Introduction

I. History and background. Without any plans and hence from a jack to a queen…
II. The 1st steps towards a programme.
III. Finances?
IV. And if no finances are there – then what? What about a "no-money-project"? How do we do to continue?
V. Disturbing experiences of *e.g.* "do they really have anything to teach us – shouldn't it be the other way around?" (objectives, preparatory courses, transcultural sensitivity, group dynamics in terms of individualsim and collectivism as well as conflict solutions…etcetera).
VI. Negotiations. E.g. in terms of actual salary for coordinators in India? Some experiences are so bad that I hesitate to let you know!
VII. And then *The Project* was being launched!

And this is the outcome:

i) Period of applications sent from Örebro University, Lund University and Östersund University.
ii) Invitations to Sweden-India Project (all in all 18-19 students).
iii) Information period – normally this has been made by me through one contact person from each university including the supervisors at each university.
iv) Introductory/Preparatory course at Örebro University, held by me and Ms Lakshmi Kumar. The course is a 3-day course normally Friday 9 AM to 5 PM, Saturday 9 AM to 5 PM and 7 – 10 PM, and Sunday 9 AM to 1 PM. The course is supposed to give *a) the groups an opportunity to get to meet each other, b) a primary understanding of some of the problems of staying extremely close in a group, c) an understanding in terms of conflict solutions – mainly that conflicts will inevitably arise and that there will be professionals to help in solvning them, c) some introductory discussions in terms of class, jati, politics, religion in society and society in religion, fundamentalism, westernization…*
v) Apart from this the students will, naturally, get information in terms of medicin, vaccinations, budgets, travels, clothing, food/drinking habits, Swedish Friday concept, etcetera.
vi) Coming to Mumbai the students will be met at Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport and driven by minibus to their accomodations in Pune.

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vii) After some food they will be given some rest, and after that the Indian Project starts with a one week introduction, which is a continuation of the introductory course in Sweden and an introduction to Pune life.

viii) 1st of all they are taken out, as it were, in the "traffic" to start learning the rules, 2nd they are being taught (most elementary) to buy clothes, food, make telephone calls, introduced to our internet café, and so on and so forth.

ix) After this the students are introduced to Bharatiya Vhiday Peeth University and The Department of Social Work for their first project…And then it roames along (see www.swedenindia.org).

Anyway, this project started 13 years ago. Without any finances. And it is still there. But I still would suggest that you don't do like us. Sooner or later obsession and passion will diminish. Sooner or later you will find that your heart is breaking. Sooner or later you will find that there are other things that are more urgent and important – your employer, e.g. Your family. Your social community…

I am quite confident that the Sweden-India Project will continue. So many people in Sweden and India are involved, and so many people are so much dedicated, but nevertheless: See to it that you don't land between the chairs of i) social, cultural, political, natural, sciences and ii) the chairs of NGOs and, by all means: *See to it that you don't land between these chairs and the chairs of those with the money!*

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