



# KORU FOUNDATION



Sustainable solutions



Education Equity



Enabling Changemakers

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## Foreword

A heartfelt congratulations to everyone who has been a part our journey till now. February 2023 we completed our first year since being registered as Section 8 non-profit. The idea for Koru Foundation was born in the year 2020 with a vision to find sustainable solutions to our social and civic problems by enabling more people to be changemakers.

We are in the 21st century, we are also a part of the most advanced and modern era in the human history however our basic struggles to sustain a decent life still exists. The sufferings are widespread faced by millions of people even today because of problems such as environmental degradation, educational inequity, sanitation and hygiene. How many times have we wanted to improve a situation around but felt helpless? We want to bring change for the better, but are usually not sure where to start from and whether it will amount to anything fruitful or not.

To go beyond this helplessness and be the change we need is what Koru Foundation is geared toward. Today when we have taken the first step in the direction of fulfilling our vision, we can say it has been good but there is a long way ahead and we need your support and love all the way.



Madhulika Singh  
Director and Co-founder,  
Koru Foundation



# Our team



**Garima Rohilla**

Director | Co-founder  
Program Manager (Udaani)



**Amit Sinha**

Director | Co-founder  
Operations manager



**Shreejita Das**

Program Manager (Udaan)



**Dipak Kumar Soni**

Project Coordinator (Sanjeevani)



**Sadaf Khanam**

Project Coordinator (Saathi)



**Farzana Ehsan**

Volunteer Social media

# Our mentors



**Ajit Singh**  
Mentor | Environmentalist



**Anu Bhatnagar**  
Mentor | Strategy advisor for women's health ecosystem



**Rakesh Shrivastava**  
Mentor | Horticulturist

# Koru Foundation at a glance



We use the power of technology, people, and self-sustainable processes to bring change in behaviour and habits, practices and policies and influence all our stakeholders to work as one. We seek to create the platform for all those people who want to work towards a positive change find a common space that enables them to use their skills and knowledge in a collaborative effort that helps in maintaining the balance we need in our society and in nature. Our projects focus on Sustainable Waste Management, Menstrual Health Management and Education in marginalized community through our flagship projects Sanjeevani, Saathi and Udaan.

The objective is to-

- i. maximize resource recovery through environmentally and economically sustainable programs,
- ii. sensitize communities and bring about behavioural change and,
- iii. establish strong monitoring and supervision processes for accurate impact measurement.

# Key Intervention Areas (SDGs)



## Impact



**>40**  
Awareness sessions



**>700**  
Children engaged with under Project Sanjeevani



**5**  
Learning centers



**136**  
Students beneficiaries under Project Udaan

# Our Projects & Progress



**PROJECT SANJEEVANI**  
*Koru's Initiative*



**PROJECT SAATHI**  
*Koru's Initiative*



**PROJECT UDAAN**  
*Koru's Initiative*



A successful pilot on Earth day, 5 days 5 wastes program

## Project SANJEEVANI

In a generation that is growing up in a resource scarce and ever degrading environment, it is vital to nurture their values and orient them towards environmental sustainability. Koru Foundation engaged with city schools and raised awareness on the importance of Waste Management through games, group activities and sessions. Through this project **700+** students were trained in SDGs, with a focus on **SDG 11, SDG 12, and SDG 13**.

We started with our pilot on the Earth Day and conducted 5 days 5 wastes program across **10 schools** and diverted **718kg** of plastic from landfills to recyclers.

The schools that participated in the pilot were

- Kerala Public School, Kadma
- Kerala Public School Mango
- Kerala Public School, Gamharia
- Little Flower School
- Dayanand Public School
- Shiksha Niketan School
- Rajendra Vidyalaya
- Motilal Nehru Public School
- Carmel Junior College
- Mount View School



Recycle Station set up at Kerala Public School, Kadma



## Zero Waste School

To build on our pilot in an established system we have started setting up **RECYCLE STATIONS** in **9 schools/colleges** with the school's support to divert certain categories of recyclables that would otherwise end up in landfills. Students can bring the recyclables on scheduled days and be collected in the placed bins. We would be making trips bi-monthly or as required to channelize the recyclables to respective vendors. There are six categories, Plastic pet bottles, Other plastic bottles (HDPE, LDPE), Stationery items, Oil/Milk Packets, MLP, Metal cans and E-waste

This is part of our behavioral change program that begins with enabling our young minds to be responsible and aware citizens. It is a fact that young people's probability is more to inherit a world where the number of problems are outrun by the number of solutions. The only way we are going to change the trend is by supporting youth to start and advance as **CHANGEMAKERS**, so that they can solve any given problem with an evidence based strategy. We entered a MoU with 3 schools with the vision mentioned above.

- Kerala Public School, Kadma
- Kerala Public School, Gamharia
- Kerala Public School, Mango



Cleaning team at Sahara Garden city working for a Zero Waste Society



## Zero Waste Society

We believe residential areas(societies/wards/ panchayats) are the second pillar on which a Zero Waste City stands. We work with such spaces to implement and streamline sustainable waste management . In its new initiative source segregation, awareness sessions , safe and hygienic handling of waste , use of 3Rs are promoted in cooperative housing societies and localities.

By zero waste society we envision to streamline the system of solid waste that encompasses - segregation at each home of dry, wet & sanitary waste making it a best practice for its proper disposal resulting in a cleaner, greener environment.





Junkies food hub restaurant giving us the plastic waste instead of throwing in trash



PROJECT SANJEEVANI  
Koru's Initiative

## Zero Waste Offices

Its the 3rd and equally important pillar to achieve our dream of a Zero Waste City. Slowly but steadily more and more establishments are realizing the importance of recycling and with our help their plastic waste is directly channelized to authorized collectors and recyclers instead of ending in landfills. We have partnered with **10 restaurants** to channelise their plastic waste to authorised recyclers instead of letting it end up in landfills.



>25,000  
PET bottles  
recycled



>200  
Kgs paper  
recycled



>18,000  
glass bottles  
recycled



>1,800  
kgs of plastic  
recycled



Session on menstruation with boys and girls of Ghatshila Public School



**PROJECT SAATHI**  
Koru's Initiative

## Project SAATHI

As the name suggests 'Saathi' is a gender neutral term used for friends, partners or anyone who supports you. Through this project we intend to take up the menstrual health and awareness conversation to everyone in the community- girls and boys, women and men. The multiple challenges women and adolescent girls face, it is evident that promoting menstrual hygiene management (MHM) is not only a sanitation matter; it is also an important step towards safeguarding the dignity, bodily integrity and overall life opportunities of women and girls.

With the vision to include men and boys as well in the conversation about menstruation we have been conducting sessions in **Gamharia, Ghatshila** and **Jamshedpur**.

In the last one year we have been able to reach over **200 girls and boys**.



**>200**

boys and girls  
reached through  
sessions



**>400**

cloth pads  
distributed in  
communities



Learning center in Sundergarh district



## Project UDAAN

Lahunipada Bridge program is an initiative to support the education of **136 children of tribal groups in Sundergarh district**, Odisha. This program is a network of learning centers where remedial teaching is conducted by educated locals. This program was started with five community teachers appointed in **five different villages** (Khutgaon, Badabil, Mahulpada, Uskela, Bandhberna).

After that it went through pandemic and the situation of children's education got much worse especially for those who did not have the privilege of accessing internet. So, this program became more relevant post pandemic. The objectives of the project are:

- Addressing the inequity in education
- To create gender-equal classrooms
- Reducing the number of girl dropouts from schools every year
- Designing Experiential learning-based curriculum with a focus on Social Emotional Learning.
- Focus on girl child education
- Training new fellows to be Changemakers to ensure a sustainable vision.
- Bridge the learning gap between children in basic literacy and numeracy
- Empowering girls from marginalized communities to be Changemakers

## PARTNERSHIPS



Tata Steel Utilities  
& Infrastructure



Jamshedpur Area  
Committee Services Ltd.



Adityapur Municipal  
Corporation.



## Get Involved

Koru Foundation is about bringing together as many people as possible in the journey of finding solutions to our problems. With that thought in mind, we are always open for anyone who wishes to volunteer their time or seek internship with us to learn new skills, lend a hand in making our society a better place for all or for gaining experiences for their goals ahead.



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**KORU**  
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**Finding sustainable solutions to our  
social and civic problems**

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