

## **ISED Welcomes Research Collaborations**

While its Research Programme includes both Mandate Research and Contract Studies. Mandate research includes all such studies that belong to the core mandate areas of the Institute: Enterprise & entrepreneurship. Apart from this, the Institute also participates in the research programme of like-minded institutions and programmes, wherein, contract studies and evaluations are undertaken on mutual contract and agreement. ISED seeks collaborative ideas from like-minded research Institutes and universities from within the country and abroad. This may include, both short-term studies and large field studies in any part of India. Field based studies of the Institute in the past include, pan-India operations, as also in other countries such as, U.K., Netherlands, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Indonesia. ISED has been accredited by the Ministry of Statistics & Program Implementation, Government of India, for large field studies at the national level (Source: Analytical Report on Survey Capabilities of the Private Sector), as an Institute of higher learning with National level survey capabilities (National Score= 44.93; National Rank: 25).

ISED Centre for Responsible Business: at the Service of the Business Community Accredited by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) UK, and the International Centre for Corporate Social Responsibility (ICCSR), Nottingham, the ISED Centre for Responsible Business, the premier Knowledge Centre of the Institute, has special expertise in the areas of Responsible Business and Corporate Social Responsibility. The Centre has announced its intention to broad base its research and advisory services in the current year, with focus on ESG, Livelihoods, Entrepreneurship and Gender. While these are innovative and upcoming areas in the CSR domain, there are not many institutions having such expertise in a Sustainability context. The Institute has been accredited by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) UK, and the International Centre for Corporate Social Responsibility (ICCSR), Nottingham, as a premier think-tank and practitioner in Responsible Business. The institute has capabilities in the design, implementation and reporting of CSR programs. It is also able to advise and support corporate entities in the design and implementation of CSR programs as also of ESG reporting. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities can be broadly categorized into four main types: Environmental, Ethical/Human Rights, Philanthropic, and Economic. These categories represent different ways by which businesses can contribute positively to the society and the environment. Working with the communities around and implementation of development programmes focusing on Rural Transformation, Health, Education, Youth development & Sports, Women Empowerment, Disaster Response, Arts, Culture & Heritage, and Urban Renewal, are some of the areas where both large companies and SMEs alike can contribute in a meaningful way. The ISED approach and methodology focuses on the 'Business Case', that is vital for any company to justify its CSR spending in the Board Room. Instead, many companies do it as mandatory under the provisions of the Companies Act. While traditional philanthropy in India is a fast disappearing concept, the ISED strategy and approach is focused on helping the companies make a long term benefit through CSR activities. Business case analysis requires specialized skills, encompassing analytical thinking,

problem-solving, financial acumen, and strong communication abilities to effectively identify company-level needs, propose solutions, and guide decision-making for investments and projects. Corporate entities that are interested in advisory services and/or designing or streamlining of their CSR programme may contact: Coordinator, ISED Centre for Responsible Business (email: [seo@isedonline.org](mailto:seo@isedonline.org))