Shared Learning: Bringing Education Opportunities to National Associations

Vikas Tembhare is the Managing Partner at DTORR, which is dedicated to consulting and development of the Association, Education & Meeting Industry. DTORR organised the Association Education Workshop for Indian associations on September 7th in the city of Hyderabad, India.

Swapping knowledge and experiences, we can empower a community or an entire industry. The constant exchange of notes and a strong connection are a must even for associations. While in many countries the national associations have well-established networks and a history of educational programmes, others are still in their infancy.

India is one such example of a nation with incredible civil society potential. Although India has well over a million associations, which may account for as much as an estimated third of the country’s GDP, they lack a platform to come together to learn from each other. Education is non-negotiable when it comes to increasing the work and success of associations. It is crucial that this education comes to the associations as many do not have the resources necessary to seek and attend events outside their region.

With this goal in mind, DTORR organised the Association Education Workshop on 7 September as a flagship event to bring together associations from all industries and fields to network and to share challenges and solutions.

“The primary agenda of the Association Education Workshop was to bring the non-profit industry’s workforce together on one platform for exchanging knowledge and networking,” Vikas Tembhare, Managing Partner of DTORR said. “This was our first event in India and we had a huge response. We would try to repeat it in different parts of India for the Industry. We thank all of our partners for their support.”

The workshop held at the Novotel Hotel, Hyderabad International Convention Center in Hyderabad, was attended by associations from the state of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh and brought together many experts. These experts shared their knowledge on a variety of topics such as good governance, internationalisation, cross-cultural communication, professionalisation, growth strategies, governmental support and membership through panel discussions and interactive workshops.

‘Interactive’ and ‘engaging’ were the adjectives most used by the delegates. For many associations it was the first time they had a structured opportunity to exchange ideas with associations in other fields and, despite the exterior differences, the delegates shared many of the same concerns about their present situations, as well as future possibilities and challenges.