Course on Empowering SMEs Globally through Strategic Innovation Management

- **Course by:** International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
- **Program Venue:** Hyderabad, India
- **Course Dates:** 2 December 2026 – 16 December 2026
- **Duration:** 2 Weeks
- **About the course:**
  This is a two-week training program in the domain of Innovation Management which is being organised under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) program, supported by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. The training program aims to be comprehensive and is touted to delve into a wide range of vital topics pertaining to Innovation Management.

- **Course Topics:**
  - Understand how SMEs use innovation to stay competitive.
  - Learn to manage the journey from idea to market in SMEs.
  - Explore how R&D drives growth and maintains competitive advantage.
  - Gain skills in scanning technology trends, competitors, and opportunities.
  - Learn to avoid IP risks and ensure legal compliance.
  - Discover how to identify untapped areas for innovation.
  - Understand how to build a culture that supports creativity and innovation.
  - Explore how emerging technologies like AI and IoT impact innovation.
  - Learn how SMEs can collaborate and license technologies to innovate.
  - Apply course knowledge to create a complete innovation strategy for an SME.

- **Course Impact:** This course is expected to build practical capabilities in innovation management, enabling participants to drive innovation-led growth in diverse organizational and national contexts. It would foster a deep understanding of how to manage the full innovation lifecycle, leverage emerging technologies, mitigate IP risks, and identify strategic opportunities. By the end of the program, participants will be able to design and implement effective innovation strategies that are globally relevant, locally adaptable, and aligned with broader development and competitiveness goals.

- **Target Participants:** Policy makers & Officials of the National governments, public & private sector organizations, research and academic institutions involved in Innovation, Professionals involved in Entrepreneurship, Innovation Management, IP and Technology Transfer;

- **Educational qualifications:** University degree in science, engineering, law, management, business management, economics, social studies, etc.

- **Work experience required:** 3 Years of experience in Research, Innovation Management, Technology IP and technology management field and roles.

Deadline to apply for the course: 20 November 2026

Guidelines to Apply for the Course:

1. Create a login to apply for the course and furnish all the requisite information. Submit the application online and download the submitted application form

2. Take a printout of the submitted application form, get appropriate signatures at all the signature placeholders throughout the application form including the English proficiency certificate, medical report, candidate undertaking form and the Employer nomination form;

3. Scan the complete application document and submit the physical copies of the application form including the undertaking form and the employer nomination form to the Indian High commission in your country and e-mail the scanned copy of the executed application form to icrisat-ipfc@icrisat.org with copy to vishwambhar.duche@icrisat.org

Please note that we have very limited seats for the course and the eligible applications will be shortlisted by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India on First Come First Serve basis. Therefore, if you are interested, **we recommend that you submit your application immediately without any delay.**

In case you face any technical difficulties in applying for the course, such as portal issues, login issues or any website related errors, please screenshot the errors and email to **help@itecgoi.in & cc: icrisat-ipfc@icrisat.org**, **vishwambhar.duche@icrisat.org**