

Impact Report 2025

# Seeding a Hopeful Future

02

Message From Our CEO

03

About This Report

04

PAA At A Glance

05

About PAA

07

Feature Stories

07

The Rice Transformation Story

09

A Fair Start for Every Child

11

Decoding Diseases,  
Strengthening Defences

13

Blue Pathways for a  
Climate-Positive Future

15

Connecting Collaborators for Change

17

Multiplying Impact Through Community

19

Bridging Knowledge and Action

21

Acknowledgements

Message From  
Our CEO

It is my pleasure to share the inaugural Impact Report of the Philanthropy Asia Alliance (PAA) – a reflection of the early strides we have made together, and the potential to do more.

This Impact Report marks an early milestone and is only a beginning. We will work on greater granularity in future iterations and making the process more rigorous. A deep understanding of our impact will enable the Alliance to make a meaningful difference in the communities we serve.

PAA was founded on a simple but powerful belief: that no single organisation can tackle Asia’s most pressing challenges alone. It will take all of us – across the public, private, and philanthropic sectors – working in concert to drive lasting improvements for People and Planet.

Since our launch in September 2023, we have focused on laying the groundwork for trust, collaboration, and collective action. Some early achievements – from reducing methane emissions in rice farming, to advancing digital health access and scaling regenerative school meals – have only been possible because of the ideas, networks, and resources of our Alliance members and partners.

In our first year, we have focused on mobilising capital towards catalytic projects that have the potential to scale, involving multiple funders and public-private-philanthropic partnerships. More than US\$37.5 million has been mobilised towards 19 such projects, giving us confidence that when like-minded partners come together, we can make a difference. We can amplify our impact. We can Do Good.

PAA’s role is clear: to connect, convene, catalyse solutions, and enable ground action. We know we do not have a monopoly on ideas. We listen, we discuss, and we consult. In this regard, I am grateful for the partnership of the wider Temasek Trust network, including Temasek Foundation, which has helped to put flesh on the bones of our hypotheses and ideation.

The journey ahead is long, and the challenges complex. But we remain hopeful because of the partners we walk with, bonded by our collective purpose to create a better future for Asia.

Together, we can prime Asia as a force for good.

“We look forward to working alongside many more of you, as we jointly shape PAA’s next chapter.”

Shaun Seow, Chief Executive Officer  
Philanthropy Asia Alliance



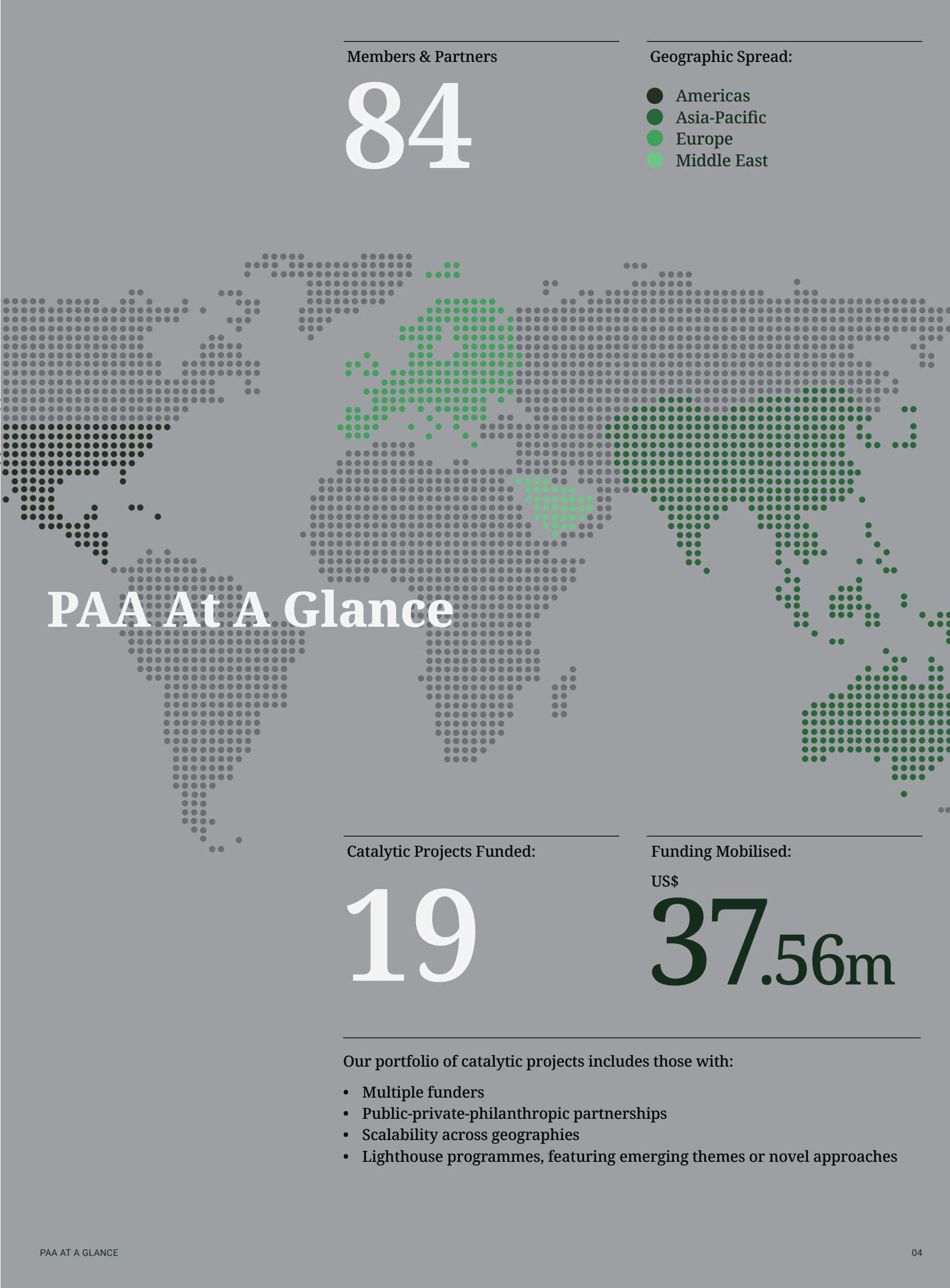
About This Report

This inaugural edition of PAA’s Impact Report offers a snapshot of our growth since launch. The achievements featured represent the collective efforts of our members and partners in priming Asia for good, and we are encouraged by the potential for greater impact ahead.

We are committed to improving how we measure and report the impact of the Alliance. This is essential not just for accountability – it’s also about learning and getting better at catalysing impact.

PAA’s Approach to Impact

1	ALIGNED	Our impact measurement framework takes reference from global standards and best practices, building upon the foundations that our stakeholders have established through their respective impact methodology. The framework guides us in mapping impact pathways, identifying standardised metrics, and evaluating outcomes.
2	AGGREGATED	As a collaborative platform, we consider the sum progress of our ecosystem and activities. The projects and initiatives featured in this report reflect what multiple actors - including our members and partners - have accomplished together, where PAA has played a contributing role.
3	ITERATIVE	Achieving impact is a journey. Beyond this inaugural report, the Alliance will continue to refine our impact measurement framework through consultation and dialogue with our stakeholders to ensure rigour and relevance.





About Philanthropy  
Asia Alliance

Home to more than half of the world’s population, the Asia-Pacific region is diverse and dynamic. While rapid economic growth has spurred progress on global development goals, vulnerability and inequality persist. We have a unique opportunity – and responsibility – to build better.

Launched by Temasek Trust in 2023, PAA is dedicated to driving collaborative philanthropy through multi-sector partnerships. By harnessing collective strengths, PAA amplifies impact, accelerates positive change, and takes urgent action to address the pressing environmental and social challenges of our time – starting with our home base in Asia. We are now a vibrant community of more than 80 global members and partners who have collectively pledged to catalyse innovative solutions at scale.

At PAA, we ask: how can we spark collaboration that not only creates a better world today, but also sows the seeds for a more resilient, inclusive, and equitable future?



PAA’s vision is to prime Asia as a force for good. Guided by our interconnected mandates of climate and nature, holistic and inclusive education, and global and public health, we undertake three key roles to advance this vision:



Impact Catalyst

We curate innovative and impactful Asia-centred projects with the potential to scale globally, such as reducing the carbon footprint of rice cultivation and advancing genetic testing for disease detection. Creating opportunities for collaboration, PAA works with our members and partners to efficiently and strategically mobilise capital, knowledge, and resources towards such solutions.



Trusted Convenor

PAA leverages the strengths of our member networks and the capabilities of the Temasek Trust ecosystem to advance shared goals. Our flagship annual convening, the Philanthropy Asia Summit, brings together public, private, and philanthropic stakeholders to engage in conversations on critical topics. It also serves as a platform for real-world solutions, enabling willing collaborators to take action on concrete opportunities.



Global Thought Leader

Actionable insights drive strategic decision-making and enhance impact practice. PAA is supported by a community of members and partners with deep technical expertise and field-tested wisdoms. Together, the Alliance is able to offer shared perspectives on existing gaps and emerging needs, adopting a systems thinking approach for transformative outcomes.



# The Rice Transformation Story

Revolutionising rice agriculture in Asia through low-carbon practices

↓30-50%

reduction in methane emissions from rice fields

↓30-50%

reduction in water usage

↑5-10%

increase in rice yield

## Rice is Nice. True or False?

Rice is a dietary staple sustaining 3.5 billion people – nearly half of the world's population. Conventional rice farming emits methane, a greenhouse gas 30 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Meanwhile, climate change is hitting rice agriculture hard, with extreme weather patterns, rising temperatures, and declining rice yields threatening food security and livelihoods. With demand for rice set to rise by 30% by 2050, the need for sustainable rice farming practices has never been more urgent.

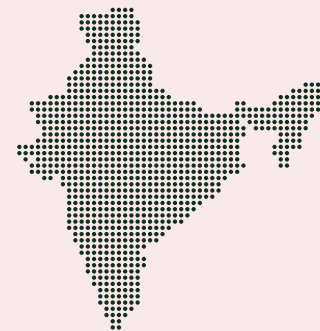
## Grains for Change

Temasek Life Sciences Laboratory's (TLL) **Decarbonising Rice** project pioneers a science-based approach to sustainable rice farming by combining:

1. Advanced irrigation and fertigation technology to optimise water use and prevent continuous flooding of fields
2. Management of soil health and microbiome to improve plant nutrition, reduce methane production, and boost yields
3. Adaptation of rice varieties with climate-resilient traits to increase food security

Small-scale trials in Singapore and India showed promising results: methane emissions and water use fell by 30-50%, while rice yields rose 5-10%.

## India



## Field trials in India from September 2022 to February 2025 showed:

- Drip irrigation reduced methane emissions by 50-60% and water use by 45-50%, compared to traditional methods of flooding fields
- A TLL-developed fertiliser cocktail in flooded conditions reduced methane emissions by about 30%, compared to what farmers were using
- Combining drip irrigation and the TLL fertiliser cocktail reduced methane emissions by about 70%



## The Giving to Amplify Earth Action (GAEA) Awards

In recognition of its achievements, TLL's Decarbonising Rice project was awarded the GAEA Award at the 2025 Annual Meeting in Davos, Switzerland. Powered by the World Economic Forum, the Awards celebrate innovative partnerships and impactful solutions addressing global climate and nature challenges. Watch the [video](#).

Recognising its transformative potential, PAA showcased the project at the Philanthropy Asia Summit 2023 and went on to successfully close the funding gap needed for the expansion of field trials in the region. Contributions from PAA and our members, including the Gates Foundation, are enabling pilots to be scaled in 100-hectare plots across India, Indonesia, and Laos.

Explaining why the Gates Foundation supported the project, Gargee Ghosh, President of Global Policy and Advocacy, said, "Transforming agriculture is essential to advancing food security across Asia. The Decarbonising Rice project reflects a powerful partnership grounded in science, innovation, and shared commitment. With PAA's catalytic leadership, we're proud to support solutions that are improving farmer livelihoods, strengthening food systems, and driving lasting impact for communities across the region."

Added Dr E. Parameswari, Associate Professor from the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, TLL's implementing partner in India, "The project has the potential to improve

Indian agriculture by reducing GHG emissions and enhancing rice paddy productivity. At the same time, it increases resilience to climate change and creates a more sustainable future for rice cultivation while enhancing farmers' livelihoods."

Expected to conclude in 2027, this current phase of the Decarbonising Rice project has seen good progress in all three locations. Field trials in small plots of 1.2 to 3 hectares have been helpful in establishing operating models and understanding ground realities in preparation for the 100-hectare pilots.

TLL Senior Principal Investigator, Srinivasan Ramachandran elaborated, "In addition to sharing our findings with the scientific community, the data will be used to customise our solution for adaptation to each geography's farming conditions and practices. This allows us to recommend a set of practices that are practical and easy for farmers to adopt. The project's success will thus validate a model for regional scalability and pave the way for broader applications to other rice-growing regions."



# A Fair Start for Every Child

Upskilling independent childcare providers to better care for marginalised children

Train **4,000** independent childcare providers through a training-of-trainers model

Improve child development outcomes for **100,000** children across 14 provinces in Vietnam

Scale nationally to other provinces in Vietnam and regionally to at least 2 other Asian countries

## Rethinking Childcare

The first six years of a child's life are critical for cognitive development. Yet in Southeast Asia, 31 million children under six run the risk of not reaching their full potential due to a lack of quality early learning and care. This is especially true for the children of more than 3.5 million low-wage migrant workers in Vietnam, who do not qualify for public kindergartens and cannot afford private preschools. In 2023, Vietnam's Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) estimated that over 400,000 children aged 0-6 spend up to 14 hours a day in over 16,000 home-based independent childcare (IC) providers across the country. Limited resources make it challenging to ensure safe environments and stimulating learning opportunities for the young children in their care.

## Right From the Start

The **Advancing a Quality Independent Childcare Model in Vietnam** pilot is a professional development training programme that utilises an evidence-based curriculum for the country's IC providers. Based on early success of OneSky directly training IC providers in Da Nang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, and Hai Duong, a new cascading training-of-trainers (TOT) model is being adopted.

The pilot will train and support government officers at the national, provincial, and district levels, who will then deliver the programme to local IC providers in high-density industrial zones. This sustains programme outcomes while maintaining quality at scale. The systems-level intervention aims to nurture children through quality care, reduce the risk of developmental delays, and improve their readiness for formal schooling.

## Vietnam



A 2020 evaluation by the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health validated the effectiveness of OneSky's direct training programme, showing positive impacts on early childhood development and a spillover effect of improved care across the wider community. Following Harvard's positive evaluation, OneSky was invited to partner with MOET to scale the programme to 14 provinces over 5 years.

Recognising a catalytic opportunity, PAA and our members stepped in to support the first testing and refinement phase of the TOT pilot in four provinces – Bac Giang, Bac Ninh, Long An, and Ho Chi Minh City. Since 2024, our collective funding has enabled progress on several fronts:

- OneSky and MOET have finalised the “National Early Childhood Care and Education Guidelines for Independent Childcare Centers”. This represents the first-of-its-kind national guidelines for all IC providers in Vietnam.
- Core training materials for 20 sessions of the IC training programme have been developed, including on brain development, building vocabulary, and collaborating with parents

- 4 master trainers at the provincial level have been hired and have undergone 7 training sessions on topics such as competency-based training, adult learning principles, and assessment

OneSky and MOET intend to expand the pilot via a second phase to reach another 10 provinces before adopting it nationwide. On an ongoing basis, OneSky uses a tech-based monitoring dashboard to track caregiver knowledge and behavioural changes. Live data supplied by frontline trainers and programme managers is also used to evaluate and calibrate programme effectiveness.

Vo Thi Hien, OneSky's Vietnam Programme Director, said, “Investment in quality programmes for vulnerable children yields a 13% annual return, leading to improved education and health outcomes, higher parental employment, increased economic productivity, and reduced healthcare costs. Together with PAA and our supporters, we're optimistic that the Vietnam pilot will not only bring about developmental improvements in the children themselves but also, in the long run, level the playing field for their families and communities.”



In Vietnam, OneSky addresses the needs of marginalised young children whose parents work in Vietnam's factories and expanding industrial zones. Since 2017, it has trained 2,360 childcare providers and reached 52,813 children in Vietnam. Watch the [video](#).



# Decoding Diseases, Strengthening Defences

Detecting and controlling outbreaks of infectious diseases, early and effectively

## Silent Killers, Preventable Losses

Infectious diseases, such as tuberculosis, drug-resistant bacteria, respiratory viruses, and dengue, claim around 14 million lives globally every year – nearly double that during the COVID-19 pandemic. These are not new threats and many of these deaths are preventable. Enhanced detection and control, powered by advances in genomic sequencing, can help identify, predict, and even prevent outbreaks. Yet, in many low-resource settings across Asia, the potential of pathogen genomics in saving lives remains untapped due to gaps in local capacity, infrastructure, and integration into public health systems.

## Turning Code into Cure

The **Asia Pathogen Genomics Initiative** (Asia PGI), hosted by Duke-NUS Medical School's Centre for Outbreak Preparedness, is addressing these challenges. Supporting 15 countries across the region, Asia PGI aims to transform outbreak preparedness and disease control by decoding the genetic signatures of pathogens. Asia PGI aims to advance the application of genomics to improve regional surveillance and response capacity through four inter-related workstreams:

1. Enhance countries' early detection capacity through genomic surveillance
2. Accelerate the development of novel outbreak response tools including diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines
3. Strengthen health systems through policy, planning, and budgeting for pandemic preparedness
4. Create enabling environment by reducing costs and supply chain bottlenecks, as well as addressing governance issues

By integrating genomics into public health, Asia PGI enhances the ability to track disease evolution, pinpoint sources of outbreaks, monitor resistance patterns, and shape targeted interventions.

The Asia Pathogen Genomics Initiative Academy established as a regional hub of excellence

Training modules developed for key pathogen genomics topics relevant to Asia

Trained over **100** regional experts from 19 countries in South and Southeast Asia

## South and Southeast Asia



Founded in 2022 with support from the Gates Foundation, Asia PGI has evolved into a regional hub for innovation. Initial grants helped establish wastewater and environmental surveillance systems capable of identifying novel and endemic pathogens early. Recognising the need to develop local expertise, PAA and our members put in additional funding, enabling the launch of the Asia PGI Academy – Asia's only dedicated training facility for pathogen genomics.

Since 2023, the Academy has delivered eight in-person and virtual training programmes, developed bespoke workshop curricula, and curated a global repository of open-access learning resources. These efforts are building a generation of experts across Asia equipped to leverage genomics for public health action. Three new workshops are planned for 2025, focused on MPOX, viral genomic epidemiology, and respiratory virus surveillance.

Alongside the training, Asia PGI is piloting an AI-powered data exchange platform. This tool links national pathogen genomic databases with health records and contextual data, enabling timely, evidence-based decision-making by clinicians, researchers, and public health officials.

"Pathogen genomics is a vital tool in our infectious diseases surveillance

toolbox," said Assistant Professor Ruklanthi de Alwis, Deputy Director of the Duke-NUS Center for Outbreak Preparedness. "However, pathogen genomics is complex. Therefore, adoption and upscaling in resource-limited countries require sustainable capacity building and workforce skills training. The Asia PGI Academy aims to increase technical capabilities in pathogen genomics, while bringing together regional and global experts to strengthen partnerships on the ground."

Asia PGI is expanding its reach through more than 50 partnerships to develop national disease control strategies, prioritise pathogens, and establish ethical frameworks for genomic data sharing. Regional expert groups are also shaping genomics use-cases for major priorities in Asia including tuberculosis, arboviruses, and wastewater surveillance. To address supply side challenges, Asia PGI recently secured a global access pricing agreement with manufacturers to reduce the cost of sequencing for drug-resistant TB by up to 50%.

These breakthroughs in affordability, policy alignment, and technical capacity are critical in driving equitable access to genomic tools. By embedding genomics into Asia's public health fabric, Asia PGI is laying the groundwork for faster, smarter, and more resilient responses to future outbreaks.

"We can't predict when the next pandemic will arrive, but we know that it is just a matter of time. We are happy to support Asia PGI's work to build up our region's capacity for the early detection of emerging pathogens."

Goh Yew Lin, Chief Executive Officer  
G. K. Goh Holdings Pte. Ltd.



Watch the [video](#).



# Blue Pathways for a Climate-Positive Future

## Advancing blue ecosystem solutions in Indonesia for climate mitigation

Integrate ocean-based mitigation into Indonesia's national climate strategy

Create systemic support for the effective implementation of ocean-climate policies

Build a pipeline of sustainably financed blue carbon projects

### The Opportunity in Oceans

The ocean is a vital climate solution. Terrestrial-based climate mitigation and adaptation efforts have garnered much momentum, but are we missing out by overlooking the opportunity in our oceans? Oceans could contribute up to 21% of the global emissions reductions needed to reach net zero by 2050. A critical element for restoring marine ecosystems, healthy oceans also sustain the lives and livelihoods of coastal communities. By fully integrating oceans into our climate strategies, we can ensure that our collective efforts are both holistic and enduring.

### Making Waves, Reaching Deep

Climateworks Centre's (Climateworks) **Southeast Asia Framework for Ocean Action in Mitigation** (SEAFOAM) project is advancing ocean-based climate mitigation strategies in Southeast Asia – starting with Indonesia, home to 17% of the world's blue carbon ecosystems in the form of mangroves, salt marshes, and seagrass. SEAFOAM combines systems-level research with stakeholder engagement and aims to:

1. Support Indonesia's policy-makers in integrating oceans into its national climate strategy
2. Produce tools, data, and knowledge products on blue carbon to inform decision-making
3. Build capacity of stakeholders and cadres to lead the implementation of policy changes
4. Enhance receptiveness to blue financing as a means to develop high-quality ocean-based mitigation projects

With PAA member Quantedge Advancement Initiative funding Phase 1 of the SEAFOAM project, Climateworks was able to establish the decarbonisation potential of Indonesia's marine and coastal resources. It found that ocean-based mitigation can help Indonesia bridge the gap to net zero by almost 50% in 2050. The **report** further identified opportunities in blue carbon ecosystems such as mangroves and seagrass, maritime transport and shipping, and offshore renewable energy. Its findings have been leveraged to inform national policy discussions and convene cross-sectoral dialogues in shaping ocean-climate solutions.

In Phase 2, PAA is supporting efforts to scale the project through dialogue and capacity building on the ocean-climate nexus, advising on targeted policy interventions, and developing a pipeline of pilot projects. In its first year, strong working relationships have been established with key government agencies like the Ministry of National Development Planning (BAPPENAS), the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, and the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries.

Furthermore, recommendations have been provided for the inclusion of ocean-based targets into Indonesia's Second Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). In addition to professional development courses and workshops for national, provincial, and

local stakeholders, Climateworks has also released an overview report on blue nature-based solutions in Indonesia and a primer on blue accounting.

"This collaboration is very strategic to support the Indonesian government in the formulation of ocean and climate policies, including those on preparation, implementation plans, and evaluation related to the new marine sector listed in the Next NDC Indonesia 2024/2025," said Professor Luky Adrianto, who chairs SEAFOAM's Indonesia Stakeholder Steering Group and the International Research Institute on Maritime, Oceans, and Fisheries at IPB University.

PAA is now working with its members to close the funding gap needed for

Climateworks to advance its work on sustainable blue financing – analysing barriers and proposing solutions to unlock investment into blue carbon projects in support of Indonesia's net zero ambitions.

Dr. Arifin Rudianto, Principal Expert Planner and Coordinator of SDG National Secretariat at BAPPENAS, noted, "There is an important role for international institutions to play in bridging implementation actions to reduce the impact of climate change. They are supporting government efforts with a science-based approach through climate change mitigation strategies, including strengthening marine ecosystems and accelerating the transition to a low-carbon economy."



### Indonesia



**“We believe SEAFOAM has the potential to catalyse transformative change at the ocean-climate nexus. Having seen the strong evidence base of Indonesia’s ocean-based mitigation potential in Phase 1, we are proud to support Phase 2, which is crucial for sustaining this momentum to advance ocean-climate policy and action.”**

Tan Yan Ru, Executive Director  
Quantedge Advancement Initiative



# Connecting Collaborators for Change

Rallying leading thinkers and practitioners for cross-sector collaborations

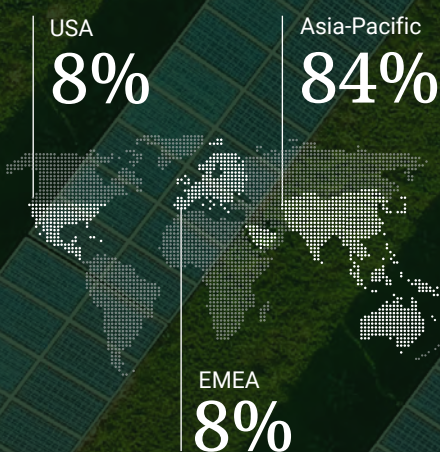
Number of participants:

425

Number of participating organisations:

236

Geographic spread:



## Partnerships: A Necessity, Not a Luxury

Wicked problems such as climate change come with complex, interconnected challenges that demand nuanced, multisectoral action. Public-private-philanthropic partnerships are gaining traction as a powerful model for collaboration. Governments provide essential policy support and regulatory frameworks to unlock systemic solutions, while businesses contribute market expertise to enhance scalability and efficiency. Philanthropies play a vital role by offering concessionary, patient capital to test innovative ideas, take risks, and create space for breakthroughs.

## Unlocking Value through Collaboration

As a convener, PAA's flagship event – the **Philanthropy Asia Summit (PAS)** – unites cross-sector stakeholders to exchange ideas, build partnerships, and catalyse collective impact. Since its inception in 2021, the annual convening has grown from a half-day event to a multi-day programme and has doubled its audience of thought leaders, philanthropic actors, and impact practitioners from around the world. PAS leverages ecosystem synergies to maximise opportunities along the spectrum of capital and aims to:

1. Enhance thought leadership, fostering advanced thinking and innovation to drive collective action
2. Connect communities and serve as a collaborative platform for deepening partnerships across Asia
3. Inspire ideas and actions through experiential learning and field insights in Singapore and the region



Watch the PAS 2024 highlights video.

“PAA plays a vital role in fostering meaningful connections, bringing together high-calibre stakeholders, and supporting a vibrant ecosystem that drives collaborative and impactful solutions.”

Steffen Pierini Lüders  
Senior Vice President, Corporate Affairs  
Novo Nordisk Foundation

Themed “Partnerships for Action”, PAS 2024 emphasised the critical role of multi-sector partnerships, spotlighting how philanthropy can mobilise both private capital and government support to address challenges in climate, education, and health. The four-day programme brought delegates together for dynamic exchanges on driving impact – featuring plenaries, roundtables, workshops, partner sessions, impact journeys, and networking.

This Summit marked a shift from conversations to co-creation and from ideas to initiatives. New programmes, partnerships, and funding commitments were formulated at PAS 2024, demonstrating how aligned efforts can unlock scalable impact.

The 2024 convening saw the launch of PAA Communities, a collaborative model co-created with members to scale solutions, align funding efforts, and reduce duplication. Aligned with PAA's anchor mandates, each Community unites members around a shared mission and impact framework on identified interest areas – enabling more targeted coordination and support

of high-impact projects. Three Communities were introduced at PAS 2024 – Blue Oceans, Sustainable Land Use, and Holistic and Inclusive Education. During the Summit, the Communities came together to workshop their collective impact statement, a document that outlines each group's priorities and that guides joint decision-making. Their progress is captured in the next story of this report.

For the first time, PAS featured member-hosted impact journeys – immersive site visits designed to turn shared purpose into shared action. At Sembcorp's Tengeh Floating Solar Farm, delegates were given a first-hand look at how Singapore is driving its clean energy transition at the country's first inland floating solar farm.

Aboard the OceanXplorer, a cutting-edge marine research vessel, members delved into marine conservation and education in Southeast Asia. It was during this impact journey that PAA member Tanoto Foundation formalised a partnership with OceanX, inking a memorandum of understanding to collaborate on ocean education initiatives in Indonesia.





# Multiplying Impact Through Community

Funders' collaboratives aimed at shared learning and collective action

The philanthropic ecosystem in Asia is vibrant but can be fragmented. To scale impact and drive change within and across borders, collaborative philanthropy is necessary. Working together, rather than in silos, allows us to mobilise resources more efficiently and strategically for greater impact. To enable collective action, PAA co-developed the Communities initiative with our members. Communities aim to accelerate solutions around shared interests through systems thinking, scalability, and knowledge exchange. Structured as funders' collaboratives, the initiative gives members access to portfolios of Community-evaluated projects for joint funding. Each Community is also guided by a shared impact statement that informs collective decision-making and aligns efforts. In 2024, three Communities were launched:

Number of Communities launched:

3

Funding committed by Community Leads:

US\$20million

Upcoming Communities:

2

- Health for Human Potential
- Just Energy Transition

## Blue Oceans Community

Co-led by Dalio Philanthropies and TPC (Tsao Pao Chee), the Blue Oceans Community supports ocean research and exploration, raises awareness around the need for marine biodiversity protection and climate action, and pilots innovative evidence-based solutions for a decarbonised economy. The Community aims to:

- Increase scientific knowledge, research capacity, and marine technology to improve ocean health and enhance marine biodiversity
- Increase the ability of stakeholders, especially local communities, to sustainably manage, conserve, and protect marine and coastal areas
- Increase adaptation and resilience of vulnerable communities that depend on these ecosystems

Funding for the current projects in the Blue Oceans Community portfolio has been successfully mobilised, with Community members uniting through workshops, roundtables, and convenings to engage on topics such as blue carbon and ocean conservation.

"We're proud to support projects that are making an impact in ocean conservation and exploration. At Dalio Philanthropies, we remain deeply committed to expanding collective knowledge of and access to the ocean. Being a founding member of PAA's Blue Oceans Community continues to be a powerful way to collaborate on this important work."

Gretchen Wagner, Executive Director, Dalio Philanthropies

"The definition of Life's Well-being is expanding. It no longer encompasses just ourselves, our families, or our societies – it embraces the entire planet. The universe is fundamentally a coherent, interconnected system. Recognising this unity calls for bold business reform. Global leaders must embrace the process of restoration: restoring purpose to business, restoring health to our oceans and planet, and restoring the nature of love to Life itself."

Chavalit Frederick Tsao, Chairman, TPC

## Holistic & Inclusive Education Community

Access to quality education remains uneven in Asia due to factors such as child labour, gender discrimination, and lack of resources. This hinders economic growth and opportunities for many, especially marginalised groups. Addressing these challenges is crucial for Asia's growth as education drives economic development, social cohesion, and innovation, with early childhood education offering a high return on investment of US\$17 for every US\$1 spent.

Led by Tanoto Foundation, the Holistic & Inclusive Education Community aims to improve access to equitable and quality education, drive gender equality, and eliminate disparities for vulnerable groups. The Community's key objectives are to:

- Promote lifelong learning opportunities and ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all
- Enhance literacy, numeracy, digital literacy, and access to technology to bridge the education divide and prepare students for the future workforce
- Foster holistic education that nurtures the intellectual, emotional, social, ethical, and physical development and life prospects of all learners

"Tanoto Foundation is honoured to lead the way in pioneering PAA's Holistic and Inclusive Education Community. For over 40 years, our Foundation has harnessed the transformative power of education to unlock people's full potential and to improve lives. Through the Community, we look forward to collaborating with like-minded organisations to increase investments in educators, parents, and government leaders to improve early childhood and foundational literacy and math outcomes across the region."

Belinda Tanoto, Member of the Board of Trustees, Tanoto Foundation

## Sustainable Land Use Community

Led by Golden Philanthropies, the Sustainable Land Use Community sets out to reduce emissions, sequester carbon, and ensure a sustainable future for both humanity and biodiversity by harnessing nature-based solutions and innovation in sustainable agriculture. The Community's goals are to:

- Pilot and scale nature-based solutions that protect and restore natural landscapes, thereby increasing their carbon sequestration potential
- Advance low carbon, higher yielding sustainable agricultural practices, including carbon market solutions
- Bridge knowledge and data gaps in understanding the effectiveness of various sustainable land use practices
- Improve coordination and collaboration across multiple sectors, including agriculture, forestry, urban planning, and energy

The Community has been raising awareness of sustainable land use as a vital component of climate conservation. It has also formed a network of like-minded members to share best practices, build capacity, and generate ideas - paving the way for coordinated, collective action across Asia.

"Sinar Mas has established Golden Philanthropies, a body which will take an active role in funding projects in PAA's Sustainable Land Use Community, in developing new initiatives in Asia, and in offering our sites in Indonesia to carry out pilot projects. Given our years in conservation management and most crucially, in understanding the needs and aspirations of forest communities, we stand ready to catalyse important initiatives to mitigate climate change through philanthropy."

Bernard Tan, Chairman, Golden Philanthropies



# Bridging Knowledge and Action

## From Insight to Impact

Effective solutions to complex issues come from understanding root causes and interconnected systems. Research, knowledge transfer, and exchanging best practices thus lay the groundwork for impactful interventions to be developed. There is a pressing need to fund high-quality, action-oriented research and increase access to it. By co-creating knowledge products and distilling findings into actionable insights, PAA seeks to bring effective systems-level solutions into play.

To amplify findings and advocate further action, PAA convenes technical experts and programme implementors to share knowledge and insights for our member community. In the past year, thematic roundtables on blended finance and sustainable agriculture as well as funders' roundtables on infectious diseases and blue carbon were held. Globally, PAA works to forefront the Asian agenda in international fora such as New York Climate Week and the World Economic Forum's (the Forum) Annual Meeting in Davos.

In partnership with the Forum and the Centre for Impact Investing and Practices (CIIP), a study on the growing threat of antimicrobial resistance will be released in May 2025. Preliminary findings show that if left unaddressed, Asia could be the perfect crucible for antimicrobial resistance due to limited healthcare infrastructure, unsustainable agriculture practices, and inadequate sanitation. The study also highlights opportunities for catalytic action – including in education and behavioural change, stronger health systems, improved regional surveillance and data management, and increased investment in R&D and access to essential medicines.

## “Catalysing Climate Action in Asia: Unlocking the Power of Philanthropic-Public-Private Partnerships”

To highlight the importance of multisectoral partnerships in bridging the US\$3 trillion annual gap for equitable climate and nature solutions, PAA jointly published an Asia-focused climate philanthropy **report** with the Forum and ClimateWorks Foundation. The report sought to identify gaps and opportunities in climate funding in Asia, demonstrate how public-private-philanthropic partnerships can address these, and outline factors for success:

- Align systems thinking strategy and value, with all partners agreeing on objectives, outputs, and outcomes to be measured and tracked from the onset
- Build win-win collaborations at scale through identifying the right incentives for each sector
- Adopt innovative financing approaches, with philanthropic capital de-risking projects as first loss capital, private capital coming in when projects become commercially viable, and the public sector scaling impact
- Support people-centric capability building to develop green talent and ensure stakeholder integration

## “Seeding the Future: Transforming Smallholder Farms for a Sustainable Tomorrow”

To identify the interplay of challenges faced by smallholder farmers in Southeast Asia and to inform more strategic giving, PAA jointly published a **report** with CIIP and Wavemaker Impact. Drawing on the experiences of PAA members such as the Gates Foundation, Jollibee Group Foundation, and The Rockefeller Foundation, the report found that the most effective approaches to address the needs of smallholder farmers involve ‘local-for-local’ solutions, ‘phygital’ models, ensuring offtake, and building capacity. Funders along the capital spectrum are thus encouraged to:

- Invest in data-driven research, to improve the quantity and quality of information needed to develop more precise and long-lasting interventions
- Support market-oriented programmes, so that market forces and commercial capital can take solutions forward in a sustainable manner
- Participate in blended finance projects, to increase attractiveness to investors across the capital stack by aggregating diverse mandates, risk tolerance, and investment horizons





Acknowledgements

Much remains to be done for Asia-Pacific to meet its sustainable development targets by 2030. Groups and individuals across the public, private, and philanthropic sectors must step up collaboration in order to accelerate action. PAA remains committed to catalysing and connecting alongside like-minded partners.

We thank all our members for their invaluable contribution and partnership. In addition to those listed, we acknowledge and respect the wishes of members who have chosen to remain anonymous.

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“Partnerships underpin all that we do at PAA... Together, we go further, faster.”

Lim Boon Heng, Chairman  
Philanthropy Asia Alliance