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NNEdPro Global Centre for Nutrition and Health’s Program, The Mobile Teaching Kitchen Initiative, to Receive 2022 SNEB Nutrition Education Program Impact Award

INDIANAPOLIS, IN (July 1, 2022) The Society of Nutrition Education and Behavior (SNEB) has selected [The Mobile Teaching Kitchen Initiative](#), a flagship program of the NNEdPro Global Centre for Nutrition and Health, for the 2022 SNEB Nutrition Education Impact Award. The SNEB Nutrition Education Program Impact Award is given to an individual or a group for a nutrition education program, practice, or intervention that has resulted in documented changes in behavior. The award will be presented at the 2022 SNEB Annual Conference during the opening session on July 29, 2022, in Atlanta, GA.

The Mobile Teaching Kitchen (MTK) Initiative was launched in 2018 in two urban slums in Kolkata, India, as a scalable and sustainable action research and micro-enterprise innovation. With grassroots action-research, the MTK trains women from underserved communities to become microentrepreneurs and culinary health educators, with the potential to improve Nutrition-related Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP) across multiple sections of society

By training just 12 women, approximately 4000 people are being impacted on a monthly basis, getting nutritious food and nutrition advice which, they can further disseminate to their communities. In addition, statistically significant positive changes were seen in ‘understanding of healthy nutrition for their children,’ ‘sources of protein-rich food’ and ‘not skipping meals if a child is ill.’

The COVID19 pandemic disrupted fragile food supply chains, and many households worldwide now face worsening food insecurity and increased malnutrition risk. NNEdPro’s MTK initiative equips marginalized communities with sustainable dietary and culinary knowledge creating community champions through a “See one, Do one, Teach one” model. MTK created over 50 template menus comprised of local ingredients described as “nutritious, affordable, and tasty”.

NNEdPro launched its MTK Cookbook in 2021 which has a compilation of nutritious, healthy, affordable, and delicious recipes prepared by the MTK champions. In March 2022 new video stories have been created by MTK champions demonstrating their culinary skills to peers and communities. Currently, the original MTK project in India impacts over 500 people per week and more than 24,000 per year with one mobile kitchen and six champions. The MTK model is highly adaptable, and so additional rollouts are being explored around the world. This recognises the dramatically different contexts which can lead to poor nutrition education.

After the unprecedented success of the MTK initiative in Kolkata, this model was successfully adapted to other parts of India and other countries such as Mexico ([in partnership with Tec de](#)

[Monterrey](#)). Through new NGO partnerships NNEdPro has initiated an extension of their See One Do One Teach One (SODOTO) intervention in Delhi whilst expanding in Kolkata to 6 additional slum communities. In the US, this work has been formally recognized by the National Institutes of Health and by national agencies in the UK.

“We never imagined five years ago that this initiative would have such impact by empowering some of our most marginalized to gain dignified livelihoods whilst serving all sections of society with both food and knowledge; we are humbled as well as hugely inspired by SNEB recognition, which will help to sustain, spread and scale the MTK to populations in need across all our regional networks spanning six continents” said Professor Sumantra (Shumone) Ray, NNEdPro Executive Director and Founder of the MTK Initiative.

The MTK model is also incorporated within a UK Research and Innovation supported Global Challenges Research Fund Programme known as [TIGR2ESS \(Transforming India's Green Revolution-2 for Empowerment and Sustainable Food/Nutrition Supplies\)](#), hosted by the University of Cambridge. The TIGR2ESS programme won the 2021 Cambridge Vice Chancellor's Awards for Research Impact and Collaboration, specifically featuring the MTK.

NNEdPro was formed in 2008 with public-private funding to two of its founding members in Cambridge. Since then, NNEdPro has evolved from a single project, through a multifaceted programme, to a Global Centre for Nutrition and Health. SNEB has been a strategic partner of NNEdPro since 2009 and a co-founder with NNEdPro of the [International Academy of Nutrition Educators](#) since 2018.

ABOUT THE SOCIETY FOR NUTRITION EDUCATION AND BEHAVIOR

The Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior (SNEB) represents the unique professional interests of nutrition educators worldwide. The Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior advances food and nutrition education research, practice, and policy that promote equity and support public and planetary health and has a vision of people worldwide empowered by food and nutrition education to change behavior, food systems, and policy.