

NEWSLETTER

January to March 2026



NoDe COHORT 1

Valedictory Ceremony: Celebrating Cohort 1's NoDe Journey

28 January | 2026 | Guwahati, Assam

The valedictory ceremony marked a significant milestone, bringing together Cohort 1 CSOs to reflect, celebrate, and look ahead. Through pitch presentations, a fireside chat, and the sharing of research insights, organisations revisited their OD journeys and showcased their growth stories. A vibrant Gallery Walk added a creative dimension, highlighting their work and impact. Sanatan Unnayan Sangstha (SUS), Rural Aid Service (RAS), and AMAN Foundation were recognised as winners of the Gallery Walk and awarded prize money. At the same time, all participating organisations demonstrated remarkable enthusiasm and engagement. The event concluded on a warm and celebratory note, honouring the commitment and progress of the CSOs while opening avenues for continued learning, collaboration, and growth.



Gallery Walk: AMAN Foundation



Gallery Walk: Sanatan Unnayan Sangstha

Strengthening MIS, MEL, and Programme Planning Systems: RNBA

28-29 January 2026 | SeSTA, Guwahati

A two-day need-based workshop was facilitated for RNBA at the SeSTA Guwahati office, focusing on strengthening programme planning and monitoring systems. The sessions covered practical applications of Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) frameworks, along with streamlining MIS processes including data collection, reporting flows, and system design.

This engagement reflects RNBA's commitment to building stronger institutional systems for improved programme effectiveness, coordination, and data-driven decision-making.



Governance Training: Sanatan Unnayan Sangstha (SUS)

14 February 2026 | Sribhumi, Assam

A governance training was facilitated for Sanatan Unnayan Sangstha, post the Perspective Planning Workshop in Sribhumi on 14th February 2026. The training was facilitated by Pradyut Bhattacharjee, Executive Director, SeSTA, and focused on strengthening organisational clarity, internal communication, and the role of board members. The session brought together five participants, including three board members from SUS and covered key areas for organisational improvement and effective governance practices.



Livelihood Exposure Visit: AsHA

17-18 February 2026 | Boitamari Block, SeSTA

NoDe facilitated a livelihood exposure visit for five members from AsHA, providing hands-on experience across models such as goat rearing, poultry, piggery, and horticulture. The engagement combined practical learning on scientific livestock management with insights on programme planning, implementation, and field-level challenges. Interactions with FPC members further strengthened understanding of collective institutions and market linkages.

The visit helped participants begin translating these learnings into actionable ideas for strengthening their livelihood interventions.



ASHA's Field Exposure at Boitamari Block on SeSTA's Scientific Backyard Poultry Model



Field Visits for Organisational Strengthening

10-17 February 2026 | Meghalaya

NoDe facilitated field visits to Foundation for Sustainable Development Trust (FSDT), DAWN, and Rilum Foundation to support ongoing organisational development efforts.

The engagements focused on programme follow-ups, progress reviews, and aligning next steps for continued strengthening. Across all organisations, support included training on programmatic approaches, along with handholding to streamline data management systems.

These efforts have strengthened systemisation, improved data-driven decision-making, reinforced accountability, and enabled clearer planning and implementation for sustained impact.

Strengthening Financial Systems and Compliance: SEDO

21 February 2026 | Dhemaji, Assam

NoDe facilitated a field visit to SEDO, Dhemaji to strengthen organisational financial systems and compliance processes. The engagement provided hands-on support in accounts and finance, including guidance on compliance filing to improve financial management and ensure adherence to regulatory requirements. This has enhanced financial accountability, strengthened compliance readiness, and enabled more transparent and efficient operations.

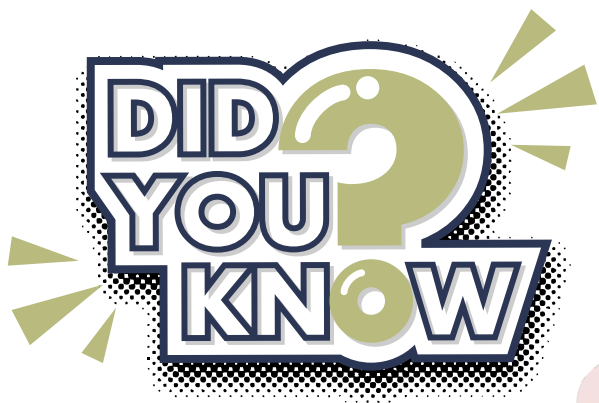
Strengthening Organisational Systems and Livelihood Interventions: Navodaya Foundation

23 March 2026 | Udalguri, Assam

As part of NoDe's Organisational Development support, a field visit was facilitated on strengthening both systems and livelihood initiatives at Navodaya Foundation. A farmer-centric Package of Practices (PoP) for oyster mushroom cultivation was finalised, along with the identification of 50 households in Navodaya's project area for upcoming training. The engagement also supported refinement of the organisation's long-term programme approach and annual report design, enabling stronger planning, clearer communication, and improved livelihood outcomes.



NoDe's Field Visit: Participation in SHG Onboarding for Mushroom Cultivation with Navodaya Foundation



Based in Sipajhar, **ASHAJYOTI** is creating spaces of care and possibility for children with disabilities- offering early intervention, therapies, and family support, while reaching over 60 villages to ensure that every child has a chance to grow, learn, and live with dignity.

ASHAJYOTI was one of the CSOs that was visited during the launch of FFRH, SeSTA on 1 February, 2026. The visit was joined by guests- Daphne Vallado (Tata Trusts), Ramesh Padmanabhan (Systems Change), and Pallab Bhattacharya (Governing Board Member, SeSTA, Former IPS)

Organisational Development Need Assessment through Field Visits

December 2025- January 2026

NoDe facilitated a series of field visits to undertake a comprehensive Organisational Development Need Assessment, aimed at building an evidence-based understanding of each organisation's needs and designing customised support interventions. Visits in December covered 3 organisations, followed by engagements in January with Lakpanhu Welfare Society (Nagaland), and Amri Karbi Community Development Project, Bharat Ingenuity Foundation, and Khankho Welfare Society in Assam. This process laid the foundation for targeted, collaborative OD support aligned with each organisation's context and priorities.



Need Assessment: Khankho Welfare Society, Haflong, Assam

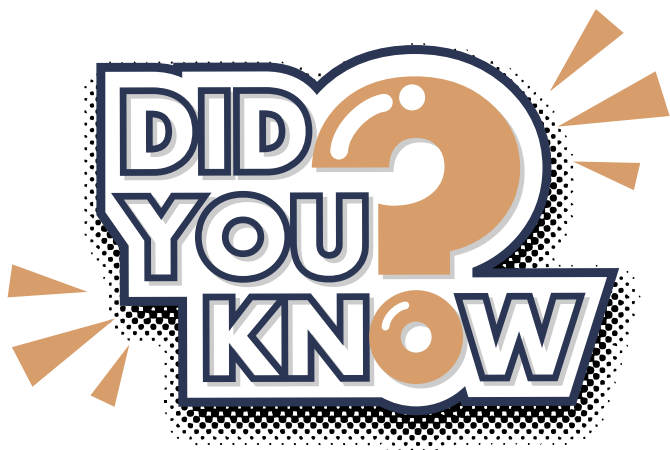


Need Assessment: Lightway Society, Pftusero, Nagaland

Initiating Ongoing OD Support: Cohort 3

March 2026 | Online Calls

Following the field visits, NoDe initiated preliminary support for Cohort 3 partner CSOs in key areas such as communications, Management Information Systems (MIS), and organisational policies. These engagements, which began in late March, mark the transition from assessment to action, ensuring sustained, need-based organisational strengthening in the coming quarter.



Founded in 2003, **Lakpanhu Welfare Society** is a women founded and led CSO that has been working at the intersection of livelihoods, community development, and social welfare in Nagaland.

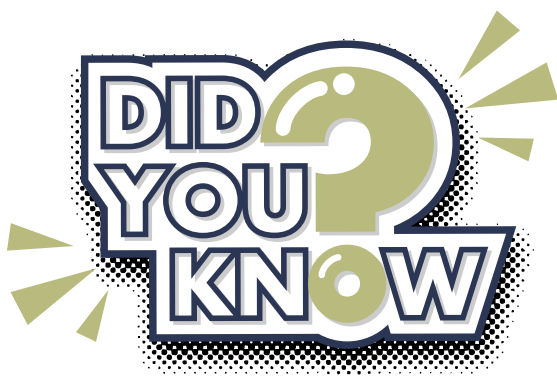
The organisation has supported the formation of over 100 self-help groups (SHGs) and strengthened local entrepreneurship, with a focused presence in Tamluk Block of Longleng district in Nagaland.

Building Strategic Direction: Perspective Planning Workshop for NoDe Cohort 3

20-21 February 2026 | Dimapur, Nagaland

A two-day Perspective Planning Workshop was conducted for NoDe's 3rd Cohort at the Development Association of Nagaland (DAN), bringing together partner CSOs to strengthen organisational clarity and define priorities for the next five years. Through participatory tools such as problem tree analysis, current state mapping, and stakeholder mapping, organisations assessed their systems and challenges while developing actionable roadmaps.

This process is enabling organisations to build clear, strategic pathways for strengthening systems and enhancing long-term impact, with continued support in the coming months.



At **Cherry Blossoms Society** in Kohima, Nagaland education goes beyond the classroom- children with disabilities not only learn, but create.

Through its livelihoods initiative, they craft greeting cards, dolls, and handmade products, turning creativity into confidence and opening pathways to dignity and independence.

Strengthening Systems at Lakpanhu Welfare Society: Policies and MIS

26-27 March 2026 | Dimapur, Nagaland

NoDe facilitated a two-day field visit to support Lakpanhu Welfare Society in strengthening its organisational systems. The engagement included a participatory review of HR and POSH policies. It also focused on revisiting the organisation's work model and structuring its livelihood and community activities into a streamlined MIS for improved tracking and decision-making. An action plan was developed to revise policies and build MIS tools, enabling stronger systems, improved accountability, and clearer impact tracking.



Strengthening Communications at Amri Karbi Community Development Project (AKCDP)

30 March 2026 | Sonapur, Assam

NoDe facilitated a field visit to strengthen communication systems at AKCDP. The engagement included a review of annual reports with key recommendations, along with support on brochure, social media, and website development. A hands-on Canva session introduced design tools, brand guidelines, and consistency in communication, along with guidance on using LinkedIn effectively.



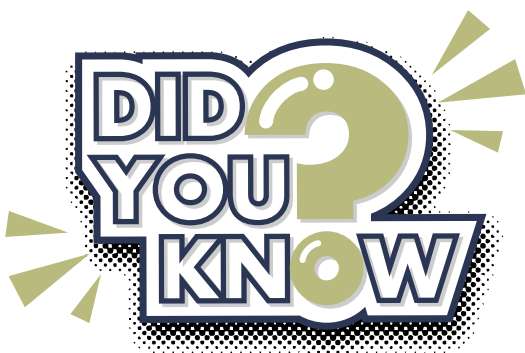
NEED BASED SUPPORT TO NON-NODE CSOS

Workshops

Barak Valley Workshop on Perspective Planning and Accounts & Compliance

14-15 February 2026 | Sribhumi, Assam

A two-day workshop was facilitated by NoDe for 11 CSOs from Barak Valley to strengthen organisational planning and financial management systems, facilitated by Pradyut Bhattacharjee, Executive Director, SeSTA. The sessions covered key frameworks such as VMOSA, SMART+C goal setting amongst other activities. Participants also engaged in briefly on accounts and compliance requirements. As next steps, CSOs are expected to undertake tools like Problem Tree Analysis and Stakeholder Mapping, with continued support on compliance processes, self-assessment, and exposure-based learning.



In a state with limited mental health services, **Gracious Life Foundation** is quietly rebuilding lives by supporting individuals in Chumoukedima, Nagaland, on their journey from care to independence by expanding access to community-centric mental health support to individuals and their families.

In-Person Support through Field Visits



Strengthening Livelihood and Community Institution Approaches: Sunbird Trust

27-30 January 2025 | Mangaldai Block, SeSTA

A training was facilitated with Sunbird Trust to strengthen approaches to sustainable livelihoods and community institution building. The sessions focused on livelihood planning, community-level practices, and building strong local institutions, along with convergence with stakeholders. The training supported the design of locally relevant livelihood models, contributing to more practical, community-driven, and sustainable programme approaches.



Strengthening Organisational Capacities: OD, Accounts & Compliance Workshop with Ajon Trust

20-21 Feb 2026 | Dhemaji, Assam

A two-day workshop was conducted with Ajon Trust, focusing on strengthening the organisation's overall capacities. The sessions covered key aspects of OD processes, financial management, and statutory compliances. The workshop aimed to build a stronger foundation for effective governance, improved systems, and long-term sustainability.

Support Visit to Projonmo: Strengthening Systems and Scaling Impact

10 March 2026 | Guwahati, Assam

Pradyut Bhattacharjee, ED, SeSTA visited Projonmo to provide focused guidance on strengthening systems and enabling sustainable growth. The engagement addressed key areas including financial management, impact assessment, strategic prioritisation, MIS strengthening, and digital presence. Discussions also explored fundraising strategies, CSR engagement, and network building. The visit contributed to strengthening organisational systems and advancing a more structured approach towards scalable and sustainable impact.

One-on-One Support

Strengthening Financial Systems and Compliance: Unnayan Mancha & Better Life Foundation

January-February 2026 | SeSTA, Guwahati

NoDe facilitated targeted trainings with Unnayan Mancha and Better Life Foundation to strengthen financial management systems and compliance practices. The engagements focused on building capacities in core financial processes, internal controls, documentation, reporting, and statutory compliance, supported by practical exposure to accounting systems. These efforts are enabling organisations to strengthen financial systems, improve compliance readiness, and enhance transparency, with follow-up support for continued strengthening.



Accounts and Compliances Training: Unnayan Mancha

MIS Exposure Support: Foundation for Social Transformation (FST)

4 February 2026 | SeSTA, Guwahati

As part of NoDe's OD support, Foundation for Social Transformation participated in an exposure visit to understand the functioning of SeSTA's MIS. The engagement provided practical insights into system design, data flows, and usage, supporting FST in exploring integration of MIS within their own organisational processes for improved planning and monitoring.

NODE ONLINE KNOWLEDGE SERIES: SECOND-LINE LEADERSHIP- EMPOWERING FUTURE LEADERS

13 March, 2026

SECOND LINE LEADERSHIP: EMPOWERING FUTURE LEADERS

Guest Resource Person

SIRSHENDU PAUL

Sirshendu Paul is a senior development professional with 17+ years of experience in tribal development in the Central Indian Tribal Belt. He currently serves as Regional Manager – Jharkhand at Tata Trusts and Team Leader at Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives (CINI). His work focuses on rural livelihoods, the Lakhpati Kisan programme, climate resilience, and women-led enterprises. He holds an MPhil in Economics and an Executive Certificate in Business Management from Indian Institute of Management Bodh Gaya.



The NoDe Online Knowledge Series session on “Second-Line Leadership: Empowering Future Leaders”, facilitated by Mr. Sirshendu Paul, Tata Trusts on 13th March 2026, focused on building leadership beyond formal roles. Key discussions explored the balance between transactional and transformational leadership, importance of empowering second-line leaders by creating space for decision-making, encouraging responsibility, and building confidence through experience. Overall, the session provided valuable insights on nurturing future leaders and strengthening organizational sustainability through shared leadership.

FRACTION TO FORCE: LAUNCHING THE FRACTIONAL FUNDRAISING HUB (FFRH)

1-2 February, 2026

SeSTA marked a significant milestone with the launch of the Fractional Fundraising Hub (FFRH)- a new function designed to provide structured, long-term fundraising support to CSOs. The launch on 2 February, 2026 brought together over 20 CSOs and a diverse set of ecosystem partners, including high-net-worth individuals and CSR partners, to bridge field realities with fundraising pathways. The official event was preceded by field immersion, organised by SeSTA for ecosystem partners- to 4 CSOs across Assam and Meghalaya. A key highlight was the introduction of the Future-Ready Assessment Tool, aimed at supporting CSOs in building sustainable fundraising strategies.



MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Marked the graduation of Cohort 1, celebrating their journey and progress.



Initiated support for Cohort 3 CSOs, expanding outreach and engagement.



Secured funding support from Tata Trusts, strengthening programme scale and sustainability.



Successfully launched the Fractional Fundraising Hub (FFRH), enabling structured fundraising support for CSOs.



WAY FORWARD

Support to Cohort 1:

Refresher Trainings for Cohort 1 CSOs

Support to Cohort 2:

Continued engagement to sustain and build on progress made.

Support to Cohort 3 CSOs:

Strengthened support across communications, organisational policies, MIS, and accounts along with strategic planning implementation.

Need-based support to non-NoDe CSOs:

Extending support on organisational development (OD) and livelihoods.

NoDe Cohort 4:

Rolling out onboarding and inception processes for the upcoming cohort. including field visits and an Inception Workshop