

RISE World Summit 2021 promises new partnerships, collaborations **to translate deliberations into action**

Mumbai, 01st February, 2021: The RISE World Summit 2021 – a unique 36-hour Virtual Relay Conference organized by RISE Infinity Foundation and Idobro Impact Solutions held on 28th and 29th January 2021 – addressed a diverse range of issues such as climate change, agriculture, entrepreneurship, gender, education and many more to kick start the **Decade of Action** to achieve the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. The one-of-its-kind Summit, with **no panels or presentations**, garnered an overwhelming participation of over 1,120 attendees from across 55 countries and 8 time zones.

The Opening Plenary was graced by esteemed dignitaries who released the **RISE Values** - Responsible, Inclusive, Sustainable, Eco-friendly. **Dr. Yasmin Ali Haque, UNICEF Representative to India**, emphasized the need to look responsibly at issues of environment and climate change and how they affect our lives. “This forum today brings together all elements of civil society. We need all stakeholders to come together to nurture shared values to achieve our goals and work towards global commitments. There’s a need for a strong evaluation committee dovetailed with the sense of responsibility and accountability”, she said. Among others were **Prof. K. Vijay Raghavan - India's Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India; Ms. Vidya Shah, Chairperson and CEO of the EdelGive Foundation** along with **Ambassador Gideon Behar, Special Envoy for Climate Change and Sustainability at the Israeli Foreign Ministry, and Former Ambassador to Senegal and West Africa** who in his speech mentioned, “Sustainability means zero hunger and zero poverty and access to education, water, and health for all. But if we don’t employ a holistic approach, we as humans will have to face a difficult future. We need to be good to one another and good towards nature as well.” There was a special message by **Ms. Cherie Blair - Former UK First Lady, leading lawyer, writer and committed campaigner for women’s rights** on the critical work done in partnership with Idobro for women entrepreneurship and the need to scale such initiatives.

Amitabh Kant, CEO, National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog, in a Valedictory message during the closing plenary on the 29th Jan, 2021, praised the partnerships between civil society organizations arising during the COVID-19 pandemic. “The pandemic has severely slackened the pace of SDGs across the world. It has also brutally demonstrated, in one fell sweep, how relentlessly integrated the world is and how intertwined different actors, stakeholders and responders are. Thus, we have seen an outstanding growth of partnership among a very large number of diverse agencies and stakeholders. So, a multi-layer world Summit like this seeking breakthrough interactions has been planted on a very fertile ground.”

A Keynote address was given by **Philip Kotler, Author, Consultant, and Professor, the S. C. Johnson & Son Distinguished Professor – The Kellogg School of Management**. Speaking on the issue of malnutrition and hunger plaguing the world, Kotler said “Hunger is inexcusable. We need to have more mindful consumption - people are either eating too much or too little.

And equally important is mindful production where businesses must have an eye on waste.” Furthermore, a special address was delivered by **Bishow Parajuli, Representative and Country Director –United Nations World Food Programme.**

Also announced were **The Nutrition Awards, in partnership with Glenmark Foundation and Knowledge Partners - World Food Programme (WFP)**, to recognize non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and others who undertook exceptional efforts during the Covid-19 pandemic. **Satish Agnihotri Head (CTARA) –IIT -Bombay, Dr. R. Hemalatha Director, ICMR-NIN, Hyderabad; Neeraj Jain, Country Director–PATH, Vedeika Shekhar, Associate-NITI Aayog** were the Grand Jury members who presented the awards to the winners.

Additionally, the **RISE Ownership Awards** were presented by Walter Vieira - Former Chairman, International Council of Management Consulting Institutes and Prof. N. Vinod Chandra Menon - Founder Member, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Government of India to the Initiatives – **MILKAR and Migrant Travel Support Network** – who have worked relentlessly towards the relief efforts during the pandemic. The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation along with Godrej & Boyce Mfg Co Ltd alongwith 14 other partners, bagged the award for the best public-private community partnership (PPCP) model for its Milkar initiative. **Assistant Municipal Commissioner Dr Sangeeta Hasnale, head of the planning department, and Nyrika Holkar, Executive Director at Godrej & Boyce Mfg Co Ltd**, received the award on behalf of the coalition. Approximately 3.7 crore meals and 7.5 lakh ration kits were distributed during the lockdown and after due to this partnership. The RISE Global Citizen Award was presented to Yosef Abramowitz CEO of Energiya Global Capital with projects across **Africa and Israel.**

The unique and comprehensive 36-hour global-relay-programme was in partnership with knowledge partners, including **The Lewis Institute and Babson Social Innovation Lab, USA, Country Partners – Swedish Consulate in Mumbai and the Japan Consulate in Mumbai, Programme partners – Krushak Mitra Agro, SEED, Swedish Institute, NTT** and over 60 visionary partners from across the globe. The interactive formats of Roundtables, Workshops, Chat Tables, Earth Tours and Cultural Programmes were met with an overwhelming audience from across several time zones with participants cutting across all age groups and expertise brought in their insightful perspectives and innovative ideas to the table. Tejas Sangwan, a 5th grade student from India, who participated in a Bio-Mimicry Workshop, spoke enthusiastically about how we can use self-sustaining practices in our day-to-day lives and the 18-year-old Sandhya Saroj - Prime Minister of Young Advocates for Social Harmony (YASH) stressed about the realistic challenges slum kids are facing today and the need for positive changes on the ground through her association with the UNICEF.

Speaking on the idea behind the Summit, **Karon Shaiva, Convenor of the RISE World Summit, Managing Trustee at RISE Infinity Foundation and Chief Impact Officer at Idobro Impact Solutions**, said: “Through this summit, we envisaged a platform to create shared values that would drive people and organisations to action because together, we multiply impact. We aim to facilitate our participants with opportunities to connect and collaborate with the ecosystem and the stakeholders. Our Partners, the Steering Council, Board, Core committee, Working groups and teams have together made this important objective possible. We got an

outstanding participation from over 750 organisations, which led to organic exchanges and impact-driven discussions between several thought leaders. *We hope to build upon these breakthrough interactions for collaborations and find ways to translate our deliberations into action. This is just the beginning.*”

More details about RISE World Summit 2021: <https://risesummit.in/>

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About Idobro Impact Solutions (www.idobro.com)

Idobro, founded in 2009, is a mission-driven enterprise that leverages the power of Citizenship, Entrepreneurship and Partnership to solve some of the world’s most pressing problems. Our Citizenship program works with individuals and students to influence change while our Entrepreneurship vertical supports Women, Social and Green Enterprises (WSGE) to start, sustain and scale. Finally, we facilitate Partnerships for socio-environmental impact by bringing together the broad stakeholder groups necessary for sustainable development viz. Government, Industry, Academia and Civil Society. Accordingly we have designed development models for all three verticals to foster dialogue and engagement while mapping capabilities and challenges for strategic collaboration.

In the past 11 years, Idobro has established itself as a resource centre for Research, Implementation, Stakeholder Relations and Evaluation. We apply the critical lens of Gender, Technology and Innovation for deeper insights into diversity, inclusion and sustainability issues. Idobro has till date executed projects in 7 countries and 21 states of India impacting over 15,00,000 individuals, 120,000 students, 1000+ Entrepreneurs and 500+ Institutions and organisations.

Idobro is known for its local and global experience in urban and rural settings, with online and offline tools for corporate and non-profit, government and academic initiatives. This has co-created a 360o knowledge platform with long term outcomes and value to our communities, enterprise members, partners and associates reaching out to over a million lives.

About RIF (www.riseinfinity.org)

RISE INFINITY FOUNDATION (RIF) was founded with the objective to help create a more Responsible, Inclusive, Sustainable and Eco-friendly society that will meet the immediate needs of those who are challenged and underserved. Our mission is to strengthen communities to support the vulnerable, the poor and the sick, while protecting their environment. With its core objective, the trust focuses on seven main areas: health, education, livelihood, environment, women empowerment, disability, and citizenship training. RIF organises various awareness programs among various segments of the society so that jointly as well as individually the cause or the objective of upliftment of the socially disadvantaged can be addressed.

During the pandemic, as the nodal partner of the Maha PECONet initiative convened by UNICEF, Rise Infinity Foundation has reached out to over half a million people with relief and survival assistance – food, transportation, medical and other emergencies as well as support for frontline workers with hygiene and protective materials.

RISE World Summit is a joint initiative of the RIF and Idobro Impact Solutions.