



## Victory Lap 2025: Celebrating Community Leadership and Livelihood Journeys

In December 2025, Sambhav Foundation hosted Victory Lap 2025, a celebration that brought together community leaders, grassroots workers, sustainability advocates, and ecosystem partners to reflect on journeys of resilience, dignity, and livelihood transformation.

More than a typical event, Victory Lap served as a platform where communities often pushed the margins and stepped into the spotlight as leaders of change.

Participants included waste-picker communities, social entrepreneurs, impact leaders, and sector partners who have been central to building inclusive livelihood systems across urban India.

At the heart of the event was a powerful idea: that communities should not merely be recipients of development programs but active architects of their own futures. Victory Lap showcased how years of grassroots engagement, skill development, and community organizing have translated into tangible economic opportunities and strengthened community identity.

One of the most compelling themes that emerged during the event was the intersection of sustainability and livelihoods. A key roundtable titled “Circularity to Work: Aligning Markets, Materials and Green Livelihoods” brought together sector leaders to explore how circular economy models can create dignified employment for informal workers while addressing environmental challenges. The conversation highlighted how waste management, recycling, and sustainable materials can become pathways to stable incomes and community-led enterprises.

Beyond discussions and panels, the event also celebrated the cultural energy and talent of the communities involved. Music performances, community storytelling, and interactive sessions allowed participants to share their journeys in their own voices stories of persistence, collective organizing, and economic mobility.

Victory Lap also served as an important moment of recognition. The event acknowledged the contributions of grassroots partners, community champions, and collaborators who have worked alongside Sambhav Foundation to strengthen livelihood ecosystems over the years. These partnerships spanning non-profits, industry leaders, and civic groups demonstrate the importance of collaborative action in addressing systemic challenges.

More importantly, the event reflected a shift in narrative: from charity-driven development to community-led transformation. Waste picker leaders, youth trainees, and community entrepreneurs were celebrated not simply for their resilience, but for their role in shaping new models of urban sustainability and inclusive growth.

Victory Lap 2025 ultimately stood as a reminder that meaningful change is rarely the result of isolated interventions. Instead, it grows through long-term partnerships, trust within communities, and systems that recognize dignity and opportunity for all.

Through events like Victory Lap, Sambhav Foundation continues to amplify the voices of communities that are redefining what inclusive development looks like in practice.