

# Knowledge Exchange Expedition

-Get a glimpse on the latest news from the Knowledge Exchange Expedition-

## Alumni Network in India is getting ready!

(Re)Structuring the alumni network in India is one of the main goals of the Knowledge Exchange Expedition. Mapping the Indian alumni network, finding ambassadors in the cities in which the most of oikos alumni live, feeding the network with news and events to answer alumni and chapters' needs, connecting this network to the global oikos community are some of the tasks undertaken for the alumni community in India.

Considering the enormous Indian territory, we decided to change the country ambassador approach to a city ambassador system.

Welcome the ambassadors in:

- *Bangalore*: Vaibhav Gupta from oikos Delhi & Akshay Mishra from oikos Kolkata<sup>1</sup>
- *Mumbai*: Nimisha Ghorpade from oikos Pune
- *New Delhi*: Ritika Jain from oikos Lund & Akanksha Gupta from oikos Delhi
- *Pune*: Darshan Khot from oikos Pune<sup>2</sup>

You live in India and want to become an ambassador in your city? Don't wait any longer & contact oikos Outreach Manager<sup>3</sup>!

You live outside of India but want to get to know something about India for professional or personal reasons? Feel free to contact one of the ambassadors mentioned above.

## Germany Meeting on Ethical Fashion: A glimpse to the Indian Ethical Fashion Industry

You definitely have heard about fast food, so it is now high time to be introduced to the concept of fast fashion...and find glocal alternative solutions!

Ethical fashion is gaining following in the world, though at a different pace depending on countries. That is why many oikos chapters from different continents have projects in this field. From May 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> a whole regional meeting (Germany Meeting) is even dedicated to it.

India, with 1.3 billion people to dress, is doing ok comparing to its counterparts in the South Asian region thanks to the legal norms in the manufacturing process (e.g, zero liquid discharge), re-use habits and the high skilled traditional handmade clothes, a legacy from the rich and old Indian culture, bringing up the livelihoods of rural communities. However, very few (if not) classes in the Indian design institutes integrate the aspects of sustainable fashion. Maybe, now is time to consider ethical fashion as becoming tomorrow's norm...

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<sup>1</sup> Both were previously country alumni ambassador along with Saurav Kumar Das.

<sup>2</sup> oikos Pune president until January 2019, the strategy is to involve active members in the alumni network right before they disconnect with the oikos network when they leave the chapter. Darshan will stay working in Pune in his family business after January.

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Read a recent article on the Ethical fashion Industry in India published in The Hindu: [‘Runway to green: Sustainable fashion in India’](#).

One interesting initiative in the field of ethical fashion in emerging countries (mainly in Africa now, but might soon expand to Asia): [The Ethical Fashion Initiative](#).

More about the Indian ethical fashion industry & oikos opportunities related to it, will be presented in a sectorial index card, coming at the end of the Knowledge Exchange Expedition in July.

Interested in learning more about other industries? Various sectorial indexes will be available at the end of the Knowledge Exchange Expedition in July. Feel free to ask about the industry you would like to get more information on<sup>4</sup>.

### **Cross cultural management: a LEAP-KEE webinar on June 6th!**

Being within oikos to collaborate with other chapters/within international projects or in your professional life, you might have been facing cross cultural challenges.

Promoting cross cultural experiences to oikos members and alumni within or outside oikos network is part of the Knowledge Exchange Expedition objectives.

How to work with people from different cultural background? What are the do’s and do not’s to ensure efficient collaboration? oikos, an international organization driven by youth, should train its community to work with diverse people. Accompanying tomorrow’s leaders, oikos needs to give oikees the best cross cultural learning experience with a little bit of theory alongside tips and exercises that can be applied in chapters and international projects. Just enough to then continue the learning by doing... That is the context in which the webinar has been designed.

This webinar is also done in cooperation with LEAP. Indeed, it will be provide insight to the next year’s program since next batch will work on displaying intercultural competence, that is the ability to support successful communication and collaboration among people from different cultural contexts and backgrounds. It is one of the eight pillars of the Competence Model which will be used in LEAP 2018/2019 program.

Leap is led by oikos members and involves both members and alumni to ensure a maximum of exchange and learning within the community. The main speaker will be Saurav Kumar Das, oikos Jamshedpur alumnus and current Indian alumni ambassador. He works in India as Associate Manager, Talent Management & Lead at Hero MotoCorp. He has several years of experience in supporting multicultural teams composed of Japanese, Indian, German, and other nationalities, to work effectively in his company.

However, to make the webinar more interactive, we are seeking alumni to lead breakout sessions of the webinar.

Call for alumni with work experience in that domain. If you have experience or know someone within the alumni network with enough experience in cross cultural management, please contact oikos Outreach Manager via email, [clementine.robert@oikos-international.org](mailto:clementine.robert@oikos-international.org)

Contact Knowledge Exchange Expedition: [clementine.robert@oikos-international.org](mailto:clementine.robert@oikos-international.org)

Link: [www.oikos-international.org](http://www.oikos-international.org)

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<sup>4</sup> General status in India, contacts, leads on how to integrate this Indian approach in oikos projects, etc