

WORK IN PROGRESS

APRIL 2026

10 YEARS ... AND STILL LEARNING!

Ten Years

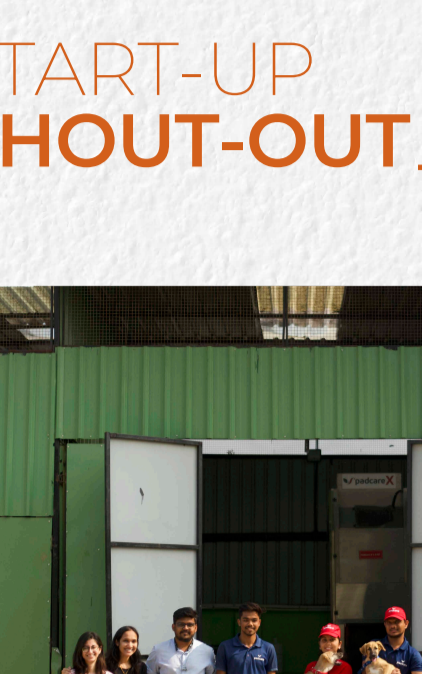
This month, Social Alpha turns ten.

To mark the milestone, our founder, Manoj, returns to where it all began.

What are we really trying to build? It's the most fundamental question a founder asks, and one that never had a neat answer in Social Alpha's early years. Over the past decade, what has emerged is a model with real skin in the game: an operating philanthropy that holds itself to the same standards of accountability, discipline, and risk-taking that it expects from its founders. Because more often than not, innovation doesn't fail due to flawed science, it falters because the system around it is incomplete.

The last ten years have been a process of learning and unlearning, of successes and setbacks, of constant recalibration, and most importantly, of staying committed to building. Ten years ago, we were unsure about how to reshape philanthropy to meet the problem. Today, we are clearer about the problem, more confident in the model, and more honest about its limits.

This note is both an origin story and an argument. And it may well change how you think about the relationship between philanthropy and institution-building.



MANOJ KUMAR,
Founder, Social Alpha

[Read the full note here](#)

START-UP SHOUT-OUT



PadCare Raises \$3M in Pre-series A round

Social Alpha portfolio company, PadCare has raised \$3 million in funding from Rainmatter by Zerodha, 3one4 Capital, Brigade REAP, 3i Partners, Lavni Ventures, and Pratul Shroff. The round will support the scaling of PadCare's circular menstrual hygiene infrastructure, which now serves organisations across multiple cities.

To know more about PadCare

[Click here](#)

Doto Health Crosses One Million Fetal Monitoring Tests

CareMother by Social Alpha-backed Doto Health has reached one million fetal monitoring tests, a milestone reflecting the growing adoption of its AI-powered maternal health platform across public and community health settings.

To read more about Doto Health

[Click here](#)

CELEBRATING



1 Million Fetal Monitoring Tests

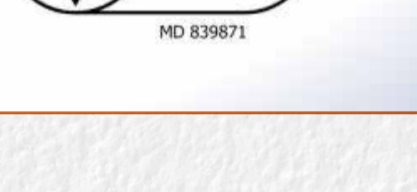


RNT Health Receives ISO Certification

Social Alpha portfolio company, RNT Health Insights, supported through the Pfizer INDovation program, has received ISO certification, a step toward strengthening quality systems as the start-up advances its health technology solutions.

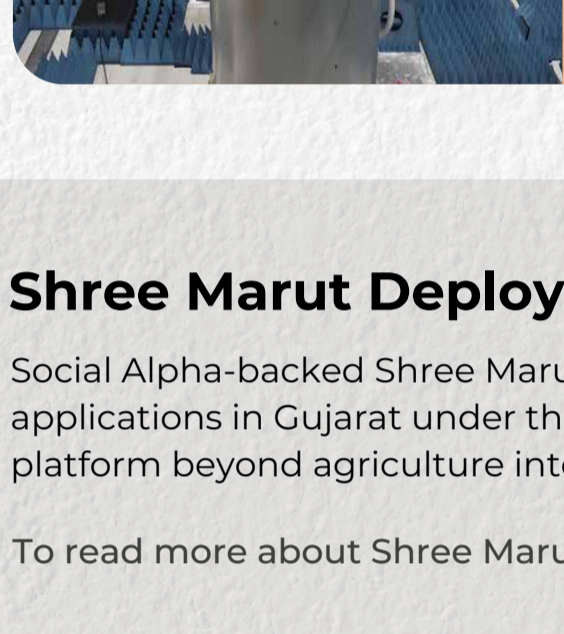
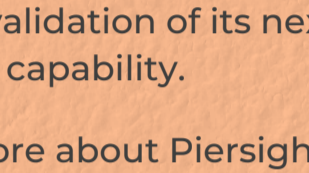
To learn more about RNT Health Insights

[Click here](#)



RNT Health Insights Private Limited Receives ISO 13485:2016 and EN ISO 13485 Certification

Strengthening our commitment to deliver safer and reliable healthcare solutions.



Piersight Completes Varuna 2.0 Antenna Testing at ISRO

Social Alpha portfolio company, Piersight, has successfully completed testing of the Varuna 2.0 reflectarray antenna at the Compact Antenna Test Range Facility (CATF) at ISRO's Space Applications Centre in Ahmedabad, advancing validation of its next-generation maritime observation capability.

To know more about Piersight

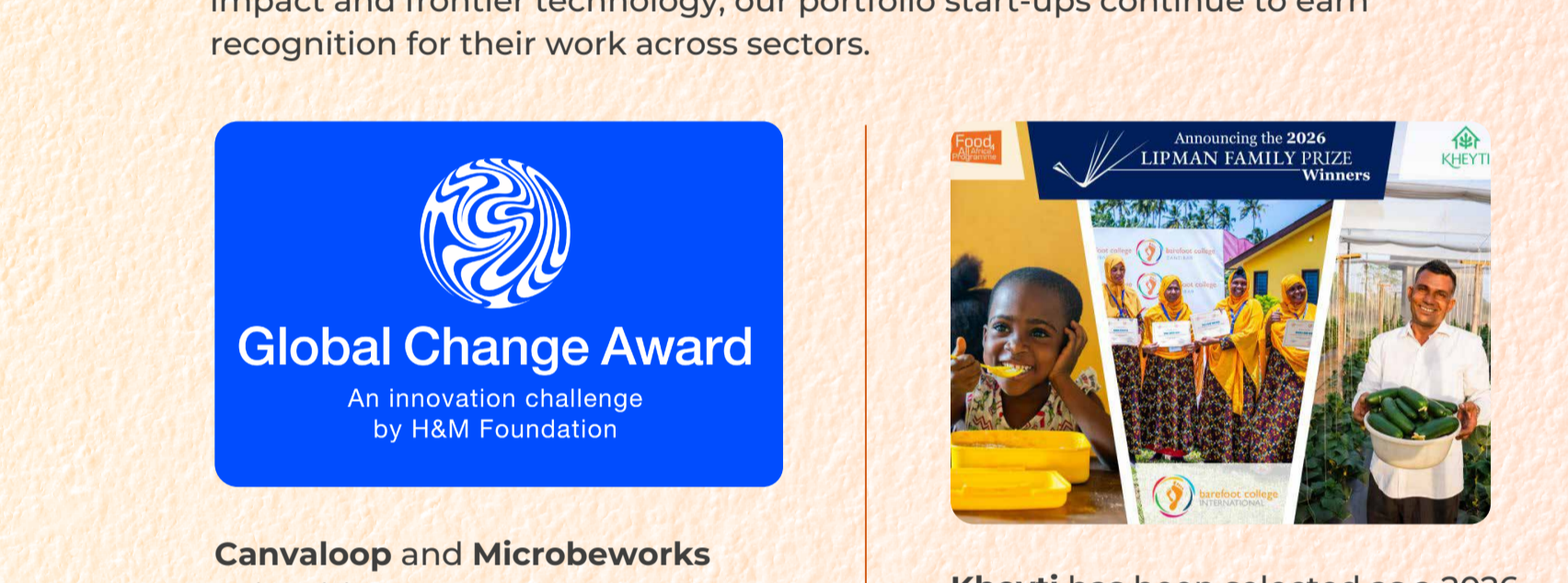
[Click here](#)

Shree Marut Deploys Electric Tractor for Municipal Use

Social Alpha-backed Shree Marut E-Agrotech has deployed its electric tractor for municipal applications in Gujarat under the Swachh Bharat Mission, expanding the use case of its EV platform beyond agriculture into urban sanitation and logistics

To read more about Shree Marut E-Agrotech

[Click here](#)



And the Winners Are...

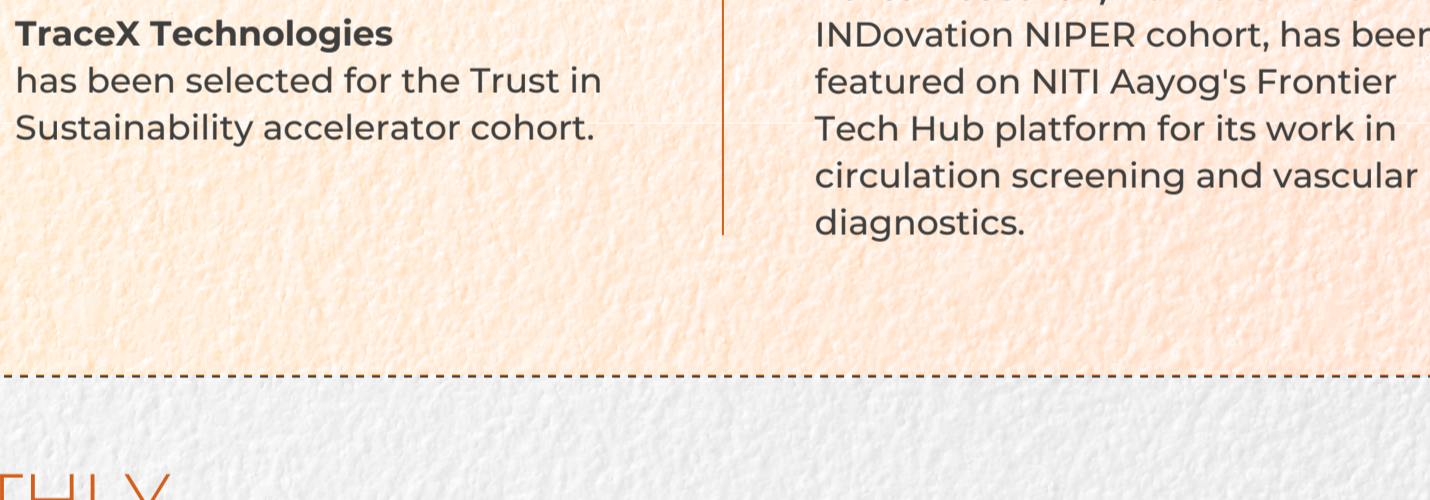
From climate innovation and global sustainability platforms to agricultural impact and frontier technology, our portfolio start-ups continue to earn recognition for their work across sectors.



Canvaloop and Microbrews Scientific have been named among the Top 20 finalists for the Global Change Awards 2026 by the H&M Foundation, recognising their work in sustainable materials and cleaner textile innovation.



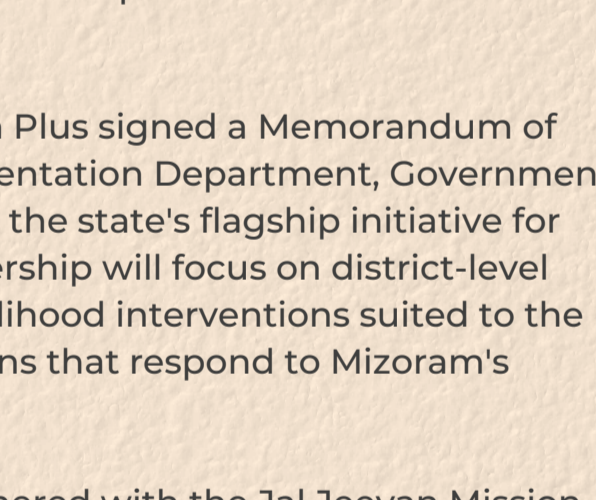
Kheyti has been selected as a 2026 Lipman Family Prize winner, recognising its work in building climate-resilient solutions for smallholder farmers.



PadCare received the Climate Redesign Award at Delhi Climate the Innovation Week 2026 and has been nominated for the Start-Up Award at the CHEMTECH Leadership & Excellence Awards 2026.



TraceX Technologies has been selected for the Trust in Sustainability accelerator cohort.



Aarca Research, from the Pfizer INDovation NIPER cohort, has been featured on NITI Aayog's Frontier Tech Hub platform for its work in circulation screening and vascular diagnostics.

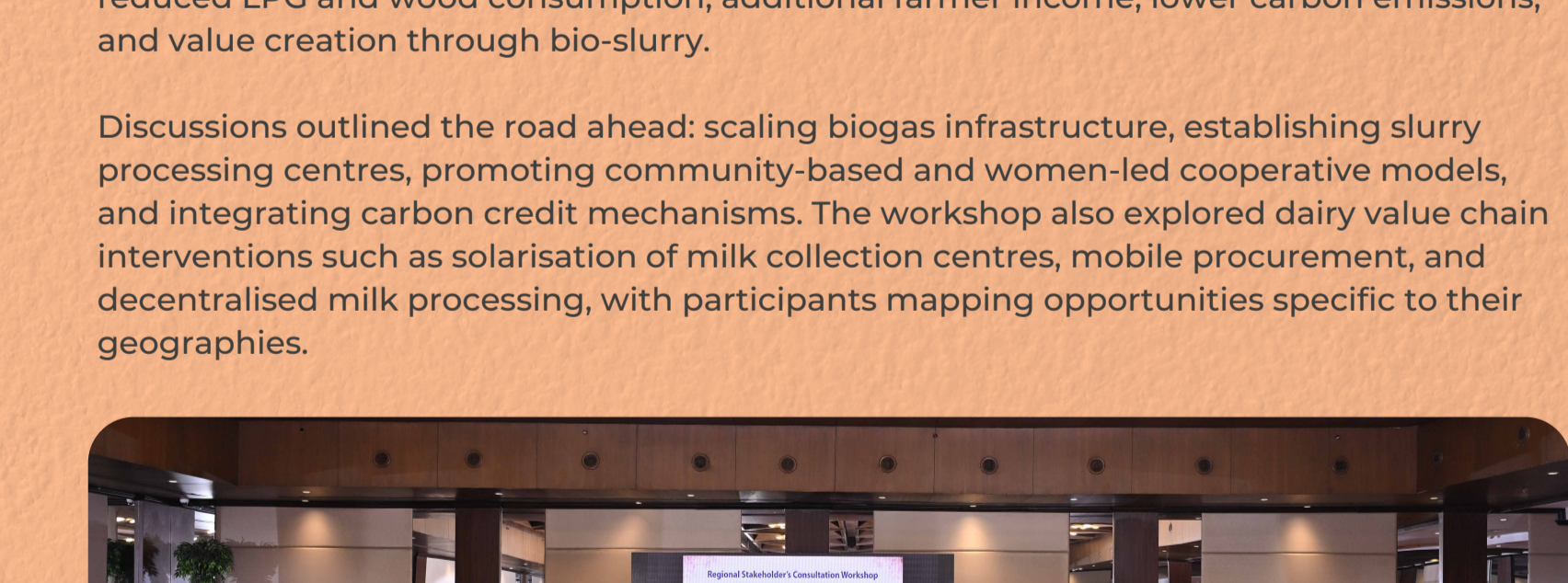
MONTHLY SCOOP

Deepening Partnerships in Northeast India

Social Alpha's engagement in the Northeast took significant steps forward this month through two new institutional partnerships.

In Mizoram, Social Alpha, SELCO Foundation, and Sustain Plus developed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Planning & Programme Implementation Department, Government of Mizoram, to support the implementation of FOCUS 2.0 — the state's flagship initiative for strengthening smallholder farmer livelihoods. The partnership will focus on district-level ecosystem development, identifying technology and livelihood interventions suited to the state's hill regions, and enabling locally grounded solutions that respond to Mizoram's geographic and socio-economic context.

In Assam, Sustain Plus and SELCO Foundation have partnered with the Jal Jeevan Mission, Government of Assam, to explore integrating solar energy into rural piped water supply schemes. The intervention aims to address persistent operational challenges that undermine the reliability of rural drinking water infrastructure.



Scaling Circular Dairy: Stakeholder Workshop with NDDB

Sustain Plus, in partnership with NDDB, convened a stakeholder consultation workshop in Bengaluru, bringing together 78 participants from milk unions, milk producer companies, federations, and NGO partner organisations to advance the manure and dairy value chain collaboration.

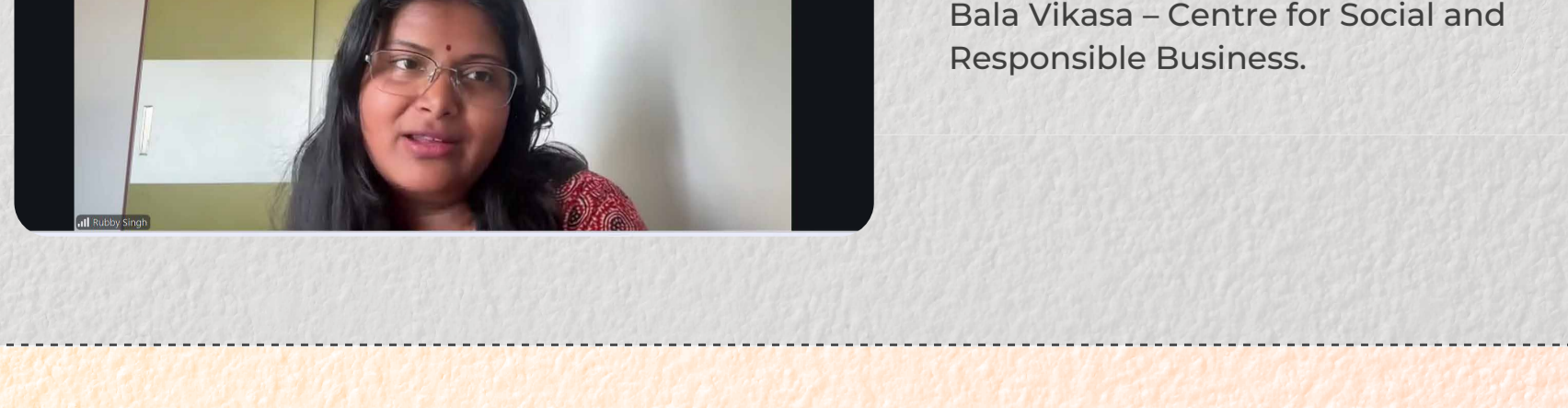
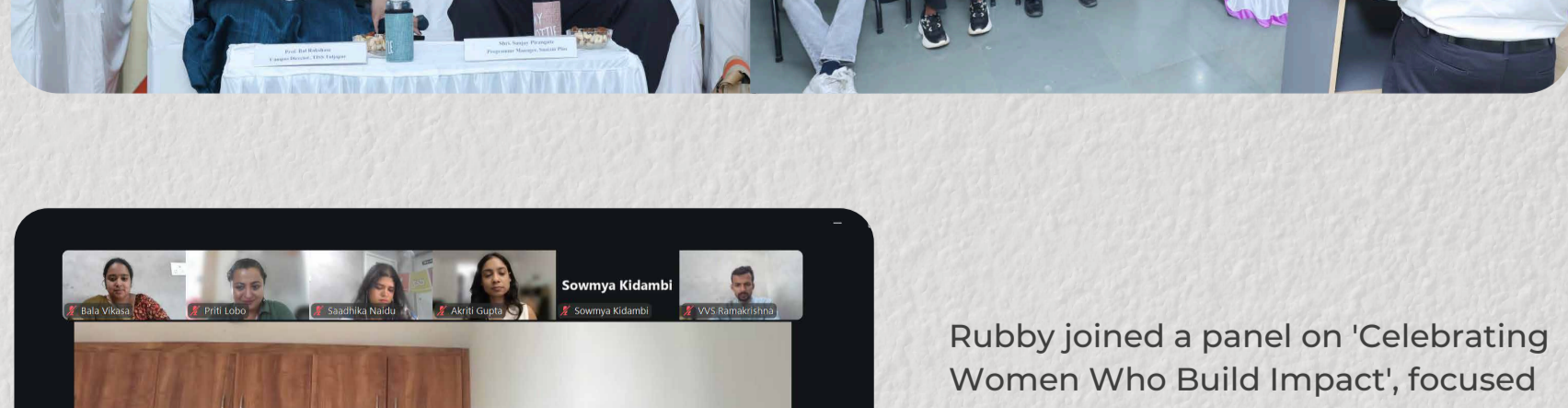
The workshop reviewed learnings from the partnership so far, including the installation of 1,040 household-level flexi biogas plants across seven states, which contributed to reduced LPG and wood consumption, additional farmer income, lower carbon emissions, and value creation through bio-slurry.

Discussions outlined the road ahead: scaling biogas infrastructure, establishing slurry processing centres, promoting community-based and women-led cooperative models, and integrating carbon credit mechanisms. The workshop also explored dairy value chain interventions such as solarisation of milk collection centres, mobile procurement, and decentralised milk processing, with participants mapping opportunities specific to their geographies.

Across Forums and Conversations

Members of the Social Alpha team contributed to sector dialogues this month across energy, agriculture, and social impact.

Ajinkya participated in a closed-door roundtable convened by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) on strategic pathways for diversifying India's battery industry through sodium-ion technology. The discussion examined supply chain development, competitiveness against lithium-ion, and what the Indian ecosystem needs to support commercialisation.



Rubby joined a panel on 'Celebrating Women Who Build Impact', focused on leadership, capital, and systems change in social impact, organised by Bala Vikasa – Centre for Social and Responsible Business.

IN THE MEDIA

From Innovation to Impact: How Krishi Mangal is Supporting India's Smallholder Farmers — Economic Times

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Amara Raja Group Enters Defence Electronics with Indigenous Naval Solutions — ET Telecom

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