



**MOBIUS**  
FOUNDATION



# Annual Report 2023-24

Students from the Tribal Residential School in Rohile, Trimbakeshwar, Maharashtra, are engaged in constructing Continuous Contour Trenches (CCT) and Loose Boulder Structures (LBS) as part of their innovative water management project "Neerja", Youth for Earth Programme-ICSE 2023. These techniques enhance water sustainability and efficiency in the local area, showcasing a practical approach to environmental conservation and resource management.





The Mobius Foundation is dedicated to promoting sustainable development practices and driving environmental sustainability. Our thematic focus areas, interventions and advocacy efforts are centered on education, population stabilization, recycling and renewable energy. The Mobius Foundation aims to secure a future where humanity coexists harmoniously with nature, mirroring the Möbius strip's symbolism of the continuous unity and boundless potential.

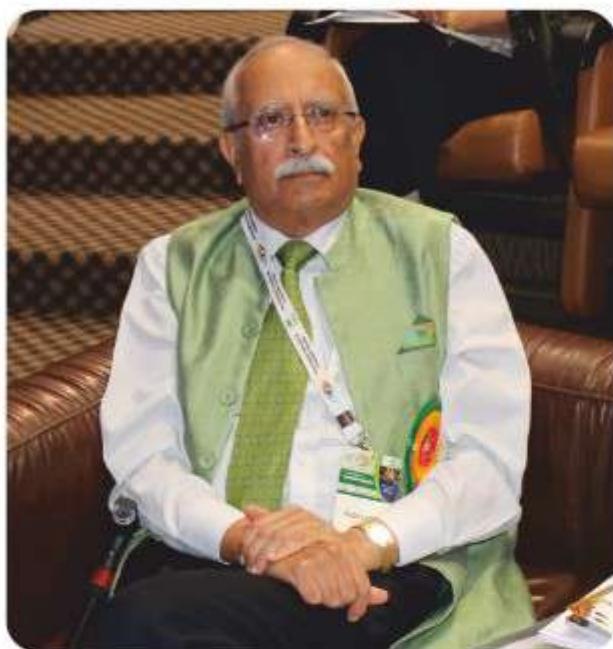


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# Chairman's Message

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I am delighted to present the annual report for the fiscal year 2023–2024, which has been marked by significant achievements in our journey towards sustainability.

Firstly, I extend a warm welcome to Mr. Praveen Garg, Rtd. IAS, and former Special Secretary in MOEF&CC, who joins us as the President of the foundation. With his leadership, I am confident we will embark on new projects and cultivate a culture of respect and enthusiasm within our organization.

## Population Stabilisation

The Mobius Foundation, in partnership with TV Today Network, launched a one-year-long social cause initiative called **VIRAM Agenda Sustainability**, which focused on confronting overpopulation and unveiling the roots of climate change.

**Project AAKAR now extends to high Total Fertility Rate districts** in Uttar Pradesh: Barabanki, Bahraich, Shravasti, Siddharthnagar, Gonda, Sitapur, Unnao, and Balaarpur, promoting awareness and attitude change towards family planning.

## Sustainability Education

The Foundation launched ICSE 2019 to advance sustainability education, and ICSE Forum was established for ongoing collaboration. **ICSE 2023, the 5th edition** of the conference, brought together around **750 participants** physically and was joined by thousands virtually from across the globe. The conference included 8 plenary and 15 parallel thematic sessions, featuring prominent speakers and distinguished dignitaries.

Our **Gyan Kanya Shakti-100 Schools program** empowered 724 girls across six schools in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Gyana Anant Vidyalaya nurtures environmental advocates. The Youth for Earth program engages youth nationwide, encouraging environmental careers and impactful environmental projects. The Mobius Young Climate Leaders for Himalayan Development project has provided fellowships to 14 young forestry graduates to take a leadership role in addressing challenges faced by eco-sensitive areas like Nagaland.

## Environmental Conservation

Environmental conservation remains a key focus area for us. Our think tank organized three panel discussions on **tiger, dolphin, and wetlands conservation**, fostering dialogue and collaboration in these critical areas.

I express my gratitude to the entire Mobius Foundation team for their dedication to sustainability. Let us all embrace a sustainable lifestyle and work towards leaving our planet better than we found it.

**Pradip Burman**  
Chairman  
Mobius Foundation

# President's Message

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Dear Patrons,

It is with immense humility that I reflect upon our accomplishments and express my gratitude to everyone who has contributed to our momentous journey. Over the past year, the Mobius Foundation has remained steadfast in its commitment to addressing pressing environmental challenges.

Under the able leadership of our founder, Mr. Pradip Burman, we have made significant strides toward sustainability. Our mission to promote sustainable development, population stabilization, education, and environmental consciousness has guided our actions and initiatives.

Our annual flagship program, **the International Conference on Sustainability Education**, brought together global experts and educators to advance innovative approaches and solutions for sustainable education.

Through the **Gyan Kanya Shakti Programme**, we partnered with the Lotus Petal Foundation to conduct educational classes and successfully adopted 15 schools across four districts in Madhya Pradesh and 17 schools across five districts in Uttar Pradesh. Additionally, we will incorporate the Green Habits in

the Curriculum activities in these schools.

For population stabilization, we have collaborated with the **Population Foundation of India** and Janani to address the unmet need for high Total Fertility Rate (TFR) in districts and blocks in Uttar Pradesh. Currently, we are working in seven districts and plan to take up more districts with high TFR over the next three years.

Our **think tank** has also made remarkable progress over the past year, initiating various projects, events, and panel discussions focused on environmental conservation. We are in the process of expanding into the CBG sector, demonstrating our commitment to innovation, sustainable green growth, and renewable energy.

Also, we intend to showcase a **10-episode documentary** series on sustainability, which will be televised on various platforms to engage viewers in SAARC nations and globally. Looking ahead, the Mobius Foundation is dedicated to scaling up our efforts and exploring new avenues for environmental sustainability. We will continue to collaborate with like-minded organizations, institutions, governments, and individuals to create a path toward sustainability.

This Annual Report provides a comprehensive overview of our activities. It is a testament to our collective dedication and serves as a reminder of the difference we can make when we come together for a shared cause.

I extend my sincere thanks to our dedicated team, partners, supporters, and the communities we serve.

**Praveen Garg**  
IAS(Retd), President  
Mobius Foundation

## Our Trustees

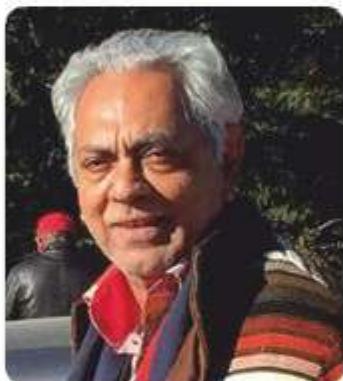
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**Ms. Indira Burman**  
Chairperson, Sundesh



**Mr. Ashish Bahuguna**  
Former Indian Administrative Officer (Rajasthan Cadre) & Chairperson, FSSAI



**Dr. Gautam Vohra**  
Chairperson,  
Credibility Alliance



**Mr. Pradeep Wig**  
Founder Chairman, The Agriculture & Food Processing Committee, The National Council of ASSOCHAM



**Mr. Abhay Kumar Agarwal**  
Director, Burman Estate



**Universal Trustees**



## Population Stabilisation

# VIRAM: Agenda Sustainability

## Population Stabilisation Campaign

Population stabilisation is vital for combating climate change by curbing resource consumption, carbon emissions, and environmental strain. Growing populations escalate demands for food, water, energy, and land, intensifying emissions and degradation. Limiting population growth can alleviate pressures on the environment by reducing vehicle usage, energy consumption, and industrial activity, thereby mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. It also curbs deforestation and habitat loss driven by agriculture and urbanization, helping to preserve ecosystems and biodiversity. Smaller families typically benefit from improved access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities, which naturally lowers fertility rates. However, discussions on population control must carefully

consider ethical, cultural, and human rights issues.

The Mobius Foundation, in partnership with TV Today Network, launched a one-year-long social cause campaign called VIRAM: Agenda Sustainability.

The project focused on creating mass awareness about the impact of overpopulation on climate change, pollution, human health, habitat loss, and the over consumption of finite natural resources, such as fresh water, arable land, and fossil fuels.

Each month, one of the twelve episodes addressing various environmental problems caused by excessive population growth was broadcast. The episodes can also be found on the YouTube channels of Lallantop, UP Tak, Bihar Tak, and the Mobius Foundation.



**40,189,744**

Audience Reached through TV



**40,181,514**

Video Views on YouTube



**2,75,885**

Social Media Engagement (like, comment & share)



**33,40,127**

Social Media Campaign Reach



**400**

Radio Playouts  
Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata



**501**

Television Playouts



Round table discussion during the VIRAM Conclave.

Left to Right Ms. Poonam Muttreja, Mr. Praveen Garg, Mr. Siddharth Kak, Mr. Pradip Burman, Dr Ram Boojh and Mr. Sudhanshu Trivedi

## Select Voices from the Campaign



Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi  
Member Rajya Sabha



G. V. L. Narasimha Rao  
Member Rajya Sabha



Bhupender Yadav  
Union Cabinet Minister of Labor  
and Employment, Environment, Forest  
and Climate Change



Ashwani Kumar Choubey  
Ex Union Minister of State for  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs,  
Food and Public Distribution



Dr. Kumar Vishwas  
Poet and Former Politician



Kiran Karnik  
Padma Shri Awardee and Former  
President of National Association  
of Software (NASSCOM)



Nekram Sharma  
Padma Shri Awardee,  
for his distinguished service  
in the field of agriculture



Nitesh Bharadwaj  
Actor and Director



Siddharth Kak  
Indian documentary maker, television  
producer, and presenter, best known as  
the producer and presenter of Surabhi



Poonam Muttreja  
Executive Director, Population  
Foundation of India



Zakir Khan  
Actor and Poet



Afroz Shah  
Indian Environmental  
Activist and Lawyer



Akash Ranison  
Co-founder & Director,  
Greener Earth foundation



Arun Krishnamurthy  
Founder, Environmentalist  
Foundation of India

## Campaign Partners



The campaign culminated with an on-ground, two-hour-long Thought Leadership Conclave. The event featured policy experts, demographic researchers, and academicians interacting in two robust sessions.

### Balancing the Global Equation through Overpopulation Stabilisation



On dias Left to Right Ms. Nabila J, Mr. Kiran Karnik,  
Mr. Praveen Garg, Ms. Poonam Muttreja, Mr. Pradip Burman  
and Mr. Arun Krishnamurthy

### जनसंख्या स्थिरीकरण से संतुलित वैशिवक समीकरण



On dias Left to Right Mr. Sayed Ansari, Mr. G.V.L Narasimha  
Rao, Dr. Ram Boojh, Mr. Siddharth Kak, Mr. Pradip Burman  
and Mr. Akash Ranison

# Aakar

## Population Stabilisation Project

All our environmental Challenges become easier to solve with fewer people, and harder—and ultimately impossible—to solve with ever more people.

Significant barriers persist in Uttar Pradesh, where the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of 2.4 exceeds the replacement level. High rates of child marriage and teenage pregnancies, combined with low modern contraceptive use at 44% and a high unmet need for family planning.

### Strengthening family planning and reproductive health for a sustainable and long-term impact on the public health system in Uttar Pradesh

Launched in 2018 by the Mobius Foundation, Project Aakar aims to promote population stabilization. The program focuses on grassroots advocacy and on-the-ground interventions, educating communities and training frontline workers to enhance contraceptive adoption, improve reproductive health services, and empower women while encouraging male participation in family planning.

The Mobius Foundation is collaborating with the state government in Uttar Pradesh to improve access to, increase demand for, and enhance the utilization of family planning and reproductive health services. This support extends to over 5,800 villages across six districts: Bahrach, Balrampur, Barabanki, Gonda, Unnao, and Sitapur.

Taking our efforts forward since the start of Project Aakar in 2018, the program included the following interventions in 2023-24:



Counseling male beneficiaries on the importance of family planning in Bahrach



Providing incentives to beneficiaries for adopting family planning services in Siddharth Nagar

**The Champion Maa Baap Campaign:** Executed by IMPACT Communication from September 2022 to March 2024, this campaign targets 100 villages across two districts (Shravasti & Bahrach). Its objective is to educate couples of reproductive age on choosing contraceptives responsibly to manage family size.

**UMEED 1.0:** In March 2023, we started with a demonstration in 120 villages of Jarwal block in Bahrach district. As per the National Health Mission (NHM) Health Management Information System (HMIS) this was a success, wherein there was 74% increase in the use of condoms, 76% increase in Chaaya (Centchroman), 79% increase in emergency contraceptives pills (ECPs), 26% increase in first dose of Antara (Depot Medroxy Progesterone Acetate-DMPA) and a 32% increase in Oral Contraceptive Pills (OCPs) between April 2023 and March 2024.

**UMEED 2.0:** Based on the success, Mobius Foundation has committed to support the scale up in over 5,800 villages across six districts from February, 2024 onwards. The Director General of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Uttar Pradesh, has issued directives to the District Chief Medical Officers to support the implementation of the Umeed project.

**AAKAR Siddharth Nagar:** Managed by Janani-DKT International, this project operates from February 2024 to January 2027 in Siddharth Nagar district, covering 14 blocks and 2,500 villages. Its objective is to improve family planning service uptake through enhanced availability, accessibility, and community participation.

## Community Engagement and Counseling



**Conducting Door-to-Door Campaigns and Counseling** to promote family planning measures.

**Implementing structured programs**, mobilizing communities, distributing IEC materials, and increasing contraceptive prevalence rates through baseline-linked initiatives.

**Promoting male participation** in family planning discussions and dispelling myths and misconceptions.

**Holding Cluster Meetings** with women of reproductive age to discuss family planning and reproductive health.

**Hosting Thematic Events** such as Khushal Parivar Diwas, World Population Day, International Women's Day, and No Scalpel Vasectomy Pakhwara to raise awareness and promote family planning.

**Conducting a Child Marriage Prevention Drive**, particularly in the lowland regions (Tarai belt) of Bajraich, where the rate is around 35%.

## Capacity Building



**Organizing Training and Orientation Programs** for frontline workers to enhance their effectiveness in delivering family planning services.

**Developing Family Planning Champions** and training them on family planning methods and communication strategies to mobilize communities and strengthen family planning discourse in villages.

**Mobilizing Media** to address issues related to reproductive health, hygiene, and early child marriage, ensuring widespread awareness and support.

**Leveraging Government Support** by collaborating with state and district-level departments to conduct capacity-building training sessions and effectively utilize their infrastructure.

## Family Planning Health Camps



**Organizing Health Camps and Swasthya Sammelans** focussed on family planning and reproductive health.

**Participating in Village Health and Nutrition Days** to engage with the community on health and family planning issues.



**The Foundation has established itself as a prominent organization addressing unmet family planning needs by empowering couples of reproductive age to make informed choices, enhancing the capacity of ASHA and ANM workers, increasing the contraceptive prevalence rate, and promoting the acceptance of permanent contraceptive methods such as female sterilization and no-scalpel vasectomy.**

Addressing Socio-Cultural Barriers and norms that hinder the health and well-being of adolescent girls through on-ground and digital SBCC campaigns.

Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms at the district and block levels to ensure regular availability and accessibility of family planning and sexual reproductive health services at the community level.

Expansion of family planning (FP) and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services, making clinical services available at sub-block level facilities and enabling inter-departmental coordination via district working groups.

Increasing FP Awareness and Uptake, enhance frontline service providers' skills in using Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) tools to boost FP awareness and uptake.

Increase Awareness and Demand for family planning and sexual reproductive services among the reproductive age group.

### Way Forward

Building on its projects in 221 villages across five blocks in Bahraich and Shravasti, the Foundation's Family Planning Project Aakar has partnered with the Population Foundation of India and Janani. This collaboration has received strong support from the Uttar Pradesh Health Secretariat, enabling expansion to nearly 8,900 villages in eight high TFR districts of Uttar Pradesh.

**2**  
Districts      **5**  
Blocks      **221**  
Villages

**20,400**  
Women Engaged      **287+**  
Family Planning Champions

**5,700+**  
Adolescent Girls Reached      **185+**  
Frontline Workers Trained      **12**  
Health Camps

**26%↑**  
in the 1<sup>st</sup> dose of Antara      **79%↑**  
in Chaaya      **79%↑**  
in Emergency Contraceptive

**32%↑**  
in Oral Contraceptive Pills (OCPs)      **74%↑**  
in use of Condoms

**324**  
Female Sterilizations      **33**  
Male Sterilizations      **417**  
Wall Paintings

The above highlights pertain to the 221 villages covered during the fiscal year 2023-2024 through Project Aakar, focused on selected blocks in the districts of Bahraich and Shravasti. These villages are part of the Champion Maa Baap and Umeed 1.0 campaigns. As the scale-up project is currently in the preparatory phase, highlights from all eight districts will be shared starting next year.

## Recognition

### Mobius Family Planning Programme, Shravasti and Bahraich

Honoured with the Shield of Excellence for its outstanding performance and exceptional contributions to the Family Planning Programme.

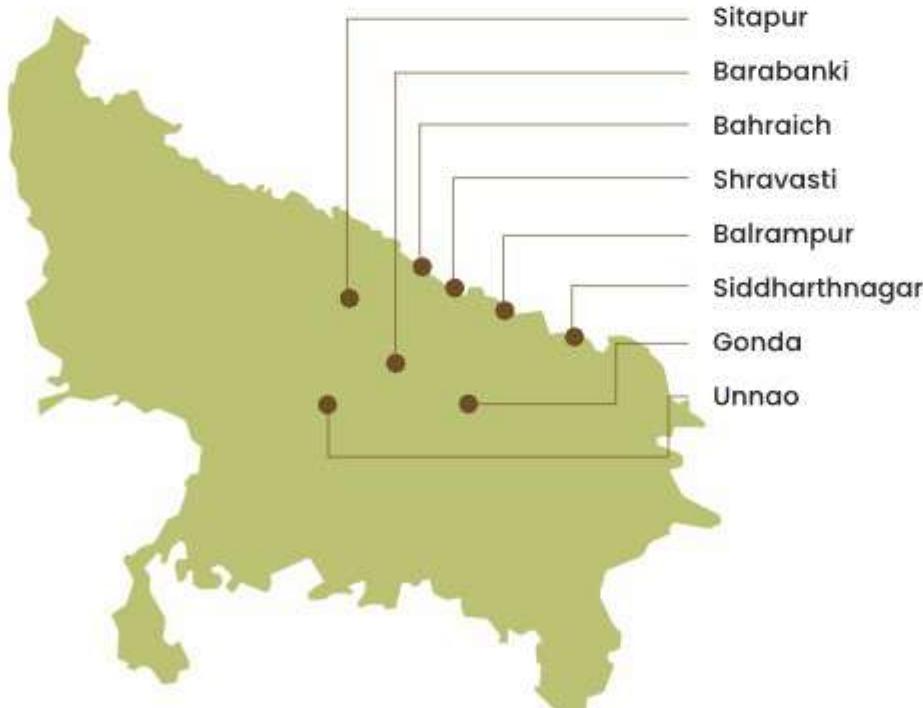
Health camps, banners, and hoardings were organized as part of the World Population Day celebrations in both districts. Notably, one hundred banners and one hoarding were installed at the district hospital in each district.

### Mobius Family Welfare Programme, Shravasti

Award for outstanding performance by the District Health Society under the National Health Mission.

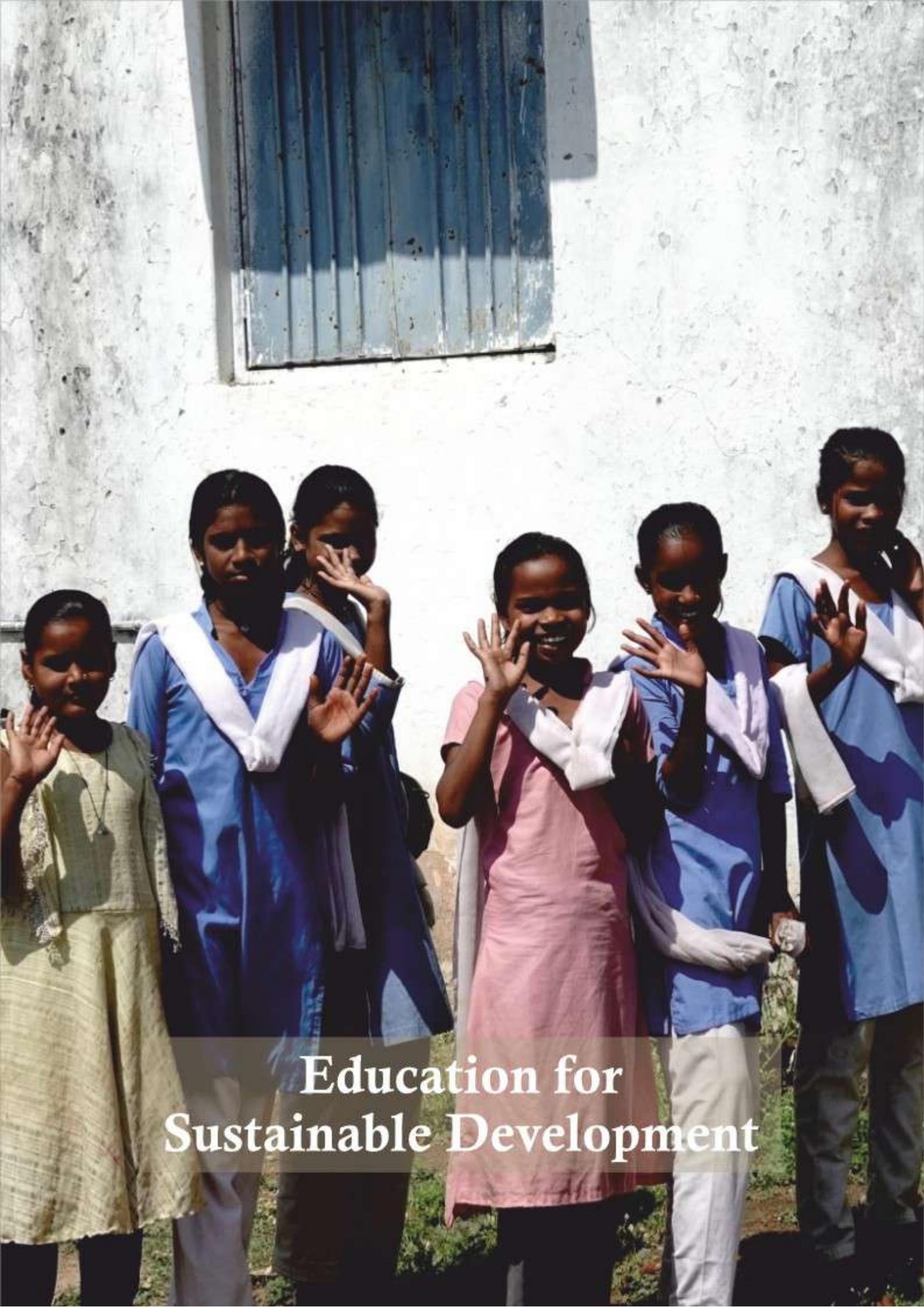
Efforts were made to raise mass awareness and facilitate the use of Post-Partum IUCDs, Female Sterilizations, and Non-Scalpel Vasectomies.

## Presence in Uttar Pradesh



## Project Partners





# Education for Sustainable Development

# Gyan Kanya Shakti

## 100 Schools Program

Education, especially for girls, is a key driver in achieving India's sustainable development goals. In rural India, particularly in underdeveloped and remote regions, girls' education faces significant challenges due to deep-seated prejudices and reluctance to encourage education beyond the primary level. India also grapples with a digital learning gap, with only 25% of children having access, and many adolescents lacking basic reading and math skills. Compounding these issues is a shortage of 1 million teachers, many of whom lack proper qualifications and training in modern pedagogy.

Launched in 2023, the Gyan Kanya Shakti 100 Schools Program (GKS) aims to empower underprivileged girls by addressing issues affecting access and quality of education.

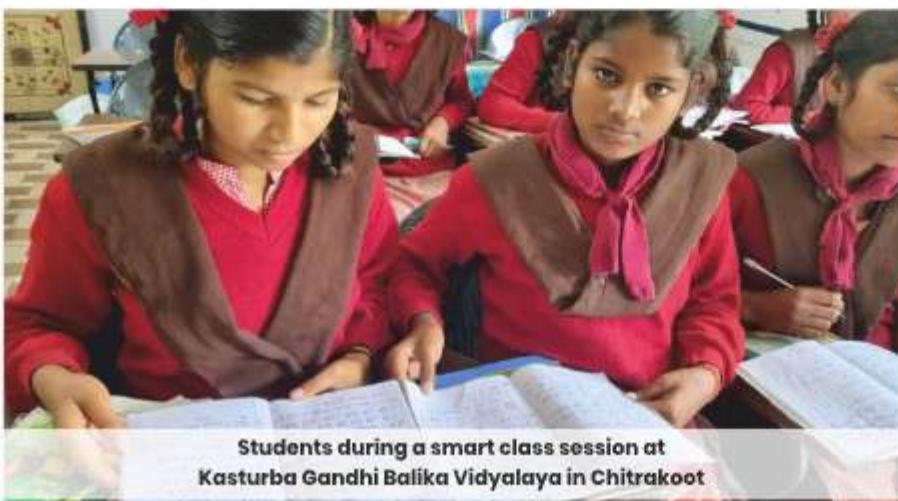
In its inaugural year, the program has adopted six government-run girls' schools— both day and residential— in the Satna and Sheopur districts of Madhya Pradesh, and the Chitrakoot district

of Uttar Pradesh. These districts were selected based on government surveys identifying them as some of the most educationally backward blocks (EBB) in the country, highlighting their acute need for support.

Many of these districts, especially in Madhya Pradesh, are home to Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) like the Sahariyas and Pardhis, who reside in challenging terrains. In the Sheopur and Satna districts of Madhya Pradesh, where the Mobius Foundation established a presence in the 2023-24 academic session in two schools, the population includes 324 girls, largely composed of the Sahariya tribe.

In Uttar Pradesh, the program supports Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBV), involving 400 girls in Chitrakoot, established by the Government of India in August.

Uttar Pradesh, with its 75 districts, includes Chitrakoot among the districts where Mobius has established a presence in four KGBVs,



Students during a smart class session at Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya in Chitrakoot



**724**

Girls Educated



**1,486**

Interactive Class



**12**

Smart Classes Setup



**3**

Districts Reached



**6**

Schools Reached



**67%**

Average Percentage Achieved



**1,400**

Books Distributed



**800**

Sanitary Pad Distributed



**12**

Health Camps

Through online interactive smart classes, health and sanitation interventions, as well as life skills and vocational training, GKS empowers girls to become catalysts for change within their communities.

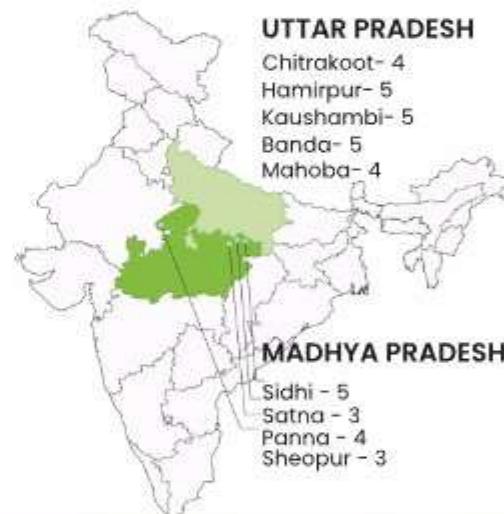
The GKS intervention embraces Smart Class-based Education, featuring live remote teaching by qualified instructors with two-way audio-visual communication. Students participate during school hours, focusing on Foundation Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) through personalized pathways. Health priorities include quarterly check-ups, medication, provision of spectacles, and vaccination drives. The program also integrates life skills, vocational training, and awareness camps while ensuring parental involvement through counseling and regular meetings. Contemporary pedagogy is employed for optimal engagement and holistic development.

These initiatives underscore Mobius Foundation's role as a catalyst in elevating the educational landscape and holistic development of these girls, imparting both knowledge (Gyan) and empowerment (Shakti). Despite unforeseen disruptions such as internet issues or adverse weather conditions, our commitment remains unwavering in ensuring consistent learning opportunities for students.

## Expansion 2024 & Beyond

The organization is delighted to report the successful expansion of its pilot project. GKS will extend to Banda, Kaushambi, Mahoba, and Hamirpur in Uttar Pradesh, and Panna and Sidhi in Madhya Pradesh. In the upcoming 2024-25 academic year, GKS will introduce 24 more schools, starting with class 6 and progressively expanding by one class annually. Furthermore, a pilot project for class 9 will be conducted in one district per state. These efforts aim to positively impact the lives of over 2,000 girls.

Looking ahead, the program aims to expand its reach by identifying and supporting an additional 50 schools in Uttar Pradesh and another 50 in Madhya Pradesh.



Students studying in a breakout session at a government school in Satna

## Stories from the Field

### Madhya Pradesh

#### Overcoming Challenges Through Education

Anjali Singh, an 8th-grade student at Govt. Girls Middle School, Unchehra, Satna, comes from a family of laborers. Despite financial constraints, Anjali's remarkable passion for karate shines through. Determined to pursue her education, she relocated to the school hostel, 25 kilometers away from her village. Though initially struggling with math, Anjali's dedication and the support of Gyan Kanya Shakti online classes have led to significant improvement. She now excels in multiplication, division, and tables up to ten, achieving an impressive 70% in periodic exams. Anjali's journey exemplifies the transformative power of education and the strength of perseverance in overcoming challenges.



#### Scholar from Satna Awarded Prestigious NMMSS Scholarship

Arti Kol, a student of class 8th at Govt. Girls Middle School, Unchehra, Satna, enrolled in the Gyan Kanya Shakti program, has qualified for a significant scholarship of Rs. 12,000 per year from class 9th to class 12th under the NMMSS (National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme). Arti hails from village Hardaah, post Pahadi, block Unchehra, district Satna, currently residing in Netaji Subhaash Chandra Bose Chhatrawaas, Unchehra. Her father, Shri Ramakant Kol, works as a laborer, while her mother, Sm. Rajwati Kol, is a homemaker. Arti, the eldest of four siblings, comes from a remote village with limited access to resources in Satna district.



### Uttar Pradesh

#### Rising Gymnastics Star

Laxmi, the daughter of Chote Lal from Gabdelha village, has emerged as a shining star in gymnastics while studying in grade 7 at Manikpur KGBV. Her exceptional skills were on display during the inter-school competition held at Agra KGBV from October 10th to 21st, 2023, earning her accolades from the District Magistrate of Chitrakoot. Notably, Mobius extended its support by providing Laxmi with a specialized gymnastics dress, underscoring the community's commitment to nurturing young talents.



#### Transforming Dreams into Reality

Parul Devi, an eighth-grade student at KGBV Chakond Pahadi in Lohada village, Chitrakoot, hails from a family of hardworking daily wage laborers. Despite limited resources, her parents prioritize her education, understanding its transformative potential. Embracing online classes, Parul excels, especially enjoying interactive whiteboard lessons. Despite initial challenges with Hindi matras, she persevered, mastering reading fluency. In English, she benefits from phonetics, aspiring to enhance her proficiency. Grateful for teacher Indu Ma'am's guidance, Parul dreams of becoming a teacher herself to uplift her community. With determination and passion, Parul is on the path to academic and personal success.



# 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Sustainability Education

*Education for Climate Action and Sustainability*

A Clarion Call for Climate Action

Day 1- 19th September 2023

Leading With Climate Commitment- Inaugural Ceremony

The 5th International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE) began with a ceremonial lamp lighting by Chief Guest Mr. Atul Bagai, Country Head of UNEP-India, alongside notable figures such as Mr. Pradip Burman, Chairman of Mobius Foundation. Gyan Anant Vidyalaya students set the tone with a welcoming song. Dr. Ram Boojh, CEO of Mobius Foundation, reviewed ICSE's progress since 2019 and reaffirmed its dedication to sustainability education. The conference theme, 'Educating for Climate Action and Sustainability,' was underscored by Dr. Jane

Goodall, who emphasized the crucial role of education in tackling climate challenges. Dr. Rajendra Singh praised the conference's alignment with the Paris Agreement. Keynotes by Mr. Kartikeya Sarabhai on climate change and India's goals, Dr. Anil Prakash Joshi on Himalayan challenges, Ms. Donna Goodman on water and youth involvement, and Mr. Praveen Garg on quality education and Mission LiFE integration highlighted the diverse perspectives and transformative potential of sustainability education.

**700+**



International and National Delegates

**20**



Countries Represented

**29**



Thematic Sessions

**100+**



Distinguished Speakers

**80+**



Doctoral Papers Presented

**35+**



Partner Organizations



**Lamp Lighting Ceremony at the 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE):** From left to right, Mr. Praveen Garg, Mr. Pradip Burman, Dr. Anil Prakash Joshi, Dr. Ram Boojh, Ms. Donna Goodman, Mr. Atul Bagai, and Mr. Kartikeya Vikram Sarabhai.

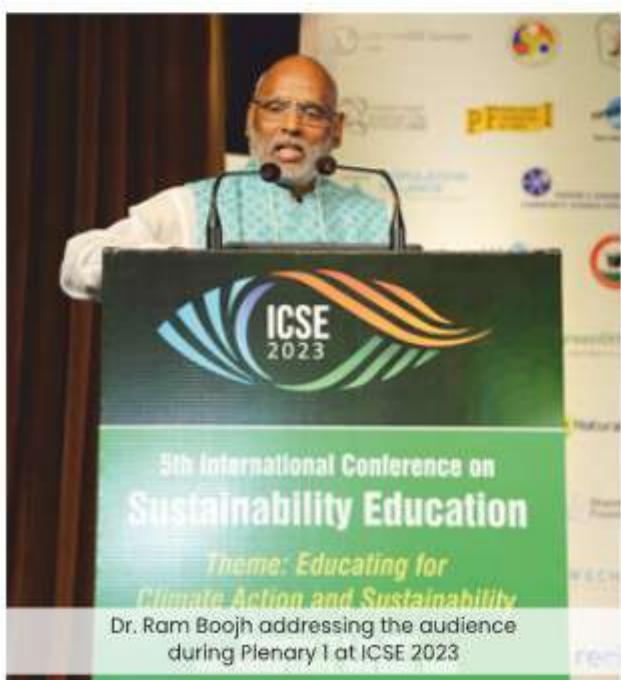
# Diving Deeper Into Sustainability

## Setting The Agenda

The opening plenary of ICSE 2023, chaired by Mr. Kartikeya Sarabhai, Founder Director of CEE, set a profound tone for the two-day event. Keynote speakers from various fields illuminated critical aspects of sustainability education. Ms. Antonella Vassallo emphasized the importance of ocean literacy. Dr. Dipankar Saharia highlighted the vulnerability of India's north-eastern region to disasters, stressing the importance of global action and education. Dr. Ajay Mathur underscored the International Solar Alliance's dedication to solar energy adoption and the need to bridge the gap between research and policy.

Ms. Joyce Poan addressed UNESCO's efforts in integrating climate change education into national curricula, emphasizing teacher support. Mr. Sam Barratt highlighted youth empowerment, STEM education for girls, and the necessity of environmental education in government agendas. Mr. Kartikeya Sarabhai noted India's progress in environmental education but highlighted resource allocation challenges.

Dr. Ram Boojh commended India's grassroots innovations but stressed the need for more research resources. The session provided diverse perspectives, underlining the urgency and complexity of sustainability education in addressing global challenges.



Dr. Ram Boojh addressing the audience during Plenary 1 at ICSE 2023

## Plenary Session 2

### VIRAM: Agenda Sustainability

#### Climate Action, Sustainability and Population Dynamics: Placing Girls and Women at the Centre

As part of the VIRAM Agenda Sustainability campaign, an International Conference on Sustainability Education was conducted, featuring a panel discussion broadcasted on India Today and Aajtak.

Renowned experts, educators, researchers, policy-makers, and representatives from international organizations participated in the panel discussion to share their perspectives and insights on two topics: "Climate Action, Sustainability and Population Dynamics- Placing Girls and Women in Focus" in English and "जलवायु, जनसंख्या और जीवन" in



Hindi. Dr. Govind Singh, the Dean of Research Studies at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication; Huma Masood, the Senior Gender Specialist at UNESCO; Dr. Ram Boojh, the CEO of Mobius Foundation; Dr. Sushil Kumar Vimal, the DC (NUHM & Training) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; and Ms. Poonam Muttreja, the Executive Director of the Population Foundation of India; Mr. Alistair Currie, the Head of Campaigns and Communications at Population Matters, UK; Ms. Nandita Bajaj, Population Balance, USA; and Mr. David R.T. Richardson, CEO of Population Crisis, UK, were among the panellists during the sessions in Hindi and English, respectively.

Mr. Rajdeep Sardesai engaged in a thought-provoking discussion with Mr. Pradip Burman, Chairman of the Mobius Foundation. During the conversation, Mr. Burman emphasized the critical need to address global population growth as a fundamental component of sustainable living. He asserted that reducing population pressures is essential for managing resources effectively and achieving long-term environmental sustainability. The dialogue highlighted the intersection of demographic trends and sustainability strategies, underscoring the importance of integrated approaches to addressing these complex challenges.

## Thematic Sessions

14:00 PM – 15:30 PM

With the cornucopia of ideas to be discussed and debated in a limited time, the event branched into six Thematic Sessions post lunch. Each session addressed a critical facet of sustainability, climate action, and societal transformation.

**Private Sector Engagement in Climate Action** focused on the private sector's role in climate action, emphasising emissions reduction strategies, green energy endeavours, and the importance of sustainability education.

**Building a Multi-country Civil Society Partnership to Increase the Resilience of Coastal Population in South Asia** emphasised ocean literacy, the potential for meteorology education in schools and the effects of mangrove depletion in South Asia.

**Integrating Climate Change in Education Systems** highlighted the importance of region-specific resources, flexible educational frameworks, actionable classroom knowledge, stage-specific education, and the need for holistic, experiential learning in integrating climate change into education systems.

**Water Literacy: Water Insights on Climate Change for Sustainable Future** reiterated the

critical role of media in promoting water literacy, the potential of wastewater reuse, the importance of community participation, and innovative solutions for water treatment and reuse.

**Closing the Loop: Empowering Climate Action through Circular Economy Education** highlighted the significance of the circular economy, sustainable packaging alternatives, green job opportunities, innovative waste management, and advancements in bioplastics for effective climate action through education.

**Women Writers in Sustainability: Old Dilemmas, New Realities** focused on the interplay between gender roles and sustainability, highlighting the underrepresentation of women in decision making and encapsulated the role of institutional support while celebrating the increasing prominence of women decision-makers.

## Day 2

20<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**ADVANCING THE SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA: THEMATIC SESSIONS** The day unfolded with a dynamic series of six thematic sessions, each delving into a unique and diverse range of topics.

### Moving Towards Sustainable Development Through Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment)

The session underscored the importance of interdisciplinary learning and the pivotal role of behavioural change in advancing sustainable development. By stressing the concept of "Critical Mass Change," the conversations brought into focus the requirement for grassroots actions. These actions encompassed education, water conservation initiatives, and collaborative knowledge sharing across various sectors to truly make a lasting impact on sustainability.

### Sustainability Education: Role of Schools, Colleges and Universities

The session advocated treating students as future workforce and the importance of practical knowledge to solve issues. The importance of the role of students in mass participation and enhancing collaboration was highlighted.

### Teaching Disciplined Entrepreneurship to Create 100 New Sustainability Ventures

The session highlighted the critical role of disciplined entrepreneurship in driving sustainable solutions and underscored the

importance of aligning ventures with social, economic, and environmental sustainability. Emphasis was placed on the need for practicality, value generation, and collaboration, with group discussions focusing on tangible challenges, the significance of mentorship, and the availability of funding for budding entrepreneurs in the sustainability sector.

#### **Education Challenge to Embed Ecosystem Restoration into Educational Systems Worldwide**

The session emphasised the urgency of Ecosystem Restoration Education (ERE) in the context of the UN Decade of Action's agenda, with guidance from UNESCO on leveraging designated sites for environmental education. The Namami Gange Program was showcased for its holistic approach to Ganga Basin restoration and its global recognition by the UN for its efforts in ecosystem revival.

#### **Empowering Conservation Through Citizen Science: Engaging Communities for a Sustainable Future & Impact Assessment for Environment Education Programmes**

Emphasising the central role of education in achieving sustainability, the dialogue highlighted the significance of integrating environmental themes into formal curricula and informal community engagement, while also stressing the transformative power of citizen science as a collaborative tool for data collection, community empowerment, and fostering behavioural change for a sustainable future.

#### **Oral Presentations: Diverse Perspectives on Climate, Sustainability, and Education**

In this engaging session, presenters brought forth an array of topics from diverse backgrounds, all interconnected by their relevance to the realms of climate change, sustainability, and education. Discussions spanned various subjects, including the benefits and drawbacks of natural-based solutions (NBS), reimagining teacher preparation for climate education, exploring water-related challenges in India, and democratising climate knowledge. Gender justice and sustainability education, as well as innovative urban learning approaches, were also explored.

#### **Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Living**

The session highlighted an overview about sustainable development and innovation,

recognising the interconnectedness of economic growth, social well-being, and environmental protection. Prominent examples like Google's Project Sunroof, the initiative to help individuals estimate savings via roof top solar power were discussed.

#### **Role of Sustainability Education in amplifying Nature based Solutions for Climate Action**

In this session, the pivotal role of sustainability education in advancing nature-based solutions for climate action took the spotlight. It emphasised the value of grassroots and local approaches, the importance of historical context, the engagement of the private sector, and the utilisation of traditional knowledge for comprehensive conservation efforts and the empowerment of communities.

#### **Engaging Youth Through Education and Advocacy for Solutions to Plastic Pollution through UNEP's Tide Turners Plastic Initiative**

Highlighting the critical role of youth in addressing plastic pollution, the session underscored the importance of environmental education, advocacy, and green entrepreneurship. It emphasised the multifaceted approaches to plastic waste management, recycling challenges, and the unique opportunities presented by the Tide Turners Plastic Initiative to engage young individuals in sustainable solutions.

#### **Intergenerational Dialogue on Re-imagining Education for a Climate Resilient Future**

The session emphasised the urgent need to integrate sustainability and climate resilience into the educational system, along with the importance of hands-on experiences and holistic understanding of the environment. The power of youth engagement was highlighted individual responsibility and intergenerational collaboration for a climate-resilient future were championed.

#### **Green Entrepreneurship & its Potential in the New World**

During this session, the significance of grassroots initiatives in entrepreneurship was underscored, along with the potential for exploring untapped markets in communities. Additionally, there was an acknowledgment of the necessity for more extensive discussions on fundraising within the climate sector.

### Oral Presentations: Exploring Diverse Perspectives on Climate and Society

This session featured researchers presenting their studies on a diverse array of topics. These included the evolving relationships between rivers and society, the connections between plastics and climate, and the imperative for climate education to ensure food security.

The conference came to a powerful close with captivating performances by students highlighting the central theme of environmental sustainability. The event was wrapped up with a heartfelt vote of thanks from Dr. Ram Boojh, CEO of the Mobius Foundation, and honored by the presence of Mr. Sanjay Awasthi, Head, International Organization for Migration, India , the chief guest at the concluding ceremony.

## Highlights of the Conference



## Conference Partners



## Select Voices from the 5<sup>th</sup> ICSE



**Dr. Jane Goodall,**  
Founder,  
The Jane Goodall  
Institute & UN  
Messenger of Peace



**Mr. Kartikeya Sarabhai,**  
Founder Director, Centre  
for Environmental  
Education (CEE),  
Ahmedabad, India



**Mr. Atul Bagai,**  
Country Head, United  
Nations Environment  
Programme,  
UNEP-India



**Dr. Rajendra Singh,**  
Magsaysay Awardee,  
'Waterman of India' & Chairman,  
People's World Commission on  
Drought and Flood



**Dr. Anil Prakash Joshi,**  
Founder, (HESCO),  
Dehradun,  
Uttarakhand, India



**Dr. Ajay Mathur**  
Director General,  
International Solar Alliance  
(ISA), India



**Prof. G.D. Sharma,**  
President, Association of Indian  
Universities and Vice Chancellor,  
University of Science &  
Technology, Meghalaya, India



**Sam Barratt, Chief,**  
Youth Education &  
Advocacy Unit, UNEP-  
Nairobi, Kenya



**Ms. Donna Goodman,**  
Founder, Earth Child  
Institute, USA



**Dr. Erach Bharucha,**  
Director, Bharati Vidyapeeth  
Institute of Environment  
Education and Research  
(BVIEER), Pune



**Mr. Leonard Sonnenschein,**  
President, Conservation for  
the Oceans Foundation,  
USA



**Ms. Joyce Poan**  
Chief of Education,  
UNESCO, New Delhi, India



**Ms. Nandita Bajaj,**  
Executive Director,  
Population Balance, US



**Ms. Poonam Muttreja,**  
Executive Director,  
Population Foundation of  
India (PFI), New Delhi, India



**Ms. Antonella Vassallo,**  
Managing Director,  
International Ocean Institute  
HQ, University of Malta



**Mr. Jadav Payeng,**  
Environmentalist, Forest  
Man of India, Assam



**Dr. Vinitaa Apte,**  
Founder Director, TERRE  
Policy Centre, Pune, India



**Mr. Aditya Pundir,**  
Director, The Climate Reality  
Project India & South Asia,  
New Delhi, India



**Mr. Richard McDonald**  
Presenter and Executive  
Director, R Futures Group,  
Switzerland



**Ms. Gayatri Raghwa,**  
Environment Education  
Expert, UNEP, New Delhi,  
India



**Mr. R.S Tyagi,**  
Expert Advisor, National  
Institute of Urban Affairs,  
Ex-member, Delhi Jal Board



**Mr. Manoranjan Hota**  
Advisor Skill Council of  
Green Jobs, Ex Advisor,  
MoEFCC,  
Government of India



**Mr. Harcharan Singh Rumana**  
Co-Lead Biodiversity,  
Afforestation, Wetland  
Conservation National Mission  
for Clean Ganga (NMCG)



**Dr. Nakul Parashar**  
Ex. Director, Vigyan Prasar,  
Government of India



**Ms. Namita Gupta**  
Adviser/Scientist 'G' at  
Department of Science and  
Technology (DST) Ministry of  
Science and Technology,  
Government of India



**Dr. Vibha Dhawan**  
Director General,  
The Energy and  
Resources Institute  
(TERI), New Delhi, India



**Mr. Sanjay Awasthi,**  
Head, International  
Organization for  
Migration, India



**Mr. Alistair Currie**  
Head of  
Campaigns and  
Communications,  
Population  
Matters, UK



**Dr. Hiroko Shibakawa**  
UNESCO Chair in  
Research and Education  
for Sustainable  
Development, Okayama  
University, Japan



**Dr. Vimal Katiyar**  
Dean R & D, IIT  
Guwahati, India

# Empowering Rural Education

## *The Governance & Quality Learning Initiative*

Through this initiative, the Mobius Foundation, along with its implementation partner IEC, provides extensive support and resources to enable capacity building and empower educators to deliver quality education in rural schools. The program operates within primary government schools in the Bahraich and Shravasti districts of Uttar Pradesh, where we are driving a comprehensive transformation in education.

### **Institutional Activation for Systemic Change**

The Mobius Foundation emphasizes that meaningful systemic change arises from addressing the intricate interdependencies within ecosystems. We are actively engaging in activating institutional structures across various domains. These structures serve as hubs for fostering dialogue, envisioning future trajectories,

crafting strategic plans, and executing initiatives aimed at driving positive change. Central to this is the recognition that a child's educational journey is profoundly influenced by the structures and processes guiding the learning environment.

- Enhancing learning through curriculum coverage, teacher participation, and development discussions.
- Collaborative action planning drives educational enhancement in cluster meetings.
- Monthly targets ensure progress, fostering achievement and targeted interventions for student success.
- QLI integration fosters cohesive efforts through cluster collaboration.
- Strategic planning drives student success.



**Educators showcasing pedagogical strategies during collaborative action planning to drive educational enhancement in cluster meetings.**

## Academic Governance and Community Engagement

Within the rural education sector, the Mobius Foundation places significant emphasis on academic governance and community engagement in Shrawasti. These focal areas

are pivotal in advancing accountability and elevating the quality of school education.

### School Management Committee Engagement

By enhancing collaboration and communication among members, parents, and stakeholders, we are improving decision-making processes, increasing transparency, and fostering a stronger sense of ownership over educational outcomes.

### Gram Panchayat Collaboration

We are strengthening partnerships between Gram Panchayats and educational committees, focusing on crucial aspects such as attendance, teacher supervision, sanitation, playground facilities, and Anganwadi center initiatives. These efforts are creating a more conducive learning environment for children.

### Block & District Workshops

Our facilitated workshops at the block and district levels have streamlined proposal submissions, committee reconstitution, and infrastructure development discussions. These workshops have improved decision-

making processes, resource allocation, and addressed critical infrastructure needs to enhance the overall educational ecosystem.

### SMC Orientation

We have equipped School Management Committees with the essential knowledge, functions, and tools necessary for effective governance. This orientation has catalyzed the formulation and implementation of comprehensive school development plans, driving sustainable growth and development in educational institutions.

### Expected Outcomes

Through increased stakeholder engagement, enhanced infrastructure, and the empowerment of SMCs and Panchayats, along with improved teacher monitoring, our project aims to achieve lasting community participation and sustainable educational outcomes.



**2,414**

Participants



**180**

Schools Engaged



**1,487**

Teachers Empowered



**731**

Stakeholders Engaged



**281**

Gram Panchayats Involved



**391**

Meetings Conducted



**8**

Block Level Workshops Facilitated



# Gyan Anant Vidyalaya

*Nurturing Intellectual Curiosity and Critical Thinking*

Established in 2019, Gyan Anant Vidyalaya (GAV) blends modern and traditional teaching methods, prioritizing **holistic education and fostering students' connection with nature** by integrating environmental concepts into the curriculum. Key activities and achievements in 2023-24 included:

## Inauguration of State-of-the-Art Facilities

GAV inaugurated its state-of-the-art library and laboratory facilities, providing extensive resources and cutting-edge equipment. These spaces serve as vibrant hubs of exploration, where students can immerse themselves in a diverse range of subjects and conduct hands-on experiments, nurturing their intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

## Investiture Ceremony

The investiture ceremony for the 2023-24 academic year aimed to nurture leadership skills through the selection of the student council.

## Observance of Significant Days

Various significant environmental and educational days were observed throughout the year, including

Earth Day, Pollution Control Day, World Environment Day, Labor Day, Grandparents Day, Literacy Day, and World AIDS Day.

## Special Assemblies

Special assemblies were conducted covering various topics, providing students with a platform to understand their social, environmental, and sustainable responsibilities. Assemblies such as Unity in Diversity, Garden of Good Manners, Save Earth Save Lives, Yuva Diwas, Martyrs Day, and Stress Management were organized.

## Awards

### Green Schools Campus Awards

Gyan Anant Vidyalaya (GAV) received the Gold category certificate in the 2023 Green Schools Campus Awards for its comprehensive sustainability efforts.

### Global Sustainability Awards 2023

GAV was awarded the esteemed Gold Award (1<sup>st</sup> Prize) in the Eco-Friendly School category at the Global Sustainability Awards 2023.



Students posing happily after setting up a butterfly garden during a workshop organized by the Jane Goodall Institute.

## Workshops for Teachers and Students

Various workshops were conducted for teachers and students, including "Roots and Shoots" focusing on the environment and sustainability, Solh Wellness addressing mental health empowerment, and teachers leading sessions on menstrual health. These events, organized by the Sundesh Foundation, fostered health education for girls.

## Teacher Training Programme

A two-day teacher training programme by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) was also conducted. Dr. Asha Sharma and Mrs. Kiran Dalal were the key resources, enlightening teachers on CBSE webpage features and ecosystem operations.

## Cultural Showcase at ICSE Conference

Gyan Anant Vidyalaya (GAV) students showcased their talents at the ICSE conference's cultural evening, gaining confidence on an international stage. This experience inspired them to grasp the conference's theme of "Educating for Climate

Action and Sustainability" through experiential learning.

## Educational Visits

Second-graders visited the local post office, learning about sorting and shipping. On Gandhi Jayanti, students, guided by Principal Dr. Poonam Minhas, toured the Parliament House, enriching their understanding of governance.

## Annual Sports Day

The third Annual Sports Day saw enthusiastic participation from GAV students, celebrating the spirit of youth and fostering moral values through sports. Students were also encouraged to participate in the district yoga tournament.

## Second Annual Day Celebration

Gyan Anant Vidyalaya celebrated its Second Annual Day with the theme "Shunya Se Prarambh," featuring a ballet portraying Earth's journey and environmental challenges. Performers advocated for pollution-free living, conservation, and population control. Their graceful artistry conveyed a powerful message of environmental stewardship, urging collective action for a sustainable future.



## Celebrating Excellence in Extra-Curricular Activities



The dedication and commitment of students in co-curricular activities have not gone unnoticed. GAV students have received several accolades and awards for their outstanding contributions in

various initiatives. These accolades serve as a testament to our students' passion, creativity, and unwavering commitment to making a difference in the world.

**Vedansh Kaushik Wins First Place in Goku Utsav 2, Sponsored by Srila Prabhupada Children Care Committee**



Students showcasing their skills at the Ghaziabad Yoga Tournament



## GAV Students Shine in District Kids Athletics Championship 2023, Securing 14 Medals

प्रतियोगिता में  
150 विद्यार्थियों  
के कड़े मुकाबले  
के बीच जीएवी  
के विद्यार्थियों का  
उत्कृष्ट प्रदर्शन



**GAV Claims Second Place in Sub Junior Category at Seth Mukund Lal Inter College Tournament**



"Students Excel in 'Bharat ka Jano' General Knowledge Tournament Hosted by Bharat Vikas Parishad" Shafq Rizwan - 1st in Junior Category, Madhur Sharma and Riya Chaudhary - 1st in senior category, Sanskriti Tiwari - 2nd in senior category



# Sustainability Leadership Development

# Mobius Young Climate Leaders

## For Himalayan Development

The Himalayan region, particularly the North-East region of India, is renowned for its unique biodiversity and critical ecological services but faces severe threats from climate change. Nagaland, a state within this region, is experiencing unprecedented environmental challenges, including rising temperatures, erratic rainfall patterns, and an increased frequency of natural disasters. These climatic changes pose significant risks to local ecosystems, agriculture, water resources, and community livelihoods. Addressing these issues requires urgent and concerted efforts to mitigate the adverse impacts and build resilience within the affected communities.

The Mobius Young Climate Leaders for Himalayan Development project has provided fellowships to 13 young forestry graduates to take a leadership role in addressing the challenges faced by eco-sensitive areas like Nagaland. The objectives of the program are as follows:

### Sustainability Leadership Development

Mobius Young Climate Leaders undergo intensive

training to develop their leadership skills. This includes engaging key community stakeholders, delivering climate education at the school level, and conducting research and development focused on the Himalayan regions of biodiversity, conservation, and sustainable livelihoods. In partnership with the Climate Studies and Knowledge Solutions Centre, the Department of Science and Technology, and YouthNet, this hands-on experience empowers the Young Climate Leaders with critical skills to drive long-term environmental sustainability stewardship in the ecologically sensitive Himalayan region.

The Mobius Young Climate Leaders for Himalayan Development project was officially launched on June 12, 2023, by Smt. Hekani Jakhalu, MLA, Advisor (Dept. of Industries & Commerce, Govt. of Nagaland), attended by District Administration Smti Mhalo Humtsoe, Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Dimapur, Forest Department officials, Chairmen and Members of Village Councils, participating school administrations, and the Mobius team.

## Capacity Building of Forestry Graduates on Forest Project Management

As a strong supporting partner of the project, the Department of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Government of Nagaland (Dimapur District), the Mobius Young Professionals (MYP) are undertaking intensive sessions on project management and field visits. These sessions cover various aspects of forest project management under the ongoing JICA-Nagaland Forestry Management project (funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency), which aims to rehabilitate shifting cultivation with agroforestry interventions.

Since beekeeping is an important component of agroforestry, the project is conducting a collaborative study with the Government's Nagaland Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM) and the Forest Department. Together, they aim to develop and publish "A Road Map to Accelerate the Honey Sector in Nagaland" and submit it to the government.

Beekeeping, as a nature-based solution, is seen as a feasible intervention to regenerate forests in Nagaland (supporting the JICA-NFPM Forestry project) and to boost the economy and livelihoods, thus meeting the various targets of the State's Sustainable Development Goals as outlined in the Nagaland Vision 2030 document.

## Establish Strong 'Research and Development' on Climate, Conservation, and Development in Nagaland

The capacity building of Mobius Young Professionals (MYP) on research and development is contributing to ongoing initiatives launched at the UN Climate Conference in Sharm el Sheikh (COP 27). These efforts aim to translate indigenous knowledge into concrete policy actions.

The MYPs are being trained on various contemporary environmental issues, both local and global, as well as on writing and presentation skills, critical thinking, and brainstorming sessions.

## Foster Community Engagement

The project promotes environmental stewardship through diverse community-level initiatives such as waste management methods, wildlife conservation initiatives, and plantation drives.

## Greening Schools through 'Pani Pahar-The Water Curriculum'

Implemented by Mobius Young Climate Leaders in 15 Dimapur schools, this curriculum, jointly developed by the University of Cambridge, UK, and The Hearth Education Advisors, aims to instill in students a deep sense of responsibility for water conservation while educating them on climate change, sustainable practices, and environmental stewardship.



**13**

Sustainability Leaders Empowered



**15**

Schools Involved



**6**

Village Councils Engaged



**3,762**

Students Reached



**120**

Saplings Planted

## News

### Foresters bring Cambridge 'water curriculum' to Indian Himalayas



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[Email](#) 1   [Print](#) 85

#### Published

29 Jun 2023

#### Image

A young child drinks from a water tap

Credit: Toby Smith

Young Nagaland forestry graduates under the Mobius Young Professional Programme are being trained by the Hearth Advisors to impart the Pani Pahar curriculum in schools, collect data on 'Indigenous knowledge and practices in forest management/natural resource management' and contribute to an International research Initiative 'to translate Indigenous knowledge into concrete policy action' launched by the Indian government at COP 27.

The foresters will also be given hands-on training and work experience on various aspects of forestry projects by a team from the Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP). The NFMP is a development project "to Improve forest ecosystems" supported by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) of the Japanese government.

The Nagaland project is led by Cambridge alumnus Atoho Jakhalu, who is Director of the Climate Studies and Knowledge Solutions Centre in the Government of Nagaland, supported by the Government Department of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,

Hearth Advisors, as well as YouthNet, and funded by the Mobius Foundation.

"We anticipate the success of this project in Nagaland will set a strong foundation to be followed for the rest of the other seven North Eastern states of the Indian Himalayan region (which has a quarter of India's total forest cover and therefore has a huge role to play in keeping up with India's climate commitments especially in the forestry sector)," Jakhalu said.

'Pani Pahar - Waters of the Himalayas' grew out of a collaborative research project between the University of Cambridge, The Centre for Ecology Development and Research in India (CEDAR) and the Southasia Institute for Advanced Studies in Nepal (SIAS). The project explores the changing landscapes and escalating water crises of the Indian Himalayas. It combines academic research led by Cambridge Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education Professor Bhaskar Vira and Dr Eszter Kovacs then at Cambridge's Department of Geography (now at University College London) with contemporary Imagery by photojournalist Toby Smith, which has been exhibited in the UK and India.

GOVERNMENT OF NAGALAND  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
DIMAPUR: NAGALAND

NO.DEV-62/MISC/2019-D/975

/ Dated Dimapur the 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2024

To,

The Director,  
Climate Studies and Knowledge Solution Centre

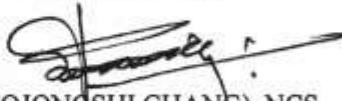
Sub: **REGARDING SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE MOBIUS YOUNG CLIMATE LEADERS FOR HIMALAYAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT.**

In pursuance to the successful completion of the Mobius Young Climate Leaders for Himalayan Development project, funded by the Mobius foundation, led by Dr.Atoho Jakhlu Director, Climate Studies and Knowledge Solutions Center, Government of Nagaland and Implemented by Youth Net, the District Administration through East Dimapur would like to support the waste management component (under the Pani- pahar curriculum) after the completion of the project to achieve project sustainability.

Following a meeting of the District Administration with the 15 (fifteen) participating school and their respective Village Councils and the Project team on the 16<sup>th</sup> may 2024, the District Administration is pleased to support the waste Management Program under a holistic framework in partnership with the participating school and their village councils. The District Administration through East Dimapur Town Council will also assist in collection of the aggregated waste (segregated plastic and paper) once every month from the participating schools to be deposited to the Recycling facility, Dimapur.

This is for information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Dr. TINOJONGSHI CHANG), NCS  
Deputy Commissioner  
Dimapur : Nagaland

NO.DEV-62/MISC/2019-D/

/ Dated Dimapur the 7<sup>th</sup> June , 2024

Copy to :-

1. The Administrator, East Dimapur Town Council for information and necessary action.
2. Office copy.

(Dr. TINOJONGSHI CHANG), NCS  
Deputy Commissioner  
Dimapur : Nagaland

## Stories from the Field



Additional Deputy Commissioner, Dimapur Smti. Mhalo Humtsoe along with Village Council Members, school administrations and Mobius project staff: Meeting on "strategic way forward for waste management"



Mobius Young Professionals: training on Livelihood activities and accounting JICA Forestry Project.



Mobius Green Friday Lampstand Hr. Sec. School Eco club (Toluvi Village, Dimapur) leading the waste collection initiative.



Hearth Advisors imparting training on 'Pani Pahar' implementation to Mobius Young Professionals.



Mobius project team: meeting with the Honey Mission Officials at Nagaland Beekeeping and Honey Mission Office, Dimapur.



Mobius Young Professionals' Cultural Troupe presenting Naga tradition at the 5th International Conference on Sustainability Education, Delhi Sept 2023

# Youth for Earth

*Empowering Young Leaders for a Sustainable Future*

To achieve a sustainable future, it is essential to empower and inspire the next generation of leaders. Recognizing the critical role of youth in sustainability, Youth for Earth (Y4E), initiated by the Mobius Foundation in collaboration with The Climate Reality Project, India & South Asia, addresses this need by providing a platform for young leaders to present and implement innovative ideas and projects.

Since its inception in 2020, Y4E has been a cornerstone of the Mobius Foundation's flagship International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE), fostering creativity and leadership among youth to drive the global sustainability agenda forward.

## Youth for Earth 2023

### The campaign, focused on SDG 13

Climate Action, received an overwhelming response with over 200 participants from India and South Asia. The 5th iteration of Y4E saw over 75 project submissions. Eleven winning teams, selected for their outstanding projects, were awarded at the ICSE 2023 held at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, on September 19 and 20, 2023.

### Behavioral Change

Empower youth as "changemakers for the future," catalyzing a paradigm shift towards sustainability.

### Institutional Impact

Cultivate a sustainable ethos within participants' institutions, extending beyond campuses to community outreach.

### Mentorship

Establish mentor-mentee relationships, leveraging teachers to guide participants toward innovative climate solutions.

### Guidance

Provide direction to students on climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, steering them towards impactful actions.

### Knowledge Exchange

Facilitate interaction among participants, fostering mutual learning and collective action on climate change challenges.

**Recognition:** Acknowledge winners' efforts, thereby inspiring sustained commitment to the cause of sustainability.



**2,000**

Youth Engaged



**75**

Projects Received



**11**

Projects Awarded



# Winners 2023

## Senior Category

### 1<sup>st</sup> Prize

#### Project Tamira SES

This project aims to restore the Tamraparani River in Tamil Nadu through scientific approaches and community engagement. By targeting pollution hotspots and integrating community perspectives, it promotes sustainable freshwater management. Emphasizing socio-hydro aspects, the project builds capacity and resilience to climate change.



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize

#### Project Nirmiti

This initiative addresses water pollution at Bellandur Lake in Bangalore by raising awareness of eco-friendly cleaning alternatives. It introduces citrus-based bio-enzymes to combat toxic foam from sewage and industrial waste, promoting waste reuse and protecting aquatic ecosystems with affordable, natural solutions.



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize

#### Project PolyFueler

The PolyFueler project tackles global plastic waste by converting it into usable fuel, aligning with SDG-13: Climate Action. It addresses plastic pollution, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and promotes a circular economy. By providing cleaner fuel and creating jobs, PolyFueler contributes to a sustainable future and responsible waste management.



### 4<sup>th</sup> Prize

#### Project Beat Plastic Pollution

This project raises awareness in a tourist destination district, combating the impact of plastic waste on aquatic and wildlife. By educating the public and advocating for biodegradable products, it aims to save ecosystems, preserve water bodies, prevent plastic from entering oceans, and promote recycling for a cleaner, greener future.



**5<sup>th</sup> Prize****Project Our Common Future**

This project addresses food security amid climate change by exploring the links between climate and agriculture, understanding farmer challenges, and improving agricultural practices. Strategies include field surveys, collaboration, and data analysis, empowering small-scale farmers through climate-smart practices aligned with Sustainable Development Goals for resilient, sustainable food systems.

**Junior Category****1<sup>st</sup> Prize****Project Neerja**

Revolutionizing Watershed Management for Sustainable Futures. This project transforms water resource management through methods such as Continuous Contour Trenches (CCT) and Loose Boulder Structures (LBS), revitalizing agriculture, fortifying water security, and fostering biodiversity.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize****Project 'BacWP'**

This project focuses on the segregation and decomposition of used sanitary pads to mitigate environmental impact, advocating for eco-friendly menstrual hygiene. Through awareness campaigns and innovative solutions including biodegradable and compostable pads, it champions sustainable alternatives. Collaboration with local authorities and NGOs ensures effective waste management, aiming for environmental sustainability and performance akin to traditional pads.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize****Project Passionately Natural**

This project focuses on organic farming authenticity, combating soil infertility caused by chemical pesticides. It promotes healthy eating and advocates against the use of pesticides and fertilizers. Educating on organic inputs fosters sustainable agriculture and health-conscious kitchen gardens.



**4<sup>th</sup> Prize****Project BeejGole**

"Beej Gole," Marathi for 'seed balls', encases seeds in clay, compost, and humus, aiding germination. The project uses a guerrilla gardening method to toss seed balls into vacant areas, fostering plant growth and boosting food production without affecting land. BeejGole addresses afforestation challenges, ensuring seed protection and successful germination for sustainable reforestation efforts.

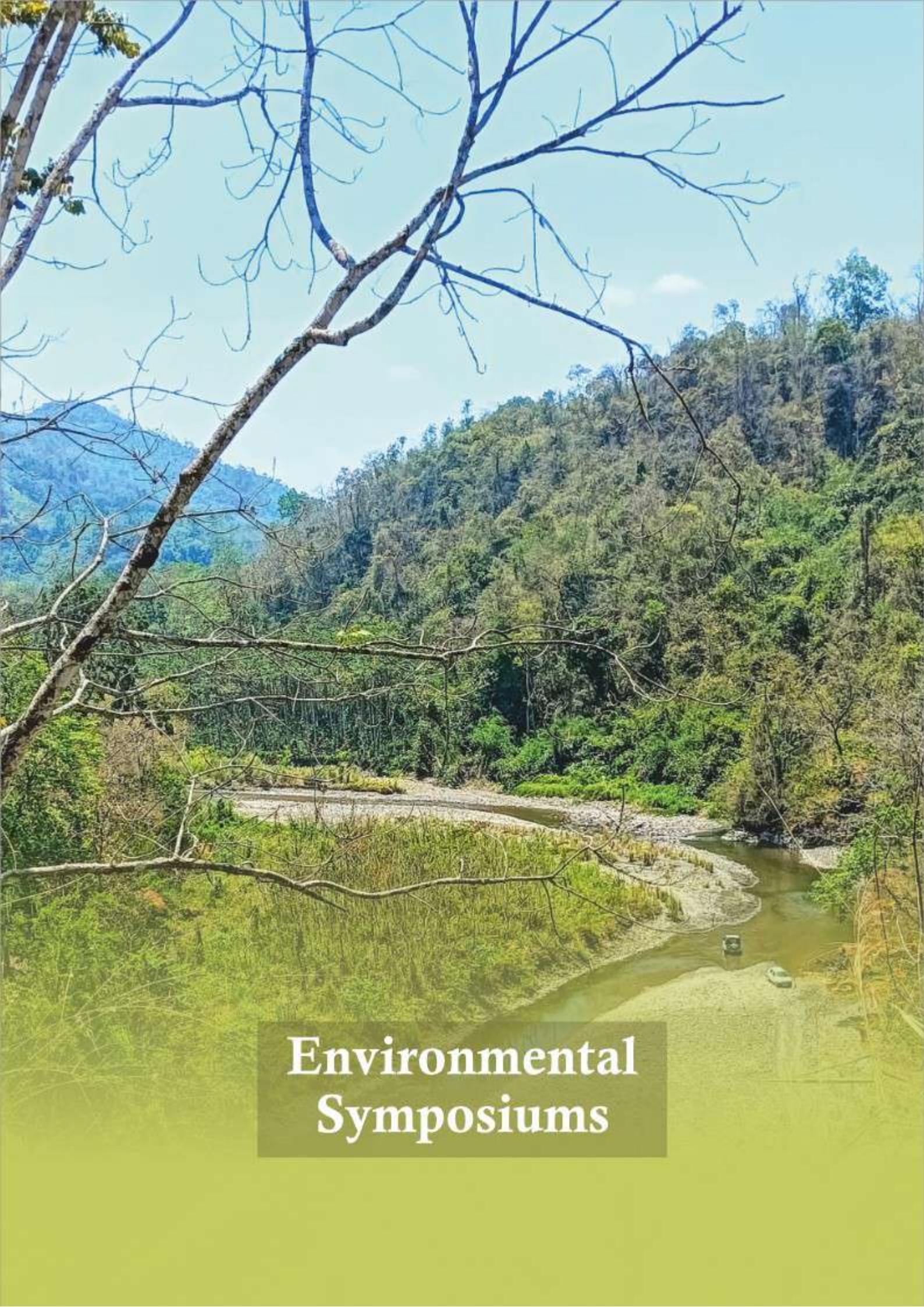
**5<sup>th</sup> Prize****Project Finobadi**

The project emphasizes efficient waste management, promotes recycling, and fosters environmental conservation. By raising awareness and empowering kabadiwalas, it addresses waste management issues. The online platform, Finobadi, connects users with kabadiwalas, reducing pollution and landfill overflow. The "1 Plant for 15kg+ Plastic Waste" initiative incentivizes responsible recycling.

**Special Prize****Project SD's Eco Crew**

Starting with a temple waste composting unit, this project rapidly expanded to engage the community in indoor planting and waste segregation. It focuses on renewable energy, zero waste at school, and farmer education. This grassroots initiative aims to raise awareness and promote sustainability, showcasing its transformative impact on individuals and communities.





A scenic landscape featuring a river flowing through a valley, surrounded by lush green hills and mountains under a clear blue sky. A fallen tree branch with intricate, tangled roots lies across the foreground, partially obscuring the view of the river.

# Environmental Symposiums

# Tiger Talk

## A Roaring Dialogue on Tiger Conservation

Since its inception in 1973, Project Tiger has significantly revived India's tiger population from under 1,800 to 3,682 by 2022, with Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, and Uttarakhand reporting the highest numbers.

However, looming threats posed by climate change and environmental degradation cast shadows over this success story, necessitating innovative conservation strategies capable of tackling the ecological challenges of the 21st century.

Tigers, as apex predators and umbrella species, are vital for safeguarding biodiversity and ecosystem health.

The Mobius Foundation hosted 'Tiger Talk' on August 4, 2023, to commemorate Global Tiger Day and the 50 years of Project Tiger, bringing together conservationists, financial experts, and policymakers in a powerful dialogue to forge sustainable conservation solutions.

The event emphasized the need for adequate funding, introducing the concept of "Tiger Bonds" by

Mr. Praveen Garg, President of the Mobius Foundation and Former Special Secretary, MOEF&CC. This innovative approach leverages green bonds and private sector investment to finance conservation efforts, directing funds to bolster wildlife protection in India's tiger reserves.

The event also featured a curated display of tiger photography by renowned photographers and served as a collective call to action to combat poaching, address habitat loss, and manage human-wildlife conflicts to ensure the survival of tiger populations.

Since 1973, Project Tiger has increased India's tiger population to 3,682 by 2022, with major numbers in Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, and Uttarakhand. Despite this success, climate change and habitat degradation pose ongoing threats, highlighting the need for innovative conservation strategies, like "Tiger Bonds," to secure funding and protect biodiversity.



3,05,336

Reach



15,783

Engagement



2,38,165+

Video Views



From L to R Mr. Praveen Garg, Dr. Sejal Worah, Dr. M.K. Ranjitsinh, Dr. S.P. Yadav and Mr. Abhilash Khandekar

# Diving Deep With Dolphins

## For Conserving Our Aquatic Treasures

Freshwater ecosystems, though covering only 1% of the planet's surface, are vital to the global water cycle and biodiversity, supporting the most diverse species. The presence of top predators like dolphins indicates a healthy river ecosystem. Despite efforts since the mid-1980s, dolphin numbers have barely increased, highlighting the need for scientifically driven and stakeholder-inclusive initiatives. To reverse the decline in species' numbers, the Government of India announced Project Dolphin in 2020.

With the aim to raise awareness about the plight of dolphins in India, a panel discussion on 'Diving Deep with Dolphins: The Urgency of Conserving Endangered Species' was organized on 13th October 2023, in partnership with the Central Bank of India. Esteemed panelists discussed the historical and present status of the Ganges, Indus, and Irrawaddy dolphins, focusing on their current populations, geographical threats, and conservation initiatives. They also explored innovative solutions for the protection and conservation of these species in India and South Asia.

The panel emphasized that for the survival of dolphins, maintaining natural river flows, especially

during lean seasons, is crucial. This involves monitoring and increasing the environmental flow in major rivers and their tributaries, conserving groundwater through innovative irrigation, and preserving the river's longitudinal integrity. Engaging local communities in conservation efforts and educating urban populations about dolphins are essential. Legal frameworks must be proactive, enforcing laws against unregulated fishing, alongside increasing conservation funding.

As an outcome of the discussion, detailed policy recommendations were prepared by the think tank team (Mr. Garg and Dr. Sandip) and sent to different stakeholders engaged in dolphin conservation in India.

**Freshwater ecosystems, covering only 1% of Earth's surface, are crucial for biodiversity and indicated by the presence of top predators like dolphins. Despite efforts, dolphin numbers remain low, prompting the launch of Project Dolphin in 2020 and emphasizing the need for scientifically driven, community-inclusive conservation initiatives to protect and raise awareness about endangered dolphin species in India.**



**214,002**

Reach



**13,662**

Engagement



**1,46,934+**

Video Views



From L to R Ms. Jessica Gill, Ms. Gargi Rawat, Mr. Sanjay Upadhyay, Mr. G. Ashok Kumar, Dr M.K. Ranjitsinh and Mr. Pawan Singh Rathore

# Preserving India's Wetlands

## For Well Being

Wetlands transcend mere waterlogged areas; they serve as vital lifelines for our planet. Despite their crucial role in maintaining harmony between nature and humanity, they face numerous threats from human activities. Globally, the number and health of wetlands have declined significantly, with 35% disappearing since the 1970s and a staggering 87% lost since the 1700s. The remaining wetlands are disappearing at three times the rate of forests.

While India boasts approximately 80 Ramsar Sites, indicating their international importance, many other wetlands are under threat. Urgent action is needed to protect and conserve these essential ecosystems, which are often referred to as the kidneys of nature. It is imperative to bring discussions on wetlands to the mainstream agenda.

On February 23, 2024, a panel discussion was hosted at Travancore House, New Delhi, to address the challenges and solutions for protecting and conserving wetlands in India. The event sought to unite various stakeholders on a single platform for discussions on wetlands. The participants comprised individuals from diverse backgrounds, including civil society, policymakers, bureaucrats, academics, and college students from various institutions.

During the session, speakers emphasized the critical role of wetlands in maintaining ecosystem balance and climate stability, alongside their significance for

human well-being. They addressed various challenges, including land ownership issues, deforestation, and climate change impacts faced by wetlands across different regions of India.

Discussions also revolved around practical conservation efforts, such as saving ponds in the Delhi NCR region and protecting Ramsar sites like Loktak Lake in Manipur. Additionally, the session highlighted the distinction between European and Indian wetland conservation models, with an emphasis on the participatory nature of Indian approaches. The importance of wetlands in water security, aquifer recharge, and the need for collaborative efforts between government and civil society for wetland rejuvenation were also underscored.

**Mangroves are coastal ecosystems dominated by salt-tolerant trees and shrubs, while wetlands encompass a broader range of water-saturated habitats like marshes, swamps, and bogs. Both mangroves and wetlands play crucial roles: they protect coastlines from erosion and storm surges, provide habitats for diverse species including commercially important fish and birds, and serve as carbon sinks, helping mitigate climate change. Additionally, they support local livelihoods through fishing and ecotourism. Preserving these ecosystems is essential for biodiversity conservation and sustaining coastal communities worldwide.**



**9,35,460**

Reach



**26,738**

Engagement



**2,17,873**

Video Views



Left to Right- Mr. Suneesh Buxy, Mr. Soumitra Dasgupta, Mr. Praveen Garg, Mr. Pradip Burman, Dr. Aditya Joshi, Dr. Ritesh Kumar, Mr. Suresh Babu SV, Ms. Neha Sinha and Mr. Ramveer Tanwar



## Publications

# Seeds of Change

## *The State of Education Report*

The 6th Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) findings highlight the global impact of human-induced climate change, with India ranking as the 7th most affected nation according to the Global Climate Risk Index 2021.

The collaboration between the Mobius Foundation and UNESCO was instrumental in the development and launch of the Seeds of Change- State of Education Report (SOER). The report highlights the convergence of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 4 (Quality Education) and 13 (Climate Action), focusing on Target 4.7 (Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship Education) and Target 13.3 (building knowledge and capacity to address climate change) within India. By exploring these intersecting SDGs, the report advocates for a holistic approach to climate education across all educational levels to enhance climate actions and promote innovative solutions.

India's National Curriculum Framework underscores the importance of education in tackling environmental issues, aligning with the goals of the SOER report. This report, echoing the thematic focus of the Mobius Foundation's 5th ICSE, "Educating for Climate Action," explores how education can drive the behavioral changes necessary to combat climate change effectively.

Mobius Foundation played a vital role in coordinating, planning, designing, editing, and printing the report, ensuring its quality and accuracy. Additionally, Mobius Foundation actively engaged in the launch event, demonstrating its commitment to environmental education and action. As part of the event, the foundation set up an exhibition featuring its projects and publications, further highlighting its dedication to sustainability and environmental stewardship.

Tailored for stakeholders within the Indian education sector, UNESCO's State of Education Report 2023 serves as a guide for policy

formulation, systemic integration, classroom methodologies, and community engagement strategies to address climate change. It emphasizes the crucial role of education in nurturing climate action by disseminating essential knowledge, attitudes, skills, and mindsets to policymakers.

Mobius Foundation's partnership and support in the development of the State of Education Report and its launch at Mobius Foundation's 5th International Conference on Sustainability Education strengthened the foundation's long-standing association with UNESCO. Additionally, it enhanced Mobius Foundation's eminence in guiding and supporting policies and practices to empower future generations through education.

**"I wish to extend my sincere thanks to all those who contributed to the development of this publication, particularly to each of the editorial board members, as well as to UNICEF India, the British Council in India, and the Mobius Foundation for their generosity in supporting this publication. UNESCO looks forward to continuing partnerships to advance education so as to plant the seeds of change for a better tomorrow."**

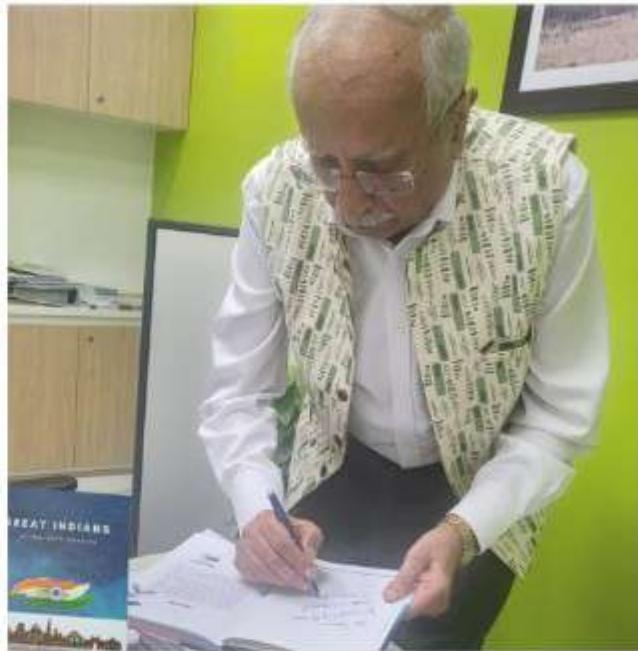


**Tim Curtis, Director and UNESCO Representative to Bhutan, India, Maldives, and Sri Lanka**

**Special Message by Director, UNESCO for Mobius Foundation**

## Great Indians of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

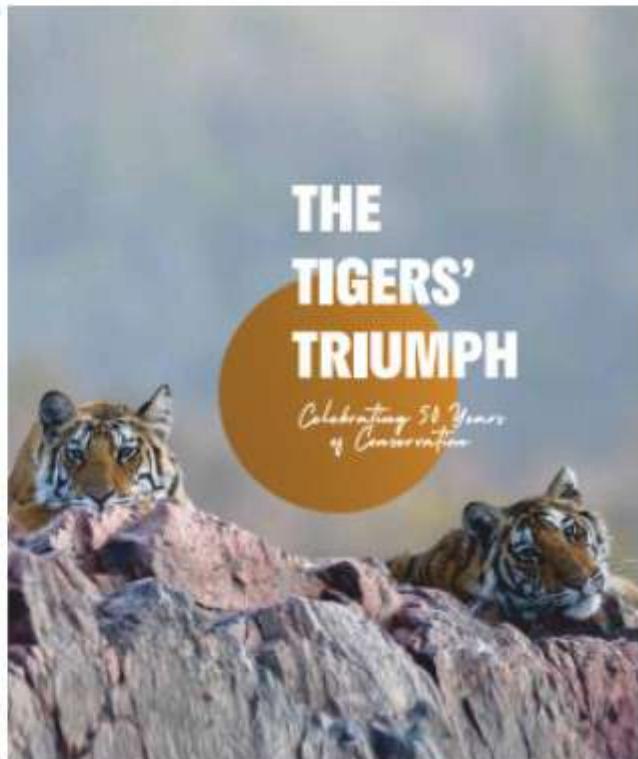
"Great Indians of the 20th Century" pays homage to iconic figures who shaped India's history. From Gandhi to JRD Tata, their resilience and vision continue to inspire us. Mr. Pradip Burman's "Wisdom Hour" initiative, spanning 52 weeks, highlighted their remarkable achievements. This effort, culminating in the creation of the book, aims to enlighten young minds about our rich heritage and the extraordinary individuals who shaped it. Compiled by Ms. Poonam Parihar, with contributions from all Mobius Foundation employees, this book serves as a beacon of inspiration for future generations, urging them to learn from the past and strive for greatness.



## From Extinction to Triumph

### *Celebrating 50 Years of Conservation Success*

The Mobius Foundation's "Tigers' Triumph" celebrates 50 years of Project Tiger, a crucial initiative that saved the Bengal tiger from extinction. It explores the project's history, from its inception to its success in reintroducing tigers to reserves like Panna and Sariska. Emphasizing the enriching discussions held during the Mobius Foundation's "Tiger Talk" event on 4th August 2023, the publication delves into the complexities, victories, and expert perspectives surrounding tiger conservation, including the introduction of the 'tiger bonds' concept. Providing profound insights into securing a brighter future for these magnificent creatures, "Tigers' Triumph" offers valuable information for those passionate about India's wildlife conservation journey.



# News Articles

## Tiger Bonds

Tiger Bonds bridge green investors with conservationists, aiding environmental finance. Win-win for authorities, Investors. Issuance follows Green Bond Framework.

**Authors:** Mr. Praveen Garg, President, and Mr. Pawan Rathore, Research Associate

**Published in:** Business Standard, 14th April 2023



## Turning a Blind Eye?

As forgetfulness around the Joshimath crisis can pave the way for similar disasters, there is a need for transparent and accountable recalibration of development projects.

**Authors:** Mr. Pradip Burman, Chairman, and Dr. Sandip Tanu Mandal, Research Associate

**Published in:** Millennium Post 31st May 2023



## A Challenging Opportunity

This article explores green hydrogen's role in energy security and carbon reduction, stressing the importance of technological advancement, water management, and infrastructure for a successful transition.

**Authors:** Mr. Pradip Burman, Chairman, and Dr. Arun Kumar, Research Associate

**Published in:** Millennium Post, 20th June 2023



## An Incongruent Bargain

This article critiques CAMPA's compensatory afforestation efforts and urges a holistic, biodiversity-centric approach to forest restoration that goes beyond mere tree planting for true ecological sustainability.

**Authors:** Ms. Jessica Gill, Senior Research Associate, and Ms. Himani Kantiwal, Junior Research Associate

**Published in:** Millennium Post, 6th July 2023



## Rooftop Gardening: Towards Sustainability

The article promotes rooftop gardening to address urban challenges, enhance biodiversity, improve air quality, and increase resilience, emphasizing sustainability and community engagement.

**Authors:** Dr. Deepti Rai, Senior Research Associate, and Dr. Arun Kumar, Research Associate

**Published in:** Lokmat Times, 24th July 2023



## Imperilled Kidneys of Nature

The article delves into India's wetlands, discussing their condition, regulations, grassroots strategies, and the need to prioritize smaller wetlands.

**Authors:** Mr. Pradip Burman, Chairman, and Dr. Sandip Tanu Mandal, Research Associate

**Published in:** Millennium Post, 2nd August 2023



## Greening The State Finances

India's green transition requires significant investment, with states playing a crucial role. The article suggests using green bonds to direct state expenditure towards green infrastructure.

**Authors:** Mr. Praveen Garg, President, and Mr. Pawan Jai Singh Rathore, Research Associate

**Published in:** Millennium Post, 2nd September 2023



## Ek Kadam Harit Seher Ki Or

Post-Covid, rooftop gardening in Delhi enhances green cover and biodiversity, promotes health, and reduces temperature. The article highlights state support for these initiatives.

**Authors:** Dr. Deepti Rai, Senior Research Associate, and Dr. Arun Yadav, Research Associate

**Published in:** Farm and Food, 10th October 2023



## Fueling The Future

To achieve net zero emissions by 2070, India must integrate innovative renewable technologies like floating solar photovoltaic.

**Author:** Dr. Aditya Joshi, Advisor and Ms. Mamta Giri, Project Associate.

**Publication:** Millennium Post, 28 October 2023

millenniumpost

Delhi Edition  
28 Oct 2023

### Fuelling the future



India's solar power market is growing rapidly, with floating solar photovoltaic (PV) technology playing a significant role. This article explores the benefits and challenges of floating solar panels, including cost savings, reduced water evaporation, and improved energy production. It also discusses the potential for floating solar to help meet India's renewable energy targets and combat climate change.

## Ek Andolan Pariyavaran Jeevanshali K Liye

LiFE promotes mindful consumption, 3R practices, LED use, millet adoption, and reducing e-waste for individual and environmental harmony.

**Authors:** Dr. Deepti Rai, Senior Research Associate, and Dr. Arun Yadav, Research Associate

**Published in:** Farm and Food, 27th November 2023



an action-oriented platform



LiFE is a movement that aims to promote sustainable living through mindful consumption, 3R practices (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle), LED use, millet adoption, and reducing e-waste. The platform encourages individuals to take responsibility for their environmental impact and work towards a more sustainable future.

## Thawing Glaciers

The article highlights environmental challenges in Lahaul and Spiti and emphasizes urgent adaptation measures like solar irrigation amid climate change.

**Authors:** Ms. Jessica Gill, Senior Research Associate, and Dr. Sandip Tanu Mandal, Research Associate

**Published in:** Millennium Post, 2nd December 2023

### millenniumpost

Thawing glaciers

Glaciers melting in the northern Indian Himalayas are threatening the water availability and ecosystem health of the region.



The article discusses the impact of climate change on the melting of glaciers in the northern Indian Himalayas. It highlights the urgent need for adaptation measures like solar irrigation to ensure water availability for agriculture and the local population. The author emphasizes the importance of sustainable development and the need to address climate change at a global level.

## Cow-dung Based Biogas Plants For Gaushala's Sustainability

Biogas from cattle dung tackles methane emissions, drives economic growth, aligns with renewable energy goals, and is supported by government schemes.

**Authors:** Dr. Deepti Rai, Senior Research Associate, and Ms. Himani Kantiwal, Research Associate

**Published in:** Agriculture News Network, Agriculture Today Group



"Cow-dung Based Biogas Plants for Gaushala's Sustainability"

The article highlights the use of cow-dung based biogas plants for gaushala's sustainability. It discusses the benefits of biogas as a renewable energy source, its role in tackling methane emissions, and its potential to drive economic growth. The author also mentions government support for such projects and the need for sustainable development.



# Activities

# World Largest Climate Clock Assembly and Display

On the occasion of International Earth Day 2023, Mobius Foundation participated in World's largest Climate Clock Assembly and Display Event organized by Energy Swaraj Foundation at Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi. The Climate clock shows the time left before the planet touches 1.5°C of global warming Climate is not changing, it has changed and the world is running out of time to take climate corrective actions.



Team Mobius Foundation at Climate Clock Assembly and display event.

## Mobius Organizational Capacity Building

*Fostering Knowledge and Innovation for a Sustainable Future*

The Mobius Foundation believes in fostering a culture of constant learning and growth across the organization. The foundation has established a well-stocked library featuring books and leading publications on environmental sustainability and related subjects. Team members are encouraged to participate in both online and in-person training sessions and to attend conferences relevant to their areas of expertise. Every week, the foundation hosts engaging interactive sessions where employees watch thought-provoking documentaries on sustainable development and climate change. These sessions culminate in lively discussions that foster a deeper understanding and reflection on the key takeaways.



# Participation and Representation

## Global ESG Conference and Prithvi Awards

### A Showcase of Leadership in Sustainability

Mr. Praveen Garg, President of Mobius Foundation and Dr. Ram Boojh, Advisor of Mobius Foundation, played pivotal roles at the prestigious Global ESG Conference and Prithvi Awards held on July 14th and 15th, 2023, at Hotel Shangri-La Eros, New Delhi.



Mr. Praveen Garg served as a Guest of Honour and jury member at the Prithvi Awards, highlighting his commitment to recognizing excellence in sustainability. The event underscored the growing importance of sustainable practices in fostering resilient organizations.

Meanwhile, Dr. Ram Boojh moderated a session on the 'Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) landscape in India,' showcasing the rising global focus on ESG considerations among investors, regulators, and consumers. Organized by the ESG Research Foundation and Mobius Foundation, the event emphasized ESG's critical role in decision-making.

Their participation at the Global ESG Conference and Prithvi Awards demonstrated Mobius Foundation's dedication to advancing sustainability and promoting dialogue on key ESG issues.

## Miranda House College Event:

### CoP 28 Panel on Global South Priorities

On May 17, 2023, Miranda House College partnered with The Geostrata, a youth-led Indian think tank, for an event at India International Centre, New Delhi. The focus was on public policy innovations at CoP 28.

Dr. Ram Boojh participated in the panel discussion "Global South Priorities at CoP 28: Public Policy Innovations". His insights enriched discussions on innovative approaches from the Global South perspective. The event facilitated dialogue on addressing global challenges through inclusive and sustainable public policies.

### Dr. Ram Boojh's Expert Opinion on E-Waste Management Rules (2022)

Dr. Ram Boojh's insightful article on the E-Waste Management Rules (2022) was recently featured in H.M.E Waste Management's Eco Tech Talks, a quarterly newsletter dedicated to sustainability and waste management. His expert opinion provides valuable insights into the implications and innovations surrounding these important regulations, underscoring their significance in promoting environmental stewardship and responsible waste management practices.



## Wetlands Day Celebration Organized by the Wetland Authority of Delhi

Mr. Praveen Garg, President, Mobius Foundation, has been invited as a distinguished panelist at the World Wetlands Day celebration organized by the Wetland Authority of Delhi on February 2nd, 2024. Held against the stunning backdrop of Neeli Jheel within the Asola Wildlife Sanctuary, the event featured a compelling panel discussion highlighting the critical importance of wetlands and the urgent need for heightened awareness and citizen engagement in their conservation.

Mr. Garg's participation exemplified Mobius Foundation's commitment to environmental stewardship and community involvement, marking a significant contribution to the dialogue on preserving our planet's precious ecosystems.



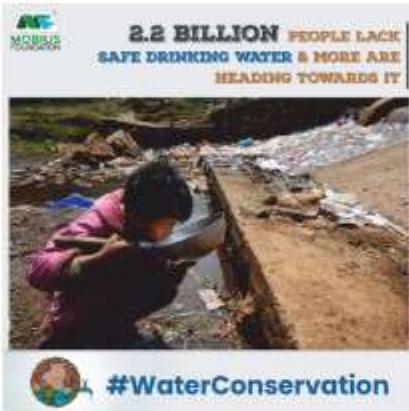
Media

# Awareness Campaigns

Impressions  
6,373,254

Engagement  
1,254,563

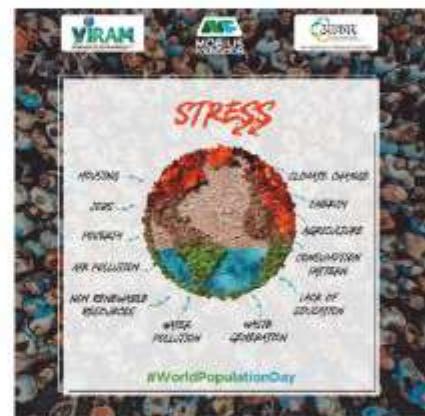
Video Views  
4,278,535



#WaterConservation

1,12,686  
Impressions

65,162  
Engagement



#WorldPopulationDay

2,88,523  
Impressions

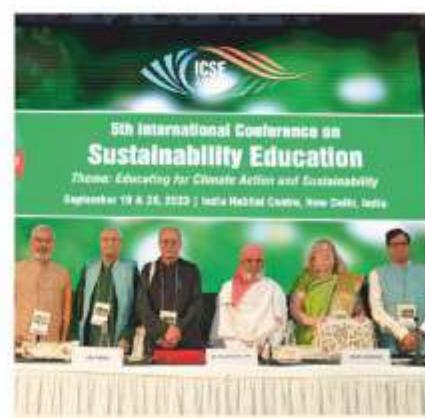
1,05,513  
Engagement



#BeatPlasticPollution

4,23,048  
Impressions

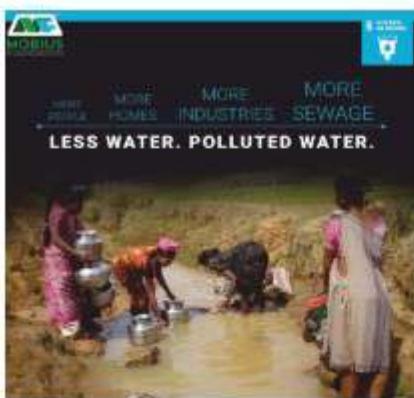
3,14,803  
Engagement



#MobiusICSE

27,75,706  
Impressions

85,513  
Engagement



### #SDGGoals

1,41,830  
Impressions

7,795  
Engagement



### #GreenGoals

2,89,170  
Impressions

1,80,183  
Engagement



### #BEESustainable

83,954  
Impressions

56,618  
Engagement



### #ProjectAakar

4,90,292  
Impressions

45,985  
Engagement



### #GyanKanyaShakti

3,43,430  
Impressions

14,485  
Engagement



### Promoting 1-2-3 Child Spacing

This ad has made a significant impact by raising awareness about the importance of family planning and spacing between children.

IMPRESSIONS: The number of times content is displayed on the wall

ENGAGEMENT: Number of interaction content receives from users (likes, comments, shares, saves, clicks etc.)

## Press

## Clarion call for climate action

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The 5th International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE) themed "Educating for Climate Action and Sustainability," witnessed a convergence of over 600 global thought leaders, educators, policymakers, and environmentalists rallying for concerted efforts against climate change.

India organised the event in partnership with UNESCO, United Nations Environment Programme, Centre for Environment Education TERI, and others three dozen national and international organisations. Atul Bagai, UNEP India country head was chief guest, while Jadav Payeng, Forest Man of India, and the Mountain Man Anil Prakash Joshi attended the event.

Rajendra Singh, Water Man of India, gave a video message urging the delegates to take urgent climate action.

## Think tank, educators, and environmentalists rally for concerted efforts against climate change

#### SNS & AGENCIES

The 5th International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE) concluded on Wednesday, at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi, India which was organised in partnership with UNESCO, United Nations Environment Programme, Centre for Environment Education TERI, and other three dozen National & International organizations.

The event which started on September 19, themed "Educating for Climate Action and Sustainability," witnessed a convergence of over 600 global thought leaders, educators, policymakers, and environmentalists, from across 15 countries, rallying for concerted efforts against climate change. ICSE, organised by the Mobius Foundation, has

Rajendra Singh, Water Man of India gave a video message urging the delegates to take urgent climate action

evolved into a preeminent global platform for sustainability education. Since its inception in 2019, the conference has spurred meaningful dialogues and collaborative initiatives to address pressing sustainability challenges. This year's edition built upon this legacy, solidifying its position as a catalytic force for sustainable development.

lyst for innovation and collective action.

Prominent personalities from diverse sectors graced ICSE 2023, including Mr. Rajendra Singh, Water Man of India, who video message urging the delegates to take urgent climate action.

Padmavati Jaiswal, Environment

Aditya Pradip Bhattacharjee, environmentalist, Forest Man of India, Assam said, "We should transcend the boundaries of religion and nationality and unite in our efforts to safeguard

## Programme to focus on cause of girl child education

**New Delhi:** The Delhi-based Mobius Foundation and Gurgaon-based Lotus Petal Foundation (LPF) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) under LPF's flagship digital-learning programme, 'VIDYA SAHYOG', marking a significant step forward for the cause of girl child education. The 'Vidya Sahyog Programme' aims to improve educational standards, empower students, and create a positive learning environment in the aspirational districts of Chitrakoot (Uttar Pradesh), Sarnai (Madhya Pradesh), and Sheopur (Madhya Pradesh) through these coordinated efforts. The MOU was recently signed in the presence

of Pradip Burman, Chairman, Mobses Foundation, Preveen Garg, President & Saloni Bhardwaj, Co-Founder and CTO, Neeraj Mittal, AVP, Vidya Sahyog, from Lotus Petal foundation.

Through their partnership, these two prestigious foundations hope to remove obstacles to girls' education and advance gender equality in the classroom. This partnership will concentrate on improving access to high-quality education for underprivileged girls through the '100 School Programme' under the auspices of Vidya Sahyog, programme committed to fostering young minds. The MOU outlines plans for enhancing IT infrastructure and providing educators with cutting-edge teaching strategies and resources to raise academic standards. Additionally, the alliance wants to interact with neighbourhood groups to promote parental involvement and increase awareness of the value of educating girls. By utilising technology, the alliance will give marginalised populations access to digital learning resources, closing the digital divide. The growth of Chitrakoot (Uttar Pradesh), Satna (Madhya Pradesh), and Sheopur (Madhya Pradesh) will be significantly influenced by our flagship digital learning module, 'Vidya Sahyog Programme.'

### Dependency on internet increased

There have been several challenges that students faced in appearing for the board examinations 2023 post-pandemic. The challenges va-





ried depending on the region, prevailing circumstances, and individual educational systems. The first challenge that students are facing post-Covid is learning loss and reduced academic skills and over-exposure and dependence on the internet. Earlier, students would sit and listen for at least an hour and now the attention span has reduced. Secondly, adolescent students have a natural requirement to connect with peers to form their opinions. The lockdown seriously impacted this experiential learning, as students got confined to their own homes which limited their interactions with the outside world.

POONAM SINGH MINHAS  
GYAN ANANT VIDYALAYA,  
ATROULI GHARABAD



A photograph of a man standing in a field of young banana plants. He is wearing a grey t-shirt, dark pants, and a tan bucket hat. He is looking towards the right side of the frame. In the background, there are more banana plants, some buildings, and a large, rocky mountain under a cloudy sky.

# Financials

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**BANSAL & CO LLP**  
 CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To  
 The Trustees,  
**MOBIUS FOUNDATION**

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **MOBIUS FOUNDATION** ("the Trust"), which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2024, the Statement of Income & Expenditure Account and the Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended on that date, and a summary of the significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the aforesaid financial statements gives the information required by the law, in the manner so required and gives a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing (SAs) issued by Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). Our responsibilities under those Standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the Code of Ethics issued by ICAI and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### **Responsibility of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation of Financial Statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance, and cash flows of the Trust in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in India for Non-profit entities. This responsibility design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal financial controls, that were operating effectively for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### **BRANCHES**

**Maharashtra** : 7&8 GF, Wing-A, Raghavji Building, 15/17, Raghavji Road, Gowalia Tank, Mumbai-400026  
**Madhya Pradesh** : 114, Shree Tower, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Zone-II, Bhopal (MP) Ph. 0755-4076725, 2769224, 2769225  
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**BANSAL & CO LLP**  
 CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We have conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatements.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Trust's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

For Bansal & Co. LLP  
 Chartered Accountants  
 Firm's Registration No. - 001113N/N500079

*Siddharth Bansal*  
 Siddharth Bansal  
 Partner

(Membership No. 518004)



Place of Signature: New Delhi  
 Date: July 12, 2024  
 UDIN: 24518004BKAT5B2170

**BRANCHES**

**Maharashtra** : 7&8 GF, Wing-A, Raghavji Building, 15/17, Raghavji Road, Gowalia Tank, Mumbai-400026  
**Madhya Pradesh** : 114, Shree Tower, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Zone-II, Bhopal (MP) Ph. 0755-4076725, 2769224, 2769225  
**Chhattisgarh** : 6/140 Next to Indra Setu Bridge, Tilaknagar, Chatapara, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, (Ch) – 495001  
**Delhi** : D-Block, 3rd Floor, Plot No 8, Balaji Estate, Guru Ravidas Marg, Kalkaji, New Delhi – 110019,  
 +91 9810939245

**MOBIUS FOUNDATION****BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31, 2024**

| (Amount in INR '000)       |       |                        |                        |
|----------------------------|-------|------------------------|------------------------|
|                            | Notes | As at<br>March 31,2024 | As at<br>March 31,2023 |
| <b>Liabilities</b>         |       |                        |                        |
| Corpus Fund                | 2     | 4,897,417.91           | 2,901,575.76           |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b> |       |                        |                        |
| Sundry Payables            | 3     | 14,241.75              | 2,947.81               |
| Other Current Liabilities  | 4     | 5,686.00               | 7,027.70               |
| <b>Total</b>               |       | <b>4,917,345.66</b>    | <b>2,911,551.27</b>    |
| <b>Assets</b>              |       |                        |                        |
| Property, Plant, Equipment |       |                        |                        |
| (i) Tangible               | 5     | 386,510.17             | 389,175.21             |
| (ii) Intangible            | 5     | 252.19                 | 384.02                 |
| Capital work in progress   | 5     | 165,241.07             | 163,490.28             |
| Investments                | 6     | 4,104,490.05           | 2,067,822.58           |
| <b>Current Assets</b>      |       |                        |                        |
| Loans and Advances         | 7     | 195,051.18             | 237,407.28             |
| Other Current Assets       | 8     | 25,285.37              | 5,728.41               |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents  | 9     | 40,515.63              | 47,543.49              |
| <b>Total</b>               |       | <b>4,917,345.66</b>    | <b>2,911,551.27</b>    |

Notes to Accounts including significant accounting policies forming part of the Financial Statements (1 to 17).

**AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE**

**for BANSAL & CO. LLP**

**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**

**FIRM REG.NO:-001113N/N500079**

*bansal*  
Siddharth Bansal

Partner

Membership No. 518004

Place : New Delhi

Date : July 12, 2024



**FOR MOBIUS FOUNDATION**

*Burman*  
Pradip Burman  
Trustee

*Agarwal*  
Abhay Kumar Agarwal  
Trustee

## MOBIUS FOUNDATION

## INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH, 2024

| Particulars                              | Notes | (Amount in INR '000)                 |                                      |
|--|-------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|  |       | For the year ended<br>March 31, 2024 | For the year ended<br>March 31, 2023 |
| <b>INCOME</b>                            |       |                                      |                                      |
| Donation                                 |       | 1,634.00                             | -                                    |
| Income from school                       | 10    | 19,751.51                            | 15,133.59                            |
| Interest Income                          |       | 223,808.02                           | 81,174.48                            |
| Rental Income                            |       | 705.41                               | 641.58                               |
| Other Income                             | 11    | 6,820.81                             | 366.85                               |
| <b>Total Income</b>                      |       | <b>252,719.75</b>                    | <b>97,316.50</b>                     |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>                       |       |                                      |                                      |
| Project Expenditure                      | 12    | 135,972.62                           | -                                    |
| Professional Expenses                    | 13    | 9,011.15                             | 5,695.73                             |
| Salary and Other Allowances              | 14    | 17,195.78                            | 24,933.02                            |
| Office Expenses                          | 15    | 4,868.27                             | 3,891.60                             |
| Office Rent                              |       | 13,780.82                            | 11,998.65                            |
| School Expenses                          | 16    | 57,355.78                            | 56,638.22                            |
| Other Expenses                           | 17    | 5,753.95                             | 7,516.89                             |
| Depreciation and Amortization            | 5     | 16,935.81                            | 22,984.89                            |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>                 |       | <b>260,874.18</b>                    | <b>133,659.00</b>                    |
| <b>Excess of Income Over Expenditure</b> |       | <b>(8,154.43)</b>                    | <b>(36,342.50)</b>                   |

Notes to Accounts including significant accounting policies forming part of the Financial Statements (1 to 17).

AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE

for BANSAL & CO. LLP

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

FIRM REG.NO:-001113N/N500079

*Siddharth Bansal*  
Siddharth Bansal

Partner

Membership No. 518004

Place : New Delhi

Date : July 12, 2024



FOR MOBIUS FOUNDATION

*Pradip Burman*  
Pradip Burman

Trustee

*Abhay Kumar Agarwal*  
Abhay Kumar Agarwal

Trustee

**MOBIUS FOUNDATION**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH, 2024**

| Particulars  | (Amount in INR '000)              |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|  | For the year ended March 31, 2024 | For the year ended March 31, 2023 |
| <b>(A) Cash Flow from Operating Activities</b>                         |                                   |                                   |
| Excess of Expenditure over Income                                      | (8,154.43)                        | (36,342.50)                       |
| Add:- Depreciation   | 16,935.81                         | 22,984.89                         |
| Less:- Expenditure incurred on foundation objectives from Corpus funds | (1,652.71)                        | (66,391.09)                       |
| Less:- Interest received   | (223,808.02)                      | (81,174.48)                       |
| Less:- Profit on sale of Mutual Funds                                  | (6,770.81)                        | -                                 |
| Add:- Loss on sale of Mutual Funds                                     | -                                 | 2,624.70                          |
| <b>Operating (Deficit) before Working Capital adjustments</b>          | <b>(223,450.16)</b>               | <b>(158,298.48)</b>               |
| <b>Working Capital changes:</b>  |                                   |                                   |
| Decrease/ (Increase) in Loans and Advances                             | 42,356.10                         | (2,689.31)                        |
| Decrease/ (Increase) in Other Current Assets                           | (19,556.95)                       | 2,963.94                          |
| (Decrease)/ Increase in Other Current Liabilities                      | (1,341.71)                        | 3,515.94                          |
| (Decrease)/ Increase in Sundry Payables                                | 11,293.94                         | (262.68)                          |
| <b>Cash flow/(used) from Operating Activities [A]</b>                  | <b>(190,698.76)</b>               | <b>(154,770.60)</b>               |
| <b>(B) Cash Flow from Investing Activities</b>                         |                                   |                                   |
| Purchase of Mutual Fund, Bonds and Fixed Deposits                      | (3,393,628.66)                    | (1,505,002.41)                    |
| Redemption of Mutual Fund, Bonds and Fixed Deposits                    | 1,363,732.00                      | 242,967.64                        |
| Interest Received  | 223,808.02                        | 81,174.48                         |
| Purchase of Fixed Assets including CWIP                                | (30,240.45)                       | (52,907.89)                       |
| <b>Cash flow/(used) from Investing Activities [B]</b>                  | <b>(1,836,329.09)</b>             | <b>(1,233,768.18)</b>             |
| <b>(C) Cash Flow from Financing Activities</b>                         |                                   |                                   |
| Corpus Donation Received   | 2,020,000.00                      | 893,482.12                        |
| <b>Cash from/(used) from Financing Activities [C]</b>                  | <b>2,020,000.00</b>               | <b>893,482.12</b>                 |
| <b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents [A+B+C]</b>    | <b>(7,027.86)</b>                 | <b>(495,056.65)</b>               |
| Add : Cash And its Equivalents at the Beginning of the period          | 47,543.49                         | 542,600.14                        |
| <b>Cash and its equivalents at the end of the period</b>               | <b>40,515.63</b>                  | <b>47,543.49</b>                  |

Notes to Accounts including significant accounting policies forming part of the Financial Statements (1 to 17).

**AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE**

for BANSAL & CO. LLP

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

FIRM REG.NO:-001113N/N500079

*Siddharth Bansal*  
 Partner  
 Membership No. 518004  
 Place : New Delhi  
 Date : July 12, 2024



**FOR MOBIUS FOUNDATION**

*Pradip Burman*  
 Pradip Burman  
 Trustee

*Abhay Kumar Agarwal*  
 Abhay Kumar Agarwal  
 Trustee

Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Notes \_\_\_\_\_





## **MOBIUS FOUNDATION**

301, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Antriksh Bhawan, 22 KG Marg, Atul Grover Road,  
Janpath, Barakhambha, New Delhi 110001  
Email: [info@mobiusf.org](mailto:info@mobiusf.org) Phone Number: 011-49854523, 011-49433823