

if heart does not come from the money given but
from the will to give ११



DPURPOSE
FOUNDATION

Empowering the Purposeful

ANNUAL REPORT

FEB 2024 - FEB 2025

TABLE OF CONTENT

MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER.....	3
MESSAGE FROM THE COO.....	5
OUR WHY.....	7
WHO WE ARE.....	9
OUR VALUES.....	10
WHAT WE DO.....	12
HOW WE DO.....	13
OUR STAKEHOLDERS.....	14
OUR JOURNEY.....	16
OUR IMPACT.....	61
OUR SUPPORTERS.....	68
OUR TEAM.....	71
SHORT-TERM GOALS.....	76
LONG-TERM GOALS.....	77
FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE.....	78
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....	80
LEARNINGS OF 2024.....	85



MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

I always knew I wanted to do work that felt meaningful. I just didn't expect where or how it would begin.

I was invited as a mentor and judge for a college event in Salem, a Tier 2 city in Tamil Nadu, India. Among all the passionate student pitches, two young women stood out—Varsha and Sindhuja. Their idea was a simple, low-cost water purifier. But what moved me wasn't just the innovation. It was how much they cared.

Later, when I followed up, I expected progress. Instead, I heard silence. They hadn't built the prototype. ₹5,000 stood between them and the first step. I could have handed them the money. But the real question haunted me:

What about the ones who never ask?

Who quietly abandon their dreams because no one shows up for them?

That moment made all the difference. A responsibility. A mission. And that's how DPurpose was born—not as a project, but as a promise. A promise that no idea should fade into silence for lack of resources.

We had no roadmap—just purpose. From hosting our first hackathon with over 8,500 student registrations across 16 states to forming an all-women intern team, every milestone was built on belief and grit. Working from coffee shops, homes, and balconies, we started with nothing but purpose and people who believed in it.

Today, DPurpose stands not just as a platform, but as a movement. A movement to support student innovators from Tier 2, 3, and 4 cities, to make sure no dream goes unheard. To our mentors, donors, supporters, and every student who trusts us with their ideas—you've shaped this journey with us.

We're just getting started.

“*Because every dream deserves a chance to begin.*”

With Purpose,
Desika Prabakar
Founder & Director, DPurpose Foundation



Desika Prabakar
Founder & Director, DPurpose Foundation

MESSAGE FROM THE COO

Becoming the COO of DPurpose didn't start with a plan—it started with a message. I reached out on LinkedIn and said, With a background in Biotech and Environmental Science, I had always been drawn to purpose-driven work. But finding a space where those values could come alive real-time, every day in action? That's what made DPurpose different. From the beginning, there was no blueprint—just shared intent, curiosity, and a deep belief in building something that matters.

Over the past year, we built something real (maybe much needed). We welcomed 25+ interns from every walk of life. Our Hack4Purpose event exploded with an unimaginable reach —8,500+ registrations from 16 states, 100 shortlisted teams, and 400 students who showed us exactly why this work matters. We gave away ₹1.6 lakhs in cash awards, but what mattered more were the conversations, mentorship, and the confidence students walked away with.

Alongside events, we built tools, launched and tested our prototype, to support students every step of the way. From tracking milestones to accessing mentorship, we made sure our support went

beyond inspiration. And we're only getting started. With 18+ training sessions behind us and tons of feedback in hand, we're refining and growing fast.

DPurpose isn't just a title on my LinkedIn—it's where I learned that building something meaningful starts when you stop waiting for perfect conditions and just begin. To everyone who's helped shape this ride, thank you. You've helped build more than a movement. You've built belief.

“The goal isn't perfection.
It's progress.
That's what keeps us going.”

With Gratitude,
Obulaxmi S
COO, DPurpose Foundation



Obulaxmi S
COO, DPurpose Foundation

OUR WHY

Hear it from our Founder!

It wasn't a lack of talent
It wasn't a lack of ideas
It was ₹5,000
That's all that stood in the way

I was invited to Salem as a judge and mentor for a college event. Dozens of students pitched their ideas—some bold, some practical. But two young women, Varsha and Sindhuja, lingered in my mind long after the event. They weren't just presenting an idea; they were carrying a dream. A simple, affordable water purifier for the rural population—built not just with brains, but with heart.



Curious, I followed up later to see how they were doing. With a lot of excitement, I expected a prototype, but there was just a pause. To test it, they needed ₹5,000. That was it. ₹5,000 between them and the future they were trying to build for others.

Varsha was raised by a single mother, and Sindhuja was about to enter married life, which stopped their journey even before the start.

That small financial gap brought their idea to a halt.

It wasn't just their story that stayed with me. I could've given them the ₹5,000—but what about the countless others? The ones who never speak up. Who quietly turn down their ideas, not because they lack talent, but because no one ever shows up for them.

Their dreams fade—not from failure, but from being unheard. And that's what truly moved me.

♦♦ *Sometimes, all a dream needs is someone who believes it's worth starting.* ♦♦



The Problem

What started as a mission to support student ideas opened our eyes to something bigger. These aren't just gaps, they're systems in need of rebuilding. These are the challenges shaping the change we work toward every day.

9.7%

MSMEs being innovation-driven, India's global competitiveness continues to weaken.

Source:

UNCTAD Global Trade Update 2022;
MSME Ministry Annual Report 2022

70%

Students with early-stage ideas never take the first step, held back by limited mentorship, low confidence, and lack of access, stopping young minds from becoming changemakers.

Source:

NITI Aayog Report on Youth
Entrepreneurship, 2021

6 Mn

6Mn Youth in India, every year enter the job market without innovation or entrepreneurship-ready skills, limiting their ability to solve real problems. This gap is reflected in India's 39th-place ranking on the Global Innovation Index 2024.

Source:

India Skills Report 2023 (Wheebox),
NSDC Estimates

13.76%

Women make up just 13.76% of India's entrepreneurs, with an even smaller share in manufacturing—showcasing persistent gender gaps in access to capital, markets, and support.

Source:

Sixth Economic Census (MoSPI),
World Bank Gender Data Portal 2022

A woman wearing glasses and a purple patterned shirt is kneeling on the floor, using a multimeter to test a component on a robot. The robot is a black frame with a motor and various wires. A man in a light blue shirt is kneeling next to her, looking at the robot. The background is a simple room with a window and a fire extinguisher on the wall.

WHO WE ARE

Vision

To root innovation in Tier 2,3,4 cities across India prioritizing inclusivity, affordability and sustainable development for people and planet.

Mission

Building a self-sustaining scalable system through innovation hackathons, skill development, manufacturing infrastructure, and global market access to turn ideas into impact.

Theory of Change

Because rising global challenges can be addressed massively by the innovation ecosystem, we work in Tier 2,3,4 cities across India to forefront diverse sustainable innovators, dream, build and scale affordable and accessible solutions through uniquely structured innovation pipelines and holistic resources for impact, targeting 250+ innovations by 2030.

Our Values

Core beliefs that shape every step of our journey towards impact

1 Unshakable Integrity

We stand by our word - no shortcuts, no excuses. Whether we win or fail, we own it, learn, and keep pushing forward.

5 Radical Transparency

No half-truths, no hidden agendas. We keep it real - with our team, innovators, and supporters.

2 Sustainability Always

Every action we take is rooted in creating long-term impact for people and the planet.

6 Relentless Energy

We don't take NO for an answer - but we also know when to pivot and move forward with unstoppable drive.

3 Equity at the Core

Whether you're in the room or just finding your way in, everyone gets a fair shot. From our team to every student across Tier 2, 3, and 4 cities - equity is our foundation.

7 We Don't Quit on You

If you're still trying, we're still with you. We'll stay in the ring until you say you're done.

4 No Resumes Needed

We care about your drive, not your degree. If your heart's in it, you're already part of the team.

8 Built to Scale, Together

Impact doesn't grow in silos. We believe collaboration is how bold ideas scale - through shared minds, diverse voices, and collective effort.



9 Loyalty Runs Deep
We stand by our contributors, but even more so by our innovators. Their vision is our mission.

13 Resilience in Every Step
When things don't go our way, we don't back down. We adapt, learn, and keep moving - because resilience is how real change begins.

10 Purpose Above All
We back ideas, yes - but we stand behind the people and their 'why' even more.

14 Be the Hand That Helps
Our logo isn't just a design, it's a reminder that we're here to uplift, guide, and walk alongside others creating real change.

11 Excellence, Every Time
Good enough doesn't cut it. We push for excellence in everything we bring to life.

15 Purposefully Responsible
We stay accountable for every step we take - making choices that are ethical, intentional, and grounded in real responsibility.

12 Innovation, Within Reach
Innovation = Affordability. We strongly believe any Innovation should be affordable and accessible to all

16 Lead with Empathy
We don't just support ideas, we feel the people behind them. Listening deeply and acting with care is what keeps us human.

WHAT WE DO

At DPurpose Foundation, we empower innovators, students, women and startups through our 4 pillar approach, designed from an inclusive talent platform to skilling to manufacturing and all the way till global markets.

The Four Pillars

Hack4Purpose

Inclusive Innovation

A nationwide hackathon empowering students from Tier 2, 3, and 4 cities to solve real-time MSME and industry challenges aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Skill4Purpose

Upskilling for Pride & Power

Focused training in innovation and new product development in sustainability empowering students and women to drive economic growth.

DPurpose Labs & Manufacturing

Impact in the Making

From prototype to product, innovators build their Minimum Viable Product (MVP) while women-led factories provide sustainable, high-quality contract manufacturing.

DPurpose Marketplace

Markets Without Borders

Helping purpose-driven startups access global customers, investors, and opportunities to scale sustainably.



HOW WE DO

We follow a structured end-to-end process for our flagship 4 pillar program supporting innovators at various stages of their innovation journey

Hack4Purpose

Industries provide problem statements, and innovators from Tier 2, 3, and 4 cities apply with solutions. An expert panel shortlists applicants, winners are provided **DPurpose Grant** to build prototypes, and progress is tracked at every stage until final reporting.

Skill4Purpose

We first identify industry and corporate skill requirements then recruit students and women for specialized hands-on training. Experts deliver practical training, ensuring participants are fully equipped for industry deployment.

DPurpose Labs & Manufacturing

Innovators and entrepreneurs apply to use our labs for product building. After selection, they receive tailored support, equipment access, and guidance to develop prototypes and MVPs.

Startups with market-ready products apply for production, we refine designs for manufacturing, conduct quality checks, and deliver full-scale contract manufacturing as per agreed terms.

DPurpose Marketplace

Innovators apply with products ready for market. After selection, their products are listed on our platform and connected with global partners for distribution, collaboration, and expansion.





Our Stakeholders

Individuals

Passionate innovators with big dreams to create impactful products, technologies, and companies.

Industry

Partners who provide real-world problem statements that spark purposeful innovation.

College

Gateways to young talent, enabling us to reach, nurture and foster entrepreneurship early.

Students

Our core stakeholders, empowered to take a chance on themselves and lead with innovation.

Corporate

Partners who fuel impactful ideas through CSR, enabling many innovations to take shape.

Philanthropists/Donors

Changemakers who back us with the heart, resources and infrastructure to scale impact.

Government

Policy drivers and enablers through schemes, grants, and systemic support for inclusive growth.



“Hack4Purpose Edition 1 kicks off - Day 1 energy at the registration desk, with our volunteers welcoming each of our student innovators.”

OUR JOURNEY

Hack4Purpose



In 2024, we embarked on a journey of innovation and impact via seven remarkable events. Launching our flagship event Hack4Purpose, we empowered students from Tier 2,3,4 cities to bring their ideas to life and extended global platforms for the students through partnered events such as ABC Hackathon. Sustainability focused startups gained funding through our Pitch Fests and investor engagement events. To navigate the not-for-profit space, learnings and connections through India's premier CSR Summit and IFRC were invaluable. Our chance to shape young minds towards careers in sustainability via partnered internship programs for teenagers was an absolute blessing.

HACK4PURPOSE

Hack4Purpose, India's ultimate launchpad for young innovators, enabling students from Tier 2, 3, 4 cities to develop sustainable solutions for real challenges. In partnership with the United Nations UNLEASH and aligned with the UN SDGs, the program also prioritizes increasing female participation in the innovation space, driving diversity and inclusion.

Registrations opened on **February 1st, 2024**, with the initial deadline on **March 29th**. To support participants throughout the process, we conducted two live webinars covering the application process, themes, and expectations, ensuring clarity and confidence.

Four innovation themes were designed to focus on regional level problem solving, to be an eye opener for global SDG challenges, to carry forward seniors' works to viable products and to invite indigenous innovations. Named as follows:



Hack from Native

Identify and solve local challenges, fostering community-centric solutions tailored to regional needs.



Hack from Us

Structured problem statements given aligned with the UN SDGs.



Hack from Seniors

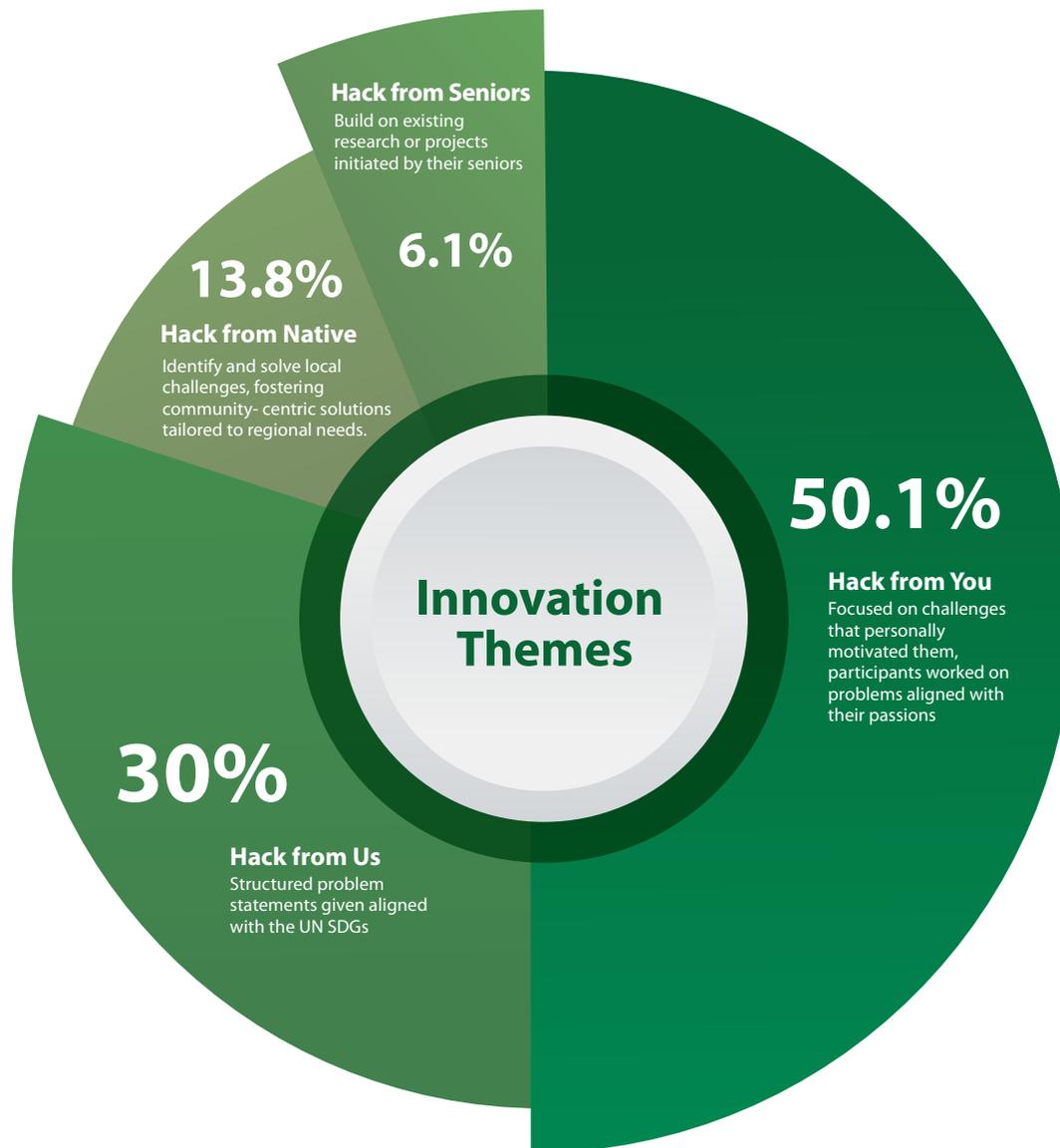
Build on existing research or projects initiated by their seniors



Hack from You

An open innovation category invited participants to present their own ideas.

Within the very first month of registrations, we received an overwhelming response with 1000+ applications, which caused our website to crash. Managing such a large inflow of submissions required careful handling, and with numerous student requests to extend the registration date beyond March, we pushed the deadline to **May 29th, 11:59 PM**. On that very night, as multiple students continued requesting more time, the final deadline was further extended until **1:00 AM**.



Where Students Took Their Stand

Among the 4 themes given, “Hack from You” emerged as the most popular theme with 50.1%, showing that a majority of students chose to create original solutions with a strong focus on sustainability and business impact. This was followed by **Hack from Us (30%), Hack from Native (13.8%) and lastly Hack from Seniors (6.1%)**



“ The lamp lighting at Hack4Purpose Edition 1, marked the beginning of a journey where youth, innovation, and purpose unite for impact.”

Top 100 selections

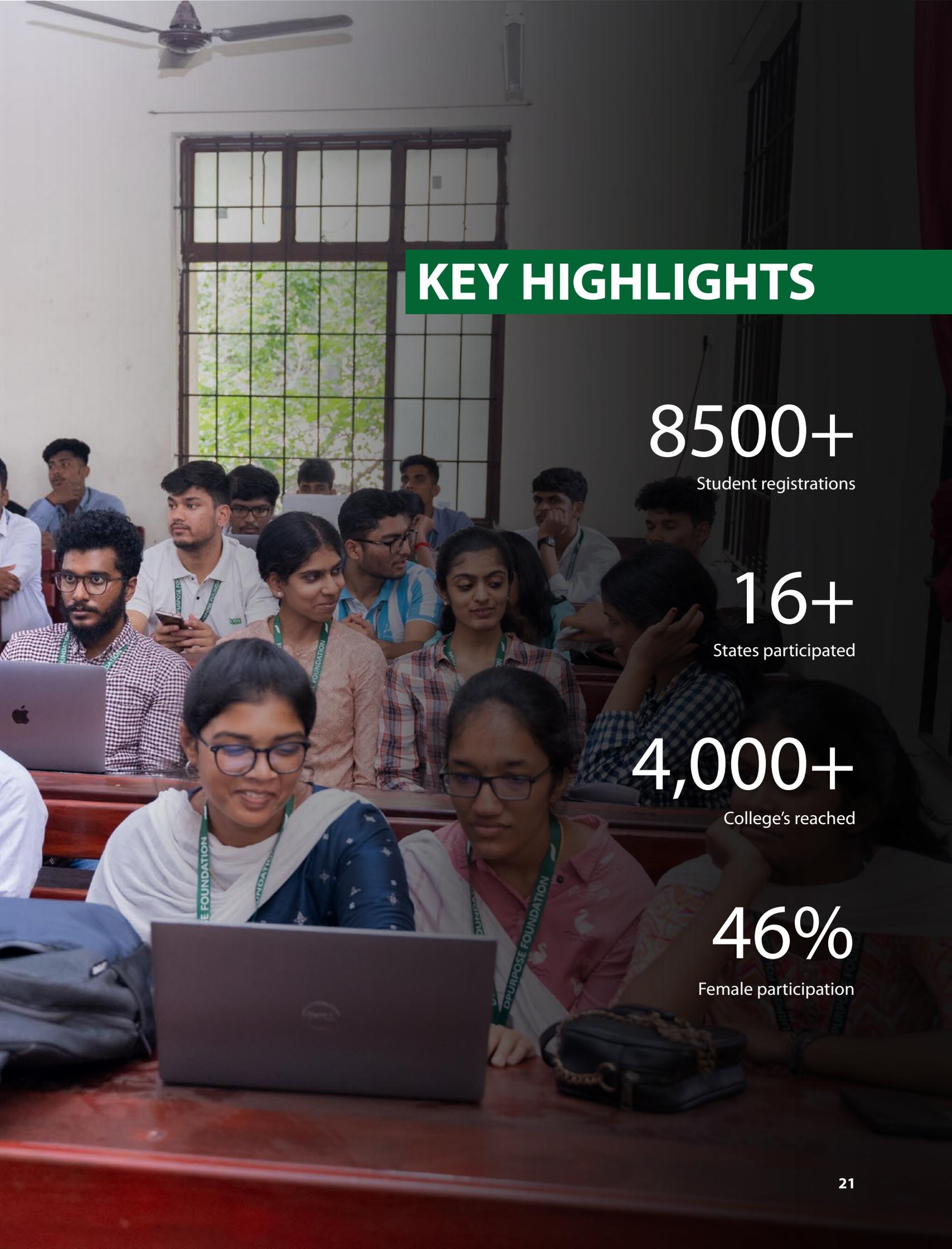
A panel of 31 experts carefully reviewed all submissions based on 10 key criteria scored for 100 marks. Each idea was judged on innovation, impact, feasibility, and alignment with the goals, selecting the most promising solutions for the Top 100.

	Clarity of problem statement	10	Clearly defines core issue
	Innovative/ Uniqueness	10	New, creative, and original idea
	Impact level of idea/project	15	Real-world change or benefit
	SDG alignment	10	Supports UN sustainability goals
	Target Customer clarity	10	Clear audience or end-user
	Business Model	10	Practical plan for execution
	Affordability	10	Cost-effective and accessible
	Team strength & roles	10	Well-balanced, defined team roles
	PPT Presentation	15	Clear, engaging visual delivery
	BONUS points	15	All-female team/native or senior theme



Hack4Purpose

“A representation of fresh talent, groundbreaking ideas and an inclusive platform laid out in green.”



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

8500+

Student registrations

16+

States participated

4,000+

College's reached

46%

Female participation



Day 1

Day 1 (June 26th) at TAG Auditorium, Anna University saw 100 finalist teams pitch their ideas to 31+ industry experts across agritech, medtech, AI, IoT, edtech, renewable energy, and sustainability. Teams were grouped into Passion, Inspire, Resilience, and Vision, enabling focused evaluations. Through dynamic showcases, interactive pitches, and Q&A sessions, students received valuable feedback and real-world insights from the experts.

Day 2

Day 2 (June 27th) began with a keynote by Dr. Vivek Manoharan on "Value Innovation for Hacking UN SDGs", offering insights on the ground level realities of entrepreneurship, SDG goals and innovation pipeline. His one-to-one Q&A sessions also addressed risk management, India's economic growth, and scaling sustainable ventures. This was followed by a panel of four trailblazing women leaders, sharing journeys of resilience and purpose-driven entrepreneurship. The day concluded with the certificate and prize distribution, celebrating transformative ideas.



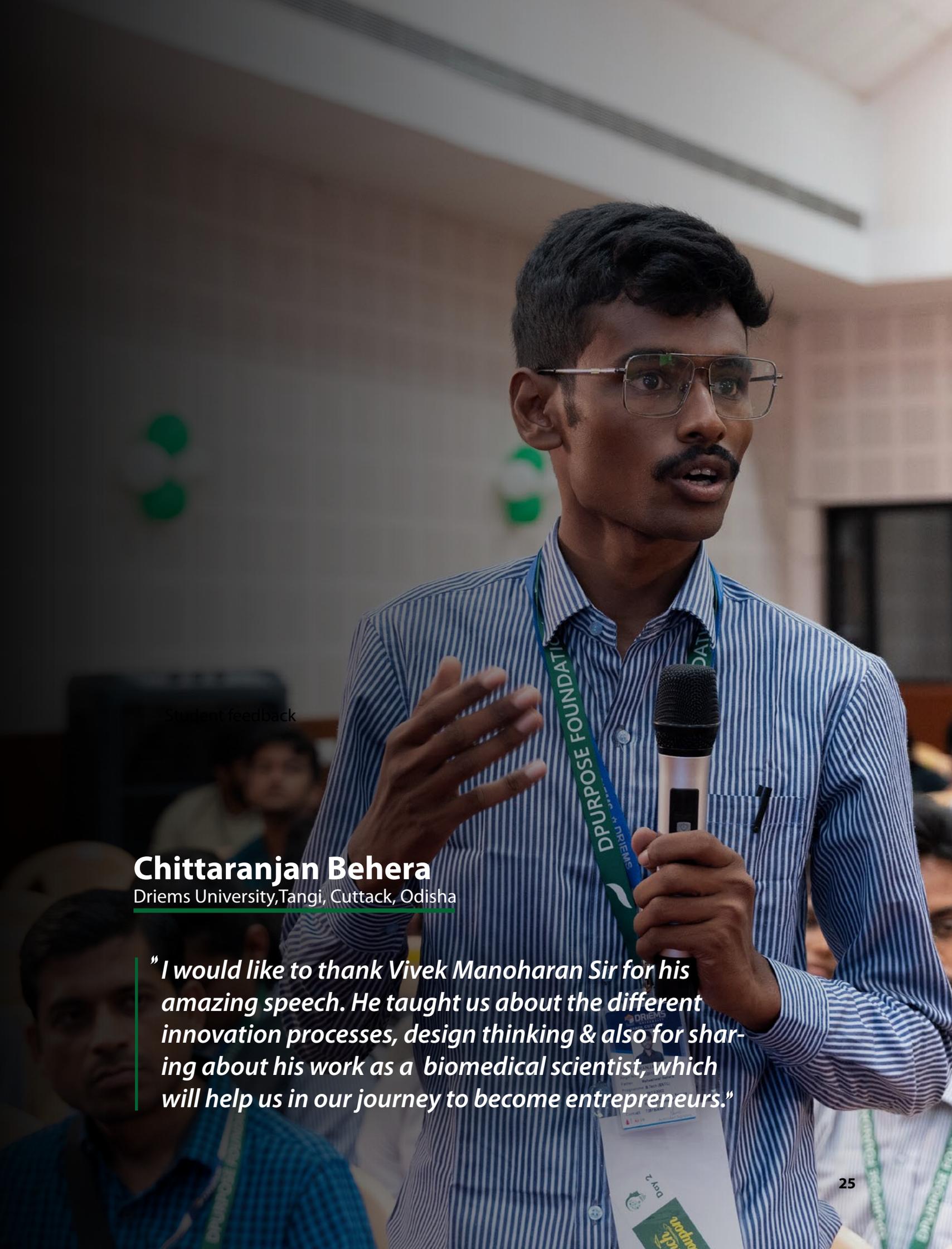
“Young innovators from Tier 2,3,4 cities pitching their solutions to our panel of esteemed judges.”



Dr. Vivek Manoharan

United Nations UNLEASH Ambassador

“The biggest obstacle to learning something new is the belief that you already know it.”

A man with dark hair, a mustache, and glasses is speaking into a microphone. He is wearing a blue and white vertically striped button-down shirt. A green lanyard with white text is around his neck. The background is a blurred indoor setting with other people and green circular decorations.

Student feedback

Chittaranjan Behera

Driems University, Tangi, Cuttack, Odisha

"I would like to thank Vivek Manoharan Sir for his amazing speech. He taught us about the different innovation processes, design thinking & also for sharing about his work as a biomedical scientist, which will help us in our journey to become entrepreneurs."

Women Lead Panel

Its all about Passion, Pain and Power a panel of four powerful women entrepreneurs sharing their why's, how's and what's that truly matter

Anbu Mathi

Entrepreneur & Design Thinking Expert



Rama Venugopal

Executive Director Value Added Corporate Services



Why do you love what you do?

"I started grabbing every opportunity that came my way. So every day I'm finding new opportunities to learn, to grab, to earn, to explore—and that's why I love what I do."

Why did you choose this path?

"As a Management Consultant every day is a space to learn, unlearn, and relearn. My passion is to build India's innovation from within and help our startups create products truly made in India."

Ramya S

Co-Founder & Director, M/S PreiPolar Engg Pvt Ltd



Hemapriya Jagadeesan

Director, Unitech Group of Companies



What skills matter most for entrepreneurs?

"Everyone has an idea and wants to start a business, but the real skill is knowing how to execute the plan. That's why we must build good habits every day and become better versions of ourselves."

What was the hardest lesson learned?

"Entrepreneurship is tough. Without challenges, you can't achieve anything really great. The hardest part is balancing family and work, must learn to manage both."



Hack4Purpose

Biggest hackathon for sustainable

POSE

tion

Mauli Acharya

Charotar University of Science and
Technology (CHARUSAT), Anand, Gujarat

"As a young girl, I found the panel discussion with Rama Mam, Anbu Mathi Mam, Hemapriya Mam, and Ramya Mam to be very inspiring and motivating. Their stories showed me the importance of hard work and perseverance, and gave me confidence that success is achievable with dedication."

Awards

When Hack4Purpose as a nationwide hackathon was in the planning, we were sure to acknowledge student innovators to the best of our capacity and ofcourse the educational institutions who are creating a perfect ecosystem for these budding entrepreneurs. We declared a total of **₹1.6 Lakh** in cash awards and the prestigious **National Sustainability Award presented by United Nations UNLEASH** for the college with the highest number of applicants.

NATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

The announcement of the **National Sustainability Award 2024** was a close call between two colleges from Tier 2,3,4 cities and with **750+ shortlisted applicants, Sri Sairam Institutions, Chennai, Tamil Nadu** bagged the award. Received by Dr. C.R. Rene Robin and team, the award celebrates their focus on **entrepreneurship, sustainable development, and innovation**. Their uniquely **structured framework** empowers students from first year to graduation to turn ideas into sustainable solutions, inspiring a greener future.

TOP 5

Winning teams of Hack4Purpose 1st edition 2024, one of the close calls that we had to make. After two days of intense pitching and scrutiny, **Top 5 teams emerged instead of the planned Top 3**. With our well-defined judging criteria, the competition was intense, with scores running neck and neck. After a thorough evaluation of each pitch on innovation, feasibility, and impact, the results were finally announced. The prestigious Title and Cash Awards were then presented by our **Title Sponsor – Veera Group**.



A waste-to-energy solution for municipal plastic waste, aiming to convert it into a viable energy source.

Team The Waste Warriors

Chitta Ranjan Behera, Sagarika Swain, Rasmi Rajan Sahoo, Siba Sundar Barik

DRIEMS University, Odisha

₹50,000 - 1st Position (Shared)

A precision agriculture comprehensive approach to enhance farming efficiency and sustainability.

Team Synergy

Hemasri M, Pranav Aditya P S

Bannari Amman Institute of Technology, Tamil Nadu

₹50,000 - 1st Position (Shared)

An all-female team is working on an idea for nutritious, affordable snacks to address dietary deficiencies.

Team Nutrimasters

Fasthana Khan, Khadija Mogal

College of Home Science Nirmala Niketan, Maharashtra

₹30,000 - 2nd Position

Uniquely designed a solar thermal desalination device to enable sustainable water purification for coastal regions.

Team The Boys

Sravan Kumar Gopisetty, Munna Shaik, Sai Prasad

Narasaraopet Institute of Technology, Andhra Pradesh

₹20,000 - 3rd Position

A sustainable tourism model to promote responsible travel and environmental conservation.

Team Tonic

Deepak Singh, Jyoti Mathpal, Harsh Kumar, Shubham Joshi

Kumaon Engineering College, Uttarakhand

₹10,000 - (Special Prize)





1st place - Team The Waste Warriors & Team Synergy



2nd place - Team Nutrimasters



3rd place - Team The Boys



National Sustainability Award 2024 - Sri Sairam Institutions



Special Prize - Team Tonic

URU App

The URU (You are You) app was initially developed as a comprehensive platform with over 25+ features to offer holistic support for student entrepreneurs. Its goal was to serve as a one-stop solution, guiding students through every stage of the entrepreneurial journey from idea and validation to funding and growth.

Real-Time Learning

Post-launch of the URU app prototype, we adopted a continuous learning approach by actively listening to its student users. Feedback revealed, the platform's wide range of features was overwhelming, and students preferred a simpler and more focused experience.

Course of Action

Through this real-time learning, there was a clear understanding for the need for funding especially for prototyping and a design focusing on the subsequent features for the same was set as the plan ahead.

Speaking to over 200+ students from across India, we mapped diverse and valuable opinions.

Team ScaleUp

“Features like project authentication for patents or verified investor profiles would give the platform real credibility.”

Team Zhagaram

“Connecting with universities would make it feel more reliable and boost our confidence in using it.”

Team Qubots

“A better UI, smoother UX, and options to share documents directly would make it far more useful for us.”





“Real and Raw feedback and conversations with our Founder.”

Training Programs

Designed to support diverse learning needs, our training program was structured to ensure that every participant, regardless of background, felt equipped, supported, and seen.



Technical Sessions

These sessions turned ideas into action. From validating concepts to building pitch decks, teams received hands-on guidance in business modelling, budgeting, and MVP development—step by step, with care



Domain-specific Sessions

Leaders from fields like agriculture, IoT, waste-to-value, medtech, AI, and web apps shared insights tailored to real-world problems. These sessions helped teams sharpen their solutions and connect with the pulse of each sector.



Life Skills & Resilience

We focused not just on startups, but on the people behind them. These sessions helped students build confidence, handle stress, and bounce back from setbacks, nurturing the emotional strength needed for any journey.



One-on-one insight sessions

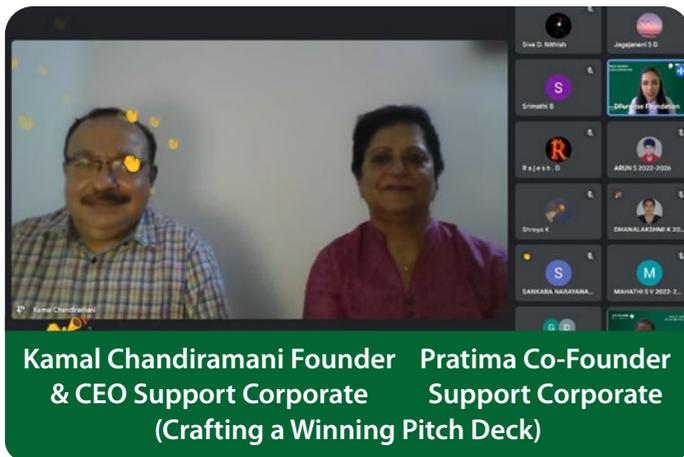
Through personalized discussions, we assisted participants in refining their goals. Also, by assessing their project progress and challenges, we provided targeted feedback to support their strategic initiatives.



Amitabh Sinha Co-founder & Chief Strategy Officer, Meetingsandoffices.com. (Idea Validation)



Koushik Chitrapu Serial Entrepreneur, Mentor & Founder of Incubez SuperGTM. (Business Model Development)



Kamal Chandiramani Founder & CEO Support Corporate (Crafting a Winning Pitch Deck) Pratima Co-Founder Support Corporate



Prashanth K L Partner Guru & Jana Chartered Accountants (Financials & Budgeting)



Smita Yedekar, Co-Founder & CEO 1Mobility (Building a Minimum Viable Product (MVP))

The sessions empowered students to bridge the gap between ideas and execution. They learned to understand real-world needs, market demand, and feasibility while building sustainable, scalable business models. Students gained skills in creating investor-ready pitch decks, managing finances, and developing Minimum Viable Products (MVPs). The program ultimately equipped them with the insights to validate, structure, and grow their innovations effectively.



Student feedback

Fasthana Khan

College of Home Science
Nirmala Niketan, Maharashtra

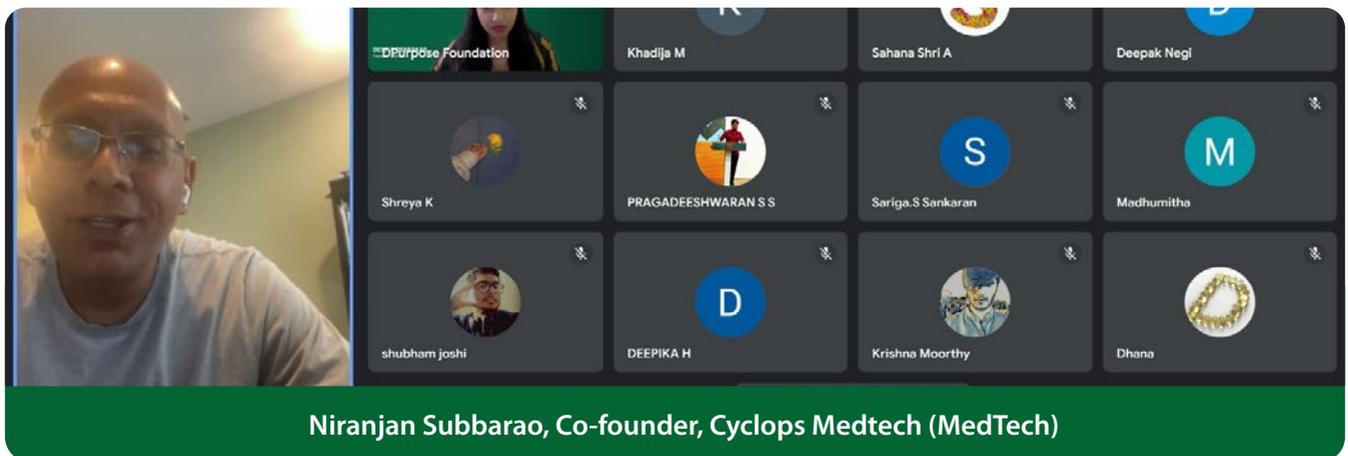
"The sessions organized by DPurpose Foundation were truly helpful. My most favourite part was Q&A, in which our queries were solved immediately."



Deepak Pareek, Founder HnyB Tech-Incubators Pvt. Ltd (AgriTech)

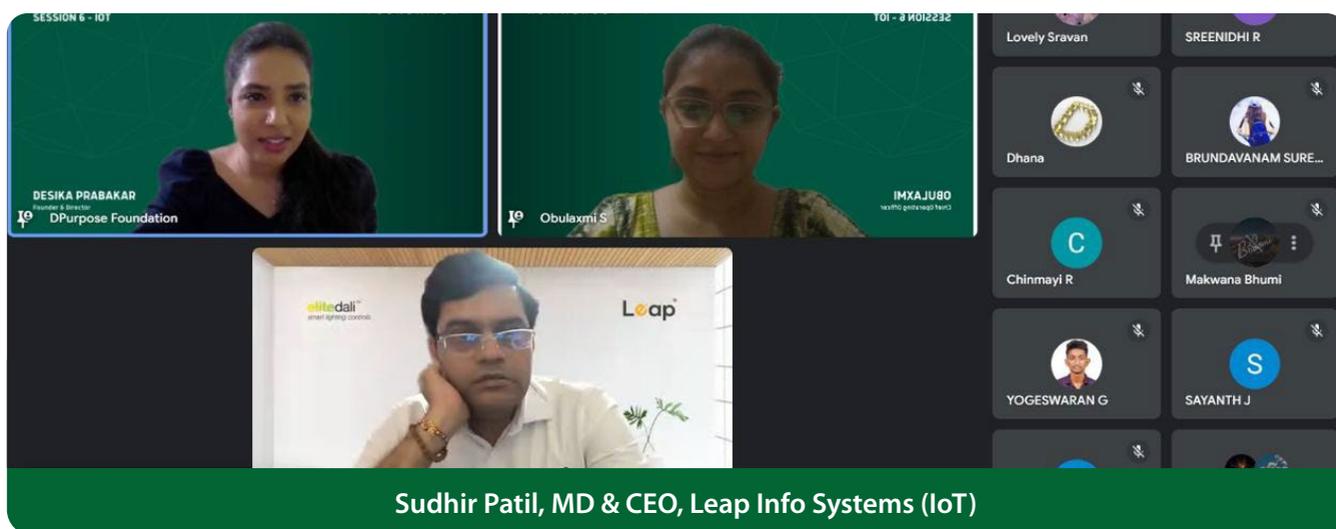
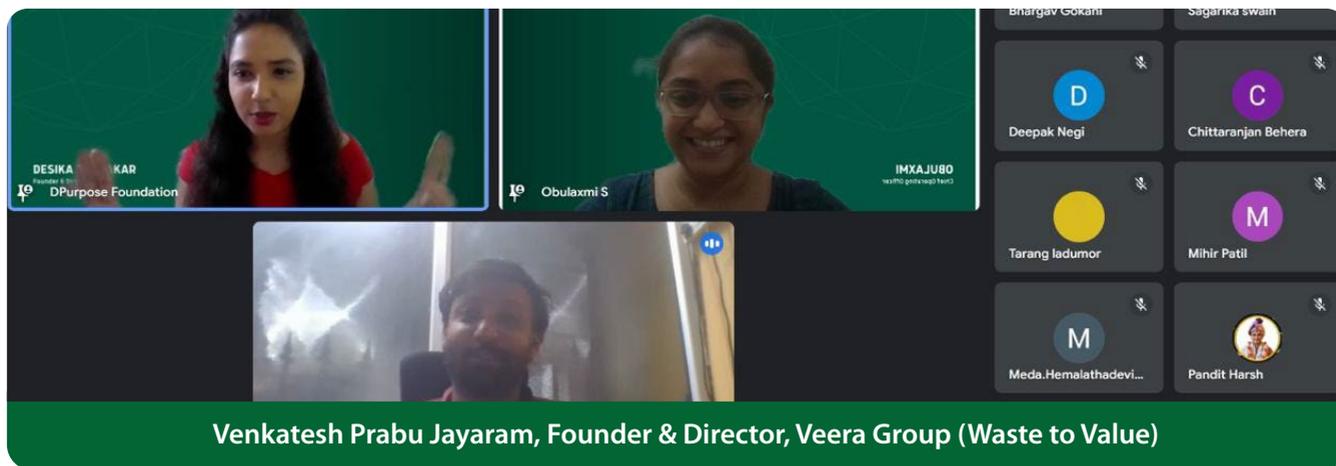


Giridharan Palanisamy, Founder & CEO of zauto.ai & Hitesh Ganjoo, CEO Iksha Labs (Artificial Intelligence and MedTech)



Niranjana Subbarao, Co-founder, Cyclops Medtech (MedTech)

Teams explored Agri-Tech through smart farming, agri-policy, and food safety, crafting scalable solutions for real-world impact. The AI session highlighted how emerging technologies redefine human-system interactions, while the MedTech session showcased neuro-otology innovations enhancing patient care. By the end, every team was ready to advance their ideas into scalable solutions across these domains.



By focusing on modern tech stacks, teams explored building scalable, user-centric apps with sustainable solutions. The waste-to-energy session highlighted affordability and business viability for rural and industrial use. The IoT session created awareness on the potential risks of improper implementation and the importance of understanding both the benefits and challenges of IoT.

A man with glasses and a light blue shirt is speaking into a microphone. He is wearing a green lanyard with "DPURPOSE FOUNDATION" written on it. The background is dark with a whiteboard visible on the right.

Amey Agarwal,

Sardar Patel Institute of Technology,
Gujrat

“ The experts called in Domain sessions were a class-apart and provided the different perspective required for understanding the nuances of the startup ecosystem.”



The session emphasized the bootstrapping mindset, showing how small revenues can drive organic growth without external capital. It highlighted that business is a means of human contribution, not just profit. Teams explored the startup ecosystem, learned to identify meaningful problems, chart growth roadmaps, and conduct precise customer discovery to ensure solutions meet real user needs for lasting impact.



We held **personalized one-on-one sessions** with each team to assess their progress, goals, and challenges, offering **targeted feedback** to guide their next steps. Key focus areas included **Market Research** (understanding competitors and differentiation), **Pricing Strategy** (ensuring profitability while staying accessible), and **Business Pathways** (selecting the right growth model).

To refine their roadmap, teams answered seven strategic questions:

-  What stage is your idea or MVP at?
-  How is your team contributing individually?
-  What are you aiming for—a startup, research, or a job?
-  What are your next three steps?
-  How much time do you spend on this daily?
-  What are your plans after college?
-  Can you fill in the pitch deck with your problem, solution, market, and value?

By addressing these questions, teams gained clarity on their objectives, strengthened their strategic approach, and left with a **practical plan to move their innovations forward confidently**.



Sreenithi R

Sri Sai Ram Institute of Technology,
Tamilnadu

"I am truly grateful to the Dpurpose foundation for their incredible sessions. The insights I gained have been invaluable, especially their detailed guidance on product selling. Their practical approach and in-depth knowledge-sharing have not only enhanced my understanding but also equipped me with skills I can apply effectively. I would like to extend my thanks to Desika mam and Obulakshmi mam for their continuous support throughout. Thank you for such impactful learning opportunities."



Before the grand finale, we organized an exclusive “**Pitch Perfect**” session led by three experts. The intensive workshops focused on **storytelling, data-driven pitch decks, and Q&A simulations**, guiding students on how to confidently engage investors and articulate their impact vision. Through their guidance, teams learned to refine their presentations, highlight key insights, and effectively communicate the value of their innovations.

Team: The Waste Warriors
Mentor: Venkatesh Prabu (Veera Group)

Team Synergy
Mentors: Palaniappan Muthuraman (Land Marvel), Hari Prasath S (Techbeeshive), Karthikeyan (TNAU), V. Prabu Jayaram (Veera Group)

Team: The Boys
Mentors: Venkatesh Prabu (Veera Group), Ankit Gupta (NTPC R&D)

Team Tonic
Mentor: Ankush Gupta (GetGabs)

Team: NutriMasters
Mentor: Yusuf (Popular Foods Co)

The Top 5 teams received special **one-on-one mentorship**, connecting them with domain and technical experts to support their journey. Experts across **Waste-to-Value, Renewable Energy, Food Tech, AgriTech, AI, and App Development** guided the teams, helping them clarify doubts and plan their next steps. This mentorship allowed students to gain practical insights, refine their strategies, and confidently progress toward implementing their solutions.

Top 5 Teams Progress

From August to December 2024, through continuous mentorship and on-ground learning, the top five teams identified real-world challenges and adapted their solutions for greater affordability and impact. They refined their ideas using practical insights, applied effective pivoting techniques, and shaped their models to deliver outcomes that are both meaningful and market-ready.

Team 1: Waste Warriors

- Studied waste treatment approaches
- Identified PVC recycling gaps
- Designed new PVC reuse model

Next Steps:

- Explore advanced recycling tech
- Build PVC MVP prototype

Team2: Team Synergy

- Researched precision farming tools
- Explored AI for crop diseases
- Analyzed existing agri platforms

Next Steps:

- Develop B2B/B2C smart farming MVP
- Pilot with indoor growers

Team 3: Nutrimasters

- Studied snack preferences survey
- Refined idea with mentors
- Launched Eat-With-Ease products

Next Steps:

- Improve ProCal formulation
- Expand events and socials

Team 4: The Boys

- Designed affordable water systems
- Addressed coastal water demand
- Ensured CPCB compliance standards

Next Steps:

- Conduct prototype field testing
- Refine scalable cost mode

Team 5: Tonic

- Created high-nutrition biscuits
- Validated recipe in university
- Planned market distribution approach

Next Steps:

- Scale production batch
- Finalize distribution partners

OUR JOURNEY

Hack4Purpose Grand Finale

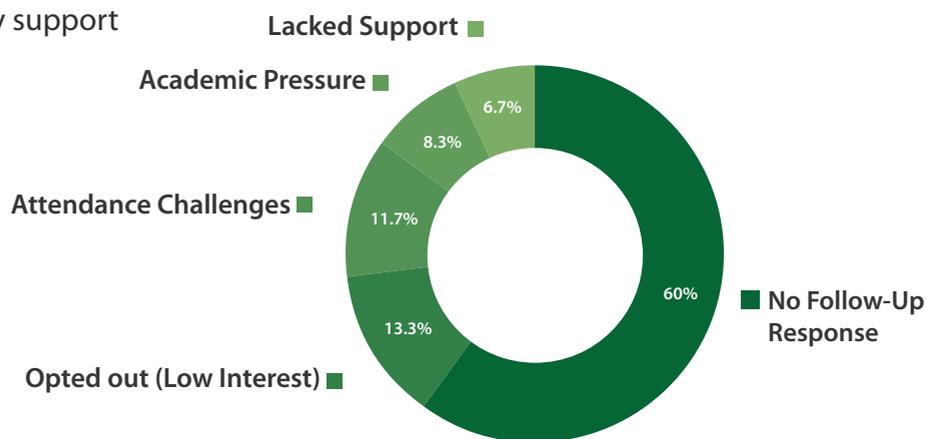


The Hack4Purpose Grand Finale marked the culmination of months of creativity, learning, and problem-solving. This finale showcased how ideas evolved into tangible solutions, highlighting innovation, teamwork, and the drive to create real-world impact. It was a celebration of ingenuity, persistence, and the spirit of turning concepts into action.

HACK4PURPOSE: GRAND FINALE

Hack4Purpose Edition 1 spanned five months from June's Top 100 selection to the December Grand Finale. Along the way, teams navigated real-world challenges:

- 60% had no response to follow-ups
- 13.3% opted out for lack of interest
- 11.7% were unable to attend sessions
- 8.3% struggled balancing academics and projects
- 6.7% lacked team or family support



Despite these hurdles, 40 committed teams submitted comprehensive progress reports, detailing clear problem statements, solution prototypes, financial requirements, team structures, and candid reflections on training and challenges. Batch 1 successfully graduated, transforming their initial ideas into impactful minimum viable prototypes.

Top 10 Finalists

From the Top 100 teams, with criteria of commitment, consistency and progress, Top 10 teams were shortlisted to present in the Grand Finale in front of renowned investors



Team NutriMasters

Healthy NutriCrackers
for Diabetes

Fashtana Khan



Team Candle

Drone-based Methane Detection
for Hydroelectric Plants

Jothi Prakasam R, Deepika D,
Akshaya R, Nivetha E



Team Web Warrior

E-waste Trade-Hub

Shubh Tanna, Tarang Ladumor,
Shabbir Saiyad, Komal Singh



Team Microzard

Lizard-Inspired Robot for
Hydro-Agri Clearing

Dhanalakshmi K, Sankara Narayana S V,
Sonali Sahu, Sreya M Nambiar



Team Extraterrestrials

Offline LLM for Education,
SenseAI

Siva Nithish Kumar D, Jaiguru L,
Srimathi B, Rajesh D



Team Copper Squad

Green Synthesis of Copper/
Lubricants from E-waste

Mihir Patil,
Raghav Khandelwal



Team Neurotronix

Diatec-D Neuropathy
Diagnostic Tool

Deepika H, Gowtham R,
Tejashree D, Bathrinarayana PN



Team Civimastro Technologies

Structural Integrity
Assessment & Maintenance

Siranjheevi, Sugavism B,
Sadurthika G



Team Yukt

GLock Travel Secured

Richard S, Saji Krishna,
Gurupriyan, Harshitha



Team Ecofungi

Mushroom Cultivation Using
Natural Wastes

Mithra R, Pragadeeshwaren SS,
Samyuktha Elango

FEEDBACK WALL

STANDING
EVENT EXPERIENCE
LOOKING FORWARD
OR MORE.
-SABRAM CUG

THE BEST EXPERIENCE
I EVER HAD
I AM SO GRATEFUL
TO YOU ALL
FOR MAKING THIS
EVENT SO SPECIAL
THANK YOU SO MUCH
-SABRAM CUG

The Jury
was a great experience
to be a part of it
and to see the
dedication and hard
work of the team
and the jury members
I am so grateful to
you all for making
this event so special
Thank you so much
-SABRAM CUG

Great
Volunteering

THANK YOU
TO ALL THE
VOLUNTEERS
WHO MADE
THIS EVENT
SO SPECIAL
-SABRAM CUG

Just tell
me what you
think about the
event and I will
be happy to
listen to your
feedback

Color scheme of
the event was
wonderful
and the
venue was
amazing

JJ

Experiences were good
do support all the teams
without them and do not
have a team projects - Help them
where possible and to find
the best of the best
Thank you so much
-SABRAM CUG

Really appreciated the
input by the UN delegate. Would
like more talks like these
in the next edition
in the next edition
I am so grateful to
you all for making
this event so special
Thank you so much
-SABRAM CUG

Provides
great
insight
into
the
event

Great event
Good management
Nice Staff
Mehalika

It's really a wonderful
Event....
Happy to be a part
of the event....

It was a wonderful event
and
Next time call Judge had
on all domain knowledge

Happy
To attend this event
Thank u deserve more
and Dharma Foundation
for organizing this
great event
Great
insight

The event can
be given
MORE

Wonderful Event!
Learned lot of new
things leading for
the future world!

Amazing Event!
Looking out for
more of them!

NICE
LOW

Had a very
great experience
(SABRAM)

Looking forward
to the
next
edition
I thank
you all for
making this
event so special
Thank you so much
-SABRAM CUG

Common pool for
team water in DEU
app is
nice deal!

The presentation being
given is only 14 slides
less which is not cover
entire / most of slides.
To cover according to
criteria

The Jury is not asked
completely about product that
is given in the website
(Due to time constraints)

First, I thank you for the opportunity
and this is my first experience that I
have participated in so far. I am
very thankful to the purpose
(Foundation) as I have learned
a lot and have fun from this event.
I am sure that I will correct
some of my mistakes that I have
done in the future and I will
continue to improve myself
Thank you so much
-SABRAM CUG

Jamali
Siddharth, Raju, Pooja,
Shruti, Swathi, Akhil,
and others sorry for
mispronunciation
Nice volunteering!

The event was quite
good & informative &
we all enjoyed it
Thank you so much
for the event
-SABRAM CUG

The points which mention
in website are not asked
by Jury & Jury is
not asked all just
Problem & solution.

Our product can have
a chance to win, but
due to limited time & jury
we can't ask to do
-SABRAM CUG

We love your intention of
purpose to create
but we are little sad on
execution & judgment

We are
Done.....

It was a wonderful event
organized by lot of people
Gained a lot of knowledge
and experience about
Pitching existing in
Entrepreneurship.

My friend got
committed, as of
this event
Thank you
-SABRAM CUG

Jury is asking all
the IP details which
we are not happy to do
so we got a disclaimer
& Jury is not happy after

Great experience
gained a lot
-Neesha
Narasimhan

Special thanks to
Dharma Foundation for
organizing the event
:-)

जमा
धाम
श्री शिव

Thank you
for providing out
every minute and providing
us an opportunity to
improve our ideas
-SABRAM CUG

गैर
मौलिक

It's Wonderful Event
Thanks for
giving opportunity
to being entrepreneur
Thank Dharma Foundation
:-)

GREAT
EVENT WITH
GOOD
FEEDBACK
-SABRAM CUG

Participants
Lipika

Was
Amazing!!

Our Wall of Purpose ! colours that speak ! Words that melt and make us think ! Huge gratitude.

Investor Panel

In the Grand Finale, 7 distinguished investors formed the panel. They listened to the top 10 student teams pitch live, scored each project, and presented suggestions on various seed and preseed fundings.

Ravish Kumar

Vcs & Startups
Partnerships Lead Google



Venkatraman Chandrasekaran

CEO, Lingvov Capital



Devang Raja

Founder,
Venture Wolf



Rohit Krishna

General Partner
WEH Ventures



Yash Mathur

Founder &
CFO CresEquity



Alhad D

CEO at ParsBEM
Consultants Private Limited



Ashish Gulgulia

Chief of Staff to the CEO
Leading HR-Tech Startup



The Purpose Awards

Best of Innovation **COPPER SQUAD**

Recognized for their groundbreaking approach to transforming electronic waste into sustainable copper-based lubricants



Best of Dedication **NUTRIMASTERS**

Honored for unwavering commitment throughout the development of healthy diabetic-friendly NutriCrackers

Best of Purpose **NEUROTRONIX**

Celebrated for their clear mission to improve diabetic neuropathy diagnosis through their Diatec-D tool

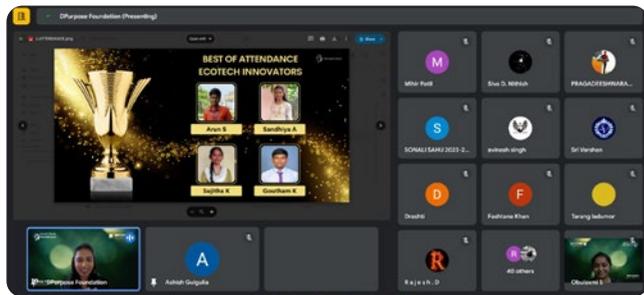


Best of Ambition **WEB WARRIOR**

Acknowledged for their bold vision to revolutionize e-waste management through their Trade-Hub platform

Best of Impact **EXTRATERRESTRIALS**

Honored for creating meaningful educational access through their offline LLM solution, SenseAI

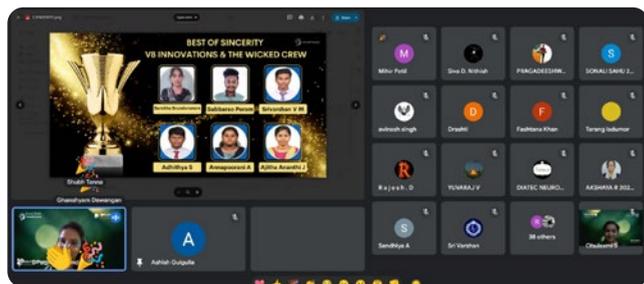


Best of Attendance **ECOTECH INNOVATORS**

Celebrated for their consistent participation and engagement throughout the program

Best of SDGs **TECH SQUAD**

Recognized for strong alignment with Sustainable Development Goals through their ZeroCuisine project

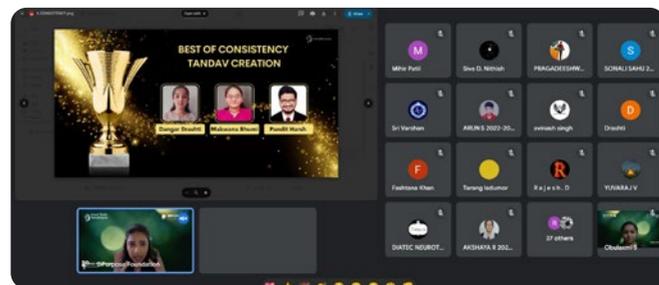


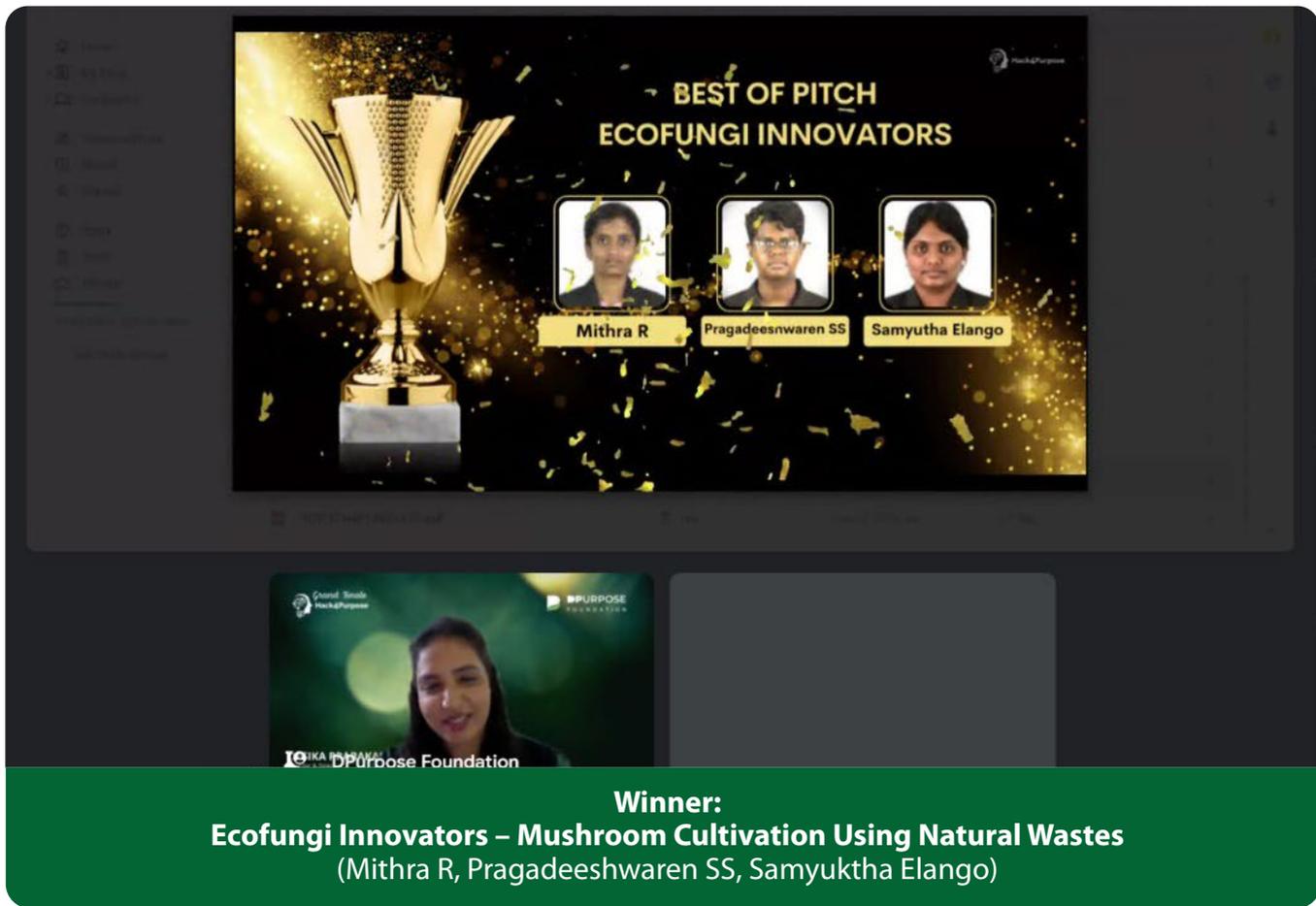
Best of Sincerity **V8 INNOVATIONS & THE WICKED CREW**

Acknowledged for their dedication to focus on impact, ready to pivot and consistently update on progress

Best of Consistency **TANDAV CREATION**

Honored for steady progress and reliable execution in transforming coconut shell waste into sustainable art





BEST OF PITCH AWARDS

The Best of Pitch Awards recognized the most outstanding teams of Hack4Purpose Edition 1, who demonstrated excellence across innovation, feasibility, and impact. Each project was carefully evaluated for its market opportunity, business model strength, technological ingenuity, and presentation quality reflecting the real-world standards.

After rigorous evaluation, three standout teams impressed investors with their innovative, impactful solutions driving sustainability and tech-enabled change.

🏆 Winner: Ecofungi Innovators – Mushroom Cultivation Using Natural Wastes (Mithra R, Pragadeeshwaren SS, Samyuktha Elango)

🥈 Runner-Up: Copper Squad – Green Synthesis of Copper Lubricants (Mihir Patil, Raghav Khandelwal)

🥉 Runner-Up: Neurotronix – Diatec-D Neuropathy Diagnostic Tool (Deepika H, Gowtham R, Tejashree D, Bathrinarayana PN)

OUR JOURNEY

Pitch Fest



DPurpose Foundation proudly joined as an ecosystem partner at **Pitch Fest, held on September 20th, 2024, in Chennai**. Hosted by StartupTN in collaboration with Capital A, the event brought together some of the brightest minds in innovation and investment. As an ecosystem partner, DPurpose Foundation played a key role in creating a vibrant platform for deeptech, climate tech, and fintech startups to showcase their transformative visions. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation, with 126 startups registering across these three vital sectors.

Pitch Fest

24 Fintech Startups

Working to democratize financial systems and create more inclusive economic structures

44 Deeptech Startups

Working to address fundamental human challenges

58 Climate tech startups

Working to address our planet's urgent call for sustainable solutions



OUR JOURNEY

ABC Hackathon



DPurpose Foundation partnered as Community Partners for the ABC Hackathon, which is a global initiative designed to foster innovation and development within the blockchain ecosystem. This collaboration aimed at bringing together brilliant minds from around the world to create groundbreaking blockchain solutions. By providing a platform for collaboration, mentorship, and competition to solve some of the world's most pressing challenges.

ABC Hackathon

The partnership led to greater participation, regional inclusion, and direct industry mentorship driving impactful, real-world innovation.

A promotional banner for the ABC Hackathon. At the top left is the ABC CONCLAVE logo. At the top right is the H2S logo with the text 'Innovation partner'. Below the logos is the word 'PRESENTS' in white. The main title 'ABC HACKATHON' is in large, stylized white letters. Below the title is a photograph of a large audience at a hackathon event. To the right of the photo is a purple button that says 'Participate and Unlock'. Below the button is the text 'Free VIP passes for the World's Largest Web3 Conclave'. At the bottom, there are two boxes: one for SolidityScan with '\$1 Million credits' and another for QuillAudits with '\$100k credits'. Below these boxes are three gold coins. At the bottom left is the text 'Community partner' next to the DPURPOSE FOUNDATION logo. At the bottom right is a QR code and the text 'Scan here>>'.

OUR JOURNEY

CSR & ESG Summit



The India CSR & ESG Summit 2024, held on October 17–18 in New Delhi, was a huge eye opener for DPurpose Team. It brought together changemakers, corporates, and professionals to explore the evolving landscape of responsible business and social impact. Over two days, the summit delved into the intersections of CSR, ESG, and innovation highlighting collaborative models, technology-driven solutions, and inclusive approaches to sustainability.

CSR & ESG Summit

Day 1: Foundations for Impact

The first day of the India CSR & ESG Summit 2024 laid a strong groundwork for meaningful dialogue and collaboration. Sessions explored CSR's evolving role in driving large-scale change through cross-sector partnerships and technology integration. Highlights included **Dhaval Udani's insightful masterclass** on individual donors' role in nonprofit sustainability and **EY Global Delivery Services' session** on how AI can amplify not replace human impact. Panels on digital health, nature-based solutions, and climate financing offered integrated approaches to social development, breaking traditional sector silos.

Day 2: Deepening the Dialogue

The second day built strong momentum with insightful discussions on innovation and inclusion in CSR. **The "Doing Good for Bharat"** spotlight highlighted CSR as a strategic driver for social transformation, while **Amita Puri's ILSS masterclass** emphasized unrestricted grants to boost nonprofit creativity and trust-based funding. Sessions on climate resilience, waste management, and corporate volunteering urged CSR to move beyond compliance toward systemic change. With a strong **DEI focus and EKI's ESG masterclass** exploring carbon credits and emerging CSR careers, the day underscored CSR's potential as a true catalyst for innovation and impact.





“ At DPurpose Foundation, sustainability and innovation are the heart of our purpose, driving much needed change.”

OUR JOURNEY

Pathways School's Career Carnival



DPurpose Foundation participated in the Pathways School Career Carnival on **January 24th, 2025**, engaging with **over 200 students** from Grades 8–10. The session introduced the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and inspired students to view global challenges as opportunities for purposeful careers. Through interactive discussions, students explored how their interests and skills could align with sustainability-driven professions, empowering them to think beyond conventional career paths.

Pathways School's Career Carnival

-  **Sustainability Careers Showcase:** Introduced students to emerging opportunities in the sustainability and engineering sectors.
-  **Hands-on Problem Solving:** Engaged participants in interactive SDG-based activities that encouraged real-world problem-solving.
-  **Internship Pathways:** Linked students with hands-on learning opportunities at DPurpose Foundation.
-  **Youth-Driven Innovation:** Uncovered strong enthusiasm and creativity for sustainability-driven solutions.





In collaboration with **Teen Interns and I Love Mondays**, DPurpose Foundation was onboarded as a mentor and internship partner, enabling students to engage in real-time sustainability problem-solving. The event helped students understand the course offerings, which include eight skill-building modules on Sustainability and Engineering designed to foster sustainable innovations—followed by applying their learning through hands-on internship experiences.

OUR JOURNEY

India Fundraising Conference 2025



Our founder, Desika Prabakar, represented DPurpose Foundation at the India Fundraising Conference 2025, held on February 5–6 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The event, India's largest gathering of fundraising leaders, brought together global experts and changemakers to discuss innovative strategies, AI-driven solutions, and best practices to amplify social impact.

India Fundraising Conference 2025



Major Donor Fundraising: Strengthened donor engagement skills through Konstantina Papadimitriou's masterclass.



Digital Fundraising Toolkit: Gained practical insights into digital marketing from Sarah Crowhurst.



Networking & Collaboration: Highlighted the power of impactful communication, guided by Svitlana Pugach.



Comprehensive Topics: Explored storytelling, budgeting, and campaign optimization across platforms.



Innovative Ideas for Growth: For a newcomer in the NGO sector, Kevin's branding talk and multiple masterclasses provided valuable learning and inspiration.



Learning outcomes: Enhanced fundraising strategy, communication, and digital outreach skills for sustainable NGO growth.





The conference offered valuable insights into strategic fundraising. A major takeaway was the importance of identifying CSR partners aligned with our focus, as CSR heads can influence project direction demanding thoughtful engagement. Sessions on **AIC concepts and Mass Entrepreneurship models** opened new pathways for impact. Platforms like Danamojo and Razorpay were highlighted for efficient crowdfunding, encouraging deeper exploration. The discussions also underscored the need to engage key decision makers strategically and the practical truth that raising funds often requires investing in the process.

DPurpose Internships

These programs offer immersive, real-world experiences to refine ideas and develop career-ready skills. Over a 3–4 month period, each team works on tailored projects in collaboration with industry and social-impact partners, gaining practical exposure, mentorship, and the confidence to drive purposeful innovation in their future careers.



Team Harvest Hackers

Conducted market research on freeze drying for a client from the United States of America, delivering detailed demand and feasibility insights

Feedback:

"We gained valuable research skills, interacted with experts, and deepened our methodology knowledge. Thank you for this opportunity!"

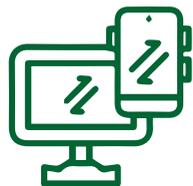


Team V8 Innovations

Worked on an import database for India, aggregating trade data and uncovering key insights into national import trends.

Feedback:

"This internship expanded my understanding of international trade and sharpened my analytical skills. Grateful to Desika Ma'am for the mentorship!"



Team Tech Titans

Researched NGO apps and digital tools, identifying platforms to enhance and streamline NGO operations.

Feedback:

"Supportive mentors, structured check-ins, and purpose-driven work taught me the power of aligning skills with social impact."



Team Wicked Crew

Explored CSR–NGO partnerships, proposing frameworks to foster long-term, sustainable collaborations.

Feedback:

"We honed problem-solving skills, overcame challenges with DPurpose's guidance, and feel more confident than ever."

OUR IMPACT

Hack4Purpose



4000+
Colleges reached across India



8500+
Applications received



16
States participated



35
Training sessions conducted



28
Expert trainers from different domains



40+
Prototype developed



1.6
Lakhs DPurpose Grant awarded



46%
Female participation



400+
Students Trained





Skill4Purpose



10+
Project Internships



25+
Women employed



Interns from
15+
states worked



20+
Volunteers supported

Through our flagship initiatives Hack4Purpose and Skill4Purpose, we've empowered thousands of students and innovators across India to turn ideas into action. From fostering sustainable solutions and providing hands-on training to creating employment opportunities and industry collaborations, our 2024 journey marks a year of purpose-driven impact, innovation, and inclusion laying a strong foundation for a more sustainable and empowered future.

IMPACT SNAPSHOTS

Below are the highlights of the inspiring journey of 40 dedicated teams who successfully graduated from our first batch (June to Nov 2025). We had the privilege of supporting each team from idea to MVP through training, mentorship, grants, and funding. Through every pivot and challenge, they persevered and now with registered start-ups, market-ready products, validated customer base and ready for market expansion.



Buildstream

Building an app for sustainable construction, beta version shall be released by May 2025 for 3months free use to gain real-feedback.



Civimastro Technologies

Startup successfully incorporated by Nov 2024, smart infrastructure solutions software SIAMS ready to launch by mid 2025.



Croprover Technologies

AI-powered farming rover for precision automation in agriculture, into final stages of prototype and ready for live demo.



Copper Squad

E-waste as eco-friendly copper-based micro lubricants, registered their startup, began trials with their first customer, seeking funds to setup pilot production plant.



Ecotech Innovators

Unified platform for sustainability projects and impact investors, prototype completion by March 2025 following testing and real-time user feedback.



Ecofungi Innovators

Repurposing agri-waste for successful mushroom cultivation, registered their startup and expanding vertical farming in Palani, Tamil Nadu.



Falcon 45

AI-powered defect detection in aerospace engine using YOLOv8, prototype nearing completion by Dec 2025.



Flankers

Improved design of Smart gas regulator with market research and customer surveys, now fundraising for final prototype development.



Startup Connect

Pivot from app connecting startup innovation and corporates to data scrapping tool from social media, tool developed and in final testing stages.



Wicked Crew

Pivot to Collab Bridge a platform to connect CSR with NGOs, features finalised, wireframe completed, UIUX with initial testing completed, launch by Jan 2025.



AI-powered surveillance for real-time theft detection, validated initial prototype, final prototype completion by March 2025.

Goal Diggers



Validation of AI surveillance prototype with their first customer, now in process of startup registration.

Innovative Commandos



Public transport tracking for student safety, software completed hardware nearing completion followed by feasibility studies and in field testing.

Kikki bikki



Automated weed removal robot in simulation studies next step into feasibility and market validation.

MicroZard



DIATEC-D a fully functional prototype for early detection of diabetic neuropathy, developed with 3D design and market validation.

Neurotronix



Dehazing algorithm for fire and smoke detection using YOLO v8 successful model training completed and testing in progress.

PSLV



Built platform of products imported in India to promote make in India, built almost 60% and plan to complete by Jan 2025.

V8 Innovations



Registered startup and incubated, built platform for fair price of e-waste after successful market research, secured grants successfully.

ReTrade Hub



Pivot from logistics route optimization app to GLOCK smart lock for luggage with GPS, prototype in testing.

Yukt



Chemical free drinking water for households with customized earthen pots, ground level market research and customer validation in progress.

Prakruthi



Nutritious snack brand Eat with Ease, funds utilised, recipe standardised, stall put up with successful sales of nutri bites enriched in calcium for bone health, seeking further funding for production.

Nutrimasters



Amaranth based biscuits, market survey, done, funds utilised for sample production, contract manufacturer identified trials in progress, testing and certification of nutritional values in progress.

Tonic



PVC recycling and dechlorination to methane, industry visits done, refined process designed, funds utilised and pilot-scale experiments in progress.

Waste Warriors



Turning discarded coconut shells to desirable products, new line of products developed, customer base strengthened, branding and business registration are ongoing.

ShelliQ



Successful concept validation and simulation of drones with NDIR sensors and OGI for methane detection, seeking funds to kickstart final prototype.

Team Candle



Startup registered, funds utilized successful product development of solar thermal distillation with improved heat exchange efficiency for sustainable water purification in remote regions.

Cloudee



AI for precision agriculture, concept validated, funds utilised for complete app development, model training ongoing.

Team Synergy



Built a platform to boost visibility and sales for local artisans of Chhattisgarh.

Tech Army



ZeroCuisine, an eco-conscious food delivery app with sustainable food packaging, market validation done.

Tech Squad



Pivot from smart agriculture using fuzzy logic to pursue internship on building an NGO app after detailed sessions with mentors.

Tech Titans



Mechanic services app for Tier 2-4 cities, team built, startup registered, mentorship in progress, seeking funding for webapp.

Mechanic Bazar



Voice assistants with contextual intelligence for visually impaired users, design and development in progress with mentorship.

Neural navigators



Poultry waste to biogas, market validation and process design completed, building a team and seeking funds for testing and production.

Mavericks



Pivot from automation in hydroponics to internship in freeze-drying market analysis for microgreens, market report submitted successfully to industry.

Harvest hackers



Pivot from AI-contact lens into custom AI-clothing, startup registered, market validation done, target market narrowed down, training model ongoing.

The 925ers



Personalized AI learning SenseAI, offline learning to rural classrooms without internet, pilot studies done, app launched for Grade 12.

Extraterrestitals



IoT-based smart bin for textile waste segregation, mentorship and field level market research in progress.

Greenfuture



AI and Sensor based app for prediction of water pollution, connected with industry and working together to understand market need.

GreenGuardians



AI-powered multilingual courtroom app, mentorship clarified practical difficulties, pivoted to AI application for automobiles.

The Martians



AI-Smart gloves for stroke detection, hospital survey done, datasets collected model training and software developed, hardware design in final stages.

Ideal freaks



With immense gratitude to our mentors, trainers, supporters, and sponsors – your support empowers us, to grow bigger and stronger together.

OUR SUPPORTERS

Sponsors

Venkatesh Prabu Jayaram

Director,
Veera Group



“DPurpose Foundation believes in your ideas—they believe in you. You’re blessed to have such support. You’re going to invent a product, which isn’t easy. ‘Money can’t create money, knowledge can create everything!’”

Jagadeesan Karuppan

Founder & CEO, Unitech
Group of Companies



“This all-India gathering is excellent. We never had motivational speeches or mentorship like this when we started our entrepreneurial journey—Desika is arranging it all for you now.”

Judges

Dr. Francis Somerwell

Founder & Director,
Access to Education
& Employment &
Med-Tech SME



“Desika is a great inspiration. I wonder where she gets her networking connections and energy. I congratulate her and thank her for taking such a lead.”

Santosh Kumar J

Founder of Li- Circle



“We’re here as successful entrepreneurs because of organizations like DPurpose—we got grants, we won competitions.”

Joel Andrews

Co-Founder,
Jesso Edutech



“ I could see in the pamphlet it said ‘we invite not only from the heart, but from the kidney, from the liver’—and it’s all true.”

Giridharan Palanisamy

Founder & CEO, zauto.ai



“ Desika forwarded many applications, and I asked why she was wasting time on unqualified ones. She said, ‘We need to help and mentor them to qualify.’ That’s the inspiration I got from her.”

Dr. Sheela Sasikumar C

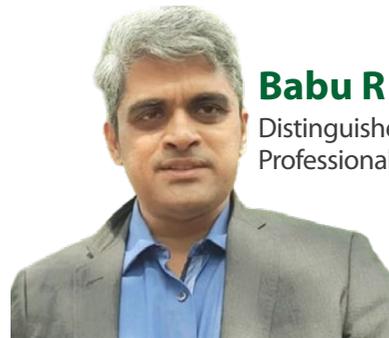
Managing Partner,
SS Clini Research LLP



“ I wish to thank DPurpose and my sweet darling Desika. We always meet at such hackathons—thank you for selecting me as a mentor.”

Babu R

Distinguished Management
Professional and Entrepreneur



“ Hack4Purpose and DPurpose—the keyword is purpose. There’s a Gandhian saying: ‘Find your purpose, and the means will follow.’”

Trainers

Ajay Batra

Founder & CEO,
Uniqorn Growth Partners



“DPurpose is a great journey you’ve all embarked on. The learning, challenges, and sense of accomplishment are unmatched. It’s not just about finding a purpose—it’s about purposefully adding to society.”

Smita Yedekar

Co-Founder & CEO,
1Mobility



“You’re doing fabulous sessions for students. Desika and Obulaxmi are very kind, and your kind words make me feel special.”

Amitabh Sinha

Cofounder &
Chief Strategy Officer,
meetingsandoffices.com



“You’re the one doing magnificent work. Guys, take maximum benefit—her follow-ups and outreach to mentors like me are all for you. She deserves a lot of respect!”

Prashanth K L

Chartered Accountant &
Partner, Guru & Jana
Chartered Accountants



“Thanks a lot, Desika and Obulaxmi, for your generous introduction. It’s interesting to see DPurpose organizing business sessions even on Sundays, engaging students.”

Sudhir Patil

Visionary Tech
Entrepreneur and
MD & CEO, Leap Info Systems



“You have bright students asking the right questions and doing great work. I feel passionate seeing your ideas and research—kudos, keep it up!”

Niranjan Subbarao

Co-founder,
Cyclops Medtech



“Thank you for having me—it was great interacting with innovators. Very refreshing. All the best on this great journey!”

OUR TEAM

Core Team

Saraswathi Prabakar
Director & Financial Manager

20+ years in operations & finance; 10+ years as business owner



A key part of our leadership team guides us with steady steps in key decision-making. Her role involves fund disbursements, budgeting, overseeing documentation, and reviewing team performance.

Desika Prabakar
Founder & Director

7+ years in sustainability research & strategy (1,000+ citations)



A visionary strategist who drives ideation, establishes SOPs, generates leads, and expands networks. Manages stakeholder relations and makes key decisions to ensure the organization's overall growth and impact.

Obulaxmi
Chief Operating Officer

4+ years in corporate sustainability reporting & project coordination



Oversees daily operations, ensuring all initiatives run efficiently and align with our goals. Manages workflows, delegates intern tasks, tracks events, and supports strategic decision-making.

Prabakar Kanagasabai
Treasurer

25+ years in business management, plastic recycling & philanthropy



Oversees finances with full transparency and accountability while playing a pivotal role in securing sponsorships and expanding industry networks. Brings together key stakeholders, resources, and knowledge partners.

The core team of DPurpose came together as a family united by one shared belief, Purpose **Above all**. As the team expands and embraces diverse leaderships, the core will always remain rooted-carrying the legacy to Serve People and Planet. We are committed to building an inclusive team grounded in wisdom, fire, passion, patience, perseverance, integrity, empathy, loyalty and resilience to collectively transform our vision into reality.

"Turns"

Female Team All across India

OSE &
FOUNDATION WOULDNT
WITHOUT THESE ANGELS

1. Varsha, Tamil Nadu
2. Sindhuja, Tamil Nadu
3. Samvarthika, Tamil Nadu
4. Vanshita, Delhi
5. Kiruthiga, Tamil Nadu
6. Rikshita, Tripura
7. Divya Sri, Tamil Nadu
8. Divyadharshini, Tamil Nadu
9. Parish, Uttar Pradesh
10. Aastha, Delhi
11. Sneha Satapathy, Odisha
12. Khushi Jain, Uttar Pradesh
13. Rohini, Maharashtra
14. Nagavarshini, Tamil Nadu
15. Katherine, Karnataka
16. Rachel, Karnataka
17. Gayathri, Andhra Pradesh
18. PriyaTharshini, Tamil Nadu
19. Shourya, Haryana
20. Alifiya, Maharashtra
21. SatyaPriya, Tamil Nadu
22. Ambika Singh, Delhi
23. Sharmili B, Karnataka
24. Khushi Gupta, Tamil Nadu
25. Mansi Sharma, Uttar Pradesh



“ All across our country, our In“Turns” all 25 fierce women
our pillars of strength, making it all happen.”

In “TURNS”

Lead Interns

Rohini

Data Research Specialist,
Maharashtra



Transforms raw data into actionable insights, ensuring every spreadsheet tells a meaningful story.

Ambika

Project Management Lead,
New Delhi



Drives projects end-to-end market research, reporting, and documentation—keeping timelines and quality on track.

Sakshi Choudhary

Data Management Analyst,
Uttar Pradesh



Organizes complex datasets with precision, making sure every piece of information is accessible and accurate.

Khushi

Communications Coordinator,
Assam



Manages stakeholder outreach and telecalling, turning every conversation into a clear opportunity.

Nagavarshini

Content Writer,
Tamil Nadu



Crafts impactful stories and communications to effectively share our foundation’s vision, programs, and impact.

Priya Bhatt

Social Media Specialist,
Chandigarh



Manages and optimizes our online presence to enhance engagement and brand visibility.



Jyoti
Chandigarh



Sania Hassan
Karnataka



Rashi Sethi
New Delhi



Sarika
Haryana



Diya Gupta
Punjab



Kuricheti Gayathri
Andhra Pradesh



Varsha Devi
Tamil Nadu



Sinduja
Tamil Nadu



Hemalatha
Tamil Nadu



Samvarthika
Tamil Nadu



Mansi Sharma
Uttarakhand



Kiruthiga
Tamil Nadu



Rikshita Biswas
West Tripura



Divya Sri
Tamil Nadu

In our first year, we welcomed **25+ passionate interns** from across India, including housewives restarting their careers, curious high-schoolers, and college students eager to apply their learning. They brought fresh energy and diverse perspectives, contributing across areas like data collection, outreach, project coordination, content creation, and social media. Our team was built on inclusion, enthusiasm, and a shared purpose.



Shourya
West Bengal



Parishi Gupta
Uttar Pradesh



Aastha Bhaduria
New Delhi



Sneha Satapathy
Odisha



Katherine
Karnataka



Rachel Mylin
Karnataka



Priya Tharshini
Tamil Nadu



Ariba Nisar
Jammu and Kashmir



Alifiya
Maharashtra



SathyaPriya
Tamil Nadu



Khushi Jain
Uttar Pradesh



Sharmili Banu
Karnataka



Jesika
Tamil Nadu



Dhivyadharshini
Tamil Nadu



Prathyusha
Andhra Pradesh

Our hiring process focused on understanding people beyond their skills. We shortlisted those whose interests matched our needs, followed by personal telephonic conversations to learn more about their motivation and values. After a short trial task, those who showed dedication became part of our core team. In the coming years, we plan to introduce a more structured hiring process to help us grow stronger and be more impact-driven as a team.



India's biggest hunt for sustainable solutions

SHORT-TERM GOALS

- ◆◆ Restructure Hack4Purpose Edition 2 by establishing more regional hubs and enabling deeper, localized impact through focused native solutions.
- ◆◆ Develop a clear and sustainable revenue strategy, supported by onboarding experienced advisors and consultants to guide implementation.
- ◆◆ Redesign unique, structured programs with strong value propositions and measurable impact indicators.
- ◆◆ Conduct one-on-one interviews with a larger number of MSMEs to build a comprehensive and validated problem database.
- ◆◆ Design and execute flagship events to build visibility, increase stakeholder connects and solve real industrial challenges
- ◆◆ Setting base for automation and scaling impact, clear documentation and database management protocols
- ◆◆ Collaborate and participate in major regional and global events to enhance visibility, influence, and high-impact partnerships.



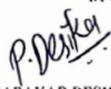
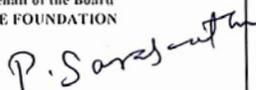


LONG-TERM GOALS

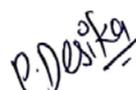
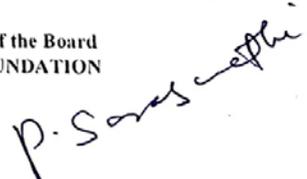
- ◆◆ Scale Hack4Purpose into India's leading grassroots innovation pipeline, empowering Tier 2–4 students to solve real MSME and sustainability challenges.
- ◆◆ Grow Skill4Purpose into a globally certified training institute, equipping women with advanced manufacturing, waste-to-value tech, innovation, sales and marketing.
- ◆◆ Build DPurpose Labs into a national hub for testing, prototyping, and innovation validation, accelerating ideas to market-ready solutions.
- ◆◆ Establish DPurpose Manufacturing as women-led, self-sustaining micro-manufacturing network across India, producing and exporting sustainable products.
- ◆◆ Develop DPurpose Marketplace into a global platform for sustainable innovations, giving Indian creators strong market access and visibility.
- ◆◆ Forge long-term partnerships with corporates, government, philanthropists, and global organizations to co-fund and scale impactful innovation projects.
- ◆◆ Drive large-scale impact by unifying innovation, skilling, manufacturing, and sustainability into one integrated national ecosystem.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Balance Sheet

DPURPOSE FOUNDATION			
CIN: U72200TN2024NPL167616			
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 2025			
	NOTES	AS AT 31.03.2025 (IN THOUSANDS)	AS AT 31.03.2024 (IN THOUSANDS)
I. EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
1 Shareholders' funds			
(a) Share capital	1	100.00	100.00
(b) Reserves and surplus	2	(206.09)	36.70
(c) Money received against Share warrants		-	-
2 Share application money pending allotment			
		-	-
3 Non-current liabilities			
(a) Long-term Borrowings		-	-
(b) Deferred Tax Liabilities (Net)	3	-	0.09
(c) Other Long-term Liabilities		-	-
(d) Long-term Provisions		-	-
4 Current liabilities			
(a) Short-term borrowings		-	-
(b) Trade Payables		-	-
A) Total outstanding dues of MSME		-	-
B) Total outstanding dues of creditors other than MSME		-	-
(c) Other current liabilities	4	672.60	397.51
(d) Short-term Provisions	5	7.63	-
TOTAL		574.14	534.30
II. ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
1 (a) Property, Plant and Equipment			
(i) Tangible assets	6	1.99	-
(ii) Intangible Assets		-	-
(iii) Capital work-in-progress		-	-
(iv) Intangible asset under development		-	-
(b) Non-Current Investments		-	-
(c) Deferred tax assets (Net)	7	0.03	-
(d) Long-term loans and advances		-	5.55
(e) Other non-current assets		-	-
2 Current assets			
(a) Current Investments		-	-
(b) Inventories		-	-
(c) Trade receivables	8	24.50	-
(d) Cash and cash equivalents	9	226.73	231.94
(e) Short-term Loans and Advances		-	-
(f) Other current assets	10	320.89	296.81
TOTAL		574.14	534.30
Significant Accounting Policies & other notes			
As per our separate report of even date attached			
For A K RAJAGOPALAN & CO			
Chartered Accountants			
Firm Registration No. 003405S			
T RASHOK Partner Membership No.026133 Place: Chennai Date: 27th September 2025 UDIN:		For and Behalf of the Board DPURPOSE FOUNDATION  PRABAKAR DESIKA Director DIN:10509992	
		 PRABAKAR SARASWATHI Director DIN:10509993	

Profit & Loss Statements

DPURPOSE FOUNDATION			
CIN: U72200TN7024NPL167616			
PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025			
	NOTES	AS AT 31.03.2025 (IN THOUSANDS)	AS AT 31.03.2024 (IN THOUSANDS)
I. Revenue from operations	11	233.50	267.60
II. Other income	12	703.80	-
III. Total Revenue (I + II)		937.30	267.60
IV. Expenses:			
Cost of materials consumed		-	-
Purchases of Stock-in-Trade		-	-
Changes in inventories of finished goods		-	-
Work-in-progress		-	-
Stock-in-Trade		-	-
Employee benefits expense	13	541.52	-
Finance costs		-	-
Depreciation and amortisation expense	15	3.56	0.95
Other expenses	16	635.13	229.86
Total expenses		1,180.21	230.81
V. Profit before exceptional and extraordinary items and tax (III - IV)		(242.90)	36.79
VI. Exceptional items		-	-
VII. Profit before extraordinary items and tax (V - VI)		(242.90)	36.79
VIII. Extraordinary items			
IX. Profit before tax (VII- VIII)		(242.90)	36.79
X. Tax expense:			
(1) Current tax		-	-
(2) Deferred tax		(0.11)	0.09
Profit (Loss) for the period		(242.79)	36.70
Earnings per equity share in Rs.:			
(1) Basic		(24.28)	3.67
(2) Diluted		(24.28)	3.67
Significant Accounting Policies & other notes			
As per our separate report of even date attached			
For A K RAJAGOPALAN & CO			
Chartered Accountants			
Firm Registration No: 003405S			
T R ASHOK Partner Membership No.026133 Place: Chennai Date : 27th September 2025 UDIN:		For and Behalf of the Board DPURPOSE FOUNDATION  PRABAKAR DESIKA Director DIN:10509992	
		 PRABAKAR SARASWATHI Director DIN:10509993	

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

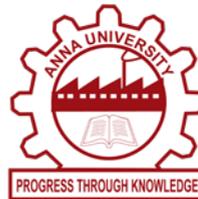
Title Sponsor & Partners



Principal Partner
United Nations UNLEASH



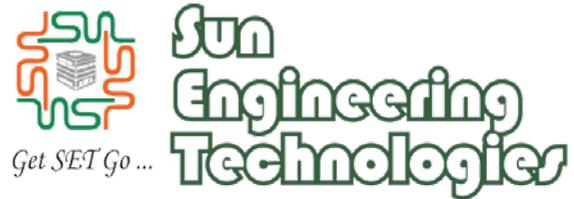
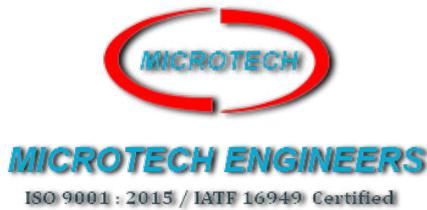
Title Sponsor & Industrial Partner
Veera Group



Innovation Partner
E-Yuva (an innovation wing of Anna University)

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our sponsors and partners for their unwavering support. Our sincere thanks to United Nations UNLEASH for being the Principal Partner, E-Yuva (Anna University) for their innovation partnership, and Veera Group for their title and industrial partnership. Their collaboration and commitment have been instrumental in empowering young innovators and driving impactful sustainability solutions throughout this journey.

Sponsors & Donors



To all our generous sponsors and donors whose contributions made this initiative possible — our heartfelt gratitude. We extend our sincere thanks to **Mr. Venkatramani, Mr. Gopinath from Dubai, Mr. Prasanth from Henkel, Mr. Palaniappan, Angalamman Industries and Precitek Industries**, as well as all our valued partners, for believing in our mission and for your unwavering encouragement enabling our every step.

Media Recognition



Featured in **The Indian Express & Polimer News** – Our first media recognition for Hack4Purpose in June 2024 marked a proud milestone for the DPurpose Foundation. In an exclusive interview with **journalist Leina from IE**, our founder **Desika Prabakar** shared insights on DPurpose's mission, the journey and impact of Hack4Purpose, and the inspiring stories behind our **25+ all female team** driving sustainability and innovation. The feature celebrated how youth-led ideas are being transformed into real-world solutions with purpose and passion.

WALL OF GRATITUDE

Each year, through our website and annual reports, we strive to honor the individuals who have stood as our pillars of strength. Their support fuels our purpose and propels our mission forward. Here are the hearts that made 2024 possible.



Palaniyappan
Supporter



Ramajeyam R M J
Supporter



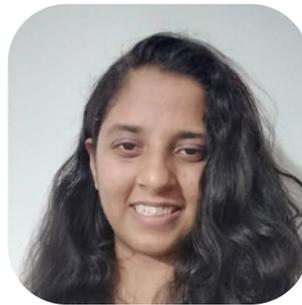
Vivek Manoharan
UNLEASH Ambassador
& Strategic Supporter



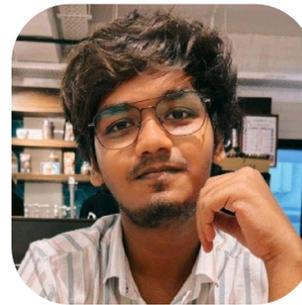
Udhaya Kumar
Web Developer



Prof. Anuradha Dhanasekaran
Supporter



Yukti Anand
Figma Designer



Rogith R
App Developer



Jayabalaji Anandavelan
Logo Designer



Phani Chandra Gubbala
Content Writer



Kamal Anna
Banner Vendor



Kapil Dev R
App Developer



Jeeva Prashanth S
Video Editor

EXPERTS & VOLUNTEERS



No words can truly express our deepest gratitude to everyone who stood with us on the ground throughout 2024 — from mentors, trainers, and experts to the students who trusted us with their ideas and dreams, our dedicated interns working tirelessly behind the scenes, and of course, our volunteers, our true warriors. Each contribution has been invaluable to our growth. To everyone who supported us with your time, effort, and pure heart — your belief in our purpose continues to inspire us and strengthen our path.

LEARNINGS OF 2024

1. One stop entrepreneur App

Our journey began with a strong intention to support innovators at the right time with the right resources (inspired by Varsha and Sindhuja at EDII Sustainability Hackathon Challenge March 2023). This sparked the idea of building an app that could provide everything an entrepreneur needs under one roof. We started with the name THEEE April 2023 (The Holistic Ecosystem for Emerging Entrepreneurs), but our first development attempt didn't move forward. The second team took nearly 9 months (August 2023 to April 2024) and still the outcome failed—neither usable nor aligned with requirements. Eventually, we handed the project renamed URU (You are You) to Kapil and Rogith and shifted the focus from building to prototyping and testing real-time. That shift gave birth to Hack4Purpose, which unexpectedly grew into a national platform, giving us real-time validation and clarity on what entrepreneurs truly needed.

After 200+ one-on-one student interviews a major insight emerged: we didn't need to create yet another startup support app to exist in the ecosystem. What mattered more was enabling students to access initial funding to build their prototypes. Further, it was clear that investors hesitated investing in prototyping, and students themselves sometimes changed direction due to personal or academic pressures. Thus we understood that a platform to bridge these concerns might be ideal (if at all an app was built). Considerably, crowdfunding proved to be the most sensible bridge—raising small amounts initially to test ideas, build confidence, and move forward with real proof. Even if a project didn't scale, students still gained lifelong experience and the satisfaction that they took a chance on themselves.

A Place of your
Growth

This is where you find the Growth of your startup
e you find the Growth of your startup
up you find the Growth of your startup

LEARNINGS OF 2024

2.Hack4Purpose

Hack4Purpose was never part of the original plan, yet it eventually became our purpose. Pushing last-minute sponsorships, increasing people count, a venue with a limited capacity, lack of air-conditioning and water, open food arenas with high risk of rain, yet everything fell into place. Walking onto the stage and watching parents seated in support of their children, students and jury travelling long distances from different states made every obstacle worth it. The whole experience highlighted the need for stronger pre-event structure. Sharing agendas to chief guests and students early is crucial, as last-minute Wi-Fi issues made downloading schedules difficult. Miscommunication taught us that volunteers must be briefed clearly, assigned to specific teams, and led by coordinators who understand their roles well. Time spent individually contacting each team also showed us that maintaining WhatsApp groups would significantly reduce delays and confusion.

Post-event, the learnings continued. Many students disengaged after the hackathon, which helped us understand that our focus should remain on those willing to stay and continue. Weekend masterclasses stretched across the entire day and proved challenging for students balancing exams and personal commitments. That said, perfect timing for everyone is simply not possible and a hybrid of engaging sessions with recorded ones might be a suitable option. Tracking team progress, scheduling mentor sessions, and collecting final reports consumes a lot of time and resources with constant follow ups. Setting up well-defined systems would ease this extreme resource drain. Introducing progress-based cash disbursements added accountability, and consistent progress with steady results. Overall, Hack4Purpose strengthened our understanding of planning, communication, logistics, volunteer management, and long-term student engagement. The journey may have been demanding, but it gave us clarity and confidence to build better systems for impact.

Hack4

LEARNINGS OF 2024

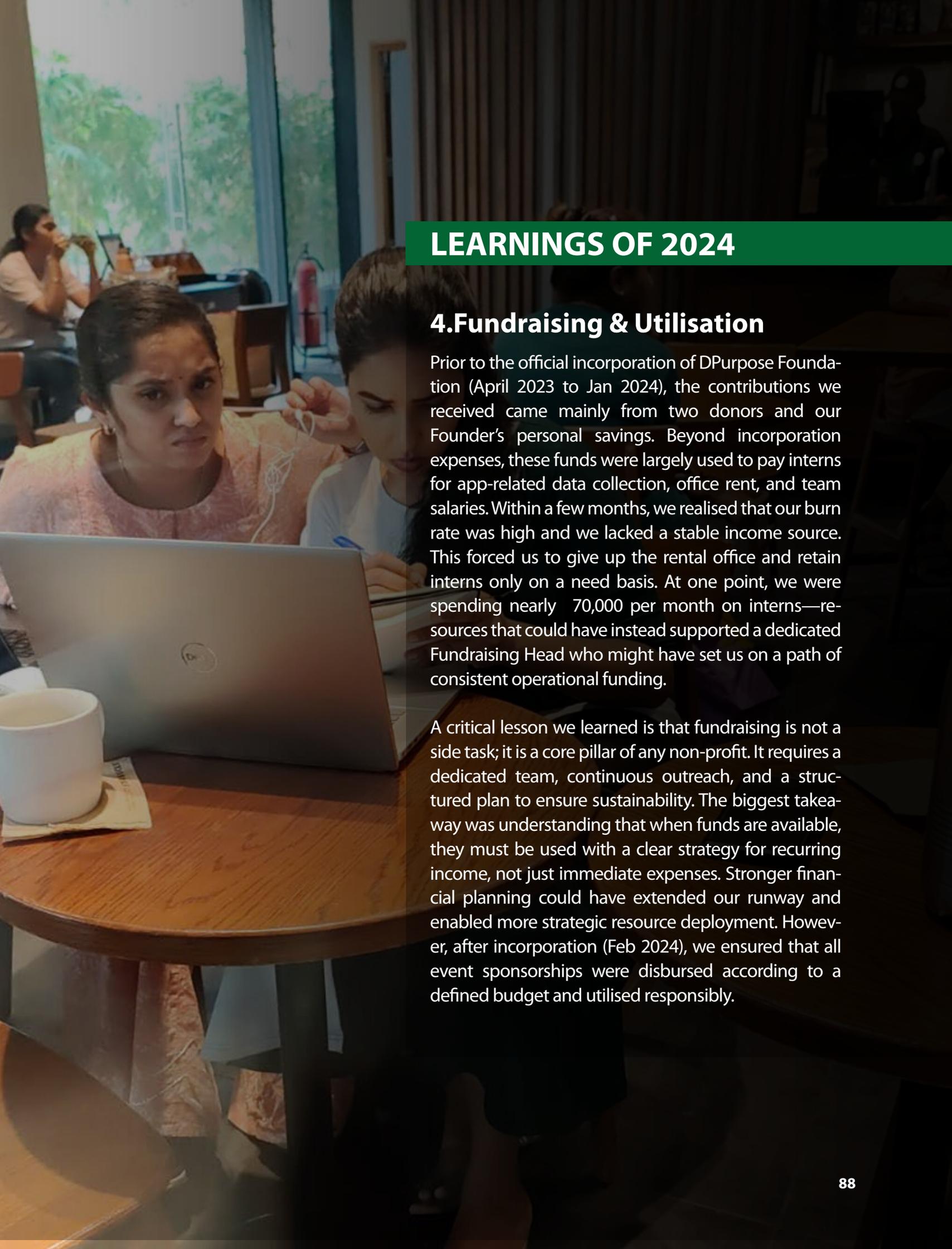
Because WHY, we work WHERE
to help WHO WHAT
HOW in order to

3. Non-profit Ecosystem Enablers

Attending the India CSR & ESG Summit 2024 by CSR Box and IFRC 2025 by ILSS in Delhi truly opened our minds. Both platforms offered invaluable learning and networking opportunities. We gained clarity on the importance of consistent donor communication, understanding priority CSR domains, and refining how we pitch for funding. A key insight was that CSR support predominantly flows toward education, healthcare, and skilling, while sustainability receives comparatively lower focus. This reaffirmed the need to align ourselves with organizations whose missions resonate with ours, rather than approaching everyone. We also learned the importance of identifying the actual decision-makers and engaging them the right way.

One major takeaway was the value of building a strong donor base with 200–300 active donors who genuinely believe in your mission within the first three years is the greatest asset a team can inherit. The masterclasses offered deep insights on pitching and donor management: donors are human; treat them as long-term partners, not transactions. A ripple effect happens only when donors feel valued—they eventually become ambassadors. In a first meeting, pitch and pause. Listen more, present less, and always let your data and reports speak for you. Storytelling, founder honesty, digital experimentation, and clear messaging on who you are and the value you create remain non-negotiable.

The sessions also made it evident that to raise funds, you must first invest in branding, communication, and clarity. Being able to explain your work in one strong line, articulate your vision and mission, define the exact problem you solve, and differentiate your approach is essential. A well-structured branding template can bring this clarity to life. Overall, we realised that with the right mindset, continuous learning, and focused strategy, we can build trust, unlock resources, and create long-term impact.

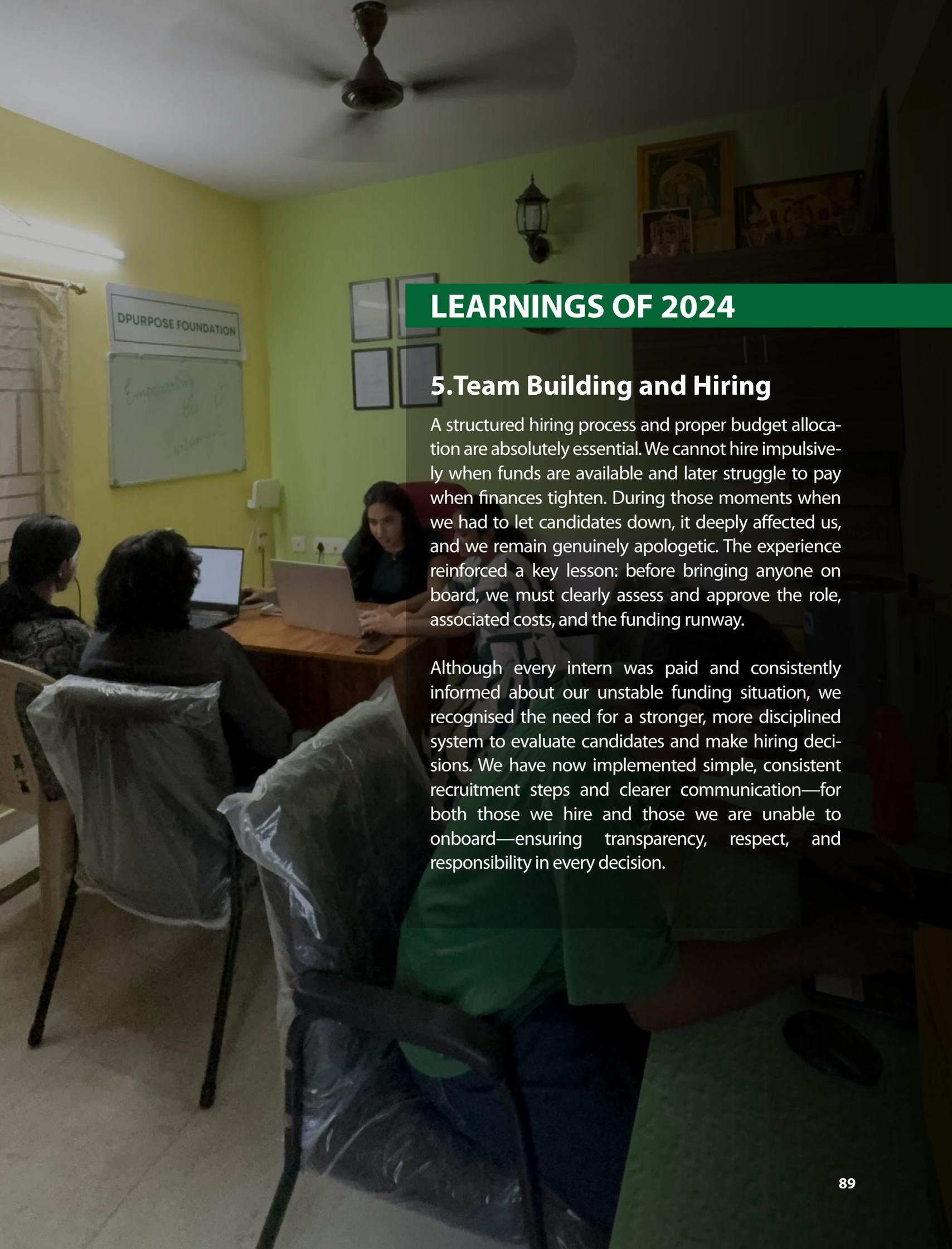
A woman in a pink top is looking at a laptop in a meeting room. Other people are visible in the background, some sitting at tables and others standing. The room has large windows and a fire extinguisher is visible in the background.

LEARNINGS OF 2024

4. Fundraising & Utilisation

Prior to the official incorporation of DPurpose Foundation (April 2023 to Jan 2024), the contributions we received came mainly from two donors and our Founder's personal savings. Beyond incorporation expenses, these funds were largely used to pay interns for app-related data collection, office rent, and team salaries. Within a few months, we realised that our burn rate was high and we lacked a stable income source. This forced us to give up the rental office and retain interns only on a need basis. At one point, we were spending nearly 70,000 per month on interns—resources that could have instead supported a dedicated Fundraising Head who might have set us on a path of consistent operational funding.

A critical lesson we learned is that fundraising is not a side task; it is a core pillar of any non-profit. It requires a dedicated team, continuous outreach, and a structured plan to ensure sustainability. The biggest takeaway was understanding that when funds are available, they must be used with a clear strategy for recurring income, not just immediate expenses. Stronger financial planning could have extended our runway and enabled more strategic resource deployment. However, after incorporation (Feb 2024), we ensured that all event sponsorships were disbursed according to a defined budget and utilised responsibly.



LEARNINGS OF 2024

5. Team Building and Hiring

A structured hiring process and proper budget allocation are absolutely essential. We cannot hire impulsively when funds are available and later struggle to pay when finances tighten. During those moments when we had to let candidates down, it deeply affected us, and we remain genuinely apologetic. The experience reinforced a key lesson: before bringing anyone on board, we must clearly assess and approve the role, associated costs, and the funding runway.

Although every intern was paid and consistently informed about our unstable funding situation, we recognised the need for a stronger, more disciplined system to evaluate candidates and make hiring decisions. We have now implemented simple, consistent recruitment steps and clearer communication—for both those we hire and those we are unable to onboard—ensuring transparency, respect, and responsibility in every decision.



LEARNINGS OF 2024

6. Clarity on Programs & Positioning

We always knew we wanted to support students, but we didn't yet know how. The success of Hack4Purpose affirmed that we were on the right path—and, more importantly, that students trusted us. With our first batch, we followed a fluid, student-led approach: listening closely to their needs and bringing in trainers, domain experts, mentors, and speakers who had real-world experience. This worked exceptionally well in a small setting, where one-on-one attention was possible.

However, we realised that while such personalised support is effective at an early stage, it is not scalable. To create impact at a larger level, we need clarity, structure, and strong systems. What worked informally for a handful of students must now evolve into well-defined frameworks and structured programs that can be replicated, scaled, and sustained.



LEARNINGS OF 2024

7. Health above all (Physical and Mental)

During Hack4Purpose, sleepless nights, skipped meals, and constant pressure became our norm. It was one of the toughest phases we had ever experienced—the weight we carried made us question everything. We eventually hit a point where we asked ourselves, “When we get to do what we love, why does it have to feel this painful?” That moment made one thing unmistakably clear: our way of working had to change. Stepping back and taking breaks helped us reset, and we realised that intensity without balance is simply not sustainable.

The entire journey through 2024 taught us that mindset matters. We are not here to prove anything to anyone; we are here to create meaningful value for people and the planet. If health is compromised, purpose is compromised. Moving forward, our culture will be rooted in prioritizing well-being, encouraging rest, and ensuring every team member puts their health first—so that impact continues with clarity, strength, and intention.



DPURPOSE FOUNDATION

Empowering the Purposeful

 +91 8925902116, +91 7904326057

 admin@dpurposefoundation.com

 www.dpurposefoundation.com

We back purposeful ideas with the right opportunities,
turning ambition into transformative solutions.

ANNUAL REPORT 2024 - 25