

science, education, art and innovation swissnex Bangalore

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swissnex Bangalore

The beginning of swissnex in Bangalore was extremely encouraging. Bangalore is dynamic, innovative and the place to be with regard to science, technology and innovation. In 2009, France, Japan, Germany and the UK have opened General Consulates and many other countries have Trade Offices in Bangalore. France and the UK have opened Science & Technology sections in their Consulates. Germany will also do so in the near future. Bangalore will only gain in importance in the coming years. It already is a city with a very large number of top-level research institutions and IT and Biotech companies and its importance as an S&T hub will continue to grow. Therefore, it is essential to be among the first to be present in Bangalore and to build solid networks that allow Swiss stakeholders to connect with Indian partner institutions.

swissnex Bangalore has been involved in a number of projects in 2009. The most spectacular one being the launch of SwissCube, the first Swiss satellite sent to space from India. Swiss excellence in science and technology was also showcased at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay as Professor Markram and Professor Floreano from EPFL were among the prestigious keynote speakers. ETHZ Big Band toured through India playing at selected Indian Institutes of Technology where they were received with much enthusiasm. Another series of lectures were given by astronaut Claude Nicollier on spacewalks and by Muriel Noca from EPFL on SwissCube which contributed to forming closer ties between India and Switzerland in the field of space research. Other conferences focused on the Swiss Education System and on Swiss mathematician Leonhard Euler.

Several delegations were received in Bangalore and two networking events were organised for professors from the universities of applied sciences (HES-SO), Canton de Vaud. These events were particularly successful due to the high motivation and efficient approach of the Swiss delegates in developing concrete collaborations.

A number of exciting projects are already scheduled for 2010. The exhibition science suisse will be shown in Bangalore accompanied by a series of conferences. We will again take the opportunity to showcase cutting edge Swiss research at IIT Bombay Techfest in January 2010. This time Lyn Evans, project manager of the Large Hadron Collider at CERN and two professors from ETHZ and EPFL will be among the keynote speakers. The Swiss expedition on climate change ToptoTop (www.toptotop.org) will be in India throughout 2010. A number of conferences and events are planned around their travels in India. A joint event via videoconference between the Master of Technology Course at EPFL and swissnex Bangalore is planned on the topic of "Becoming a Global Entrepreneur".

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is the designated Director of swissnex Bangalore since 2008. She studied International relations at the University of Geneva, Environmental Science University of Aberdeen (BSc), Development Studies (MSc) at the EPFL and also concluded her PhD Thesis in Lausanne.