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# Aga Khan Academy to train teachers, aims high in country

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**Hyderabad:** After years of educating students, the Aga Khan Academy is now focussing on developing educators.

In partnership with the Telangana state education department, teachers of local government schools will be trained to themselves become trainers so they can share the knowledge and skills gained with colleagues. This will be made possible through a professional development centre situated on campus.

The Academy, which was established in 2011, has grown in leaps and bounds and currently has 650 students from different socio-economic backgrounds from all over the country. "Being at the Academy was my first opportunity to work within a global development network, coordinating

**Following the three-tier International Baccalaureate programme, the Academy boasts of being one of the most economically diverse schools of the country**

schools with the same objectives and vision but with very different geographies and student cultures," said Geoffrey Fisher, head of the Academy. "To grapple with the challenges of setting the same high standards in different contexts is very rewarding," he said.

Fisher said, "The vision of the Academy is to cultivate home-grown leadership, who are capable to meeting tomorrow's global challenges whether it is in a national or an international context."

Another outreach initiative

by the Academy includes a tripartite MOU with Mahabubnagar district authorities and the non-profit Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, Delhi, to transform anganwadi centre service delivery through a digital financial inclusion pilot. "With AKDN helping over 8,500 students nationwide through rural and urban education programmes, one can only strive to increase these numbers in order to increase the impact of quality education in India," he said.

"His Highness's Jubilees have traditionally served as opportunities to launch or advance social, cultural and economic development projects," said Semin Abdullah, from AKDN. "The Aga Khan Academy in Hyderabad had its foundation stone-laying ceremony just before his golden jubilee in 2007," she said.