Dear Friends,

You will be pleased to know that Asia Initiatives was invited by the Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) to introduce SoCCs (social capital credits), our community currency for social good, for two projects in the Hualien Provence. Surabhi Prabhu, our Program Director; Gowrish Ramesh, our Senior Tech Manager; and Geeta Mehta spent 10 days there. They held SoCCratic dialogues with two farm communities to brainstorm possible SoCC Earning and Spending menus, and trained local teams in implementing SoCCs and the use of our app and the web platform. TARI is also considering linking SoCCs to the payments for ecosystem services (PES), especially rain...
water harvesting and switching from traditional to regenerative farming. PES is now being considered by several countries to protect forests, water and other natural resources, and Taiwan is on the cutting edge of this movement.

**Maker Labs for Entrepreneurs in the Making**

What happens when you equip bright young women and men with scientific knowledge and tools to innovate solutions to local issues? The young people from impoverished communities at **Maker Labs**, which Asia Initiatives is supporting with **Vidhyalay Udham**, our local partner, have used their empathy and to create extraordinary results. This includes prototyping of some remarkable products. One of these is a smart-stick with advanced sensors and GPS (global positioning systems) for visually impaired people. This and other innovations received much excitement at the district level science exhibition shown in the pictures above. Vidhyalay Udhyam also mentors young people in **creating startups**, and in getting internships and jobs.

**If the Success of Failure of the Planet...**
With the **Giving Tuesday on Nov 30** and **Thanksgiving** around the corner, we are reminded of Buckminster Fuller's words, "If the success and failure of this planet, and of human beings, depend on how I am and what I do, then how would I be and what would I do?" Asia Initiatives has chosen to audaciously imagine, and work towards, a world where everyone has the opportunity to actualize their potential. We are bringing nearly 25,000 people in underserved communities, especially women and girls, closer to that reality every year. We invite **YOU** to join us/stay with us in this exciting journey by donating or volunteering. 100% of all your donations go to our field projects, as our Board supports all our costs.

Click here to make your GIVING TUESDAY count!

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You can see our impact this year in the very short video below:
More about our work can be seen at our [Website](#) and our [YouTube Channel](#).

Wishing you a happy and healthy Thanksgiving!
Geeta Mehta and the Asia Initiatives Team

Asia Initiatives has special consultative status with the Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations.
Asia Initiatives has the Platinum Seal of Transparency

You can support our work by selecting Asia Initiatives from the list of charities while shopping at Amazon, or at your favorite stores via our partner Kiindly.

Asia Initiatives is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that promotes sustainable development for underserved communities, with a particular focus on women and their families.

You can contact us at: info@AsiaInitiatives.org

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