



PUNE
INTERNATIONAL
CENTRE



NATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON SOCIAL INNOVATION

11th National Conference on

SOCIAL INNOVATION



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11 Years of



TOTAL
CONFERENCES
11



TOTAL
FINALISTS
258



TOTAL
APPLICATIONS
1000+

2023



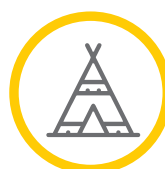
Categorywise Applications



51%
RURAL

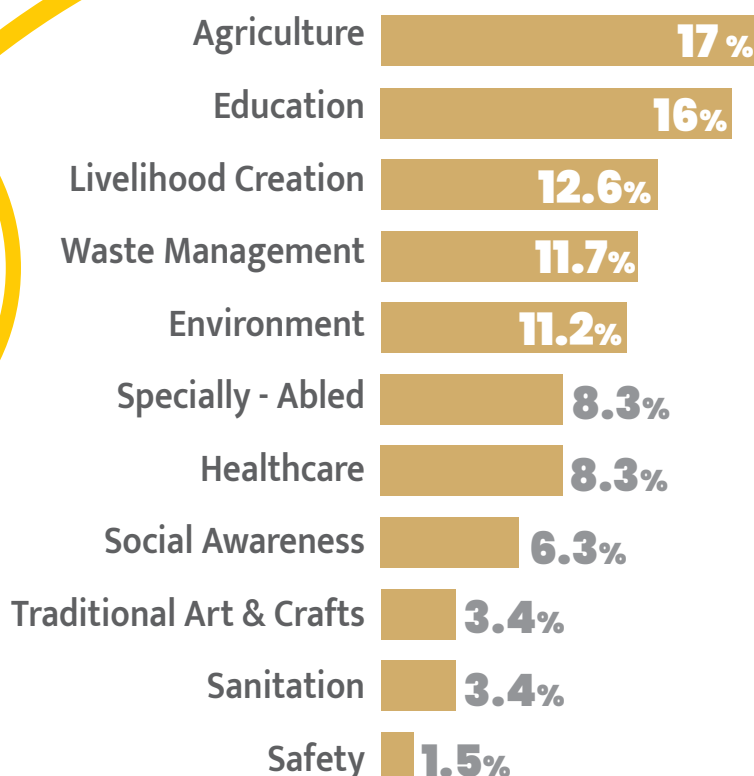


41%
URBAN



08%
TRIBAL

2023 Sectorwise Distribution of





OPENING REMARKS



Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, President, Pune International Centre

CREATE THE NEXT PRACTICE

I want to extend a very warm welcome to you all at the 11th National Conference on Social Innovation. We began our journey almost a decade ago thinking about social innovation as a transformer of society and what we can do. But since then, we have moved from thought leadership to action leadership. We have been doing our best to empower and support social entrepreneurs in their mission to create a great social impact from great ideas.

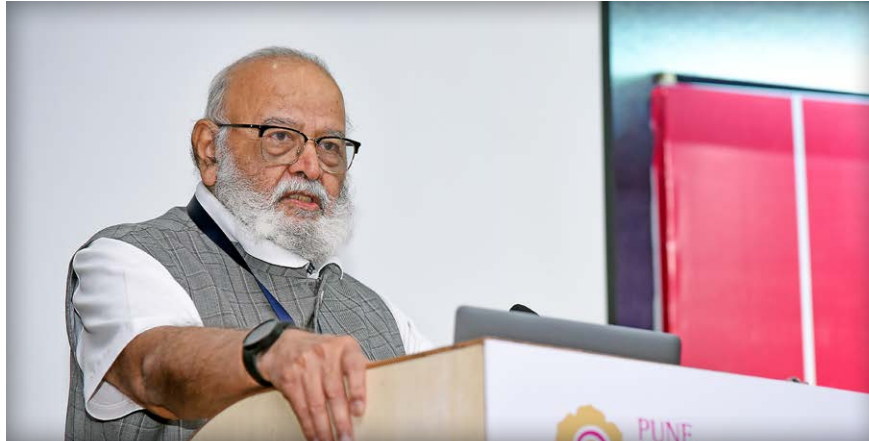
We always pride ourselves in saying 'we are following best practices,' but I do not believe in best practice because then you are merely following someone else's lead. I believe in 'creating the next practice' which others will follow and emulate, setting a new standard for excellence.

This year the 13th Anjani Mashelkar Prize is being awarded and I can say proudly that each of the awardees so far has created the next practices. These awardees were able to create great impact from great ideas.

The application process for the Anjani Mashelkar prize is rigorous, but I am delighted that we are now attracting applications from prestigious institutions like MIT and the University of California Berkeley, and even received one from Pakistan. This global recognition is a testament to our esteemed standing. The selection process for the finalists is equally challenging. Making high-technology work for the rich is very easy; making simple technology work for the poor is also very easy. But making high-technology work for the poor is very difficult. As evidenced by our previous awardees, each has successfully harnessed high technology to empower the underprivileged. We are constantly hearing about the emergence of unicorns and soonicorns, but achieving breakthroughs in deep-tech has proven to be a formidable challenge for us. This underscores India's urgent need for cutting-edge science-based innovations.



KEYNOTE ADDRESS



Dr. Abhay Firodia, Chairman, Force Motors

DISRUPTIVE TECH WILL BENEFIT HUMANITY

We are living in a turbulent world, and in this new world, leadership will not come from the same things we have been doing or from incremental changes, but it will come from disruption. To find solutions to every problem in the world is also an opportunity. When we look at any achievement, initiative, or aspiration for us as people who want to do good and who want to really support stability and peace in society, we must be cognisant of the need to be disruptive. I believe, disruptive technology will benefit humanity by enabling us to leapfrog over the problems and create a new basis for solutions for people.

The old world lived in an age of discovery, not of innovation. They did not have the benefit of a society which was boldly innovating. Many of the world-changing events like the discovery of the smallpox vaccine or penicillin were accidental and not because of an innovative drive to look at disruptive changes.

India will not be a great country on the back of a few scientists. If we want our society to be innovative, productive, and creative, then we need to focus on our primary education, which is another area for innovation. Revamping primary education will give basic strength, values, and attitudes that society needs today. This is where an initiative like the Anjani Mashelkar Prize really matters.

Technical ideation of a solution for any problem is not sufficient. You need to find the right application with a proper product-market fit. The innovations presented by the urban, rural, and tribal category innovators are amazing in this context.

Often, it is said that innovation is for creating social wealth and public good. However, a market is necessary, and you cannot create public good without creating wealth. You cannot create ease, comfort, and confidence in society without creating prosperity. Hence, I believe, innovators must boldly embrace markets.

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS



Padmashri Prof. Anil Kumar Gupta,
founder of Honey Bee Network and SRISHTI

INCENTIVISE INDIVIDUALS CONTRIBUTING TO SOCIAL INNOVATION

India has a strong trend towards open social innovation for society. One characteristic of social innovation is that when market and state both fail to clear the demand of the disadvantaged people who need that service or product, social entrepreneurs come into the picture to address these unmet needs. Pune International Centre has kept the flame alive by bringing together and recognising such outstanding social innovators from all over the country.

A significant contribution of this platform lies in its ability to draw attention to the unsung champions of social change – the innovators, entrepreneurs, and changemakers who tirelessly dedicate themselves to providing essential services and products to those who lack the means to access them. Interestingly, many grassroots innovators refrain from seeking intellectual property protection for their innovations. Driven by a spirit of inclusivity and compassion, they choose to share their innovations freely, ensuring that their inventions reach the hands of those who need them most, regardless of their manufacturing capabilities or financial constraints. There is a need for risk capital, which we call ‘Micro-Venture Innovation Fund’, which is different from Microfinance. Micro-Venture Finance is for goods and services for which market does not yet exist.

We must devise innovative mechanisms to incentivise individuals who contribute to these initiatives. The idea is to involve as many people as possible in this process of social innovation. Incentives could be in form of some tax credit, or benefits in health, transportation, etc. This collective effort, involving policymakers, innovators, and the public, holds the potential to revolutionise social innovation, leading to a more inclusive and equitable society for all.



VOTE OF THANKS



Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Vice President, Pune International Centre

COLLECTIVE WILL TO CREATE EQUITABLE WORLD

The National Conference on Social Innovation event holds immense significance for Pune International Centre (PIC). The event commenced with the prestigious Anjani Mashelkar Award, setting the tone for a truly inspiring experience. PIC stands out from other organisations due to its unwavering commitment to innovation, particularly in the realm of social innovation.

Amidst the turmoil and despair that often cloud our world, with violence seemingly omnipresent and lives tragically lost, witnessing the work of PIC has offered a glimmer of hope, a rainbow of possibilities in the pursuit of human rights. It is the unwavering passion and dedication of social innovators and entrepreneurs, their willingness to go beyond what the market or the state can provide, that ignites a sense of purpose and revalidates the inherent goodness that exists within humanity. Their unwavering commitment to harnessing innovation and creativity for the betterment of society is a beacon of hope, demonstrating that positive change is indeed possible. This serves as a reminder that even in the face of adversity, there exists a collective will to create a more just and equitable world.

Thank you, PIC, for illuminating my day with your unwavering dedication and inspiring me to believe in the power of human potential to make a positive difference. Your work rekindles our hope that good still exists, that we can collectively create a world where peace and human dignity prevail. With your efforts, I can indeed sleep comfortably, knowing that there are those who tirelessly strive to make our world a better place.

CONCLUDING REMARKS



Prashant Girbane, General Secretary, Pune International Centre

RECOGNISING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS

From the very inception of Pune International Centre, Dr. Vijay Kelkar has emphasised the importance of social innovation and promoting it. A few years later, a meeting with renowned industrialist and philanthropist Ratan Tata further solidified the need for social innovation and providing continuous support to social innovators.

For the past 11 years, PIC has been hosting an annual conclave to bring together social innovators from around the world. To transform this annual event into a movement, PIC started a mentorship programme for social innovators.

In this annual conclave, social entrepreneurs are recognised for their groundbreaking contributions. These innovators also get international recognition as Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, a passionate advocate for social innovation, actively promotes their cause on various international platforms. His efforts have significantly contributed to raising awareness and support for social innovation.

With the generous contributions of companies through their CSR initiatives, PIC has acquired substantial resources to establish a campus dedicated to social innovation. I am confident that this campus will not just house structures, but will also serve as a hub for social innovators and continue to drive social innovation initiatives.



NSCI 2023: OVERVIEW



Abhay Vaidya, Director, Pune International Centre

SOCIAL INNOVATION PRIORITISES SOCIAL GOOD

The National Conference on Social Innovation 2023 was organised in association with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) and the National Innovation Foundation (NIF). The event showcased innovation for social and inclusive growth. Innovation is all about the creative genius of the human mind in addressing social challenges. Unlike traditional innovation, where profit is the primary objective, social innovation prioritises social good and the upliftment of the most marginalised communities.

Social innovations, often characterised as Gandhian in nature, offer sustainable solutions that create employment, provide affordable healthcare, and empower communities. This aligns with the vision of C.K. Prahalad, a renowned management guru, who advocated for “bottom of the pyramid technologies” to address the needs of the underprivileged.

The Social Innovation Lab, under the leadership of mentors and facilitators, has played a pivotal role in nurturing and supporting these innovative ideas. This year, the event received 206 entries, a significant increase from the 130 entries received last year. Each entry represents a potential solution to a pressing social issue. From the pool of applications, 18 finalists were selected, six in each category of Urban, Rural and Tribal Innovations. Each application underwent a rigorous scrutiny process, ensuring that only the most promising ideas were shortlisted. Each one of these applicants is a winner for us.



Pune : From Left: Mr. Sushil Borde, Head, Anjani Mashelkar Foundation, Ms. Vaishali Mashelkar; Dr. R. A. Mashelkar, President, PIC, Ms. Gayathri Choda, Founder and CEO, Aarca Research; Dr. Abhay Firodia, Chairman, Force Motors; Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Vice President, PIC; and Mr. Abhay Vaidya, Director, PIC at the presentation of the 13th Anjani Mashelkar Prize to Ms. Gayathri Choda.

ANJANI MASHELKAR PRIZE

Anjani Mashelkar Prize (formerly known as the Anjani Mashelkar Inclusive Innovation Award) is an initiative by the Anjani Mashelkar Foundation, instituted by Padma Vibhushan Dr. R. A. Mashelkar in 2011. The Prize is offered to the best innovators of

the country with a motive to recognise and reward such innovators who develop high-technology solutions for the excluded members of society. The prize is named after Dr. Mashelkar's late mother, who raised him facing many hardships as a poor, uneducated widow.

FOSTERING COMPASSIONATE EQUITY



Sushil Borde,
Head, Anjani Mashelkar Foundation

The Anjani Mashelkar Foundation is on a mission to bring smiles to all faces, focusing on achieving healthcare equality despite all societal inequalities. In a country as diverse as India, where factors like poverty, caste, religion, and geography often create disparities in healthcare access, the Foundation recognises the need for disruptive innovation to address these challenges. The heart of this initiative lies in identifying pathbreakers, gamechangers, and innovators who dedicate their lives to solving India's grand challenges. The Foundation aims to foster a movement towards compassionate equity in healthcare.



URBAN INNOVATION



RURAL INNOVATION



TRIBAL INNOVATION

SOCIAL INNOVATION

PIC's 11th National Conference on Social Innovation



**Dr. Rashmi
Om Tiwary**
Founder



TRIBAL INNOVATION

TRIBAL CATEGORY: WINNER



AAHAN FOUNDATION FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

Founder's Name: Dr. Rashmi Om Tiwary

- Aahan Foundation is a Not-for-Profit organisation working towards empowering girls from marginalised communities at risk of gender-based violence, including child marriage, sexual abuse, and human trafficking.
- Aahan Foundation primarily works with the underprivileged girls in the age group of 8-18 years from Jharkhand. Aahan works toward stopping the intergenerational cycle of gender-based violence such as trafficking, child marriage, etc. and bringing a new dawn in the lives of tribal girls belonging to the marginalised communities in the conflict areas of Jharkhand through education, awareness, arts and sports, and creating safe spaces.
- In the challenging scenario in which the girls from rural marginalised communities live, empowerment is a process of change, a personal journey through which the girls get a better understanding of themselves, increasing agency (ability to make choices that will impact their lives) and assets (e.g., physical and mental assets, social networks, financial assets, skills, time).



TRIBAL INNOVATION

FINALISTS



Chandrasekaran Jayaraman
Founder & Director

WATSAN

WATSAN ENVIROTECH PVT LTD

Founder's Name: Chandrasekaran J

- WATSAN provides customised water purifiers to remove arsenic and fluoride from water.
- WATSAN was coined by blending the words 'Water' and 'Sanitation.' A 10-year-old social enterprise, WATSAN provides water and sanitary solutions by manufacturing and distributing low-cost, electricity-free water filters to urban slums and rural families. More than 4,00,000 rural and urban slum households have been benefitted by Watsan's standalone purifiers, and almost 5000 schools and anganwadis, 3000 tribal families, and BSF check post and Kargil, Wagah border have been using Watsan's Natural Water Purifiers.

Founded in 2009 by the efforts of Chandrasekaran J, an expert in Plastics Technology, the proprietary firm "Custom Parts Online" started making many innovative products to address the soaring needs of common people. Under the license from IMMT (CSIR), Bhubhaneshwar in the year 2010 by Custom Parts Online, the poor man's

water purifier, popularly known as 'CPO Natural Terafil[®]™ Water filter,' was manufactured and was later exclusively run by WATSAN Envirotech Private Limited. Later in 2013, Mr. P. N. Subramanian, an IT professional with 35 years of experience in HR, Strategy and Planning, headed WATSAN as the Co-founder.



TRIBAL INNOVATION FINALISTS



Proteek Kundu
Founder & Director



NeevJivan
Aajkal Mouth, Harmaara South

NEEVJIVAN FOUNDATION

Founder's Name: Proteek Kundu

- An NGO working in skill development and vocational training for the tribal women and youth in rural Maharashtra
- NeevJivan Foundation is working to create an alternate source of income (other than agriculture) with the introduction of a vocation of choice in every family in the tribal community. The organisation creates opportunities for sustainable livelihood in the villages so that they do not have to migrate to the cities in search of greener pastures.

It all started with the images of the desperate migrant workers returning home being splashed across various media at the onset of the dreaded pandemic. It was then that Proteek made up his mind that a genuine attempt must be made to ensure that they do not go back to the cities in search of livelihood. This obviously meant that their skills had

to be mapped and they had to be skilled/re-skilled/up-skilled in such a manner that they got absorbed in the industries present in their locality or they set up enterprises of their own. The whole objective was to make them capable enough to get employed closer to their homes so that they never lived as migrants ever again.



TRIBAL INNOVATION FINALISTS



Riddhish Soni
CEO

AUMSAT TECHNOLOGIES LLP

Founder's Name: Riddhish Soni

- Aumsat Technologies provides radar satellite groundwater solutions across sectors, offering precise, affordable services with a pay-per-acre model.
- Aumsat supports cutting-edge research and development by providing stakeholders and users with regularly updated information and operational precision-driven analytics. Their clientele includes the UN World Food Programme and government ministries, and they hold certifications from NASA and ICAR. The company has positively impacted smallholder farmers, scanning 44,000 hectares and establishing 3,800 water points.

Aumsat is a progressively incorporated earth observation and reconnaissance application environment that sees our planet and its current circumstance for the essential benefit of humankind. By understanding the dynamic interaction between land, air and water, Aumsat provides a diverse, comprehensive range of analytical solutions for smart agriculture, water, and surveillance sectors.

Team Aumsat came together

to be problem solvers and solution finders by bringing together geomatics, predictive analytics, remote sensing, object detection, and statistics for earth observation applications. Team Aumsat has been part of the Chandrayaan 2 Lunar Mission of India and has been trained by NASA, ISRO, UNOOSA, Google, Harvard School of Design, and IIT Bombay. Our consistent foundations are built on precision, innovation, and trust.



TRIBAL INNOVATION FINALISTS



Ganesh Pandey

Senior Associate, Growth

हक़दर्शक Haqdarshak

HAQDARSHAK EMPOWERMENT SOLUTIONS PVT LTD

Founder's Name : Aniket Doegar

- Haqdarshak is a social enterprise providing assisted-tech services for doorstep delivery of government welfare entitlements.
- Haqdarshak has created a comprehensive repository of over 6800 government schemes in multiple languages, accessible through our mobile platform. Trained field agents – Haqdarshaks – provide last-mile support and address citizen grievances. Haqdarshak supports MSMEs in accessing schemes for business growth. Over the last 7 years, it has trained 47,000+ Haqdarshaks, reaching 4 million citizens and unlocking over INR 5000 crores worth of scheme benefits.

Haqdarshak uses technology to bridge the information gap by digitising and codifying welfare schemes data on the platform, thereby building a rich repository of government services in local Indian languages. It is an easy eligibility-

discovery engine which provides results in minutes. Haqdarshak trains selected field agents for on-field implementation to implement the assisted-tech model and provides end-to-end application support to community members.



Prabodh Mahajan
cofounder & COO

Learn and Empower Pvt Ltd

Transforming digital learning, Nurturing lives

LEARN AND EMPOWER PRIVATE LIMITED

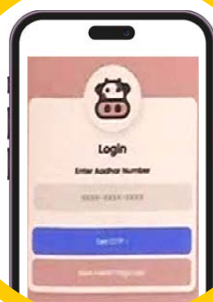
Founder's Name: Prabodh Mahajan

- SignAssistive lets deaf people translate information and communicate in any Indian Language to Indian sign language.
- The world is home to 440 million+ deaf and hard of hearing people and India has 63 million+ people who face inaccessibility in education, communication, information and at workplaces. Learn and Empower is a social startup working to improve the learnability of deaf students. It makes learning easier and engaging for the deaf children so that they can understand the concepts in less time.

Resonate is a digital games-based learning platform from Learn and Empower, to make learning more fun and engaging. It helps the students learn concepts 5-6 times faster and even works offline so that the child can study without any interruption. Parents can track their child's progress

in real time through easy-to-understand dashboards made available in multiple languages. Teachers and special educators can use it as a teaching tool to reinforce difficult to understand concepts and help in improving overall recall.

**Ananda
Mishra**
Founder



RURAL INNOVATION

RURAL CATEGORY: WINNER



COWBIT TECHNOLOGIES PVT LTD

Founder's Name: Diptimayee Mishra

- IoT technology implementation for cattle health monitoring system benefitting dairy farmers and cattle welfare through mobile apps and alerts.
- Cowbit is a technology product that brings much needed visibility into farm operations, allowing farm managers to make informed, timely and profitable decisions. Cowbit also buys back from the farmers' community and links it with cooperative societies and private dairies.

Cowbit Technologies is a technology company working for the digitization of animal husbandry and working for the welfare of the farmer community global. The smartwatch monitors parameters such as heart rate and temperature, transmitting the data to mobile applications in local languages. The technology utilizes Bluetooth for direct data transfer. The product offers features such as disease detection, a trading platform, and a subscription model for health updates and insurance.



RURAL INNOVATION FINALISTS



Vasanth Kamath
Founder



Hydro Greens

HYDRO GREENS

Founder's Name: Vasanth Kamath

- Hydro Greens offers complete fodder production system design, installation, and training to farmers. To ensure reliable feed supply, they provide ongoing repair and maintenance.
- India, being the largest dairy sector in the world, faces 300 million tonnes of green fodder shortage that affects 75 million dairy farmers with a loss of 15 to 25 per cent in dairy income; the problem is further accentuated by demand from energy transition and security. Hydro Greens provide healthy, sustainable feed to farmers and ranchers to reduce environmental impact. Hydroponics allows them to feed livestock year-round.

Fodder stations provided by Hydro Greens are a localised means for dairy farmers to grow fresh fodder. As the fodder units are solar-powered, they are a low-cost micro climate-controlled space and can be installed in a 12sq.ft area to grow sufficient fodder for four cattles in-house. It has the necessary infrastructure to operate in warm

temperatures of 40 to 50 degree Celcius while only using half a bucket of water. This is a critical avenue for cattle farmers and customers to acquire nutrient-rich green fodder even during the hot summer months. The fodder growing house, known as the Kambali unit, also produces crops such as wheatgrass and mushrooms.



RURAL INNOVATION FINALISTS



Krunal Jagtap
CEO & Founder



HAB BIOMASS PRIVATE LIMITED

Founder's Name: Krunal Sunil Jagtap

- Innovative mobile unit converts one tonne of agro waste per hour into bio-coal briquettes to be used as fuel in industries.
- HAB Biomass provides a door-to-door tool to farmers for converting their agro waste into high-GCV bio briquettes. It provides an eco-friendly energy alternative and turns agricultural waste into valuable resources. This IPR protected product helps farmers earn extra money from agricultural waste. It is also benefitting farm labourers and rural youth by generating BOP employment. HAB Biomass was selected by Stanford Seed Spark Program 2022 for South Asia Cluster.

HAB is an abbreviation used for "HALCYON AND BONANZA." Halcyon means happy and peaceful, tranquil, idyllic, and bonanza means wealth, good fortune, profits. Krunal believes the company is an outcome of a dream about 'WORLD WITHOUT

FOSSIL FUELS.' HAB indicates "HALCYON AND BONANZA" reflecting the organisational ideology, which is a blend of a happy and peaceful phase of life with wealth and prosperity. In short, it means "Prosperity with Peace."



RURAL INNOVATION FINALISTS



ACCENSIBLE
ACCESS MADE SENSIBLE

Nihar Pradhan
Product Consultant

ACCENSIBLE SOLUTIONS PVT LTD

Founder's Name: Deepak Bhaskar Bhosle

- Accensable Solutions provides 'OCTONE', an intelligent digital platform that offers auditory rehabilitation targeted at 72 million+ Indians and 1.5 billion+ people globally experiencing a disabling hearing loss (80 per cent residing in developing and underdeveloped economies).
- 'OCTONE' empowers therapists to create customised end-to-end auditory rehabilitation programmes as per the patient's varying hearing loss, diagnostic outcomes, and demographic needs (language, age, and context). Patients get access to affordable (~75 per cent cost savings), quality and insightful rehabilitation under the remote and insightful guidance of therapists anytime, anywhere and any number of times.

It is a myth that disability is permanent! Just like people experience health issues transiently, disability too can be temporary, situational, or age-related. It could even be progressive or may even change its form over a period. Hence, at some stage in their life, every person on this planet experiences some form of disability

unbeknownst to them! For the past 10 years, India has been rapidly digitising every aspect of its life. Accensable Solutions is partnering with various stakeholders in the ecosystem to bring world class digitised and accessible products and solutions that contribute to India and its people's journey to realise its full potential.



RURAL INNOVATION FINALISTS



Rajneesh Prasad
CEO & cofounder

REVY ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS PVT LTD

Founder's Name: Dr. Vanita Prasad

- Core area of expertise is waste treatment and bio-methane production through Anaerobic Digestion (AD) process.
- REVY provides bio-cultures to enhance aeration unit of ETPs for industrial waste containing high phenol and high TDS.
- Uses IP-protected combinations of bacteria/other microorganisms in the form of 'Anaerobic Granulated Sludge', and 'Biomass Growth Enhancement Formulations (BGEF)' that help in treating wastes from several sectors including municipal wastes, sewage, and effluents from industries, converting this waste into energy source such as bio-methane and bio-hydrogen.

REVY provides effective waste management solutions for industries, companies, residential colonies, hotels, schools, and college campuses, etc. in terms of rapid onsite analysis, ETP/STP commissioning, treatability studies of complex wastes, identification of best feedstock mixtures, optimisation of biogas

outputs using monitoring and process control, etc. REVY leverages individual strength of organisational associates to provide optimal, cost-effective, and sustainable solution to clients. REVY also has cross-industry collaborations to augment the extended needs of customers from time to time.



RURAL INNOVATION FINALISTS



Satyendra Gupta
cofounder & CEO



NEOPERK TECHNOLOGIES PVT LTD

Founder's Name: Mr. Satyendra Gupta

- Based on the principle of NIR Spectroscopy and Machine Learning models, Neoperk is developing a rapid, chemical-free soil testing device which makes large-scale soil testing and data collection easy, reliable, and affordable.
- Currently, the device is calibrated for specific regions of Maharashtra and is under validation by CAR – NBSS & LUP Nagpur. With instant results and negligible recurring cost, the device can test more than 1,000 samples in less than 15 days at one-third the cost of currently available solutions

Neoperk empowers farmers to make informed decision by providing tech-enabled and data-driven solution. Inspired by the Soil Health Card scheme, Neoperk's team of engineers decided to come up with a solution to solve the problem for large-scale soil testing and soil data collection. Through

multiple on-field pilots and working with farmers, Neoperk developed a deep understanding of the problem and realised the immense potential of our solution. Since then, the team has gone from strength to strength, acquired diverse skill sets and adapted to overcome any challenges coming our way.



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**Prasad
Phadke**

Founder & CEO



URBAN INNOVATION

URBAN INNOVATION: WINNER

ECO BIOTRAPS

Break-The-Chain of Mosquito Breeding

ECO BIO GROUP PVT LTD

Founder's Name: Prasad Phadke

- For-profit social enterprise focused on recycling waste, to save lives from the world's deadliest predator, the mosquito.
- Eco BioTrap are innovative, biodegradable traps made from recycled corrugated boxes to disrupt mosquito breeding. It is the ultimate protection device from Dengue, Malaria, Chikungunya, and other mosquito-borne diseases. Eco BioTraps mimics the perfect breeding environment for female mosquitoes as they are irresistibly drawn to the traps, only to meet their demise.

BioTraps target female mosquitoes by mimicking the ideal mosquito breeding ground to lay their eggs. The patented waterproofing technology along with a quick and efficient delivery of proprietary solution then eliminates the female mosquito and her larvae. No toxic chemicals are used in EBT and it is 100 per cent safe for animals and children. After approximately 2-3 weeks of deployment, a noticeable reduction in mosquito numbers on your premises will become apparent. However, the most significant reduction occurs when the BioTraps are continually used over an extended period. The effectiveness of mosquito population reduction is further evidenced by the presence of Aedes eggs found on the inner walls of the BioTraps.



URBAN INNOVATION FINALISTS



Nandan Bhat

Founder & Director, EcoKaari

ECOKAARI PRIVATE LIMITED

Founder's Name: Nandan Bhat

- Sustainable solution to problem of single-use waste plastic through innovative and socially conscious green upcycling process
- Upcycling single-use waste plastic such as plastic carry bags, multi-layered packs, glittery gift wraps, and old audio/video cassette tapes into beautiful, handcrafted fabrics using the traditional CHARKHA (spindle) and HANDLOOM.
- Ethical sourcing of waste plastic from organisations that work with the waste picker's community in Pune. Entire weaving process is manual to enable livelihoods for individuals belonging to humble backgrounds.

India's handicraft heritage has continually drawn inspiration from the environment, and Mother Earth has always been an integral part of our lives. Traditionally, our craft techniques have always believed in upcycling, material optimisation, and waste minimisation for many millennia. Nandan left a promising corporate career to follow his passion for sustainability and social impact. While his travels reconnected him with nature, they also exposed him to the devastating impact of plastic pollution. Inspired by an entrepreneurial spirit, Nandan

decided to turn plastic waste into beautiful, handcrafted fabric using traditional charkhas and handlooms. This initiative, EcoKaari, not only helps clean up the environment but also empowers women and youth from disadvantaged backgrounds.

'Eco' means Eco-friendly, and 'Kaari' means Kaarigar (Artisan). EcoKaari represents the relationship between the Artisans and Environment, and they both are interconnected and interdependent. It is Nandan's way of contributing to a more sustainable and equitable future.



Pulkit Jain
cofounder & CEO

Electromotion

ELECTROMOTION E-VIDYUT VEHICLES PVT LTD

Founder's Name: Pulkit Jain

- 'RetroKit' converts existing autorickshaws to electric in just 2 hours and drivers save 40-60% on daily operating expenses after conversion.
- RetroKit auto costs just 50 paise/km to run. It is certified and field-tested for 30,000km, with pilots in Pune. Each conversion reduces CO2 equivalent to 23 fully grown trees. Entire fleet of 3.5 million rickshaws can be converted to electric in a fast and sustainable way.

Electromotion E-Vidyut Vehicles focusses on developing minimal cost of ownership of the auto-rickshaw. The hardware components are kept primarily same, while modifying the kits by converting it into Electric Drive System. Electromotion E-Vidyut Vehicles basically aim to develop adaptable technology for decreasing the carbon content which is harming the environment. The goal and mission of the company is to make pollution-free environment by

electrifying India. These things are accomplished along with changing lifestyle of auto-rickshaw drivers by helping them towards technology and earning more with minimal efforts.

Novelty of the retrokit geartrain is its unique gearbox design, supporting various existing differential gears and motor types. The geartrain can be mounted on various vehicle models and provides option for easy upgradability.



URBAN INNOVATION FINALISTS



Pravin Kumar
Founder & CEO



DEXTROWARE DEVICES

Founder's Name: Pravin Kumar

- Assistive Tech startup from IIT-M Research Park
- Product for people with disabilities in the space of digital accessibility
- MOUSEWARE is a head-wearable device, enabling hands-free control of computers and smartphones with simple head movements designed for people with upper limb disabilities. Mouse clicks can be performed with assistive switches like the Foot Tap Switch, strap-able Switch and Dwell click. Typing is performed with our powerful Speech-to-Text engine that includes an Indian-English accent and most Indian regional languages.

Every community has its fair share of obstacles and Dextroware focusses on helping them solve them with the power of technology. Dextroware does this by taking the time to clearly understand their pain points and creating a solution that can cover most of them.

Dextroware Devices aspires to be a one-stop point for the

development of affordable assistive technologies. It is working with a vision to make technology more accessible and affordable and cater to individual problems that a huge portion of society encounters on a regular basis and are often overlooked by large-scale industries that develop products for the majority. This is to be more inclusive of various financial, ethnic, and age groups.



URBAN INNOVATION

FINALISTS



Bhavini Parekh

Founder & CEO

BUNKO JUNKO

Founder's Name: Bhavini Parekh

- Upcycling textiles and conservation efforts
- A circular textile initiative confronting the textile industry, the world's second-highest polluting industry
- Bunko Junko leads the charge in environmental sustainability and women's empowerment through upcycling textiles and conservation efforts, making a significant impact by reducing carbon emissions and fostering a brighter, cleaner future. Bunko Junko is a beacon of positive change, making the world a better place.

Fashion's dark side reveals it as the second most polluting industry globally, generating massive textile waste. At Bunko Junko, we are here to change that narrative. Bunko Junko is an eco-friendly initiative empowering women in fashion while focussing on reducing the carbon footprint by upcycling pre consumer textile waste, minimizing waste and landfill impact, making a positive impact on the planet. Bunko Junko embodies the Japanese meaning of 'art decoration creation' by

creating beautiful wearable art from discarded materials, transforming this wastefulness into Green Resources. Bunko Junko collects and repurposes textile offcuts/scrap, creating stunning fabrics, garments, and accessories. Through its zero-waste policy, the organisation crafts thank you cards, story pages, and visiting cards from the remaining scraps. Bunko Junko creates a multi-fold impact: reduced wastage, increased empowerment, and creative clothing!



URBAN INNOVATION FINALISTS



Pallavi Kejriwal

Program Lead, Meaningful Education



BAREFOOT EDU FOUNDATION

Founders: Jonathan Mendonca, Subhankar Paul, Saumya Aggarwal

- Barefoot Edu Foundation helps school leaders set creative paths to climb, circumvent, and knock down obstacles that stand in their way.
- Barefoot Edu Foundation scales up the best practices, tools and resources that they co-create with the community through capacity building of other school leaders and other educators.

Barefoot Edu Foundation is a grassroots organization founded by a Young India Fellow, Teach for India Fellow and Harvard Graduate who trust in the potential of people. Barefoot Edu Foundation believes that if education is not rapidly improvised, then the largest youth population in the world may grow up to be the largest unemployable population in the world. A country as big and populous as India requires a lot of leaders at the grassroots that are empowered to meaningfully

contribute to education right now. Barefoot Edu Foundation team documents all simple best practices created at the grassroots, in the context within which they were created. Sometimes it involves deep diving into the school with a lot of resources and sometimes it involves a simple nudge. At every point during this journey, children, teachers, and school leaders learn to be entrepreneurial and experimental, and actually make the change that they want to see.



EXTERNAL JURY

TRIBAL CATEGORY



Mr. Vasant Limaye
Chairman
High Places
Management Ltd.



Mr. Anil Sharma
Head
Digital Impact Square
and TCS Foundation



Ms. Falguni Gokhale
Director
Design Directions

RURAL CATEGORY



Ms. Manisha Premnath
Chief Operating Officer
Venture Center



Dr. Vishal Gaikwad
Research Coordinator
R&D Cell, Gokhale Institute
of Politics and Economics



Mr. Iftekhar Pathan
Co-founder
Meta Social

URBAN CATEGORY



Mr. Dinanath Kholkar
Global Head
Partner Ecosystems and
Alliances, TCS



Mr. Pradeep Bhargava
Chairman
Automotive Stampings
and Assemblies Ltd.



Mr. Prakash Apte
Chairman,
Kotak Mahindra
Bank Ltd.



CSR ROUNDTABLE



Pune : Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar leading the proceedings at the CSR roundtable

A BILLION PROBLEMS TO SOLVE

Corporates become catalysts for positive change and create a more sustainable and equitable world by embracing social innovation. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives of such companies play an important role in motivating social innovators.

PIC hosted a lively and engaging CSR Roundtable event that brought together industry leaders to discuss the challenges and opportunities in promoting social and inclusive innovations. The objective of the roundtable was to facilitate connections among CSR heads, share insights into CSR focus areas, propose a framework for sustained engagement, and elicit updates on CSR initiatives supporting social innovation.

Participants from a variety of backgrounds shared their experiences and insights on a wide range of topics, including healthcare, environment, education, rural

development, and critical societal issues. Representatives of Tata Power, Bajaj Finserv, Bajaj Electricals, Tata Trust, Anjani Mashelkar Foundation, Weikfield, Forbes Marshall, ICICI Foundation, TCS Foundation, E-Zest Solutions, KPIT Technologies, and Bank of Maharashtra were present on the occasion. Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, Dr. Vijay Kelkar and Mr. Dinanath Kholkar led the proceedings.

Dr. Mashelkar congratulated CSR heads for their impactful work and emphasised the significant influence of the CSR industry and its alignment with PIC Social Innovation Lab's mission. Dr. Mashelkar said, "We have a billion problems, and each problem is important to solve. While each of us works towards solving these problems, we need to have measurement metrics related to the outcome."

For further collaboration, it was proposed to host theme-based CSR roundtables at agreed-upon intervals.



NCSI IN PICTURES

Celebrating Innovation

Visionaries and changemakers converged at NCSI 2023 to explore transformative ideas for a better tomorrow.



(From Left) Mr. Pratap Pawar and Dr. R. A. Mashelkar discussing about social innovations at NCSI 2023



NCSI 2023 participants applauded and motivated other innovators for their contribution



(From left) Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, Prof Anil Kumar Gupta and Abhay Vaidya interacting during the conference



(From Left) Mr. Anil Kulkarni and Mr. Pradeep Lokhande addressing innovators and participants



Entrepreneurs, social activists and citizens listening to social innovators during their presentations



(From Left) Mr. Dinanath Kholkar, Mr. Mukesh Malhotra, Mr. Prakash Apte, and Mr. Pradeep Bhargava assessing innovators during presentations

PUNE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

Pune International Centre (PIC) is an independent, multi-faceted, action-oriented policy research think tank that seeks to foster the values enshrined in the Indian Constitution and the UN Charter.

It has five research verticals focused on Social Innovation, National Security, Energy Environment and Climate Change, Science, Technology, Innovation and National Growth, and Economic Reforms & Urbanisation.

PIC was established on 24 September 2011 under the leadership of renowned scientist Dr R A Mashelkar, FRS (President), senior economist and ex-bureaucrat Dr Vijay Kelkar (Vice President), and others. Today, PIC has grown into an institution with more than 450 distinguished members, 56 Institutional Members (ITs, IIMs universities, etc.) and 13 Corporate Members.

In addition to undertaking public policy research, PIC hosts major national and international conferences, promotes an environment for free and fair public debates, and provides a platform to promote the arts and culture.

SOCIAL INNOVATION LAB

The Social Innovation Lab works towards easing the challenges of scarcity and the aspirations of entrepreneurs. We foster entrepreneurship while concentrating on developing socially responsible business people.

The initiatives under the Social Innovation Lab are as follows:

- National Conference on Social Innovation (NCSI)
- Social Enterprise Mentorship Program (SEMP)
- Shared Service Centre for Social Enterprise (SSC-SE)
- Expert Talk Sessions
- Policy Papers and Blogs

ABOUT THE SOCIAL INNOVATION LAB TEAM

- Neeraj Thakur - Head - Social Innovation Lab
- Pradeep Nair - Editor - Pune International Centre
- Archita Joshi - Research Analyst - Social Innovation Lab
- Samruddhi Isave - Programme Coordinator - Social Innovation Lab



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