability, strengthening democratic institutions and political participation.

We invited process of engagement with many stakeholders ranging from academicians, researchers, journalists, businessman, social and political workers, bankers and educationists, health practitioner, trade unionists committed to play the role of a catalyst in empowerment of people through a collective action leading to improvement in quality of life and human dignity.

We started to achieve above objective through knowledge center, dialogue, intervention, supporting people's knowledge.

Evidences of success:-

We initiated the process of inviting social activists, experts, academics and students for exchanging ideas. We organized regular lecture series, discussion on issues, **collection and compilation of research/ resource documents.**

We are able to compile several recent acts and schemes related to social issues of land acquisition, coalmines R and R policy, District Mineral Foundation and Forest Right Act. **We have imitated**

 workshops on languages and reporting process and also field documentation.

We are able to provide information to different stakeholders of community, problems encountered and resource required. We are having limited resources specially finance to engage more experts from other universities mostly out of state. we are using bare minimum resources within our ambit. We require almost 2-3 researchers (we can support our students for internship program on research within our college) we like to support fellowship for researchers, data collection and policy analysis and also language translators. We like to publish and print material for our stake holders, we like to engage government officials to support awareness making material. We like to engage more civil society for this kind of work.

Contact person:-

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BEST PRACTICE SECOND

Title of the practice: Library – community resource center (Juni Padoli & Gorja Village)
Objectives of the practice:

1) To promote and develop reading as a pleasurable activity to stimulate the imagination and encourage creativity.
2) To provide opportunities and resources for lifelong learning, training and educational achievement.
3) To facilitate informal self-education and contribute towards the raising of standards in the essential basic skills of literacy and numeracy.
4) To provide and encourage the use of ICT to enable access to digital skills and services.
5) To continuously improve collection and training to meet the immediate needs of the community and to provide a solid foundation for future development.

The context (challenges)

Villages, in which we have initiated Library as Community Resource Center are widely separate and have diverse interest, backgrounds, cultural heritage, social values, and needs. They all, however, have limited access to basic socioeconomic support and opportunity despite some progress recently in regard to road development. The combine effect of poverty, geography, and general lack of development also prevents people, particularly young men and women and low caste group from accessing quality education.

There is a minimum educational provision and resources in the area. Approximately 25% of the total population is illiterate. The adult rate (51%) is particularly alarming. In addition, gender inequality is profound with only one - quarter of all women being minimally literate, a phenomenon which exacerbates poverty and underdevelopment.

We want to do something about this by creating a community library and resource center which will provide opportunities for people to have access to books and other educational material and thus help in reducing illiteracy and encouraging education and a love of reading.

The Practice

Library and resource center will be a catalyst for community development and continuing education. The center will operate as a hub and will provide a welcoming and comfortable environment for the community. It will provide a one stop resource, information and learning center for the people, with a variety of services including: book displays, reading, lending, free computer training, and a venue for topical issues debates.

Evidence of success

We at present support the basic initiatives; youths are using services of library for books and newspapers. Their sense of reading has been inculcated. We like to make library as community resource center for literacy campaign, job employment guidance center. In future we like to see following change up- skilling of residents, thus improving their employability, financial well being and economic value to individual, economic benefit to local businesses, The prosperity of the community, Job, Carrier, and business resources particularly for small businesses, indirect economic impacts that will benefit individuals in the community and civic involvement. We like to support access to financial information, educational support for the community, and support for public services. Books and other formats are available without cost; educational support on every level; and enhancement of other public services (Governments and social programmes)

Problem encountered and resources required.

We have several problems to run the basic library and resource center in a long term, we are having discussion on how villagers can become partner in this process in this particular project. At present we required financial support, material and equipment support such as books, tables, cupboards, computers, furniture for making sitting arrangement and other useful materials in a community library. We require bigger infrastructure for training and human resource (volunteers). if possible we require computers to set up resource center to support basic activities of digital online services for people.

Contact person

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