

Dear Reader,

Transforming public health isn't just about discovering breakthrough innovations, it's about ensuring they reach the people who need them most. At India Health Fund (IHF), we believe it is powered by sustained collaboration between innovators, researchers, governments, healthcare providers and partners to turn promising ideas into solutions that strengthen health systems and improve lives.

This quarter at India Health Fund (IHF), we have seen that collective effort translate into meaningful progress. From advancing AI-powered TB screening and strengthening climate-health preparedness to enabling affordable diagnostics for vector-borne diseases, our portfolio continues to demonstrate what is possible when innovation is backed by evidence and collaboration. In this edition, we share key milestones from our innovation portfolio, thought leadership on building resilient health systems, and highlights from our stakeholder engagements.

We hope these stories reflect not only the progress made this quarter but also the growing momentum towards a healthier, more resilient future for all.

With regards,
India Health Fund

Press & Announcement

IHF-Supported Ameliorate Biotech's First-of-its-Kind Indigenous Multi-Diagnostic Test Receives CDSCO Manufacturing Approval

Dengue, chikungunya, and malaria are an escalating public health threat, with climate change expanding transmission and overlapping symptoms complicating timely diagnosis. Supported by IHF for an open label, multicentric, performance and cost-effectiveness evaluation of ASSURED, developed by Ameliorate Biotech Pvt. Ltd, this rapid antigen based diagnostic kit enables accurate, affordable, and simultaneous detection of dengue, chikungunya and malaria (with *Plasmodium vivax* and *falciparum* differentiation), helping improve access to diagnosis and care.

This quarter, ASSURED - the first-of-its-kind 'Made in India' test received approval for manufacturing and marketing from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO). This milestone paves the way for large-scale manufacturing and broader deployment, bringing timely, accurate diagnosis closer to the people who need it most.



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Innovation in Focus

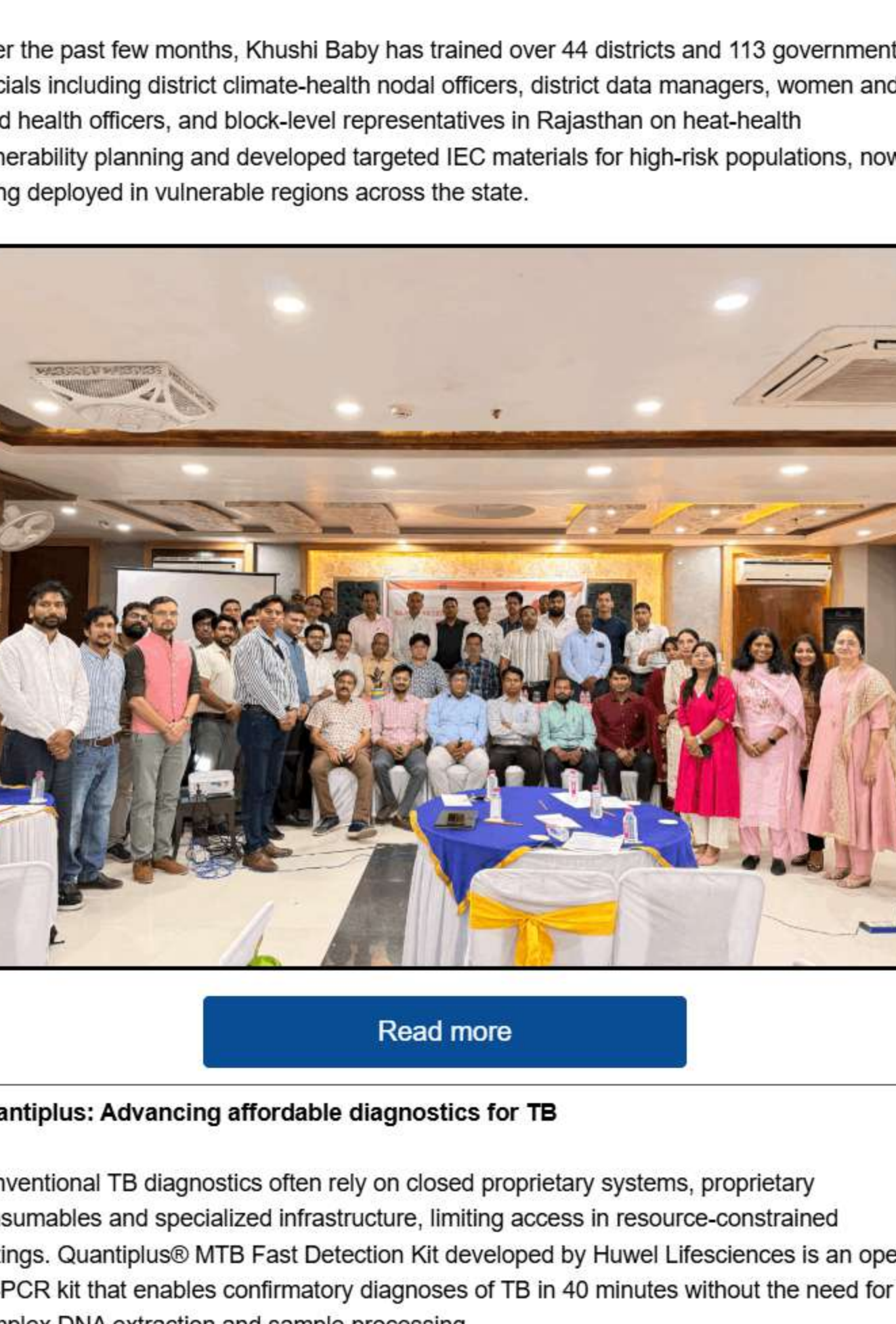
Swaasa® - an AI-led platform that uses cough recordings to screen for TB has been recognized as the winner in the AP MedTech Innovation Challenge

Traditional active case finding (ACF) methods for TB face several challenges such as reliance on low accuracy, subjective symptom reporting and manual processes resulting in missed cases and high resource expenditure. Addressing this, SalcIt Technologies developed Swaasa® - an AI-led platform that records cough sounds from patients using a phone's microphone and analyses them to detect the possible presence of pulmonary TB and other lung conditions using a proprietary AI algorithm, enabling large-scale community screening.

IHF (along with ACT for Health), supported a multi-site technical validation study of Swaasa®. This quarter, Swaasa® has been recognized as the winner in the AI-Powered Diagnostics category at the AP MedTech Innovation Challenge. Through the challenge, launched by the Department of Health, Medical Education and Family Welfare, Government of Andhra Pradesh, in partnership with the Ratan Tata Innovation Hub and the Andhra Pradesh Innovation Society, Swaasa® enabled the community level screening of close to 8000 individuals from high burden and vulnerable communities in Rajamundry district of Andhra Pradesh, demonstrating the potential of AI-powered respiratory health screening at community level.

WINNERS!!!

Team SalcIt Technologies

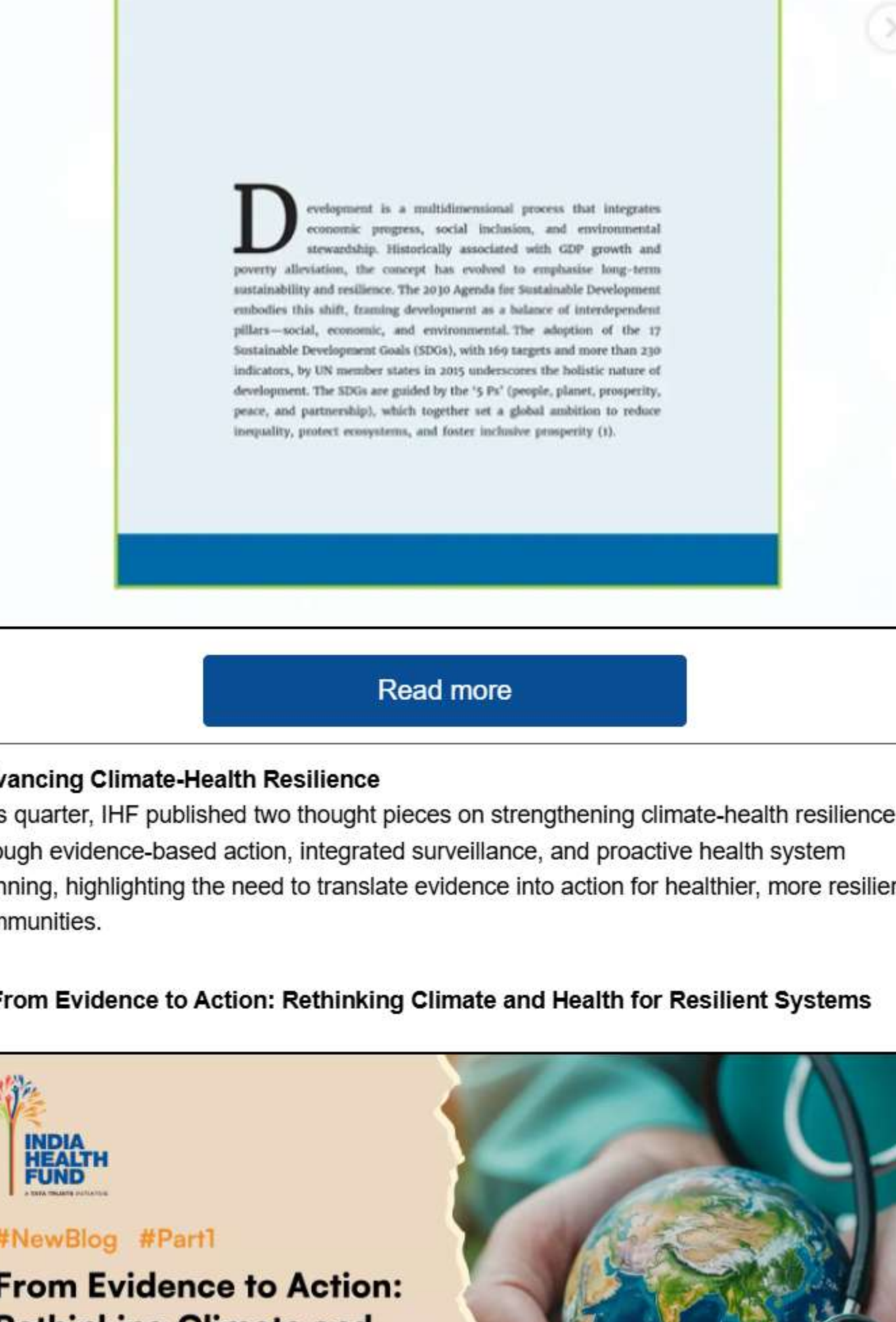


[Read more](#)

Climate Health Vulnerability Index: Strengthening district preparedness

As climate and health challenges become increasingly interconnected, data-driven preparedness is more important than ever. The Climate Health Vulnerability Index (CHVI), an AI-based decision support framework developed by Khushi Baby enables health systems to identify risks early and respond effectively. Supported by IHF in developing CHVI, this quarter we are delighted to announce that Khushi Baby in partnership with the State Program on Climate Change and Human Health and the National Health Mission, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt of Rajasthan will be implementing the Heat-Health Vulnerability Index (HHVI) across the state of Rajasthan.

Over the past few months, Khushi Baby has trained over 44 districts and 113 government officials including district climate-health nodal officers, district data managers, women and child health officers, and block-level representatives in Rajasthan on heat-health vulnerability planning and developed targeted IEC materials for high-risk populations, now being deployed in vulnerable regions across the state.



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Quantipius: Advancing affordable diagnostics for TB

Conventional TB diagnostics often rely on closed proprietary systems, proprietary consumables and specialized infrastructure, limiting access in resource-constrained settings. Quantipius® MTB Fast Detection Kit developed by Huwel Lifesciences is an open RT-PCR kit that enables confirmatory diagnoses of TB in 40 minutes without the need for complex DNA extraction and sample processing.

Supported by IHF for its field feasibility study across ten Central TB Division (CTD)-approved sites, to generate operational and real-world evidence, recently a Health Technology Assessment (HTA) study was conducted through ICMR-DHR. Based on the HTA a policy brief was published wherein the findings outlined pathways for potential adoption of open RT-PCR-based testing approaches to improve access to molecular diagnostics, ultimately generating cost savings through the utilisation of existing RT-PCR infrastructure and lower-cost testing platforms.

[Read more](#)

Building Smarter Dengue Surveillance with AI

As climate change and urbanization increase the risk of vector-borne diseases, proactive vector surveillance is becoming critical for effective public health response. Under the lighthouse fund initiative to support solutions addressing the challenge of impact of climate change on human health, IHF along with AVPN and Bayer Foundation have supported William J Clinton Foundation (WJCF) and ARTIPARK (IISC, Bangalore) to create a sustainable, institutionalized, climate-resilient urban health model that will transform India's dengue response through predictive, data-driven, and community-embedded surveillance systems. SHIELD (Surveillance and Health Intelligence for Equitable Local Dengue Response) is a public health initiative that integrates AI-led dengue forecasting, digital surveillance, and community-based response systems into government workflows to enable proactive, data-driven, and equitable control of vector-borne diseases.

This quarter, the initiative advanced in its core forecasting and surveillance systems as predictive models have been validated using recent outbreak data, automated data pipelines are operational, and integrated risk dashboards are being developed to support localized decision-making. Capacity-building efforts have also commenced, alongside the strengthening of field implementation systems for ward-level deployment.

[Read more](#)

Publications and Blogs

Philanthropy for Sustainable Financing

This quarter, our team contributed a thought piece titled 'The Role of Philanthropy in Sustainable Financing for Development' in Observer Research Foundation's latest publication, 'No Country for Aid Alone: Strategic Partnerships for Development Finance,' exploring philanthropy's catalytic and systemic role in sustainable development finance.



[Read more](#)

Advancing Climate-Health Resilience

This quarter, IHF published two thought pieces on strengthening climate-health resilience through evidence-based action, integrated surveillance, and proactive health system planning, highlighting the need to translate evidence into action for healthier, more resilient communities.

1. From Evidence to Action: Rethinking Climate and Health for Resilient Systems



#NewBlog #Part1

From Evidence to Action: Rethinking Climate and Health for Resilient Systems

Author



Archita Chaudhary
Senior Manager, Portfolio at IHF



2. Connecting the Dots: Heat, Disease, and the Future of Climate-Health Action



#NewBlog #Part2

Connecting the Dots: Heat, Disease, and the Future of Climate-Health Action

Author



Archita Chaudhary
Senior Manager, Portfolio at IHF



Webinar: Innovative Technologies for Vector Control and Surveillance

This quarter, IHF in partnership with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) hosted a webinar on 'Innovative Technologies for Vector Control and Surveillance'. The webinar convened technical experts and innovators to explore emerging innovations, financing pathways, and collaborative approaches to strengthen vector surveillance and accelerate the adoption of scalable solutions across Asia and the Pacific.



Amarendra Singh	James Kelley	Bhikre NG	Gurinder Parmar	Satish Chavakumalli	Aakash Dey
Senior Social Sector Specialist, ADB	Technical Officer, World Health Organization	Health Specialist, ADB	Director - Strategy, Performance, and Finance, India Health Fund	Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Tanshin	General Manager, Williams J. Clinton Foundation
Masakazu Yamaguchi	Ben Green	Kamran Karunamithi	Chiquet de Vries	Madhav Joshi	
Chief Executive Officer, SOSIA Technology	Executive Director Technology, Innovation, World Mosquito Programme	Director, Regulatory Affairs, SC Johnson	Consultant, ADB	Chief Executive Officer, India Health Fund	

Stakeholder Engagement Initiatives

Building a stronger community for Breast Health in India: This quarter, IHF was glad to participate in the launch of the Breast Health Community of Practice (CoP) in New Delhi recently. The session brought together experts from across the country for thoughtful discussions, diverse perspectives, and a shared commitment to advancing breast health in India. Representing IHF, Dr. Saurabh Mantani, Manager – Portfolio, joined the gathering and reflected on the importance of creating a platform for continued learning, collaboration, mentorship, and collective action.



Future of International Development Architecture in a Post-Aid World: This quarter, at the Hyderabad Policy Conclave: The Indian Era, Saurabh Mantani, Manager – Portfolio, IHF, joined the ORFXTISS Panel on the Future of International Development Architecture in a Post-Aid World. At the event, Dr. Saurabh shared perspectives on the evolving role of philanthropy and the private sector at a time when Official Development Assistance (ODA) is shrinking globally and emphasised about catalytic role of philanthropy in de-risking innovations, focusing on national priorities hence closing the courage gap.



In The News

This quarter, IHF-supported innovation Moskeet: an AI-led, IoT powered trap that identifies disease-carrying species in real time, was featured across Tata Trusts' social channels:

THEN CAME MOSKEET.
A SMART TRAP THAT PICKS UP MY TRACKS EXACTLY WHERE WE'RE CONGREGATING, AND SENDS IT TO HEALTH AUTHORITIES IN REAL TIME.

This quarter, IHF wrote an insightful article in The Hindu Business Line, titled **Stalling the silent spread of TB cases** that explores the evolving narrative of India's tuberculosis response

[Read more](#)

As we move further into 2026, India Health Fund will continue to build on this strong momentum - deepening its focus on identifying, supporting, and scaling innovations that can meaningfully strengthen public health systems. Through catalytic support, strategic collaborations, and a commitment to evidence-driven approaches, we remain focused on building a more resilient, inclusive, and future-ready public health ecosystem.