

Global Encounter-India

Food Systems and Agribusiness- Making a Difference

Group Report Out

Procedure used to generate this document:

This document represents the summary of group discussions related to their self-selected area or interest/expertise in one of six topic areas (Education; Environment; Food Systems and Agribusiness; Gender, Poverty, and Social Inequalities; Health; and Technology and Economic Development.). Individuals first wrote responses to these specific questions related to the topic to be considered:

*What are **your** current or future focused areas of teaching, research and/or outreach (engagement) related to India?*

What *resources* (existing at MSU or working in collaboration with MSU) should be considered as the University moves forward on any and all work related to India?

What are the top three to five things that MSU should be doing in regards to this theme/area of concern in India over the next five to ten years? How would we know that we had been successful?

After the pre-writing period, the group discussed both questions within the last item. These report-out notes are taken from the presentation the group facilitator made to the plenary session.

Top Things MSU Should Be Doing In Food Systems and Agribusiness

- Coordination of efforts across the university
 - Who is doing research?
 - Who is writing grants?
 - Who is influencing the region?
 - How do we "communicate" and keep people informed?

- What regions/areas do we focus on? What are the strategic imperatives?
 - Utilize existing relationships
 - How do we know we have the right relationships?
 - .Evaluation
 - .Strategic Assessments
 - Identify preferred partnerships with India institutions
 - Leverage what we do across the university

- Effects on Ag and Food Systems Grades and Standards
 - Positive impact on local growers
 - Development of common practices and models
 - Foreign direct investment
 - .Impact
 - .What new opportunities does this investment create?
 - .What new markets are opened and how do these affect growers and producers?

- Build capacity with select Indian institutions
 - Toward poverty alleviation
 - To strengthen agriculture marketing
 - Toward developing value chains

- Assist India Agriculture Initiatives
 - Get to the farmer's level
 - Improve productivity
 - Find a local agency
 - Education and training
 - publicity to affect more people

- Development
 - Community
 - Youth
 - Women

This material was generated from Global Encounter-India, <<http://www.isp.msu.edu/globalencounter/india>>, held at Michigan State University on September 22, 2006. This interactive and participatory event was designed to obtain input and to elaborate in a country-specific forum on relevant themes, opportunities, issues, and opportunities affecting MSU's current and future engagement in India and to a lesser degree southeast Asia.