



September 2025

NEWSLETTER

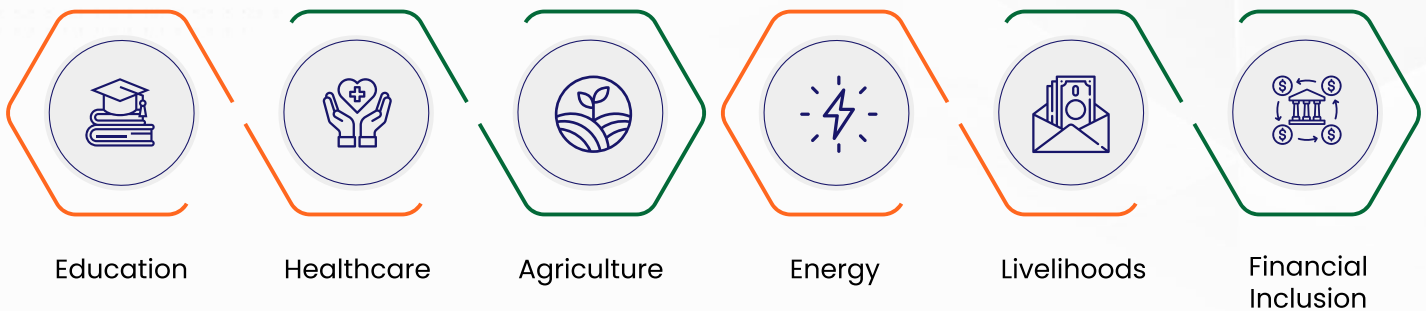
Celebrating the launch of AgriCohort 2.0
and the startups transforming
the future of Indian agriculture.



AFI's Mission

Action for India's mission is to help high-potential social entrepreneurs overcome barriers to scale and achieve greater impact. We connect social entrepreneurs with impact investors, mentors, technology resources, government contacts, and other ecosystem partners.

AFI mirrors the United Nations' philosophy that sustainable human development happens by enhancing human abilities and creating conditions for growth. In line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, our focus areas are:



We are excited to introduce new initiatives aimed at accelerating your success:



AFI Update

We are thrilled to share the latest strides of Action for India's Agri Cohort! Our journey continues with the onboarding of innovative social impact startups that are revolutionizing India's agricultural landscape. These changemakers are leveraging technology, sustainability, and grassroots solutions to empower farmers and enhance rural livelihoods.

Program Update

Agri Cohort 2.0

- In september, we onboarded 16 promising AgriTech startups for our Agri Cohort 2.0
- These startups were chosen for their innovative approaches to precision agriculture and automation.
- The cohort includes ventures that optimize crop yields, enhance farm efficiency, and reduce resource wastage.
- This initiative underscores our commitment to addressing India's most pressing agricultural challenges and enhancing farmer welfare.
- Through our network of mentors, investors, and technology partners, these entrepreneurs gain critical resources and guidance to scale their impact.

AI+Impact Cohort

- Action For India is gearing up to launch the upcoming AI + Impact Cohort, designed to support founders building transformative, tech-driven solutions for India.
- The cohort will primarily focus on agriculture, healthcare, and climate, enabling startups working in these high-impact sectors to accelerate their growth.
- Top startups will receive an exclusive opportunity to visit the Silicon Valley and attend the World Economic Forum in Davos, gaining global exposure and strategic connections.



Agri Cohort 2.0

AFI AGRI COHORT 2.0 LAUNCHED



EMPOWERING 16 AGRITECH STARTUPS

Next 4–5 Months at AFI Agri Cohort 2.0

- **1:1 Mentorship:** Personalized guidance from experienced mentors
- **Huddle Sessions:** Collaborative peer learning and problem-solving
- **Learning Community Sessions:** Strategic insights from experts and peers
- **Knowledge-Building Sessions:** Enhancing skills & scaling innovations

- AFI Agri Cohort 2.0 kicked off with an inspiring gathering of founders, mentors, and industry leaders.
- The launch created a strong foundation for the months of learning and collaboration ahead.
- A key highlight was the keynote by Srinath Ravichandran, Co-founder & CEO of AgniKul Cosmos.
- His insights on innovation-led progress deeply resonated with the cohort.
- With this powerful start, the cohort is ready to accelerate impactful AgriTech solutions for India's farming communities.



Agri Cohort 2.0 – Top 15 Selected Startups



Nikky Kumar Jha
Saptkrishi



Ashish S
eVerse.AI



Anshuman Upadhyay
Pravidhaan FPCL



VITTAL
Agrivitals Innovation



Kiranbhai makwana
Agri nitro



Dr. Seema Singh
DOSTBin



Arshdeep Swani
Circolo



Tehn Chai Yang
Yin N Yang Farms



Shruti Mehata
BharatGodam



Dr Ramesh Chandra Biswal
Villa Mart



Amit Chavan
AVN Agrobharat



Arkaprava Das
Essential Aquatech



Premangi K
Oceanus Exports



Naresh M
Agribotic systems



Vinay Kumar Yadav
Visron



AGRI COHORT JURY MEMBERS



Prashant Mandke

CEO-(SURE)
Sakhi Unique Resource Enterprise



Emmanuel Murray

Investment Director
Caspian



Rajiv Sharma

Founder CEO
AgVysor Innovations



Aishwarya Malhi

Co-founder
Rebalance



Apoorv Sharma

Co- Founder
Excluto



Hemendra Mathur

Co founder ThinkAg & Venture
Partner Bharat Innovation Fundn



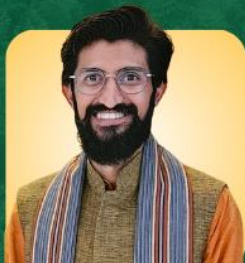
Vijay Nadiminti

CEO & Director -
AgHubvations



Shobhit Sharma

Head of Branding &
Marketing RuralShores



Rituraj Sharma

Founder & CEO
Zetta Farms



Abhishek Gupta

IIHMR Startups
Partnership & Investor Relation



Abhyudaya Goyal

CEO - IIM Udaipur
Incubation Centre



Bhanu Prasad

Coach, Impact Innovation
& Entrepreneurship

- A heartfelt thank you to all our esteemed jury members for their invaluable time, expertise, and commitment to the Agri-Cohort 2.0 selection process.
- Your thoughtful evaluation, deep sector understanding, and rigorous reviews helped us identify the top 16 high-potential agritech startups from a competitive pool of applicants.
- Your contribution has played a pivotal role in shaping this cohort and strengthening AFI's mission to support impactful agritech innovation across India.
- We deeply appreciate your guidance and the spirit of collaboration you brought to this journey.



Mentors Corner

- Our long-term mentors — Prashant Mankhe, Shobhit Sharma, Hemendra Mathur, and Emanuel Murray — share their reflections on this year's AgriCohort.
- They highlight how AFI's structured support, market access, and ecosystem curation are accelerating the growth of early-stage agritech founders.
- Each mentor emphasizes AFI's role in bridging grassroots challenges with scalable innovation, creating real on-ground impact.
- Their insights underline the steady progress of the cohort, the quality of founders, and the strength of AFI's mission-driven approach.
- Together, their perspectives reinforce how AFI is shaping the future of agritech entrepreneurship through deep engagement and sustained mentorship.

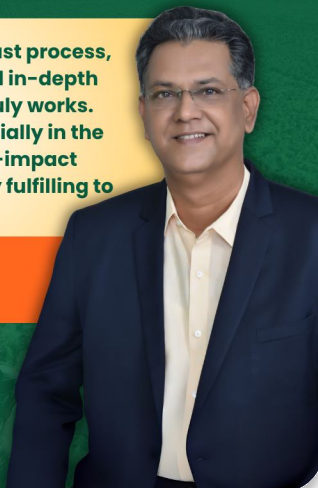
AFI Mentor



AFI has developed a very robust process, both in startup selection and in-depth mentoring. The structure truly works. The startups selected, especially in the AgriTech Cohort, are high-impact ventures, and it's been deeply fulfilling to support them.

Prashant Mankhe

CEO-(SURE)
Sakhi Unique Resource Enterprise



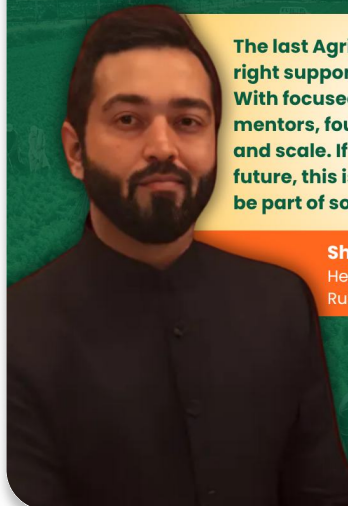
AFI Mentor



The last Agri Cohort proved how powerful the right support can be for AgriTech startups. With focused huddle sessions and top-tier mentors, founders accelerated both impact and scale. If you're building for Bharat's rural future, this is your moment. Apply now and be part of something transformative

Shobhit Sharma

Head Brand & Marketing
RuralShores Integrated Business



AFI Mentor



It's been a great experience working with AFI and interacting with passionate founders, supporting promising ideas, and watching many startups evolve into growth-stage companies.

Hemendra Mathur

Co founder - ThinkAg & Venture
Partner - Bharat Innovation Fund



AFI Mentor



The selection and mentoring process at AFI is thoughtfully curated. The Huddle sessions offer focused, one-on-one conversations with mentors from across the ecosystem, creating a deeply engaging and personalized experience for every founder.

Emmanuel Murray

Investment Director Caspian



Alumni Achievement



Manjari Sharma
Founder / Chief Didi at Farm Didi

D2C pickle brand FarmDidi raises Rs 7 Cr led by Samved Ventures



Vimal Panjwani
Founder & CEO at AgriVijay

AgriVijay has raised INR 2.47 Cr across Pre-Seed & Seed Rounds

Farm Didi

- Founded by Manjari Sharma, Farm Didi empowers rural women through clean-label, home-style food products.
- Featured on Shark Tank India, gaining national visibility and credibility.
- Recently raised ₹7 crore in a seed round led by Samved Ventures with participation from LetsVenture, Indigram Labs and IIM-C Innovation Park.
- Funding will help expand from 2,000 to 5,000+ Didis, strengthening its rural livelihood mission.

Agri Vijay

- Led by Vimal Panchwani, Agri Vijay is India's first renewable-energy marketplace for farmers.
- Helps farmers adopt affordable, climate-friendly energy solutions to boost income and sustainability.
- Has raised ₹2.47 crore across pre-seed and seed rounds from IRMA, Indigram Labs and other notable investors.
- Capital will accelerate expansion into more rural communities, enabling energy-independent agriculture.



Relevant Tools, Articles, and Books



Books

1. The Blue Sweater: Bridging the Gap Between Rich and Poor in an Interconnected World by Jacqueline Novogratz — [Amazon link](#)



Articles

1. Agri-tech's role in fueling rural entrepreneurship" — [Read here](#)
2. How ag-tech is poised to transform India into a farming powerhouse" (McKinsey & Company) — [Read here](#)



Tools

1. **Plantix**: AI-powered crop diagnosis app — [Official site](#)
2. **Agremo**: AI-drone & satellite imagery agronomy analytics platform — [Official site](#)



Upcoming Cohort

Building Impact with AI? Your Global Stage Awaits!



Silicon Valley Trek USA



Davos Summit Switzerland



Join the Action For India

AI + IMPACT Cohort

And stand a chance to win a trip to:

- **Silicon Valley Trek USA** — meet investors, innovators & ecosystem partners.
- **Davos Summit, Switzerland** — attend the World Economic Forum week and connect with global leaders.



APPLY NOW



- A high-impact program designed for startups building at the intersection of AI and social impact.
- Offers deep mentorship, ecosystem access, and strategic guidance from experts across technology and impact sectors.
- Top startups will earn an exclusive learning and networking visit to Silicon Valley, engaging with global innovators and investors.
- Selected founders will also get the rare opportunity to attend the World Economic Forum's Davos Summit in Switzerland, gaining global visibility.
- A unique platform for founders aiming to scale tech-driven solutions that address India's most pressing challenges.



Feedback and Engagement:

Your Voice Matters

Your feedback is invaluable to us as we strive to deliver content that is relevant and valuable to you. We invite you to share your success stories, suggestions for future topics, and any resources or opportunities you believe would benefit the community. Please fill in the form [here](#) to provide us your valuable feedback and suggestions. Together, we can continue to build a vibrant community of change-makers and innovators.

Thank you for being a part of the Action for India family. Here's to celebrating your achievements and driving impactful change together!

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Action For India



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