

A background image showing four hands of different skin tones reaching up to form a triangle, with colorful dots (red, yellow, blue, green) scattered around the hands.

Building Strong Foundations

Communication on Engagement (COE) to the UN Global Compact



H.E. António Guterres,
Secretary-General,
United Nations,
New York, NY 10017 USA.

Date: 18 April 2018

Your Excellency,

Greetings from Everest Foundation. At the very outset, I like to extend my heartiest gratitude for taking these noble initiatives for a great cause by UNGC to engage civil societies to promote sustainability in practice in development sector and among business community. We are pleased to submit our report in line with UNGC's content for the non-business participants to submit the Communication on Engagement (CoE) report in every two years commencing 31st of October 2013. We have been associated with UNGC since January 2016; this is our first CoE Report covering the period April, 2015 to March, 2017. Since this is our first ever report, we have included a brief introduction and details of activities that we carried out during the said period.

Everest Foundation (EF) is a charitable trust and established in 2015 by Everest Industries Limited. **"Everest Foundation is committed to enhancing livelihood and living conditions of communities"** by engaging with communities to address social, environmental and developmental issues through structured programs, build effective and sustainable delivery model, reaching out to larger community who are deprived and needy.

We fully understand that responsible business practices would bring far reaching benefits in terms of prospering communities, building skilled workforce, generating employment opportunities, enhancing quality of life, mitigating environmental challenges. In continuation, Everest Foundation undertaking social responsibility activities on behalf of Everest Industries Limited and act as CSR arm.

We have embedded UNGC's principles in our activity plan and promote, communicate those activities through different events and projects. We assure you that we will continue in our sincere efforts to make the principles and initiatives of UNGC going forward, and engage closely with and support the UNGC in our work.

Warm regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Manish Kumar Singh".

Manish Kumar Singh

Head Projects-Everest Foundation

Foreword

Everest Foundation is committed to enhancing the livelihood and living conditions of disenfranchised communities. Our approach is to get proactively involved in their economic upliftment, and improve their living conditions.

We primarily focus on training and skill building, health, hygiene and sanitation, education, art and sports promotion, environmental sustainability, and community empowerment. The foundation has developed programs which are innovative, sustainable, and create value for every stakeholder.

We also promote Individual Social Responsibility (ISR), and facilitate social change by engaging with privileged individuals and motivating them to participate in the creation of a better society. We aim to collaborate with individuals and enterprises to develop sustainable action agendas that can improve the world we live in.

Thanking you,

Manish Sanghi, Trustee, Everest Foundation
Managing Director, Everest Industries Limited

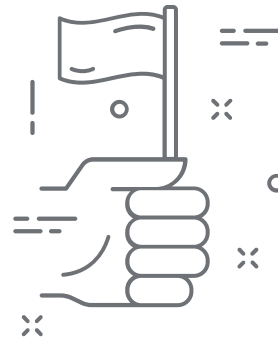


Vision and Mission



Vision

“Everest Foundation is committed to enhancing the livelihood and living conditions of communities.”



Mission

- Build skills for enhancing the livelihood of 1,000 beneficiaries each year
- Engage with communities to improve living conditions – health and sanitation, education, and sports

Board of Trustees

Mr. Aditya Vikram Somani,
Chairman, Everest Industries
Limited

Mr. Manish Sanghi,
Managing Director,
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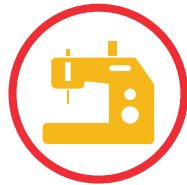
Training and Skill Building

Enabling the development of latent skills can help build a “virtuous circle” — the quality and relevance of education and training fuels innovation investment, technological change, enterprise development, economic diversification and competitiveness. Emerging economies can, in turn, leverage this synergy to accelerate the process of employment generation.

To build skill sets across our intended target groups — youth, women, and marginalized construction workers among others — the Everest Foundation initiated skills training in computers, sewing and roof installation across various locations in order to directly benefit more than 2,000 people over the last 24 months.



In partnership with NIIT, Everest Foundation trained 1154 youths in computer skills



Everest Foundation partnered with USHA Sewing School to teach 127 students essential sewing skills



In association with CIDC and Sattva, Everest Foundation inducted and trained 747 participants through the Roof Master Training Program



Everest Foundation helped 95 participants through their career facilitation services



Everest Foundation executes their Roof Master Training Program in association with SATTVA, the Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC), local NGO, and other industry experts

Health, Hygiene, and Sanitation

Public healthcare in India is still in a state of flux. Rural areas continue to look for effective ways to make healthcare facilities available and accessible to vulnerable groups. To that end, between 2015 – 2017 we initiated a Tobacco Control Program, a public sanitation program, as well as individual sanitation programs. The Everest Foundation has also organised several blood donation camps.



Constructed 18 toilets through the School and Institutional Sanitation Program



Partnered with Salaam Mumbai Foundation (SMF) to make one block of Nasik, Dindori (including schools) completely tobacco-free



Partnered with SMF to conduct tobacco use and sensitization training for 7,000 participants. Reached 1,000 people directly through health camps.



Constructed 700 toilets through the Individual Household Sanitation Program in partnership with the Swades Foundation



Everest Foundation in collaboration with Swades Foundation constructed 700 toilets through the Individual Household Sanitation Program in Raigad, Maharashtra

More than 85% of school children in India have no access to sports due to a lack of adequate facilities. Less than 10% of the population under 35 years of age has access to organized sports. An equally small percentage of youth have access to playgrounds.

The Everest Foundation seeks to provide a platform to rural youth and children where they can demonstrate their sporting capabilities, and acquire skills that can help them live a healthy and progressive life. To facilitate this, we organize various local and community-level sporting events and training programs at our plant locations. In fact, more than 1,500 children and youth attended our sports activities between 2015 – 2017.



230 children have benefitted directly from badminton tournaments organized in their local communities through a partnership with the Katni Badminton Association



A total of 1160 children from various villages have participated in inter-school and village level football tournaments organized in association with the Coimbatore District Football Association



In November 2016, an interschool football tournament was organized in which 410 kids from local areas and private schools participated



12 children from economically backward neighbourhoods in Mumbai participated at an international sporting event in Dubai for which Salaam Bombay Foundation (SBF) was a partner



In association with Salaam Bombay Foundation (SBF), Everest Foundation helped Mumbai slum children participate in an international cricket training workshop in Dubai

Environmental Sustainability and Community Building

Everest Foundation believes in maintaining green and sustainable environments and mitigating environmental challenges. To that end we pursue the practice of planting saplings in various areas across our sites, and the lands allocated by the Forest Department. Numerous activities have been organized over two years to plant thousands of trees. In addition, we have created multiple programs to address the main issues pertaining to the environment.

Community building is also an important aspect of our philosophy. For this we have partnered with Ananta Centre to create the Ananta Aspen Everest Speaker series in Mumbai. It helps build thought leadership amongst captains of business, social, and government circles. Insights by speakers like Dr. Anil Gupta (on China), Dr. Shashi Tharoor (On Indian politics), Dr Brad Agle (on ethics), Mr Anshu Gupta, Goonj (on social impact), Mr. Amish Tripathi (on relevance of Indian mythology) and Ambassador Talmiz Ahmad (on West Asia) have brought new perspectives and discussion opportunities to create a better society.

World Environment Day is celebrated across Everest manufacturing facilities on June 5th of every year



400 saplings were planted at Kymore and Podanur



45 employees participated in a plantation drive



The plantation drive acted as a measure towards the reduction of global warming



Communities were sensitized to the need for environmental sustainability

Individual Social Responsibility

"All philanthropy comes from the heart. The more you give of yourself the more you grow as a human being. You should be grateful to the beneficiary for giving you the opportunity to serve and grow."

Aditya Vikram Somani
Chairman, Everest Industries Limited

Every member of the Everest team is motivated, skilled, and adds to the strength of the company. Their large-heartedness allows them to willingly share their time and talent with others to build a better, stronger, and safer community.

The fact that giving back is intrinsic to our company culture is evidenced in a system which encourages each employee to contribute at least four man hours in a year for community-driven initiatives. Our efforts have included the creation of several employee engagement opportunities which have been a rousing success — over the last two years, around 1563 employees contributed more than 2408 hours across various activities such as sensitization drives, skill-center visits, sport activities, education projects and other initiatives.



Earthquake relief for
Nepal



Food donation drives across
all business units



Free medical drives
organized at Roorkee



Plantation drives and
environmental awareness
initiatives in Kolkata



Helping underprivileged
women during 'Joy of Giving'
Week



Donating toys to an
orphanage supported by Child
Help Foundation

Glimpses of ISR Initiatives

Career Planning and Skills Training

Everest Foundation espouses the belief that weaker sections of society should have access to resources that will allow them to become self-reliant and independent. Whether it is career advancement for young students, or working mothers, we make sure to remain proactive on this front. At the Everest Skill Development Center (ESDC), for instance, several employees have volunteered their time to generate awareness on career planning, setting career goals and so on. We have also organized several lectures and talks on developing soft skills where students are regularly advised on issues such as time management, projecting self-confidence, and handling job interviews.

Donation Drives

In our own small way, Everest Industries Limited, through the Everest Foundation organizes donation drives that seeks to eradicate need and hunger in the country. We have organized several initiatives, often with partners like Delhi Food Banking Network, where employees across all our business locations donate non-perishable items that is distributed to the needy. We have also organized 'vastra daan' initiatives to distribute clothes to the homeless. We have also sought to better the lives of underprivileged children in every way possible. For this reason our employees have donated toys to organizations like Child Help Foundation worth several thousand rupees on occasions like Dussehra. In addition they have also donated items such as schools supplies to children who really needed them. Finally, generosity manifests itself in many ways — our employees have donated numerous hours and resources arranging trips to the water park for orphaned youth, or organizing medical camps where free medicines and bandages were handed out to the attendees, and much more.

Disaster Relief

Nepal faced one of the worst natural disasters in recent times on April 25, 2015. About 8 million people were affected by a devastating earthquake that uprooted many people from their homes. As always our employees were ready to come together for a good cause and provide relief when needed. About 488 employees in our workforce gathered approximately Rs. 5 lakhs in donations to aid our northern neighbours. This is one among several disaster relief efforts we have organized between 2015 – 2017. We have also raised around Rs. 5 lakhs for affected areas in Jammu and Kashmir. When Chennai was flooded with heavy rains, our employees reached out to approximately 2000 families with everyday necessities like bed sheets and clothing, in addition to much-needed monetary assistance.



Success in ISR Projects



Helping Children in Need

Mr. Anand S Pillay works with the smart steel buildings division and lives in Noida. His home is situated close to a vegetable market where one night he noticed seventeen children studying by the light of street lamps. Upon further enquiry he learnt the children were related to some of the local vendors. Of course, he took it upon himself to help them out in any way possible. He has undertaken an initiative through which he provides support by ensuring a steady supply of stationery, books, and other educational material. He has even celebrated Holi with the children and continues to help them in any way he can.



Bringing Good Cheer to Orphaned Youngsters

On April 3, 2015, twelve employees of Podanur Works visited Uthavum Karangal, an orphanage in Coimbatore. The objective was to spend some time with children in an effort to spread happiness and provide moral support by interacting and engaging with them in a meaningful way. During the visit employees distributed school bags, sweets, and fruits to children and spent quality time with them.



Educating Students on the Meaning of Citizenship

Ms. Manju Bakshi, wife of Mr. Ranjan Bakshi of Bhagwanpur Works, strongly believes in performing her duties as an individual citizen to the best of her ability. We at Everest Foundation felt the youth at our Skill Development Center would benefit greatly from her views. As a result, we got in touch with her to deliver an interactive talk on citizenship. Her presentation touched upon various aspects aimed at delivering a well-rounded understanding of the subject. The participants found her talk very meaningful and informative.

Success in CSR Projects



Deepak

Nineteen year old Deepak lives in Choli village in Bhagwanpur district, and is the eldest of four siblings. His mother is a home maker while his father, Karan Singh, a private company employee, earns Rs. 9,000 per month. Being a six-member family, this is not enough for them to get by, let alone maintain a standard quality of life.

Deepak is a high school graduate who could not pursue further studies due to his family's economic situation. Through friends he heard about the ESDC which offers IT courses in collaboration with NIIT. After having a discussion with the centre head, he enrolled in the Basic IT and Personality Development course. Deepak is currently employed at S. R. Industrial Equipment and Automation as a Business Development Executive and earns Rs. 5,000 per month in addition to receiving additional perks.



Ajay Chaudhary

Ajay Chaudhary's family members include two sisters and a brother. His father is an independent carpenter. Since Ajay was already employed in construction, he found his time in the Roof Master Training Program to be highly beneficial.

Before attending the training program, he was employed at the construction site of an educational institution where he earned Rs. 200 as a daily wage labourer. After receiving his certification his income increased to Rs. 275 per day. Ajay has high aspirations for himself and wishes to take up large-scale contract work in construction. Ultimately he wants to explore professional opportunities in cities like Jabalpur and Indore.



Arsath Mohammad

Arsath Mohammad is a 17 year old from South Ukkaddam, Coimbatore. His father is a vegetable vendor with a monthly income ranging from Rs. 12,000 – Rs. 15,000. With three other siblings in the family, Arsath was unable to afford higher education.

A few months ago he came to know about Everest Foundation's professionally-run football coaching program. He started coming in for regular training sessions and workshops. His focus and resolve has not only resulted in him becoming a better player, but he was selected to represent Coimbatore for the CM Trophy in 2016.

Success in CSR Projects



Ms. Sunita Mogal

Ms. Sumita Mogal is a 35-year old teacher based in Lakhamapur village. In 2015, when Everest Foundation launched the Tobacco Control Program, she took active part and became a key agent of change in her community. Most notably she was responsible for counselling a fellow villager, Ms. Karuna Kandhu, through her pregnancy to ensure the good health of the mother as well as her unborn child. When she realized Ms. Kandhu had been a regular consumer of tobacco through the duration of her first pregnancy and continued to indulge in the habit, she provided detailed advice about the adverse effect this would have on her pre-natal health. As a result, Karuna not only gave up tobacco consumption but also gave birth to a healthy baby.



Rashmi

Rashmi is a 24-year old administrator hailing from Hardev Nagar. She is currently employed with Shri Shakti Printer Pvt. Ltd. and earns Rs. 8,500 per month to support her family. But before she was able to find success as a professional, her family, living on a meager income, struggled to put her through school. Her turning point came after enrolling at the Everest Skill Development Center. Even though familiarizing herself with technological knowledge posed a slight challenge initially, she overcame all limitations with grit and determination. She is grateful to Everest Foundation and NIIT for helping her become independent, and is happy that her achievements have made her family proud.



Sree Lal Barman

Sree Lal Barman was unemployed before he enrolled in the Everest Roof Master Training Program. The only earning member of his family was his father who supported an entire family of six on an income of Rs. 15,000. Upon completion of his program, Mr. Barman, a resident of Lalnagar, Kymore, applied for a job at Reliance Cement after hearing about an opportunity at their manufacturing plant. He is now based in Bharauli and a full-time employee with the company. He earns an income of Rs. 300 a day and believes that his time at Everest Industries has made him a more responsible person.



Awards and Recognition

National Mahatma Gandhi Tobacco Free Service Award



Everest Foundation has received the prestigious **“Mahatma Gandhi Tobacco Free Service Award”** from the Government of Maharashtra for our good work done in Nashik.

TV100 Excellence Award



A renowned media group, TV100, recognized Everest Foundation for its skill building endeavor in Roorkee with the **TV100 Excellence Award** under the Training & Livelihood category. The award was handed over by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Sri Harish Rawat

Recognized by Government of India

The Government of India and its sister organizations are recognizing institutions and establishments which are achieving new milestones and fostering greater progress in the field of SKILL INDIA. Everest Foundation has been recognized as a progressive training partner in the field of Skills Training by the Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC)



Recognized by the Delhi Food Banking Network



Everest Foundation's initiative 'Anna Daan' was recognized by the "FOOD BANKING NETWORK" on 25th March at New Delhi. The award was handed over by Ms. Priyanka Raina (Mr. Suresh Raina's wife) and Joint Secretary, Ms. Mamta Rani Agarwal.

Partners and Memberships

Partners



Member



United Nations
Global Compact



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