



Built Up 2026: Marking 20 Years of Systems Change

In January 2026, Sambhav Foundation marked a significant milestone with Built Up, a convening that celebrated two decades of impact while opening conversations about the future of inclusive development in India.

Hosted in Bengaluru, Built Up brought together leaders from philanthropy, academia, industry, grassroots organizations, and public institutions. The event was both a reflection on Sambhav Foundation's journey and a forward-looking dialogue about how systemic social change can be sustained in an evolving economic and technological landscape.

Over the past 20 years, Sambhav Foundation has worked across multiple thematic areas including education, livelihoods, disability inclusion, and community empowerment. Through collaborations with governments, corporate partners, and local communities, the organization has reached over 3.5 million individuals across more than 20 states in India, creating pathways from education to employment and strengthening inclusive livelihood ecosystems.

Built Up was designed as more than a commemorative event. It functioned as a cross-sector conversation on how development initiatives must evolve to address emerging challenges such as automation, changing labor markets, and persistent inequalities in access to opportunities. Participants examined how systems thinking, long-term partnerships, and locally rooted models can help create sustainable impact.

A central theme throughout the discussions was the importance of community ownership. Speakers emphasized that meaningful social transformation happens when communities are not merely participants but co-creators of development solutions. This principle has shaped many of Sambhav Foundation's initiatives, particularly in skill development and inclusive livelihood programs.

The convening also highlighted the growing importance of collaboration across sectors. Representatives from philanthropic institutions, corporate CSR teams, academic researchers, and grassroots organizations shared insights on how partnerships can amplify impact and accelerate progress toward inclusive growth.

Panel discussions explored topics such as the future of work, skills for emerging industries, and how marginalized groups including women, persons with disabilities, and first-generation learners can be better integrated into formal economic systems. These conversations underscored the need to design programs that address structural barriers while enabling individuals to build long-term livelihoods.

Built Up also provided an opportunity to recognize the ecosystem of partners and supporters who have contributed to Sambhav Foundation's journey over the past two decades. The event celebrated the collective effort required to create scalable social impact an effort that spans communities, institutions, and industries. As Sambhav Foundation enters its third decade, the Built Up convening reaffirmed the organization's commitment to systemic change. Rather than focusing solely on short-term interventions, the foundation continues to invest in long-term models that strengthen communities, create dignified livelihoods, and build inclusive economic systems.