

Field: Microfinance, Education
Name: Mann Deshi Foundation
Location: New Delhi, India
Name of Position: Project Manager - Mann Deshi Chamber of Commerce for Rural Women

Brief Description of Organization:

Mann Deshi foundation (MDF) is a central-registered NGO. Mann Deshi foundation's mission is to promote the development of poor and vulnerable women and their families in Maharashtra and Karnataka by providing business skills and management training, knowledge on property rights, leadership and personality development, and adoption of new technology. The general goal of Mann Deshi is the improvement of poor rural women's lives, and in the longer term the eradication of poverty in remote rural areas. This organization's experience has shown that when women control household finances, more money is spent on children, education, healthcare, and other important domestic items. This is why Mann Deshi believes that the financial empowerment of women, along with financial education, business training and knowledge of their rights, will hasten the growth and development of rural India, thereby creating a better life for future generations.

To improve the lives of rural women and their families, Mann Deshi Foundation, the NGO runs various projects through a partnership with its sister organization, the Mann Deshi Mahila Sahakari Bank. The Mann Deshi Mahila Sahakari Bank Ltd. is a regulated cooperative micro-finance bank run by and for women in rural Maharashtra. Founded in 1997, it is India's first rural financial institution to receive a cooperative license from the Reserve Bank of India. The Bank strives to enhance the economic empowerment and advancement of rural women through savings and lending, education, property rights, social security initiatives, and micro-enterprise. The Bank currently has 6 branches in Satara District and over 140,000 clients, 75% of who come from backward castes. The Foundation has 11 offices in Maharashtra and Karnataka.

Information specific to the internship:

Project Manager - Mann Deshi Chamber of Commerce for Rural Women

Primary Responsibilities

1. Setting up MCCRW
2. Process mapping
3. Writing business plans and funding proposals for the MCCRW

Background Knowledge

Mann Deshi Business School for Rural Women:

On December 2, 2006, Mann Deshi launched a Business School through a partnership with HSBC Bank. This school provides more than just vocational training for women; it teaches rural women the financial literacy and confidence building they need to successfully open or expand their micro-businesses. Designed for women without formal education and girls who drop out of high school, this Business School aims to fill the capacity gap in the microfinance community by offering the vocational and financial training to rural women. Offering diverse courses from tailoring to computer kiosk operator to driving, these courses will be the first time for many rural women to be in an academic setting and receive a comprehensive professional training.

Since opening, the Mann Deshi Micro Business School has experienced high demand for the courses. Business school is currently in operation in five of the Mann Deshi's Branches in Mhaswad, Vaduj , Dahiwadi, Satara and Hubli. We are also planning to start a business school in Lonand very soon. Also, through a "Business School on Wheels" Mann Deshi is providing livelihood training and management skills to remote villages in Maharashtra.

Since started B-School Mann Deshi has reached to more than 39,000 graduates. Currently we are

planning to start “Mann Deshi Chamber of Commerce for Rural Women (MCCRW)” by 2013. This is a new business structure to better support the entrepreneurial women in Maharashtra through the design and construction of a Chamber of Commerce. This will be self-sustainable along the years and as its first mission will be working on network and mentorship aiming to bring business knowledge to make it possible for entrepreneurs to expand and improve their activities. The number of women involved is expected to be around 50.000 by the end of 2016.

Through “MCCRW” commitment, Mann Deshi will:

- Plan to provide business ownership and property rights to 50,000 entrepreneurs
- Help women to access capital
- Provide mentorship services & market linkages to 50,000 women
- Provide a network of like-minded peers & advocacy tools
- Provide Solar lights to street vendors

Schedule:

Internship start date flexible to reflect student needs - possible start from June 15th, 2012.

Stipend / Assistance:

Volunteers/Interns will lodge in a staff member’s house or in the government guest house, depending upon the capacity and the number of volunteers we have at that specific time. Interns might have to share room with other volunteers.

Additional Information:

Student interns will work at our main branch in Mhaswad, which is located in rural Satara district in Maharashtra, India. Intern will work in an English speaking environment. Mann Deshi’s staff is local and speaks in local Marathi language. But staff members working with intern speak and understand English. If intern is going outside for any interview with client somebody from staff will accompany them for translation.

Interns must bring their own laptop, charger and tech accessories (USB stick, adapters, etc.)

Apply through:

Ms. Vanita Shinde, CAO, Mann Deshi Foundation (shinde.vanita@gmail.com)

Ms. Jayshree Narale, CEO, Mann Deshi Foundation (narale.jayashree@gmail.com)

Website:

<http://www.mannadeshifoundation.org/>