



## Interview with Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad, Gujarat

### How has your experience been so far being the National Team Leader of Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) India?

Since 2011, EDII has been anchoring the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) Survey, India Chapter. We are fortunate to develop the 2019/20 and 2020/21 GEM Report independently. We have been devoting great efforts to this research in order to present a unique and holistic entrepreneurship scenario to all stakeholders so that a yet more stronger ecosystem could be built.

Let me state that the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) Survey is the largest annual study of entrepreneurial dynamics in the world. The study is venerated for its credibility and coverage of research. With the Indian Entrepreneurial Eco-system becoming robust by the day, the GEM-India Consortium is assuming a major role in probing the rapidly evolving nature and the level of entrepreneurship in India. The GEM-India Consortium is also spreading its wings to involve regional and state level entrepreneurship institutions to ensure maximum reach in researching the multiple dimensions of Indian entrepreneurship. EDII is honoured to lead the India chapter of the GEM survey and considers this a unique opportunity to draw out strategic deliberation points leading to a forward-looking entrepreneurial ecosystem in the country.

### The Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India has set global standards already. Please tell us about EDII's international presence. What are the major international projects that you look forward to?

EDII is associated with various international entities to foster entrepreneurship growth across the world.

The Institute has been empanelled by the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India and has been hand-holding several development countries by training their professionals in the areas of entrepreneurship and investment promotion. EDII seeks to give an entrepreneurial routing to several countries across the globe by capacity-building.

So far, 4043 professionals from across the world have been groomed as part of 135 international capacity building training programmes conducted under sponsorship support of ITEC Division of the Ministry of External Affairs.

EDII evolved 'Concept-to-Completion' approach for setting up Entrepreneurship Development Centres across the developing world. The Institute has established EDII-like institutions in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam, Uzbekistan and Rwanda. Centres in some African countries and Bhutan are underway.

### The Institute's Global Affiliates include

- Lao-PDR India Entrepreneurship Development Centre (LIEDC), Vientiane
- Cambodia-India Entrepreneurship Development Centre (CIEDC), Phnom Penh
- Myanmar- India Entrepreneurship Development Centre (MIEDC), Yangon
- Vietnam-India Entrepreneurship Development Centre (VIEDC), Hanoi
- India-Uzbekistan Entrepreneurship Development Centre (IUEDC), Tashkent

The Institute's alliances with several more countries in Europe, USA, Asia, Africa and Arab regions have crystallised in the form of summer camps for children and youth, entrepreneurial capacity building, research and other SME related technical, management and learning tie-ups.

### The Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India moved on to adopt the role of a national resource institute. How many state-level organizations does EDII support? Please tell us in detail.

Institutes of Entrepreneurship Development (IEDs)/ Centres of Entrepreneurship Development (CEDs): EDII's support to them

EDII being National Resource Institute in the areas of

entrepreneurship education, research, training and institution building, has extended support in the emergence of 12 state level Institutes/Centres for Entrepreneurship Development (IEDs/CEDs). Some of the major areas in which EDII is providing support to IEDs/CEDs are;

1. Role of ED Institutions in Govt. Initiatives,
2. New models & approaches for entrepreneurship development,
3. Innovations in developing entrepreneurs & entrepreneurship,
4. Inclusive growth through entrepreneurship,
5. Entrepreneurship & start-ups,
6. Best practices in entrepreneurship development,
7. Emerging opportunities and doing business with the Govt.,
8. Strengthening entrepreneurship through research & publication

**Can you tell us about the on-going major projects taken up by EDII?**

EDII is working on several projects in a collaborative mode with Central/State level ministries& departments and also with several noted Corporates to spearhead entrepreneurship related activities and help in building the startup atmosphere across the country. Below are the details of the major projects undertaken by the institute. The Institute is anchoring the largest village entrepreneurship

development programme in 69 blocks across 14 states of the country under the Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India, in addition to several livelihood and skill training related projects. Reaching out to the disadvantaged, women, artisans, weavers, cottage and small industries has been EDII's priority areas. Presently EDII is working with various ministries/depts. of the Govt. of India such as; Rural Development, External Affairs, Food Processing, Textiles, Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Science and Technology and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship. Some of the corporates with whom the Institute has worked/is working include; Accenture, HSBC, Vedanta, HCL, Hewlett Packard, Tata Communications, Facebook, Amazon, YES Bank, to name a few.

**What are the primary domains in which EDII has made a foray into entrepreneurship on international grounds?**

The primary domains in which EDII works on the international grounds, include entrepreneurship education, women entrepreneurship, support system sensitization & training, existing entrepreneurs' growth cum counselling, institution building, investment promotion and entrepreneurship capacity building and cluster development.



**Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India**

Promoted by Apex Financial Institutions; the IDBI Bank Ltd., IFCI Ltd., ICICI Bank Ltd., State Bank of India (SBI), with support from the Govt. of Gujarat, the Institute is engaged in promoting entrepreneurship through Education, Research, Training & Institution building.

Ranked among top 25 Institutes in India, under SFI category by ARIIA-2020

AICTE Lilavati Award 2020 on Women Empowerment (First Runner-up)

CII MILCA Award-2020 under Institute Category (Gold Award)

Business Leader of the Year Award for Best Academic and Industry Interface 2021 by World Leadership Congress and Awards

- Pioneered the Entrepreneurship Development Programme Model.
- Helped set up twelve state level Entrepreneurship Development Institutions in the country.
- Works on mega PAN India projects in association with various Departments / Ministries of Central / State Governments.
- Leads the world's largest study in Entrepreneurship, 'Global Entrepreneurship Monitor' for its India chapter.
- Hosts Technology Business Incubator, CrAdLE (catalysed and supported by NSTEDB, DST, Govt. of India), Incubation support through MSME Incubator.
- Funding support through Startup India Seed Fund Scheme.

- Designated by Govt. of Gujarat as the Nodal Institute for promoting startups.
- Academic partnership with reputed institutes like IIMs and Universities.

**CORE AREAS:**

- Policy Advocacy, Knowledge & Research
- Entrepreneurship Education
- Projects (Government & Corporates)
- Business Development Services and National Outreach
- Developing Economy Engagement

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Also on    

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