

# Community Initiatives.

## wipro foundation

Wipro Foundation represents the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) entity of Wipro Limited. Going back over two decades, we focus on social initiatives in the domains of Education, Primary Healthcare, Ecology, Disaster Response and Cities & Public Spaces.

### KEY ISSUES

- Improving access to and quality of education
- Education of children with disability
- Fostering ecological resilience in communities
- Augmenting public health systems
- Augmenting community resilience after disasters
- Democratic public spaces in cities
- Improving quality and equity in engineering education

### STAKEHOLDERS ADDRESSED

- Proximate communities
- Public health systems
- Public education system
- Civil society organizations (CSOs)
- Engineering students and faculty



Through our community initiatives we collectively impact nearly **2 million people**, in partnership with 230+ organizations. This includes **150,000 expectant** and young mothers, and 250,000 infants, children, and persons with disability.

## Education, Ecology, and Community Care

### SCHOOL EDUCATION

Supported over **~68,000 children** (including **~11,000 children with disability**), and **~6,300 teachers** through **~80 partner NGOs** in 27 states and UTs.



### SCIENCE EDUCATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Supported **1,500 STEM educators** reaching out to more than **301,500+ underserved students** since 2012 in 35 school districts in seven states in the US. Provided bursaries to **115 STEM teachers** in the UK, in partnership with King's College London (KCL) and Sheffield Hallam University (SHU), since 2018.



### ENGINEERING EDUCATION

Our engineering education program TalentNext covered nearly **50,000 students**, of whom 20,000 were identified for intensive training through the 'Future Skills Program.'



### ECOLOGY

Supported participatory water management practices and community grant projects in **5 cities**. **15+ partners** are engaged in urban ecology projects.



### EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

- Around **3,300 employees** contributed a total of over 13,500 volunteer hours through volunteer events.
- **13,000+ new employee-contributors** joined our matching program, taking the total number of employees who contribute to **Wipro Cares initiatives** to **45,000**.



### SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION

Wipro earthian, our sustainability education program, reached out to **17,000+ students**. Over **4,000 teachers** across 200 districts have engaged with Wipro earthian's school program, which seeks to make sustainability axiomatic to education. More than **2,500+ college students** participated in the 2022 National Sustainability Quiz.



### PRIMARY HEALTHCARE

Reached out to **1.3 million+ people** in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Nagaland, NCR, Odisha, West Bengal and Rajasthan. This includes **150,000** expecting and young mothers and **250,000** infants, children, and persons with disability. We now run a total of **26 projects** in primary healthcare with a focus on maternal and child healthcare.



### DISASTER RESPONSE

Provided comprehensive support for relief operations for flood-affected vulnerable communities in Assam, covering a population of **325,000 people**.



### INTERNATIONAL CHAPTERS: COMMUNITY INITIATIVES OUTSIDE INDIA

Wipro Cares, our volunteering program, is active in ten countries, with a focus on digital skills, inclusion, the environment, and local engagement.

#### USA

We supported 10 projects aimed at providing underprivileged youth with digital skills, and promoting STEM education & environmental initiatives.

#### Brazil

We concentrated our efforts on food security in the northern regions.

#### The Philippines

500 Wipro volunteers participated in community learning, tree planting, assisting visually impaired individuals, and supporting disadvantaged families.

#### Romania

Over 2,000 trees were planted to demonstrate our commitment to the environment.

#### United Kingdom

We partnered with an organization that assists girls and women in STEM education to donate laptops to a local school.

### Our approach

Wipro believes it is imperative to contribute to creating a more just, equitable, humane and sustainable society. We have been involved with social initiatives for more than two decades engaging in a deep, meaningful manner on critical issues in the fields of education, primary healthcare, ecology and disaster response. We choose to work on these domains, as they are widely recognized to be key enablers of societal progress and community-resilience with positive impacts over the long-term on livelihoods, health and well-being, gender equity, economic productivity and democratic participation.

We work with a network of nearly 230+ committed partner organizations in these domains, who collectively implemented approximately 300+ projects in India, and in other countries such as the US, the UK, the Philippines, Romania and France, etc.

## ADVANCING THE COMMON GOOD

At Wipro, being socially responsible is at the core of how we define ourselves and act. Our social engagements predate the regulatory mandates. These are linked to the realization that we are part of a larger ecosystem comprising of different stakeholders and communities.

Wipro's engagements in education have been both broad and deep. Equitable access to education for underprivileged communities, children with disability, and girl students has been our focus. We are currently partnering with ~140 partners from 27 states and UTs on ~15 thematic areas, making it one of the most diverse networks of education groups across the country. The 20<sup>th</sup> Partners' Forum of our education partners was held in Pune in December 2022 that saw the participation of 150+ CSOs.

Wipro earthian, our flagship program in sustainability education, is in its 13<sup>th</sup> year. Cumulatively, the earthian school and college programs have engaged 50,000+ students and 20,000+ schools across India. This year, we also initiated the Wipro Climate Challenge, which brought together talented students from across India to build data-driven circular economy solutions and business models. Five college teams won the Challenge that saw more than 1,150 student applications.

TalentNext, our India-wide program to develop competencies in emerging digital technologies among students and faculty, reached out to 50,000+ engineering students this year. ~850 faculty members from a new set of engineering and science colleges completed our faculty development programs.

Our urban primary healthcare program has expanded further with a focus on maternal & child health, nutrition, adolescent health, mental health, capacity building of frontline workers, and augmenting the public health system. In line with our policy of strengthening our healthcare partner capacities, we also hosted the Wipro Cares Annual Healthcare Partners' Forum in February 2023, where more than 100 partners took part.

In ecology, our work was characterized by continued support for existing programs in urban groundwater and solid waste management, along with directionally new initiatives in the areas of urban climate adaptation, and clean water and sanitation for the urban poor through our network of 15 partners.



→ Over 150 organizations working in 27 states and UTs gathered for the annual Wipro Education Partners' Forum in Pune in December 2022.

Wipro's employees have repeatedly demonstrated that they are willing to rise to the occasion and contribute monetarily or by volunteering through the employee-led trust Wipro Cares. These occasions range from the humanitarian distress caused by the Russia-Ukraine war and the 2022 Assam floods. During the year, Wipro Cares' location chapters across India, present in cities that we operate in, organized 300+ volunteering events involving 3,000+ volunteers. With the overarching goal of driving local ownership of community projects and galvanizing larger employee involvement, we launched a redesigned program for countries other than India in the domains of Education, Digital Inclusion, Diversity, Poverty Alleviation and Animal Welfare.

The requirement of an impact assessment for FY23 was applicable to our projects under Community Healthcare, Education for the Underprivileged, Education for Children with Disability, Higher Education for Skills Building, Engineering Education, etc. The impact assessment studies were positive about our efforts at making the interventions sustainable and reaching out to our target populations of the most vulnerable communities, families, and students effectively.

→ [Learn more about our Corporate Social Responsibility \(CSR\) policy, CSR projects, and impact assessment here.](#)

## HIGHLIGHTS



**12,000**

STUDENTS SUPPORTED THROUGH THE ACCESS TO EDUCATION PROGRAM THROUGH **480** EDUCATORS WITH THE SUPPORT OF **32** PARTNERS

### Education

We firmly believe that education is an enabler of social change. Our notion of good education envisages holistic development in multiple dimensions, including cognitive, social, emotional, physical and ethical abilities. Our School Education programs continue to be the cornerstone of our CSR initiatives, characterized by geographic breadth and thematic range. We work with ~140 partners across 27 states and UTs in the country who work on more than 15 thematic areas.

Under our Access to Education Program last year, we supported 32 partners working towards providing access to education for about 12,000 students and 480 educators. Our goal of improving educational quality progressed further with the support extended to 10 new organizations under the Systemic Education Reform Program; working in collaboration with our partners, we have reached ~15,000 students and 3,000+ educators through this program. Our 'Education for Children with Disability' Program was also strengthened. Seven new organizations were added under this program through which we effectively

reached more than 11,000 CwDs through 21 partners. The Wipro Education Fellowship Program, which supports early-stage education organizations through fellowships for the founders, has 71 Fellows across 40 organizations who reached out to ~30,000 children and ~2,000 educators.

'Wipro earthian' is one of the largest sustainability education programs in India. It offers diverse learning opportunities for students in both schools and colleges. The program has engaged 3,000+ schools and 4,000+ teachers in 200+ districts across India. In addition, we also run a large national sustainability quiz for college students. Launched in 2015, it has seen participation from 8,600 teams till date.

Over 50,000 students were covered through TalentNext, a large-scale program combining digital skilling for final year college students and capacity building for college faculty. In addition, 850+ faculty from 300+ engineering and science colleges across India participated in faculty development programs.



**150,000**

YOUNG AND EXPECTANT MOTHERS WERE POSITIVELY IMPACTED

### Primary healthcare

Boosting and strengthening our urban primary healthcare system is a focus area for us. This is because vulnerable communities still lack adequate personnel and amenities for their healthcare needs. Last year, we rolled out a mental health initiative in one of the communities in Pune, where we were already providing maternal and pediatric care.

In Bengaluru, we began engaging with our schools network with a focus on improving the health and well-

being of children and adolescents. We introduced healthcare projects in Bhubaneswar, Visakhapatnam, Coimbatore, Hyderabad and Jaipur. We added 12 healthcare projects in FY23, taking our total to 26 projects in the primary healthcare space. We reached out to 1.3 million people through our work in healthcare across India, including 150,000 young and expectant mothers.



5

### INDIAN CITIES OFFERING URBAN ECOLOGY PROGRAMS



5

### ACTIVE COMMUNITY ECOLOGY PROJECTS

## Ecology

As a part of our deep commitment to ecological sustainability, Wipro has been involved with multiple programs related to the environment, both within our business ecosystem and in the civic and social sectors outside. Under our Urban Ecology Program, we remain committed to our key undertakings in groundwater administration and regulation in metropolitan areas such as Pune and Bengaluru.

To foster conversations and encourage interdisciplinary collaborations on sustainability in Bengaluru, Wipro Foundation co-convened an inter-institutional initiative called Bengaluru Sustainability Forum (BSF). BSF has become an important space in the city for wide-ranging discussions on issues related to urban sustainability in the city. It also runs a successful small grants program that supports action-oriented projects on the urban environment.

In Chennai, through the small grants program, we currently support 6 community-based interventions on water, climate and biodiversity.

In Hyderabad, a call for six design interventions in water, waste, and public spaces has been initiated by our partner Hyderabad Urban Lab Foundation (HUL Foundation).

In the National Capital Region (NCR), a new initiative to address urban biodiversity and hydrology issues has

commenced in the Aravalli hills. The Aravallis offers crucial ecosystem services. To restore the health of this vital ecosystem, it is imperative to collaborate with the forest department for rainwater conservation and water provisioning to promote biodiversity. Additionally, we envision extending the well-known Mangar Bani Eco Club into other villages in the area.

Under our Community Ecology Program, we focus on striking an ecological balance in our proximate communities by taking up projects that have direct and tangible benefits. We added a new project in Bhubaneswar (Eastern India) that will support peri-urban communities in building integrated water, sanitation and hygiene management systems. It will also ensure continuous availability of clean water for drinking and domestic use.

We are implementing rainwater harvesting in 7 government schools in the Greater Bengaluru Metropolitan Area. The project plays a role in enhancing the schools' self-reliance for their water requirements, and spreads awareness on water conservation among students.

We continued to support agroforestry projects supporting farmer livelihoods at Coimbatore and the welfare of waste-pickers at Bengaluru and Mysuru.

**As a part of our deep commitment to ecological sustainability, Wipro has been involved with multiple programs related to the environment, both within our business ecosystem and in the civic and social sectors outside.**



**325,000+**

PEOPLE IMPACTED THROUGH  
DISASTER RELIEF EFFORTS

### Disaster response

Natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods and cyclones are beyond our control. These have devastating effects, especially in a geographically and climatically diverse country such as India. When these disasters strike, it is the already precarious livelihoods of underprivileged groups that are severely affected, leaving them particularly vulnerable.

Wipro Cares collaborated with 'Doctors For You' (DFY) during the Assam Floods (2022) to provide comprehensive support for relief operations for flood-affected vulnerable communities in the districts of Cachar and Nagaon. The assistance provided included

emergency health care services and the distribution of hygiene kits to over 65,000 households.

As part of our long-term response to the Kerala floods of 2018, we collaborated with Kottappuram Integrated Development Society (KIDS) to establish a stitching unit to provide livelihood support to women in the state's Thrissur and Ernakulam districts.

Our disaster response projects aim to strengthen communities and assist them in rebuilding their lives and livelihood.

## Wipro Cares: Community Care through Employee Engagement



Wipro Cares is a not-for-profit trust that engages with the communities in our vicinity. In addition, the trust also works on the long-term rehabilitation of communities affected by natural disasters.

Initiatives supported by Wipro Cares in these domains include 'Access to Education Program,' 'Education for Children with Disabilities,' 'Community Ecology Program,' 'Community Healthcare Program,' and 'Disaster Response Program'. The Wipro Cares governance framework is a great example of employees playing a key role in our engagement with communities, both in terms of volunteering and monetary contributions.

The Trust has spearheaded a number of volunteering activities and projects, such as contributing to the relief operations caused by the Assam Floods, organizing a technology skills coaching program for the LGBTQ+ community, a tree plantation drive in Sundarbans, and organizing a day-long interactive session on inclusion for the children of migrant workers.

In FY23, Wipro Cares worked with 28 education partners, 17 projects in education for children with disabilities, 26 projects in primary healthcare, 5 projects in community ecology and 2 projects in disaster rehabilitation.



→ Together with the local communities, Wipro Cares volunteers have nurtured a thriving ecosystem by planting 6,000+ mangroves in Sundarbans over the past three years.