



The Asia Foundation supports India's development, economic growth, and its engagement in regional and global affairs. The Foundation works with civil society organizations (CSOs), government agencies, and the private sector to support inclusive economic growth, women's empowerment, environmental resilience, and international cooperation.

Project Highlights

Expanding employment opportunities for women

Reduced the digital skill gap for 70 women through a 300-hour skill training program, after which 46 women secured employment.

Preventing trafficking and expanding opportunities

Supported the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) grassroots study and identified 6,426 children at risk of labor and human trafficking in Jharkhand of which 442 children were linked to government welfare schemes.

Informing policies to optimize services for trafficking victims

Partnered with CSOs and law enforcement in 5 states on a coordinated approach and framework to identifying victims of Gender-Based Violence and Trafficking in Persons. Developed a checklist now adopted by the Madhya Pradesh Police Training Academy as a training tool for screening of victims.

Improving Covid-19 awareness

Reached 597,220 individuals from rural and semi urban areas in three states and 1,593,671 people through social media to boost understanding of Covid-19 vaccines and built the capacity of 1,100 frontline health workers on Covid-19 response.

2022 Snapshot



Linked 442 children vulnerable to trafficking to government welfare services



Leadership training for 3,991 adolescent girls



597,220 people across 715 villages in three states received critical Covid-19 support and information



Flagship Initiatives



Addressing the skill gap for women and girls

Limited access to resources, including digital skills, impedes women's work options. Supported by Venturi Partners, we collaborated with CSOs to provide women from economically and socially vulnerable households with government-certified training for white-collar jobs.

Expanding women's role in regional trade

We support women's participation in regional trade and economic cooperation through research-driven policy advocacy. Our efforts aim to enhance investments to benefit women entrepreneurs in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, and Nepal. The India office continues to anchor multi-country engagements to propel gender-responsive trade investments in the region.

Transboundary Water Governance

The Foundation works with academic institutes and policy experts to promote a holistic water governance and hydro-diplomacy approach. The Foundation collaborates with three central universities to design and deliver a course at the postgraduate and PhD level that equips students with a multidisciplinary approach to water governance.

Fostering partnerships in the region and beyond

Supported by USAID and Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, The Foundation's Triangular Development Partnership (TriDeP) program fosters a joint pursuit for a free and open Indo-Pacific region and bolster India's development cooperation engagement in the region.

Feminist Approaches to Foreign Policy

The Foundation works with partners to nurture a homegrown and unique narrative for India's approach to a gender-responsive foreign policy. In partnership with the Kubernein Initiative, the Foundation published a compendium of essays unpacking how gender considerations have been crucial in India's foreign policy over the years and to identify opportunities for India to expand on these gains.

Future of work

The gig economy's rapid growth, amplified by Covid-19, led us to partner with Sattva Consulting on a study to understand the gig ecosystem's policy landscape. This study offers recommendations for a more inclusive and responsive approach to workers' needs.

Creating community climate resilience

In support of the Bihar Roadmap on Disaster Risk Reduction, the Foundation supports Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group to provide technical assistance to the state government's "Resilient Village Program." This project aims to mainstream community-led eco-based agricultural practices and trained 115 male and 124 female farmers in Bihar to address climate degradation, loss of livelihood, and sustainable use of natural resources.

The Asia Foundation is a nonprofit international development organization committed to improving lives and expanding opportunities across Asia and the Pacific. Informed by decades of experience and deep local expertise, our work across the region is focused on good governance, women's empowerment and gender equality, inclusive economic growth, environment and climate action, and regional and international relations.