



Introducing Ashoka Fellow Anil Chitrakar: Bringing existing technological solutions to the poor who need them

Ashoka is the global association of the world's leading social entrepreneurs. We are introducing world renowned Ashoka Fellows to China who have system changing solutions to the world's most urgent social problems. Ashoka aims to identify similar entrepreneurs in China whose goal is to be of service to society, and provide them with the support necessary to make their plans a reality. To do this we need to develop a wide network of supporters. Ashoka's ultimate vision is to create a world where every individual has the freedom, confidence and societal support to address social problems and drive change.



Anil Chitrakar has made an art of creating opportunities out of pressing social needs. A tireless social entrepreneur, he is helping to develop enterprises in his native Nepal to build the nation's capacity for sustainable, self-sufficient economic growth. Anil's approach focuses on bridging the gap between existing technological solutions and the poor who need them to improve their lives. He believes that systemic change happens only if local communities embrace and drive change themselves.

Efficient and environmental friendly electrification

Less than 10 years ago, 90% of Nepal's population had no electricity. Anil and his team lobbied the World Bank, who was planning a large-scale hydro-plant on the Arun River, to implement a distributed-grid hydropower system instead. This preserves the natural ecosystem, and will also eventually produce enough excess power to export. Anil's solution can be built in half the time for half the cost of the original plan. Moreover, instead of subcontracting the building of the proposed dam to foreign companies, Anil's approach would build the country's industrial capacity and create a locally based energy infrastructure.

Reversing the deforestation trend in Nepal

Anil increased the amount of protected forests in Nepal from 11% to 19% by resolving the conflict between people and nature. The villagers extract wood from the forest for energy, causing the animals - deprived from their habitat - to graze on the population's rice fields. Anil convinced the villagers to keep and stall-feed animals and to put their dung in tanks to generate bio gas. Once people have an alternative energy source they ceased deforestation. In order to fund his project Anil also lobbied the government to change the National Park Act, resulting in 50 % of the National Park revenues now going to residents near the parks.

Youth centered technology Implementation

The key to spreading technology in a fast and cost efficient way is to organize and engage local communities. However, most Nepalese adults are illiterate and have difficulties understanding many technologies. Consequently, Anil uses a snowball system in which experts train college students, students train children and children their parents how to use technology. Since 80% of children receive education, they have a much easier grasp of technology and can therefore convince and teach their parents. This approach has turned out to be much faster than working directly with adults, making the implementation of all kinds of technology much easier.



Born in Kathmandu in 1961, Anil earned his B.A. in mechanical engineering from Rajasthan University before commencing work for Nepal Academy of Science and Technology, in the Alternative Energy Department.

On this trip to China, Anil will speak about his experience implementing environmentally sound technology in Nepal, as well as share his thoughts on the best way to develop financially sustainable and growing social enterprises. As China faces similar problems on issues of energy generation, environment degradation, and ignorance of technological solutions in its rural areas, Anil's experience is sure to provide useful case studies for Chinese practitioners working on similar issues, as well as offer opportunities for mutual learning and cooperation.



Anil Chitrakar: 用技术改变贫困

爱创家是一个由世界领头社会企业家们组成的一个国际性组织。我们在向中国介绍世界知名，用创新的方法解决了很多世界上最迫切的社会问题的爱创家伙伴。爱创家旨在发掘类似的，为社会服务的中国企业家，并且给他们必要的支持来实现他们的计划。为了达到这个目标，我们需要建立一个广泛的合作关系网络。爱创家最终的愿景就是创造一个每个人都拥有自由、信心和社会支持来解决社会问题和推动社会创新的世界。



Anil Chitrakar深谙如何从紧迫的社会需求中创造机会。作为一位永不知倦的社会企业家，他在他的国家—尼泊尔，致力于发展一套可持续的、自立的经济增长模式。贫穷的人们迫切需要现有的科学技术使他们脱离贫穷，但他们却与那些科学技术存在着一条“鸿沟”，而Anil的工作重点就是在这条鸿沟中建立一条桥樑来改善贫穷人们的生活。他相信只有本地社区接纳与追求自我改变才能产生在系统层面上的更变。

高效且环保的电气化

十年前，尼泊尔90%的人口没有电力供应。Anil以及他的团队游说世界银行把它原本计划在Arun河上建立的大型水力发电厂改为分散式的水力发电网路。这个方案能既保持原有的自然生态系统，又能产生额外的供出口的电能，并且只需要原计划的一半时间与成本。此外，比起外包给外国企业建造巨型水力发电站的旧有模式，Anil的新方式能提高国家产业的实力以及建立本土化的能源基础架构。



1961年出生于加德满都的Anil从Rajasthan University获得了他的机械工程学士学位后，便进入了尼泊尔科学与技术研究院的可替代能源部工作。

遏制并扭转尼泊尔滥伐森林的趋势

Anil通过解决人与自然之间的矛盾，从而使得尼泊尔受保护森林的数目从11%上升到19%。过去，村民从森林里取得木材作为燃料，导致失去生存环境的动物被迫在人们的稻田里栖身。Anil说服村民畜舍饲养这些动物，并将它们的粪便放在特别容器内产生沼气。一旦人们有了可代替的能源，便不需再砍伐森林。为了给这个项目筹措资金，Anil同时游说政府修改了国家公园法案，使得国家公园50%的收益分配给了住在公园附近的居民。

在这次的中国之旅，Anil会介绍他在尼泊尔实施的无害环境技术的经验，以及分享他针对如何发展在经济上可持续且不断成长的社会企业的观点。如今，中国也面临着与上述相关的难题：能源须跟新换代，自然环境恶化以及在农村发展中忽视运用各种科学技术。而Anil在相关领域的丰富经验能为中国相关领域的实践者提供按例分析以及一个相互学习与合作的机会。

以青年为中心的技术运用

快速有效地传播技术革新的关键在于组织好社区并使之充分参与其中。但是，大部分的尼泊尔人没有受过教育，所以难以理解许多技术。Anil运用了一个“雪球系统”，让专家来培训大学生，学生来培训儿童以及他们的父母使用技术。因为80%儿童都要上学，他们更容易掌握技术，所以可以说服并教导他们的父母。这个方法与直接培训成人相比，被证明更加有效，并能使得各种技术的运用更加容易。