

IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)  
Space Education Outreach and Workforce Development for Emerging Communities (IPB)

Author: Mr. Subhrajit Barua

Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), Russian Federation, subhrajit.barua@spacegeneration.org

Mr. Ryan Kirby

Blue Marble Space Institute of Science, United States, ryan.kirby@bmsis.org

Mr. Mario Mollo

Magna Græcia University of Catanzaro, Italy, mariomollo@live.it

Mr. Sibsankar Palit

India, sibsankarpalit@lifetoandbeyond.org

Mr. Subhajit Hazra

India, subhajit.hazra@lifetoandbeyond.org

BEYOND BOUNDARIES: PIONEERING THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION WITH THE  
ENDOGENOUSLY DEVELOPED, BEYONDER'S SPACE KIT

**Abstract**

Engagement is the Key to sustainable learning! At LIFE-To Beyond as part of our vision and mission, we aim to sensitize the unsensitized communities about Life and Space through engagement in fun activities, which is what we did at our first initial outreach activities in Purba Bardhaman and Jalpaiguri District of West Bengal, India, consisting of rural and tribal children. The initiative was funded, in part, by a prominent education and outreach foundation in India. Building upon the foundation of our engagement with mechanical toys and space exploration, these initiatives epitomize the ethos of our organization. Designed to cater to learners at various levels, the Beyonder's DIY Space Kit offered basic, intermediate, and advanced modules intending to provide a comprehensive range of hands-on activities or interactive learning materials. Furthermore, counting on the linguistic diversity prevalent in the regions we ensured that the kit had procedural instructions in Bengali, Hindi, and English; thus, ensuring inclusivity and accessibility for all. Thereafter, drawing inspiration from the enthusiastic participation and positive impact witnessed during these rural outreach programs, the Beyonder's DIY Space Kit now aims to transcend geographical barriers and empower learners to critically think and design future DIY experiments that could help them find their place in cosmos through the utilization of materials from their backyards, and therefore, bridge the gap between urban-centric educational resourcefulness. This we feel, would not only democratize access to quality science and space education but also, cultivate a generation of young innovators and explorers who dare to dream beyond the pale blue dot. Last, but not least, as we enter onto this journey of innovation and inclusivity, we remain committed to amplifying the voices of marginalized communities and unlocking the boundless potential that lies within every child, regardless of their background or circumstances, through the Beyonder's DIY Space Kit, which, is not only a culmination of our past endeavors but also brings in new hope for the future of science education in the country, further reassuring the fact that, TOGETHER WE ARE CREATING SPACE FOR ALL!