

Year report 2018

A year with quite a few surprises

The journey in February brought opportunities but also the sad conclusion that development of opportunities in Umang was wasted energy. Partly because it appeared impossible to create a good cooperation with Landstede, but also by a “conflict of interests”, meaning Charity is more important than Skill Developments. In Pune activities seem to be fading too, so we are left with Goa, but it is not easy going there either. Issues around the MoU with the main office of ICAR in Delhi and the lack of knowledge how to handle this in The Netherlands. Nevertheless we have managed a program for Koning Willem 1 College and for HAS University of Applied Sciences.

Thanks to the cooperation (MoU) with RCPR Agrischool in Goa and the relations they have in the community we got aware of new possibilities, however they looked a bit risky and kind of “last minute” work.

Goa.

Back from India with the negative observations there was a request of Koning Willem 1 College for an Internship for 3 students from the Care / Health sector; a request as well with risks as with a challenge. After a meeting with teacher, students, parents we are going for the option of 10 weeks program in Goa.

- Problem 1: finding an organization who is able to provide it
- Problem 2: at the moment of request it was almost April and finalizing the program requirements, India is preparing for Summer holiday

Problem 1 is solved quite fast thanks to the help of Dr Manguirish Raiker from RCPR Agrischool. He connected us with the Mineral Foundation of Goa (MFG), an NGO with a range of Community Development initiatives where a program for our students would certainly be possible. Communication with MFG is fast and good so that also the program for the 3 students can be realized. It takes a bit more efforts to get MFG recognized by the Dutch Education office of SBB as a valuable hands-on training institute complying with Dutch values.

The experience has been very good with the result that we are continuing this program in 2019 with a larger group with a supervisor from Koning Willem 1 College.

Developments for HAS.

Experience for HAS is a different story precisely because of the MoU between HAS and ICAR-Goa. Somewhere during the past year the Indian Government made it compulsory by law that any document with a foreign organization or institute should be in English and Hindi language. That last request is a problem in The Netherlands and for HAS because they don't know how to manage this. There are only 2 registered translators from English to Hindi in The Netherlands and fortunately I happen to know one of them. After that the document is sent to the Ministry of External Affairs in Delhi where it is waiting for the signature by the authorized person.

We were able to find an escape route because I.D.E.A. has an MoU with RCPR Agrischool which offers also the opportunity for research, exchange and training programs. Based on that a research program for 2 students from HAS is initiated, with finding a good result for using Jackfruit as an

alternative for meat. Although getting the right visa within the stipulated time of the study plan for the students was hectic we managed and the two are in Goa for the research.

As a final conclusion for 2018 we may say that 2019 looks promising with:

- Research programs in Goa for HAS
- Internship programs for Koning Willem 1
- A visit for a teacher from HAS and board members of I.D.E.A. in March to channel the cooperation with the organisations in Goa and look for more option for HAS.