Regional Entrepreneurship Coalition meeting at Khategaon, Madhya Pradesh

A coalition meeting of the Work 4 Progress (W4P) programme of “la Caixa” Foundation and Development Alternatives (DA), was organised at Khategaon block in Dewas district in Madhya Pradesh on 14 October 2020. More than 19 stakeholders from 14 organisations like ICICI Foundation, MP State Rural Livelihood Mission, MP Gramin Bank etc. participated virtually and shared their experiences and challenges for enterprise development in the Khategaon Block.

The W4P programme aims to accelerate the creation of meaningful and dignified employment through the creation of platforms for innovation, action and continuous learning in two regions of India - Bundelkhand and Eastern Uttar Pradesh. It provides enterprise development opportunities for youth and women and uses social innovation methods that encourage dialogue-based participation by the community to co-create model solutions and share learning with others to generate impact at scale.

Under the programme, DA has entered into a strategic partnership with Transform Rural India Foundation (TRIF) to work together on accelerating enterprise development in the district of Dewas and Dhar of Madhya Pradesh. DA as knowledge partner will support TRIF to adopt social innovation approaches for job creation through entrepreneurship.

W4P India has co-created several social innovation tools and platforms with the communities. To achieve a nurturing ecosystem for enterprise development in the target geography, the concept of Regional Entrepreneurship Coalition is being implemented in both the districts. The regional coalition is a
multi-stakeholder learning and action platform for co-creating solutions and facilitating convergent action for entrepreneurship led job creation.

The coalition meeting helped in initiating dialogue with the local stakeholders of Dewas and understanding the current state of entrepreneurship in the region. The participants also explored new opportunities and shared stories of successful micro entrepreneurs of the region. As an immediate outcome, stakeholders agreed to meet on regular interval to continue the process of dialogue and initiate the work of strengthening coalition in the area.