Hope to me means faith. It means infinite empathy and generosity. It means the ability to listen, to feel and to act.

Vidya Shah
Chairperson and CEO, EdelGive Foundation
In a seminal scene in the film *Invictus*, Morgan Freeman playing Nelson Mandela has invited Francois Pienaar for tea. Mandela is hoping to subtly nudge the white captain of the battered South African rugby team not to only think ‘victory’ but also to transform the Springboks and their green and gold from a symbol of hate to one of unity. Mandela says, “On Robben Island when things got terrible, I found inspiration in a poem”. “A poem?” asks Pienaar. “A Victorian poem. Just words, but they helped me to stand when all I wanted to do was to lie down”.

It is only fitting that the theme of our annual report this year is hope.

Emily Dickinson wrote:

*Hope is the thing with feathers –*
*That perches in the soul –*
*And sings the tune without the words –*
*And never stops – at all.*

I don’t want to write to you this year with new insights on the practice of philanthropy or the state of the world. The pandemic and its impact on the poor and vulnerable and indeed on the practice of philanthropy has been so thoroughly analysed and ‘webinared’ that I have nothing new to say. Instead, I’d like to write about the fascinating movies and books I’ve seen and read that the pandemic gifted to me. These movies and books gave me the hope that humanity has in it to remedy, to recover, and to rejuvenate.

We live through turbulent times; where isolation and fear have replaced social connectedness with social distancing, where hatred is demanded to show allegiance to the powerful, where rather than resist or show their true feelings, ordinary people want to just get by with their heads down.

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**Invictus**

*William Ernest Henley, 1875*

Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate:
I am the captain of my soul.

*Invictus* is the poem that Nelson Mandela was referring to, penned by William Earnest Henley. Born in Gloucester, England in 1849, Henley was diagnosed with tubercular arthritis at the age of 12 and went through years of pain and discomfort. He wrote *Invictus* whilst in hospital undergoing treatment for tuberculosis of the bones, specifically those in his left leg, which had to be amputated from the knee down. He was still only a young man at this time. He managed to save his right leg by refusing surgery and seeking an alternative form of treatment from a Scottish doctor, James Lister. A memorable evocation of Victorian stoicism—the ‘stiff upper lip’ of self-discipline and fortitude in adversity, which popular culture rendered into a British character trait—*Invictus* remains a cultural touchstone.

**Source:** Analysis of the Poem *Invictus* by W.E. Henley, written by Andrew Spacey available on owlcation.com
Hope to me means faith. It means infinite empathy and generosity. It means the ability to listen, to feel and to act. As a student at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, I wrote an essay on empathy and listening. Even 31 years later, I remember the essay as I felt I had done the theme true justice; incidentally, it earned me an A+. I also remember it so vividly because I closed it with an excerpt from a book I love dearly, that I read when I was very young, and that paved the way for my lifelong love of books – *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

In an early part of the book, Atticus tells six-year old Scout, “First of all, if you can learn a simple trick, you’ll get along better with all kinds of folks. You never really understand a person, until you consider things from his point of view –”

“Sir?”

“-until you climb into his skin and walk around in it.”

This crucial piece of moral advice guides Scout’s effort and struggles to live with empathy and understanding towards others. In the last page of the book, Scout says of Boo Radley, “Atticus, he was real nice ....”. And Atticus says, “Most people are, Scout, when you finally see them.”

Hans Hubermann is the Atticus of *The Book Thief* written by Markus Zusak. Death, the unusual narrator of the story, says with great perception, “I guess humans like to watch a little destruction. Sand castles, houses of cards, that’s where they begin. Their great skill is their capacity to escalate.” But Hans, neither well-educated nor political, if nothing else, is a man who appreciates fairness. A Jew once saved his life, and he can’t forget that. And so, he can’t join the Nazi Party, a party that antagonised people in such a big way. Liesel Meminger may be the moral centre of the book, but Hans, her foster father, is its conscience, its heart. She learns self-determination from him, to think for herself rather than be infantilised by paternalistic leaders.

And there’s Count Alexander Rostov in *A Gentleman in Moscow*, written by Amor Towles. One would think that a saga over 30 years of Rostov’s house arrest inside the Metropol Hotel in Moscow in 1922 would be filled with cruelty and despair. But his gradual acceptance of the situation with hope and almost good cheer, the relationships he forms with staff and guests, his handling of twists of fate, his moral rectitude and his perseverance to go on in the face of his lifelong imprisonment makes for a wonderful read.

As one reader commented, “I literally sat and stared into space for an hour after I finished the book, contemplating it and wishing it hadn’t ended”.

I hope dearly that we have more Atticuses, Hans Hubermanns and Fred Rogers(es) who by nurturing our curiosity and imagination, help us see through one-sided narratives, across the barbed wires in our minds.
In the same book, there’s a reference to hope: a character is speaking about an all-time favourite movie of mine, Casablanca. “For here was Casablanca, a far-flung outpost in a time of war. And here at the heart of the city, right under the sweep of searchlights was Rick's Café American, where the beleaguered could assemble for the moment to gamble and drink and listen to music; to conspire, console, and most importantly, hope.”

Let me now add Jojo Rabbit and Won’t You Be my Neighbour; I assure you my letter this year is more than a compilation of what I loved about these books and films. But not talking about these two films, both centred on children and nurturing the essential kindness, goodness and decency of humanity will be doing the theme of hope great injustice. Jojo Rabbit portrays our ability to hate based on ethnicity or caste or race, and how it can be ingrained and inherited across generations, almost out of habit. Fred Rogers ran a highly popular TV show for children over 40 years named Won’t You Be my Neighbour and used the power of television to counter the propaganda and manipulation of children by adults. Both films also suggest a cure for such hatred: personal relationships, empathy, listening, understanding the shared history of people.

We live through turbulent times; where isolation and fear have replaced social connectedness with social distancing, where hatred is demanded to show allegiance to the powerful, where rather than resist or show their true feelings, ordinary people want to just get by with their heads down. We may honour or celebrate the efforts of many, who at great risks to themselves agitate, protest and fight against injustice. But also celebrate the ordinary people who by their essential humanity, when push comes to shove, will come forward and save the day.

Hope gets built through empathy, lived experiences, knowledge and the study of humanities. I hope dearly that we have more Atticuses, Hans Hubermanns and Fred Rogers(es) who by nurturing our curiosity and imagination, help us see through one-sided narratives, across the barbed wires in our minds. As an article in the Weekend Business Standard on the Pind Collective (a virtual home for artists, Indian and Pakistani, who are divided by borders but united by experiences) wrote, “We like to believe we live in a global, connected world but very often we have narrow ideas of what we want to know and listen to.”

In the final pages of The Book Thief, Death writes: The consequence of this is that I’m always finding humans at their best and worst. I see their ugliness and their beauty, and I wonder how the same thing can be both.

But I’ll let the Count’s friend in A Gentleman in Moscow have the last word, again in reference to Casablanca: Rick’s cool response to Ugarte’s arrest and his instruction for the band to play on could suggest a certain indifference to the fates of men. But in setting upright the cocktail glass in the aftermath of the commotion, didn’t he also exhibit an essential faith that by the smallest of one’s actions one can restore some sense of order to the world?

Vidya Shah
Chairperson and CEO, EdelGive Foundation
With everything crashing down on us, why do we continue to speak of hope?

Naghma Mulla
COO,
EdelGive Foundation
Hope, just like courage has been difficult to muster up in the last few months. While the world as we know it has broken apart, things we had set, and reset have been unset by forces strong enough to arrest the wheels of the world. To say it has been traumatic would be an understatement. We humans are creatures of habit, and this season of tragedy has turned all our habits on their heads.

The development sector just like any other has not been perfect. Whether it is the focus of our work, our capabilities, our intentions, or our results, we are unequal players in an imperfect universe trying to do the right thing. We may disagree or differ on many levels but usually found a common ground on one issue – Impact for the beneficiary. Both words make me uncomfortable, and I use them both here very intentionally.

As the pandemic struck our unequal worlds, the burden of catastrophe, some God made and most man made, fell on the marginalised, as it has always, since time immemorial. It has been gut wrenching to see how the burden has crushed the already voiceless and have pushed millions of dignified people into poverty they had worked hard to get out of.

In several conversations with peers and friends across the sector, we were hearing of a calamity so stark that it had the power to take us back 10 years in our development journey. Be it in education or women’s rights or livelihood generation, all three, were significantly impacted these last few months.

Just when we thought the worst was over, nature took on its own course and left the already vulnerable communities, completely homeless and stranded. Cyclone Amphan left parts of West Bengal and Odisha in complete devastation. The focus very quickly shifted to ensuring the rescue and rehabilitation of survivors of the cyclone, while at the same time limiting their exposure to the pandemic at play.

With everything crashing down on us, why do we continue to speak of hope?

It is because even in the worst times that we are currently enduring, we see the best of human empathy, compassion, and thoughtfulness. Across India, we have witnessed an uprising of community-based activities, facilitated through innovative programmes and interventions and supported by funders who were willing to share their goals. The response of community-based organisations and NGOs, has been nothing short of exemplary as they adapted overnight to address the crisis that hit us in mid-March. From food distribution to relief for migrants, individuals and institutions did whatever they could. Feet on street was supported by quick decision making, flexibilities in adoption and support from varied partners.

Organisations such as Nishtha and Sanjog, who have worked in West Bengal for many years, with victims of violence and discrimination, rose to the occasion to find solutions to the challenges posed by Cyclone Amphan. They rallied their resources and campaigned hard to raise funds for the creation of homes, shelter, food, and healthcare for the survivors of the cyclone. Sanjog’s, Homes for Hundreds initiative, has so far re-built 366 homes for families in North 24-Parganas district of West Bengal.
Through the lockdown, our organisations focused on education, have had to adopt new ways of working and engaging with children and families in the community. **Kshamtalaya**, our partner in Udaipur and New Delhi has been spreading awareness about COVID-19, holding career workshops, and providing ration kits to marginalised daily wage earners and migrant communities. **Medha**, in Lucknow, provides career guidance to under-resourced institutions. In the lockdown, they are using technology and webinars to connect with students, helping them pursue internships and jobs.

Several of our partners such as **Shaheen**, **CORO** and **AALI** work with women and girls, particularly victims of violence, trafficking, and discrimination, across different parts of the country. They continue to share with us the deep mental and physical strain the lockdown has had on them. Through helplines and frequent telephonic conversations, these organisations have been able to provide mental health relief to survivors.

**Jan Sahas** has been working with marginalised communities for over 20 years. They have carried out rapid assessment surveys, releasing a detailed report titled *Voices of the Invisible Citizens* on the impact of COVID-19 on migrant workers. They have also launched a 24x7 workers helpline for COVID-19 mental health and domestic violence assistance for migrant workers.

Our partner **Vrutti** enabled a *farm-to-home* model by forging partnerships with farmer associations to directly sell to consumers. **Pragati, Koraput** in Odisha conducted a similar initiative in collaboration with local authorities, by setting up local market spaces for producers.
and consumers. Utthan in Gujarat has also initiated a People-to-People solidarity model, where they purchase food grains from producer farmers, especially women, and distribute them to vulnerable families in need. Demonstrating the impact of community mobilisation, women self-help groups from the villages of Alwar district in Rajasthan have created a Grain Bank by collecting wheat donations from farmers. These voluntary contributions were further distributed to the most vulnerable families, through an assessment by our partner Ibtada.

Was this transition without friction? Was this response without errors? Of course not. But it was the best exhibition of combined intention, action and decision-making that I have seen in a while. We will be remiss if we stop here though. Our work is cut out for us and we must prepare for a future with grievances that we may not comprehend right now. Not only are we dealing with health and humanitarian issues, but there is a current funding crisis that threatens great work done thus far.

There is no doubt it will be tough, there is no doubt it will be traumatic. But my hope comes from witnessing audacity, goodness, and smart thinking that has helped us hold fort and will help us navigate the future too.

In a candid chat with P Sainath, as I sat with my team feeling a sense of dread, we lapped up every word he said. Apart from being a reputed and Magsaysay award-winning journalist, his contribution to the sector through PARI (People’s Archive of Rural India) has been paramount. PARI generates and hosts reporting on the rural Indian countryside that is current and contemporary and is also maintaining a database of already published stories from different sources. He has been shaking us up with his point of view for years now. From everything like bad governance to misuse of natural resources to inequities we have created in the world, he said it like it was.

At the end of one of these conversations, I was immensely moved and feeling defeated. I asked him, “What if it doesn’t get better?”

In his innate wisdom he responded. “It must. That is what we all work for. If we do not hope, we do not have a chance.”

So, as we move into an uncertain, traumatic, difficult future, let us move in with optimism, courage, audacity, and empathy. But most importantly, let us move in with hope – for each other and with each other.

Naghma Mulla
COO,
EdelGive Foundation
“Once you choose anything is possible.”

– Christopher Reeve
Hope is a radical choice. One which requires patience and action; resolve and flexibility; strength and vulnerability. Human history is proof that hope can impose new realities on the world, even if we cannot fully predict or understand what those realities will be. It is this search and constant choice to remain ‘hopeful’ that has brought us, as a global society, out of world wars, famines and upheavals. As we reflect on the year gone by, and the future that stands ahead of us; it is this ‘hope’ that continues to shape our thinking.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

About EdelGive Foundation.............02
Our Investments ........................................06
Our Partnerships.........................20
Capacity Building...........................................30
Employee Engagement..........................36
Building Networks ........................................44
Response to COVID-19 .........................54
Our Team......................................................62
About
EDELGIVE FOUNDATION

Enabling the growth of organisations to create an equitable philanthropic ecosystem...
FY20 has been a formidable year for EdelGive Foundation. We have found ourselves in the middle of the international and national conversations on philanthropy. It has also been a year of re-assessing our focus as a philanthropic entity. What do we stand for? What is our purpose? How do we aim to achieve it? These are all questions we have asked ourselves.

The resilience and commitment of our NGO partners on the ground continue to inspire us and form the base of all that we do at EdelGive Foundation. As a grant-making organisation, we strive to fund and support the growth of small to mid-sized high calibre NGOs in India, working with some of the most vulnerable communities through targeted and impact oriented programmes.

**THEORY OF CHANGE**

An inclusive society is built on the foundation of educated children, empowered women and resilient communities. Their development in-turn develops stronger, sustainable and inclusive nations.

EdelGive works with organisations who focus on providing quality education, promoting social and economic empowerment of women, and building resilient livelihoods for communities. The interventions these NGOs develop are targeted, community-driven, high impact and sustainable, given their unique work at the grassroots level.
“Given the world’s and society’s focus on the social sector, the choices available to each of us in terms of how we participate or who we participate with has increased manifold. For me, the EdelGive approach and team was an easy pick. Thanks to the clarity of vision, the metric driven execution of this vision and of course the deep passion for creating real and long lasting impact.”

BALA C DESHPANDE
Senior Managing Partner, MegaDelta Capital Advisors

“EdelGive is a go-to Foundation for us when we are looking to understand development sector issues better in India. The EdelGive team is open, knowledgeable and collaborative and, for us, as a funder with no in-country team in India, their support and insights are invaluable.”

REBECCA MUIR
Grants Officer, Maitri Trust

WHAT WE DO
Our unique philanthropic model places us at the centre of grant-making, by providing initial grants and by managing funding from other institutional and corporate partners, at zero-cost. As a trusted agent of philanthropy, large funders contribute to EdelGive’s cohort of organisations working towards social change. This pool of funds is driven and managed by EdelGive at a zero management fee. We follow a robust monitoring and evaluation system across all our grants. We are also institutionalising processes to listen to and learn from our key stakeholders – our NGO partners and the communities they work for.

HOW WE USE OUR GRANTS
Our grants are used towards both financial and non-financial needs of the organisations we support. Apart from adding capacity and scale, grants are used to build operating capabilities in areas such as Finance and Sustainability; Human Resources and Communications; Strategy and Leadership; and Processes and Technology.

Grants
To high-calibre, small to mid-size NGOs empowering

CHILDREN
Through Education

WOMEN
Through Empowerment

VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES
Through Resilience Building

Financial Support
Non-financial Support

Building new programmes
Scaling existing programmes

Capacity Building
Finance & Sustainability
HR & Communications
Strategy & Leadership
Processes & Technology

Awareness Building
I am impressed by EdelGive’s strong skills in collaborating with, and convening diverse sets of actors and institutions to push forward discourses on a wide array of development causes. I really appreciate the Foundation’s deep commitment to social justice and equality as core values that drives their philanthropic activities.”

MOUTUSHI SENGUPTA
Director - India, MacArthur Foundation

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- We will maintain the highest level of integrity, transparency and ethical conduct.
- We will bring a deep commitment to inclusiveness as a fundamental operating principle.
- We will promote responsible-and-effective philanthropy through our actions: as custodians of the resources and the reputation of our parent Edelweiss, and all our funding and NGO partners.
- We will be a learning organisation – we will embrace new ideas, opinions and perspectives, and a deep generosity of spirit.
- We will treat our stakeholders, our NGO partners, our funding partners, our employees and volunteers with respect and empathy.
- We will remain secular in our work, beliefs and outlook.

OUR INFLUENCE THROUGH THE YEARS

- 14 states and 111 districts across India
- Supported Over 150 NGO Partners
- ₹3.31 billion influenced through commitments to NGOs
- 145 capacity building and skilled volunteering projects
- Dedicated 26 member team
- Dedicated ~40,000 employee engagement man-hours
OUR Investments

SUPPORTING THE GROWTH OF CREDIBLE NGOs
Grassroots organisations are constituted of the voices of the people they serve, and have the power to effect social change at a deeper level. Their integration with communities in some of the most remote locations across India enables them to create targeted interventions, rooted and driven by the communities they support.

Over the years, we have been fortunate to be able to build and grow this special cohort of organisations even further. Our grants and grants received from other institutional and corporate partners are used towards both the financial and capacity building needs of the NGO partners we support. We focus on funding strategic parts of these organisations budgets that other funders are less likely to support. Building their own skills to budget and investing in their own organisations, enables them to harvest their growth path to scale and in-turn attract further funding.

“The partnership between EdelGive and Sanjog upholds compassion and insight—compassion that leads us to take action in communities, and insight that allows us to discern right actions leading to social transformations by teams. Pride in our partnership, we experience!”

UMA CHATTERJEE
Founder-Director, Kolkata Sanjog Initiatives

NGOs WE SUPPORT

1. They address big problems, a community at a time
2. They are thrifty, not financially savvy and struggle with fundraising
3. They are inclusive, ambitious, passionate and open to learning
4. They are hands-on, with great execution capabilities, but willing to adapt to innovations
5. They possess a sense of realism of the inherent longevity of social change
6. They are good story-tellers, but not the best communicators
7. They believe in contextualising the process-based on the feedback from the community
We believe that women and girls are the key to pulling us, as a nation, out of poverty. We collaborate with exceptional NGOs that are combating the problem of violence against women and women’s safety through advocacy and grassroots leadership. EdelGive Foundation is committed to addressing both social and economic inequalities that prevent women and girls from achieving their full potential, with focus on five key priority areas:

**Freedom from Violence and Discrimination**

EdelGive has supported 23 projects with 15 NGO partners across 10 states in India in FY20.

Over the years, through our NGO partners we have been able to create significant impact:

- **114,934** (FY20) women and girls supported in their fight towards Gender Equality
- **19,806** (4,313 in FY20) women and girls supported under financial inclusion programmes
- **25,826** (9,719 in FY20) women supported with access to rights and entitlements
- Legal support to **20,077** (9,508 in FY20) survivors of domestic and sexual violence
- **5,765** (2,794 in FY20) grassroots leaders developed and supported

“I am proud to partner with EdelGive Foundation. They believe in gender equality and support us in the same endeavour. EdelGive helps us to cater to the needs of extremely vulnerable women, training them to become both economically as well as emotionally independent.”

**JAMEELA NISHAT**

Executive Director and General Secretary, Shaheen Women Resource & Welfare Association
EdelGive Foundation broadly categorises its work around four priority areas:

- **School Transformation**
- **Early Childhood Education**
- **Innovation & Experimentation**
- **Research & Advocacy**

**EDUCATION**

EdelGive Foundation aspires to play a role in shaping and giving direction to the resolution of systemic issues of ‘Access to Quality Education’ in India. Our endeavour is to support exceptional organisations who are working hard to provide children with equal access to quality education. We work in collaboration with government systems to achieve long-term change, in turn empowering the community to make the change sustainable.

In FY20, EdelGive has worked with 13 NGO partners while supporting 17 projects across 6 states of India.

With the help of our NGO partners, over the years, we have:

- Reached out to **1,719,659** (389,963 in FY20) children through our learning enhancement programmes
- Supported **17,575** (5,747 in FY20) schools
- Supported over **66,705** (20,273 in FY20) teachers and Government officials

“EdelGive’s support for SOVA’s work in multi-tribal belts and expertise to strategise effective tools is critical and hold immense value for us. We are glad that both SOVA and EdelGive share the same value system: focus on social development programmes which are community-centric, and a strong belief in the power of partnerships.”

**SANJIT PATNAYAK**

Secretary, South Orissa Voluntary Action (SOVA)
**LIVELIHOODS**

Every person deserves a fair chance to earn a living and to provide a decent life for themselves and their families. Rural agri-communities and landless labourers, tribals, migrant communities and urban poor are the most vulnerable groups in India, subsisting entirely on meagre wages or the land they till.

We believe that the way out of poverty and hunger is through enhanced ownership of resources, empowerment and increased awareness of the community members. Through our partners, we strive to provide capacity building support, promote value-based enterprises and build institutions that ensure better purchasing power to the community members. Our endeavour is to provide contextual solutions and support communities to combat the climate change effect and reduce vulnerabilities.

In FY20 EdelGive has supported 14 projects of 13 NGO partners, working with the most vulnerable communities across 8 states in India.

Over the years, through our NGO partners, we have been able to create significant impact:

- Average **40%** (FY20) enhancement in annual income of farmers
- **1,212** (284.31 in FY20) hectares of land, brought under irrigation
- Supported (construction or repairs) **216** (148 in FY20) watershed structures for water conservation
- Strengthened **8** Farmer Producer Companies (FPOs)
- Funded **₹432.14 million** (₹208.19 million in FY20) towards Sustainable Livelihood Programmes, over the past 3 years (2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20)

“Pragati Koraput’s partnership with EdelGive has increased the visibility of our work along with the development of innovative demonstration models, helping us build convergence with different Government schemes and institutions. This has led us to create better livelihood opportunities for the small and marginal farmers in the area, achieving nutritional food security for rural poor.”

**PRABHAKAR ADHIKARI**

Founder Secretary, Pragati, Koraput
MONITORING AND EVALUATION
As a philanthropic platform, EdelGive Foundation is committed to ensuring that resources allocated are to the most in need. We also strive to optimise the impact for the programmes we invest in, as well as the sector as a whole. To achieve this, robust processes have been put in place at every stage of grant-making and grant management to facilitate data-driven decision-making. This includes thorough scoping and due diligence, setting up Grant Monitoring Frameworks with indicators, and periodic progress reports to track performance. The tools developed for monitoring and evaluation (M&E) are comprehensive and can be easily adopted by our partners. Along with assessing the impact of each programme periodically, EdelGive also provides support for strengthening data management systems and organisational capacity.

RESULTS-BASED MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK
We provide system-strengthening support to NGO partners through the Results-Based Management (RBM) approach, which enables result mapping at each level—Process, Output, Outcome and Impact. A model-based on performance helps to ensure downward accountability of deployed funds. EdelGive Foundation’s approach to M&E leverages data collected at each step to drive disbursement decisions. The RBM approach involves all programme stakeholders and helps in developing a strong sense of ownership, responsibility and accountability among all entities within the philanthropic ecosystem.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>NGO</th>
<th>CITY, DISTRICT</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>Action for Food Production (AFPRO)</td>
<td>Raipur, Dist. Raipur</td>
<td>Action for Food Production (AFPRO) supports vulnerable communities to become self-reliant through training, knowledge and technology transfer on rural development projects.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Utthan</td>
<td>Ahmedabad, Dist. Ahmedabad</td>
<td>Utthan runs integrated programmes for women and girls to have access to entitlements, financial inclusion and sustainable livelihood security options along the tribal and coastal Gujarat.</td>
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<tr>
<td>STATE</td>
<td>NGO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>WOMEN EMPOWERMENT</td>
<td>Bengaluru, Dist. Bengaluru</td>
<td>IT for Change advocates for digital rights of people in purview of social justice and gender equality in the society.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDUCATION</td>
<td>Bengaluru, Dist. Bengaluru</td>
<td>Agastya International Foundation builds curiosity and nurtures creativity in disadvantaged children and teachers through their innovative learning tools.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LIVELIHOODS</td>
<td>Bengaluru, Dist. Bengaluru</td>
<td>RAZA Educational and Social Welfare Society provides access and quality education to children at all levels.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sirsi, Dist. Uttara Kannada</td>
<td>LIVELIHOODS</td>
<td>Sirsi, Dist. Uttara Kannada</td>
<td>Manuvikasa promotes livelihood development for landless labourers and small farmers through entrepreneurship development, financial inclusion and bio-diversity conservation.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>WOMEN EMPOWERMENT</td>
<td>Dewas, Dist. Dewas</td>
<td>Jan Sahas Development Society provides protection and promotion of human rights of women, girls and children from the most excluded communities and groups like manual scavengers, survivors of rape and sexual assault, bonded labourers, caste-based sex workers, Dalit and tribal communities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>STATE</td>
<td>NGO</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WOMEN EMPOWERMENT</strong></td>
<td>Mumbai, Dist. Mumbai</td>
<td>Committee of Resource Organisations for Literacy (CORO) India develops and nurtures a community-based approach to tackle endemic issues in India’s most marginalised communities. They work for grassroots leadership, women empowerment and gender education.</td>
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<td>Mhaswad, Dist. Satara</td>
<td>Mann Deshi Foundation enables women’s economic empowerment by providing them opportunities to earn and grow their income.</td>
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<td>Mumbai, Dist. Mumbai</td>
<td>Foundation for Promotion of Sports and Games (OGQ) provides world class training facilities to athletes preparing for Olympics.</td>
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<td>Mumbai, Dist. Mumbai</td>
<td>Vacha Charitable Trust works for rights of adolescent girls and help them learn about 21st century skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EDUCATION</strong></td>
<td>Pune, Dist. Pune</td>
<td>Gyan Prakash Foundation (GPF) joins the efforts of various NGOs, corporates and the government, towards improving the quality of public education in rural India.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mumbai, Dist. Mumbai</td>
<td>LeapForWord (LFW) works on making English teaching techniques accessible to regional language school teachers.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Palghar, Dist. Palghar</td>
<td>Learning Space Foundation (LSF) focusses on rural educational development through computer literacy, e-learning, English language development and teacher training interventions.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mumbai, Dist. Mumbai</td>
<td>Parag, an initiative by Tata Trusts, sources, publishes and disseminates children’s literature to enable joyful reading among children and youth.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIVELIHOODS</strong></td>
<td>Nagpur, Dist. Nagpur</td>
<td>Yuva Rural Association (YRA) facilitates social and economic transformation by providing rural poor access to their rights.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mumbai, Dist. Mumbai</td>
<td>Vikas Sahyog Pratishthan (VSP) works towards building a sustainable economy that is ecologically sensitive and promotes equality among all members of a community.</td>
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<tr>
<td>STATE</td>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>CITY, DISTRICT</td>
<td>DESCRIPTION</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Delhi, Dist. Delhi</td>
<td>Milaan - Be the Change</td>
<td>collectivises girls at the grassroots level, delivering comprehensive life-skills based education and collective social action.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Delhi, Dist. Delhi</td>
<td>Kaivalya Education Foundation (KEF)</td>
<td>Being a change management organisation, Kaivalya Education Foundation (KEF) supports public education system leaders to improve learning levels of students by enabling ‘people improving processes’ and technology.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Delhi, Dist. Delhi</td>
<td>Sshrishhi India Trust</td>
<td>provides education, digital literacy and skill development to enable employability of the youth.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhubaneshwar, Dist. Bhubaneshwar</td>
<td>Sambandh</td>
<td>builds sustainable livelihoods through natural resources management, smart agriculture and bio-diversity conservation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koraput, Dist. Koraput</td>
<td>Pragati Koraput</td>
<td>supports organisations that protect, utilise, control and manage local resources through collective action by focussing on food and nutrition security through soil and water conservation, eco-friendly irrigation and sustainable agriculture practices.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koraput, Dist. Koraput</td>
<td>South Orissa Voluntary Action (SOVA)</td>
<td>implements programmes on health, education, governance, livelihood and disaster risk reduction to promote the best interest of disadvantaged communities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhubaneshwar, Dist. Bhubaneshwar</td>
<td>Sikshasandhan</td>
<td>builds an educational environment where value-based quality education is made available and accessible to the tribal communities.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>STATE</td>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>CITY, DISTRICT</td>
<td>DESCRIPTION</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>Ibtada</td>
<td>Alwar, Dist. Alwar</td>
<td>Ibtada addresses the socio-economic issues of women and girls in the conservative Meo Muslim community in Alwar, Rajasthan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Centre for Unfolding Learning Potentials (CULP)</td>
<td>Jaipur, Dist. Jaipur</td>
<td>CULP supports education and child rights especially for girls at risk of marginalisation and low academic achievements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Basic HealthCare Services (BHS)</td>
<td>Udaipur, Dist. Udaipur</td>
<td>BHS provides high-quality, low-cost primary healthcare services for vulnerable communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti (GRAVIS)</td>
<td>Jodhpur, Dist. Jodhpur</td>
<td>GRAVIS works towards environmental conservation and sustainable development programmes for alternative rural reconstruction for communities in the Thar Desert region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Being a financial services institution, Shram Sarathi</td>
<td>Udaipur, Dist. Udaipur</td>
<td>Being a financial services institution, Shram Sarathi offers wealth solutions to vulnerable migrant workers and their households.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

**Lucknow, Dist. Lucknow**
A feminist legal advocacy and resource group, Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiatives (AALI) addresses women’s issues through a rights-based approach.

LIVELIHOODS

**Lucknow, Dist. Lucknow**
Medha Learning Foundation prepares youth for life after school, by providing them skills-based training, career counselling, workplace exposure and job placement.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

**Kolkata, Dist. Kolkata**
Kolkata Sanjog Initiatives focusses on policy building, empowerment and leadership of survivors of violence and discrimination.

**Baruipur, Dist. South 24 Parganas**
Nishtha functions as a community-focussed, rights-based organisation operating in the South 24 Parganas working for education and empowerment of women.

EDUCATION

**Tikiapara, Dist. Howrah**
Samaritan Help Mission (SHM) empowers the underprivileged and disadvantaged members of the society, especially women, through community development programmes on education, health and overall development.
“I hope to make every child in my village literate in English, in its truest sense.”

With a Bachelor’s degree in Education, Pratibha Jagtap is a primary school teacher in Pune District of Maharashtra. Educated entirely in Marathi, Pratibha was no stranger to the struggles that her students faced, of learning an entirely new language.

Pratibha was recently transferred to a small Zilla Parishad school in Kundmala village, where she was entrusted with the responsibility of teaching the English language to Grades 3 and 4. She observed that post Grade 4, children go to nearby towns to attend high schools. The lack of English language skills contribute to children feeling lost in these new schools. Their confidence takes a hit and most of them prefer to opt out of school. This motivated her to work on Grade 4 students with a lot more focus before the children left primary school.

She began with building the vocabulary of students by starting with alphabets and smaller English words. Gradually, with the help of interactive activities, she taught them to frame short sentences in English. Her patience and dedication finally helped kids in developing a liking for the subject. Any fear that these children had for the ‘foreign’ language called ‘English’, slowly started to fade away.

One of the most inspiring cases was of a girl who was labelled as a ‘slow learner’. As per the government norms, it is considered normal for 10% of the students to be slower than their peers. Very often, teachers use this as an excuse to ignore the children who cannot keep up with the usual pace of studies. However, Pratibha left no stone unturned in helping her learn as much as possible. She used innovative methods and slowed down her pace until the young girl was able to read and grasp the language.

Pratibha is of the opinion that English will open a world of possibilities for these children. She hopes that one day; every child of the village who passes out of this school, is English literate in the truest sense, which does not mean that they know the language completely. It simply means that they no more have the fear of having to understand it.

LeapForWord enables teachers like Pratibha to convert their own struggles into lessons for students who aspire to excel in life. So far, more than 50,000 teachers across Maharashtra have been trained to teach English by the LFW team.
OUR Partnerships TOWARDS ASYMMETRIC RETURNS
The Indian development sector is a vast landscape with a large number of causes and NGOs to support. While there are many organisations eager to invest, they struggle with the dearth of information, time and experience needed, to fully immerse themselves in philanthropy.

NGOs, on the other hand, are working at the grassroots level, grappling with several social challenges. But despite their efforts, they are unable to connect with the philanthropic ecosystem optimally. This leaves a large gap between funders and NGO partners.

As a grant-making organisation, EdelGive pools together the know-how and agency, to build an ecosystem of funding and implementation partners who join hands in tackling some of our society’s toughest problems. In doing so, we are able to harness greater resources and achieve impact in scale, across geographies.

**CUSTOMISED PHILANTHROPIC SOLUTIONS**

EdelGive Foundation funds and supports promising small-to-mid-sized non-profits around the country as – from community organisations to grassroots level initiatives – through a thorough due diligence process. We also have multiple partnerships with international and national donor communities. As a zero-cost philanthropic advisory platform, we help funding partners, which include corporates, HNIs, family offices and Foundations, define their strategy of philanthropy – from advice on CSR policy/strategy to identifying causes and the communities in need, to mapping innovative funding models. We facilitate the exchange of resources and information and work strategically as an effective intermediary between the for-profit and non-profit sectors.

“As we work towards healthy and productive lives for all, our collaborations with partners such as EdelGive Foundation gives us both: the opportunity to learn and progress in our efforts, and the hope that positive change is making a positive difference in the lives, especially lives of women and girls, and the poor and the marginalised, on an everyday basis. We appreciate their partnership and their contributions to the philanthropic ecosystem.”

**HARI MENON**

Country Director - India and Lead, South & South-East Asia, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Our Collaborative Efforts

The Collaborators for Transforming Education

EdelGive launched The Collaborators in 2016 to support the Government of Maharashtra in addressing persistent gaps in learning outcomes of children in government schools. With a modest beginning in 4 out of 36 districts in Maharashtra, the programme has expanded to 7 districts, with 7 funders and 3 non-profit organisations (NPOs), reaching over 1.3 million children in four years.

A three-phased intervention (school/cluster to districts to state), focussed on:

- Enhancement in learning outcomes of children
- Community engagement for strengthening demand for quality education
- Building stakeholders’ capacities and engineering process improvements

Based on the success of the coalition, this year The Collaborators expanded from Gadchiroli, Parbhani, Amravati and Nandurbar to three more districts of Satara, Solapur and Hingoli, in Maharashtra. Furthermore, the Government of Maharashtra signed an MoU with EdelGive Foundation for the next five years with the provision to expand to all districts of Maharashtra.

“Working with the EdelGive team not only means working with professionals but enjoying the company of great and inspiring people. We support The Collaborators because such a joint approach by all stakeholders is key to drive systemic change in the public-school system. We see the clear leadership of EdelGive and its long-term commitment, the high level of transparency in the collaboration and the regular opportunities to discuss progress and ask questions as clear success factors. It is for us a great learning opportunity. We are very grateful for this enriching partnership.”

Susanne Grossman
Managing Director, Dalyan Foundation

“At a time when a long-term strategic and systemic change in funding for education is drying, EdelGive Foundation has been a rising star in the space of ensuring quality education to the children of Maharashtra while fostering a long-term vision. EdelGive is not just a donor but a true collaborator who values its partners and gives them freedom for innovation, to nurture a robust system and competent team to track partnership outcomes.”

Ashok Pingle
Programme Director, Gyan Prakash Foundation
My School

My school tells me to play games and, to always be punctual.

My school is lovely and, has many trees.

These trees have many flowers.

Many children come to study at my school.

My school imparts knowledge and love.

School makes our life.

- Kanchan Pandurang Aaglawe,
6th Standard, Parbhani

“The Collaborators project is a systemic approach in bringing diverse stakeholders within the education sector together to improve the last-mile delivery of education in Maharashtra. The evolution and constant innovation being achieved in the Collaborators project is one of the key markers of its success. HT Parekh Foundation is proud to be associated with this project, and we hope that this model can be replicated in other states across the country.”

SUVIDHI KHURANA
Programme Manager, HT Parekh Foundation

Recognised as one of the most important Public Private Partnership (PPP) in Maharashtra

The Collaborators has earned the Government of India’s recognition for being among the best practices in CSR, and has been presented by Government of Maharashtra to the Government of India, World Bank and UNICEF. The Government has also presented the Shikshan Parishad transformation process and impact at various Central government meetings, as the most important contribution by The Collaborators programme.

Acknowledgement by DSES

The Department of School Education and Sports (DSES) has shown keen interest in the approach taken by The Collaborators, especially the process of strengthening of Shikshan Parishad (monthly educational gathering of teachers at the Cluster level) and School Management Committees (SMCs).

Presence on SHAGUN portal

Achievements have been recognised by State Government and uploaded on Shagun portal (a national level repository).

Featured in the Bridgespan Report - Philanthropic Collaboratives in India: The Power of Many

The programme has also been acknowledged as a ‘Bold Philanthropic Initiative’ by The Bridgespan Group.
Driven by its conviction in the systems thinking approach, The Coalition for Women Empowerment (CWE) brings together funding organisations and grassroots organisations as stakeholders, united by a common mission of addressing deprivation and discrimination faced by women in India. The Coalition aims to achieve greater scale, deeper results, and financial sustainability for grassroots organisations.

The coalition, anchored by EdelGive Foundation and supported by Ford Foundation and Chintu Gudiya Foundation, brings together stakeholders to converge their energies towards interventions aimed at addressing deprivation, violence and discrimination faced by women and girls in India. It focusses on providing 360-degree support to grassroots organisations through enabling funding for critical rights-based programmes that are often under-invested, and by investing additionally in institution building for improved effectiveness and efficiency.

This year, The Influencers, our collective of individual influential voices, completed one year of its official launch with 16 members, hosting eminent names in business, arts, media, public service and philanthropy. The group is connected by their desire to lend their voice towards enabling millions of nameless, faceless women marginalised by caste, culture, geography, economic status, and other barriers to participate actively in the social, political, cultural spheres of the society.

― NANDITA DAS
Actor, Filmmaker & Social Advocate

“I have always used films to spark conversation and facilitate change by addressing issues of discrimination, prejudice, fear, violence and the need for empathy and equality. I have tried to find ways, beyond films, to engage with issues of human rights and social justice. I am always delighted to find genuine collaborators who have similar intents. I am happy to be a part of the Influencers network enabled by EdelGive Foundation which is committed to a more equal and a just world. I wish them the best for all their endeavours and look forward to growing with other influencers.”
“The people at EdelGive have been awesome friends, partners and resource that we can bounce ideas off, and learn more. We are deepening our understanding of the NGO ecosystem in India through the information they share, the conferences they host and the NGO work that they highlight. We love the fact that they are willing to go above and beyond to help us and are grateful for the relationship between us.”

DONALD LOBO
Founder, Chintu Gudiya Foundation

“EdelGive exhibits a culture of integrity, genuineness, authenticity and a shared passion to be real agents of change. They maintain a close connection with the grassroots organisations and their leaders and can match and manage mentors and donors appropriately. Their initiatives and approach to philanthropy are fresh, creative, innovative and open-minded.”

SHAILAJA AKKAPEDDI
Independent Consultant - Non-Profit Capacity Building and Women’s Economic Empowerment
“Ambition and aspirations are truly ageless. I came to firmly believe this after spending a day with a highly aspirational and enthusiastic group of women. I recently had the privilege of visiting the Kamothe Centre of the Mann Deshi Foundation. I spent the day interacting with the entrepreneurs associated with the Foundation’s Business School and Chamber of Commerce programmes.

These women-run small businesses which range from making snacks and sweetmeat, natural beauty products and gift items. Thanks to their business acumen, marketing and accounting skills gained from Mann Deshi’s programme, these women are gradually becoming financially independent. They even ecstatically shared about the profits they now make.

I also visited the Mobile Finance and Digital Literacy Centre and Mobile Business School, which I was really curious to learn about. Mann Deshi’s team visit the remotest of villages to conduct training for women who are entrepreneurs or who aspire to be one. What I appreciate about their business schools is that they provide training aimed at building practical and technical entrepreneurial skills that women can implement in their lives to set up and expand their businesses. They offer a range of long and short duration courses, and a robust and supportive mentorship programme is available as an added support throughout the year.

I feel that the mobile vans are a brilliant initiative to reach women in far-flung areas. A group of women shared how they learnt about the importance of savings and having access to and control over their finances after attending training in the financial and digital literacy van.

Wishing them luck to reach greater heights in the future!

-WE Influencer, Ms. Sushmita Kacholia

“EdelGive’s understanding of KEF’s Theory of Change and unflinching support to our implementing team has always made it easy to operate during evolving times. Their deep understanding of issues and capacity to work at all levels with different stakeholders enables them to be a thought leader in the philanthropic ecosystem and support transformational programmes across the country.”

ARUN PODDAR
Director, Kaivalya Education Foundation

Sushmita Kacholia’s visit to Mann Deshi Foundation
The learnings from both our ongoing coalitions encouraged and enabled EdelGive Foundation to become a core partner to the India Climate Collaborative, a first of its kind initiative bringing together India’s top philanthropies to address the increasing and pressing climate crisis in India. EdelGive Foundation brings years of rich experience of working with organisations with a deep penetration at the grassroots to ICC’s enriching technical expertise. With the combined holistic understanding of the development space from a climate lens, the partnership aims to work towards promoting ecological balance through a co-benefits approach.

“On behalf of the entire team at The India Climate Collaborative, we are delighted to count EdelGive Foundation as one of our most trusted and true partners. EdelGive is one of the most intelligently structured philanthropies in the Indian development sector. They provide strategic insight, leadership and focus which is critical to accelerating impact. Their collaborative approach is remarkably efficient and effective in dealing amicably and objectively with large numbers of partners to deliver successful outcomes. Moreover, the EdelGive team is highly trained, professional and a pleasure to work with they execute with the utmost urgency and deliver as promised; with results, not excuses. We look forward to a long relationship with EdelGive Foundation built on the principles of trust, communication and respect.”

SHLOKA NATH
Executive Director, India Climate Collaborative, and Head of Sustainability and Special Projects, Tata Trusts

Together we can support scaling social programmes in India
"I hope my consistent efforts and initiatives catalyse positive change in the lives of the women in my village."

As a 26-year-old woman, Barfina had to discontinue her education post class 12 owing to her mother’s mental health conditions and her increased involvement in managing the household. She currently resides with her in-laws at Piprol village in Ramgarh block in Alwar District of Rajasthan.

Barfina enrolled herself as one of the members of a 12 member Self-Help Group, facilitated and nurtured through the Women Federation, promoted by Ibtada in her village. Subsequently, when Ibtada initiated women rights programme with the support of EdelGive Foundation, Barfina joined it as a community level change agent called Adhikar Sahki. She actively participated in the training facilitated by Ibtada and learnt about social security schemes such as the Panchayati Raj Act and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). Subsequently, Ibtada encouraged her to actively participate in training conducted on schemes for food security, pension, Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), Mid-Day Meal (MDM), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and Anganwadi schemes. As an Adhikar Sahki, Barfina started to generate awareness among women especially the members of Village Rights Committee (VRC) about the various government schemes and entitlements.

She motivated them to strongly demand a chance to avail the benefits of schemes that they have been promised. She also encouraged women to file complaints to resolve obstacles if the Panchayat Secretary does not respond properly.

A while ago, Barfina’s household was accidentally removed from the Food Security scheme. She took the initiative and visited the Panchayat Samiti (Block Administration Office) to resolve the issue. She interacted with block-level officials and discussed this along with other pressing village level issues. She now diligently participates in Gram Sabha and Panchayat level meetings with other women of the village. The women now advise and influence Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members in the village development planning process.

She has helped 151 job cardholders to get work under MGNREGA, enrolled households for ration cards and facilitated the construction of toilets under Swachha Bharat Mission. She has also helped 21 widows and their children by enrolling them into pension schemes and supported over 20 women receiving their discontinued pension. She assists women in need with their documentation to ensure successful submission of applications. She also guides and conveys information regarding follow-up at the Block Office.

Barfina has managed to forge her own identity in her village. She is deeply involved in educating women and villagers who have greatly benefitted by her activism. Through collective action and Ibtada’s focus on a rights-based approach, Barfina has emerged as a role model and change agent for her community.
CAPACITY BUILDING
FROM SEED TO SCALE
OUR APPROACH TO CAPACITY BUILDING

Non-profit organisations work on some of the society’s most challenging problems. This often leaves them with little to no focus on building their own teams and capabilities. At EdelGive, our mission is to generate holistic growth and capacities of our organisations.

We understand that a ’one size fits all’ approach to capacity building might not work. Non-profits have the flexibility to develop their set of institutional priorities.

Our collaboration with ToolBox India Foundation and Social Lens, connects volunteers from the corporate fraternity to identify and bridge organisational gaps within social enterprises. Capacity building through our Skilled Volunteering programme is an extension of Employee Engagement, but with a relatively higher level of commitment and time investment. In addition to this, we have also been offering Capacity building solutions to non-profits, who are not our grantees.

At EdelGive Foundation we believe in the holistic growth of our NGO partners, offering them not only financial but also capacity building support, on four critical areas such as Finance and Sustainability; Human Resources and Communications; Strategy and Leadership; and Processes and Technology.

Direct mentoring:

Senior staff at Edelweiss provide one-on-one mentoring to the management staff from NGOs.

IN 2019, EDELWEISS EMPLOYEES HAVE -

Undertaken 14 capacity building skilled volunteering projects

Conducted 27 financial literacy sessions
In GSIF’s fourth and final year, 35 fellows have been enabled to work with 25 NGOs in the areas of employability and skilling, education and women empowerment.

**GENPACT SOCIAL INNOVATION FELLOWSHIP (GSIF)**

**Using Six Sigma expertise to find solutions for life-cycle barriers of non-profit organisations**

EdelGive Foundation has partnered with Genpact since 2016 to implement GSIF. EdelGive helps set the context of the development sector with the objective to support organisations in multiplying their operational capacity. Under this unique programme, six sigma experts from Genpact along with social sector experts introduce process re-engineering within non-profit organisations.

**COHORTS**

**Workshops for non-profit organisations to provide guidance on operational systems**

EdelGive, in collaboration with our capacity-building partner Social Lens, conducted two intensive sessions on the theme ‘Data Driven Decision Making’ for organisations working in the development space.

The two sessions were attended by 13 and 17 non-profit organisations (NPOs) respectively. The sessions included discussions on data as a good indicator for decision making and the need for continuous monitoring and evaluation (M&E).

**EDEL MENTOR**

Enabling reverse learning between senior Edelweiss personnel and non-profit leaders

*Mentorship Support to Ms. Mariaelena Figueredo, Director - Torpa Rural Development Society for Women (TRDSW)*

Ms. Kalpana Ajayan, Group Head, Customer Experience, Edelweiss Group, has been working very closely to guide Ms. Mariaelena in the area of strategic planning for the organisation. In the process, they conducted a SWOT analysis – to identify the challenges as well as the existing opportunities that the organisation needs to focus on. They identified four areas of work including access to water for irrigation, management of data, human resources development and building sustainable producer organisations.

In GSIF’s fourth and final year, 35 fellows have been enabled to work with 25 NGOs in the areas of employability and skilling, education and women empowerment.
INTENSIVE CAPACITY BUILDING EFFORTS

Team Sankalp: For Jan Sahas Social Development Society and Association For Advocacy and Legal Initiatives (AALI)

Team Sankalp, a group of techies who are a part of the Influencers group, has developed an innovative mobile and web-based application, that will automate the current case data capture, recording and reporting processes for survivors of sexual and domestic violence, and trafficking. The aim is to use technology to improve the impediments of their current systems, and save time and effort, which can be reinvested into widening the depth and breadth of their work with the survivors.

• **Training** - Over 100 case workers of Jan Sahas and AALI have been trained
• **Expansion** - Customised version for other organisations working with the survivors of violence
• **Mentoring** - Technology teams of partner organisations have been receiving inputs from experts-based on their interests for creative data visualising and introduction to new technology for combating trafficking.

### SKILLED VOLUNTEERING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain &amp; Technology</th>
<th>Volunteer</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>NGO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Process &amp; Technology</strong></td>
<td>Shailesh Mahangade, Deputy Vice President, MIS-Finance and Jueli Paygude, Assistant Manager MIS-Finance, General Insurance</td>
<td>Creation of an MIS to track data</td>
<td>Lakshyam Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Finance &amp; Sustainability</strong></td>
<td>Rishabh Jhabhak, Associate, Edelweiss ARC</td>
<td>Fundraising proposal</td>
<td>Spark a change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rutu Charan Gantara, Manager, Domestic Coverage, Private Debt</td>
<td>Fundraising proposal</td>
<td>Elder Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HR &amp; Communication</strong></td>
<td>Chetna M Malaviya, Senior Vice President, Corporate HR</td>
<td>Driving Board for the organisation</td>
<td>India Excellence Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Priyanka Sareen, Lead, Retail Products, General Insurance and Ankita Pandey, Digital Marketing Manager, Marketing, General Insurance</td>
<td>Social Media Marketing Plan</td>
<td>Samaran Charitable Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Legal</strong></td>
<td>Varalaxmi Venkataram, Senior Vice President, Corporate Legal and Advisory, Corporate Governance and Compliance</td>
<td>Legal MOU for partnerships</td>
<td>Srujna Charitable Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Literacy Sessions</strong></td>
<td>Nilesh Saha, Fund Manager-AMC, Public Markets</td>
<td>Conducted a session on Financial Literacy</td>
<td>Bright Future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Manisha Dokania, Chief Manager - Marketing, AMC, Public Markets</td>
<td>Conducted a session on Decision Making</td>
<td>Bright Future</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tracking month-wise cases on the App
“I hope our Mahila Mandal can ease the women of Marathwada from all the issues they are facing in the lockdown.”

Women have been most disproportionately impacted by the outbreak of the Coronavirus and the consequent lockdown. Their mobility and agency have drastically reduced owing to their confinement within the four walls of their homes. The Mahila Mandal Network has stepped ahead and embraced the use of remote working and technology to help communities cope with the COVID-19 pandemic.

A part of CORO’s Grassroot Leadership Development Programme (GLDP), Lakshmi hails from Tulipur in Maharashtra. She works with 16,000 women in 15 blocks across four districts of the Marathwada region. She is responsible for meeting Mahila Mandal members of Beed, Nanded, Latur and Osmanabad. Before the crisis struck, she spent around 20-25 days a month working extensively on the field. These interactions allowed her to delve deeper into the issues that women faced and recommend solutions to them. She is now adapting to digital technology to work remotely. However, women were initially not comfortable speaking on the phone. As a result of this, the conversations were stilted and transactional. But over time, they have started opening up about their issues.

Increased tension during the lockdown has emerged as one of the most pressing agendas on the calls between Lakshmi and the Block Sahelis. With male members being home and dominating living spaces, women have to spend all their time in the kitchen. Some houses have also reported cases of physical violence and verbal abuse. Women, in general, are also worried about their ration stocks and savings running out. Sensing a demand, CORO assisted the women of the village in stitching around 6,500 face masks at home. The Mahila Mandal Network convinced the Gram Panchayats to purchase them. Requisite data was compiled on WhatsApp and it was used to direct essentials and cash transfers to 1,100 women. What is exhilarating about these women is their power to mobilise themselves and collaborate for other women. Around 30% of these women do not possess phones, but they have still managed to curb the spread of misinformation and provide a safe space to women over conference calls.

“Their days look a lot like mine, which explains how we could cover 16,000 women across four districts,” Lakshmi says with a smile of satisfaction on her face.

CORO helped materialise Lakshmi’s hope of putting women’s issues at the forefront and resolving them even during the pandemic.
EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

CONTRIBUTING TO A BETTER SOCIETY
82 immersion activities including in-kind donation drives

100+ cities and 125 branches of the Edelweiss network

~40,000 hours of skilled and unskilled volunteering through the years

₹3.63 million raised through employee donations

From managing strategies, to providing technological assistance, Edelweiss employees have, over the years, assisted many non-profit organisations in overcoming the issue of finite resources, by successfully volunteering in their programmes.

Our employee-volunteering programme ranges from short-term, to a well-structured systematic donation plans that employees can annually opt for. Our Capacity Building programme offers volunteers an opportunity to contribute towards institution strengthening. Senior employees also have an opportunity to provide one-on-one mentoring to non-profit leadership.

Our Corporate Collaborative Philanthropy (CCP) platform further assists in providing volunteering opportunities and helps in maintaining an online dashboard of volunteering hours contributed by individuals. Over the years, we have also advised external agencies and partners in adopting similar programmes, guiding them towards integrating volunteering into their organisation’s DNA.

EdelGive’s Employee Engagement Model

| Low Systematic Donation Plan (SDP) |
| Employees can either give at various intervals through their office intranet system or through payroll. EdelGive provides a list of NGOs they can support. |

| High Capacity building |
| Volunteers work over a period of time (usually three months) to meet requirements identified by an NGO. This can include support on HR training and operational guidance, marketing collaterals, IT support, accounting and financial advisory. |

| Medium Field Visits-Immersion Programme |
| Employees visit an NGO and interact with its target group. At times, they engage in a cleanliness drive, classroom teaching or participate in a donation drive. |

| High Direct Mentoring |
| Edelweiss senior staff provide one-on-one mentoring to an NGO’s management staff to develop long-term strategic changes in the organisation. |
**DAAN UTSAV**

9 Cities

10 SBUs

9 Events

2,642 Volunteers

Every year from October 2nd to 8th, EdelGive joins the nation in celebrating the occasion of Daan Utsav through various activities and donation drives across our offices, to help our employees experience the ‘Joy of Giving’.

1,800 volunteers from Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance and General Insurance business took up cleanliness drives across the country.

A total of 550 books were donated by employees to help inculcate the habit of reading for the children at Bhumi and Ratna Nidhi Charitable Trust.

Edelweiss employees distributed food items to communities affected by the floods in Patna, Bihar.

Celebrating Durgaashtami, our Edelites donated money, food and clothes to those in need.

Employees from Ranchi while developing a financial literacy module for the tribals and farmers of TRDSW, got a first-hand glimpse into their lives.

120 volunteers from Credit BG and Corporate Compliance Group prepared and distributed 400 sandwiches and burgers among the children of the street dwellers of Bandra and Chembur in Mumbai.

25 Edelites along with over 2,000 Mumbaikars tightened their shoelaces and ran a 5-kilometre marathon, Aarambh 2020, to raise awareness for the survivors of sexual violence.

12 employees from Edelweiss shared facts and knowledge around the consumption of nutritious food, and had fun with the kids from the Bandra slums in Mumbai, along with Robin Hood Army.

120 volunteers from Credit BG and Corporate Compliance Group prepared and distributed 400 sandwiches and burgers among the children of the street dwellers of Bandra and Chembur in Mumbai.

80 Edelites raised around ₹140,000 to fund chemotherapy sessions of the patients being supported by Madat Foundation.
REBUILDING HOPE

India witnessed a series of devastating natural disasters in the year 2019. During the severe cyclone that hit Odisha, half a million people from 16,000 villages were affected severely and 51 urban local bodies lost their homes and livelihoods. EdelGive joined hands with NGO GOONJ that was carrying out relief work for the victims, to support the vulnerable communities hit by the wrath of nature.

In the following months, Assam, Bihar and Maharashtra were also hit by erratic rainfall resulting in devastating floods. 10.9 million lives were affected by this disaster.

EdelGive, with the help of over 500 Edelweiss employees, reached out to the affected communities by donating in both cash and kind for the same.

COVID-19

The outbreak of COVID-19 affected more than 80% of the workforce, specifically the informal sector. Owing to the enforced lockdown, daily wage labourers, construction workers, rickshaw pullers, and street vendors had their livelihoods at stake. While NGOs, corporates and development sector organisations have stepped up to collaborate with the government and NGOs to support and implement relief initiatives, 359 Edelweiss employees through EdelGive raised a total amount of over ₹1.2 million to help over 35,000 affected families.
EdelGive Champion - Regional Lead
Rohit S. Dubey, Regional Sales Manager, SME Lending, Kolkata
For engaging 37 employees in investing 16 hours towards activities with high social impact.

EdelGive Champion - Skilled Volunteering
Jueli Paygude, Assistant Manager - MIS Finance, General Insurance
Shailesh Mahangade, Deputy Vice President, MIS-Finance, General Insurance
For creating a comprehensive MIS for NGO Lakshyam.

EdelGive Champion - Change leader
Ravindra Harer, Manager - Corporate HR Operations, CSG
For driving 3 social events with his team and investing over 30 hours of volunteering work. Inspired by EdelGive’s work, he also formed a team of friends to raise funds for the Kolhapur floods.

EdelGive Champion - Business Group Award
General Insurance Team, Mumbai
For successfully engaging all 120 employees from their team to take part in various immersion activities organised by EdelGive all through the year.
HUMANS OF EDELGIVE

The Edelweiss family has always been enthusiastic about doing their bit to create ripples of positive change. However, some exceptional Edelites go an extra mile and inspire us to do more!

“I firmly believe that volunteering with EdelGive opens up one’s mind to the multifaceted nature of philanthropy. EdelGive systematically works with the NGOs, not just helping them financially, but also by building their internal processes and strengthening their capacity, enabling them to truly become self-sustaining.”

Ashish Gupta
Executive Vice President - Systematic Trading, Global Markets

“Since 2009, spending my weekends doing selfless acts of love with EdelGive, has made me realise that I, as an individual, have the power to make a real difference, in my own special way. But if I have to choose, it was the experience of mentoring children that I hold close to my heart. Maybe because I saw a glimmer of hope, of a better future! And this is why each one of us should experience this feeling once in a while.”

Rutu Charan Ganatra
Manager - Domestic Coverage, Private Debt

“Out of the many life lessons that I have imbibed from my volunteering experiences, empathy and humility are virtues that I truly value. These experiences have not only transformed me into a better version of myself but have also gifted me memories and friends of a lifetime. I feel that I have gained much more than what I have given back to society. A big and heartfelt thank you to EdelGive Foundation for making me a better human!”

Sakshi Chadda
Chief Manager, CREDIT BG HR

“We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.”

-Winston S. Churchill
“I hope to imbibe skills and leverage them further to contribute to my family financially.”

Suneeta Daya Naik is a 33-year-old woman living in Malagi village of Mundgod Taluk in the Uttara Kannada district, along with her husband and two children. Daya Naik, her husband, works for the Water Supply Department as a labourer. Together they used to own a small shop, which they had to shut, owing to severe competition from several other shops in their locality. The family suffered a significant financial crunch due to this.

Suneeta was eager to help her husband and contribute to the household. However, she lacked the skills and confidence to generate any income. She gathered her paltry resources to invest ₹10,000 in a sewing machine. Even though she had the basic knowledge of stitching, she was not skilled enough to take proper measurements and carry out precise cuttings.

Manuvikasa started a tailoring class in the Malagi village with support from EdelGive Foundation. Suneeta successfully trained for two months and post the completion of the training; she became more confident and dextrous in her newly acquired skills.

Today, Suneeta successfully runs her tailoring business from home. Customers come in with a variety of orders. On average, she earns ₹100-150 a day. The financial situation of her family is slowly improving. She now wishes to become a member of a Self-Help Group (SHG) promoted by Manuvikasa to save money. She is grateful to Manuvikasa’s endeavour of empowering women like her, in providing skill training and leading them on the path of becoming financially independent.

Manuvikasa’s vocational programme on skill training gave wings to Suneeta’s dream to achieve financial independence and support her family.
Building Networks
Initiating Critical Dialogues
Sharing Knowledge
STRAEGIC COMMUNICATIONS
Communication acts as a conduit for deeper dialogues and deliberation for us at EdelGive. This year we were committed to contribute to the dialogue on philanthropy and the sector taking place across international and national arenas.

Initiating Critical Dialogues
EdelGive is present on governing boards of global agencies and has a presence on discussion platforms like Asian Venture Philanthropy Network (AVPN) and Empower Families for Innovative Philanthropy (ERFIP). In addition to this, we also host roundtables, discussion forums and talks to build a repository of information, generate opinion and understanding of the sector.

EDGE 2019
EDGE is a collaborative platform initiated by EdelGive Foundation to connect exceptional non-profit organisations with the funding fraternity, in-turn facilitating conversations on collective impact.

Built around the theme The Power of One, EDGE was a day of thought, reflection and learning. It was a celebration of the first push of the needle, the first seed of an idea. The day was structured into five broad areas of discussion, Entrepreneurship, Vision, Audacity in Belief, Representing the Unrepresented and Emotions Driving Change. Each packed with inspirational stories of individuals, organisations and movements. Apart from speakers and panel discussions, the EDGE Talks platform showcased EdelGive’s NGO partners as they shared their journeys of change.

The second and third day of EDGE was for learning and sharing between our NGOs and select funding organisations. It was a day committed to building deeper understanding and peer learning from each other on nuances of running and growing organisations.

At The Same Table™ (ATST)
ATST hosted by EdelGive Foundation, is an equal platform for free and frank discussion on issues and ideas that collectively concern the funding community.

“I had the privilege of attending the remarkable EDGE 2019 workshops which were very relevant for stakeholders in the development sector. Team EdelGive’s uniqueness in terms of clarity of thought process has translated into good practices within the farming community. Their commitment, passion and enthusiasm will lead us to incremental and substantial changes in the socio-economic condition of the vulnerable communities and the environment.”

DR. S SRIVASTAVA
Regional Manager,
Action for Food Production (AFPRO)
The annual Women Empowerment Influencers meet took place with the promise to Inform-Engage-Influence the theory of violence against women and position the women at the centre of the narrative.

The Collaborators for Transforming Education meet was organised to discuss and celebrate the learnings and achievements of the three years of the programme. Both the implementing partners, Gyan Prakash Foundation and Kaivalya Education Foundation shared their journeys of working on the District Transformation Programme.

The Working Group on Philanthropy for Gender Equality in India hosted conversations on the gaps and the role of domestic philanthropy in steering a shift in funding for Gender Equality. There were participative discussions around India’s Private Giving report by Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), EdelGive Hurun Philanthropy Report and the India Justice Report by Tata Trusts.

Steering Committee Meeting of the Collaborators for Transforming Education Programme witnessed Government stakeholders from six districts of Maharashtra review the programme in the presence of Additional Chief Secretary, Smt. Vandana Krishna; Commissioner for Education, Shri Vishal Solanki and government machineries from the Department of School Education and Sports (DSES).

EdelGive hosted the First Donor Roundtable of the India Climate Collaborative wherein innovative examples of the co-benefits approach to addressing the climate crisis and the areas of work that members can collectively undertake, were highlighted.
KNOWLEDGE SHARING

Our leadership and senior management continue to represent EdelGive Foundation at conferences, round-table discussions and seminars held nationally and internationally. Their perspectives are informed by their experiences of connecting with diverse funders and grassroots leaders across the sector.


Naghma Mulla at the 2nd ‘Talk for Action’ roundtable conference, in partnership with Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health India Centre and Wockhardt Foundation on the promotion of Menstrual Health in India.


Vidya Shah, at the Global Leader Connect on Seva Bhav panel conducted by Piramal Learning University.

Naghma Mulla Unveiled the ToolBox Survey Report 2020 at ToolBox Foundation’s Annual Conference, Out-Of-The-Box 2020.

Vidya Shah speaking at the IIT for IIT road show held in California’s San Francisco Bay Area.

Naghma Mulla on Asia Society India Centre Panel - ‘Reimagining Indian CSR’ series.

EdelGive partnered with Social Impact Lab (SIL) Northeastern University to grant funding to an NGO working in the Women Empowerment sector.

Aiswarya Ananthapadmanabhan at the UNESCO Panel on Engaging Men and Boys for Gender Equality.
**RESEARCH AND LEARNING**

EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List and Report 2019

In 2019, to understand philanthropic giving in the country from a data and an evidence point of view, EdelGive Foundation partnered with Hurun Research Institute to release the *EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List and Report 2019*.

The report is not only significant in showcasing the top 100 most generous individuals in India, but also throws light on the sectors and geographies of this giving. The report also showcased the most favoured thematic areas for funding, city-wise contributions and most generous women philanthropists.

With a contribution of ₹8.26 billion, Shiv Nadar retains the crown of ‘The Most Generous Indian’ Top 10 Philanthropists

With a contribution of ₹1.42 billion, Rohini Nilekani is the top woman philanthropist in the list; 6 women feature in the list

With a contribution of ₹4.53 billion, Azim Premji of Wipro occupies the 2nd place

**EDUCATION**

remains the most popular philanthropic cause, followed by Healthcare and Arts, Culture & Heritage

**DIGITAL MICROSITE - PHILANTHROPY FOR IMPACT IN INDIA**

Launched at our Annual Conference EDGE 2019, EdelGive Foundation’s website *Philanthropy for Impact in India* has been designed to be a compilation of the current landscape of trends, gaps and opportunities, best practices and recommendations around state development profiles. Each state’s detailed profile aims to serve as a ready reference to further conversations towards more informed funding decisions.

**PROJECT KRIYA**

Partnered with Final Mile to develop a study - *Project Kriya* - on the journey of a survivor of violence, back to her new normal.

**Salient features of this tool include:**

- Development landscape highlighting the strengths, gaps, investments, CSR spending, solutions etc.
- Best Practices from each state
- NGO presence and their work

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- Development landscape highlighting the strengths, gaps, investments, CSR spending, solutions etc.
- Best Practices from each state
- NGO presence and their work
EdelGive Foundation is committed to the goal of social transformation and development through meaningful partnerships and collaborations. We are honoured to be recognised and rewarded for our efforts.

“Knowledge is humility’s best friend. In the absence of humility, knowledge smells only of arrogance. EdelGive Foundation is built on top of the highest levels of humility, and hence, as a rule, it will be a learning organisation, always. All the knowledge that needs to be acquired already exists. All that one needs is to seek, pursue and assimilate it. EdelGive is best suited to always ace this process because it listens! Listening to learn can only happen to those who do not judge who is speaking. EdelGive gives the same level of respect irrespective of who is speaking - be it a representative of a small NGO, or the CEO of a large company. Lastly, thought leadership can come only to those who have the courage to speak the Truth, always! I have heard each team member of EdelGive speak only what they truly believe in, which on many occasions, is contrary to the popular discourse of the times.”

PRANIL NAIK
Founder,
LeapForWord
IN MEDIA

Naghma Mulla in conversation with Sir Dr. Huz (Huzaifa Khorakiwala), Executive Director, Wockhardt Foundation and Nidhi Kumar, on Menstrual Hygiene and Management showcased on Doordarshan.

Vidya Shah’s article “Is philanthropy really changing anything?” featured in India Development Review (IDR).

EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List and Report 2019 was featured across publications in India.
Vidya Shah alongside industry leaders such as Anand Mahindra, Ratan N Tata, Rohini Nilekani, Aditi and Rishad Premji, Nadir Godrej, and Hemendra Kothari as a key member of the India Climate Collaborative on ET Now.

Naghma Mulla on BBC World India Panel, BBC World News discussing the widening wealth gap across the world, and how philanthropy can play a role in reducing these gaps. Naghma was joined by Manav Subodh, Co-Founder, 1M1B and Ranu Bhogal, Director of Policy, Research & Campaigns, Oxfam India.

State Development Insights Report on Karnataka by EdelGive and Sattva, featured on ET Tech.

Business India’s Annual CSR Issue featured an article by Vidya Shah titled ‘Building Resilient Communities’.

Our Collaborators programme was featured in The Times of India for the work done in improving education systems in Gadchiroli schools.

Naghma Mulla on ET NOW Leaders of Tomorrow, Philanthropy masterclass alongside Shantanu Mishra, Co-founder, Smile Foundation, Pakzan Dastoor, Associate Director, Dasra and Dinkar Ayilavarapu, Partner, Bain & Company.

Vidya Shah discussed our programme ‘The Collaborators for Transforming Education’ with the Government of Maharashtra, at the Aksha platform of the Gates Foundation panel alongside Amitabh Kant, CEO NITI Aayog, Mr. Ashish Dhawan, Chairman, Central Square Foundation and Mr. Rodger Voorhies, President, BMGF. The session was moderated by Ms. Shereen Bhan, Managing Editor, CNBC-TV18.
In the Bhavnagar district of Gujarat, a 17-year-old was raped by her maternal uncle. The girl’s mother immediately approached the Nyay Samiti (community-based justice committee) of Samarthan Mahila Samiti (a community-led vigilante group) for advice to move forward with the issue. Nyay Samiti members met the mother and daughter and held multiple counselling sessions for them. They assisted the girl in filing the FIR at the nearest police station. The police were initially reluctant to lodge a complaint as it was against her own uncle. However, with interventions by paralegal and members of the Sangathan, the police finally agreed and arrested the accused.

However, the girl’s family constantly remained under pressure by her relatives to make a compromise and not drag the matter to court. However, with interventions by paralegal and members of the Sangathan, the police finally agreed and arrested the accused.

Evidence in the form of medical reports and testimony from the survivor led the decision in the victim’s favour. The Judge sentenced the perpetrator to pay a compensation of ₹400,000 to the survivor in instalments.

The cumbersome court procedures were a tough fight for the young survivor, as she had to appear at court nearly thrice. In the initial hearing, the proceeding was held in an open court with uncomfortable questions being addressed to her. The paralegal and the Sangathan Pramukh acted promptly and notified the Judge and the lawyer that the procedure does not fall in line with The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, after which the hearing was moved to a private room. The Nyay Samiti also initiated the process for victim compensation and arranged the required documents. As per the Central Victim Compensation Fund Scheme, 2019, the minimum compensation for a victim of rape is ₹300,000. If the victim is less than 14 years of age, the compensation increases by 50% over the amount specified above as per the scheme.

Evidence in the form of medical reports and testimony from the survivors led the decision in the victim’s favour. The Judge sentenced the perpetrator to pay a compensation of ₹400,000 to the survivor in instalments. The compensation amount received has been a positive development, compared to other recent cases in Bhavnagar where victims have seldom received the desired amount. This case has been recorded as a victory for Samarthan Mahila Samiti in supporting survivors of violence.

“We hope to challenge inequalities in the society by dismantling patriarchal mind-sets rooted in structures and institutions.”

The Nyay Samiti supported by Utthan relentlessly stood by the survivor and her family and helped her navigate through cumbersome legal redressal mechanisms and get her due.
2019 will always be remembered as a milestone in our journey of transformation. We feel grateful to have the unrelenting support of our NGO partners and funding organisations who believe in our work and us. As the year drew to a close, we were all left in a state of uncertainty, with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

India reported its first coronavirus positive case at the end of January with events quickly spiraling into chaos. The outbreak and spread of the lethal novel coronavirus led to the sudden closure of offices, educational institutions, businesses around the world. As time progressed, the number of cases started to rise exponentially across the country. In a highly populous country, which is home to around 1.3 billion people, the imposition of a complete nationwide lockdown to flatten the rising curve was perhaps the only plausible solution – unfortunately, a multitude of issues that affected all the sections of society. The health crisis snowballed into an economic one in no time. The announcement came as a shock to contractual labourers, daily wage migrant workers and their families who saw their worlds crumbling around them.
The Migrant Crisis

A little less than half of India’s population continues to be engaged in agricultural and allied activities. The other half is evenly distributed among the other two sectors – industry and services. Most of the labour force is a part of the informal sector, which is possibly the primary cause behind the broadening chasm between the haves and have-nots. The lockdown aggravated their already existing problems into unthinkable misery. It led to:

- Reverse interstate migration
- Lack of precautionary measures, on their journeys back home
- Negligible quarantine facilities for families in their villages
- State governments arranging for livelihood, education and health provisions for returning migrants

Three days post the announcement of the nationwide lockdown, one of the inter-state bus terminals of the National Capital Region was flooded with migrant labourers from Delhi and surrounding areas leading the situation into complete turmoil. With lost jobs and nowhere to go, the labourers and their families clutched hard onto their paltry belongings with the hope of getting a seat on one of the buses that could take them home.

Rising Cases of Violence Against Women

Just as we thought the worst was over, we witnessed a surge in domestic violence cases across India. What is strikingly similar about this occurrence is how it transcended the boundaries of class, caste and race. Unfortunately, these reported cases might be only a minuscule fraction of the bigger picture. In a situation, where grievance redressal mechanisms have entirely broken down, women cannot access safe spaces away from the violence being inflicted upon them. A rapid assessment conducted by partner organisation CORO India with over 14,200 households, brought to light the severe effect this violence was having specifically on the mental health of women.

- Women are confined in congested living places
- Agency to make decisions is limited
- Mobility has been severely restricted
- Household duties sanctioned by profoundly entrenched patriarchy and gender roles are adding to mental health instability

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has stated that violence against women remains a significant threat to global public health and women’s health during emergencies like these. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director, UN Women believes that every pandemic has a gender dimension, and hardships for women have increased multifold owing to the impact of the global response to the virus. At a time when the pandemic is raging, a sharp rise in domestic violence has been reported worldwide.
According to recent insights by the World Bank, this crisis is causing more than 1.6 billion children and youth of 161 countries to be out of school. The enforced closure of educational institutions worldwide is posing a severe challenge to the continuous learning and development of students. In India, this sudden halt can eventually become an impediment and undo all the milestones achieved by State-run schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan (SSA), currently known as Samagra Shiksha Abhiyaan, in terms of enrolment and learning outcome. The benefits of educational institutions resorting to online classes and dissemination of study materials cannot be uniformly availed by everyone owing to:

- Complexities in terms of class, caste, gender and economic status
- A high proportion of children enrolled in public schools lack fundamental skills of numbers and language
- Teachers and parents struggling to adapt to technological barriers

At the school, blackboards are immaculately clean while the desk and chairs are gathering dust. The school corridors and courtyards are hauntingly silent, longing for the daily hustle-bustle and the laughter of children. In the words of Alice Albright, CEO, Global Partnership for Education, “Out of the millions of young people out of school, many will probably not return because of the costs and family pressures on them to work. Girls will be the most severely affected.”
Our grassroot organisations came to the rescue

These are but a few problems which have exposed the shortcomings of our existing systems and institutions. However, what has emerged as a victory for India is the power of the grassroots and their ability to mobilise and create impact for the most vulnerable. Even with tremendous pressure of ground-level administrative challenges, our NGO partners were tirelessly working through the pandemic, innovating their programmes and adapting to the needs of the communities they serve.

The unsung heroes – Our frontline workers

Our NGO partners have proved the indomitable power of human spirit and courage, that has helped communities tremendously in these times of crisis. They have gone out of their way and thematic areas of work to jump into providing the communities with immediate relief. Be it the last-mile delivery of food and services, awareness building programmes, or health facilities; they have been instrumental in supporting the most vulnerable communities.

COVID-19 relief intiatives by our NGO partners

1. Awareness campaigns and orientation drives
2. Emergency Mazdoor Helpline and transport services
3. Seed distribution for the kharif season
4. Initiatives to help out women in distress
5. Direct cash transfers
6. Community kitchens distributing freshly cooked meals
7. Mask and sanitizer distribution
8. Market linkage for agricultural produce
9. Livelihoods restoration initiatives
10. Curbing the spread of misinformation through radio and flyers in public places
11. Food, ration and medicine collection and distribution
12. Distribution of PPE kits to frontline workers

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“EdelGive started supporting AALI back in 2016, and it has been four years of our enriching, collaborative and an equal partnership. Our relationship is not limited to funding but is a shared pursuit to address an issue we collectively care about—Women’s Human Right and access to justice. During the COVID-19 crisis, EdelGive stepped up to communicate with AALI and understood our challenges. We sincerely appreciate their support in planning and re strategising our programmes for the year.”

RENU MISHRA
Executive Director, Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiatives (AALI)

WORK DONE BY OUR PARTNERS

Livelihood restoration under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) by Torpa Rural Development Society for Women (TRDSW), Jharkhand

Ration distribution by Yuva Rural Association (YRA) in Nagpur, Maharashtra

Mann Deshi Foundation’s community radio

South Orissa Voluntary Action (SOVA) established a relief station on the highway for migrant workers travelling back to their villages

Amphan relief work undertaken by Samaritan Help Mission (SHM) in West Bengal

Sanjog’s Homes for Hundreds campaign has helped build 366 homes across West Bengal

Basic HealthCare Services (BHS) AMRIT Clinics in Udaipur district of Rajasthan

Stitching of face masks by community members of Utthan
As a funder, our initial response was to ensure our NGO partners were coping with the situation with minimum disruptions to their programmes. COVID-19 has indeed thrown our partners into a tough spot, but it has also presented us with the opportunity to work together and find the most efficient solutions to the challenges at hand. Our NGOs are under tremendous pressure pertaining to ground level administrative challenges. As a result of this, the key beneficiaries of these organisations are also suffering. It is time for us to communicate well, readjust budgetary allocations and relax stringent timelines and support our organisations with not just monetary but also capacity building needs.

Influenced over ₹220 million in 16 weeks of the announcement of lockdown to further efforts of grassroots NGOs across India.

Common Charter for the Indian Donor and Philanthropic Community
To further our efforts of support to our organisations, Vidya Shah, Chairperson and CEO, EdelGive Foundation along with Rohini Nilekani, Philanthropist and Chairperson, Arghyam, Rishad Premji, Chairman, Wipro, Amitabh Behar, CEO, Oxfam India and Ford Foundation came together to become founding signatories to the Common Charter for the Indian Donor and Philanthropic Community. The dignitaries pledged to provide adequate support and strengthen their civil society partners by introducing flexibilities and undertaking measures in their grant-making and monitoring mechanisms.

Fighting the crisis together
While physically apart, the solidarity of the Edelweiss family and their innate desire to be compassionate for those around them has been an inspiration. Edelites across the country supported those in need in different ways:

- 359 Edelites raised an amount of ₹1.22 million in a span of a month so that immediate help could be disbursed to vulnerable communities
- 13 Management Committee members raised a sum of ₹378,000 towards COVID-19 relief initiatives
- In addition to this, Edelites are helping those in distress around them with food, face masks, sanitisers, blood donation drives and cash transfers

As governments, businesses, and civil society organisations continue to do their bit towards curbing the spread of COVID-19, each of us as individuals also have the power to effect change. Even though this pandemic is far from over, it has given us the opportunity to adapt the way in which we were functioning and given us the chance to embed resilience across our operations.

Committed over ₹100 million in the first quarter of FY21 towards its NGO partners.
“I am hopeful that with our support, our teachers and students will have every possible resource available to achieve their dreams.”

Dilip Tanolkar has been associated with Kaivalya Education Foundation (KEF) since they started work in Amravati district of Maharashtra. He first engaged with KEF when he was posted at Chikhaldara as a cluster resource member. He fondly reminisces his visit to Piramal School of Leadership in Bagar, Rajasthan. It was the year 2016, and he experienced KEF’s culture and belief in behaviour change reflecting in their teaching-learning innovations first hand. He realised the immense value of such a collaboration and the sea of change it could bring about in the lives of the teachers and children of Chikhaldhara.

With full support from KEF’s team, Dilip has been successful in facilitating classroom activities and resources to create learning outcomes-based lesson plans. Last year, however, he was transferred to Amravati district. Today, while fulfilling his duties as a Cluster Resource Coordinator (CRC), he is simultaneously performing the role of a Block Resource Coordinator (BRC) as the position was not covered. In his capacity as the BRC, he was handed over the responsibility to conduct training sessions with 134 teachers from four clusters. Additionally, there was a dearth of resources and learning materials for coaching. In this situation, the workshop for building coaching capabilities by KEF helped everyone including Dilip.

Moreover, the Virtual Field Support (VFS) team conducted virtual assessments for children in order to map their skills. They also provided educational resources to the teachers and were available to resolve any possible individual queries. Most importantly, the KEF team supported him in restructuring the Shikshan Parishads and converted it as an academic platform for sharing educational experiences. As a result, they have become agenda-based and more consistent with the sessions.

Virtual Learning Materials (VLM) and Teaching Learning Materials (TLM) are accessible to the teachers in the classroom. All these changes have culminated in improving overall work efficiency and the cluster’s teachers are proactively using new teaching methods. They also listen to stories on Interactive Voice Response platforms and share them among students and their colleagues.

KEF’s support has enabled Dilip in instilling a new rigour and facilitating improvement of the quality of learning in Amravati district.
OUR Team
Together we hope...
Deepak Mittal
CEO, Credit, Edelweiss Group

Before taking over as CEO of Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance, Deepak, for over a decade, was playing a key role in scaling up the Capital Markets business for Edelweiss.

Deepak has been the ‘point person’ for many new Edelweiss initiatives, including playing a key role in starting and scaling the Treasury business and starting the Wholesale Credit business. During his stint as the Chief Financial Officer of Edelweiss Group between 2007 and 2009, Edelweiss Financial Services had a successful IPO and also entered the retail financial services sector, through the strategic acquisition of Anagram Stock Broking. He was also instrumental in shaping up the joint venture with Tokio Marine of Japan for entering the life insurance business.

A Chemical Engineer from IT-BHU and an MBA from Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, Deepak is passionate about developing talent. He is a voracious reader and an avid traveller.

Vidya Shah
Chairperson and CEO, EdelGive Foundation

Vidya Shah is the Chairperson and CEO of EdelGive Foundation. Over the last decade, she has steered the growth of Edelweiss’ social investments to develop EdelGive Foundation into a strategic philanthropic organisation.

Having witnessed the potential of small to mid-sized, high calibre NGOs in addressing India’s development concerns, Vidya has channelled EdelGive’s structure of giving to include both financial and non-financial support to this special cohort of organisations. She has developed a unique model for EdelGive’s investees which places them at the centre of grant-making, not only providing initial grants to these organisations, but also managing funding from other institutional and corporate partners, via a zero-cost platform. Through this approach, over the last 12 years, EdelGive has been instrumental in growing over 150 organisations, scaling their budgets, impact and reach exponentially.

In addition to being a Non-executive Director at Edelweiss, Vidya also serves on the board of various prominent CSOs such as Agastya International Foundation, Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy, Centre for Social Impact and Philanthropy at Ashoka University, Mann Deshi Foundation and the Indian School of Public Policy.

She has been recognised as India’s Top 100 Women in Finance by Association of International Wealth Management of India (AIWMI) 2019.

Vidya earned an MBA degree from IIM-Ahmedabad and spent the first 11 years of her career in the field of investment banking with companies like ICICI, Peregrine and NM Rothschild.
Rati Forbes
Director, Forbes Marshall Group

Rati Forbes is Director of the Forbes Marshall Group and heads the Forbes Foundation. She has been recognised for her social initiatives both within the company and in the wider world. She chaired Confederation of Indian Industry’s western region cell for social development, whose main objective is to sensitise corporate entities to their social responsibilities. She also serves on the boards of several foundations and non-profits across India. Rati graduated in Psychology with Honors and Sociology from the University of Mumbai and has also taken special courses in human resources, organisational behaviour and strategic philanthropy. Rati also holds a Masters in Sustainability Management and Leadership from Cambridge University.

Naghma Mulla
COO, EdelGive Foundation

Naghma is the Chief Operating Officer (COO) and member of the Board of Directors at EdelGive Foundation. Over the last nine years, she has enabled growth and scale for the organisations the Foundation supports and fostered strategic partnerships within the philanthropic network. She has also developed and nurtured two large collaboratives with diverse stakeholders, that are working with some of the most vulnerable communities to support education for children and economic and social empowerment of women. Naghma is a Chartered Accountant from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and has a Master of Commerce (M. Com.) degree from Pune University.

Kunal Shroff
Managing Partner, Chrys Capital

Kunal has been with Chrys Capital since November 1999 and is the Managing Partner at the firm. He manages the organisation, leads the client relations function and also plays a critical role across all sectors, overseeing and assisting the various sector teams. Kunal was previously at Chilton Investment Company where he covered technology stocks, and at Goldman Sachs in their principal investment area in New York where he focussed on private equity and mezzanine investments. He received his BS in Computer Science with magna cum laude honors from Cornell University.
Hope is a lighthouse in my heart - to find my way back into a just world.

Paramita Ghosh
Senior Portfolio Manager - Education

Hope for an equal space and equal opportunities for the voiceless and the marginalised.

Ankita Luharia
Senior Portfolio Manager - Women Empowerment

Hope for justice - for one and all.

Ahmad Bari
Senior Portfolio Manager - Women Empowerment

Hope is my lifeline for a beautiful tomorrow.

Vijayata Verma
Portfolio Manager - Livelihoods

...is a trust within - we shall together overcome this.

Atul Gandhi
Head - Investment

Hope for a society where every individual will get treated with dignity and respect irrespective of class, caste, religion, race and sex.

Arpita Roy Karmakar
Portfolio Manager - Education

Atul comes with over 14 years of experience in the development sector. He currently leads the Investment, and Monitoring & Evaluation portfolio at EdelGive. He has supported several organisations in conducting baselines, mid-term or endline evaluations and designed computerised MIS application for organisations like Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Pathfinder International, TISS on programmes supported by USAID, BMGF, and The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.

Ankita focusses on developing the overall strategy for the portfolio, as well as managing strategic alliances with different stakeholders to take our vision forward. Prior to this, she was associated with ActionAid International and has also worked on issues related to women and child rights in the state of Rajasthan.

Ahmad actively works on developing partnerships with NGOs working towards the safety and security of women, and promoting women entrepreneurship opportunities. Ahmad previously worked with New Concept Information Systems, New Delhi, where his role involved conducting research and documenting various social development issues.

Paramita has previously worked with CCDT, Muktangan and Kotak Education Foundation.

Arpita advises the investees on organisation strategies and works towards streamlining the Monitoring & Evaluation processes for them. She is also an active member of the team managing ‘The Collaborators for Transforming Education’ initiative and ensures that implementation of the programme aligns with the objectives of the Government of Maharashtra.

Vijayata is responsible for the strategic development and management of the Livelihoods portfolio. Her role envisages scoping of new NGOs with strong community connect, conducting due diligence to enable grant making, grant management and providing support to partner organisations for their overall development. She has previously worked with Action for Ability Development and Inclusion (AADI).
Aiswarya Ananthapadmanabhan
Senior Manager - Partnerships

Hope is the fuel that helps me to plough through in a landscape of adversity and pessimism.

Aiswarya is responsible for building value in EdelGive’s partnership with its funding partners. A former journalist, having extensive experience in programme monitoring and impact reporting, Aiswarya oversees donor engagement at EdelGive, crafting and communicating stories of impact to funders through conversations and communiques.

Neha Chaturvedi
Senior Manager - Partnerships

Hope reminds me to be courageous and to strive for the best in every aspect of life.

At EdelGive, Neha is responsible for designing, monitoring and implementing partnerships projects as well as maintaining key donor relationships. A Social Worker with almost 10 years of experience in HR and CSR, she was associated with ACG Cares Foundation in the past.

K Meiyun C Seleyi
Associate - Partnerships

To have Hope means to believe miracles can happen.

Meiyun is a part of the Partnerships team working extensively on donor relationship management, business development and servicing. She also manages the technological aspect that tracks correlations between the funding partners and the social sector. As an intern with the State Council of Science, Technology & Environment, Govt. of Meghalaya, Meiyun engaged in extensive research and documentation of livelihood, rural development and natural resource management projects.

Lakshana Asthana
Associate - Partnerships

Hope that we soon reach a day where the unheard voices are recognised in the mainstream without the social, cultural and political barriers.

Lakshana assists the Partnerships team in business development, data management and extensive secondary research. A graduate from TISS, Mumbai, Lakshana was involved with iCBR, TANDA and Centre for Dalit Rights, and was one of the youngest researchers to be published internationally from the institute.

Tanvi Deshmukh
Trainee

Hope for a better, equitable and sustainable future for humanity.

Tanvi assists the team with fundraising, conducting research while also maintaining the knowledge repository and facilitating field visit initiatives. Prior to EdelGive, she worked at Pathfinder International, Watertown and Ropes & Gray LLP, Boston.

Mahima Verma
Assistant Manager - Partnerships

Hope provides a profound sense of purpose, peace and perspective.

At EdelGive Foundation, Mahima’s primary responsibilities include servicing, reporting and maintaining effective relationship with our funding partners. An architect by training, with a repertoire spanning across diversified domains of real estate industry from development of the built form to designing and managing strategic business initiatives impacting the change in evolving communities.
MONITORING & EVALUATION

Renuka J Wagh
Senior Manager

Hope is my inner tool which helps me in chasing my dreams.

Renuka designs, develops and ensures effective functioning of the M&E systems to generate evidence for strategic decisions by EdelGive. She comes with over 12 years of experience in the development sector and has worked with both funding and implementing organisations.

FINANCE & COMPLIANCE

Sandhya Rao
Lead - Finance & Compliance

Hope I for a world that values the power of helping others.

Sandhya comes with 18 years of experience in corporate and development sectors in the areas of finance, accounting and audit. She looks into the Finance and Compliance matters of the Foundation. She has earlier worked with accounting firms viz. RSM&Co, Pricewaterhouse Coopers and Ernst & Young.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Varun Aamooru
Associate

My Hope is to live in a society where even the least privileged have access to education.

Varun’s responsibility is to drive activities that help in strengthening capacity of NGOs, optimise their impact and make them sustainable. He has previously interned with Edelweiss and ABB where he performed analyses and generated insights from different types of employee related data.

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

Ruchika Chaudhary
Junior Associate

I choose Hope over fear.

Ruchika assists the Monitoring and Evaluation Team with the collection, interpretation and reporting of numbers. She also designs, analyses and develops structural systems that help in making better business decisions for the Foundation. She has previously interned with NIIT before joining EdelGive.

Kushal Doshi
Associate - Finance & Compliance

Hope is the light inside our hearts.

A Chartered Accountant by profession, Kushal is responsible for the maintenance of regulatory compliance control to ensure all necessary governance requirements are met. In addition to this, he maintains cash flow and MIS of the Foundation. Prior to this, he worked as an Assistant Manager with EduPristine, a Premier Finance Training Provider.

Priya Beck
Junior Associate - Employee Engagement

Hope is placing trust in the Creator for a better tomorrow.

Priya plays a vital role in driving the volunteering activities under the Employee Engagement vertical. In her previous role at RPG Foundation, she was responsible for teaching functional English to the children in BMC schools. Prior to that, she worked with Bright Future, where she trained underprivileged youth with employability skills.
Dipesh Tank  
Senior Manager - Communications

**Hope** means liberty and freedom; a state of mind which can bring in pragmatic change.

Dipesh has been active in the social development sector since the past 14 years. Prior to Edelweiss, he was associated with organisations like Sitel India, Cartwheel Creative and Radio Mirchi. Previously, he worked with an organisation that helped the government solve complex problems like human trafficking. There, he was heading special projects and was responsible for the raid, rescue and rehabilitation of trafficked girls.

Kerban Billimoria Rajdeo  
Lead - Communications

**Hope** for a world free from judgement and one which celebrates individualistic thought.

Kerban leads the internal and external communications at EdelGive. She has over eight years of experience in the field of strategic communications, stakeholder engagement and public policy. Prior to this, she was a consultant at APCO Worldwide, where she worked closely with large foundations and national NGOs in helping them plan their engagements with stakeholders across governments, civil society and the media.

Tannishtha Mazumdar  
Junior Associate - Communications

**Hope** enables me to see the bright light that dispels the darkness around me.

Tannishtha assists the Communications team in planning and implementing both external and internal communications, in line with EdelGive’s goals. A graduate from Lady Shri Ram College, she has previously interned with Procter and Gamble, Women Development Corporation, Government of Bihar and Child Rights and You-CRY Kolkata.

Shreya Kumar  
Associate - Communications

**Hope**, for me, is a bearer of immense possibilities and bigger dreams.

Shreya is responsible for creating, developing and effectively implementing communication, content and media related efforts, both internally and externally, to consistently articulate EdelGive’s mission in developing meaningful connections across the online space. She has previously worked in the capacity of a Senior Programme Manager and Senior Communications Manager at Impact Guru, a leading crowdfunding platform in India.

Archana Shetty  
Manager - Communications

The only basis on which growth in any realm is possible is set on **Hope**.

Archana has over nine years of experience in the Hospitality, Education and Organic Farming areas. She has previously worked as a Communications Manager at Vidyashilp group of institutions in Bengaluru.

Prajakta Phadtare  
Administrative Assistant

One **Hope** can change the world.

Prajakta works with internal teams to handle vendor co-ordination, travel and ticketing, event curation and file management, as well as day to day administrative and logistical support. She has over four years of experience in delivering administrative support in well-known organisations like Securities and Exchange Board Of India, National Stock Exchange and CDSL Ventures Limited.
“Only in the darkness you can see the stars.”

-Martin Luther King Jr.