

SLICE



Director's Message

BREADS' programmes are oriented towards increased sustainability and inclusiveness especially for communities on the margins. Supporting women from the fishing community to drive and own electric autorickshaws as a means of empowerment, is an initiative that combines many goals—sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11), clean and affordable energy (SDG 7), decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), gender equality (SDG 5), contributing to good health and well-being (SDG 3) and no poverty (SDG 1). In this edition of Slice, BREADS is happy to present the E-auto as a vehicle for sustainable community development.

*- Fr. Joy Nedumparambil SDB
Executive Director
BREADS Bangalore*

Why E-Autos?



According to the latest World Air Quality Report 2020, six of the world's 10 most polluted cities are in India. Adopting electric vehicles (EVs) is one way to improve overall air quality and lower carbon emissions. To tackle air

pollution and protect the ecosystem, the government has targeted the 100% electrification of auto-rickshaws by 2030. Citing the Energy and Research Institute's estimates, "Three-wheelers could increase from 6.8 million in 2017-18 to 19.5 million in 2030 and further to 66.25 million in 2050, which provides scope for shifting towards e-rickshaws and replacing the conventional three-wheelers."

It is in this context that Fishermen Community Development Programme (FCDP), Kollam and BREADS explored the possibility of using e-rickshaws to empower women, balancing their livelihood activities while at the same time reducing carbon emissions.

Over the past 40 years, FCDP has worked towards the holistic development of all the fisherfolk living in the coastal belt of Kollam, Kerala: helping them improve their education, health, culture, economic status, employment opportunities, social awareness and actions.



Their needs-based and rights-based approaches are an amalgamation of innovation and strategy that brought notable impact on the lives of this community.

This initiative of BREADS and FCDP not only helps promote clean energy and its associated industries, but also works towards the larger goal of sustainable cities. Owing to their flexibility, convenience and eco-friendliness, e-autorickshaws and cycles form an integral part of the urban transportation system in India. Since the autorickshaw sector is a means of livelihood for families of the lower-middle and poor sections of society, this is also a holistic effort to uplift the lives of these communities. With the electric auto driven by a lady driver, this is undoubtedly the direction in which sustainable development needs to proceed.

Co-driving Sustainability-Industry & Development Sectors

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Sustainability cannot be achieved alone, which is where partnerships for the goals (SDG 17) become an important aspect. BREADS actively works with different industry partners specially to promote sustainability and inclusiveness. Mahindra Automobiles adds power to this initiative by supporting BREADS with a special package for the electric Treo Auto equipped with NEMO (Next Generation

Mobility), a cloud-based platform that enables connected electric services. NEMO architecture helps optimise vehicle performance and utilisation, battery performance and range, offering advanced analytics for trip planning, fleet management, and location services.

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Would YOU like to drive too?

Support the BREADS' fundraiser on [Give India](#) (a crowdfunding platform) to help a fisherwoman earn an independent living and support her family while conserving the environment ([Give Her Wheels](#)). And share the idea with your friends.

Women on Wheels



The story of Neethu is one of hope.

Neethu Ivan, 30, hails from a low socioeconomic background and lives with her husband, his mother and her beautiful little daughter. Her husband was an auto-rickshaw driver from whom she initially learnt driving. She also obtained a three-wheeler driving license.

A few years ago, her husband underwent surgery for a disc-related ailment, but unfortunately, it left him paralyzed. Six months later, he recovered partially but one of his limbs remained lifeless, preventing him from working. Neethu's family runs a small shop but the income is insufficient to sustain them. To make ends meet, Neethu decided to work and approached FCDP. Fr. Joby, the Executive Director, offered her the post of an e-auto driver for Vishappinu Vida's food delivery (their hunger alleviation programme). She joined the organisation after successfully completing her e-auto training at FCDP. Presently she works full-time. Neethu belongs to the fisher community and is among the few women who broke the stigma associated with women drivers.

Neethu says, "Driving an e-auto is much easier and comfortable than the diesel-run auto-rickshaw. Not only this, e-auto is pollution-free. We also don't have to worry about the hike in petrol and diesel prices." She also says, "Being a part of Vishappinu Vida makes me feel blessed. It makes me very happy. I'm thankful to FCDP for giving me this role."



BREADS Calendar



February

- 1) *Inauguration of DB BEST Batch 14.*
- 2) *Consultation with KSCPCR and other NGOs on collaboration for promoting Child Rights in Karnataka.*
- 3) *Installation of the new Provincial of Sacred Heart Province, Bangalore.*

March

- 1) *Women's Day celebrations across DB institutions & projects.*

NEWS



Meeting at Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights

BREADS Bangalore convened a meeting at KSCPCR office, Krishi Bhavan, Nrupatunga Road, Bengaluru on 9 February 2021 ..more...



Inauguration of the 14th Batch at DB BEST Academy, Bangalore

Skill development being the national priority of India, the skill training at DB BEST Academy is an integral contribution for increasing efficiency and productivity ..more...



Inauguration of WELive Project at Wayanad

WELive Wayanad was officially inaugurated on 13th February 2021 Saturday. WELive Wayanad is being implemented in two municipal corporations ..more...

