



June 2026

NEWSLETTER

AI for Good. Impact for All.

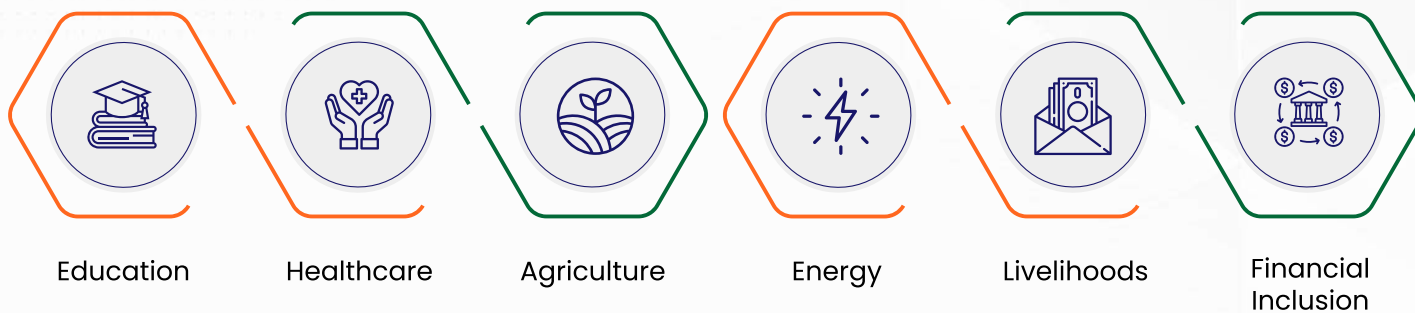
Highlights from the successful completion of the AI+Impact Cohort 2026.



AFI's Mission

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

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



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



Funding
Opportunities



Partnerships
for Growth



Enhanced E-Services
support on key
business requirements



AFI Update

The AI+Impact Cohort 2026 brought together 12 promising AI-driven startups committed to solving pressing social challenges across sectors. Over an intensive four-month accelerator, founders worked closely with experienced mentors, industry experts, and ecosystem partners to refine their solutions and accelerate their growth. The journey culminated in a Demo Day, where the startups showcased their innovations to investors, partners, and ecosystem leaders. This edition celebrates their remarkable journey, key milestones, and the impact they are poised to create.

Program Update

AI+Impact Cohort

- Successfully launched the AI+Impact Cohort 2026 on 27 January 2026.
- Received 100+ applications from AI-driven startups tackling critical social challenges.
- Conducted a rigorous jury process to shortlist 12 high-potential startups for the accelerator.
- Delivered a four-month accelerator program from February to May 2026.
- Facilitated 80+ hours of one-on-one mentoring with experienced mentors and industry experts.
- Organized 12 founder huddle sessions to promote peer learning, accountability, and collaboration.
- Conducted 4 Knowledge Building Sessions (KBS) featuring domain experts and ecosystem leaders.
- Hosted 4 Learning Community (LC) sessions to encourage founder collaboration and knowledge sharing.
- Successfully concluded the cohort with a Demo Day on 6 June 2026, where startups showcased their AI-powered innovations to investors, mentors, partners, and the impact ecosystem.



AI+Impact Cohort

- The AFI AI+Impact Cohort 2026 brings together 12 high-potential startups leveraging AI to solve critical social and environmental challenges.
- Designed as a 4-month intensive program, the cohort provides strategic mentorship, ecosystem access, and support to help startups scale sustainably.
- The initiative strengthens AFI's mission to build a thriving AI-for-impact ecosystem in India, connecting innovators with capital, partners, and global expertise.

Startups part of this cohort



**Bonny Dave,
Akshita Sachdeva**
Trestle Labs | Kibo



Samhita
Resilience AI



Manoj Sanker
Nemocareo



Rajat Kumar Mala
dBee



Chirag Patel
Alarth Green



Shobana Uthayashankar
Innogle



**Senthil Kumar M,
Dhinesh Pandian**
Savemom



Pradeep Kumar P
X Boson AI



Chandramouli Samatham
Caare



Nishtha Budhiraja
Wundrsight



Amit Patel
Oros Health



Dr. Shikha Gupta
EyeSetu Medicare

AFI Agri Cohort 2.0

Key Highlights of from the cohort:

- **Cracking PMF for AI Products** – Led by Praful Krishna, Product Management Director at Google, this session explored practical strategies for achieving product-market fit in the rapidly evolving AI landscape.
- **The Reality of AI Fundraising in 2026** – Sailesh Ramakrishnan shared valuable insights on the evolving fundraising environment, investor expectations, and what it takes for AI startups to successfully raise capital.
- **From AI Tools to AI Agents: The Next Product Paradigm** – Vishwesh Pai discussed the transition from AI-powered tools to autonomous AI agents and the opportunities this shift presents for founders building the next generation of AI products.
- **One-on-One Mentorship Sessions** – Throughout the four-month cohort, each startup received personalized guidance from its primary mentor through dedicated one-on-one sessions, helping founders refine their product, strategy, go-to-market approach, and growth roadmap.




Cracking PMF for AI Products

Focus Areas

- ✓ Identifying real problems worth solving
- ✓ Aligning AI with scalable business models
- ✓ Building strong user feedback loops



 **Thursday, 23rd April 2026**
 **9 AM IST**

Speaker: Praful Krishna
 Product Management Director,
 AI Powered Google




The Reality of AI Fundraising in 2026

Focus Areas

- ✓ Current trends in AI investments
- ✓ Stage-wise expectations: Pre-seed, Seed, Series A
- ✓ Impact of GenAI hype on funding decisions



 **Saturday, 11 April 2026**
 **8PM IST**

Speaker: Sailesh Ramakrishnan
 Managing Partner, Rocketship.vc.




From AI Tools to AI Agents, The Next Product Paradigm

Focus Areas

- ✓ Evolution: SaaS → AI copilots → agents
- ✓ How product thinking changes in agentic systems
- ✓ Designing user trust & control
- ✓ When NOT to use agents



 **Friday, 27th March 2026**
 **10:30 TO 11:30 AM**

Speaker: Vishwesh Pai




AFI MENTOR CONNECT IN ACTION



Veera Manikandan Raju
 AFI Mentor

Dr. Shikha Gupta
 Founder of EyeSetu

The discussion centered on strengthening the venture's positioning in AI-enabled healthcare delivery, refining its unique value proposition, and building a scalable growth roadmap.

AI + Impact Cohort Demo Day

AI

AFI AI + IMPACT COHORT DEMO DAY



STARTUPS



Bonny Dave,
Alokita Sachdeva
Trestle Labs | Kibo



Samhita
Resilience AI



Amit Patel
Oros Health



Rajat Kumar Mala
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Dhinesh Pandian
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X Bosen AI



Manoj Sanker
Nemocareo



Dr. Shikha Gupta
EyeSetu Medicare



Nishtha Budhiraja
Wundrsight



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Caare

INVESTORS/ECOSYSTEM PARTNERS



Next Bharat
A BUZUKI INITIATIVE



SOCIAL alpha



Acumen



BHARAT INCLUSION SEED FUND
BY CIE.CO



SCCE Pune



caspien



farm gate



GAIPP



asam startup



RAMPUP ADVISORY LLP



ThinkAs



Kotak Mahindra Bank



IIHMR STARTUPS
A unit of IIHMR Foundation



EXCLUTO



qcic VGU



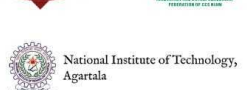
NIAM



IIMU



CSL CARVE STARTUP LABS



National Institute of Technology, Agartala

www.actionforindia.org







AI+Impact Cohort Demo Day:

- This cohort culminated in a high-energy virtual Demo Day, where all 12 startups presented their ventures to a curated audience of investors, corporates, mentors, and ecosystem partners.
- The session witnessed strong participation, meaningful engagement, and insightful discussions.
- Several startups received significant investor and partner interest, reflecting the quality of the cohort and the growing momentum in the AI innovation ecosystem.
- The depth of conversations underscored the market readiness and potential of the participating ventures.

Key highlights from the session included:

- Nearly 50 investors, corporates, ecosystem leaders, and stakeholders participated in the virtual Demo Day.
- 60 follow-up requests were generated after the event, averaging 5 follow-up engagements per startup.
- Startups attracted strong interest for investments, pilot opportunities, strategic partnerships, and due diligence discussions.
- The event unlocked multiple opportunities for investments, pilots, and corporate partnerships. Overall, the Demo Day reinforced AFI's position as a key platform connecting startups with capital, partnerships, and ecosystem stakeholders.

AI + Impact Cohort Demo Day





AFI AI + IMPACT COHORT DEMO DAY



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[Click here to watch Kibo 360 Kit demo video](#)



Bonnie Dave
Co-Founder- Trestle Lab (KIBO)





AFI AI + IMPACT COHORT DEMO DAY



nemocare
Revolutionizing newborn care

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
"By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality and morbidity....."
-United Nations SDG (Goal 3) www.nemocare CONFIDENTIAL



Manoj Sanker
Founder - Nemocare

- The AI+ Impact Cohort Demo Day was a powerful showcase of how AI is being leveraged to solve some of society's most pressing challenges.
- We were thrilled to host a vibrant gathering of investors, venture capitalists, ecosystem leaders, academic institutions, and innovation champions who joined us to witness 12 high-potential startups present their AI-driven impact solutions.
- The enthusiasm and engagement from the audience were reflected in the outcomes, with each startup generating an average of 5 meaningful investor and ecosystem connections. This highlights the growing interest in scalable, mission-driven AI innovations and the quality of founders emerging from the cohort.

AI+Impact Cohort Testimonials

"The AI+Impact Cohort provided us with invaluable mentorship, strategic insights, and a collaborative ecosystem that challenged our thinking and strengthened our growth journey. The guidance from mentors has been instrumental in helping us scale our vision with greater confidence."



Dr Shikha Gupta

Founder – Eyesetu

"The AI+Impact Cohort has been a journey of continuous learning, refinement, and meaningful conversations. The mentorship and peer interactions helped us sharpen our product strategy and better position our AI solution for real-world impact."



Rajat Mala

Founder – dBee

"Being part of the AI+Impact Cohort connected us with experienced mentors and a vibrant founder community. The program helped us validate our approach, build valuable relationships, and prepare for our next phase of growth."



Chirag Patel

Founder – Alarth Green

"The AI+Impact Cohort offered the right blend of mentorship, collaboration, and ecosystem access. From strategic guidance to investor readiness, the program has accelerated our journey and opened new opportunities for partnerships and scale."



Pradeep Kumar

Founder – X Boson AI



AI + Agri COhort



AI+ Agri cohort

- Action For India officially launched the AI+Agri Cohort on 21 May, a four-month accelerator designed to support high-potential agritech startups building AI-powered solutions for the agriculture sector.
- The cohort focuses on startups working at the intersection of Artificial Intelligence and Agriculture, enabling founders with mentorship, industry connections, expert guidance, and access to investors.
- As agriculture evolves, the future is intelligent, data-driven, AI-powered, climate-resilient, and built for scale. The AI+Agri Cohort is designed to help entrepreneurs build solutions that shape this future.
- From precision farming and predictive analytics to supply chain optimization and climate-smart agriculture, the cohort aims to accelerate innovations that improve productivity, sustainability, and farmer livelihoods.
- The four-month program will provide participants with curated learning sessions, one-on-one mentoring, ecosystem partnerships, and opportunities to showcase their innovations to investors and industry leaders.
- At AFI, we believe the next agricultural revolution will not be driven by machinery alone—it will be powered by intelligence, enabling smarter decisions, greater resilience, and sustainable growth across the agri ecosystem.



Feedback and Engagement:

Your Voice Matters

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

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

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