



STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2030



CENTRE FOR KNOWLEDGE AND DEVELOPMENT

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Foreword



Ashwajit Singh, 2025
Founder & Managing Director
IPE Global Limited

It is with great pride that I present Centre for Knowledge & Development's (CKD) Strategic Plan for 2026–2030. This document reflects the robust groundwork we have laid in the past few years—a journey marked by courageous initiatives, inclusive collaborations, and an unwavering dedication to transforming the lives of women, adolescents, and children.

Since its inception, CKD has evolved into a pivotal force within the development landscape, particularly in championing maternal, adolescent and child health, empowering women and girls, and building resilient communities. Our initiatives have addressed vital issues in the fields of health, nutrition, education, livelihoods, and governance—each deeply rooted in a gender-equity perspective. Through strategic alliances with government bodies, international organisations, civil society, and the private sector, we have made meaningful contributions to India's advancement towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), all the while remaining steadfast in our mission to empower every woman and girl to realise her full potential.

As we reflect on our journey, we recognise that our true impact extends beyond metrics—it is embodied in the trust we have cultivated in communities and the insights we have gleaned from working at the grassroots level. This proximity has empowered us to broaden our horizons while sharpening our strategic focus.

Our strategy for the next five years confronts the persistent marginalisation of vulnerable populations in social and economic development. In response, CKD is taking bold steps to champion inclusivity—intentionally focusing on communities that have historically been overlooked. While we expand into critical emerging areas such as climate resilience, digital empowerment, gender mainstreaming across all our work along with future-ready skills, our commitment remains steadfast: advancing the empowerment of women, adolescents, and children.

At the heart of this vision and strategy lies an enduring belief in the power of knowledge. At CKD, the generation, stewardship, and dissemination of knowledge have been fundamental in shaping our programs and influencing policy dialogue. Drawing strength from IPE Global's legacy and CKD's thematic expertise in health, nutrition, education, and gender, we have continuously translated ground-level learnings into actionable insights. Our contributions have been showcased at prominent international platforms and collaborative forums, enriching global conversations on development challenges in the Global South. As we look to the future, we reaffirm our commitment to producing knowledge that is evidence-based, community-informed, and catalytic—driving meaningful change both locally and globally.

I extend my deepest gratitude to our partners, supporters, and the exceptional team at CKD, whose unwavering dedication makes our mission a reality each day. As we embark on this new chapter, I warmly invite you to join us—to collaborate, to innovate, and to stand with us—as we work toward a future where no one is left behind.

I. Executive Summary

At the Centre for Knowledge & Development (CKD), developmental challenges are viewed through a gendered lens and transformed into opportunities for systemic change. CKD is working to improve the lives of women, adolescents, and children (WAC), empowering them to become owners, planners, and decision-makers within the systems that shape their lives. Guided by a commitment to leave no one behind, the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) anchor all of CKD's actions.

CKD is actively addressing harmful social hierarchies and norms by moving beyond the 'one size fits all' approach to development. As India is striving to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and harnessing its demographic dividend, CKD is focusing on empowering women, children, and adolescents. The inequities they are facing—across education, nutrition, livelihoods, employment, and access to 21st-century skills—are persisting. CKD is driving change in these areas by building consensus, improving access, and promoting empathetic behaviours. Its approach is being shaped by ongoing collaborative research, continuous dialogue with key stakeholders, and the team's collective experience and insights.

Over the next five years, CKD is proposing to expand its work into AI, renewable energy, new-age skills, green jobs, addressing the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition, 21st century skills, and climate resilience and equity—using capacity building, techno-managerial support, and knowledge creation as strategic interventions across these domains.

CKD is committed to embedding cross-cutting themes—gender equality, disability inclusion, and support for marginalized communities—across all interventions. By strengthening systems, fostering community engagement, promoting participatory approaches, and leveraging mentorship, CKD integrates digital innovations, SBCC, and data-driven solutions. These approaches culminate in responsive, equitable, and transformative programs that are inclusive and rooted in evidence-based, people-centered development.

Through research, strategic engagement and knowledge exchange, CKD is also leveraging the expertise of eminent leaders to strengthen capacity building and develop impactful knowledge products. It is consistently working to foster strong linkages with national and state-level government functionaries and elected representatives to strengthen the implementation ecosystem and leverage institutional networks for the effective delivery of donor-supported and internal projects.

As CKD is embarking on this new strategy, the world is dealing with unprecedented changes that are intensifying uncertainties and deepening the vulnerabilities of historically disadvantaged groups. CKD recognises the critical need to leverage the collective experience of the IPE Global Group and is creating purpose-driven partnerships with key stakeholders to support national efforts. In line with the spirit of Jan Andolan, CKD will continue to work closely with governments, stakeholders and communities to sustain and amplify impact thereby continuing its commitment to serving communities and driving tangible change for a sustainable future. CKD is embarking on south-south collaborations to leverage learnings and build knowledge for carving strategic pathways, as it prepares for new challenges and opportunities.

II. Introduction: Centre for Knowledge & Development

[Centre for Knowledge & Development \(CKD\)](#), a not for profit, section 8 company is headquartered in New Delhi. Being nurtured by [IPE Global Ltd](#) since its inception in 2013, CKD has had a singular focus on advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion (DEI) through targeted interventions for women, adolescents, and children in India. Building on IPE Global's over two-and half decade-long legacy of implementing large-scale, multisectoral development programmes aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), CKD is expanding its scope while staying rooted in its original mission in facilitating initiative in the not-profit sector.

In the last few years, CKD has established its footprints in the bilateral, multilateral and the CSR ecosystem, providing technical support and programmatic expertise to implement high quality projects embedded with impactful and inclusive development strategies. Furthermore, it has emerged as a leading technical partner and sectoral leader on women, adolescents, and children's issues through knowledge creation and promotion, evidence based impact programme implementation and strategic guidance. Through these efforts, CKD is shaping a resilient, inclusive future, while continually evolving to address the changing needs of communities.

CKD has steadily carved a niche as a centre for technical expertise across key thematic areas of health, nutrition, education, skilling, and livelihoods and is increasingly engaging with new target groups and development challenges—such as climate resilience, digital equity, and future skills—without losing sight of its core commitment to women, adolescents, and children.

It has been actively integrating its work across thematic domains to address the broader social determinants that directly and indirectly impact marginalised groups' access to essential resources and services. It is strengthening strategic partnerships across sectors—including robust collaboration with central and state governments—and has deepened donor relationships to ensure sustainability and scale.

The Context

As India progresses on its development trajectory, it faces a complex intersection of health, nutrition, education, and gender-based challenges that disproportionately impact its most vulnerable populations. Despite significant strides in economic growth and policy reforms, entrenched inequities continue to hinder access to essential services, particularly for women, children, persons with disabilities, and marginalised communities. These challenges—both long-standing and emerging—underscore the urgent need for integrated, inclusive, and innovation-driven approaches to development.

In the realm of health, India grapples with a dual burden of disease and nutrition. Malnutrition among children remains a pressing concern, with 18.7% of children under five affected by wasting and 35.5% experiencing stunting—clear indicators of chronic undernutrition and food insecurity (GHI 2023). Among women, maternal health challenges persist, with 35.5% of pregnant women aged 15–49 suffering from anemia (WHO), pointing to systemic gaps in access to adequate nutrition, healthcare, and preventive services.

As of the latest available data, approximately 32.6% of 18-year-old girls in India are not enrolled in any educational institution, highlighting a significant dropout rate among older adolescents. This trend underscores the persistent challenges faced by young women in accessing and continuing education.

Yet amid these challenges, India is witnessing promising innovations that offer transformative potential. The country's growing investment in digital health platforms—such as telemedicine, mobile health (mHealth) applications, and AI-enabled diagnostic tools—is expanding access to quality healthcare in remote and underserved areas. Initiatives like the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission are laying the foundation for a more connected and efficient health ecosystem. Simultaneously, community-based models that integrate digital tools with frontline health workers are enhancing last-mile service delivery and data collection, particularly for maternal and child health.

To achieve inclusive and equitable development, it is vital to institutionalise disability-inclusive policies and gender mainstreaming across all sectors. People with disabilities often face compounded barriers to access, participation, and representation. Addressing their needs through tailored services, accessible infrastructure, and inclusive education and employment opportunities must be central to any development strategy.

Gender mainstreaming must go beyond token representation to fully integrate gender perspectives in policy design, budgeting, and implementation. Strengthening systems—across health, education, nutrition, and social protection—and fostering coordinated efforts between government departments will be essential to build resilient, responsive, and accountable public institutions. Furthermore, the growing importance of Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) cannot be overstated. Shifting deep-rooted social norms, behaviours, and perceptions is critical to advancing public health, promoting gender equality, and achieving sustainable development outcomes.

CKD will prioritise mental health as a critical component of overall well-being and organizational success. This will include integrating mental health support into existing health programs, reducing stigma through awareness campaigns, training leaders to recognize and respond to mental health challenges, and expanding access to professional mental health services. By embedding mental well-being into our strategic framework, we aim to foster a resilient, supportive environment where individuals can thrive personally and professionally.

Climate change poses a growing threat to all communities, impacting health, livelihoods, infrastructure, and ecosystems across every region. Its effects—rising temperatures, extreme weather events, and shifting environmental conditions—are felt by everyone, though disproportionately by the most vulnerable. Over the next five years, we will place a strong emphasis on building climate-resilient communities. This includes investing in sustainable infrastructure, supporting adaptive practices, and promoting community-led initiatives that reduce environmental risk and strengthen local capacity to respond to climate-related challenges.

India is at a pivotal moment, characterized by both significant challenges and immense opportunities. As of 2024, the nation's youth population (aged 15–29) stands at approximately 420 million, accounting for 29% of the total population. Additionally, children under the age of 14 comprise about 24% of the population. This demographic dividend presents a unique opportunity to drive economic growth and achieve the SDGs, provided that effective mechanisms are in place to nurture youth leadership, participation, and volunteerism.

The Centre for Knowledge & Development is aligning its strategic initiatives to harness this potential. By focusing on gender equality, health and nutrition, education, livelihoods, skill development, governance, public finance, climate change, and leadership initiatives, CKD aims to empower women, adolescents, and children to become central figures in India's development trajectory. Recognizing that close to 65 out of the 169 SDG targets reference young people explicitly or implicitly, CKD is committed to fostering environments where youth can thrive and contribute meaningfully to the nation's progress.

CKD's Vision, Mission, and Goal

CKD's vision, mission, and goal reflect a steadfast commitment to empowering women, adolescents, and children to actively shape India's policies, economy, communities, and decision-making processes.



Vision

Creating a world imbued with values of diversity, equity and inclusivity where women, adolescents and children realise their full potential.



Mission

Empower women, adolescents and children to receive equitable access to health and nutrition, 21st century skills and education, and equal employment opportunities



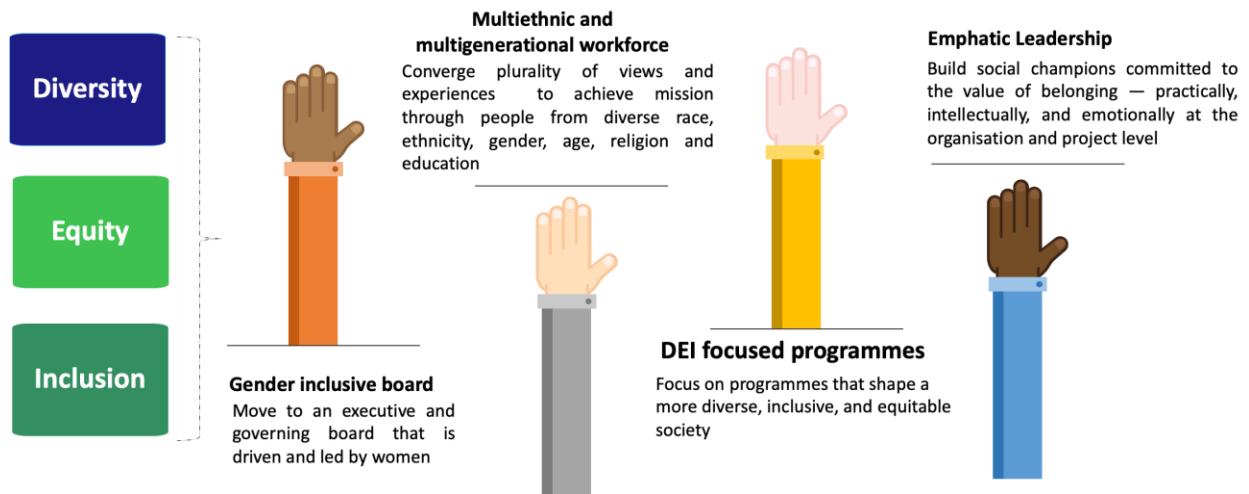
Goal

Create alliance of engendered and mission-aligned partners to support 20 million women and girls to realise their full potential by 2040

CKD's Values and Ethos



CKD is embedded in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) as a fundamental ethos across all its efforts. It recognises that true inclusion and equity for the communities it serves can only be achieved through greater representation of voices, perspectives, and solutions. As it progresses, this culture of actively listening to its people and collaborating with partners and beneficiaries is shaping and evolving its DEI systems.



III. Uniqueness of CKD

A. CKD’s Key Distinguishers

CKD is committed to driving transformative change in the way the country supports women, adolescents, and children, with the goal of creating meaningful and lasting impact in their lives. It is actively challenging regressive social norms that hinder women and girls from voicing their concerns and exercising agency. Recognising the transformative potential of the Digital Revolution, it is designing solutions that leverage digital advancements to deliver sustainable and scalable change.



CKD’s human-centred design approach when combined with the expertise of organisations aligned with CKD’s mission is propelling tailored interventions that address both individual and social determinants of development. CKD’s efforts are focused on creating a favourable ecosystem by nurturing lasting collaborations among traditional and new local and national stakeholders, translating collective knowledge into action. With a growth mindset, CKD’s initiatives are unlocking philanthropy and government capabilities while translating effective research into actionable outcomes.

B. CKD’s Approach

Our approach in devising our strategic interventions ensures multistakeholder engagement for holistic change. It includes adopting a human centred design approach, for promoting solutions aligned with communities needs, strengthening systems by leveraging govt programs, and disseminate learnings across platforms. The essence of our approach also lies in collaboration, evaluation of our work and delivering innovations at scale.



IV. Our Focus Areas

CKD, is committed to expanding the scope and impact of SDGs, primarily on women, girls and children, on the ground by leveraging partnerships with all stakeholders in the ecosystem. It envisions a future where the rights and needs of adolescents, women, and children are no longer peripheral, but central to development discourse and action. With a strong foundation of expertise across key thematic areas—gender, health and nutrition, education, livelihoods, skill development, employability, governance, leadership, and climate change— it is poised to further expand its impact. It seeks to harness this experience to strengthen the design and implementation of programmes that create lasting change.

Drawing on deep, cross-sectoral partnerships with government bodies, private sector actors, civil society organisations, and bilateral and multilateral institutions, as well as long-standing trust within communities, it is uniquely positioned to contribute meaningfully to inclusive development. With its core expertise in Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) as a powerful tool to shift norms and influence practices, it continues to play a catalytic role in enhancing the effectiveness of government schemes and programmes.

As the Government of India increasingly prioritises the integration of data and AI across sectors, it envisions embedding technology-driven solutions into CKD’s work to address socio-economic challenges. In the coming years, it aims to promote greater coherence and convergence across programmes, leveraging its partnerships and connections in ensuring that its efforts are interconnected and mutually reinforcing across all domains. With gender as a cross-cutting priority, CKD aims to continue driving systemic change—ensuring diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), and empowerment are not just goals, but lived realities.

Holistic Health

Building on a strong portfolio of collaboration with a diverse range of donors and partners in **adolescent, women's, and child health**, CKD is committed to deepening its engagement in strengthening *community healthcare systems*. In the years ahead, it aims to **complement and advance government efforts** by adopting a comprehensive, **360° public health** approach—moving beyond reactive interventions and towards solutions that address the root causes of poor healthcare access—emphasising prevention, behavioural change, and holistic well-being. Its evolving approach emphasises preventive care, behavioural change, and enabling environments that support healthier, more meaningful lives—shifting the paradigm to proactive, community-centered public health.

Nutrition Equity

Grounded in a strong body of research on the structural barriers to nutrition and its extensive experience in implementing **community-based nutrition interventions**, CKD is concentrating its efforts on addressing nutrition challenges through **Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC)**. Building on its work with vulnerable, marginalised, and underrepresented communities, CKD is evolving its strategy to integrate **community knowledge and traditional wisdom with contemporary, evidence-based solutions**. This transition reflects CKD's commitment to addressing malnutrition in ways that are context-specific, culturally rooted, and responsive to the complex realities of the 21st century while ensuring alignment with the SDGs and national development priorities.

Education and 21st Century Skills

Building on CKD's extensive work with communities and deep insights into the lived realities of those left behind, it has continuously partnered to support and incubate interventions in education and skill development. Moving ahead CKD is aligning its strategy with the government's **growing emphasis on data, AI, and future skills**. In the coming years, CKD intends to adapt its approach to equip communities with the **digital literacy and skills needed for the 21st century**. This includes working with its partners to **strengthening employability, fostering future-ready education, and cultivating responsible, empowered citizens** who can thrive in an increasingly digital world.

Advancing Climate Equity

Having engaged with communities across India, CKD has come face to face with the disproportionate impact of climate change on vulnerable populations who often face the harshest consequences of environmental degradation. In the next few years, it seeks to work on strengthening the understanding of climate change and aligning strategic plans with local capacity for climate resilience by developing sustainable practices and adaptation strategies. Looking ahead, CKD is committed to advancing the government's climate goals by focusing on developing strategic action plans that integrate climate action into local development processes. This includes working with its partners and leveraging connections in domestic and international institutions to promote the adoption of green technologies, foster climate-smart agriculture, and equip communities with the skills and knowledge needed to thrive in an increasingly unpredictable environment.

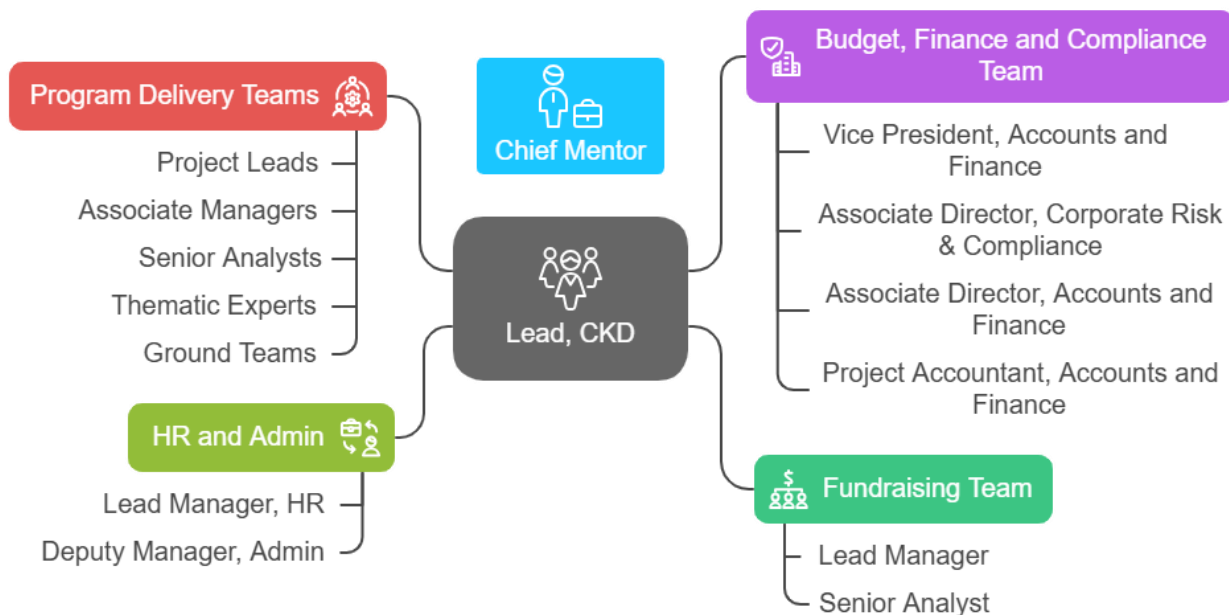
Knowledge Management and Promotion

CKD is focused on knowledge creation, promotion, and dissemination to strengthen its intellectual leadership across core thematic areas. By developing a robust body of work that informs policy and practice, CKD fosters strategic linkages with global domain experts and institutions, ensuring it remains at the forefront of learning and continuously draws from innovative, cutting-edge approaches impacting women, children and girls in interventions across their life cycle.

V. CKD’s Organisational Structure

CKD strongly believes in and has striven to build a lean and agile team which has technical expertise and is equipped to support its partners in resolving 21st century problems with new-age solutions rooted in local knowledge and systems. Its team distinguishes itself by being led by women and comprising of 90 percent women. Coming from diverse ethnicities and age groups, women at CKD represent varied disciplinary backgrounds and perspectives from public, private, academic, and CSO sectors. Currently, it is a 50+ strong team at the headquarter and state offices.

Organisation Structure



As CKD continues to grow, it is expanding its technical and specialised capabilities. Some of the operational and envisioned teams include:

- **Strategic Planning and Advisory:** Responsible for planning, developing, and guiding the organisational direction. They continue to pursue evidence-based solutions and disruptive innovations to collaborate with its partners and achieve its goal.
- **Thematic Experts:** Consisting of subject matter experts on nutrition and health, education, 21st-century skills, and livelihoods, they have developed and lead projects at the intersection of these themes.

- **Innovation and Technology:** Under the leadership of a senior technology lead, this team specialises in data analysis and innovative use of technology, and has been pivotal to designing and guiding existing and future projects.
- **Strategic Engagement and Communications:** Responsible for overseeing and implementing its communication strategy, they work with the government and other related stakeholder partners to achieve long-term systemic change in CKD’s key thematic areas.
- **Partnerships Development:** They have effectively mobilized investments and facilitated community-based fundraising initiatives in CKD’s past and ongoing projects. In the coming years, they will be key to strengthening CKD’s alliance with strategic partners to achieve its goal.
- **Evidence and Measurement:** They have been central to measuring the progress and impact of CKD’s past projects. By designing and applying a range of qualitative and quantitative methodologies to monitor context-specific indicators of empowerment and systemic change, they continue to play a pivotal role in advancing CKD’s mission to show measurable impact across its projects.
- **Frontline Team:** As CKD’s community engagement has expanded, a specialised field staff mapped to each project provides support to existing field operatives to improve each programs’ quality. These range from community mobilisers to field motivators, et. al.
- **Knowledge Management and Promotion:** CKD has been actively engaging in ongoing knowledge creation, management, and dissemination through a dedicated team of experts working across its core thematic areas. This team is responsible for developing a strong body of work that informs both policy and practice while fostering strategic linkages with domain experts and institutions globally. In addition to producing evidence and insights, CKD has been establishing multiple platforms for knowledge sharing—such as thematic webinars, learning series, and policy dialogues—ensuring continuous exchange and visibility of innovative, cutting-edge approaches. These efforts collectively strengthen CKD’s intellectual leadership and keep it at the forefront of shaping discourse and practice in the development sector



Board of Directors

CKD’s Board of Directors constitutes an inimitable mix of pioneers committed to bringing about systemic change that helps solve developmental concerns. Their extensive experience, cutting-edge knowledge, and deep insights are critical in identifying priorities, establishing objectives and goals, finding appropriate resources, and allocating funds. With the onset of the ‘new normal’, the Board of Directors continue to play a pivotal role in driving decision making throughout a crisis, for which no playbook is yet to be created. Their reviews and direction play a key role in constant evaluation of CKD’s work and progress.

Board of Directors



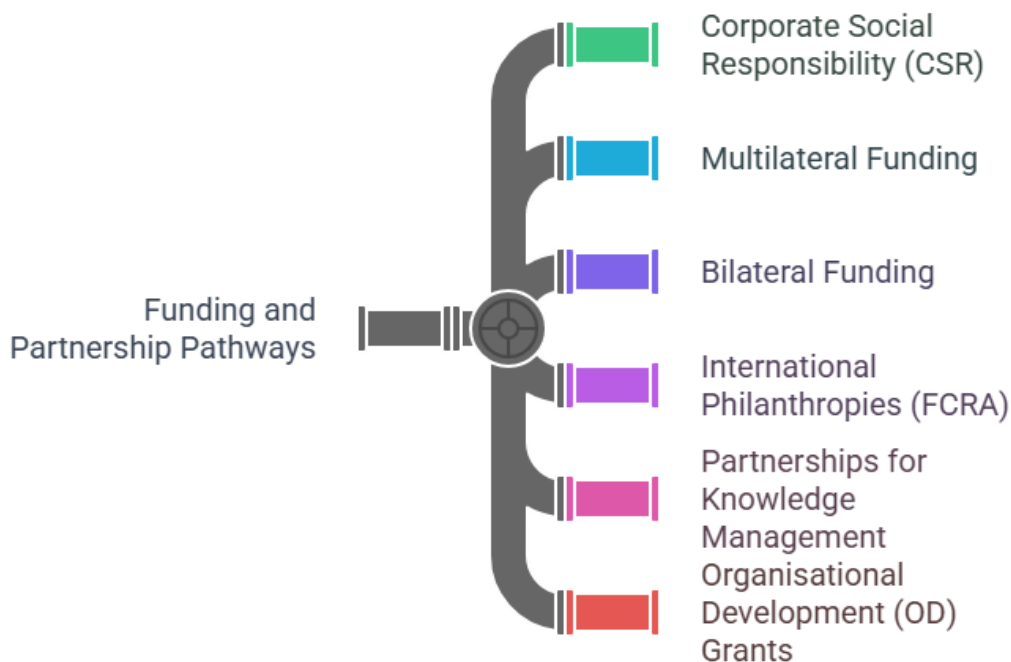
 Kawaljit Singh He has over 40 years of experience in governance, development, valuation analysis, revenue, and policy formulation & implementation.	 Padma Shri Dr. Harsh Mahajan He is a pioneer in Magnetic Resonance Imaging. His knowledge, spirit of entrepreneurship, teaching abilities, and social service sets him apart.	 Padma Shri Dr. Randhir Sud He is one of the best Gastroenterologists in the country. He has pioneered various treatment options and is respected for his trainings and workshops.	
 Amita Sharma She is a former Civil Servant with 33 years in the development sector as a public policy maker, and programme manager in different fields	 Geeta Mathur She has expertise in finance, development, and strategy. Valued for honesty and transparency she contributes as an independent director in many companies.	 Tanya Singh She is Committed to creating a gender inclusive environment by mentoring organisations to bring a positive change in the society.	 Dr. N.H.R Ravindranath He is internationally acclaimed for his knowledge, research, academic papers and books interlinking various dimensions of Climate Change.

VI. Fundraising Plan

The fundraising landscape is undergoing significant shifts, driven by evolving donor priorities, heightened accountability standards, and increasing competition within the development sector. To sustain its mission and expand its impact, the Centre for Knowledge and Development (CKD) recognizes the need for a strategic and adaptive approach to resource mobilization.

This fundraising plan for the period 2026–2030 outlines CKD’s roadmap to strengthen its financial base through diversified, sustainable, and resilient funding streams. The plan is aligned with CKD’s organizational goals and seeks to leverage its existing programmatic strengths, partnerships, and reputation for delivering impactful development interventions. By focusing on both consolidation of existing donor relationships and exploration of new funding avenues, the plan emphasizes innovation, stewardship, and capacity building. It also acknowledges the importance of aligning fundraising efforts with emerging trends such as digital engagement, cross-sectoral collaborations, and impact-driven investment models.

These strategic priorities and approaches that will guide CKD’s fundraising efforts over the next five years, ensuring the organization remains well-resourced to achieve its mission and respond effectively to the development challenges of the coming decade.



Funding Category	Subcategories
Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)	- Central Public Sector Enterprises - Banks - Private Companies
Multilateral Funding	- UN Organizations - Development Banks (e.g., ADB) - Global Funds and Alliances - International Financial Institutions (IFIs)
Bilateral Funding	- Government Development Agencies - Bilateral Humanitarian and Crisis Funds - Bilateral Climate, Environment, and Energy Programs - Bilateral Technical Cooperation and Knowledge Partnerships
International Philanthropies (FCRA)	- Regional Multilateral Organizations - Large Global Foundations - Corporate Philanthropic Foundations - Issue-Specific Global Philanthropies - Family and High-Net-Worth Individual (HNWI) Foundations
Partnerships for Knowledge Management and Creation	- Academic and Research Collaborations - Knowledge-Sharing Networks - Conference and Forum Partnerships
Organizational Development Grants	- Innovation and Prototype Grants - Seed Funding for Pilot Projects - Scale-Up and Expansion Grants

Apart from proven and traditional sources of funding to achieve our objectives, CKD will also embark on innovative avenues of fundraising:

Impact Investment and Social Impact Bonds (SIBs):

CKD will design mission-aligned programs that can generate modest financial returns (e.g., through social enterprises, revolving loan funds, or fee-based services) while delivering measurable social impact. By engaging with impact funds, foundations offering Program-Related Investments (PRIs), and family offices, CKD will position itself as a credible, investable entity with robust governance, financial management, and impact measurement systems.

CKD plans to co-create SIB projects in partnership with outcome funders (often government or donors), private investors, and third-party intermediaries. Under this model, CKD implements an intervention, investors front the capital, and outcome funders repay the investors only if agreed-upon impact metrics are achieved. This pay-for-success model reduces the financial risk to governments and donors while incentivizing strong program outcomes.

Social Stock Exchange (SSE)

As one of the early NGOs listed on India's Social Stock Exchange (SSE), CKD has a unique opportunity to access new sources of social capital through zero-coupon, zero-principal instruments (ZCZP) and attract investors interested in verified, compliant social impact entities. CKD will actively engage with SSE investors by showcasing strong governance, transparency, and impact reporting. This will require building internal systems for financial reporting, outcomes tracking, and investor relations, as well as preparing high-quality disclosures to maintain investor confidence.

Venture Philanthropy and Innovation Funds

CKD will pursue partnerships with venture philanthropy (VP) organizations and innovation funds that provide flexible, risk-tolerant capital to test and scale high-impact solutions. Unlike traditional grants, VP offers multi-year, hands-on support combined with strategic advisory, performance management, and capacity-building inputs.

By aligning with VP partners, CKD can co-create innovative pilots, rapidly iterate solutions, and attract additional funding for successful models. Priority areas include using technology for development, scalable education and health interventions, and systems change initiatives.

Digital Crowdfunding Platforms

CKD aims to strengthen its use of digital crowdfunding to diversify funding sources and directly engage individuals, especially young donors, diaspora supporters, and online advocates. By leveraging platforms such as GiveIndia, Ketto, Milaap, and GlobalGiving, CKD will run targeted campaigns focused on urgent needs, specific communities, or innovation pilots. To maximize success, CKD will build in-house capacity for digital storytelling, create multimedia campaign assets, engage influencers and corporate partners for amplification, and develop donor stewardship plans to convert one-time givers into long-term supporters.

CKD prepares its annual budget during the month of April every year and a detailed process is carried out taking stock of project progress, staff utilization, pipeline proposals and market intelligence. As part of budget for 2025-26, the following visible resource mobilization/ project opportunities have been identified. However, these are not exhaustive list but what is visible now.

Project	Country	Donor	Type of Donor	Stage
Strengthening Girls Education in Jhabua District	India	UNICEF	Multilateral	Proposal
Building awareness of Cervical Cancer Prevention and Vaccination in Schools and Communities - Girl Effect	India	Girl Effect	International Foundation	Proposal
Project V-SHIELD Vikramgad Sickle Cell Health Initiative for Early Life Detection	India	L & T	Corporate/CSR	Proposal
Comprehensive malnutrition and anemia reduction program in Shivpuri district of Madhya Pradesh and Khorda district of Odisha	India	Britannia Nutrition Foundation	Corporate/CSR	Proposal
Sashakt 2.0 Expansion	India	Gail (Gas) Ltd.	Corporate/CSR	Proposal
Technical Assistance For Strengthening The Implementation Of Adolescent Health and Well-being Programmes Including Sexual and Reproductive Health For Young People"	India	UNFPA	Multilateral	Approved
Extension to the Project on Mapping Climate Readiness at a Sub-National Level (Phase II)	India	ISEF	International Foundation	Proposal
Conducting Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) Training on Adolescent Anaemia Prevention & 1000 Golden Days	India	Britannia Nutrition Foundation	Corporate/CSR	Proposal
'Project Balvardhan' under the CSR Initiative "Nand Ghar"	India	Anil Agarwal Foundation	Corporate/CSR	Proposal
Developing EBA solutions	India	Global EBA Fund	Corporate/CSR	Proposal

VII. CKD's Work

CKD has expanded its portfolio over the past five years, deepening its commitment to advancing gender mainstreaming across all programmatic areas. Alongside its core work in education, skill development, health and nutrition, and livelihoods, the organization has placed increased emphasis on adolescent health, nutrition, and the intersecting challenges of climate change—critical areas that are central to building resilient and equitable communities. We have continued to provide evidence-based research, consolidate and disseminate best practices, and offer strategic and policy support to Central and State governments.

Our collaborations with corporates, philanthropic bodies, and community-based organizations have been further strengthened, fostering a multi-stakeholder approach to sustainable development. Key interventions over the past cycle have not only grown in scope but have also embedded a sharper focus on gendered impact and addressing adolescent health and wellbeing, aiming to transform systems and outcomes at scale.

A Glimpse of our partners



A. Advancing Adolescent health and Wellbeing

CKD has embarked on initiatives impacting adolescent health at scale. This is being achieved through a focus on capacity building and system strengthening, thus building favourable environments to support adolescent needs and caregiving capacities.

Project Utthan

Improving convergence of adolescent health programs in UP

Supported by the Gates Foundation, CKD is working to improve the **health and well-being of adolescents** in Uttar Pradesh in partnership with NHM, UP. This is being achieved by **building the capacity of health service providers, principals and teachers**, thus ensuring better delivery of the **School Health and Wellness Program and RSKS program**. Across three districts of Barabanki, Bareilly and Sonbhadra, the project aims to work in **1,500 schools**, impacting **400,000 adolescents** and 3,000 Health and Wellness Ambassadors, while engaging 40+ Adolescent Health Counsellors and 200+ Community Health Officers.



The project adopts a multi-tiered strategy, combining state-level coordination with district and block-level implementation to enhance adolescent health outcomes. At the state level, it will provide **technical support to government bodies, strengthen uptake of national directives, and facilitate access to adolescent health counselling from the Tele MANAS helpline**. At the district and block levels, the project will demonstrate convergence of key health programs and implement innovative interventions, including gender-sensitive comprehensive health education, **improved compliance with WIFS and deworming** through awareness campaigns and distribution drives, and piloting a hub-and-spoke

model for mental health counselling with trained adolescent health counsellors. The approach emphasizes creating safe spaces, broadening adolescent support networks, and fostering collaboration across sectors for sustainable impact.

Project Astitva

Strengthening universal access to national adolescent health programmes

UNFPA has partnered with IPE Global Centre for Knowledge and Development (CKD) to strengthen universal access to national adolescent health programmes, thereby making it inclusive and unlocking additional resources towards transformative results. In Rajasthan, the project focuses on bridging structural gaps in adolescent health education for tribal communities and adolescents with disabilities, using innovative, technology-driven life skills education models, capacity building of key stakeholders, and improved interdepartmental coordination to enhance service uptake. Nationally, under Project Astitva, the initiative advances adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) by building the capacity of key actors within the School Health and Wellness Program (SHWP) and Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakaram (RKSK). It promotes holistic, youth-centred services addressing nutrition, mental health, gender equity, and SRHR through strategic partnerships, peer-led initiatives, and scalable service models. Across both phases, the project prioritizes inclusive access, sustainable scale-up, and systemic improvements to ensure no adolescent is left behind.



The initiative is being achieved through close collaboration with government bodies at both national and state levels, ensuring alignment with existing policies and maximizing systemic impact. At the national level, CKD is supporting the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)** by facilitating multi-stakeholder platforms, strengthening the capacity of healthcare providers through targeted trainings and mentorship, and advancing digital health infrastructure with **the rollout of the SHWP-MIS App and dashboard**. The project is also promoting inclusive adolescent health services by establishing **disability-friendly Adolescent-Friendly Health Clinics** and **piloting innovative models** for the Health & Wellness Messengers. In Rajasthan, the project embeds technical experts within the **Directorate of**



Specially-abled Persons, the Department of Education, the Tribal Area Development (TAD) Department in Udaipur, and the Minorities Department. These embedded experts serve as a bridge between the program and government systems, coordinating departmental strategies, securing buy-in, facilitating implementation, and ensuring that interventions are responsive to the specific needs of adolescents with disabilities, those from tribal communities, and minority groups.

B. Breaking the Inter-generational Cycle of Malnutrition

Prabhat Nutrition Project

Breaking Nutritional Barriers, Nurturing Healthier Communities

The Prabhat Nutrition Project, supported by Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL), is transforming 300 villages across Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab, and Daman and Diu. It empowers adolescent girls, pregnant women, and caregivers through personalized counselling on nutrition during menstruation, pregnancy, lactation, and early childhood. “Nutrition Buddies” lead community mobilization using Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) methods, while School-based activities educate girls on nutrition, health, and hygiene. Engaging tools like audio-visual aids, wall paintings, and Nutri-calendars make learning impactful. Families are also encouraged to cultivate Nutri-gardens for sustainable nutrition sources.

The midline assessment of the project concluded in September 2024, showed the effectiveness of the project design of community-focused interventions. On average, the project has achieved over a 20% improvement across key indicators, such as an increase from 7% to 35% in the percentage of pregnant women adhering to dietary diversity. The success displayed by the project resulted in the scaling of the initiative to Punjab and Dadar & Nagar Haveli.



Strengthening Jan Andolan through community-led interventions



Inter-personal Counselling by Frontline Workers and Poshan Saathis



Support in creating nutri-gardens in AWCs and vulnerable households



Strategic use of mid and digital media to complement counselling



Counselling in schools on menstrual health management

Strategic Interventions

Project Sashakt and Sashakt 2.0

Support for Empowering Women and Girls with Knowledge on Health and Nutrition



Project Sashakt (2023- 2024), supported by GAIL (India) Limited, was successful in enhancing the health and nutrition awareness among tribal adolescents (10-19 years old), their caregivers (teachers, wardens, and families), and frontline health workers (ASHAs, ANMs, and AWWs) in Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh. In collaboration with the Department of Tribal Affairs, Panchayati Raj, and District Livelihood Mission, the project worked actively with 4,000 adolescents studying in 15 schools and tribal hostels. The project also reached 40,000 members of the community through awareness

campaigns. The project worked closely with the Tribal Welfare department and District Administration of Jhabua to achieve the project’s objectives. The success of this project prompted a 2nd Phase in the form of Sashakt 2.0 (2024-2025), supported by GAIL Gas Limited, being implemented in Ganjam, Odisha.

Building from the learnings of Phase 1 and our other successful initiatives, CKD scaled the initiative to Ganjam, Odisha, in the form of Sashakt 2.0. Through this initiative, CKD is sensitizing 40,000+ individuals, focusing on women and adolescent girls and boys. The proposed project will mobilize Women Self Help Groups, ASHA, Anganwadi Workers and ANMs, the Panchayati Raj members and Youth Groups, and deploy SBCC techniques to effectively convey key messaging on anemia and malnutrition with the community. The project will also, establish 150 nutri-gardens at sub-centers, Anganwadi centers, Panchayat Ghars, schools, backyards, and Primary Health Centers, and distribute nutrikits to encourage sustainable nutri-gardens that promote healthy eating practices and diet diversity. Through these efforts, Project Sashakt 2.0 aims to address nutritional gaps, improve dietary practices, and empower communities to take charge of their well-being, fostering better health outcomes and long-term sustainability

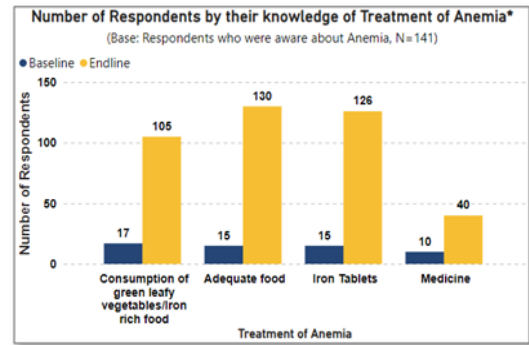


Figure 1: Improved KAP through Project period

C. Strengthening Partnerships to Address NCDs

Project Swasthya Sankalp

A Holistic Approach to Hypertension and Diabetes Management



Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as hypertension and diabetes are emerging as silent epidemics in India, with approximately 1 in 4 individuals experiencing elevated blood pressure and 1 in 7 facing high blood glucose levels. Recognizing the urgency of addressing this growing public health challenge, Project Swasthya Sankalp was as a collaborative initiative supported by Resolve to Save Lives (RTSL). The project aims to strengthen Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC) to prevent, detect early, and effectively manage these conditions at the grassroots level. Spanning 27

districts across Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Karnataka, Swasthya Sankalp employs innovative strategies and community-centered solutions to tackle NCDs. Central to its approach is capacity building, which includes training medical officers, nurses, and Community Health Officers (CHOs) in updated clinical protocols and improving digital tools, such as the NCD portal, for efficient patient tracking. The project also emphasizes community engagement by screening at-risk individuals and promoting awareness of healthy lifestyle practices. Additionally, Swasthya Sankalp strengthens systems by ensuring the availability of essential drugs and diagnostic tools, while closely collaborating with state governments



to integrate sustainable practices into existing health programs. These efforts aim to create a scalable model for managing NCDs that can be replicated across other states and regions. Through its collaborative approach with state governments, healthcare providers, and communities, Project Swasthya Sankalp seeks to reduce the burden of hypertension and diabetes. By doing so, it contributes significantly to India’s public health goals and aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Project Arogya Dadri

Community interventions for Maternal and Child Health & NCD Management



The Arogya Dadri Program, supported by the Shiv Nadar University (SNU) Community Connect Initiative, is a health-focused initiative addressing Maternal and Child Health (MCH) and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in Dadri Block, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP. The initiative aims to strengthen demand for health services and enhance last-mile delivery by improving interpersonal counselling and raising awareness about government

services related to maternal and child health (MCH). It will organize medical camps focused on opportunistic screening and increasing awareness of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) at both community and facility levels. Additionally, the project will build the capacity of frontline health workers and support the transformation of Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (AAMs) into more responsive and effective service delivery points.

The expected reach of the project is to improve health-seeking behaviour within the community by increasing awareness and strengthening last-mile health service delivery across 20 villages of Dadri Block, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh. The intervention is structured into two clusters: Cluster 1, covering 10 villages, focuses on both NCD and MCH management, while Cluster 2, also covering 10 villages, focuses specifically on NCD management.



D. Protecting Newborns through Better Care and Coverage

Project Ansh

Advancing Kangaroo Mother Care to address neo-natal mortality

Supported by Charity Entrepreneurship, Project Ansh is being implemented in partnership with the Pratapgarh District Hospital. It is an innovative Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) support set up for the first time at this District Hospital, with an aim to improving health outcomes for low-birth-weight and preterm infants.



At the core of this initiative is the cost-effective and scientifically proven intervention of KMC, which involves skin-to-skin contact to regulate the infant’s body temperature and prevent hypothermia. It closely monitors for early detection of danger signs in both mothers and newborns and promotes exclusive breastfeeding to strengthen the infant’s immune system, thus promoting healthy weight gain. A dedicated team, including a Project Coordinator and nurses, works round the clock in the KMC unit to ensure the effective

implementation of Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) for all low-birth-weight and preterm babies across the Postnatal Wards, Postoperative Wards, and Special Newborn Care Units (SNCU). Their efforts focus on providing breastfeeding counselling, monitoring for danger signs, practising infection prevention and control, and establishing best practices in newborn care. By embedding these interventions within the healthcare system, Project Ansh ensures long-term impact and sustainability, offering vulnerable newborns a healthier start in life.

Boosting Demand for Routine Immunization

Reducing Zero-Dose Children in Uttar Pradesh

In collaboration with UNICEF and supported by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, a transformative initiative has been launched to enhance routine immunization and reduce zero-dose children across six districts of Uttar Pradesh: Hamirpur, Mirzapur, Chitrakoot, Banda, Sonbhadra, and Sant Ravi Das Nagar. This effort, under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP), addresses gaps in immunization coverage while fostering sustainable community engagement.



The project focuses on linking zero-dose children to ageappropriate immunization services, addressing vaccine hesitancy by tackling socio-cultural barriers, and mobilizing local stakeholders to improve immunization behaviors. It will first ensure the **identification and mapping of zero-dose children**, aiming to close immunization gaps by increasing vaccine coverage, particularly ensuring that more children receive at least the DPT vaccine. A key outcome is a **significant reduction in zero-dose children**, contributing to broader public health goals. The project also anticipates **improving vaccine trust** through community-based interventions that deliver accurate, reliable information, actively addressing vaccine hesitancy and increasing the community’s willingness to vaccinate. Further, it is designed to foster **behavioral change and community mobilization** using a socio-ecological model, embedding vaccination as a community norm and public health priority. Finally, by **strengthening the health system**—notably through the engagement and capacity building of ASHAs across 680 areas—the project will enhance the

healthcare delivery framework, ensuring the sustainability of immunization efforts beyond the project period.

E. Unlocking access to Education and Skill Development

Jigyasa

Leveraging Digital Design Technology for Education

Supported by Vodafone Foundation, Jigyasa leverages digital technology to build the skills of teachers in elementary schools across five states. Knowledge base and teaching-learning processes of teachers across 2266 government schools (grade 1-8) across 26 districts have been enriched. The aspect of sustainability is embedded by ownership of the state governments, via



Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs). The initiative focuses on building the digital competencies of teachers and teacher-educators to enhance their ability to deliver effective, technology-integrated learning. A key component involves enriching the student learning experience through the deployment of an interactive, ICT-enabled story and game-based module, specifically developed for this project. To ensure institutional support and sustainability, the project also secures formal partnerships with government stakeholders through MoUs with education departments and state governments. As a result, over 50,000 teachers have enhanced their digital skills, positively impacting more than 300,000 students. Additionally, 16 model schools have been equipped with ICT infrastructure to strengthen digital learning, 1,000+ teachers have been recognized through awards, and 120 students have been granted scholarships.

Project DIGITS

Digitech for Teachers in Schools

Infusing digital pedagogy in the education system enhances 21st-century skills amongst girls, preparing them for the future. Supported by GAIL (India) Limited, DIGITS - 'Digitech for Teachers in Schools' built a favourable ecosystem in 25 government schools of Bokaro, Jharkhand by integrating Smart Class and strengthening teachers' digital skills. This project built favourable ecosystems to advance the uptake of digital pedagogy in government schools and was welcomed by the district and state department as a critical intervention to leverage the existing digital infrastructure in the schools. A key element is the development of a cohort of master trainers from among the teachers, who can champion digital education and ensure the sustainability of the initiative across the district. To date, the project has benefited over 15,000 students,



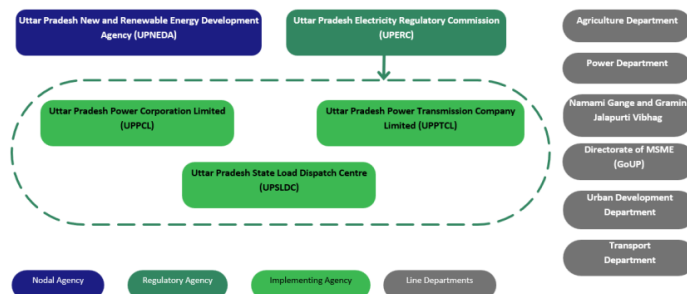
trained more than 260 teachers, and nurtured 50 teachers as master trainers, fostering a robust foundation for long-term digital learning advancement.

F. Emphasising Climate Change and Sustainability

Mapping the Climate Readiness at a Sub-National Level (CRI)

Mapping system, finance and technological readiness across the 10 highest GHG emitting states in India

Supported by the International Sustainable Energy Foundation (ISEF), the project intends to advance a data-driven framework to assess and enhance low-carbon, climate-resilient pathways across India’s top carbon-emitting states. The initiative focuses on guiding policy, investment, and inclusive growth toward a sustainable, net-zero future, by actively working to scale up financial, technological, and nature-based solutions to support low-carbon development goals and avert further loss and damage. The longitudinal assessment-based decision support system is supporting the mainstreaming and mapping of climate mitigation efforts across various states and districts, focusing on the top 10 carbon-emitting states. The assessment encompasses a multi-dimensional index that integrates low-carbon and resilient pathways. Notably, the Climate Readiness Index (CRI) indicators are being qualified in relative terms—identifying front runners and laggards—rather than absolute benchmarks, to account for data gaps and information lapses. The project is also prioritizing the deployment of low-carbon technologies across key sectors, including energy (solar, hydrogen, etc.), transportation, industry, agriculture, and buildings, recognizing that state-level actions are pivotal to achieving national objectives. By fostering inclusive capacity-building programs and creating equitable access to green jobs and financing opportunities, the project is helping ensure that climate resilience and low-carbon growth pathways benefit all sections of society equitably.



Developing Financing Pathways to Support Low-Carbon Targets Implementation

Enabling the State of Odisha towards low-carbon transition while ensuring socio-economic stability to support climate targets

The project, supported by the International Sustainable Energy Foundation (ISEF), is focused on developing actionable financing pathways to support Odisha’s low-carbon targets, with an emphasis on mobilizing investments in climate adaptation and mitigation efforts. Through leveraging



instruments such as green bonds, carbon pricing mechanisms, and comprehensive feasibility studies, the project aims to strengthen the state’s climate finance architecture. A key component involves enhancing climate finance readiness by developing a Decision Support System (DSS) tailored for carbon-intensive sectors, ensuring data-driven planning and investment.

In parallel, the project places strong emphasis on a just transition framework, particularly addressing the socio-economic impacts on coal and mining-dependent communities. It seeks to mitigate adverse effects while promoting sustainable economic development by conducting scoping studies and recommending viable alternative livelihoods. The project also strengthens institutional capacities by embedding technical expertise within the Climate Change Cell of the Department of Forest, Environment, and Climate Change, fostering collaboration and building long-term resilience through stakeholder engagements that integrate climate finance and just transition principles.

G. Knowledge Management - Translating Collective Knowledge into Action

Knowledge Partnership with NITI Aayog

Women Entrepreneurship Platform for Women Transforming India Awards 2021

NITI Aayog’s Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) during the 5th edition of the Women Transforming India Awards recognised the commendable and path-breaking endeavors of India’s 75 women change-makers. As a knowledge partner for the event, CKD in collaboration with NITI Aayog, conceptualised and developed a Coffee Table Book capturing the stories of these 75 Awardees. The book captures the pathbreaking work of women entrepreneurs overcoming challenges.

To see the coffee table book: <https://wep.gov.in/wtiaward2021>



NATHEALTH Healthcare CSR Awards 2023

As the knowledge partner, CKD curated and facilitated the NEATHEALTH Healthcare CSR Awards 2023, organised by NATHEALTH – Healthcare Federation of India. The annual awards are an effort to encourage best practices in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and to recognise the efforts of the companies internalising CSR into their organisational values. CKD call for awards received an impressive 63 applications, with 53% coming from implementation partners and 67% from CSR Donors. A respected six-member jury, aided by CKD, selected the awards.



The awards were conferred at the Arogya Bharat NATHEALTH Annual Summit on March 23rd, 2023, to the winning organisations by Hon’ble Shri Rao Inderjit Singh, Minister of State, Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

Under the “Win with Vaccines” project, the Coffee Table Book was released, and the project film was screened at the summit. The project’s key achievements were highlighted as a public education campaign that has built COVID-19 vaccine confidence amongst the left-out dropout and resistant populations in Assam and Haryana.

View the Coffee Table Book here: www.ipeckd.org/win-with-vaccines/

Watch the “Win with Vaccines” film here: <https://lnkd.in/d7QAU38i>



Niti Samvaad: Nurturing a Vibrant Girl Capital in India (2023)

On October 11, 2023, to mark International Girl Child Day, IPE Global and its knowledge partner, the Centre for Knowledge and Development (CKD), convened NITI SAMVAAD—a high-level policy dialogue aimed at amplifying the importance of investing in adolescent girls to unlock their full potential. The event brought together key government, academia, civil society, and the private sector stakeholders to foster cross-sectoral collaboration and advance gender equality.



The Hon’ble Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, served as the Chief Guest and released the policy brief titled *Nurturing a Vibrant Girl Capital in India*. This evidence-based brief underscores the critical need for coordinated action across the ministries of Education, Health, and Skill Development to address the unique challenges girls aged 10–21 face. It outlines actionable recommendations to co-create an enabling environment that supports girls' nutrition, health, education, and skill development, fostering their holistic growth and empowerment.

The event featured a panel discussion with experts from various sectors, who shared insights on building girl capital in India. The discussions emphasized the importance of effectively implementing the National Education Policy 2020 to ensure that girls reach their full potential. The policy brief and the event collectively aim to catalyse policy reforms and programmatic interventions that prioritize and invest in the well-being and leadership of adolescent girls. For more details and to access the policy brief, please visit [the official release](#).



[CSR Conclave 2024: Recognizing Project Sashakt’s Impact and Reach](#)

During the “CSR Conclave 2024,” organized by the Department of Public Enterprises in Delhi, Project Sashakt implemented by CKD in Jhabua MP supported by GAIL (India) Limited’s was showcased as a best practice CSR initiative on addressing Sickle Cell Anemia. The event was a platform for Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), district administrations from aspirational districts, and implementing partners such as NGOs and CSOs to collaborate on need-based projects. CKD presented the project’s intervention strategies and transformative impact. A short film capturing the project’s journey and success was screened, earning widespread recognition from attendees. A coffee table book capturing key highlight of Project Sashakt was also released at the conclave. Project Sashakt was a testament to the power of community, compassion and collective action making a significant impact in Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh. Reaching over 4,000 students across 14 gram panchayats and nine Tribal Welfare Department Schools, Project Sashakt delivered a meaningful change in the lives of young individuals and their communities.

For more information, visit the [link to the coffee table book](#)



H. Knowledge Products for Disseminating learnings

With its expanding mandate and growing portfolio, CKD is committed to ensuring that the knowledge and outcomes generated from its diverse initiatives are systematically documented and widely disseminated. This approach recognizes that the true impact of any project extends beyond its immediate implementation timeline when learnings are shared and applied elsewhere. CKD develops a wide range of high-quality knowledge products and communication materials—such as toolkits, briefs, reports, videos, and digital content—that are designed to serve as lasting resources for practitioners, policymakers, and community stakeholders. A distinctive feature of CKD’s work is its focus on Social and Behaviour Change (SBC), which informs many of its initiatives and enriches its collection of communication assets. Through this strong emphasis on knowledge management and strategic dissemination, CKD ensures that innovations, best practices, and insights continue to influence and strengthen future programming, policy frameworks, and capacity-building efforts across thematic sectors. A Glimpse into these materials is below:

Project Flyers and Reports:



IEC and Project Collaterals:





Booklet of Win with Vaccines collaterals available at this [link](#)



Annual Reports and Organisational Collaterals:



VIII. Voices from the Field

Stories of Transformation



"I have benefited from smart class a lot since I struggled to learn subjects like Geography and Science due to no interactive learning method. Earlier, we used to learn everything from words which was only theory, but now we learn through smart class, which gives us a deep learning experience. Topics like learning maps and climate change seemed complicated. I feel very excited to learn new things now."

SHEHZADI KHATOON
Project DIGITS,
Bokaro, Jharkhand



"During Project Sashakt's sessions in our village, I learned about the symptoms of Sickle Cell Anemia. I got myself tested, since I realised I was experiencing symptoms which Sashakt talked about. I was shocked when my test came positive. I have taken this responsibility of informing my community that sickle cell anemia can happen to anyone, in any age group. I have started my treatment and started following a good healthy diet."

MAYA PARWAR
Project Sashakt,
Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh

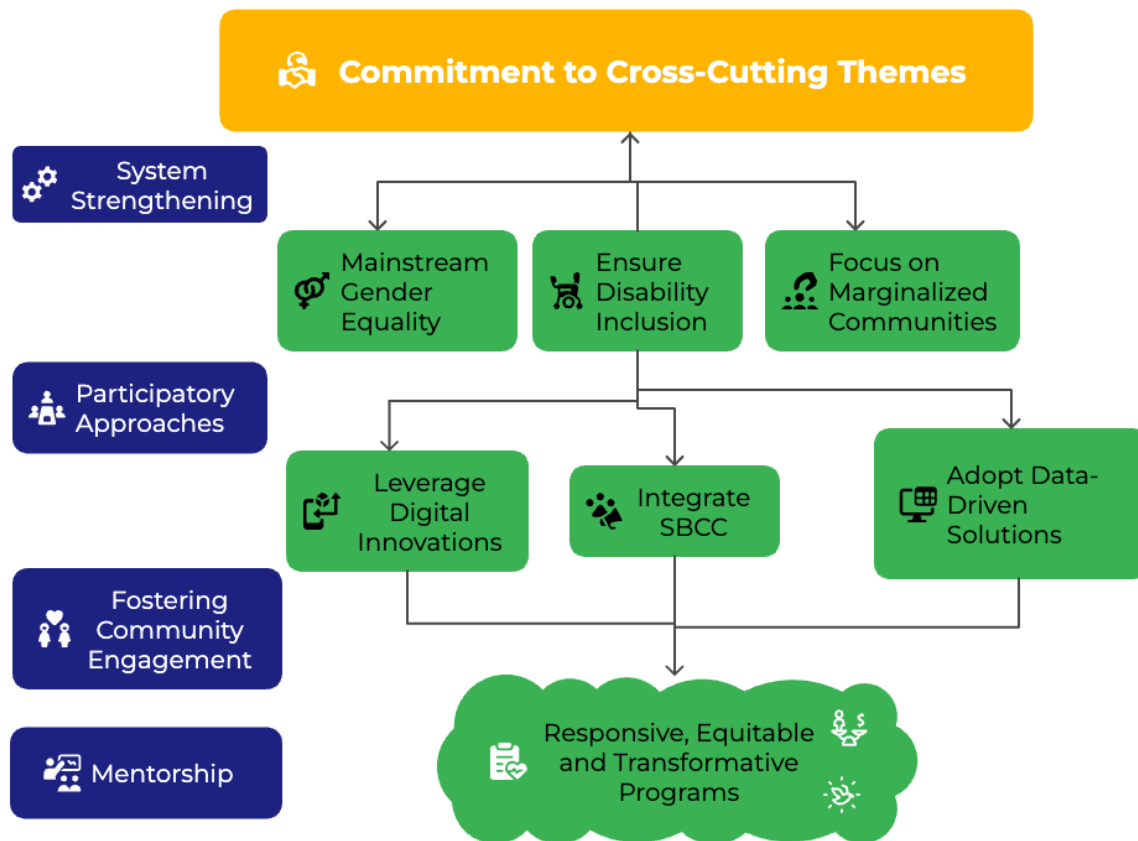


"My transformative journey with the Poshan Saathi initiative showcases the power of strong, dedicated women. From being a Sarpanch Bahu to becoming my community's Poshan Didi, I am now a beacon of nutrition education and empowerment across six villages in Khamgaon. This empowerment transcends my role as a change agent and liberates me from financial dependence. The salary from the Prabhat Poshan Saathi project grants me autonomy, freeing me from familial scrutiny and allowing me to manage my finances with freedom and agency."

MADHURI INGLE
Prabhat Nutrition Project,
Sinnar, Maharashtra

IX. Looking Ahead: Integrating Empowerment, Health, Innovation and Inclusive Growth

As we chart our course for the next five years, our strategic plan is anchored in a commitment to embed cross-cutting themes across all our initiatives. We will mainstream gender equality, ensure disability inclusion, and focus on historically marginalized communities-leaving no one behind in our pursuit of impact. By integrating robust social and behavior change communication (SBCC), leveraging digital innovations, and adopting data-driven solutions, we aim to strengthen systems and foster community engagement at every level. Mentorship, participatory approaches, and inclusive design will be at the heart of our work, ensuring that our programs are responsive, equitable, and transformative for all. Our priorities for the next five years are elucidated below.



Our strategy focuses on dismantling regressive social norms and empowering women economically. India's economic development hinges on dismantling regressive social norms and unlocking women's potential. With 8.05 million women entrepreneurs driving efficiency and profitability⁷, we will prioritize scaling women-led MSMEs through access to microloans, CSR funds, and market linkages. Addressing unpaid care work via public investment in childcare infrastructure could generate 11 million jobs and boost GDP by \$770 billion with a 10% rise in female labour participation.¹³ Collaborating with local governments, we'll leverage opportunities like gender quotas in Panchayats to shift perceptions of women's leadership roles and expand self-help groups to overcome societal barriers to economic participation.²⁷

Health: Adolescent Focus & Scalable Solutions

Our health strategy will take a holistic, future-focused approach to adolescent health well-being, (includes addressing mental health concerns) integrating nutrition, immunization-including zero-dose and HPV vaccines-and proactive health-seeking behaviors. We will prioritize social determinants of health (physical and mental) by building robust school and community-based support systems, training service providers, and expanding tele-counseling. Our efforts will address critical issues such as child marriage, early pregnancy, and gender-based violence through targeted prevention and support programs. By strengthening adolescent career and skilling pathways, expanding NCD and maternal-child health screening, and leveraging digital innovations for tracking and outreach, we aim to create a resilient ecosystem that empowers young people to thrive and lead healthier, more empowered lives.

Girl Capital & Digital Innovations

Our skills development programs will align with future-ready sectors such as AI, renewable energy, and healthcare. Building on India's 35% surge in women business borrowers³, we aim to partner with like-minded organizations to introduce digital literacy and financial literacy modules in regional languages, enabling rural youth and women to participate in the digital economy. Partnerships with fintech firms will leverage secure digital identity systems, enabling women entrepreneurs to access credit without compromising privacy. Our digital innovation agenda will focus on developing AI-driven platforms for personalized skilling and job matching, and piloting blockchain-based solutions to ensure transparency in welfare schemes and microloans. We will focus providing equitable access to skilling platforms tailored for tier-2/3 cities and rural youth.

Building Climate Resilient Communities and Agriculture

Over the next five years, we will take a macro, systems-level approach to building climate-resilient communities and agricultural ecosystems in India. Recognizing the profound risks posed by changing rainfall patterns, extreme weather events, and resource constraints, our strategy will align with national frameworks such as the National Action Plan on Climate Change and the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture. We will champion the adoption of climate-smart technologies, diversified cropping systems, and efficient water management to safeguard food security and rural livelihoods. By investing in resilient infrastructure, strengthening community participation, and facilitating adaptive social protection models, we aim to reduce vulnerability in high-risk regions and support sustainable economic development. Our efforts will be grounded in data-driven solutions, inclusive stakeholder networks, and continuous

capacity-building, ensuring that both agriculture and communities can adapt and thrive in the face of climate change.

X. Conclusion

As the Centre for Knowledge & Development (CKD) advances into the next five years, it is reaffirming its commitment to inclusive, gender-responsive, and systems-focused development. The 2026–30 strategic plan builds on CKD’s core values of equity, diversity, and inclusion while responding to emerging global and national challenges that are reshaping the development landscape. With deepened inequities, rapid digital transformation, and the impacts of climate change disproportionately affecting historically marginalised groups, CKD’s vision for this phase is both bold and rooted in evidence-based action.

CKD is strategically expanding its focus to address critical frontiers—breaking the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition, building girl capital, women’s empowerment, adolescent mental and physical health and well being, digital health solutions, climate resilience—through a multi-pronged approach grounded in capacity building, techno-managerial support, and knowledge generation and dissemination. The organisation is embedding cross-cutting themes—of gender equality, inclusive growth, disability inclusion, and support for marginalised communities—across all interventions to ensure that no one is left behind.

CKD’s model continues to prioritise participatory approaches, community engagement, digital and data-driven innovation, and the integration of strategic behavioural change communication (SBCC). These efforts are enabling the design and implementation of responsive, equitable, and transformative programs that are scalable and sustainable.

At a time of dynamic socio-political and environmental shifts, CKD recognises the importance of collective action and south-south cooperation. It is leveraging the institutional expertise of IPE Global and collaborating closely with national and state governments, development partners, academic institutions, and grassroots organisations to create resilient systems that can adapt and thrive.

With a future-focused strategy and a commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals, CKD is not only responding to today’s challenges but also building the foundation for a just, inclusive, and sustainable tomorrow—where women, adolescents, and children are empowered to lead change and shape their own futures.