Dear Arundhati,

We're happy to announce that Dasra has launched two data-focused cohort initiatives - the Dasra for Good Exchange (DGX4) 2024 India Empowerment Challenge and the Dasra Catalyst Program (DCP). In partnership with Bloomberg, and supported by Societal Thinking and Stanford PACS, DGX4 aims to empower NGOs using data for community building, learning, livelihood creation, and sustainability. Indian registered NGOs applying a GED lens (Gender, Equity, Diversity inclusion) to their work are encouraged to apply. Winners will receive grants, mentorship, and networking opportunities. Applications can be submitted here.

DCP, a collaboration between Project Tech4Dev and Dasra with Goalkeep as the knowledge partner, aims to enhance non-profits' and data leaders' capacity to create scalable, sustainable data solutions. The program offers residential workshops, expert-led sessions, case studies, hands-on support, and peer-based learning. Those interested in applying can submit their applications here.

We're also pleased to announce the return of the Young Philanthropist Program (YPP), a collaborative initiative between GivingPi and Stanford PACS. This 2-week intensive program in Mumbai guides students aged 14-20 with a comprehensive introduction to the Indian development sector. Participants engage in research projects, fundraising activities, expert sessions, mentorship, and peer learning opportunities. If you are interested in applying or know someone who might be, please complete the application form available here.

As always, in this edition, we will be amplifying our GivingPi families and their philanthropic activities, highlighting community events, and keeping you informed on the latest thought leadership in the field of philanthropy.
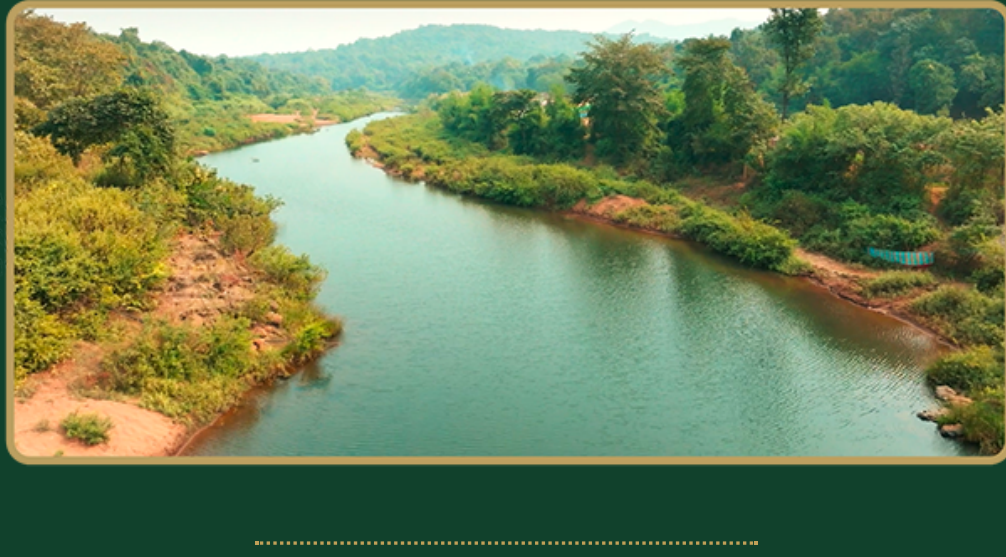
With gratitude,
Team GivingPi

Updates from our community

GivingPi Member, Radha Goenka is the Director of RPG Foundation, whose initiative nature:re is making impactful strides in environmental conservation, focusing on both urban and rural areas. One of their key initiatives involves the creation of urban green corridors, where neglected parks are transformed into flourishing biodiversity parks. Within this project, Udaan, a two-acre biodiversity park in Pune was turned into a biodiversity park, which led to the successful resurgence of the critically endangered tiny Sunset plant. This project has also expanded to Mumbai's Rock Garden, Willingdon Linear Park, Hyderabad Estate Park, and Pali Beach, creating vital green corridors for nature. To know more, click here

In rural India, Wadis Foundation Founded by GivingPi Member, Vikrant Bhargava, through its Integrated Livelihood Development Program in the Alwar district, is transforming animal healthcare. Pashu Sakhi's are a cadre of women from the local self-help groups who carry essential medical supplies and travel from household to household, providing crucial veterinary care services. Trained to nutrition, vaccination, and disease control, they form the backbone of rural animal healthcare, ensuring timely treatment and preventive care for livestock. The impact is profound, as these women bridge the gap in veterinary services, which is particularly acute in rural areas. Wadis Foundation's vision extends beyond treatment, with the Foundation advocating for formalizing the role of Pashu Sakhis, ensuring their recognition and proper remuneration. By scaling and streamlining this model, they aim to create a self-sustainable system that can be replicated nationwide. Through these efforts, the Wadis Foundation is not only enhancing animal healthcare but also building state capacity and empowering rural communities. To know more, click here

The Raintree Foundation, Founded by GivingPi Member, Leena Dandekar, is embarking on a significant river rejuvenation project for the Shastri River Basin in Maharashtra, covering 2,098 square kilometers. Following their successful project in Velhe, which addressed challenges like air pollution and water scarcity, they aim to tackle similar issues in the Shastri River Basin, including limited livelihoods, water scarcity, human-wildlife conflict, and biodiversity loss. By engaging communities and promoting a landscape approach, the Foundation seeks to mitigate climate change and promote a generational mindset shift. This project will impact around 400 villages, aligning with all 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The Foundation is currently raising awareness and funds to support this initiative. To know more, click here

BML Munjal University, under the leadership of Mr. Sunil Kant Munjal (Chancellor) and GivingPi Member, Ms. Swati Munjal (President), has started a social endeavor called BMU Cares. This initiative, dedicated to establishing a fund, aims to empower students from diverse backgrounds to pursue their educational goals. Mentored by Imperial College London in its foundational years, BMU strives to ensure that 10% of its students receive scholarships, making world-class education accessible. Over 2,000 students have benefited from scholarships totaling Rs. 74 crores since the university's inception. BMU Cares focuses on empowering female students, especially in STEM fields, to advance their education. If you would like to know more about BMU Cares or are interested in collaborating with them to support the future of these students, please write to bmucares@bmu.edu.in

GivingPi Member Manavesh & Singh Shekhawat's social endeavor, The I Love Foundation, is an alliance of local communities working to solve problems by pooling talent and resources. The Foundation has made significant strides since its inception in 2013, completing 60 projects across responsible tourism, education, healthcare, environment, and cultural preservation. The 'Greening Jaisalmer' initiative saw the planting of 10,000 native plants in community pasture land at Chandan, Jaisalmer, involving 250 volunteers to foster biodiversity and reduce carbon footprint. The Foundation's water-related efforts with Tata, Aqua include constructing 40 tree stands in Jaisalmer with a goal of reaching 100 wells. Similarly, under their clean drinking water initiative, they installed rainwater harvesting units in 14 government schools, benefiting 2,500 students in Jaisalmer. In education, the Foundation established the first smart classes in a village called Mulana and Govt, Girls College Jaisalmer, benefiting 900 girl students. Moreover, their marketplace connect initiative provides employment to 30 women artisans from rural Jaisalmer who specialize in traditional artwork of the region.

ACT Grants - Healthcare, led by GivingPi Member, Sandeep Singhal, recently partnered with Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP) and the Department of Health and Family Welfare Services, Govt. of Karnataka, to deploy innovative digital and tele-ophthalmology solutions in rural primary care centers. The aim is to eradicate preventable blindness in a wide age group from 5-80 years. With funding and advisory support from ACT, this project is expected to impact nearly 10 million underserved individuals across 6 districts. To know more, click here

GivingPi Member, Avantika Saraogi, is from the Promoter family of Balrampur Chini Mills Ltd (BCML), which recently announced an investment of Rs. 2,000+ crores to pioneer India's first bio-plastics plant, partnering with three global technological experts. Aligned with the nation's sustainability goals, the project prioritizes circular practices using bio-based raw materials. Striving for net-zero emissions by 2070 for India, it underscores a dedicated commitment to eco-conscious, innovative, reshaping India's economic landscape sustainably. To know more, click here

The Gateway School of Mumbai, Founded by GivingPi Member Indira Badani, and The Gateway Research and Outreach Cell, are verticals of the Keshavlal V. Bodani Education Foundation, Indira Bodani's family foundation. The Gateway Research and Outreach Cell has developed FABA, a standardized formal learning assessment application designed to enhance foundational literacy skills among students in India. This first of its kind literacy app has been developed by Dr. Radhika Misquitta and her team. The research based app is tailored to the Indian education system and is offered free of charge for primary grades. It covers English for grades 1-5, and Hindi and Marathi for grades 1-2. Currently 55 schools and 8,065 students nationwide have adopted and implemented this application. The Gateway Research and Outreach Cell's aim is to make FABA accessible to all schools and educators across India, contributing to the nation's goal of ensuring foundational literacy for every learner. As The Gateway Research and Outreach Cell develops FABA further, they are looking to partner with like-minded schools and organisations to develop intervention programs. To know more, click here

GivingPi Member, Sanatshi Agarwal, is the Managing Director of Sterlite Edindia Foundation, which recently conducted a successful Digilocker training session with Samagra Shiksha in Uttarakhand as part of their data analytics support program. The training session was aimed at helping government officials drive accurate and cost-effective use of technology in education. The session provided participants with comprehensive insights into Digilocker, highlighting its significance in school management and data storage. 36 staff members engaged in this session, gaining valuable knowledge and skills. To know more, click here

In the media

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

India needs over $2.5 trillion by 2030 for climate mitigation: A call to action
for climate-ready industries
By Neeta Nandy & Parnasha Banerjee | The Economic Times

In this opinion piece, Neeta Nandy, Co-Founder & Partner, Dasra, and Parnasha Banerjee, Director, Dasra, delve into climate mitigation and what will enable philanthropists to achieve meaningful impact and strengthen community resilience to climate change.

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

How philanthropy is empowering India's mental health sector
By Kiran Mazumdar Shaw | World Economic Forum

In this piece, Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw advocates for collaboration philanthropy for the revival of India's mental health sector. She calls for strategic investments and support to community-led solutions.

TEDᵡ Talks

Intention in Education: for an Entrepreneurial India | Mekin Maheshwari | TEDxGCU
By Mekin Maheshwari | TEDxTalk

GivingPi Member and Founder of Udhyam Learning Foundation, Mekin Maheshwari speaks in innovation in education and the need to focus on an entrepreneurial mindset.

Reach out to us

Amplify
We would love to amplify the philanthropic efforts you are championing with the GivingPi community.
Please share relevant updates with us at communications@givingpi.org

Concierge
If you have a query, need any support with your philanthropic journey, or would simply like to have a conversation, reach out to us on concierge@givingpi.org

For more information on the network, membership or philanthropy-focused offerings, visit www.givingpi.org