



W³ORKABILITY ASIA

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3 | SEP 2018

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Svayam Accessibility Awards 2018 in Taiwan



**WORTH Trust – Enabling
the Differently-Abled
since 1963.**



**WAsia conference 2018 will coming!
Register Now!!!**

Workability
Asia
Conference

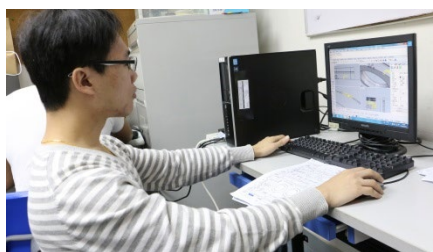


2018

17-19 DEC
Sunway Hotel
Phnom Penh,
Cambodia

'Enabling innovative diverse workforces towards sustainable competitiveness'

Forging Patterns of Brilliance



**Employing persons with
disabilities was a wise decision**



Namma Vaani Impact Story- Case Study



New Member !!!

PANDORA
UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS



Namma Vaani Impact Story- Case Study



An Initiative by  enableacademy
Powered by EnAble India

One day, Venkatesh, a boy with vision impairment studying in 8th grade, thought he had new hope to regain his sight. He went to school with a new spring in his step and met his teacher Jagadeesha. Venkatesh shared his excitement with Jagadeesha using these words, “Sir, did you know that I can get back the vision in my eyes if I pay 5 lakh rupees? I will borrow money and after I get my eyes, I will work in some bakery and pay the loan back. I don’t want to study here.”

The teacher Jagadeesha was shocked beyond belief and tried counselling Venkatesh that such claims were fake and that he should not give up schooling. But no matter what Jagadeesha said, Venkatesh was adamant. The teacher uploaded an audio on Namma Vaani requesting listeners to counsel his student to not give up school and not believe in false promises of regaining sight.

Namma Vaani uses mobile phone connectivity to reach the unreached and connect the community in Karnataka, India. It is an Enable India-moderated social networking platform which facilitates sharing of job opportunities, success stories, solutions and training information for Persons with Disability in India.

It was an emotional experience for our moderator who listens to all audios and uploads them for everyone to listen. She devotedly published all the responses that listeners posted. Even the responses to this appeal were heart wrenching.

Jagadeesha got overwhelming responses to his request on Namma Vaani. About 10 people uploaded audios counselling Venkatesh to continue studying and advised to disregard false claims of restoring vision. Finally the boy was convinced and has agreed to stay back in the school and continue his studies. Jagadeesha, the teacher posted an audio thanking all listeners who had helped the boy find his way. The future of this boy is now brighter, and his education is back on track.



Social network on Mobile -
Awareness in hand

Authors: Enable India

Employing persons with disabilities was a wise decision

Open employment of persons with disabilities is one of the best way to promote social inclusion. Supported Employment Service (SES) of Hong Kong PHAB Association has provided skill training, job-seeking, job placement and follow-up support services to persons with disabilities to prepare them for open employment and enable them to become financially independent through engagement in jobs.



To employ persons with disabilities was not an easy task for employers in Hong Kong due to small work space and fast work pace. However, there are still lots of employers in Hong Kong who believe in persons with disabilities. Forever Couple, a local company for couple rings' design and production, is one of them.

SES has developed good partnership with Forever Couple since 2016 to implement a Trainee Programme to provide Jewelry Design courses, job matching, on job training and follow up support for persons with different types of disabilities. Five trainees have been successfully referred and worked in the company.



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Employing persons with disabilities was a wise decision

The founder of Forever Couple, Mr. Eddie Lai, pointed out that employing persons with disabilities was a wise decision as he found that there are lots of advantages of having them in the team. Eddie stated that our trainees show great commitment to the job, positive working attitudes with low turnover rates. Eddie is also impressed that our trainees showed great passion to further develop their career in Jewelry Design industry. Mr. Naau, is one of the trainees who Eddie admired so much.

Mr. Naau, who suffered from cerebral palsy and was unemployed for many years joined the trainee programme in 2016. Mr. Naau stated that no matter how hard he tried, he just kept failing in job interviews until he met the Forever Couple. He found the resonance and his talent in Jewelry Design was finally discovered. Now Mr. Naau is employed as one of the Jewelry designers in the company.

Still wonder how good a person with disability could be? You can't imagine it until you look at those gorgeous rings that were designed and produced by the employees with disabilities. It's time to change your mind, and advocating the inclusion as the core value of society and everyone's lifestyle.

Authors: Hong Kong PHAB Association

WORTH Trust – Enabling the Differently-Abled since 1963.



In India unfortunately, in the early 1960's, leprosy was a dreaded disease, which deformed and disabled many people in dreadful ways. Apart from medical issues, people with leprosy, faced an unfortunate stigma and discrimination. This resulted in them being shunned and excluded from their family and community.

Considering the vast number of physically challenged in India, the occupational rehabilitation services available to them were meagre. The few organizations which then offered rehabilitation, trained them in traditional crafts like weaving, candle making and in agriculture - based activities. Their income was inadequate, but there was no other alternative. For the leprosy-cured people, nothing noteworthy had been done. To cure the leprosy - afflicted of their disease was praiseworthy, but stopping there would be as unfortunate as doing nothing at all.

The urgent need of the hour was – REHABILITATION. Rehabilitation would help to banish frustration in lives and create self-reliant individuals. It would put them back in the community as acceptable and useful, contributing much to society, in all aspects.

WORTH Trust – Enabling the Differently-Abled since 1963.

The SWEDISH RED CROSS started a unique project, to show that, **“It is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness”**. With funds raised in Sweden, it set up an Industrial Rehabilitation Centre (WORTH Trust), in 1963. Mr. C. Antony Samy was the first Indian engineer to join WORTH Trust (or, Swedish Red Cross, as it was then known). Mr. Antony chose to use his engineering knowledge and expertise, in India, to help rehabilitate and integrate differently-abled persons, into the mainstream society.

When the rehabilitation industry started functioning in 1963, it had to take an unbeaten path. There was no precedent in India, or elsewhere, wherein those affected by leprosy were given training in light engineering activities and employed to do production activities.



The industrial workshop was well equipped with imported and indigenous precision machines and obtained contracts for supplying turned and pressed precision components, in competition with other industries. With minimum or hardly any education, they became highly skilled workers with on-the-job training. They were earning an income which was earlier impossible to think of or dream about.

Over the last five decades, WORTH Trust grew into what it is today, excelling in supply of quality products for major industries and making aids and appliances for the Differently-Abled.



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WORTH Trust – Enabling the Differently-Abled since 1963.

WORTH Trust undertakes the following activities

- Six Production Centres employing mostly Differently-Abled persons.
- Manufacture of Assistive Devices for the Visually impaired including the Perkins Braille and Mobility Aids.
- Digitization of Books for the print disabled.
- Technical Training Centres, where boys and girls with disability are provided free vocational training.
- Transitional school for children with Speech and Hearing Impairments.
- Early Intervention Centre to train Hearing Impaired infants.
- Day activity Centre for the Mentally challenged.
- Rural outreach programmes.



WORTH is the only rehabilitation organisation in India, which is fully self-sustained. The production centres, which employ mostly persons with disabilities, enable them to generate a surplus, with which the entire cost of its rehabilitation activities are met.

Authors: WORTH Trust

Forging Patterns of Brilliance



Every year, India witnesses about 1 million children with autism emerging but many cases go undiagnosed during the crucial early years. Even after a diagnosis, parents often have no clear path to follow to give their child what they need.

Sense Kaleidoscopes was started by two women, Anima and Akshayee, who believed in the possibilities of Autism and wished to offer a roadmap towards independence for youngsters with autism.

Akshayee, who worked and studied in the field of autism in Glasgow, found a huge lack in the resources for autistic children in India. Anima, a writer and engineer, found herself struggling to find appropriate schools and methodologies for her own son with autism. A chance meeting between the two led to Sense Kaleidoscopes.

Their mission was and continues to be threefold:

- To innovatively address & bridge the gap in Cognitive, Communication, Life and Social skills development for children with ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder)
- To address the impending lack of customized high-end skill training, employment opportunities, financial independence and sustainable livelihood options for youngsters with ASD.
- To address the lack of high-quality, qualified, professional teaching human resources by empowering the low-income Artist and Special educator communities.



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Forging Patterns of Brilliance

Our 8-hour program with a 1:3 student ratio does just that, and we have seen a marked improvement in cognition, life and social skills, adaptability to environment, application of key concepts and classroom engagement amongst our students. We are also building a process-oriented and tested curriculum in academics and arts for the first time in India specifically for Autism which also ensures scalability thereby providing solutions for more youngsters affected by ASD.



Challenges

1. Fundraising to scale, stabilize resources and infrastructure to build our final proof of concept.
2. A training space to train more professionals.
3. Resources with necessary skillset and dedication.

Future

Our immediate priority with the project is to set up our recently moved-in space to build the first unit which will aim to train 50 students in total with 17 training staff to maintain the 1:3 student ratio.

Furthermore, we also envision providing artist's studio spaces which will offer them the support of a curating/marketing team to sustain a working career through their life.

Simultaneously, we are also setting up Blue Olephant, a company that provides additional income for ASD artists by ensuring sales, branding, marketing, and design services for them.

Forging Patterns of Brilliance

Future

Our long-term plan is to acquire 11,000 square feet space either through government or private means to build the facility to accommodate 100 students and 40 staff members with 30 in academics and 60 in the vocational department and 5 to 10 newly-graduated artists working in the in-house studios.

Vision

Sense Kaleidoscopes believes that this model of providing high-end training and quality academics to children with Autism using the in-house developed curriculum is not only scalable but also replicable. Our final vision is to help larger numbers of youngsters with Autism regardless of their economic background by opening up franchises in other cities and training more resources with our methodologies.



Authors: Sense Kaleidoscopes – A Unit of Ayathi Trust

Svayam Accessibility Awards 2018 in Taiwan

Call for applications/nominations for Svayam Accessibility Awards 2018 to be held in Taipei during Nov 12-15, 2018

Call for Applications/Nominations

Applications in prescribed format are invited for the forthcoming "**Svayam Accessibility Awards 2018**" from agencies/ organizations based in Taiwan or have implemented accessibility projects in the territory of Taiwan on the thematic areas. The award ceremony will coincide with the 15th International Conference on Mobility and Transport for the Elderly and the Disabled Persons, which will be hosted by **Eden Social Welfare Foundation**, scheduled to be held during November 12-15, 2018 at Taipei, Taiwan.



Mr. Patrick Ying-Ping Yeh
Director of Workability Asia



Svayam Accessibility Awards 2018 in Taiwan

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Area of Evaluation	Percentage %
Methodology of the Project	50%
Project scalability	20%
Does the project promote independence, mobility & participation of all in civic life	10%
Were local people/ persons with disabilities/ relevant stakeholders involved in design of concept	10%
Is the project sustainable	10%

WHO CAN APPLY?

- Individuals
- Organizations- Government or Private
- Municipal Authorities/Development Agencies
- Public Sector Undertakings
- Public Private Partnership models

For more information, please contact:

TRNSED 2018 Secretariat

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Authors: Eden Social Welfare Foundation

Thai Autism Foundation



Thai Autism Foundation is a public organization, accredited by the Office for the Advancement and Development of the Quality of Life of People with Disabilities Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. It focuses on the promotion and development of quality of the lives of young autistic people, people with learning disabilities, the disabled and the disadvantaged in society.

Mission

Under the framework of "Development to Unlimited Potential", the foundation provides services in the following areas:

1. Health Promotion
2. Education
 - Thai Autistic Learning Center
 - Coordinating co-management in basic and higher education
3. Career Promotion and Job Creation
4. Community Development Business and Parenting Clubs
 - Happy G Family Camps
 - Provide training for the development of early childhood special education
 - Organize media production training
 - Computer Center
5. Development of knowledge, innovation, promotion of creative attitudes of the society towards all target groups and community learning



New Member

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Pandora Production

PANDORA
UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS

Pandora, a global jewelry brand that is gaining popularity in more than 100 countries, has been awarded the "Outstanding Disabled Persons Supporting Organization of the Year 2016" by Ministry of Social Development and Human Security.

Pandora values and accepts diversity, cultural and gender concepts, and believes that skills and attitudes consistent with corporate values do not depend on the physical condition. It gives the opportunity for hearing impaired people to become part of the Pandora family. Every Pandora employee is treated equally and the company hired 112 people with disability in 2017.



Pandora provides workplace accommodations for PWDs such as language interpreter, KIOSK language interpreter services, ramps and lifts for people with mobility impairments, and special seats for wheelchair users.



Reference: <http://www.bangkokbiznews.com/pr/detail/34244>



WORKABILITY ASIA

From the Secretariat

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WORKABILITY ASIA CONFERENCE 2018

Workability Asia Conference 2018 Is Coming Up!!

We would like to invite you to join this conference on 17th – 19th of December, 2018 at Cambodoiana hotel, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Please consider visiting and supporting our Wasia family in Cambodia!

Workability Asia Conference 2018

17-19 DEC
Sunway Hotel
Phnom Penh,
Cambodia

'Enabling innovative diverse workforces towards sustainable competitiveness'

Key Outcome :

"Beyond Compliance, Business Value of Accessibility, Diversity and Innovation for ALL"

Key Activity :

1. Plenary session

- "Leading Change and Innovation in Ecosystem to facilitate PWDs at work"
- "Aligning Innovation Strategy into Workforce"
- "Let's Talk about Past, Present and Future of our Wasia"

2. Break out session

- Reshaping Inclusive Education of ALL
- Sustainable and Impact NGOs Collaboration towards Workability in ASIA
- Social Enterprise towards Job Opportunities for PWDs
- Innovative Accessibility & Technology
- Scaling Job Opportunity in Grassroots and Rural Area
- Building CBR: Community based rehabilitation Practice

3. Refreshment Networking session

4. Abstract Presentation

- Policy
- PWDs Capacity building
- Competitive PWDs Employment
- Business opportunities
- Social Entrepreneurships
- Technology Driven
- Social Change/Innovation

5. Exhibition

- Social Innovation
- Technology
- Competitive Employment (CE)
- Social Entrepreneurship (SE)
- Disability Management (DM)
- Academic/Research

6. Reception Dinner

WELCOME

As the 11th Workability Asia Conference, we believe that it is time creation innovation and collaboration for the inclusive eco-system is taken to engage all stakeholders to involve in driving the change for the greater opportunity and shared value for all.



Register Now!



<https://goo.gl/M5NvtI>

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WORKABILITY ASIA

From the Secretariat

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Share Your Stories:

- Please share your knowledge and experiences with WASIA members and our network.
- You can send your articles (1-2 pages) with some photos.
- Send your stories to WASIA Secretariat Team via workabilityasia@gmail.com to be part of the next newsletter **by 31 November, 2018.**

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