

## Impact Summary

**Name of Organisation:** Ek Tara

**Website:** <https://ektara.org.in/>

**Contact Person:** Vinita Saraf

**Ask:** 180,000 USD

Innovation Summary	
<p>Ek Tara has developed a remedial program offering blended learning, differentiated classrooms, and performance analysis. The Ek Tara Remedial Program (ERP) is a project that focuses on Foundation Literacy, Numeracy, and Sciences for children aged 6 years to 15 years. It also offers SEL support to encourage children to be more open to change and to introspect.</p>	
Organisation	
<p>Ek Tara is a not-for-profit Trust that focuses on changing how girls and women lead their lives. Through multipronged programmes on Education, Ek Tara aims to create a generation of girls (first-generation school goers) who can lead lives with dignity and make independent and informed decisions based on their knowledge and understanding of the world around them. These girls live in abject poverty and deeply patriarchal homes where they have close to no rights and access to basic amenities. Ek Tara works with children and women from impoverished families with a vision to provide high-quality holistic education to enable community transformation. Their education projects aim to meet all academic, co-curricular and overall development of children.</p>	
Innovation at a glance	
- <b>Countries</b>	India
- <b>Target group</b>	Children in migratory communities
- <b>Number of users</b>	1500
- <b>Year established</b>	2011
- <b>Type of organisation</b>	School Operator
- <b>Implementing Partner</b>	Schools under Kolkata Municipal Corporation (Government Agency) and other non-profits.
The problem	
<p>Their learners come from migratory communities working in low-income physical labour jobs and in the last 2 years had limited scope of learning online which has dramatically compounded the problem of learning loss for them.</p>	

<b>The solution</b>
The ERP addresses the issue of retaining children in school by making sure that key foundational skills are acquired by the learners to keep them engaged in the secondary level while using multilingual approaches to address gaps in numeracy and science. The program with SEL support encourages children to be more open to change, to introspect and admit failure, and then be able to step back to address the issues.
<b>Impact</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close to 400 learners at our Ek Tara Learning Centre from grade 2 to 7.</li> <li>• Through 4 months of the remedial programme, the percentage of learners scoring above 50% increase in: English (from 64% to 92% learners), Maths (51% to 85%) and Science (from 44% to 90%).</li> </ul>
<b>Highlights - any standout details such as awards, milestones</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnership with the Tomorrowland Foundation, Belgium to set up an Arts and Music School- the first of its kind in India and the 3rd of its kind in the world.</li> <li>• First partners for The Mobile School, Belgium, in India</li> <li>• Successful design and development of COVID - 19 handbook for children distributed among 40,000 vulnerable children across the country and similar publication on Climate Change distributed to over 85000 children across the country</li> <li>• Tie Ups with leading schools in the city for - Sports meets ,cultural programmes and volunteering programmes.</li> <li>• Successfully piloted Qatar based Education above All's project based learning model during Covid</li> <li>• Invitation to participate in several webinars ,seminars held locally and globally . - Partnership with Future Foundation UK,100 Cameras USA, Together Women Rise USA among others.</li> <li>• Partnership with Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) department for implementation of mobile school project and setting up of model English medium schools in the city run in partnership by KMC and Ek Tara</li> <li>• Empanelment with Give India, Guidestar, Benevity and other leading accreditation partners.</li> </ul>
<b>Sustainability/Revenue Model</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grants</li> <li>• Low fee payment from students.</li> <li>• Fund generation through the revenue generating projects under the Ek Tara Resource Centre, which focusses on replicating and scaling Ek Tara's existing projects through PPP/ cost sharing basis with other non-profits, individuals and state agencies.</li> </ul> <p>Since its inception Ek Tara has raised its annual budgets every year through donations and grants. However, with expanding programmes and more number of beneficiaries the need to raise funds every year is also increasing manifold. Therefore, in addition to donations and grants, Ek Tara has been working on setting up revenue-generating options to support fundraising. Apart from the social enterprise mentioned above, Ek Tara has also set up a Resource Centre to replicate/ scale and generate funds for Ek Tara.</p> <p>Through this centre Ek Tara will replicate some of its modules in PPP models/ consulting models so that there is a revenue generation aspect. This currently involves working on modules on Remedial projects, FLN models and publications for children on various thematic issues necessary for their overall development. All of these are</p>

then offered to other non-profits/ individuals and Government partners on a cost sharing/ revenue generating model.	
<b>Investment status</b>	
Funding to date	In the last 5 years Ek Tara has raised a total of: Rs.14 crores approx or \$ 1.75million for all its projects and programmes. For the Remedial Project they have received funding for the pilot phase amounting to \$15000. For the first replication project, they are currently in the process of raising funds.
What they're looking for	100,000 USD
Why they need funding	<p>The ERP is ready to be replicated and scaled across schools and non-profit organisations working on delivering access to quality education to children from low-income households. Having secured a contract to work with their neighbourhood government municipal school, they look forward to replicating the ERP in this school. Once they run this initiative successfully in this school, they will be able to extend the contract to at least 4-5 other municipal schools in the city in less than a year-thereby taking the reach of the project to close to 2000 children by the end of year 1. Ek Tara will be working on creating curriculum and training teachers in these partner schools while providing occasional educator support, they are also looking at upgrading existing resources instead of reinventing the wheel.</p> <p>They have a moderate and reasonable vision for scale and want to go from 351 learners to 5000 in the next three years. They want to scale primarily through government partnerships to meet the greatest need and demand.</p> <p>Ek Tara is also seeking support in the range of \$75,000 to \$80,000 which will go towards the running cost of our Education Programme Projects ( namely Primary School Project and part of the Pre Primary School Project).</p>
<b>Why they made our shortlist</b>	
The Investment Committee was truly inspired by the work they have accomplished in Kolkata, rating them highly on desirability. Ek Tara has tremendous results that show that their ERP works. The pilots have demonstrated impressive results from a learning outcomes perspective, it is very accessible and appears to have a significant role in the community.	