



ACTIVITY REPORT

2024 - 2025

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Founder's Note

Nine years ago, we stepped into Kappakkal Ward with little more than a dream and a deep sense of responsibility. We didn't have a perfect plan. We didn't have all the answers. All we had was the hope that something meaningful could grow if we listened closely, showed up consistently, and stayed rooted in the lives of the people.

In 2024, we began to clearly see the impact of eight years of dedication and groundwork taking shape before our eyes.

Today, we have 35 local leaders within the Kappakkal coastal community. They are the true changemakers - many of them were students who once sat in our early sessions, grew through iLAB programs, and who are now leading their own communities with strength and compassion. Watching them create change in the very place where they once learned has been nothing short of powerful.

In the early days, we initially worked with children, and during parent gatherings, we would often meet their mothers. They embraced iLAB with warmth. Many of them were struggling financially, and there was a shared need — they longed for a space to come together and share their dreams, but didn't know where to start. It was then that we began looking for ways to create that space. This year, we launched CLAP — the Coastal Livelihood Acceleration Program, exclusively for the women of Kappakkal Ward.

In just eight months, the women of CLAP started making wonders. Many of them began earning through digital microtasks, while others launched products under their brand, Urmi. It was a powerful step forward for us — to see these women rise, empower themselves, and lead their families to financial independence. Today, 75 women from Kappakkal are creating their own stories of impact and success with iLAB.

iLAB began its journey under coconut trees—without classrooms, just open spaces by the sea. Over time, we gradually moved into Anganwadis and other community spaces, where we continued our work for eight years. This year we have created our own space in Kappakkal—the Skill Hub. This space, imagined for so long, was built with and for the community. It's a place where young people and homemakers are rediscovering their strength, their voice, and their deepest aspirations.

This year, through CLAP and DTLP, we've welcomed more hearts into this journey of iLAB. Our work has grown — not just in size, but in depth. We've become more rooted in the community than ever before, with each passing day strengthening our sense of belonging.

The soul of our work has been our team — a small group of six young women, each one bringing her whole self to the mission. With courage, joy, and quiet determination, we carried forward a vision that once lived only in notebooks and dreams. Often, we've found ourselves in awe, wondering how such profound change is being created by such a small team. And every time, the answer has been clear: this is the power of women working together.

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Kailash Nadh, Deepa Pillai, Roshni Murali, Balagopal Chandrashekhar, Vinita Nambiar, and all the incredible people who have supported iLAB in so many ways — with their unwavering belief in our mission. Your generosity and trust have played a vital role in helping us build a resilient community. Together, we are creating something much bigger than ourselves, and for that, we are forever grateful.

Nasmina M P

Founder & Director, iLAB



What is iLAB and What we do

iLAB is a registered non-profit organization dedicated to transforming the socio-economic landscape of coastal communities. We are building a sustainable inter-dependent coastal community through an integrated model. We empower children, youth, and women from under-resourced coastal regions by equipping them with education, entrepreneurial skills, and digital skills needed to break the cycle of poverty, achieve economic equity, and foster long-term self-reliance.

Our work is driven by three flagship initiatives :



Coastal Education Enhancement Mission (CEEM)

Expanding access to quality education and learning opportunities for children in coastal communities.



Coastal Livelihood Acceleration Program (CLAP)

Creating sustainable livelihood pathways and economic resilience for women from coastal communities.



Digital Tech Literacy Program (DTLP)

Bridging the digital divide by equipping young people with essential tech and 21st century skills for a competitive future.

For over eight years, iLAB has pioneered a community-driven, sustainable development model that empowers local youth to take ownership and lead transformative initiatives. By fostering grassroot leadership, we are building a resilient, inclusive, and self-sustaining ecosystem—ensuring long-term social and economic progress within fishermen communities.



Vision

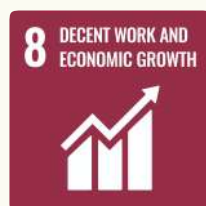
To create a sustainable ecosystem where every individual from the coastal community can access dignified livelihoods, embrace their heritage, and drive collective action for lasting change.

Mission

A thriving, self-reliant coastal community where everyone has the chance to learn, earn, and lead with dignity.

The United Nation's(UN) Sustainable Development Goals(SDG)

We Work On:



Impact Overview – 9 Years of Impact

90+

students supported
in continuing
higher education

500+

Children accessed digital
learning space daily during covid

800+

Families engaged in
Kappakkal ward

75

Women equipped with
entrepreneurial skills

100+

MissionTEN students
passed SSLC

2175+

Students impacted through
CEEM

54

Digitally empowered
youth

35+

Number of
community fellows

17+

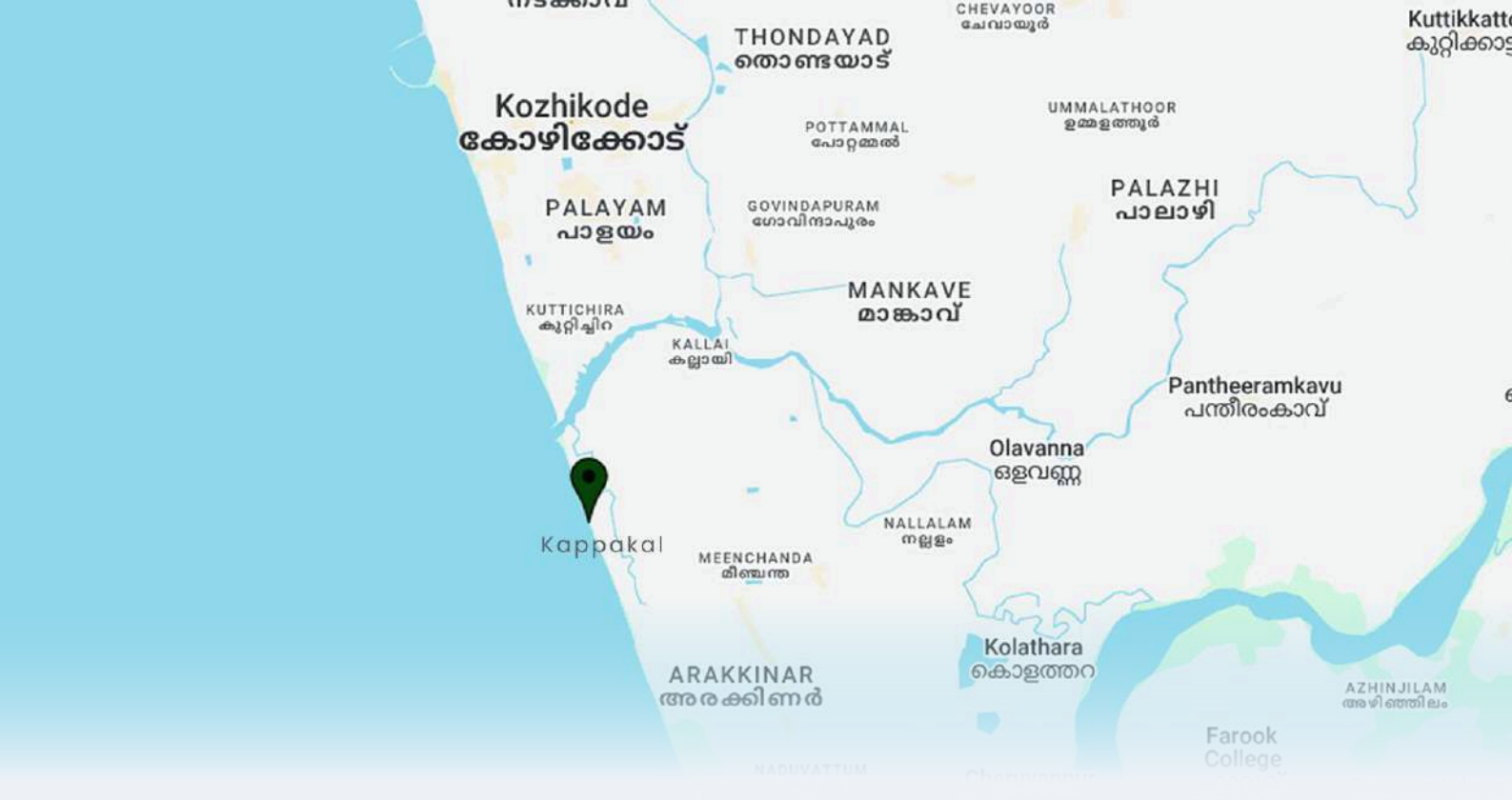
Projects

300+

Number
of volunteers

30+

Interns



Coverage

1. Geographical Coverage

Primary Focus Areas : Coastal regions of Kerala, currently Kappakal coastal ward, Kozhikode.

2. Demographic Coverage

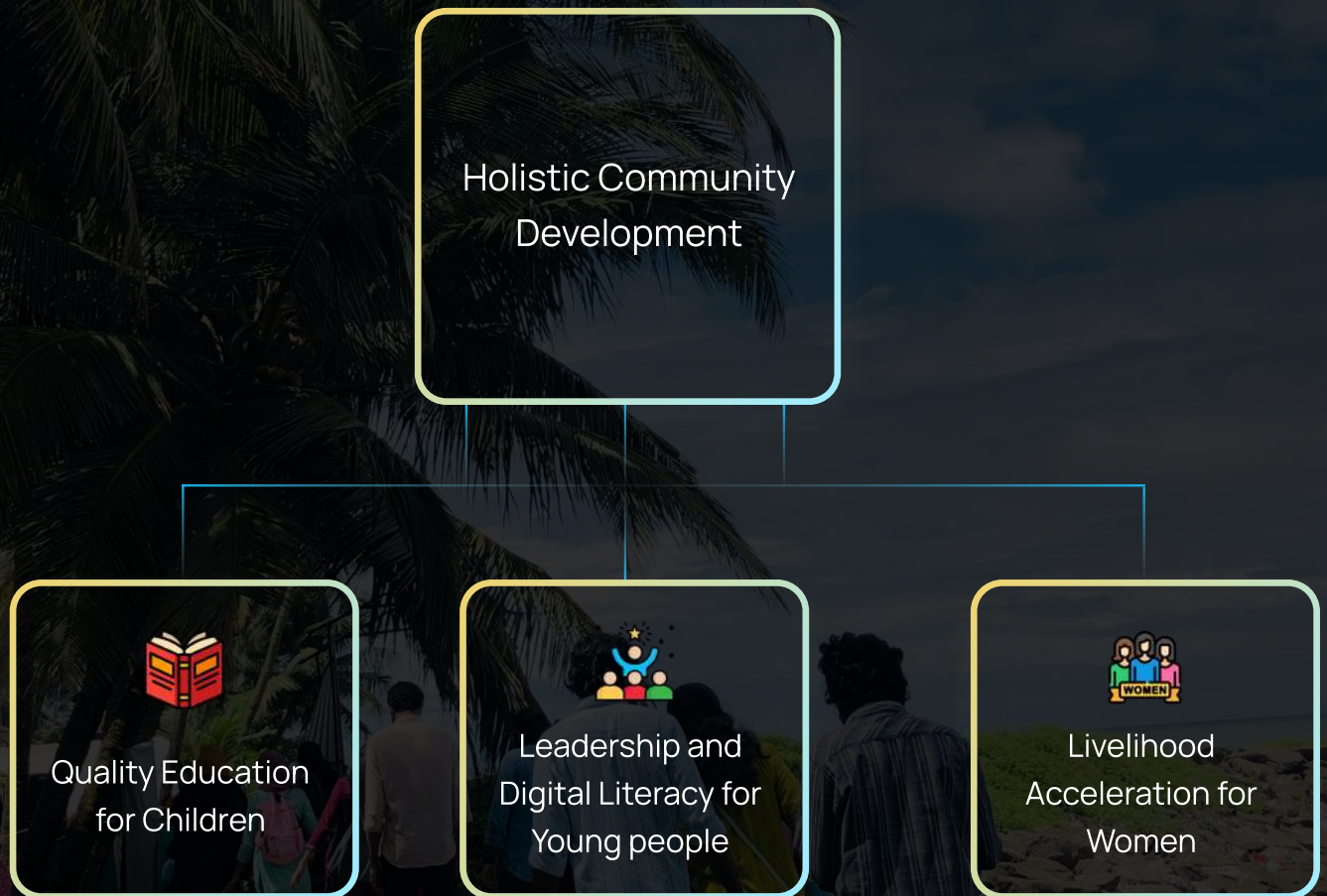
- **Children (Ages 11-16):**
Focused on education and foundational literacy through Project CEEM.
- **Young People (Ages 16-25):**
Bridging the digital divide through Project DTLP, providing technology-driven skills and job opportunities.
- **Women (Ages 25-45):**
Equipping them with entrepreneurial skills, financial literacy, and leadership through Project CLAP.

3. Sectoral Coverage

- **Education:** Strengthening formal and non-formal education systems, reducing dropout rates.
- **Skill Development & Employment:** Providing digital literacy, vocational training, and entrepreneurship support.
- **Livelihood & Economic Empowerment:** Creating sustainable income models for women and youth.
- **Infra and resource Development:** Establishing a Skill Hub in coastal communities as a centre for learning, mentorship, and innovation.

2024 - 25 : A Transformative Year for iLAB

This year with the addition of two Major projects- DTLP (Digital Tech literacy Program) and CLAP(Coastal Livelihood Acceleration Program) we have realised our dream of a holistic community development. Our micro innovation focuses on all vulnerable groups- children, women and young people within the Kappakkal coastal ward. We created an interdependent model where education, livelihood and technology intersects.



Major Achievements 2024 - 2025

Education and Youth Empowerment (CEEM)

- A movement of youngsters who are working as the educational fellows in the community - 34 young people in 2024-25 educating 300+ children from coastal communities.
- 27 students in higher education from past MissionTEN batches
- 3 neighbourhood learning hubs providing a conducive learning environment for children to learn.
- Launched Pebbles : school intervention project at Kappakkal lower primary school with 35+ students

Sustainable Infrastructure (Skill Hub)

- A dedicated community learning space built for skills and digital literacy.
- The Skill Hub facilitates workshops, trainings, and mentorship programs.
- Acts as a collaborative space for women, youth, and educators.

Digital Literacy (DTLP)

- Empowering 54 young people with essential digital skills for better job opportunities.
- Creating pathways for career development and bridging the technological gap in coastal communities.
- Enabling digital inclusivity and fostering mentorship

Women's Livelihood & Entrepreneurship (CLAP)

- Transformed women into self-reliant entrepreneurs.
- Provided financial literacy and business training, ensuring stable incomes.
- Strengthened families by enabling women to support their children's education.
- Creating a sustainable cycle where women-led businesses contribute to community growth.

iLAB 2024-2025

Impact In Numbers

The past year at iLAB was shaped by persistence, purpose, and people coming together to make change real. Across communities, our programs in education, digital access, and livelihoods created spaces for learning, dialogue, and action. From workshops to fellowships, every gathering became an opportunity to share skills, shift perspectives, and strengthen local leadership. What emerged wasn't just participation—it was ownership.



2114

Total Engagement Hours



1233

Total Number of Events/Sessions



1518

Total Community Reach



419

Total Project Participants

Project CEEM

Children

- ✓ Literacy and Numeracy
- ✓ Mentorship
- ✓ Safe Learning Space
- ✓ Life Skill & SEL
- ✓ Future Leaders

Resilient Community

Project CLAP

Women

- ✓ Sustainable Livelihood
- ✓ Network & Support
- ✓ Gender Equality
- ✓ Entrepreneurial Growth
- ✓ Financial Empowerment

Project DTLP & Fellowships

Young People

- ✓ Community Role Models
- ✓ Employability
- ✓ Change Maker
- ✓ Digital Equity
- ✓ Community Ambassadors

A Skill Hub for the Community

The Skill Hub of iLAB is a vibrant community empowerment hub designed to uplift and empower the coastal communities of Kerala. This 999-square-foot space, located in Payyanakkal, Kozhikode, serves as a platform for students, youth, and homemakers to find their aspirations and reach their actual level of potential.



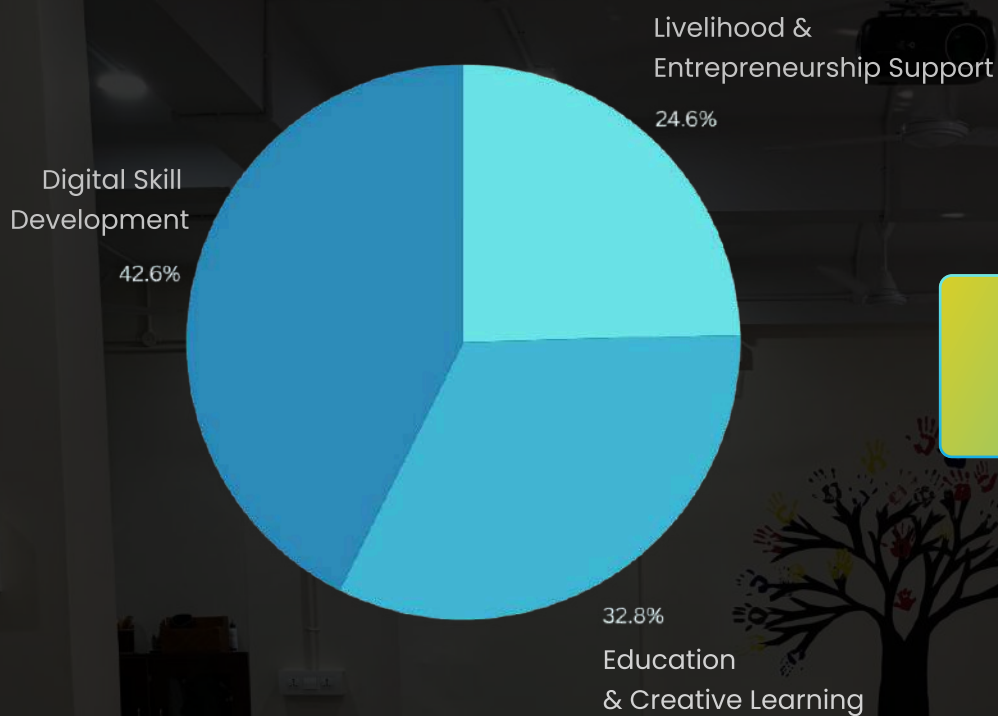
In the coastal area, where limited resources and opportunities hinder growth, the Skill Hub acts as a crucial support system, providing essential access to education, skill development, and self-improvement while fostering the holistic and integrated development of the community.



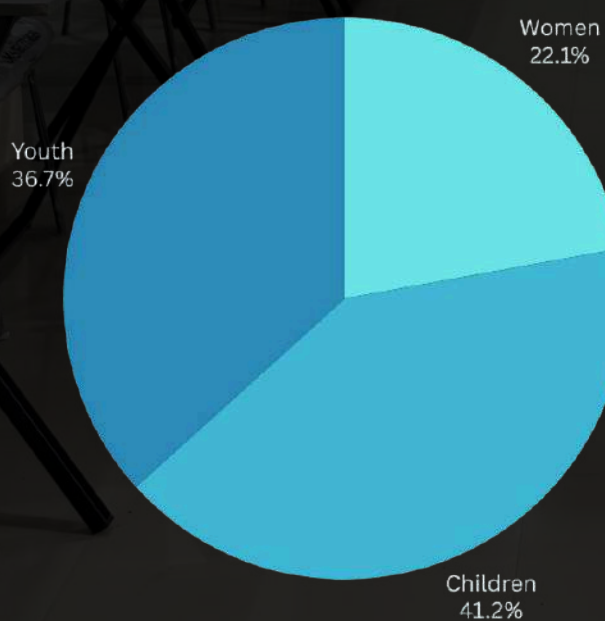
The skill hub functions as a gathering space where community members can connect, share stories, and support one another, fostering a sense of belonging and collaboration. Through these efforts, the Skill Hub directly addresses key challenges such as education and skill gaps, economic hardships, and the digital divide. iLAB firmly believes that everyone should have equal access to opportunities, and it views education as the keystone for empowering and transforming communities. By offering these vital resources, the Skill Hub aims to create a brighter future for all members of the coastal community.



Skill Hub in Numbers



Hours of Engagement
Total : 549 Hours



Number of Participants
Total : 3027 Participants

CEEM - Coastal Education Enhancement Mission

Learning Hubs : 4

Total Learning Hours :1,748.75

Students Engaged :256

Total Sessions : 1,111

Parent Sessions : 8

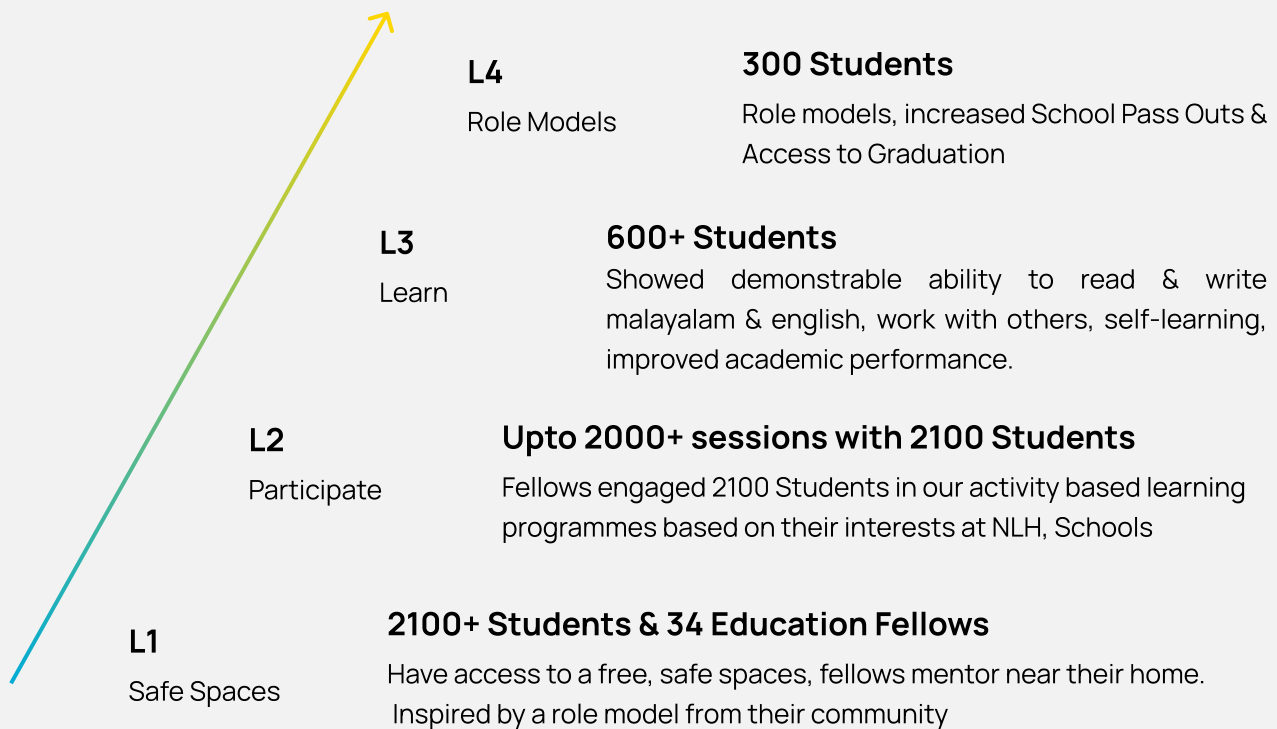


Coastal Education Enhancement Mission

The Coastal Education Enhancement Mission, is aimed at strengthening educational opportunities for students across various educational levels, from primary to higher secondary. Under the auspices of CEEM, multiple programs have been launched, including ENTE MALAYALAM, STEPS (Systematic Training for English Proficiency and Success), and MILES (Maths integral Learning with Efficiency). These initiatives are meticulously designed to cater to the diverse educational needs of students in coastal regions. We operate offline through different neighborhood learning hubs of iLAB, ensuring accessibility and the provision of high-quality support to empower young learners. The core objective underpinning all these CEEM projects is to mitigate the educational disparities experienced by students from coastal regions, compared to their peers from other parts of the state.



CEEM programs offer solutions to various needs of the students, slowly helping them reach full potential. Our impact in the last 8 years





A Methodology for Empowerment - Theatre of the oppressed

Total Number of
Sessions :

20

Total
Participants :

177

To ensure learning is not only effective but holistic, inclusive, and continuous, we have redefined our methodology. This year, our program will center around three core stakeholders: students, fellows, and parents—each playing a vital role in shaping the learning journey.

At the heart of our approach lies TOTO (Theatre of the Oppressed)—a powerful, interactive tool that promotes dialogue, critical thinking, joy, and collective action. By creating spaces for meaningful interaction, TOTO encourages children to explore challenges, express themselves, and rehearse real-world problem-solving.

Complementing this is our culturally responsive curriculum, thoughtfully developed by community-based fellows. These teaching modules reflect the lived realities of our students, helping bridge the gap between children from marginalized backgrounds and their peers from non-vulnerable communities. This approach not only supports academic growth but also strengthens identity, voice, and community connection.

Together, these efforts are guiding us towards a collaborative and empowering learning ecosystem—one where every child, regardless of background, is given the tools and support to thrive.

Creating Culturally Responsive teaching Modules

No. Of Module
Creators

11

No. of Modules
Created

120

TOTO session
for fellows

07

Curriculum Building
Training

06

Mode of Intervention :

» TOTO Training » Curriculum Development » Pedagogy & SEL Integration Training

As a part of our Coastal Education Fellowship, 11 community fellows co-developed culturally responsive teaching modules tailored for children in neighbourhood learning hubs. With support from the Innovation Funding Grant by Circle India, the team designed a unique module using TOTO (Theatre of the Oppressed) to teach Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) in a way that's engaging, reflective, and rooted in local context.

Alongside SEL, the module also strengthens Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) for upper primary students. These modules will be delivered by fellows to children in Neighborhood Learning Hubs, ensuring that education is relevant, empowering, and led by those who understand the community best.





MissionTEN

Total Number of
Students :

49

Total Hours of
Sessions :

758.75

Academic Year 2024 - 2025 in Review

- » Children Who Appeared for 10th Grade: 49
- » Children Who Passed 10th Grade: 49
- » Children Who Passed 10th Grade with full A+: 2

MissionTEN is a project designed exclusively for grade 10 students to reduce dropout rates. The project aimed to provide academic-focused sessions delivered by subject experts to small focus groups to reduce drop out rates. Individual mentors were assigned to each student to provide them with guidance, consistent monitoring, and give individualised attention.

Pathways After the Program: Our Students in Higher Education

One of the most encouraging outcomes of our program has been the continued educational journey of our former students. Many of them have enrolled in diverse higher education programs across various disciplines, showing their resilience, ambition, and commitment to learning fulfilling one of our major- to increase higher education rate in marginalised coastal communities.

The following snapshot of our students – covering courses from law, sociology, and economics to nursing, architecture, and technical diplomas – highlights the wide-ranging aspirations and capabilities they are pursuing. It reflects the powerful impact of early intervention and support systems provided through our program.

A snapshot of where some of our past students are currently pursuing their higher education

- 
- | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Adisha Mirsha B.A Degree, 2nd Year JDT Islam Arts & Science | Aysha Farshana 1st Year BA Economics Holy Cross College | Niyas Hotel Management St. Alphonse College for Hotel Management |
| Fathima Afna B.A L.L.B School of Legal Studies, Palayad (Kannur University) | Jennifer K.M Diploma in Computer Hardware Engineering JDT College of Arts & Science | Nahla Rafeequ Diploma in Architecture JDT College of Arts & Science |
| Naja Fathima K.V BSc Mathematics JDT Islam Arts and Science | Nihala T.T B.Voc MLT Medisafe Institute of Medical Science | Aysha Siyana MLT Crescent Hospital and Institute |
| Salleesa BA Sociology JDT Islam Arts and Science | Rana Fathima ANM Diploma | Jaseela B.Com CDS College, Pantheerankav |
| Aysha Fida V.K Hotel Management Chennais Amirta Int'l Institute of Hotel Management | Hanna Rahada Medical Entrance Prep DOPA | Shahin BBA IZEE Business School |
| Nikhitha K BSc Nursing PVS School of Nursing | Ayisha Jansha Nursing AIMI College | Safwana BA Sociology Feroke Cooperative College |
| Zainul Abid N.P Diploma in Electronics & Engineering | Sarbas A. Diploma in Computer Hardware Engineering JDT College of Arts & Science | Faijas Diploma in Mobile Repair SIMS, Calicut |
| Fasila K.P BA Sociology JDT (ICT) College | Muhammed Alsabith Diploma in Mobile Service Markaz College of Arts & Science, Karanthur | Rabeeh Diploma in Process Instrumentation Skill Development Institute, Kochi |
| Hadhi Saleem T. BA Sociology Muslim Orphanages College of Arts and Science (MOCAS) | Sarfath Diploma in Mobile Service MAGNUS | |

Feedbacks

For many children in our community who are struggling to access quality education, missionTEN has become a ray of hope. It's not just about textbooks and exams—it's about truly understanding our children. Both the teachers and fellows involved in the program take the time to connect with the students, support them emotionally, and guide them with care. They see the potential in each child and help them believe in themselves. As a parent, it gives me comfort to know that someone is walking alongside my child—not just teaching, but genuinely supporting their journey. With missionTEN, our children's futures feel brighter and more possible than ever before.

—Parent Feedback

I am currently in Class 11, and I owe a large part of my success in Class 10 to the support I received at iLAB. The teachers there were always enthusiastic and passionate about teaching, which made learning enjoyable and engaging. But iLAB was not just about academics—it also offered a variety of activities that boosted our confidence and sparked a genuine interest in learning. Thanks to this well-rounded approach, I was able to perform well and develop both academically and personally. I scored 96% in my SSLC exam.

—Haneena, MissionTEN Student (2023-2024)



Pebbles

We introduced a new Program under CEEM this year. The Pebbles Program is a school-based intervention designed to enhance soft skills, life skills, and English language proficiency for students in coastal belt school. The program aims to provide an engaging and supportive learning environment where students can develop key interpersonal and communication skills through theatre-based and play-oriented methodologies. By fostering a positive and interactive experience, the program empowers young learners to build essential skills that will support their academic and personal growth

Total Number of
Students Impacted : **36**

Total Sessions
Conducted : **37**

Total Hours of
Engagement : **55**

Key Highlights :

1. Theatre & Art-Based Learning

Sessions incorporate theatre, role-play, and creative art to make learning interactive, fun, and meaningful.

2. Holistic Skill Development

» Focus on life skills, soft skills, emotional intelligence, and communication through play-based methods.

3. Relatable & Engaging Content

» Activities are designed to reflect students' everyday experiences, increasing relevance and engagement.

4. Vocabulary-Building in English

» Functional English vocabulary taught through practical, interactive methods to build student confidence.

Impact & Feedbacks

Impact Created

- » Boosted student confidence and participation
- » Enhanced vocabulary and communication in English
- » Improved emotional intelligence and peer interaction
- » Encouraged self-expression through creative storytelling and art
- » Increased parental involvement and positive feedback

Pebbles has been a wonderful experience for my child. The activities are so engaging, and I've seen a significant improvement in their confidence and behavior. The program has truly been a positive influence on their growth

—**Banu Siyab, Parent of Ayisha Filsa**

My daughter absolutely loves attending Pebbles classes. She admires Hiba and Rifana teacher. She shares everything she learns, and her confidence has grown significantly. Her English skills, behavior, and overall development have noticeably improved.

—**Rubeena Jamsheed,
Parent of Jumanathul Sharafiya**

"I love going to Pebbles because we play games, sing songs, and learn about animals. My favorite part was the Winter Camp where we told stories and had fun with friends!"

— **Diya Fathima (Class 3)**

"I love Pebbles class! We play fun games and learn at the same time. Hiba Miss makes learning really fun!"

—**Muhammed Midhlaj (Class 4)**

"I've learned to read and write better in English. I was shy before, but now I talk confidently with everyone. Pebbles helped me become my best self."

—**Aajisha Naseer KT (Class 4)**

Coastal Education fellowships : A model for sustainable community driven change

Total Number
Of Fellow

35

Training sessions

13

Our Coastal Education Fellowship is built to empower young leaders from within coastal communities to drive transformative educational change from the ground up. One of iLAB's greatest strengths—and a cornerstone of our impact lies in our fellows: young individuals who were once participants in our programs and who now serve as community-based educators and changemakers. These fellows are not outsiders; they are from the community, shaped by the same challenges they now work to address. Their lived experience equips them with the empathy, insight, and cultural understanding essential to delivering education that resonates deeply with local students.

The fellowship is more than an opportunity—it's a strategy for sustainable change. By focusing on youth leadership, we are creating a generation of educators who not only teach but inspire. Fellows bring culturally responsive teaching practices into classrooms, bridging the gap between traditional education systems and the unique needs of coastal communities. To support this effort, iLAB provides a stipend that enables fellows to continue their academic journeys while actively contributing to the growth and resilience of their communities.



From Quiet To Confident: Finding My Voice- Rifana, ILAB Fellow

Six years ago I was a young participant at iLAB, with curious eyes wide open. And those days didn't just open my eyes but many doors of opportunities. Two years ago, when I started as a fellow at iLAB, it was a full circle moment for me. Even though I wasn't sure how I would fit into a space focused on education, leadership, and community change, I knew this was a place that will always help me grow. I was challenged—not just to learn new skills, but to understand myself better and grow in ways I hadn't imagined.

iLAB became more than a workplace. It became a space where I learned to express myself, even when it felt uncomfortable. Training in Theatre of the Oppressed (TOTO) played a big role in that—it gave me the confidence to speak up in groups and the tools to listen deeply. Our Digital Tech Literacy Program helped me overcome hesitation around digital tools, I now create PowerPoints, navigate online spaces, and support others with those skills too.

One of the biggest shifts was in how I understood education. I learned what it takes to design meaningful curriculums, how to make learning spaces emotionally safe, and how to teach in ways that are rooted in empathy rather than authority. I also received leadership and communication training that helped me feel more grounded and confident whether I'm in front of a classroom or speaking to a room full of people.

iLAB didn't just teach me technical skills—it helped me slow down, reflect, and become more self-aware. I learned patience, resilience, and how to lead without needing to be loud. Now I am leading a Neighbourhood Learning Hub. Being able to support young children around my neighbourhood with a clearer sense of purpose—and the belief that I have something valuable to contribute.



Fellowship Stories

Becoming an iLAB fellow completely changed my perspective. The training sessions we receive are truly transformative, shaping me into a better person and improving my thought process. Experiencing SEL-based education for the first time, I now understand its value. Observing other fellows and engaging in theater sessions has helped me grow both personally and as a teacher. iLAB's dedication to the children goes beyond academics, and now, more than anything, I love being part of this mission

—Agna, iLAB Fellow



At iLAB, I didn't just find purpose. The team made me feel seen, valued, and comfortable from the very beginning. It wasn't just about a stipend anymore. I started realizing that my work was contributing to something much bigger than myself. I was becoming part of a movement—a mission to uplift, support, and empower the children in my community.

—Shahana, iLAB fellow



Summer Camp - Panjimuttayi



Celebrating Reading Week

With The Author Of Duniya Beevis



Fellow Capacity Building

The Art Of Teaching



Theatre Of The Oppressed Session



Fellow Capacity Building

A Thousand Things - Interacting With Change Makers



Mindfulness For Teaching



Fellow Capacity Building

Teaching With Creativity



Navigating Emotions In Learning Space



Fellow Capacity Building

Activity Based Teaching



Change Through Creativity



Camp - Winter to Remember

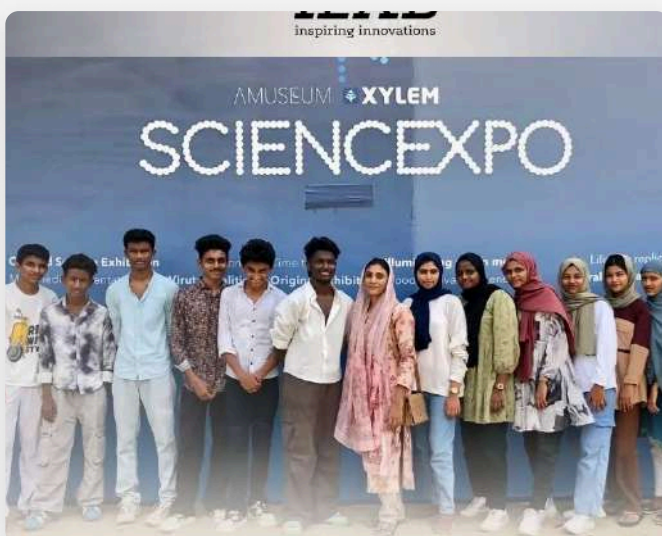


Key Events

Kadalum Kadhakalum (The Sea And The Stories)



Science Expo Visit



Key Events

Onam Celebration



Basheer Day Celebration



Key Events

Interaction With OpenGrad Founder



Learning Activities



World Population Day



Key Events

Wildlife Conservation Day Activities



Coastal Conservation Day Activities



Key Events

World Water Conservation Day



Girl Child Day Celebration



Heritage Walk in Calicut



Key Events

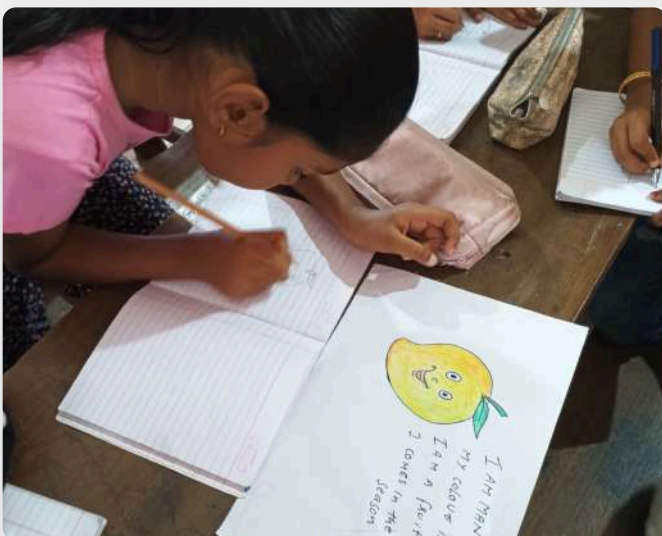
Interacting With Balagopal Chandrashekar



Internship Completions



Pebbles Snapshots



Classroom Snippets



CLAP - Coastal Livelihood Acceleration Program

Direct Participants : 75

Number of
Events :

56

Women Who
Started Earning:

54



CLAP : Program Overview



What is CLAP ?

The Coastal Livelihood Acceleration Program (CLAP) is an initiative designed to create resilient, empowered women in Kozhikode's coastal communities. CLAP fosters socio-economic transformation by equipping women with the skills to build sustainable livelihoods through training in entrepreneurship, self development, employability, financial literacy, and digital proficiency. The program also promotes a cultural shift by empowering women to take on leadership roles, driving coastal community empowerment and contributing to the overall development and resilience of the region.



What do we create ?

- ✓ Resilient, empowered women from Coastal Area
- ✓ Socio-economic transformation
- ✓ Sustainable Livelihoods
- ✓ Cultural Shift
- ✓ Coastal Community Empowerment



Program Timeline :

September 2024 – February 2025



September 2024

- » Outreach Activities Begin
- » Identification of Existing Small-Scale Initiatives
- » Orientation and Awareness Program (Phase 1)



October 2024

- » Orientation and Awareness Program (Phase 2)
- » Community Engagement and Rapport Building



November 2024

- » Life Skills Training



December 2024

- » Financial Literacy Workshops



January 2025

- » Fundamentals of Computer and Internet Navigation



February 2025

- » Introduction to Entrepreneurship Fundamentals



March 2025

- » FGDs and awareness on Self Help Group formation



Women in Kappakkal

Kappakkal Women came with inspiration, energy, and entrepreneurial spirit during the Women in Kappakkal networking event. Hosted under the CLAP initiative in collaboration with the Malabar Chamber of Commerce, this event brought together 75 homemakers to connect, collaborate, and envision new possibilities. Held at the Malabar Chamber of Commerce Conference Hall, the event was a vibrant celebration of women's creativity and leadership.

A special highlight was the product stall set up at the venue, which showcased the incredible craftsmanship and enterprise of women from the community. On display were eco-friendly paper pens and bags created under the new brand Urmi.

The day also featured a powerful panel discussion with prominent entrepreneurs and industry experts: Shabas (Founder, Fulva – Food Industry), Sibija P (Founder, Ruchipura), Harsha Puthusseri (Founder, Iraaloom), and Jain C.J (Assistant District Industries Officer). Adding to this inspiration was an expert talk by Shabanam, Founder of Meraki, who shared her personal journey as an independent boutique owner.

The event reached a significant milestone with the official inauguration of the CLAP Project and the launch of Urmi, a brand envisioned to support and promote women-led enterprises. The inauguration was led by Deputy Mayor C.P. Musafar Ahamed, with a keynote address by former MLA Pradeep Kumar. The brand launch of Urmi was carried out by VKC Mammed Koya, Founder of VKC Group, who emphasized the importance of creating platforms that give women visibility and market access. Urmi symbolizes creativity, sustainability, and collaboration—and marks a new chapter for women entrepreneurs within the CLAP ecosystem.

“Women in Kappakkal” was more than an event—it was a movement. A moment of pride, connection, and collective growth. It laid the foundation for a future where women are not just contributors to the economy, but leaders and changemakers shaping it. Through CLAP and Urmi, that future is already in motion.



Urmi - Brand under CLAP

CLAP participants launched a brand Urmi- to display handmade and handcraft products by women of Kappakkal. Urmi is more than just a brand—it is a movement born from CLAP's vision to uplift and empower coastal women. Rooted in skill-based training and sustainable livelihood opportunities, Urmi serves as a beacon of strength, resilience, and economic independence. The name Urmi, meaning "wave," reflects the unstoppable force of change driven by women entrepreneurs.

Every product under Urmi is a testament to craftsmanship and sustainability. From eco-friendly paper pens to beautifully handcrafted textiles and artisanal goods, each creation carries the story of determination and empowerment. By connecting these skilled artisans to wider markets, Urmi ensures that their talent is recognized and rewarded, paving the way for a brighter, self-sustaining future.

Urmi is not just about products—it is about people, progress, and possibilities. Every wave begins as a ripple, and together, we create a tide of transformation.

Ūrmi – meaning “waves” - embodies constant motion and new beginnings. Just like waves that never cease, this brand symbolizes growth and resilience. Crafted with care by coastal women, each product tells a story of empowerment and transformation. It's more than just a brand – it's a journey of hope and progress, echoing the rhythm of the waves.

The Growing Pen by Ūrmi represents a thoughtful approach to sustainability and purposeful design. Crafted by women from coastal communities, this eco-friendly pen is infused with seeds at its end. Once the ink is exhausted, the pen can be planted, allowing it to grow into a tree or vegetable.



URUMI - Products

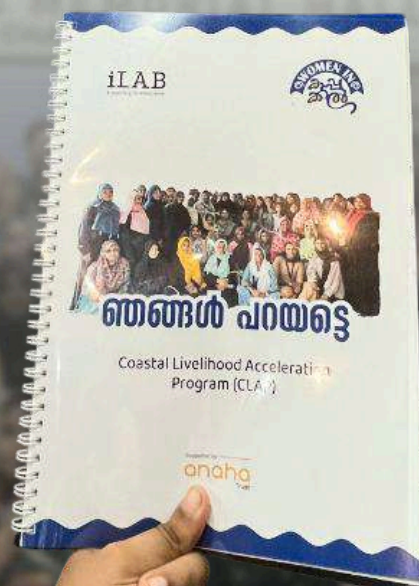


Njungal Parayatte – A Journal for the Voices of CLAP Participants

Women in Kappakkal have taken a significant step forward by publishing a journal titled Njungal Parayatte ("Let Us Also Speak"). This publication serves as a platform for the voices, dreams, and aspirations of CLAP participants, bringing their stories and hopes to the forefront.

From the very beginning, the participants of CLAP have nurtured dreams of financial independence, skill development, and self-reliance. Their ambitions, which once remained unspoken, have now found a powerful expression through this journal. It reflects their journey, struggles, and unwavering determination to build a better future for themselves and their families.

Njungal Parayatte is not just a collection of words; it is a symbol of empowerment and change. By sharing their thoughts and experiences, the women of Kappakkal are inspiring many others to step forward, speak up, and pursue their aspirations with confidence. This journal stands as a testament to their resilience and the transformative impact of CLAP in their lives.



Exposure Visit to MSSRF

The visit aimed to study the feasibility of establishing a dry fish unit under CLAP and learn sustainable fish processing methods. MSSRF was chosen for its expertise in coastal community development, fish processing, and value addition.

MSSRF focuses on enhancing coastal livelihoods through initiatives like artificial reefs to boost fish availability and the Fisher Friend Mobile Application (FFMA), providing real-time information on weather and fishing zones. The Fish for All Research & Training Centre at MSSRF features advanced fish processing facilities, including solar dry fish units, HACCP standards, and value-added fish products such as masala dry fish, prawn pickles, and shrimp powder.

Interactions with existing dry fish processors revealed that value-added products significantly improve profitability. A home-based unit can process up to 35 kg of fish daily, making it viable for CLAP participants.

Dr. Velvizhi, Head of the Fish for All Centre, assured support in training, value addition, and equipment assistance, especially for economically weaker sections and existing processors.

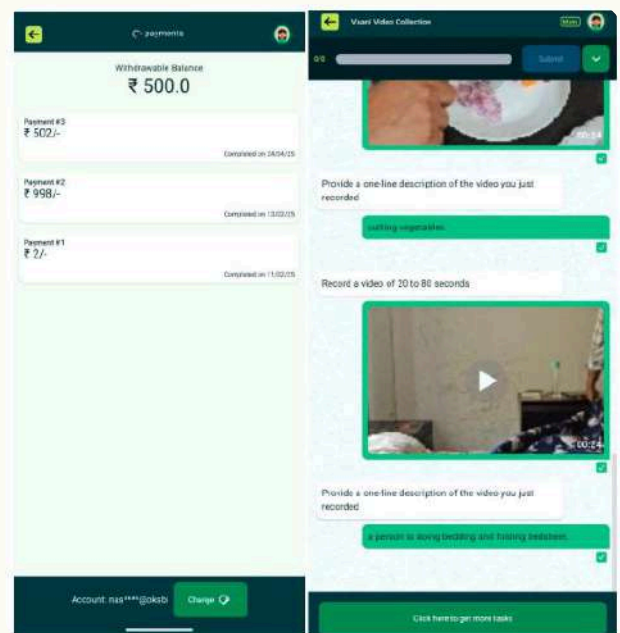


Empowering women through Digital Work

This year, iLAB partnered with Karya on Project Sanmati, an ambitious initiative supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The project aims to tackle gender bias in six Indian languages by employing 30,000 women to complete curated digital microtasks in their native tongues—Malayalam being one of them. By turning smartphones into tools for both income and learning, this partnership opened new pathways for digital and economic empowerment. It wasn't just about completing tasks, it was about recognising the value of women's voices in shaping data, and giving them a stake in the digital economy.

Impact Highlights

- ✓ 110 women trained and employed through Karya
- ✓ ₹1,10,000 earned collectively in 2 months
- ✓ Promoting gender-inclusive digital livelihoods in coastal communities



Key Events



Embroidery Skill Training



Digital Skills Training



Entrepreneurial Fundamentals Workshop



Economic Empowerment
Through Skill Training

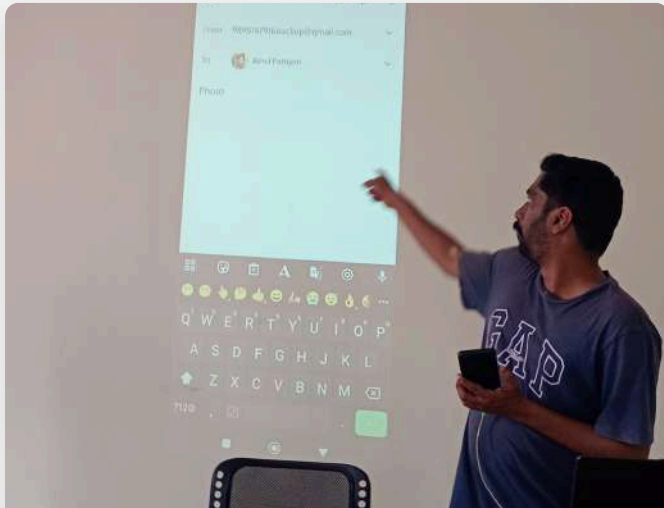


Growing Pen Initiative: Training
And Production Launch



Life Skills Development:
Emotional Intelligence & Empathy

Key Events



Digital Literacy Initiative:
Smartphone & Internet Navigation



Advanced Embroidery Skill Training



Introducing Sustainable Livelihoods
Through Eco-Friendly Paper Pen Training



Promoting Mental Well-Being
Through Healthy Lifestyle Sessions



Winter Camp – A Flagship Event Of
Joy, Learning, And Community Bonding



Participation at Yes Kerala Trade Expo

Key Events



Eco-Friendly Skills For Empowerment:
Paper Pen Training In CLAP



Sessions On Communication, Teamwork,
And Collaboration For CLAP Participants



Building Local Partnerships: CLAP's
Engagement With Kudumbasree ADS



Strengthening Community Ties: Ward-Level
Meetings With Kudumbasree Leadership



Showcasing CLAP's Vision: Participation In
ULCCS Centenary International Conference



Emotional Aesthetics Workshop For Women

Focus Group Discussion



Dry Fish Unit- Focus Group Discussion



Handicraft Bags- Focus Group Discussion



Cloud Kitchen - Focus Group Discussion



Tailoring Unit - Focus Group Discussion

Feedbacks

When I first came to iLAB, I was very silent. But after attending 2–3 classes there, I experienced a lot of improvement in myself. I attended every selection process with a lot of excitement. The classes we received through CLAP were really valuable. It was only after joining CLAP that I began to feel like my dreams were getting wings. After coming to CLAP, I even started earning small amounts of pocket money. Now, I am confident that in my journey forward, I will start a business of my own. I also believe that CLAP will grow in a big way. I truly hope more women from our community will get the chance to reach here. I pray that our CLAP continues to be a source of support and strength for many more people

—**Arshida**

iLAB is very good platform that encourages women empowerment. In which we get many sessions that teaches us to start our own business. Woman who are in coastal and rural area needs to get out of the house and stand on their own feet, I personally appreciate iLab team for coming forward and creating a new platform for women. In India we need such type of mission so that people can earn their own living

—**Reshma Yassar**

If I were to talk about CLAP, I'd say it's the biggest gift in my life. I learned how to earn small amounts of income, and also how to confidently speak in front of a few people without any hesitation. Through CLAP, I've made so many friends too. I never felt like missing even a single class—it's that amazing. I felt like learning and trying out so many new things only because I joined CLAP

—**Saada Farhath**

DTLP - Digital Tech Literacy Program

Direct Participants : 50

Number of
Events : 63



Program Overview

The Digital Tech Literacy Program (DTLP) is a flagship initiative by iLAB Innovation Laboratory, designed to bridge the digital divide in Kerala's coastal communities. With Kappakkal Ward (Ward 54) as the pilot location, the program empowers youth with essential digital and technological skills to enhance their personal and professional growth. This year with the support of Anaha Public Charitable Trust, DTLP provides structured digital education through a dedicated Skill Development Hub to strengthen community digital resilience and foster future-ready individuals.

Target Audience

The program primarily benefits 54 youth aged 15 to 25 from coastal communities, equipping them with digital literacy skills and career-focused technology training.



Objectives

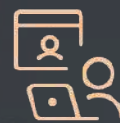
- Build capacity in digital literacy, including computer operations, internet usage, and essential digital skills, to enhance personal and professional growth.
- Develop proficiency in key digital and technological areas, fostering the necessary skills to thrive in a tech-driven world.
- Create opportunities for participants to adapt to emerging technologies, preparing them for future challenges and innovations in the digital space.
- Explore and identify career opportunities in the digital and technological sectors, equipping participants with the skills needed for success in a modern workforce.

Pathways to Empowerment



Digital Literacy Skills

Enhancing digital skills for informed technology use.



Career-Focused Training

Providing training for technology-driven career opportunities.

Program Timeline : September 2024 – March 2025



September 2024

- » Outreaching Activities
- » Orientation & Awareness Program
- » Community Engagement & Rapport Building



October 2024

- » Life Skill Training
- » Basic Computer Fundamentals & Digital Tools



November 2024

- » Website Creation & Design
- » Life Skill Training (contd.)



December 2024

- » Digital Information Literacy
- » Emerging Technologies



January 2025

- » Digital Entrepreneurship Tools
- » Customized Learning



February 2025

- » Career Exploration



March 2025

- » Advanced Mentorship Program

Impact Created

- » 50 students completed Level 1
- » 35 students enrolled for Level 2 Learning
- » Enhanced digital literacy, computer skills, and career readiness
- » Participants began applying skills practically (e.g., creating apps, assisting teachers)

DTLP: Where We've Arrived

Over the past 7 months, the Digital Tech Literacy Program (DTLP) has grown into a dynamic space where learning meets action. What began as an introduction to digital tools has evolved into a platform for skill-building, creative exploration, and professional readiness. Today, our fellows are not just learning—they're applying, experimenting, and building work that speaks for itself. Three dedicated teams—Design, Development, and Office Tools—have emerged as the heart of DTLP, each carving its own path. From crafting brand identities to launching code on GitHub, and from building resumes to presenting with AI-powered design tools, these learners are shaping a future where digital access leads to real opportunity.

Our Design Team

A team of 12 passionate design learners are actively exploring the world of branding and visual storytelling. With hands-on experience in Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, and Figma, they've taken up real-world projects to sharpen their skills. One of their standout works includes designing a complete brand identity for a local favorite, Ponnani Beef Stall, where they created a new logo and design assets by understanding the client's needs directly. Currently, they are working on an exciting project with a T-shirt branding company, where they are designing unique T-shirt models and visuals, putting their creativity and branding knowledge to the test. As a team, they continue to grow, learn, and design with purpose.

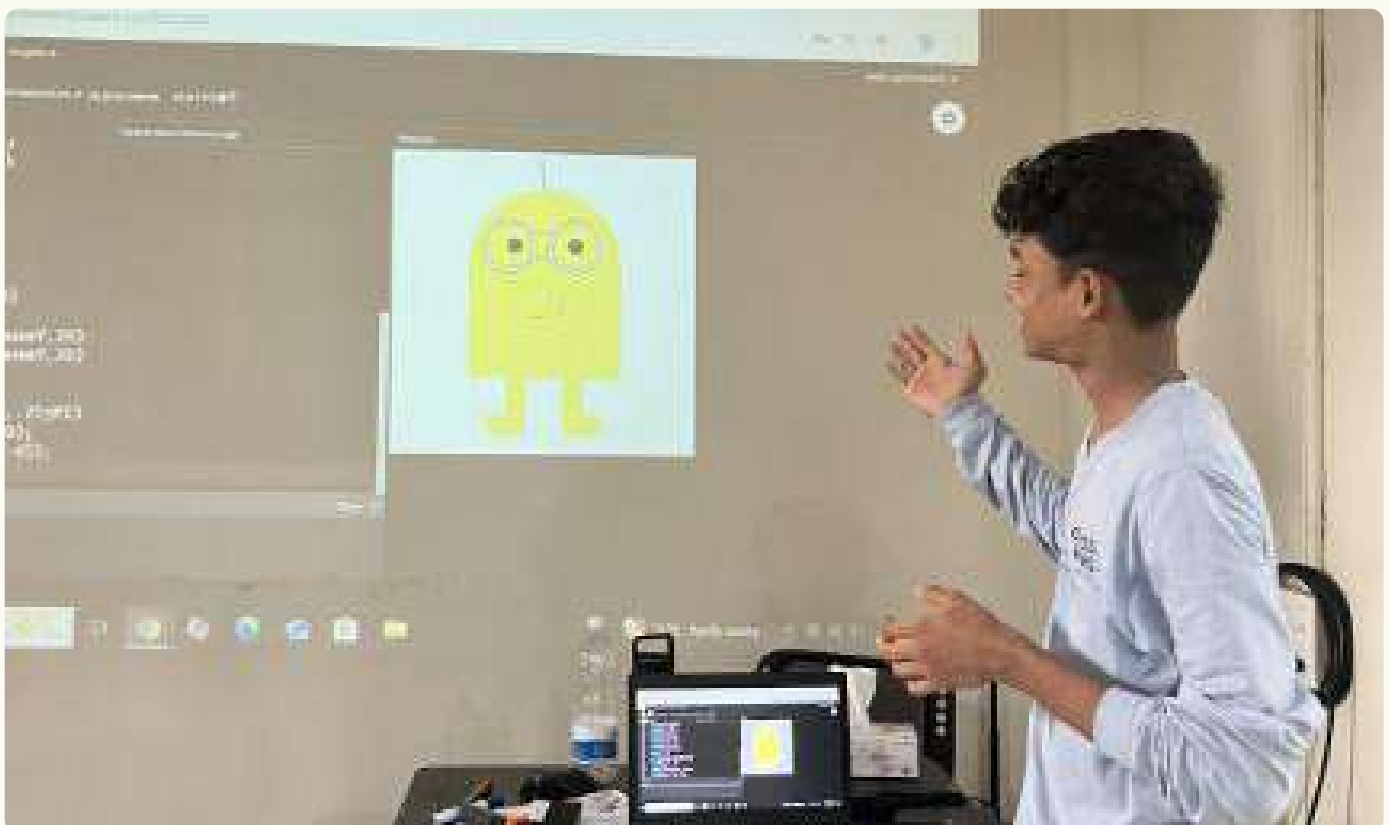


Our Development Team

A team of 8- the youngest and most curious minds of the program! These rising coders have already dived into the world of JavaScript, HTML, and C++ basics, and are turning their learning into action by developing their very own calculators from scratch.

With eager fingers on the keyboard and ideas flowing fast, they've set up their own GitHub profiles – yes, they've officially entered the world of open-source! From writing their first lines of code to hosting live projects online, their journey has been nothing short of inspiring.

Their energy lit up every coding session, bringing fresh perspectives and bold experimentation. These young innovators aren't just learning – they're already building. The future of tech looks bright in their hands!



Our Team for Office Tools

A dynamic team of 14 emerging professionals is currently building strong foundations in personal branding—mastering resume building, crafting Linktree portfolios, and excelling in presentation design using a range of AI tools for infographics, content generation, and smart slide creation. Beyond upskilling themselves, they are also creating impact through Project Sanmathi by assigning micro-tasking opportunities to women from the community in collaboration with Karya, an ethical data company. This initiative not only supports income generation but also empowers local women to participate in the digital economy.



Key Events

Collaboration With Hash Future School

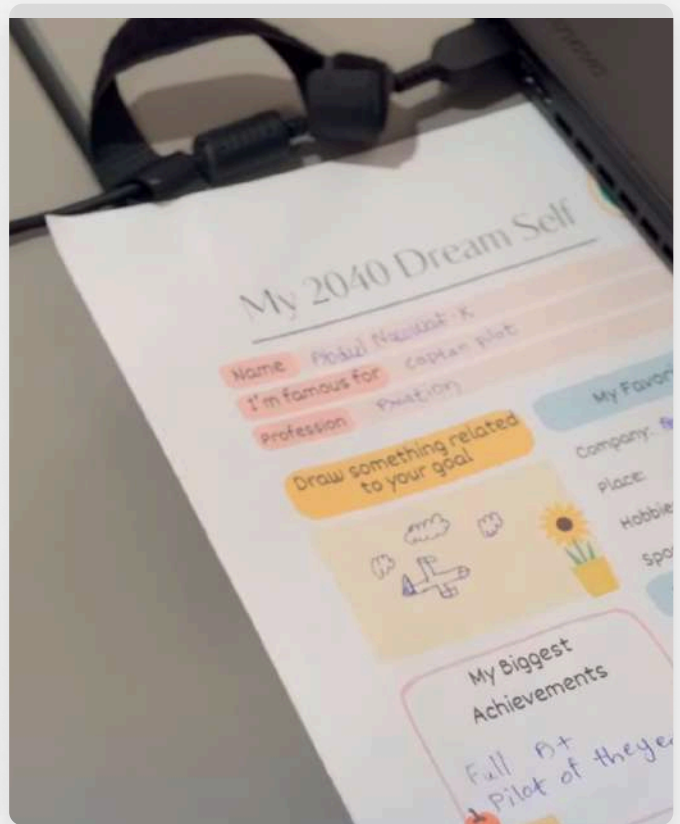
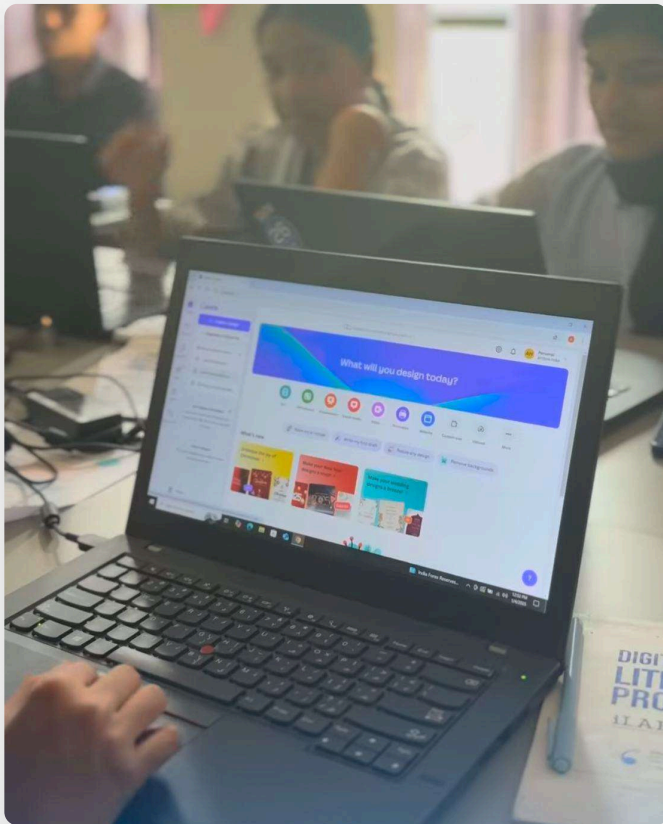


Session By Friends Of Figma - Kozhikode



Key Events

Canva Session



Cyber Security & Ethical Hacking



Key Events

LinkedIn Kerala Community Gathering

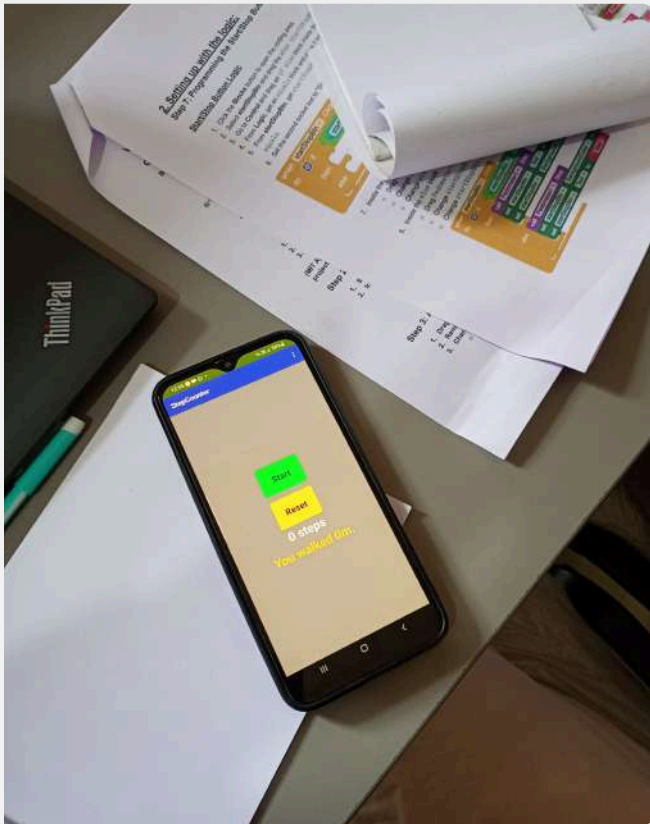


Life Skill Sessions

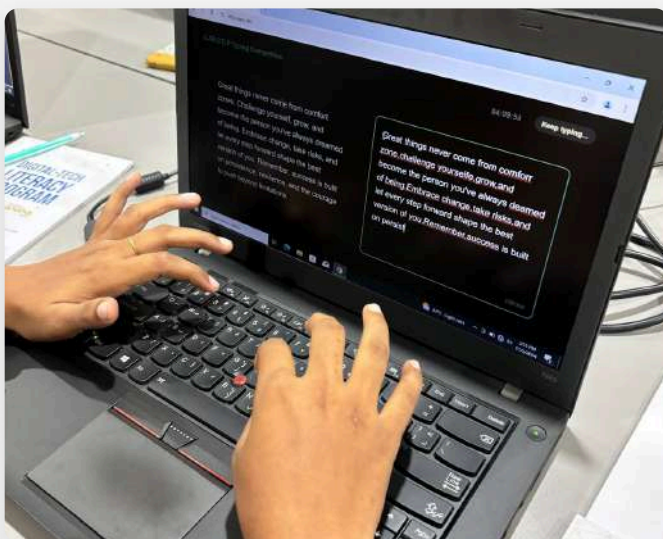


Key Events

MIT Session



Session On Google Sheets



Key Events

Session On Information Literacy



Skill A Thone



Key Events

Social Media Session By BBB

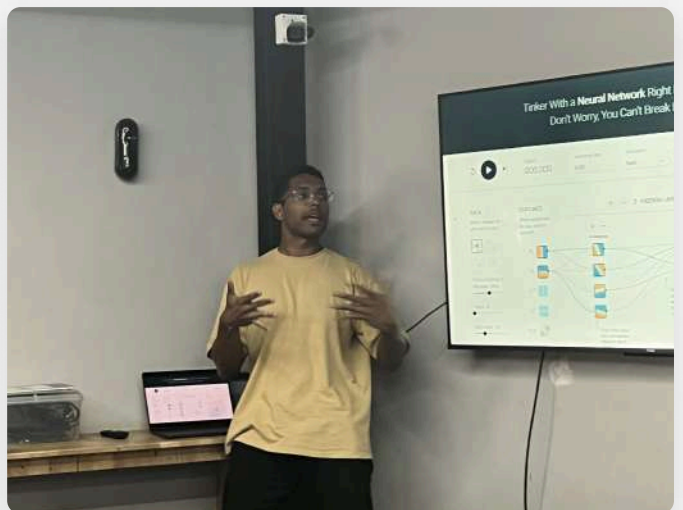
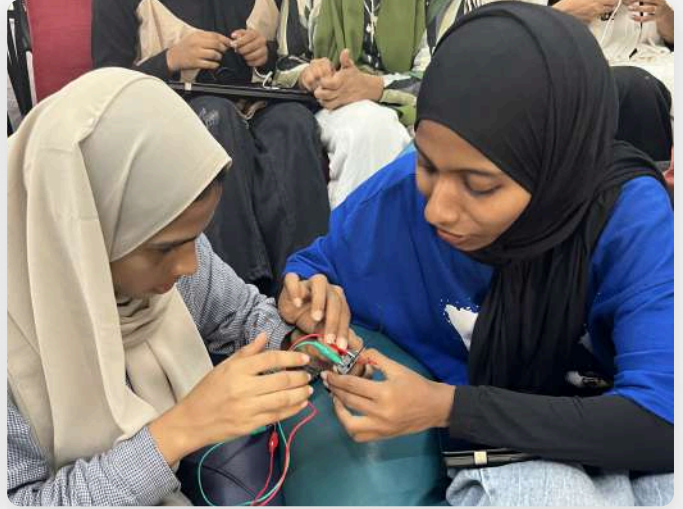
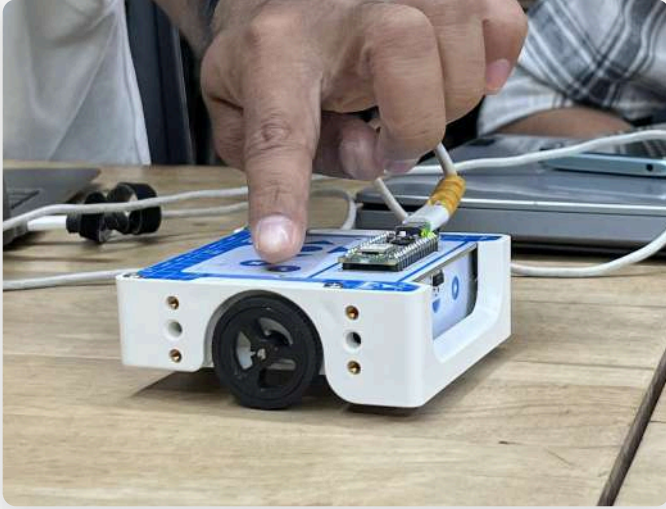


Covering Social Media For Women In Kappakal Event



Key Events

Tinkerhub VIsit



From Curiosity to Creation

Hi, I'm Jenifar, 18 years old, currently pursuing a diploma in Computer Hardware Engineering. Despite studying a computer-related field, I never had the opportunity to even touch a computer, as our computer-related classes were held only once a week.

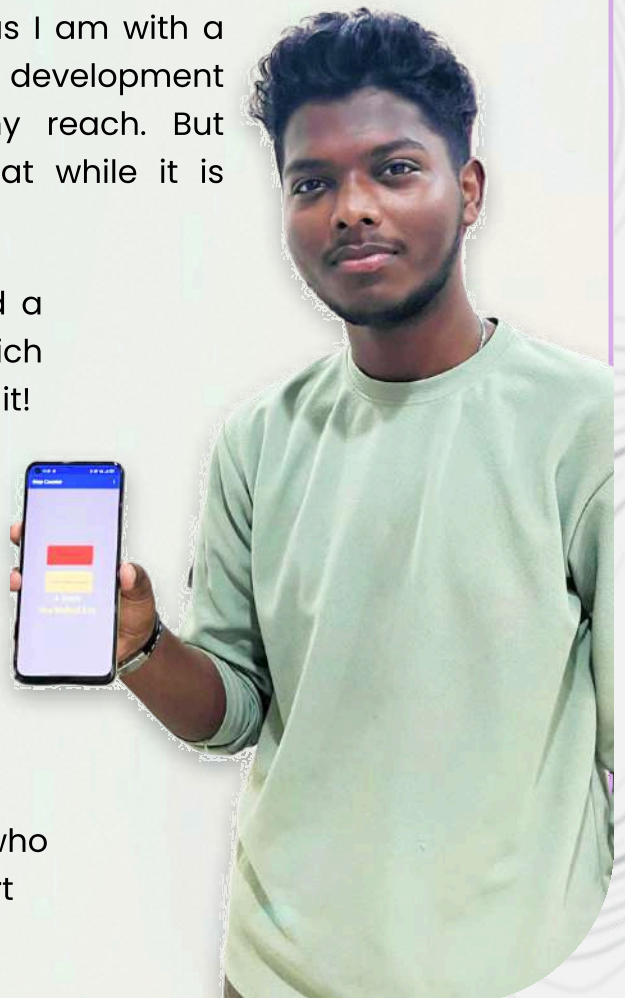
My journey with iLAB began a year after its inception when I was in the 5th standard. Later, I joined the MissionTEN project and eventually became a volunteer at iLAB. I was also part of the volunteer team that conducted a survey for DTLP data collection, after which I officially joined the DTLP program.

As I mentioned, I had very little knowledge about using a laptop. However, after six months in the program, I became as comfortable using a laptop as I am with a mobile phone. Initially, I believed that app development was extremely difficult and beyond my reach. But through the DTLP sessions, I realized that while it is challenging, it is also possible.

With the knowledge I gained, I developed a Step Counter App named "Walkify", which tracks the number of steps I walk. Yes, I did it!

I also had the incredible opportunity to attend the LinkedIn Community Event, where I built connections as part of their networking session. Additionally, I attended an Ethical Hacking session at the event, which was a truly exciting and eye-opening experience.!

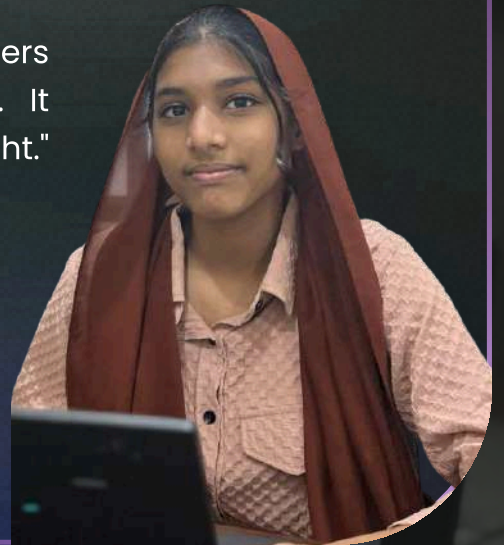
A huge thanks to iLAB, all the mentors who guided me, and Anaha Trust for the support



Feedbacks

"DTLP gave me skills that even helped me assist teachers with complex accounting formulas in LibreOffice. It made me realize I'm more capable than I thought."

– Fathima Hiba



I had heard about AI tools before, but this was the first time I actually used them. I never realized how much I could learn. Now, whenever I have a free moment, I come to the Skill Hub—I just want to keep learning. If someone hands me a laptop today, I can use it without fear. Before DTLP, I didn't even understand how networks worked. Now I get it—it's all about connecting people.

– Saad, DTLP Participant

Guests Who Shaped Possibilities

This year, our space was filled with insightful conversation, laughter and reflections that lingered long after the visit ended. These guests didn't just witness change — they became part of it. In welcoming them, we found new directions, new energy, and deeper clarity. Each encounter left a quiet imprint on our journey.



Balagopal Chandrashekhar,
Trustee-Anaha Trust, KSIDC Chairman



Iman Battacharya
Impact Consultant- Sattva Consulting



Murali Menon and Kalyani Menon
Trustees, BeBuddyFoundation



Anish Aravind - Executive Committee
Member, NIPM Kerala Chapter



A K Abdul Hakkeem
District Project Coordinator, SSK



S I Kiran Sasidharan
Sub-Inspector, Panniyankara



V K Mammad Koya
Founder VKC Group



Musafar Ahammed
Deputy Mayor, Kozhikode Corporation



Pradeep Kumar - Former member
of the Kerala Legislative Assembly



Renjith Babu
General Manager, DIC



Shahabas Fulva-
Founder, Fulva



Harsha Puthusseri
Founder Meraki Clothing



Sibija
Founder, Ruchippura



Sheeja Vinod - Kudumba Shree
Kozhikode South CDS Member



Sreejith IEO - Department of Industries
and Commerce, Kozhikode



Jain - Ass. District Industries Officer -
Taluk Industries Office Kozhikode



Adv Zeenath -
Member, CWC



Ajayan Kavungal
Chairman, CITI 2.0



Shabnam Muhammed -
Founder, Meraki Clothing



MA Mehaboob -
Managing Director, Secura Developers



Uthara Ramakrishnan -
Investment Planning Specialist,
Artha Financial Services

Awards & Recognition

iLAB Selected For XIME CSR Partnership Initiative

We are proud to announce that iLAB India has been selected by the Xavier Institute of Management & Entrepreneurship (XIME) as a CSR partner for the year 2024–2025. This recognition reflects our shared commitment to advancing education and creating lasting social impact. This generous support was granted based on a detailed SUPA (Socially Useful Productive Activity) report prepared by XIME student Meghna After completing one month internship with iLAB, alongside supporting documentation provided by iLAB.



Team Building

iLAB Team At Aikyam- A Safe Space For Change Makers

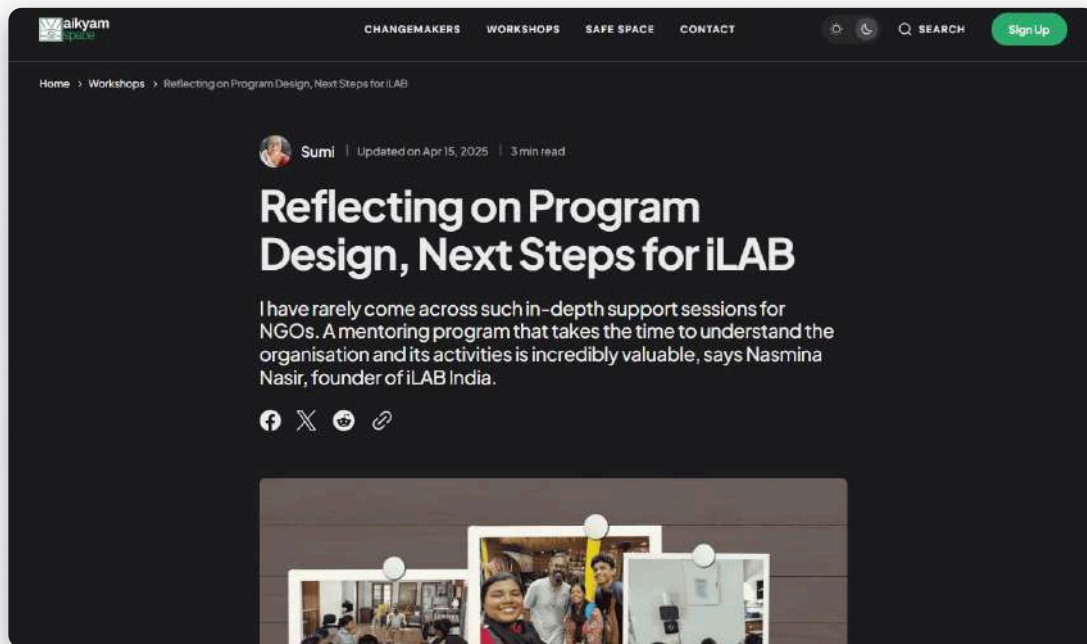
In our ongoing commitment to empower coastal communities in Kozhikode, iLAB India engaged in a transformative mentoring program with Aikyam Space. This collaboration provided us with a unique opportunity to introspect and refine our program design, monitoring, and evaluation strategies.

We unpacked the needs of our stakeholders, sharpened our proposal and budgeting strategies, and most importantly, aligned as a team with renewed clarity. The space to reflect became a catalyst for stronger, smarter impact.

This experience didn't just improve our programs – it strengthened our purpose. With gratitude to Aikyam Space, we move forward more focused, more connected, and more ready than ever to serve the communities at the heart of our mission.



Read Our Aikyam Space Experience at Aikyam Website



Read story feature on <https://aikyam.space/nurturing-growth-with-ilab-india/>

iLAB's Director Honoured in Vanitha's 50th Anniversary Edition

As part of its 50th anniversary and Women's Day celebration, Vanitha magazine honoured 50 inspiring women across India for their work in the social service sector. We're proud to share that iLAB's Director, Nasmina, was featured among these changemakers.



iLAB At Press Meet: Announcing Women In Kappakkal



iLAB and Teepoi Partnership: Unfolding Stories of Resilience

As part of Zerodha Varsity's documentary on financial stories, the story of Hameed, a fisherman from Kappakkal ward was documented in collaboration with iLAB. Hameed's life embodies the strength and self-reliance that quietly sustain coastal communities. This narrative came to life through a powerful partnership between iLAB, Teepoi, and Samagata. Our role in this project was grounded in the belief that storytelling is a tool to showcase community resilience within Kappakkal Ward. By bringing these stories to the forefront, we seek to highlight the untold strength that sustains these communities. At iLAB, we believe stories like Hameed's are essential—they illuminate the quiet resilience of communities often left in the shadows, challenging conventional narratives around progress.



Our Donors

At iLAB, we believe meaningful change is built on trust, shared purpose, and collective action. None of what we do—whether reimagining education, supporting digital literacy, or strengthening community livelihoods—would be possible without the unwavering support of our donors. Our donors are co-travelers in this journey—individuals and institutions who believe in nurturing ideas from the ground up, in standing with communities, and in building a future rooted in equity, creativity, and care. We are honoured to work alongside visionary partners like Anaha Trust, Samagata Foundation, The Circle India, and the inspiring individuals from LivingMyPromise, whose belief in our work enables us to take bold steps and sustain long-term programs.



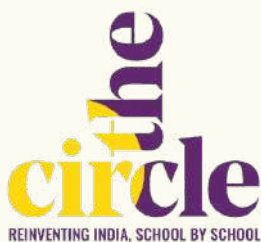
Samagata Foundation

Samagata Foundation is a non-profit organisation in India that supports projects and ideas—even the little ones—that bring value to society. Samagata works across areas including science, culture, art, technology, and education with a specific focus on the creation of public commons, institutions, and community spaces that enables the coming together of ideas and sparks creation.



Anaha Trust

Anaha Public Charitable Trust is a foundation committed to supporting young grassroot organizations working for lesser privileged communities in the fields of education, environment and health in the states of Kerala and Manipur. ANAHA Trust fosters innovators who tackle the challenges of development and sustainability of remote regions across the country. Anaha works towards joining hands with like-minded people to empower grassroot ideas.



The Circle India

The Circle India is building an innovative model to build a reinvented circle of schools, after-school centers, and teachers that, together, empower low-income students to change the world. The Circle envisions an India that is free of poverty and filled with love. In pursuit of that vision, we aspire to create a network of schools, teachers, and after-school centres that are reinventing the country's educational system.



#LivingMyPromise
reimagining indian philanthropy

LivingMyPromise

LivingMyPromise is a community of like-minded Indians who believe in giving back to society. They help each other and invite advantaged people to commit to giving 50% or more of their wealth to philanthropic causes either during their lifetime or in their will.

Two Promisers supporting iLAB:

1. Kalyani and Murali Menon

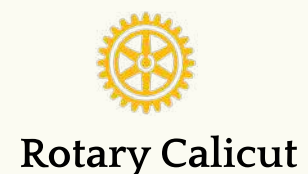
Kalyani contributes to the spoken English classes through her teaching experience as a teacher of French as a foreign language. Murali (Retd from Commodities Biz) uses his management and administrative talent as well as learnings of sharing and caring imbibed while helping an Adivasi organization, to ensure optimal use of resources and impact.

2. Rajni and Ram Chadha

Rajni Chadha is actively involved in Nashik Anna Seva Samiti, Nashik Dialysis Support Foundation & Nirmaan Foundation. Ram Chadha is founder at Aryan Aerospace Fasteners and is involved in Nashik Anna Seva Samiti, Nashik Dialysis Support Foundation & Nirmaan Foundation.

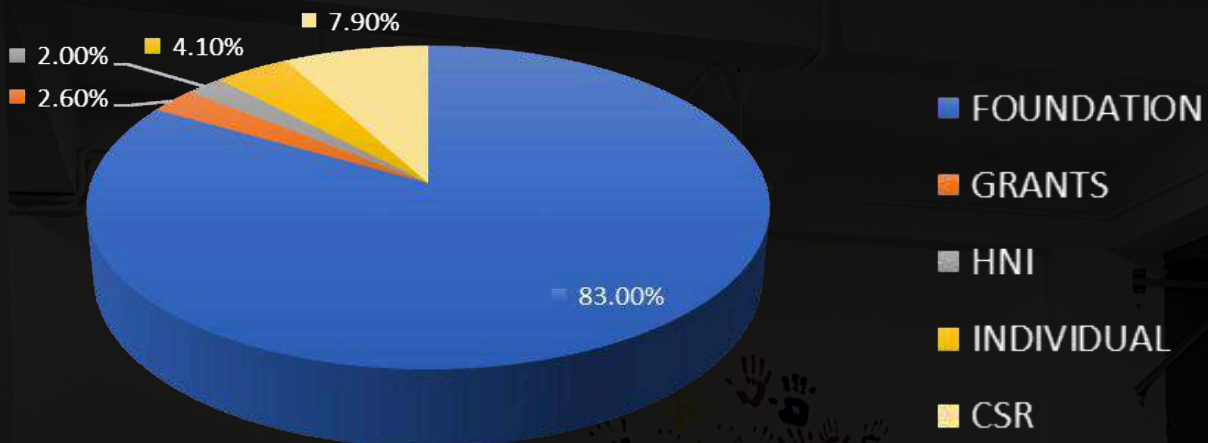
Our Partners & Collaborations

TinkerHub

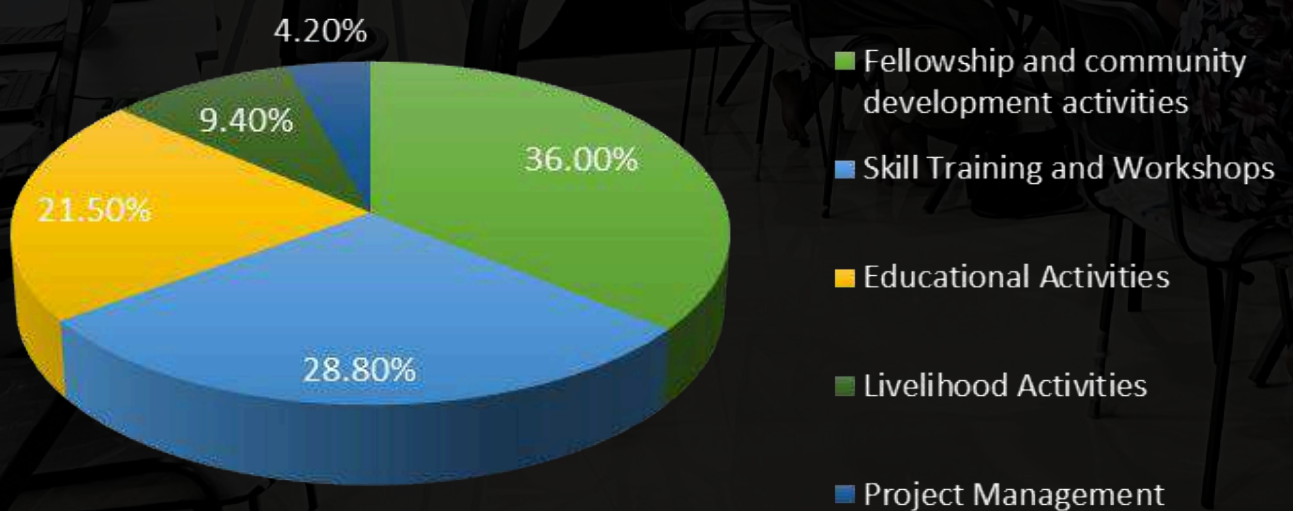


Financial Overview

Types of Donors



Expenses



CONTACT US



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Donate

ilabindia.org/donate

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ilab

An impact making innovative laboratory for the upliftment of marginalised coastal communities.

iLAB is a registered (KKD/CA/745/2017) non-profit organization with 12A & 80G Certificate working for the upliftment of the coastal communities of Kozhikode.

NGO Darpan Unique ID: KL/2018/02005599