Newsletter (January-April 2025)

Dear Friends of India Health Fund,

Persons employing pesticides, extremely cash patients, poor air quality, strained health systems, and increasingly overloading among the most at-risk global communities, are increasingly heavy expenses. And due to the increasing frequency and a worrying pace of the threat posed by remedial diseases - like vector-borne diseases - that are neglected, localized, and innovative health solutions to tackle such threats.

The health consequences of our changing climate are no longer future projections - they are today's emergencies.

Our response must keep pace.

This quarter a Indian health Fund aim at about building lasting on these threats. In this issue, our Moving the Needle section brings you highlight on our portfolio—plus a new initiative in Bhubaneswar's Khurdi Bazar, to prevent Cancer and Health Vulnerability Index, is improving Alzheimer's, etc. Our Latest Funding Calls section highlights our latest grant opportunities, including a call for proposals on Research Innovation Engagement Tool that tracks impacts in COVID-19 agenda, partner TB Control Learning Network Health-care-related antibiotic-used pandemic-specific results.

This quarter also marked IHF's participation in some of the most pivotal conversations on health innovation and climate resilience. From the Commonwealth Secretariat—across delivered Indian ISRHCM Annual Conference, India Health Innovation Summit, the Kalgoorlie Health Summit, the Indo-Swiss AMR Innovation Dialogue, and more.

Finally, with new funding radio launched for TB innovation and climate health solutions, and new partnerships in the pipeline for available, non-invasive impact, we're committed to supporting Indian's large diseases that can shift the needle on health equity and systems—not just India, but across the region.

Read on for the latest from India Health Fund, the things we published, and the conversations we sparked.

With gratitude,
The India Health Fund team

Moving the Needle

New and Notable Progress on our Strategic Portfolio

IHF Announces Funding for AI Tool to Tackle Climate-Driven Health Risks

IHF has awarded a new grant to Khurdi Bazar in develop and deploy a Climate and Health Vulnerability Index (CHVI) to map and monitor health risks linked to heat, air pollution, and vector-borne disease. This initiative will integrate climate data, environmental exposure, and vulnerability indicators, to provide actionable, disease-specific, climate-sensitive health insights. Key focus areas in Bhubaneswar include vector-borne diseases, pollution, heat, and other climate-sensitive conditions. Implementation will leverage the Bhubaneswar Health Data Exchange (BHDE) platform, a collaborative effort between Khurdi Bazar and the Indian Institute of Public Health-Bhubaneswar, in partnership with the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation and the CSIR's Regional Medical Research Centre. It will collect data on mosquito species, disease patterns, climate, population density, and socio-economic factors over the next two breeding seasons. The data, along with existing health records and environmental exposure, will generate dynamic, disease-specific risk maps and predictive models. The goal is to provide actionable, disease-specific climate-related health insights to local decision-makers, enabling more targeted and timely interventions. Read more.

Healing's Breakthrough Blood Test for Drug-Resistant TB Heads to CDSCO for Approval

Healing's breakthrough blood test for TB drug-resistance, the Pillbox Test, is now a step closer to market, advancing from a promising lab breakthrough to a medical-grade TB test. The test, developed by Healing and validated in collaboration with Johns Hopkins researchers, combines high-resolution genomics, machine learning, and multiplexed amplicon sequencing to detect drug-resistant tuberculosis, even in patients who have stopped treatment. The company is now submitting its training application to the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), a milestone that signals both what's ahead and how far we've travelled since launch in late. Read more.

TrueNeed Card Passes Biosafety Test, Heads for Multi-centre Validation

IHF-funding Jivan Innovations Foundation's innovation, the TrueNeed Card—a novel device for safer storage and transportation of sputum for DNA extraction for MeCover TB test—has passed biosafety testing at Bangalore's Institute of Bioscience and Technology, Bangalore. Initial pilot results underscore the potential for greater rigorous multi-center validation. Read more...

Latest Funding Calls

RESEARCH TOOL FOR STRATEGIC DECISION MAKING
Research Innovation Engagement Tool
Research Innovation Engagement Tool
Research Innovation Engagement Tool