

IDinsight

Catalytic Fund

High-impact investment opportunities delivered

Why the catalytic fund?

Impact-oriented funders are looking for the best investments to do the most good. But gathering the information to make smart decisions takes time and additional resources. Often, funders miss opportunities to support urgent and valuable projects.

Through the newly established Catalytic Fund, funders can leverage IDinsight's multi-country network and rigorous vetting process to identify opportunities for data and evidence to make a major contribution to improved lives and livelihoods.

For donors, this provides a simple pathway to do the most good, with a strong feedback loop including information about return on investment.

For IDinsight and our partners, we can make the most of time-sensitive opportunities poised for impact. We can also spend more time doing the work, rather than searching for donors to support each project.

How it works



1. Donors give.

Get in touch to make a donation and your funds will be earmarked for the "Catalytic Fund." To date, the Catalytic Fund has received generous philanthropic support at both the individual and institutional levels. Contact [Meg Battle](#) or [Jake Taesang Cho](#).



2. We allocate funds.

On a monthly basis, our steering committee of experts vets the highest-value opportunities - proposed by IDinsight leaders - based on a rigorous protocol that establishes financial need, urgency, and high-impact potential.



3. We execute on the project.

An IDinsight team executes on the project, sharing updates and receiving guidance from the Catalytic Fund Steering Committee.



4. We analyze and share results.

Deploying our internal measurement system, we conduct rigorous assessments of our projects, incorporating client feedback, analytical quality, and milestones reached. We provide Catalytic Fund donors with bi-annual updates on the portfolio's impact.

Project examples

Indus Action:

Indus Action, the Catalytic Fund's inaugural grantee, is an India-based non-profit that supports households to gain access to legislated benefits through collaborations with state governments and direct outreach to individuals. IDInsight is working with Indus Action to leverage machine learning tools to identify eligible recipients of available government benefits for construction workers in India amid economic recovery. Fewer than 5% of eligible workers have received benefits under the Building and Other Construction Workers Fund (BoCW) fund, and more than 80% of workers, many of whom are migrants most negatively impacted by COVID-19, are yet to be registered. \$7.4 B lies unspent in the BoCW fund, with \$270M unspent in Delhi alone. The outreach system developed by IDInsight helps reduce the information barriers to registered workers accessing their benefits.

To learn more about IDInsight and Indus Action's collaboration, check out our blog on ["Using algorithms to match eligible people to social benefits in India"](#) and our report ["Matching eligible people to social welfare programs in India"](#)



Image by Nishant Aneja from Pexels

Associates in Research and Education for Development (ARED)

ARED will pilot its accelerated, Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL) based, bilingual education program in 30 classes, reaching a total of 600 kids in three regions of Senegal. The program will then expand to an additional 170 classes, reaching a total of 4,000 students during the academic year. To prepare for future scale-up, ARED is partnering with IDInsight through a flexible Learning Partnership, beginning with a 3-month Process Evaluation to ensure strong implementation of an otherwise evidence-based intervention.



Photo by tobie on Unsplash

Indian state-level evidence unit

IDInsight is providing technical support to a state government in India with a focus on women and children. During an initial 18-months empowerment and child development period, IDInsight worked to develop a high-profile new government plan to improve access, usage, and disposal of menstrual hygiene management products; and launched a study on the declining sex ratio at birth. IDInsight directed Catalytic Fund resources to this Learning Partnership to avoid interrupting a project with long-term impact potential.



Image by IDInsight

The Philippines Department of Health

IDInsight will support the Philippines Department of Health (DOH) in refining its M&E framework for the rollout of universal health care (UHC) nationwide. We will also run the first-ever household survey to determine the progress achieved and gaps remaining in the UHC rollout. While the Department has verbally committed to funding IDInsight's engagement, the procurement process remains in process. Catalytic Fund resources will provide IDInsight with a financial runway to shape the National Government's thinking on Monitoring and Evaluation for UHC at the earliest stages while we complete the procurement process.

Frequently asked questions

Q: What are the vetting criteria for the Catalytic Fund projects?

A: Our Steering Committee, made up of technical and sectoral experts, considers a number of factors, including 1) demonstrable time sensitivity due to a pivotal policy moment or promising momentum that requires resources faster than traditional fundraising processes allow and 2) a significant anticipated impact on human lives.

Q: Will the Catalytic Fund focus on a specific sector?

A: The Catalytic Fund portfolio will include projects across all [sectors](#).

Q: How can donors know the impact of their Catalytic Fund contributions?

A: Your contribution will go towards field-ready solutions, of which IDinsight will report back the social return of your investment on a continuing basis.

Q: Does IDinsight use unrestricted resources to support Catalytic Fund projects?

A: Yes, IDinsight is using unrestricted funding to seed the Catalytic Fund, but we have more projects worth funding than flexible support available.

Q: Can donors give specifically to the Catalytic Fund?

A: Yes. Get in touch to make a donation and your funds will be earmarked for the Catalytic Fund. Contact [Meg Battle](#) or [Jake Taesang Cho](#).

Q: Who can give to the Catalytic Fund?

A: We welcome philanthropic support at both the individual and institutional levels.

Q: Why should donors give specifically to the Catalytic Fund?

A: After 10 years of informing decision-makers, IDinsight understands the components that yield high-impact results. These projects, which are not sector-specific, often cannot wait for funding. The IDinsight Catalytic Fund takes your dollars and applies them directly to these projects to make a measurable impact on human lives.

Get involved

Please reach out to our Director of Strategic Initiative, [Meg Battle](#), to learn more about getting involved in IDinsight's Catalytic Fund.