Our Impact
2017–2020
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The idea behind Co-Impact’s support for our work is to imagine new and just and fair systems, not to scale up the broken ones that we have now. And I think that we are in a real moment of opportunity. I think that the pandemic is forcing lots of governments and others in power to say that this is a time to rebuild differently and to reimagine differently and to rethink differently.

Maryana Iskander – Chief Executive Officer, Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator Co-Impact Program Partner
Letter from our Founder and CEO

We launched Co-Impact in 2017, based on the conviction that philanthropy has the potential to do more – and do better.

Through evidence and experience, we knew that most philanthropy is focused on short-term projects, not systems, and on organizations often far removed from the people they seek to serve. We knew that locally-rooted social change leaders across the Global South have proven ideas that require larger, longer-term, more flexible funding and support to deliver their vision for lasting change. And we believed that only by putting equity and inclusion at the heart of our work could we ensure that our approach and model for collaborative philanthropy delivers transformative, equitable, and lasting change.

Given the bold vision we set out to achieve, we are delighted to be where we are today and deeply grateful to the partners who are working with us to realize this vision. Over the last three years we have brought together more than 40 funders from 16 different countries, raising US $500 million dollars to date. We have been able to provide significant funding across 12 outstanding initiatives, with many more to come.

It has been an inspiring journey so far. The lessons we are learning inform our work, and at every stage we ask ourselves questions to strengthen our approach. What does it mean to be a supportive funder? How do we ensure that our partners are supported to deliver sustainable change? What does it mean to bring an intersectional lens to our work?

Our experiences to date have only strengthened our conviction that a focus on transforming systems is as critical as ever. COVID-19 and recent global events have further exposed systemic weaknesses and the deep inequalities that are inherent in every system and every country worldwide. We are committed to harnessing what we know and learning to build back better, ensuring equity and inclusion are at the forefront of everything we do.

This year marks an exciting new phase, as we bring together partners to support a second fund to promote women’s leadership and gender transformative systems change at scale. This new fund represents an evolution of our work, and we look forward to welcoming new partners as we continue on this journey.

None of what we do would be possible without so many of you: our core partners and wider funding community, who have shared this vision; our friends and colleagues, whose work inspires us and strengthens our thinking; and our program partners, whose strategic acumen, creativity, and hard work transforms systems and fosters inclusion so that millions of people can thrive.

Olivia Leland
Founder and CEO
Launched in 2017, Co-Impact is a global philanthropic collaborative for large-scale systems change.

Our vision is a world where just and equitable systems work for everyone.

We work towards this vision by bringing funders together to support locally-rooted coalitions working to transform health, education, and economic systems for millions of people across the Global South.

The two main goals of our work are:
1. Sourcing and supporting initiatives poised to deliver systemic change for millions of people;
2. Bringing together philanthropists to pool resources for large-scale change, while inspiring more funding of this nature.

We believe that effective systems change requires a resolute focus on equity – and needs to explicitly address discrimination on the basis of gender, race, caste, ethnicity, class, and other markers of exclusion. That is why we support all our partners to advance equity and inclusion across their work.

**Our Values**

- **Outcomes-Focused**
  - We focus on meaningful and lasting impact for millions of people. We provide program partners (the organizations leading systems change work) the space and flexibility they need to achieve results.

- **Program Partner- and Community-Centered**
  - We support our program partners to exercise leadership and become stronger institutions, in the pursuit of achieving lasting outcomes for people in the communities they serve.

- **Beginner’s Mind**
  - We challenge our assumptions and frameworks. We seek to continually learn and adapt.

- **Unity in Diversity**
  - Our work is stronger when informed by different perspectives.

- **Trusting Partnerships**
  - We actively seek to build and sustain relationships of trust with and among all of our partners.
Our Progress in Numbers

12 initiatives working towards deep systemic change across the Global South

40+ funders from more than 16 countries

9M+ people expected to benefit through first round of systems change grants

$10-15 leveraged for every dollar we invest*

$17M+ raised for our Program Partners in additional COVID-19 related funding

$500M raised to date, across two funds

*from governments and multilaterals, monetary, and in-kind
Our Approach to Supporting Systemic Change

Co-Impact’s goal is to strengthen health, education, and economic systems to produce inclusive and improved outcomes for millions of women, men, girls, and boys.

Our approach builds on the work of many others, draws from evidence and our own experience, and continues to evolve as we learn from partners and practice. Core tenets of our approach:

- Support program partners to be the architects and drivers of the change they seek
- Focus on lasting impact at scale for millions of women, men, girls, and boys in the Global South
- Provide large, long-term, flexible grants to transform underlying systems
- Support locally-rooted coalitions to work with governments and/or market systems to drive evidence-informed change
- Address power relations, voice and agency, and place gender equality and inclusion at the core of work
We believe that working with Co-Impact will bring about a generational shift that’s necessary. We believe they are the right partner for this work. Working in collaboration with other donors is one of the best ways we can achieve systemic change while learning together. There is a lot of work ahead, and it’s not going to be easy. But I know, in the long run, society will be better for all of our girls and boys.

Melinda Gates – Co-Chair, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Co-Impact Core Partner
Placing Gender and Inclusion at the Heart of Systems Change

Structural inequalities and gender-based discrimination are pervasive in our societies and baked into our systems. Women and girls face deep-seated discrimination and entrenched barriers that prevent them from accessing opportunities and exercising leadership.

We envisage a world where all women, men, girls, and boys can reach their full potential irrespective of the circumstances of their birth. This can only be achieved if we address “gender systems” – the underlying norms, laws, practices, sanctions, and decision-making processes that lead to systematic barriers for women and girls.

We support all our partners to address gender inequality and power and privilege imbalances across their work – in the analysis of the problem, the design and implementation of the program, how success is defined and measured – and in the composition and participation of women and other excluded groups in leadership and in governance. As a result of this intentional focus on inclusive development, our partners are deepening their understanding of the role gender, race, and class biases play in all aspects of system design and this knowledge underpins the design of their solutions.

In our most recent round of grant-making we prioritized sourcing applications from initiatives that are rooted in the Global South, focused on equity, and led by women. First, we required 100% of selected initiatives to be anchored in the Global South, with decision-making and implementing power being centered in the country or countries targeted. Second, at least 50% of selected initiatives were to be substantially led by women, meaning that the initiative’s leader and at least 50% of senior leadership are women.

We received hundreds of compelling concept notes, demonstrating that when a funder consciously signals that Global South-rootedness, gender-inclusive design, and women in leadership matter, organizations respond.

601
number of concept notes received

74
number of countries from which concept notes were received

57
percentage of initiatives substantively women-led
At the beginning of 2020, we held an in-person workshop in South Africa for the six initiatives receiving design grants from Co-Impact. Having previously worked individually with each initiative, this was the first time we brought all initiatives together, so that partners had the opportunity to grapple with the complexity of systems change together, with guidance and support from our team. The result was an incredibly rich, informative week of mutual learning and support.

The way we approached the gender conversation started to get us to think beyond obvious measurement of gender issues in numbers. To start questioning yourself around things like how explicit you are around gender issues that affect young women and the extent to which they feel visible and that they matter, that they really are not at the periphery, they are at the center of whatever is being delivered within the work environment.

Grace Matlhape – CEO, SmartStart Co-Impact Program Partner

This opportunity is something that I’ve desired for so many years. I think, even when I went back to study I felt like that was what was lacking in my work, I was Director of Gender and Women’s Promotion but for me it made me question more what gender is, what gender equality is, because I wasn’t seeing it translating in the lived experiences of the people that we are meant to serve, especially the women.

Dr. Justine N. Uvuza – Senior Land and Gender Policy Adviser, Landesa Co-Impact Program Partner
Working with our Program Partners

The following principles underpin our engagement with our program partners:

1. **Active listening** – Our partners are the ones leading the work. We seek to listen more than we talk.

2. **Being outcomes-focused and flexible** – We support partners to focus on achieving long-term outcomes, and to adapt strategies and activities as needed.

3. **Being clear and transparent** – We seek to make our processes, expectations and requirements clear, transparent and predictable.

4. **Advocating for a more supportive funder role** – We advocate for funding to be longer-term, larger, and more flexible, and for donor requirements to be clear and less burdensome.

5. **Support organizational strengthening** – We invest in helping our partners to develop strategic coherence, strengthen core capabilities and be more inclusive.

Responding to COVID-19

We announced and awarded our first round of grants in 2019. Within less than a year, our partners found themselves compelled to carry out their systems change initiatives in the midst of a global pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic has added significant stress on public health, children’s education continues to be severely disrupted, and billions are facing financial insecurity. It has heightened gender and racial inequalities and brought the weaknesses of health and other public systems into sharp relief.

During times of crisis, we feel it is even more important that we live up to the principles set out here. We have worked with our partners to ensure they are able to respond and adapt to the crisis and address the immediate needs of the communities they work with, while still pursuing their long-term, systems change goals. COVID-19 has demonstrated to the world all the ways in which our systems are flawed.

It is crucial that funders look beyond short-term relief and, as an organization, we continue to advocate for the importance of scaling support for organizations doing the most impactful work on the ground to transform systems for the long term.
To support our partners and allow for funds to reach the initiatives below quickly and effectively, we launched the Co-Impact Systems Response Fund in March 2020 – offering a simple mechanism for funders seeking to support some of the critical work being done to respond to the pandemic and strengthen systems around the world. So far, we have supported our partners to raise an additional US $17 million for COVID-related work.

**Liberia:** Based on experience gained during the Ebola crisis, our program partner Last Mile Health and the coalition behind Liberia’s National Community Health Assistant Program (LNCHAP) have supported the Liberian government to rapidly expand healthcare teams to respond to COVID-19. They have done this by integrating a ‘prevent, detect, and respond’ protocol into existing community health workforces – mobilizing and equipping approximately 4,000 health workers. At the same time, the coalition remains deeply focused on building and sustaining a resilient health system that can respond to future shocks, while ensuring existing health services remain as uninterrupted as possible.

**India:** Project ECHO’s work in this crisis involves both responding to the immediate needs of the situation, while simultaneously advancing its long-term effort to strengthen India’s health system (and others around the world). Many new government and healthcare leaders and institutions, as well as some 400,000 frontline practitioners, have been introduced to ECHO for the first time – for which ECHO’s virtual, group-based training and mentoring model, led and informed by a global network of partners, is uniquely well suited. We were also delighted to see that Project ECHO received funding from the Audacious Project and was shortlisted for MacArthur Foundation’s 100&Change award.
The team’s thoughtful approach to systems change, a deep interest in collaboration and humility are, in my mind, their secret to success and replication. It has been a rich learning and social environment that has informed my own approach to philanthropy and community engagement.

Elizabeth Sheehan, Founder and President, Care 2 Communities
Co-Impact Funding Partner
Co-Impact was founded on the conviction that philanthropy has the potential to do more – and do better.

In 2017, a group of philanthropic leaders came together to support Co-Impact’s vision, prioritizing outcomes over individual or organizational recognition and relinquishing some degree of control – in exchange for deeper and more sustainable impact.

Pooling funding towards systems change initiatives can achieve greater impact because funders can share knowledge and expertise and make their resources go further.

To date, we have built a community of more than 40 funders from more than 16 countries with shared values and an aligned vision, including our Core Partners, Richard Chandler, The ELMA Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates, IKEA Foundation, Rohini and Nandan Nilekani, The Rockefeller Foundation, MacKenzie Scott, and Jeff Skoll. Together with our wider funding community, we have raised approximately US $500 million across two funds: our first fund focused on equitable systems change, and the second, which we are currently developing, focused on advancing gender equality and women’s leadership.

We continue to welcome new partners, particularly those interested in helping to develop and launch our new fund.

Encouraging more collaborative funding for large-scale impact has also been an important objective. Through more than 100 external engagements, we have advocated alongside others, helping to shape conversations around the future of philanthropy. At the same time, we continue to consult with experts, leaders, and movements in the broader sector, to help shape our own thinking and future work.

Our Handbook, first published in 2019, contains insights from two years of research and consultation that led to the formation of Co-Impact. It builds on the lessons of peer funders and independent experts, and reflects feedback from our first set of program partners and applicants on how we can improve our practice. We continue to update this periodically, and will publish a digital version in early 2021.

In January 2020, we jointly published a report together with Ashoka, Catalyst 2030, Echoing Green, The Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship, and The Skoll Foundation entitled: Embracing Complexity: Towards a shared understanding of funding systems change, which lays out some key shared principles for funding systemic change.
We are excited about Co-Impact because it’s what we think the future of philanthropy should look like. It’s collaborative, it’s outcomes driven, it’s focused on systems change, and it’s really trying to move the needle on root cause issues.

Sapphira Goradia – Executive Director, Vijay and Marie Goradia Foundation
Co-Impact Funding Partner
Our Current Program Partners

SYSTEMS CHANGE INITIATIVES
Graduation Approach:
• Partnership for Economic Inclusion
• Satat Jeevikoparjan Yojana (SJY) Program, Bihar, India
• Fundación Capital, Paraguay and Colombia
Liberia’s National Community Health Assistant Program
Project ECHO
Teaching at the Right Level Africa

DESIGN GRANT PHASE
CAP Youth Empowerment Institute
DG Murray Trust, Ilifa Labantwana, and other partners
Foundation for Ecological Security
Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator
Lend A Hand India
One Acre Fund and Landesa
The opportunity to come together with such inspiring social leaders, other partners supported by Co-Impact, really gives us a lot of motivation going back into the world. I think for us at One Acre Fund being such a farmer centric organization and so motivated by direct service, it’s a real gift to step back and think about how we could contribute to wider systems.

Eric Pohlman – Co-Founder, One Acre Fund
Co-Impact Program Partner
What we know is that deep, systemic change takes time. And yet, we are already seeing some significant early results from the first full year of support for our initial group of partners.
Graduation Approach – Pathways to Economic Inclusion

Around 10% of the world’s population (734 million people) live on less than US $1.90 per day. The COVID-19 crisis will push an estimated 180 million people into extreme poverty.

Graduation programs, a type of economic inclusion programming, have demonstrated very promising results in empowering the world’s poorest people to lift themselves out of poverty. Programs typically consist of a time-bound package of interventions for vulnerable households, including social assistance, financial inclusion, livelihoods, coaching, and empowerment. This package strengthens households’ earning abilities, resilience, and social inclusion. Graduation programs have been implemented in over 50 countries globally, but with a few exceptions, only at a small scale.

In recent years, there has been a growing momentum to strengthen inclusive and sustainable growth for all. Many governments are actively calling for international support to promote this agenda. This presents a huge opportunity for NGOs, researchers, policy-makers and others to bring together complementary expertise and resources, build on previous successes worldwide, and adapt for a next generation of government-led economic inclusion programs at scale. With a majority of programs targeting women, and long-standing experience in gender-sensitive program design and delivery, the Graduation approach also holds strong potential to promote women’s economic empowerment and advance gender equality.

Co-Impact is making three related investments to support these efforts.

Partnering for Economic Inclusion (PEI)

Housed at the World Bank, PEI is a global partnership supporting governments to develop economic inclusion programs that can sustainably increase the income and assets of extremely poor and vulnerable populations.

Through Co-Impact funding, PEI has invested in an initial ten countries in varied contexts, helping governments to embed economic inclusion of the poorest and most vulnerable into social protection programs – with enormous potential to deepen and expand beyond these investments. It has established a baseline for the sector through the State of Economic Inclusion Report 2021, which will help to track the evolution of programs in a dramatically evolving global landscape over the coming years. And with new tools such as its Data Portal, PEI is bringing together global learning, to inform ongoing debates and build on emerging best practices.
Program partners JEEViKA, Bandhan Konegar and JPAL South Asia are poised to transform public systems, enabling delivery of their graduation-type program – the SJY program – to reach unprecedented scale.

This initiative leverages the existing community structure of village and community organizations for graduation program delivery, led by the government-affiliated institution known locally as JEEViKA. As of 2019, more than 120,000 trained community professionals, i.e. grassroots women leaders from local communities, under the umbrella of JEEViKA, have been driving this program. Bandhan and J-PAL are providing technical and learning and research support, working closely with JEEViKA to design and adapt the SJY program such that it respects the core principles of graduation programming (including components, sequencing) while also integrating effectively into the agency’s systems and infrastructure.

Co-Impact’s investment will support this government-led adaptation and inclusion of graduation-type programming at scale, such that an estimated 100,000 households will move out of extreme poverty by 2024, with measurable improvements in income, assets, and savings. As one of the largest government scale-ups of graduation programming, JEEViKA’s SJY program can provide valuable nationally- and globally-relevant lessons on economic inclusion of the very poorest.

**Satat Jeevikoparjan Yojana (SJY) Program**

**Bihar, India**

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**KEY METRICS (YEAR ONE)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>70,284</strong></th>
<th>Households identified</th>
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<td><strong>Target: 35,000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>44%</strong></td>
<td>Households receiving project support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target: 25%</strong></td>
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Program partner Fundación Capital is working with governments in Paraguay and Colombia to pursue a rural-urban graduation strategy that will directly benefit tens of thousands, as well as generate lessons that can drive further programming in the region.

In Paraguay, Fundación Capital is supporting the Ministry of Social Development, with backing from the Ministry of Finance and the Presidency, to scale up a graduation approach through the redesign and integration of two important programs. These programs will improve the country’s social protection system and support families to build capacities, confidence, and resilience to overcome extreme poverty. Additionally, a collaboration with the research agency IDRC – to better understand the impact of graduation programs on intra-household gender dynamics, as well as improving program content to address gender equality issues, such as gender-based violence – will inform both the scale-up work in Paraguay and the global community of practice.

In Colombia, Fundación Capital is undertaking a pilot with government to explore the adaptability of the graduation approach to reach young people and urban communities. With Co-Impact’s support, an estimated 75,000 largely women headed households in rural areas of Paraguay will be empowered to move out of extreme poverty by 2024, as well as a group of 1,000 participants in Colombia.

**KEY METRICS (YEAR ONE)**

4,000*
Households participating in program
(Target: 10,000)  
*as of mid-year

141  
Government staff / fieldworkers trained  
(Target: 40)
By pooling our philanthropy with others through Co-Impact, we’re able to tackle bigger problems and make much more ambitious investments in their solutions. Being part of such a global initiative has accelerated our philanthropy and amplified its impact.

Robyn Calder Harawi – Executive Director, ELMA Philanthropies
Co-Impact Core Partner
Liberia’s National Community Health Assistant Program

Half of the world’s population lacks access to essential health services because they live too far from a health clinic. 8.9 million people die each year from preventable causes in rural areas.

Community Health Worker (CHW) programs have proven invaluable in expanding access to primary health services to rural and remote communities around the world. However, few examples of successful national CHW programs exist in low-income countries, as they are often a patchwork of volunteer-led programs rather than being administered under a unified national policy and accountability framework. Liberia’s National Community Health Assistant (CHA) Program is a collaborative effort led by the Ministry of Health, Last Mile Health (LMH), The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (The Global Fund) and others, who seek to scale a national CHW program based on the proven government model.

With the support of Co-Impact and others, Liberia’s National CHA Program aims to provide universal access to basic primary healthcare to all 1.2 million rural Liberians for the first time, significantly reduce under-five child mortality, and save thousands of lives annually from acute disease. Through its support of a partnership between Last Mile Health and The Global Fund, Co-Impact also aims to capture and share lessons for improving community health systems in remote areas in Africa and globally.

KEY METRICS (YEAR ONE)

3,831
Community Health Workers trained and deployed (extending lifesaving care to more than 778,000 people)

3.7 million+
Routine household visits conducted
Every year, many millions of people suffer and die from conditions that specialists around the world know how to prevent, manage, and cure. Unfortunately, much of this knowledge is trapped among a few experts in large cities. This is particularly tragic in contexts like India where its relatively large-scale and wide-spread health workforce could do much more if equipped with the right skills.

To help address this problem, Project ECHO has developed a model to effectively upskill health systems’ existing workforces. ECHO equips small teams of specialists at advanced medical centers with a set of simple technological tools and best-practice teaching methods to tele-mentor groups of remote, frontline healthcare providers.

Studies of ECHO have shown substantial increases in the competence and confidence of frontline providers, as well as patient outcomes that are on par with those in leading hospitals. ECHO’s group-based approach expands system capacity in a lasting way, by training groups of frontline clinicians to become experts themselves.

The ECHO model is being used across six continents. In India, ECHO has built a strong team that partners with the central Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, seven state governments, and 38 of the country’s leading medical institutions. Co-Impact’s support is helping the ECHO model to be adopted at about 100 leading medical institutions, and to have wider reach by developing the next generation of ECHO’s technology platform. This will provide tens of millions of patients with increased access to quality specialist care.

**Key Metrics (Year One)**

- **~2.5–7.5 million** Patients reached
  (Target: 100,000)

- **6,614** Health workers who are active participants
  (Target: 300)
Governments across Africa have made tremendous gains in promoting school enrollment, with most countries now enrolling primary school-age children at rates close to those in high-income countries. But data on learning outcomes highlights that enrolling children in school does not guarantee that they will learn, with 20-40%+ of children finishing primary school without even basic literacy or math skills.

Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL) is based on a simple, rigorously-evaluated pedagogy that allows teachers to accurately assess children’s reading and math skills and then group and teach them according to learning level rather than age or grade.

Following success in India and a well-established program in Zambia, the TaRL Africa team is working with the governments of Zambia, Côte d’Ivoire, and Nigeria to help them adapt and adopt the approach at scale, while also supporting several other partner organizations to spread the TaRL approach to additional countries and governments across the continent.

Co-Impact is investing in TaRL Africa’s five-year strategy to support governments and partners to promote TaRL programs across the continent. After five years, it is estimated that at least three million children will have improved reading and math skills; six countries will have active and impactful interventions; the TaRL approach will be embedded at scale in the government systems of at least two of these six countries, and 550 ‘leaders of practice’ will be supporting and growing TaRL.

**KEY METRICS (YEAR ONE)**

**373,000**
Children reached  
(Target: 250,000)

**12-51%**
Increase in students achieving at least foundational reading and arithmetic ability, depending on country  
(Target: 10%)
The purpose of the design grant is to afford program partners the time and space to build out their vision for systems change. We work closely with partners during this period and provide opportunities to bring partners together and share lessons across initiatives.

The design grant process is structured to be valuable in its own right, and not all design grant partners receive a systems change grant.

We will announce our next set of systems change grants in 2021.
We realize that systems by their very nature are not value neutral. They’re currently designed to exclude and marginalize. Therefore, unless the discrimination is challenged, strengthening systems will continue to reinforce that status quo. So, we are actively working to redesign policy, markets, technology, media, to address systemic barriers that stop women and Dalits from having equal voice and opportunity. Critically, and through Co-Impact, we are better appreciating that scaling without systems change interventions will not make a lasting change.

Jagdeesh Rao — Executive Director, Foundation for Ecological Security
Co-Impact Program Partner
CAP Youth Empowerment Initiative

CAP Youth Empowerment Initiative (CAP YEI) is working to embed a proven, demand-based approach to vocational training into government-run skilling centers.

This will enable CAP YEI build strong connections with employers and design short/pragmatic courses aligned with labor market needs and youth’s realities, while changing perceptions of the public towards vocational training.

The 5-year target is to achieve improved outcomes for 1.1 million youth. This will be achieved by transforming the public Vocational Training Center system to become high performing and market aligned, with at least 70% (vs. 40% today) of students that graduate landing a quality job or income earning opportunity, and drop-out rates reduced to 10% or less (vs. 36% today).

DG Murray Trust and Ilifa Labantwana

DG Murray Trust and Ilifa Labantwana are part of a coalition of funders, public and private implementers, businesses and academics committed to ensuring access to Early Childhood Development services in South Africa.

Over 5 years, the initiative’s goal is to contribute to access to quality Early Childhood Development services for every child in South Africa. With support from Co-Impact and others – and if a political opening and sufficient demand is generated – the initiative proposes to work with government to design and strengthen institutional structures to spearhead a comprehensive national system of supports for young children, including access to quality early learning programs, such as SmartStart, for 1 million additional children, among other elements.
The Foundation for Ecological Security’s (FES) Promise of Commons initiative focuses on the interconnected issues of environmental health and economic wellbeing in rural India. 350 million people in India depend on forest and pastures for their livelihoods, but they cannot own that land or control it or secure it, even though their livelihoods depend on it. FES supports communities who depend on forests and pastures to have agency, power, and protection. Their systems change strategy is to equip rural communities to organize themselves, access legal land rights, develop resource management and governance plans, and unlock public funds to improve ecological health and resilient livelihoods.

Over 5 years, this initiative will scale through partnerships with government and civil society organizations to help 38 million rural people (19 million women) have secure community rights on 30 million acres of commons land, for better ecological and economic outcomes.

Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator builds African solutions to tackle the global challenge of youth unemployment. It partners with governments, businesses, young people, and many others who are committed to delivering results that can work at scale.

Every year, a million young women and men exit South Africa’s schooling system and only one third find their way to employment or to further education, meaning that two thirds remain outside of any system of work or training or schooling.

Over 5 years this initiative will help create more than 1 million good-fit jobs and income-earning opportunities for disadvantaged youth in South Africa in the formal and informal economies; help youth better find and connect to these opportunities; and help reduce youth’s costs for job-seeking and retention, so that more than 1 million South African youth have seen a meaningful increase in their average monthly net income over an extended timeframe that is likely to endure.
Lend A Hand India

Lend A Hand India (LAHI) works in partnership with state governments, at the intersection of education and livelihood, to create employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for the aspiring youth.

Over 5 years, LAHI seeks to equip 1 million young people with real skills to earn a sustainable livelihood by 2025. LAHI’s core approach is to work in partnership with state governments to integrate skills education with existing school curricula between grades 9 and 12. It supplements this education with internship opportunities with local businesses during grades 11 and 12, to enable a more effective school-to-work transition.

One Acre Fund and Landesa

One Acre Fund is leading an initiative focused on driving impact at the individual, country, and systems infrastructure levels within the agriculture space in 3 countries in East Africa. The organization plans to expand its work via government and field-based partnerships, as well as through a massive farmer network to enhance three productivity factors – seeds, trees, and land – to increase agricultural income for smallholder farmers. With support from Landesa and other partners, the initiative will seek to amplify impact in addressing issues related to land security among smallholder farmers and their ability to economically benefit from land ownership across the countries of operation.

Over 5 years, the initiative will result in 3.9 million unique farmer families (~2.2 million women-led households) – encompassing more than 19 million family members – earning approximately US $654 million in cumulative new profits and assets for farmers over 2021-2025.
Co-Impact offers a collaborative platform you can genuinely trust to operate at scale and with excellence around delivering measurable results that improve the lives of millions.

Dr. Rajiv Shah – President, The Rockefeller Foundation
Co-Impact Core Partner
Our Core Partners

Richard Chandler
The ELMA Foundation
Bill and Melinda Gates
IKEA Foundation
Rohini and Nandan Nilekani
The Rockefeller Foundation
MacKenzie Scott
Jeff Skoll

We currently have eight Core Partners, who commit significantly into our grantmaking pool. We continue to look for additional partners, including to develop and launch a new fund focused on advancing gender equality and women’s leadership.
Our Team

Executive Office
Sara Hussein, Manager, Communications and External Affairs
Devon Jaffe-Urell, Executive Assistant
Olivia Leland, Founder and CEO
Geeta Rao Gupta, Senior Advisor

Operations
Gurgen Balasanyan, Finance and Operations Manager
Pam Foster, Chief Operating Officer
Titilope Ogunsola, Administrative Assistant
Theo Osei, Operations Associate

Philanthropy
Silvia Bastante de Unverhau, Chief Philanthropy Officer
Anna-Marie Harling, Director and Lead, Philanthropic Collaboration
Fabian Suwanprateep, Manager, Philanthropic Collaboration
Stefanie Verdorfer, Manager, Philanthropic Collaboration

Program
Kappie Farrington, Associate Director, Programs
Abe Grindle, Director, Programs
Nasra A. Ismail, Associate Director, Programs
Doris King, Associate Director, Programs
Varja Lipovsek, Director, Learning, Measurement and Evaluation
Helen Liu, Manager, Programs
Yasmin Madan, Director, Programs
Rakesh Rajani, Vice President, Programs
Kaila Zitron, Program Assistant

Co-Impact is committed to building and supporting a diverse and international team, including members from and/or with deep experience of living and working in the Global South. As of January 2021, our team represents more than a dozen nationalities. In the near future, Co-Impact is expanding its geographic locations to include offices in the Global South.