

Newsletter (May-July 2025)

Dear friends of India Health Fund,

This quarter, India Health Fund (IHF) continued to advance its mission of enabling science-led, scalable solutions for public health challenges across India and beyond. From announcing backing for an affordable, decentralized TB diagnostic, to initiating AI-powered vector-borne disease surveillance in Bhubaneswar, to deepening regional partnerships, our efforts were focused on bridging the gap between innovation and impact.

We joined hands with the Asian Development Bank to scale climate-responsive innovation-driven health systems across Asia, while field pilots of promising tools like Quantiplus®, Swaasa, and Moskeet gained momentum. At high-impact forums, we championed cross-sectoral partnerships and advanced the conversation on TB, climate-health adaptation, public health financing and more.

Read on for the latest from IHF, the partnerships we nurtured, the blogs we published, and the conversations we sparked.

With gratitude,
The India Health Fund Team

Moving the Needle

New and Notable from our Innovations Portfolio

IHF backs affordable, decentralized TB testing innovation

This quarter, IHF announced its support for a promising new TB diagnostic by partnering with Huwel Lifesciences to conduct field feasibility studies of their innovation at 10 Central TB Division-approved sites. The innovation, **Quantiplus®** is a rapid, affordable, and open-system test, compatible with RT-PCR solutions, that delivers accurate TB diagnosis within 40 minutes. Estimated to be priced at <\$2 per test, Quantiplus® offers simplified workflows and high-throughput capacity, with the capacity to scale to 900 tests daily, allowing district-level facilities to diagnose more effectively and respond more swiftly. This will help to reduce TB diagnostic delays and improve case detection – both of which are critical to slashing the burden of TB. [Read more on Democratizing TB Diagnosis with Extraction-Free RT-PCR Technology: Quantiplus® - Indian Health Fund](#)

Swaasa, an AI-based app that detects TB from cough signatures, shows promise as a screening tool

The data collection for **Swaasa**, developed by Salcit Technologies, was completed with nearly 6000 samples collected from across clinical and community sites in AIIMS Delhi, AIIMS Bhubaneswar, AIIMS Gorakhpur and JIPMER Pondicherry. Preliminary data analysis has shown that Swaasa demonstrates ~80% sensitivity and ~65% specificity, an acceptable rating for a screening and triaging tool for presumptive TB cases, particularly when used alongside other assessments or diagnostic steps. Notably, the tool showed high sensitivity for ages 6-14, a critical win in the difficult landscape of paediatric TB diagnosis.

AI-Powered Vector-Borne Disease Surveillance takes off in Bhubaneswar

Supported by IHF, TraktiNow initiated pilot field operations of **Moskeet** in Bhubaneswar in collaboration with ICMR-Regional Medical Research Centre. As part of the study, Moskeet will collect data on mosquito species, disease patterns, climate, population density, and socio-economic factors over the next two breeding seasons, and evaluate the accuracy of the tool in real-life conditions compared to lab conditions and existing manual methods. Additional deployment opportunities are now being explored in Hyderabad and Navi Mumbai.

Events Corner



Inclusive, Sustainable, Prosperous and Resilient (INSPIRE) Health Systems in Asia and the Pacific Health Forum 2025 held in Manila, Philippines [July 2025], where IHF formalized its partnership with the Asian Development Bank to leverage complementary strengths in connecting regional financing and health systems strengthening with local innovation. Also at the forum, IHF joined two high-level panels related to Financing Climate-Resilient and Sustainable Healthcare Systems in Asia, highlighting the need for cross-sector partnerships and innovative financing models to accelerate the shift toward greener, more resilient healthcare infrastructure across Asia.

Consultation meeting on TB diagnostics in Delhi [July 2025] organized by the Indian Council for Medical Research and the Gates Foundation where Aishwarya Aiyar, Senior Associate - Portfolio participated. The meeting explored strategies to enhance diagnostic access and quality, focusing on alignment with WHO prequalification processes and global regulatory bodies.



Keystone conference on Climate change and Infectious Disease Threats [June 2025] where IHF joined the funder panel on Funding opportunities and challenges for climate change and infectious disease threats alongside Bayer Foundation, Science for Africa Foundation and the Wellcome Trust.

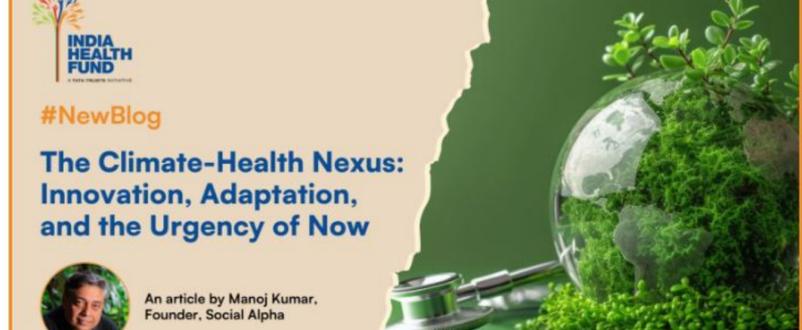


Panel on 'Climate and Health in the Indo-Pacific: Resilience, Resources, and Risks', hosted by Observer Research Foundation in partnership with Agence Française de Développement (AFD) under the Sustainable Finance in the Indo-Pacific Development Network (SUFIP DN) initiative [June 2025], where IHF joined the discussion on how we can mobilize investments towards climate-resilient, inclusive, and sustainable health systems, which is a priority for the Indo-Pacific region facing mounting climate and public health challenges.



Pitch Darbar Session at Startup Conclave 2025, Mumbai [May 2025] organized by the Venture Center, where Devanshi Patel, Manager – Strategy, Partnerships & Impact at IHF, served as a jury member, evaluating pitches from promising startups across domains such as healthcare, biotechnology and social innovation.

Blogs Round-Up from the Quarter



Climate change is no longer a future threat—it’s a present crisis, worsening health inequalities and driving a 68% rise in heat-related deaths among vulnerable groups. It’s also fuelling climate anxiety, especially among youth. In this blog, Social Alpha founder Manoj Kumar explored how climate volatility is disrupting disease ecology and why we need an innovation-driven ecosystem to anticipate, adapt, and protect both present and future generations. [Read more](#)