

TECHEMERGE RESILIENCE INDIA CHALLENGE

MONTHLY PROGRESS UPDATE

Progress Update	<input type="checkbox"/> Yearly <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly
Reporting Year:	<input type="checkbox"/> 2020 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2021 <input type="checkbox"/> 2022 <input type="checkbox"/> 2023 <input type="checkbox"/> 2024 <input type="checkbox"/> 2025
Reporting Period (Month)	July 2021
Project Title	TechEmerge Resilience India Challenge

Summary of Monthly Progress

The reporting period of June remained relatively abuzz with the project activities than the previous month following the signing of contract with the two new innovators (IdeaForge and Saif Seas) out of the three remaining innovators. The signing of the contract with the Build Change innovator has not able bring conclusiveness. Despite several reminders/follow ups consecutively for three months by the ADPC, the innovator is not providing any signal of turning up. The overall implementation framework including the monitoring mechanism as well are being unacceptably implicated as a result of this unforeseen event.

The nine innovators who are on board are regularly organizing virtual meetings with the SDMAs. Such virtual meetings are also attended by ADPC along with RIKI-IIT monitoring firm as well which is giving an opportunity to add values in the implementation process.

The innovators who had signed the sub grant agreement with ADPC like ADRC, Quantela, Project OWL and Nelen-Schuermans are gradually shifting from their inception phase of implementation towards the tangible phase of implementation. The progression made by the ADRC has led to initiation of drafting the MoU with HP-SDMA and University of Tokyo (UoT) for fund transfer. Besides, once an agreement on data access is obtained from the Telecom Authority, the UoT would move ahead with the technical implementation of the project. The Quantela has made progress towards the Cloud Provisioning of Platform Instance which is at final stage and collection of integration APIs and resource details are also in progression. The Project OWL are working on manufacturing their devices. However, due to COVID-19 they are finding difficulty to ensure the supply of certain parts. They have sought to provide the list from the HP SDMA

with identification of people/building that will need the access to their network and its location for deploying 40 and 60 Solar powder Ducks.

The ADPC CIC Grant Management along with senior officials of ADPC has been regularly convening internal meetings for taking stock of the progress of TechEmerge and also meeting the challenges as well.

The ADPC CIC Grant Management organized an extensive orientation for RIKA-IIT team members subsequent to the signing of contract. Based on the Innovators Plan of implementation the RIKA-IIT has shared a comprehensive Monitoring Plan with ADPC. The ADPC CIC Grant Management is now reviewing the Monitoring plan along with the ADPC Monitoring & Reporting Specialist in order to ensure flawlessness from monitoring perspective and also compatibility with ADPC Monitoring framework. The RIKA-IIT team has started to participate in all the virtual meetings organized by the Innovators and SDMAs.

The commitment level of the HP SDMA in the Tech-Emerge is continuing to be undeterred as well. The mobilization of stakeholder government department representing the national and sub-national government bodies in the project by the Himachal Pradesh SDMA has been up to the mark.

The Climate Innovation Coordinator already based in India is continuing to provide all the necessary support to the implementation of the TechEmerge Resilience India Challenge in consultation with the Grant Management Specialist and the Grant Management Officer. The ADPC team is providing the support in connecting RIKA-IIT team to innovators and SDMAs.

<p>Nelen & Schuurmans</p>	<p>Following the kick-off meeting in May, the Nelen-Schuurman had another round of meeting with the HP SDMA, the key outcomes of the meeting established the need for the HP SDMA to prefer river catchment for the pilot project. Besides, the HP SDMA was also required to deliver necessary datasets for preferred river catchment. The IdeaForge organized a kick-off meeting with the HP SDMA.</p>
<p>SeismicAI</p>	<p>Seismic AI organized a pre-kickoff meeting with Utrakhand SDMA that was also participated by ADPC. The meeting provided a direction related to strategizing the implementation process. The value addition of having a local partner in this project already based in the target area was well demonstrated in the meeting.</p>

Implementation challenges and action taken status

Challenges	Action taken
<p>The foremost challenge related to bringing the BUILD CHANGE on board has initially disrupted the overall Tech Emerge framework that calls for bringing all the 10 innovators are in place from the early stage of Tech Emerge implementation.</p>	<p>In view of no response coming from the Headquarters of BUILD CHANGE in USA, the Grant Management Specialist contacted their Philippines country office in last week of June. However, following the initial response of Philippines country office, the U.S. Headquarter has still not responded.</p> <p>ADPC has accordingly intimated to the concerned World Bank official about this issue of utmost importance.</p>
<p>Ensuring the legitimate means of Fund Transfer from ADRC & UoT to Himachal Pradesh SDMA as per the prevailing fund transfer norms of Govt. of India. With no prior experience of receiving foreign funding the Himachal Pradesh SDMA was in need of proper technical guidance.</p>	<p>ADPC drafted a letter for Himachal Pradesh SDMA for eliciting information from NDMA as NDMA was also involved in the Tech Emerge launching. Accordingly the Himachal Pradesh SDMA sent letter to NDMA. The NDMA response couldn't clarify that was sought by the HP SDMA. As a result, the HP SDMA has written to FCRA Division of Ministry of Home Affairs of Govt. of India and the reply is awaited from them.</p>
<p>Although the COVID-19 cases are declining in India, still the threat cannot be ruled out. As a result the travel restrictions are continuing to influence the mobility issue for the innovators in the Tech-Emerge.</p>	<p>All the meetings with subsequent planning and execution are held virtually by the innovators with their SDMAs.</p>
<p>Due to operational and logistical constrains, the HP SDMA underscored the need for the change of district Chamba to another district in the kick-off meeting with IdeaForge. Such changes would deviate not only in terms of technical aspects but also contractually as well with ADPC & IdeaForge and also the overall objective of Tech Emerge.</p>	<p>In view of this situation, the ADPC held round of meetings with HP SDMA and IdeaForge for possible retention of the same district of Chamba. As a result, the HP SDMA has indicated an early sign of rolling back the decision to the ADPC.</p>
<p>There has been a delay in meeting the timelines of the CIC mainly due to the pandemic situation in each of the seven participating countries including delays in conducting the needs assessment.</p>	<p>A grant management software, Good Grants Cloud Premium and Onboarding was purchased for grants application management of the application and review process. This is expected to ease and shorten</p>

	the process of application submission and review.
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