Indian Equitable Learning Ecosystem Fellowship 2023-24: Concept Note

Introduction

Quest Alliance envisions a world where young people thrive as self-learners. Technology in education serves as a self-learning tool that empowers students to learn at their own pace. However, it is evident that not everyone has equitable access to technology.

In collaboration with the Scratch Education Collaborative (SEC), Quest Alliance aims to address this gap by fostering a community of collaborative creators who can provide tech-enabled creative learning experiences for children. The Scratch Foundation shares our commitment to delivering children worldwide with free access to technology, specifically the coding tool [Scratch](). Together, we envision a community where creativity is expressed through stories, innovation, and collaboration.

Background

In India, the digital divide and poor digital infrastructure pose significant challenges, preventing learners from underserved communities from utilizing technology for creative learning. To make creative experiences more equitable and accessible, we propose the Indian Equitable Learning Fellowship. This fellowship will involve 20 individuals from 10 grassroots organisations across different regions of the country, with Quest Alliance serving as the anchor organisation.

Objective

The overall objective of the Indian Equitable Ecosystem program is to create a movement around gender and equity using computational thinking/coding as a tool. The program is expected to enhance the self-efficacy of learners by building solutions and relating to the identity of a problem-solver.

Specific objectives of the program would include:

- To ensure accessibility of creative platforms to the students of underserved communities through fellowships.
- To capacitate Fellows to facilitate computational thinking and gender with learners and educators.
- To create a pool of resources and build scholarships for computational thinking.

Thematic Areas

Themes	Concepts	Mindset	Practices
Computational Thinking	Theoretical framework Scratch as a pedagogical tool Expressing everyday creativity through Scratch	Understanding the economic and social context of the people while developing a computational artefact	Learners and creators co-creating creative artefacts in the form of stories, concepts from school syllabus, issues they face, and so on
Gender	Understanding socialization and construction of	Developing sensitivity to the idea of inclusion	Developing creative expression and practices around

	gender, gender stereotypes and challenging the same	and diversity and thereby increasing empathy levels and gender sensitivity	the intersectionality of gender and tech/ computational thinking

Scope of Work

- Actively engage in capacity-building sessions conducted by Quest Alliance, focusing on computational thinking and gender.
- Facilitate sessions on computational thinking and gender with learners and educators.
- Work to create tech-enabled creative learning environments in schools or within their program ecosystems.
- Actively participate in the fellowship process, which includes training sessions, catch-up calls, reviews, documentation, and program-related events.

Fellows Persona

- Willingness to learn creative methods of engagement with students.
- Experience of working with students in the school/community ecosystem.
- Expertise in designing learning experiences and facilitation sessions.
- Have deep concerns for equity and inclusion, and be gender sensitive.

Timeline

S.N	Engagement	Time Period

1	Onboarding of Fellows	July (third week) 2023
2	Training of Cohort Level-1	Mid-August 2023
3	Implementation	August 2023- February 2024
4	Training of Cohort Level-2	November 2023
5	Organizing Hackathons in schools/ community	December 2023
6	Interstate Hackathon	December/January 2024
7	Graduation	March 2024

Apply:

Organizations meeting the above mentioned criteria can apply here before next Wednesday, the 12th of July 2023. If you have any query about this process / the status of your application, kindly write to info@questalliance.net