



# NEWSLETTER

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## HDFC-FiiRE Grant Winners

**Celebrating Innovation and Social Impact: HDFC Bank - Parivartan Startup Grants 2023 Winners.** We are thrilled to share the remarkable achievements of two outstanding startups that have been selected as winners of the HDFC Bank - Parivartan Startup Grants 2023, facilitated through FiiRE Goa. This program, aimed at promoting social development and fostering innovation, extends its support to emerging startups with a clear vision of making a meaningful impact on society.

After a rigorous selection process, two startups have emerged as the victors, earning the recognition and support they truly deserve. Li-Circle: Pioneering Sustainable Battery Recycling and Avriss Environment Technologies LLP: Revolutionizing Water Management.

At FiiRE Goa, we are delighted to have played a role in nurturing these promising startups. These winning ventures represent the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship, and we are excited to witness the impact they will create in the social space.

Visit FiiRE's Social media handles (LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) to learn more about these two startups!

As they embark on this transformative journey, supported by the HDFC Bank - Parivartan Startup Grants 2023, we remain committed to providing them with the resources, mentorship, and opportunities they need to flourish. Together, we are shaping a future where innovation and social responsibility go hand in hand.

Once again, congratulations to Li-Circle and Avriss Environment Technologies LLP on their well-deserved victories.



# FiiRE Bleeds Green this World Tourism Day 23



## Holistic and Sustainable TourismTech

At FiiRE, we've embraced the challenge of creating a holistic and sustainable TourismTech ecosystem. Our dedication extends beyond technology, encompassing the ethics and values that define us.

Join us in redefining the way we travel, explore, and experience the world—embracing innovation, sustainability, and ethical values. Together, we'll create a brighter future for tourism.



**FiiRE Goa: Pioneering TourismTech for a Greener Tomorrow.** At FiiRE Goa, we take pride in our role as torchbearers of #TourismTech innovation, dedicated to shaping a greener and more sustainable future for tourism. Our vision is clear: by 2030, we aim to establish Goa as the world's premier destination for TourismTech startups. With this ambitious goal in mind, we are committed to supporting, nurturing, and accelerating innovative solutions in the tourism sector.

### FiiRE's "Goa Tourism Accelerator" Program: Shaping the Future of Tourism.

FiiRE's "Goa Tourism Accelerator" is designed exclusively for visionary startup founders who are pioneering solutions to future-proof these industries. Currently, in the midst of Cohort 2, this program is witnessing exciting innovations that promise to revolutionize the tourism landscape.

### TourismTech Fund: Revolutionizing Tourism with Innovation

FiiRE is proud to introduce the TourismTech Fund—an investment initiative dedicated to supporting startups in the tourism sector.

We firmly believe in harnessing the power of innovation, sustainability, and green technologies to transform the way we explore and experience the world. Our focus areas include Waste Management, Renewable Energy, Mobility, Media, and Entertainment. We invite you to join us in this transformative journey towards a greener and more responsible tourism industry.

### Holistic and Sustainable TourismTech

Our commitment extends beyond technology; it encompasses the ethics and values that define us. FiiRE Goa has embraced the challenge of creating a holistic and sustainable TourismTech ecosystem—one that embraces innovation, sustainability, and ethical values. Together, we aim to redefine the way we travel, explore, and experience the world.

On this World Tourism Day, let us unite in our pursuit of a brighter, greener, and more sustainable future for tourism. FiiRE Goa remains dedicated to pioneering TourismTech innovations that not only enhance the travel experience but also contribute to a healthier planet. Join us in shaping the future of tourism—one that's conscious, responsible, and filled with innovation. Together, we can create a global tourism landscape that respects nature, supports local communities, and offers unforgettable experiences while safeguarding the environment.

Together, we can create a brighter and more sustainable tomorrow for the world of tourism.

#FiiREForGoa #TourismTech #sustainability

# Navigating Startup Fundraise Compliance: Insights from FiiRE's Online Session

**Activities involved:**

Function	Professional involved
Legal	Lawyer/Law firm
Secretarial including StartUp India Registration	Company Secretary/CS firm
Valuation	Registered Valuer under IBBI/Merchant Banker/Chartered Accountant
RBI Compliance	Company Secretary/CS firm/Chartered Accountant having FEMA expertise
Due diligence	CA Firms/Other service providers

In the ever-evolving world of startups, securing funding plays a pivotal role in turning innovative ideas into reality. However, with great opportunities come great responsibilities, and startups must adhere to strict compliance frameworks to ensure transparency and legality in their fundraising endeavors. Recognizing the significance of this aspect, FiiRE Goa hosted an enlightening online session on "Startup Fundraise Compliance Framework - Best Practices" on September 8th, 2023.

The session, led by the esteemed CA Sambhav Mehrotra, a Senior Consultant at Startup Movers, aimed to shed light on the intricacies of compliance in startup fundraising. As an organization dedicated to nurturing and supporting startups, FiiRE understands the importance of equipping entrepreneurs with the knowledge and tools necessary to navigate this complex landscape.

During the session, participants gained valuable insights into the following key areas. FiiRE extends its heartfelt thanks to all participants who joined this enlightening session. Your active engagement and enthusiasm contributed to the success of the event. We believe that knowledge-sharing and continuous learning are essential components of startup growth, and we remain committed to providing valuable insights and resources to our entrepreneurial community.

As we look ahead, FiiRE Goa will continue to organize informative sessions, workshops, and events to empower startups with the knowledge and skills they need to thrive in a competitive landscape. Stay tuned for more exciting opportunities to learn, network, and grow with FiiRE!



## Why Compliance Matters

Compliance in fundraising isn't merely a checkbox to be marked; it's a crucial element that safeguards the interests of both startups and investors. By adhering to compliance regulations, startups can build trust, attract potential investors, and avoid legal pitfalls that could otherwise derail their growth journey.

# #FiiREBusiness: Empowering Entrepreneurs with the Enterprise Creation Program (ECP)

Goa's entrepreneurial landscape reached a significant milestone as FiiRE and FiiRE Business came together to conduct the state's inaugural Enterprise Creation Program Orientation Workshop. This groundbreaking initiative marked a pivotal moment in nurturing and empowering the next generation of entrepreneurs in the region.

## A Unique Initiative

FiiRE, renowned for its unwavering commitment to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship, partnered with FiiRE Business to introduce this one-of-a-kind program. The objective was clear—to inspire, educate, and equip budding entrepreneurs with the knowledge and skills needed to transform their innovative ideas into thriving businesses.

## Setting It Apart

What set this program apart was its holistic approach. It aimed to provide participants with hands-on experience and practical insights into the intricacies of launching and scaling a startup. The workshop's core focus was to enable participants to transition from mere idea generators to successful entrepreneurs.

## Celebrating the Entrepreneurial Spirit

The successful completion of the orientation workshop marks a significant milestone for both FiiRE and FiiRE Business. It underscores their dedication to nurturing local talent, fostering innovation, and creating an environment conducive to the growth of startups in Goa.



## Key Highlights

The orientation workshop, held over several informative sessions, covered a wide spectrum of entrepreneurship-related topics:

- **Idea Refinement:** Participants had the opportunity to fine-tune their startup concepts and validate their ideas.
- **Business Model Development:** The workshop delved into crafting sustainable business models in line with market dynamics.
- **Pitching Skills:** Effective communication and presentation skills were emphasized, preparing attendees to confidently pitch their ideas to potential investors and stakeholders.
- **Mentorship:** Seasoned mentors and industry experts provided valuable guidance throughout the program, sharing their insights and experiences.
- **Networking:** Building a robust professional network is crucial for startup success. The workshop facilitated networking opportunities with peers, mentors, and established entrepreneurs.

# FiiRE ignites Goa Startup Yatra 2.0

FiiRE Goa continues its mission to nurture and empower the startup ecosystem in the region by actively participating in significant initiatives. Recently, the organization had the privilege of joining the ongoing Goa Startup Yatra 2.0, hosted by the Startup Promotion Cell (SPC), Department of IT, Government of Goa, at the prestigious IIT Goa campus.



## Supporting Goa's Startup Ecosystem

The event served as a platform for key stakeholders to converge, exchange ideas, and support the burgeoning startup ecosystem in Goa. It was a testament to the government's commitment to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship in the state.

## FiiRE's Pledge

FiiRE Goa's involvement in **Goa Startup Yatra 2.0** exemplifies the organization's unwavering commitment to fostering innovation, growth, and entrepreneurship in the region. By actively participating in such initiatives, FiiRE Goa not only provides valuable support but also plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of the startup ecosystem.

## Looking Ahead

As FiiRE Goa continues to collaborate with government bodies, industry experts, and young entrepreneurs, it remains committed to creating a thriving and sustainable startup ecosystem in Goa. The organization looks forward to more opportunities to empower the next generation of innovators and to contribute significantly to the growth of the state's entrepreneurial landscape.

# INSPIRUS 7 onboards FiiRE Goa's COO, Thejus Joseph as a mentor

We are thrilled to announce that our Chief Operating Officer, Thejus Joseph, recently took on a pivotal role as a mentor for INSPIRUS 7, an event aimed at fostering innovation and entrepreneurship among students. Organized by Don Bosco College of Engineering, Fatorda, Goa (DBCE) in collaboration with C-CODES, INSPIRUS 7, also known as the INSPIRATION Hackathon, brings together bright minds to create, innovate, and make their ideas come to life.

**DON BOSCO COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**  
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH C-CODES

**INSPIRUS**  
MARKET HACKATHON

**INSPIRATION**  
A.K.A. HACKATHON

**MENTORS**

 <b>ABHISHEK SINGH</b> Incubation Manager Atal Incubation Centre GIM	 <b>THEJUS JOSEPH</b> Chief Operating Officer Forum for Innovation Incubation Research and Entrepreneurship	 <b>TARUN KRISHNAKUMAR</b> General Manager BITS Goa Innovation Incubation Entrepreneurship Society	 <b>SANJAY MULVI</b> Head - Seed Fund & Incubation Centre for Incubation and Business Acceleration
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Mentors will be available in campus for guiding the teams!!!

DATE : 6th OCTOBER  
TIME : 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

[inspirus.dbcegoa.ac.in](http://inspirus.dbcegoa.ac.in) | [@inspirusdbce](https://www.instagram.com/inspirusdbce) | [@inspirusdbce](https://www.facebook.com/inspirusdbce) | [@Inspirus\\_dbce](https://www.linkedin.com/company/inspirus_dbce)

# FiiRE Celebrates World Bamboo Day and National Sports Day

FiiRE commemorates World Bamboo Day and National Sports Day, promoting sustainability and active living. #FiiREForGoa #TourismTech #Sustainability

**WORLD BAMBOO DAY**  
September 18

**NATIONAL Sports Day**  
AUGUST 29

FiiRE Goa wishes every Indian sportsperson a very successful, golden year ahead

# FiIRE Goa at CHESS'23: Fueling Innovation in Chhattisgarh

At FiIRE Goa, our commitment to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship extends far beyond our coastal borders. We were delighted to participate as the 'Incubation Partner' in the Chhattisgarh Entrepreneurship & Startup Summit 2023 (CHESS'23), a dynamic event that brought together visionaries, innovators, and thought leaders from across Chhattisgarh.

FiIRE Goa was represented by Mr. Kiraan Mehta, Head- Incubation & Innovation. As the Incubation Partner, we had the privilege of collaborating with dynamic individuals who share our passion for innovation and our vision for a brighter entrepreneurial future.

CHESS'23 provided a platform for us to connect with aspiring entrepreneurs, startups, and ecosystem enablers. We engaged in insightful discussions, shared valuable experiences, and explored opportunities to nurture and support budding businesses in Chhattisgarh.

As an incubator dedicated to nurturing innovative startups, our presence at CHESS'23 was a testament to our commitment to fueling innovation and fostering entrepreneurial growth not only in Goa but also in emerging startup ecosystems like Chhattisgarh.

In conclusion, CHESS'23 was a testament to the power of collaboration and innovation.



# Visits at FiiRE Goa

**Building Bridges of Innovation: FiiRE Goa Welcomes Delegation  
from Deshpande Startups**



## Deshpande Startups

It was with great pleasure that we welcomed a distinguished delegation from Deshpande Startups to our vibrant ecosystem. This meeting, which took place recently, was marked by insightful discussions and the exchange of ideas, opening up new horizons for innovation in the field of TourismTech.



The delegation's visit was an opportunity for our Chief Operating Officer, Thejus Joseph, to engage in an enlightening dialogue with our esteemed guests. The objective of their visit was to explore and immerse themselves in the dynamic startup ecosystem that FiiRE Goa is known for.

This interaction was more than just a meeting; it was the beginning of a partnership that promises to pave the way for exciting innovations and groundbreaking projects in the field of tourism and technology. Deshpande Startups' expertise and experience in supporting startups align seamlessly with our mission to foster innovation and entrepreneurship.

As we build bridges with Deshpande Startups, we envision a future where FiiRE Goa's TourismTech initiatives reach new heights. Our shared commitment to nurturing startups and driving technological advancements promises boundless possibilities for both organizations.



# Inspiring the Next Generation: Goa University Students Delve into FiiRE's TourismTech Ecosystem

Our Chief Operating Officer, Thejus Joseph, had the privilege of engaging with students from Goa University's Goa Business School, providing them with an immersive experience into the dynamics of our vibrant TourismTech startup ecosystem.



The visit by the students was an opportunity for them to explore, firsthand, the innovative and dynamic world of TourismTech that FiiRE Goa embodies. As they stepped into our ecosystem, they were greeted by a whirlwind of creativity, entrepreneurship, and cutting-edge technology that defines the startup culture here.

Thejus Joseph, with his wealth of experience and passion for nurturing young talent, engaged the students in meaningful discussions about entrepreneurship, innovation, and the role of startups in driving positive change. His insights and guidance left a lasting impact on the students, inspiring them to think creatively and consider the vast possibilities within the TourismTech space.

The students had the opportunity to engage with the FiiRE team, including the Heads of different departments, who offered their insights and expertise in different verticles here at FiiRE, including TourismTech.

These interactions offered the students valuable insights into the potential challenges and opportunities within this dynamic sector.



## FiiRE Features: Showcasing the innovative startups, their ideas, and the founders/co-founders behind them

### Akvotransiro, A FiiRE #TourismTech Startup

Akvotransiro Tech Pvt Ltd. Founded in 2020, this dynamic startup has already made waves with its groundbreaking solutions and commitment to enhancing river transportation's safety and efficiency.

Akvotransiro's journey began with a mission to transform water transport and mobility, making it more sustainable, affordable, and accessible. With a firm belief in the power of innovation, the team at Akvotransiro set out to develop cutting-edge solutions that could reshape the industry.

One of their standout innovations is the Bamboo-Epoxy-Fiberglass composite boat-making method. This eco-friendly approach not only provides a sustainable alternative to traditional boat construction but also results in boats that are both durable and lightweight. It's a testament to Akvotransiro's dedication to sustainability and its goal of reducing the environmental impact of water transport.

With Ravi J. Deka and his team leading the charge towards a more sustainable and efficient future for river transportation. Their journey is one that inspires us all to embrace innovation and strive for excellence in TourismTech.



Ravi J. Deka, Founder

As part of the FiRE ecosystem, Akvotransiro is well-poised to make significant strides in the TourismTech space. Their dedication to sustainability, affordability, and innovation aligns seamlessly with FiRE's mission to drive positive change and economic growth through technology and entrepreneurship.



# CONTACT US



"Simplifying Startup Innovation"

## CONTACT US



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## OUR IMPACT

Over the last 5 years, FiiRE has supported 140 startups, funded over 40, and interacted with 2600+ entrepreneurs



To connect with us  
please scan the QR code