

## **Join our journey – make an impact on the lives of rural women**

TIDE is a research based NGO working for around twenty years in developing, improvising and implementing science and technology based projects in the rural context, mainly in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu & Kerala. Our focus areas of work are energy, water & environment, and livelihoods.

In the year 2011, the Department of Science & Technology SEED Division (Science for Equity, Empowerment & Development) awarded a grant to TIDE to setup a 'Women's Technology Park' (WTP) in Karnataka. The vision for WTP is to facilitate economic and social empowerment of rural women in equitable manner, using technology as livelihood options.

Today, the WTP at Araluguppe village (Tiptur Taluk, Tumkur District) is a two acre facility with infrastructure to do training, practical demonstration of various technologies and also support incubations of enterprises.

The different 'environment friendly' livelihood options for women that are showcased at WTP include:

1. Construction of fuel efficient household (Sarala) stoves
2. Cultivation of value added horticulture crops in Greenhouse & Nursery
3. Biomass drying of horticultural products
4. Making ecofriendly products with Areca leaf sheaths
5. Production of green bricks using (LCBK) Low capacity brick kiln
6. Vermicomposting
7. Production of value added products from Ragi
8. Mushroom cultivation with fruited bags
9. Flower pressing and stationary products
10. Paper bag making

**"I am so happy that WTP is set up in our village and it is very helpful for women like me. Through WTP, I got lot of awareness, training, especially MED has helped me to plan my business, book keeping, various marketing and communication skills. The training on value addition of ragi encouraged me to start producing various value added products of ragi. I like the way the training is done by TIDE at WTP and their support to women in technical aspects and marketing" – Leela, Aralaguppe resident**

WTP impact:

- ❖ Since inception, WTP has had over 2000 visitors from a cross section of society (students, peers, local community, officials, donors and other)
- ❖ Around 600 women have participated in awareness programs, MED and technical training.
- ❖ Around 27 WTP trained women have gone ahead and successfully setup 6 technology enterprises.
- ❖ Schools and educational institutions have sent enthusiastic teachers & students to the WTP to learn about sustainable technologies and technology solutions for rural livelihoods.

## **Technology Informatics Design Endeavour (TIDE)**

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## Future plan for WTP:

- ❖ Incubate rural women driven enterprises
  - Build awareness, train and induct interested women into technology based livelihood options at WTP
  - Facilitate necessary financial and market linkages for the enterprises
  - Bring to 'spin off' stage and continue the cycle with more women
- ❖ Expand the portfolio of livelihood options to stimulate economic growth and development of women in the rural areas.
- ❖ Identify and address locally pertinent issues around natural resources through technology based solutions with local participation. Example, train 'water man/woman' in every village to undertake water conservation.
- ❖ Become awareness cum dissemination centre on sustainable rural-relevant technologies, reaching local communities, peers, funders, policy makers and children.

### Want to be a part of this journey?

TIDE is now in the process of securing grants to take forward our mission for WTP:

- ❖ Sponsor awareness sessions, technical trainings, Enterprise training programs – From Rs 50,000
- ❖ Donation for dormitory, work sheds to facilitate enterprises – any amount is welcome
- ❖ Support one or more Incubation activity around a preferred livelihood option

We also welcome partnerships that will help the local communities to benefit from WTP, like marketing support, soft skill training, etc

**Choose your pick and act now: Contact [tideblr@gmail.com](mailto:tideblr@gmail.com) or call 080 - 2331 5656**



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