

PAHAL Leads a Panel in the AVPN India Summit titled “Challenges & Potential of Innovative Funding Models for Development”

The AVPN India Summit, themed “Facing the Future Together”, took place on 6th December, 2018 in New Delhi. The Summit featured a spectrum of collaborative and outcome focused approaches to social investing, including philanthropy, impact investing and corporate CSR.

AVPN is a network of financiers based in Singapore, committed to building a high impact social investment community across Asia. They advocate, build capacities, and provide a platform that cuts across private, public and social sectors embracing all types of engagement to improve the effectiveness of members across the Asia Pacific region.

The panel discussions in the event revolved around key impact areas like education, livelihoods, health, nutrition, & climate change. It provided an opportunity for different resource providers to pool in philanthropic capital and discussed various funding instruments to ensure efficient use of public funding and private capital. Grants, equity, impact funds and Impact bonds being some examples.

LM Singh, Head, USAID PAHAL and Impact Investments at IPE Global, led the session on “Challenges and Potential of Innovative Funding Models for Development”. The session brought out the challenges and opportunities faced by organizations when moving from traditional grant making to strategic social investing with references to case studies of the participating organizations. The panel included *Mr. Ganesh Natrajan, Chair of SVP India, Mr. Eric Savage, Co-Founder & CEO of Unitus Capital, Mr. Amit Garg, VP Corporate Citizenship at Credit Suisse, and Ms. Safeena Hussain, Founder and Executive Director of Educate Girls.*



Panel Discussion on “Challenges & Potential of Innovative Funding Models for Development.” Left to Right: Ms. Safeena Hussain, Mr. Ganesh Natrajan, Mr. L.M. Singh, Mr. Eric Savage and Mr. Amit Garg.

Panel discussion: Challenges and Potential of Innovative Funding Models for Development

Ms. Hussain brought forth her learnings from the first Development Impact Bond implemented by Educate Girls in Rajasthan to harness private capital to improve learning outcomes for young girls in government schools, and also talked about the potential for impact bond as a mechanism to scale-up impact. Mr. Savage iterated how investing for impact is becoming more mainstream with large global firms like Bain, TPG etc. coming to the fore and gave an overview of the different financing structures being deployed by Unitus to align capital and expand risk sharing capabilities. Mr. Garg commented on the potential of CSR funding to bridge the financing gap. He was of the view that CSR is localized to

company operation areas and we need to move towards aligning mainstream capital to development and Mr. Natrajan spoke about the importance of technology in making the transition from traditionally financed models to innovative financing.

The panel discussion concluded with an agreement on the need for attracting newer pools of capital to development issues and a greater collaboration and buy-in from the government to catalyse this transition from traditional funding approaches to innovative financing for development.

About USAID: USAID is the lead U.S. Government agency that works to end extreme global poverty and promote resilient, democratic societies. It has been playing a key role in strengthening the impact ecosystem to achieve sustainable development goals. PAHAL, managed by IPE Global, is USAID's flagship initiative

About PAHAL: PAHAL (Partnerships for Affordable Healthcare Access and Longevity) is USAID and IPE Global's flagship innovative financing platform to promote health financing models and provide catalytic support to social enterprises for improving access to affordable and quality healthcare solutions for the urban poor.

For more information contact:

L. M. Singh, Head, PAHAL and Impact Investments at IPE Global

IPE Global House

B-84 Defence Colony, New Delhi-110024, India

Phone: +911140755900, Cell: +91 9811348489, Email: lmsingh@ipeglobal.com