



Fueling the growth of India's Social Enterprises

Action For India

In alignment with UN Sustainable Development Goals, we focus on Education, Healthcare, Agriculture, Energy, Livelihoods and Financial Inclusion.

Vision and Purpose

Inspired by the success of Indian entrepreneurs in the Silicon Valley, California, Action For India (AFI) was launched in 2012 and has supported **1000+ early-stage social entrepreneurs**, enabling them to develop and scale solutions to big problems in sectors such as livelihoods, disaster management, women empowerment, climate change, thereby enabling impact for millions of Indians.

AFI enables conditions for social entrepreneurs to succeed through an ecosystem approach that connects them with impact investors, mentors, technology resources, government and local partners who invest in and nurture social entrepreneurs.

Over the next 5 years, AFI aims to nurture and help scale 25 impact unicorns to transform the lives of millions of people.

Problem

Despite India's significant progress in improving the lives of its people, the scale of the problems that remain is huge.

For example:

- 235 million Indians live below the poverty line.
- India bears 60 percent of the global infant and maternal mortality burden.
- 50% of India's fifth graders can't read a second-grade text.
- Small farmers account for 86% of farmers in India but are economically impoverished.

Solution

AFI was founded with the belief that high potential social entrepreneurs can provide innovative, **out of the box solutions for endemic problems by leveraging market-based, tech-savvy approaches to sectors like education, healthcare, agriculture, livelihood, fintech, and cleantech.**

AFI provides social entrepreneurs with what they need most

Funding

Access to capital via our relationships with foundations, impact investment funds and angel investors.

Mentorship

Benefit from the diverse experience of our best-in-class mentors working across industries globally.

Technology and Resources.

Maximize potential through high-impact technology support from Silicon Valley experts and access to an expert Indian diaspora network.

The inspiring journey of Shashank Kumar and DeHaat



Shashank Kumar is from a rural farming background in Bihar and worked in a consulting firm after graduating from IIT-Delhi. After three years of consulting, he co-founded [DeHaat](#), where he is currently the CEO.

Shashank attended AFI's Annual Forum in 2016 in Delhi and was selected as a top 5 social entrepreneur for its Silicon Valley Challenge which he says has been one of the defining moments of his entrepreneurial journey:

- ✓ *In the Valley, Shashank met with valuable new contacts, including Google executives and Stanford professors.*
- ✓ *Within a few years, he received initial funding from Omnivore, an agritech venture capital fund, and within a year of that, he raised \$10 million from Sequoia India.*
- ✓ *In his last funding round, he received over \$ 115 million, the largest venture funding ever received by any agritech entrepreneur in India.*

IMPACT: [DeHaat](#) serves 1.8 million+ farmers in India, including marginal farmers from states like Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh, and is revolutionizing India's agricultural sector.

Prominent AFI supporters



Kanwal Rekhi
Entrepreneur & Investor
Co-founder of TiE



Ram Shriram
Founding Board Member, Google



John Podesta
Former White House Chief of
Staff

AFI Sponsors



AFI Partners



Why your support matters

AFI is seeking to broaden its base of support in the United States this year for many reasons. One is that in order to renew its status as a public charity, it needs to increase the number of donations under \$5,000 that it receives each year from individuals, companies, and private foundations.

(Donations of any amount from public charities count towards our goal, even if they are greater than \$5,000.) Getting this status renewed now will likely result in millions of additional dollars of revenue in the years to come, especially since AFI is planning to ramp up its U.S. fundraising activities.

Will you join us [by making a contribution](#) to help AFI create a transformative impact for millions of Indians in education, healthcare, agriculture and other crucial sectors?

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