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Contribution of the Islamic Republic of Iran

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Implementation of New Innovation Approaches for Sustainable Development Goals; The Case of Iran

Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) is essential to achieve 17 Sustainable development goals (SDGs) including poverty, hunger, and inequality reduction, climate change, clean water and energy, and health and education *improvement*. Based on the CSTD secretariat request for answering three questions about the experience of CSTDs member countries in implementing new innovation approach to achieve SDGs, here is elementary brief report about Iran experience.



Figure 1: SDGs

1. Grassroots & Inclusive:

- **Hamnet-roosta (roosta means village)** as an entrepreneurship event is organized with the assistance of Iranian Elites Foundation to support the development of rural areas. The essence of this native model of rural entrepreneurship is based on the abilities, experience, and capital of villages. This program aims at supporting the poor people to resolve their own problems through innovation and entrepreneurship.

Another key feature of the program is to benefit from elites - young people with high education from top universities - and make a partnership between the elites and local people to resolve their issues.

This is a 3-stages event including identifying capacities of rural areas, attracting villagers' partnership and empowering them. The reason behind the several-day rural pre-event (stating opportunities, idea-processing, education, team work) is to form entrepreneur cores and engage with native villagers through mentoring. In this stage, Hamnet teams (teams that have the ability of continued action) with a detailed business plan for running their project with partnership of residents will attend the target region and help the growth process of the created infant business by investors' or rural facilitators' support.

Mamanpaz (cooked by mom) is an online platform and startup for Persian Iranian homemade food delivery. This platform is a great help to housewives making money through cooking Iranian traditional food and selling them to the final customers. Job creation for unemployed women and expansion of healthy food are the two basic goals and benefits of this startup which could be aligned with the goals of sustainable development.

This tasty and delicious food has received lots of attention from customers specially those missing their mom's cooking. Mamanpaz organized a network of mothers for cooking the food across Tehran and provides them with special training, instructions, and programs alongside with putting different standards to guarantee the quality of the foods. Such platform enables customers to order food online across Tehran by choosing one mother's food and having it through Mamanpaz delivery system. The customers are also allowed to rate each mother's food. Based on the customer feedback Mamanpaz has set some prize or even punishment.

2. Civic Innovation Approach:

- **Wall of Kindness** is a kind of social movement supported by many NGOs to support welfare. This is a kind of general charity to encourage people donating miscellaneous useful belongings to the poor. The practice quickly has spread throughout the country. The motto of the movement is two sentences which appear on these walls, "leave if you do not need" and "take if you need". Different types of donations can come along these walls; in the basic form, people attach clothes on one specific wall or put refrigerators in

the different poor districts of the city where they can keep foods inside for the poor people. Moreover, people can donate money in different supermarkets and restaurants creating open charity boxes for those in need.

3. Other Examples of New Innovation Models

Other examples on innovative models and approaches are also present helping Iran achieve SDGs which will further be explained in the paper.

New Innovation Approach	Example	Explanation
Social and Financial Innovation	Iranian NGO for Supporting Technology Development Using Waqf for development of innovation	There are new programs in Iran that intend to utilize charity for development and innovation. One of the key differences of this charity with angel investors is to use Islamic concept of Waqf to foster innovation.
New International Partnership	TTEN in D-8	D-8 TTEN is a network of technology exchange among 8 large Muslim countries. It was created to foster south-south collaboration in the field of technology and innovation.
Crowd sourcing	hamsaa.ir iChallenge.ir genew.ir	There are many websites and platforms in Iran offering crowd sourcing solutions for both public and private problems.
Mission Oriented Innovation	Tehran Urban Innovation Center Energy Saving through Mobile Applications Handicrafts Innovation Center	Some competition, programs, and centers created in Iran to solve challenges different areas like energy, water and urban issues.

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