Regional Enterprise Coalition organised in Eastern Uttar Pradesh

A regional enterprise coalition was organised with 14 stakeholders under the Work 4 Progress programme in the Mirzapur district of Eastern UP. The coalition aimed to bring together different stakeholders and leverage resources to promote entrepreneurship in the acceleration phase of the programme. The discussion revolved around post-COVID transitions in the local ecosystem towards entrepreneurship. The meeting was attended by the DA team, implementing partners of the programme, government stakeholders including the Director of Jan Shikshan Sansthan, UNIBASE Microfinance, Vindhya Beej Sabji FPO, Field Coordinator from EDII, a representative from Horticulture Department, and 4 successful entrepreneurs.

The coalition meeting was moderated by Ram Sanjeevan Dubey from Manviya Distrikon Seva Samiti (MDSS) and Debasis Ray from the DA team, who initiated the discussion by highlighting the role of the platform in building connections and bridging the gaps of the entrepreneurial ecosystem. The coalition members shared their experiences of their association with the platform for the last four years and suggested ways to strengthen enterprise development in Mirzapur for the next phase of the W4P program.

Other stakeholders, including the government department representatives, emphasised the need for increasing local agencies and developing knowledge resources that can accelerate the process of promoting entrepreneurship in Mirzapur. Shrashtant Patara from DA reiterated the role of W4P as a catalyst in the coalition and the position of the coalition as an independent platform, which can be a single window for the community members to discuss their challenges and needs for entrepreneurship.

As a way forward, the coalition members decided to conduct department-specific meetings to ensure that information about different government schemes and resources is brought together and made quickly available to the potential entrepreneurs.

Development Alternatives Group