

Center of Excellence for Social Innovation CESI

Context

Social innovations address complex social challenges by bringing together individuals, communities, businesses, NGOs, and government bodies across sectors. While India has many social innovations, a research base is needed to generate knowledge that supports teaching, consulting, and the sustainability of these efforts. The Centre of Excellence for Social Innovation is dedicated to filling this critical gap.

Vision

The Centre aims to support IIMK's vision of globalizing Indian thought by curating authentic **(Satyam)** knowledge from Indian social innovators, offering valuable insights for sustainable development **(Nithyam)** and individual fulfillment **(Poornam)**.

Mission

To be a **research-based** and **practice-focused** centre of excellence.

Objectives

Conduct **systematic research** on social innovations in India to gather empirical evidence and develop models and theories.

Disseminate generated knowledge through **teaching** materials, courses, and programs for social innovators, management students, practitioners, policymakers, and the public.

Provide **research and consultancy services** to social innovators, public bodies, funding agencies, and other stakeholders.

Members

Prof Priya Nair Rajeev, *Organizational Behavior*

Prof S Venkataraman, *Strategic Management*

Prof Sumit Mitra, *Strategic Management*

Prof Omkumar Krishnan, *Marketing Management*

Prof Soumya Roy, *Quantitative Methods and Operations Management*

Prof Aswin Alora, *Finance, Accounting and Control*

Advisory Board

Prof Anil Gupta

Founder of the Honey Bee Network. Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (retd)

Mr. Nixon Joseph

Former President SBI Foundation & Fit India Mission Ambassador, Governing Council Member of Yes Bank Foundation, Social Impact Auditor & Guest Faculty

Consulting



- **Independent Verification Agency for INSPIRES (World Bank & Govt of Sikkim)**
Priya Nair Rajeev, Omkumar Krishnan and Soumya Roy
- **Understanding Healthcare IBEs in India: Insights from start-ups, investors, customers & partners (Villgro)**
Simy Joy and Priya Nair Rajeev
- **Entrepreneurship Development for Women (National Commission for Women)**
Priya Nair Rajeev
- **Impact Assessment Study of Deskit (Prosoc)**
Simy Joy and Priya Nair Rajeev
- **Institutional Vision, Mission, Values & Governance Structure (KREA)**
Priya Nair Rajeev

Courses



- **Pathfinders Workshop** for PGP
- **Social Innovation:** Core course for PGP LSM
- **Management Development Programs** in Social innovation
- **Professional Certificate Program in the Management of Social Initiatives**
- **InnoVate** : the Social Innovation Ideas Pitch Event

Advisory



Priya Nair Rajeev

- **Advisory Committee Member**, Women in Social Entrepreneurship (WISE) Fellowship Program—a collaboration between the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Kerala, and UN Women (2022 - ongoing).
- **Expert Member**, Working Group on Development Interventions by Local Self Governments (LSGIs), Kerala State Planning Board (2022).
- **Convener**, Drafting Committee, Working Group on Development Interventions (WGDI), Kerala State Planning Board (2022).

Conferences

2021

Silver Jubilee Webinar Series

Ms. Gayatri Rao, India Program Lead at **IMAGO Global Grassroots** and IIMK Alumina

- Aravind Safar, Computer scientist, Engineering leader, **Entrepreneur**
- Manoj Kumar, Co-Founder & CEO, **Social Alpha**
- Nagaraja (Naga) Prakasam, **Angel Investor, Mentor, Fund Advisor**
- Sarah Alexander, Senior Advisor, **SELCO Foundation**
- Sivarajah Ramanathan, Founder & CEO, **Nativelead**
- Mr. Nixon Joseph Ex-President & CEO, **SBI Foundation**

2021

PAN IIM World Management Conference Webinar

- Prof. Satyajit Majumdar, Dean, School of Management and Labour Studies, TISS Mumbai
- Prof. Israr Qureshi, Professor of Social Entrepreneurship and ICTD, Research School of Management, The Australian National University, Australia
- Prof. Ankur Sarin, Professor, Public Systems Group, IIM Ahmedabad
- Ms. Tanuja Kate, Manager, Monitoring & Evaluation, Villgro Innovations Foundation

2022

CII & IIMK Regional Social Entrepreneurship Conclave.

Ms Wilma Rodrigues, Founder & CEO, **Saahas Waste Management**

Ms. Sahar Mansoor, Founder, **Bare Necessities**

Globalizing Indian Thought

Prof. Anil Gupta, Honeybee Network, GIAN, and IIM Ahmedabad

Prof. Latha Poonamalee, Head of Social Innovation and Management, The New School, NY

Invited talks

- **Priya Nair Rajeev:**
 - **Social Innovation: Creating Pathways to Tackle Wicked Problems That Continue to Haunt Us**, February 2022.
 - **Assessing Social Enterprises and Measuring Their Impact**, Kerala Startup Mission, February 2022.
 - **The Pandemic and Management Structures: Divergent National and State Responses**, Academy of Management, Critical Management Studies In-Touch Webinar Series, June 29, 2020.
 - **Every Breath Counts: The Success of the Kerala Government in Containing and Managing the COVID-19 Pandemic**, JustActions, 2020.
- **Simy Joy and Priya Nair Rajeev**
 - **Enhancing Market Access for Women Micro-Entrepreneurs: The Feasibility of Platform Co-ops in Kerala**, Platform Cooperatives Consortium & Institute for the Cooperative Digital Economics at The New School, April 2021.
- **Sumit Mitra**
 - **Social Entrepreneurship: A Solution for an Inclusive Economy and Sustainable Society**, IES Institute of Management, VESIM Yunus Social Business Centre, September 2020.



Case Studies

Priya Nair Rajeev, **From Displacement to Employment: Social innovation for creating livelihoods in resettlement colonies** (2023) IIMK/ CS/229/OBHR/2023/07 December 2023

Priya Nair Rajeev, Sumit Mitra & Simy Joy, **Do Community- Based Organizations (CBOs) ensure equality for women and marginalized groups or maintain status quo?** The case of Jananidhi, Kerala. IIMK/ CS/154/OB&HR/2022/01

Anubha Shekhar Sinha & Priya Nair Rajeev, **A Recipe for Empowerment.** IIMK/ CS/160/ SM/2022/0

Priya Nair Rajeev & Simy Joy, **Scaling Corporate Social Responsibility: Go broader or deeper?** IIMK/ CS/155/ OB&HR/2022/02

Priya Nair Rajeev & Simy Joy, **VIDHYADHAN: Building Partnerships in Corporate Social Responsibility,** IIMK/ CS/156/SM/2022/03

Priya Nair Rajeev & Simy Joy (February 2020) **Can Social Aspirations Be Realized Through a Market Model? Experiments of an Agtech Venture in India,** IIMK/ CS/114/OB&HR/2020/02

Priya Nair Rajeev, Simy Joy & Sumit Mitra, **'Capabilities that enable community-based organizations (CBOs) to manage rural water supply programs independently: Insights from Nenmeni CBO, Kerala, India.'** IIMK Sage Case

Journal publications

Kalagnanam, Suresh, and Priya Nair Rajeev. **Implementing mandatory corporate social responsibility in India: assessing progress made by corporates and NGOs.** International Journal of Business Governance and Ethics 17.1 (2023): 34-49. ABDC - B

Editorial roles

Priya Nair Rajeev - Journal Special Issue: Guest editor for a special issue in the Journal of Indian Business Research (Emerald) on **Venturing and Social Businesses.** 2022-23

