

# **Conversations for Impact**

Partnerships for Impact (P4i) Quarterly Newsletter

## From the CEO's desk

The first quarter of 2023 is already over and there is much to look forward to in the months ahead.



#### Driving Change Together: The power of Partnerships and Collaboration

By Dr. Rajan Sankar, CEO, Partnerships For Impact

Like many of you who are reading this, I have worked in the development sector for many years and know first-hand the challenges we face in driving positive changes and creating sustainable impact. It can feel like an uphill battle, with limited resources and complex issues that require innovative solutions. Partnerships and collaboration are the key to achieving shared goals and making a real difference.

Building back from the pandemic, governments, organizations, and communities have been forging ahead to fight diseases, advance gender equity, and address the effects of climate change. The G20 Summit under India's presidency takes place in September this year. Already, across working groups & the length and breadth of India, key global economies are mobilizing resources, technology, and expertise to accelerate progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Many of the 17 SDGs are interdependent and require a holistic approach. The G20

serves as a springboard here promoting collaboration among countries, sharing best practices and innovations and aligning policies. Look out for learnings and analysis after working with key G20 stakeholders.

At Partnerships for Impact, it is our mission and vision to work with all stakeholders, big and small, and leverage our collective might to tackle some of the most pressing challenges of our time.

In my experience, the most successful partnerships are built on a foundation of trust, respect, and shared values. By listening, learning from each other, and working together towards a common goal, we can achieve so much more than we could ever do alone.

I hope that this edition of our quarterly newsletter will inspire you to think about the power of partnerships and how we can work together to create a sustainable future for all.

## **This Quarter in Focus**



Why we need to focus on mental health? Author: Dr. Indu Bhushan, Chairperson, Partnerships for Impact (P4i)

We need an urgent and well-resourced 'whole-of-society' approach to protecting, promoting, and caring for the mental health of our people.

Every other day, we wake up to a disturbing headline of a young person having left us by committing suicide. Suicide rates in India are amongst the highest when compared to other countries at the same socioeconomic level. According to WHO, India's suicide rate in 2019, at 12.9/1,00,000, was higher than the regional average of 10.2 and the global average of 9.0. Suicide has become the leading cause of death among those aged between to 15-29 years. <u>Read more here</u>

#### In conversation with Sita Wunnuva on digitalizing healthcare for women, young adults, and children

Sita Shankar Wunnava has over thirty-five years of experience with international health programs, including community-based HIV/AIDS prevention programs, gender programming, and adolescent reproductive health projects in India.

We were in conversation with her recently on her thoughts on the role of digitalisation in promoting access to key health services especially for women. **Read more here** 





### On Budget 2023: Health in Amrit Kaal

Author: Dr. Indu Bhushan, Chairperson, Partnerships

for Impact (P4i) and Dr. Ramanan Laxminarayan, Founder and President, One Health Trust

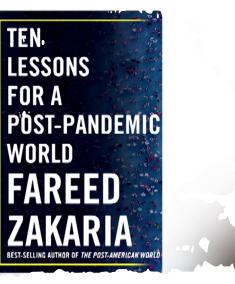
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India stands on the brink of a massive opportunity. Quality education and health for the 26 million children born each year and the 65 per cent of the population under the age of 35 could help provide a workforce that would propel India forward. <u>Read more here</u>



### P4i recommends

Books and movies that piqued our interest and got us thinking



#### **Ten Lessons for a Post–Pandemic World**

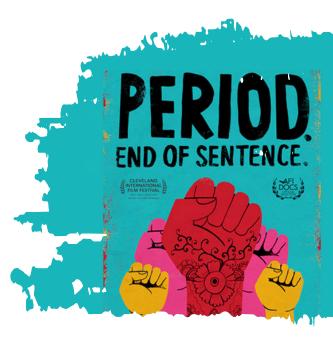
Author: Fareed Zakaria Language: English Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company Genre(s): Non-fiction

CNN host and best-selling author Fareed Zakaria helps readers to understand the nature of a postpandemic world: the political, social, technological, and economic consequences that may take years to unfold. Written in the form of ten "lessons", focusing on the natural and biological risks to the rise of "digital life", Fareed Zakaria encourages people to think beyond the immediate effects of COVID-19.

#### Period. End of Sentence.

Director: Rayka Zehtabchi Year: 2018 Language: Hindi Duration: 25 minutes Streaming Platform: Netflix

This documentary is very much a pun intended. Menstruation continues to be a taboo topic in India wrapped in stigma, myths and misconceptions. This is evident in the opening shots of the film where we see women and young girls embarrassed and hesitant to answer the question - what are periods? When asked the same question, a group of young men respond saying periods are in classrooms that begin or end when a bell rings. While it provides a moment of levity, it is a glaring example of the ignorance around menstruation in India, that only serves to perpetuate the stigma around it.



Even today, women have limited access to menstrual health information and hygiene products, often resorting to using any kind of cloth they find, potentially inviting infections and risking their health.

Very often it also results in high drop-out from school as they are unable to manage their periods due to various factors such as lack of access to sanitary napkins, the privacy to change pads, or the means of disposal. They are forbidden from entering kitchens and temples while menstruating.

The film follows **The Pad Project**, as they work with women and young girls in a village close to Delhi to challenge the stigma around menstruation and raise awareness in their

community. It is a frustrating, but hopeful look into the mentality around menstruation in India as the women take it upon themselves to start producing and distributing low-cost pads in their village, empowering themselves not only socially, but also economically.pads in their village, empowering themselves not only socially, but also economically.



The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and John Snow India, supported by USAID, co-hosted a conclave on COVID-19 vaccination themed **"Power of the Collective" in January 2023**, in New Delhi in partnership with Global Health Strategies. The aim of the conclave was to center-stage critical learnings and best practices surrounding COVID-19 vaccinations over the course of the last two years in the country. P4i's founder, Mr. C.K. Mishra, and chairperson, Dr. Indu Bhushan, moderated two of the panel discussions at this national conclave.

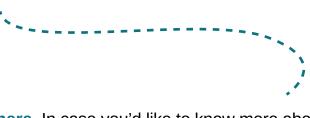


Mr. C.K. Mishra, founder of P4i, moderating a session on The journey and the future: Reflection on India's COVID-19 response and learnings to transform India into a global leader in healthcare to achieve India@2047 vision

Dr. Indu Bhushan, chairperson of P4i, moderating a session on *Strengthening India's health system through partnership and investment* 



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