

FDDI Student Showcases Innovation at Global Sustainability Challenge Finals in Germany

Ms. Anneasa Manna, a student of School of Footwear Design & Production (FDP), (B.Des. 2023-27) from FDDI Kolkata Campus, brought laurels to the Institute by representing FDDI and India at the prestigious Global Sustainability Challenge Finals, held at the Technical University of Munich (TUM), Garching Campus, Germany, from 28-30 April 2026

The Global Sustainability Challenge was organized by the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay), the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IIT Hyderabad) and the Maker Bhavan Foundation. The international platform brought together students, researchers and innovators from across the world to develop technology-driven solutions addressing sustainability, climate resilience and global environmental challenges.

During the three-day programme, Ms. Manna actively participated in orientation sessions, poster presentations, networking engagements and interactions with leading researchers, innovators and sustainability experts from around the world. She also attended a specialised innovation and entrepreneurship workshop conducted by former Google professionals, gaining valuable insights into product innovation, scalable business models and sustainable entrepreneurship.

The international exposure provided an enriching learning experience by strengthening her research aptitude, innovation capabilities, presentation skills and intercultural understanding. Her outstanding achievement reflects FDDI's growing emphasis on fostering innovation, research excellence and global engagement while empowering students to develop sustainable solutions for contemporary societal challenges.



Ms. Anneasa Manna at the Technical University of Munich, Germany



A view of the Global Sustainability Challenge

A significant milestone of the event was Ms. Manna's selection among the Top 20 Global Finalists in the Adaptation & Resilience category. She presented her innovative project titled "Atmospheric Water Generator Integrated with Air Purification System," which proposed an integrated three-layer cylindrical system combining atmospheric water generation with advanced air purification technology. The project was widely appreciated for its innovative design, technical integration and potential to address the critical challenges of clean air and safe water accessibility.



Participants attending the innovation and entrepreneurship workshop

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Footwear Design & Development Institute
was established by the
Ministry of Commerce and Industry,
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