



**INDIA  
MIGRATION  
NOW**  
A SEM  
FOUNDATION  
VENTURE

# 2021-2022

## ANNUAL REPORT





# Mission

To mainstream migration into public policy for the socio-economic inclusion of migrants and their households.

# Vision

To produce, fund, and disseminate quality data, research, and media outputs to further the mainstreaming of migration in public discourse.

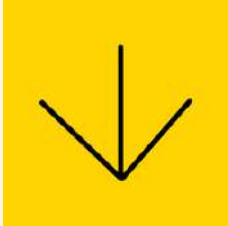


# Director's Message



2020 and 2021 have been some of the most traumatic periods for low-income migrants communities in history. Many of the gains made on the poverty reduction front since 1991 in India have been reversed by the widespread income and livelihood losses suffered across the board by migrants and their households. Vulnerability has never been more palpable.

The crisis period has only underscored and validated our mission of centering and mainstreaming migration in India. Given the urgency, the IMN team has grown and worked tirelessly to research, advocate and create urgent solutions for migrants all over India.



We have surveyed thousands of migrants and their community members at both source and destination, in India and abroad. We have interacted with every possible category of stakeholder and relayed their insights to governments across India. We have helped funders and multilateral organisations in identifying and including migrants in their missions. Our events, publications and media engagements have been viewed by hundreds of thousands of people around the world and are now an essential component of the migration ecosystem in India.

Our implementation arm, the Chalo Network has delivered documentation, welfare and financial services to over 25000 beneficiaries in major migrant destination and source regions across India.

Going forward through our strategic partnerships on the operations and fundraising front, we hope to consolidate our learning and further scale our outputs and last-mile impact. I am extremely grateful to the IMN team and the support of our partners.

Regards,  
Varun Aggarwal, Founder & Managing Director

# CHALO NETWORK



## Shortening The Last Mile For Migrants In India

The Chalo Network is an India Migration Now initiative to provide financial, welfare, identity and healthcare services to low-income migrant households in India, through a strategic last-mile agent network.

We help agents from within the community to grow their businesses and provide meaningful and ethical services to migrant households.

### Services



Financial



Welfare



Identity



Health

### Who Are The Agents?



Established Agents:  
CSCs, Bank Mitras,  
MTOs



Community Influencers  
(Female)



Community Influencers  
(Male)



Access points for delivery of essential public utility services



Experience in providing financial and entitlement delivery



Source and destination presence



Members of Self help groups/NGOs or other community leaders



High influence on female members of the migrant households



Source presence



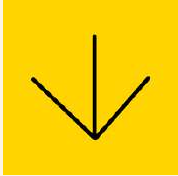
Contractor, Mobile Repair Shopkeeper



High influence in migrant communities



Source and destination presence



# Growth Story



26000+  
customers



15 Chalo  
Saathi



4  
Supervisors

# Ground Impact



*Image is used for representative purpose*

Raj (a construction worker) had come to our Chalo Saathi for cash out and learned from them about our other services. Our Chalo Saathi was then able to help Raj register for the BOCW card since he was eligible.

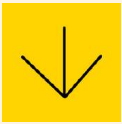
Ensuring that Chalo Saathis inform customers about all the services we offer is a key aspect covered in the training and monitored frequently.

Bandana is Chalo Network's first female agent in the Tikamgarh district of Madhya Pradesh. A college graduate and a return migrant from Delhi, Bandana provides door-to-door services to migrant households.

A female agent is often able to target female members of households better and influencer agents are able to target migrant households better. Bandana has been successful in doing both.



*Image shows Bandana in red suit*



# INTERNAL MIGRATION

## New Ramifications of Internal Migration in India as a result of COVID-19: The Industry Perspective (March 2021-Aug 2021)

IMN, along with the Centre for Migration and Inclusive Development (CMID) undertook an assessment of the ramifications of COVID-19 on internal migration in India from the perspective of the industry. The key focus areas for the assessment were the industry's manpower requirements, the building of trust between workers and employers, and the nature of reintegration for workers who returned to their source states.

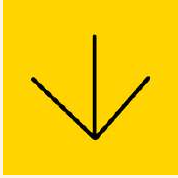
### **IMPACT:**

SEM's first large scale survey evaluation was with close to **1000** construction workers who were leaving for home as soon as the first lockdown was lifted in 2020.

It helped the team understand the situation on-ground during the first wave, the immediate requirements of the workers and the gaps in accessing welfare provisions under the BOCW Act.

The project will play a crucial role in SEM's future work around the construction sector and BOCW Act – both of which are the centre of our workstreams.





## **Covid-19 and Internal return Migration: Analysis of four states- Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan (Nov 2021- March 2022)**

SEM foundation was involved in the project for the analysis of the internal return migration situation from urban to rural areas in India, during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially during the first wave and the second wave.

### **IMPACT:**



An analysis of the migration situation in the states of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan



Analysis of the key government and non-governmental programmes introduced to support the return migrants in the four states namely Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan.



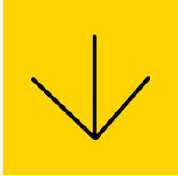
Documentation of at least 8 unique and innovative case studies in curbing distress migration effectively through enhanced livelihood opportunities in rural areas



Challenges and recommendations for way forward of the project.







## **Project on Migrant Workers' Access to Basic Financial Services and Welfare Measures during Covid-19 (July 2021-Oct 2021)**

An end to end process study to evaluate construction workers' accessibility to basic financial services and welfare measures within the framework of the BOCW [Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service)] Act 1996. This project involved conducting key informant interviews with interstate migrants, intrastate migrants, locals, civil society organisations, trade unions, employers and government representatives in 4 major migrant-receiving districts of Maharashtra- Thane, Mumbai, Raigad and Pune.

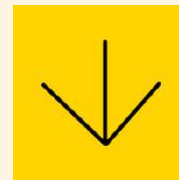
### **IMPACT:**



The project will play a crucial role in SEM's future work around the construction sector and BOCW Act – both of which are the centre of our workstreams.



# INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION



## IOM India Labour Migration Research (July 2021-ongoing)

This research is being undertaken as a part of an International Organisation for Migration (IOM) project with the India Centre for Migration of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. The purpose of the research is to develop an understanding of emerging corridors for international labour migration from India to the countries of Europe. The research focuses on three specific European countries and the sector of geriatric care across Europe. IMN has been contracted to undertake the relevant secondary research, conduct key informant stakeholder interviews, and develop the final country and sector-specific reports.

### IMPACT:



Analysing the geriatric care sector in Europe



Understanding Europe as a destination for Indian labour migrants





## CORE TEAM



**Varun Aggarwal**  
Founder & MD



**Priyansha Singh**  
Operations &  
Advocacy Lead



**Chitra Rawat**  
Research &  
Operations Manager



**Shreya Batra**  
Communications  
Manager



**Nidhi Menon**  
Research &  
Editorial Associate



**Varsha Priyadarshini**  
Research &  
Operations Associate



**Manisha Habeeb**  
Executive Assistant



**Rohini Mitra**  
Project Associate



**Shreya Raman**  
Data Analyst



## **ADVISORS**



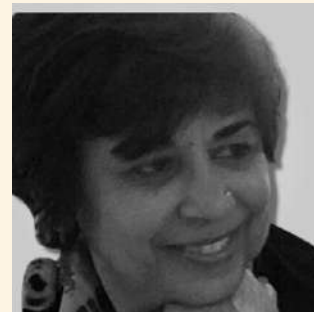
**Dr A Didar Singh**



**Dr S Irudaya Rajan**



**Dr Priya Deshingkar**



**Dr Meera Sethi**



**Dave Wallack**



**Amit Saxena**



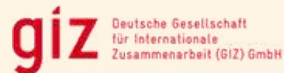
# PARTNERS

Through meaningful partnerships, SEM aims to bridge the gap in the migration ecosystem. We try to mainstream migration, together.

## #MainstreamingMigration

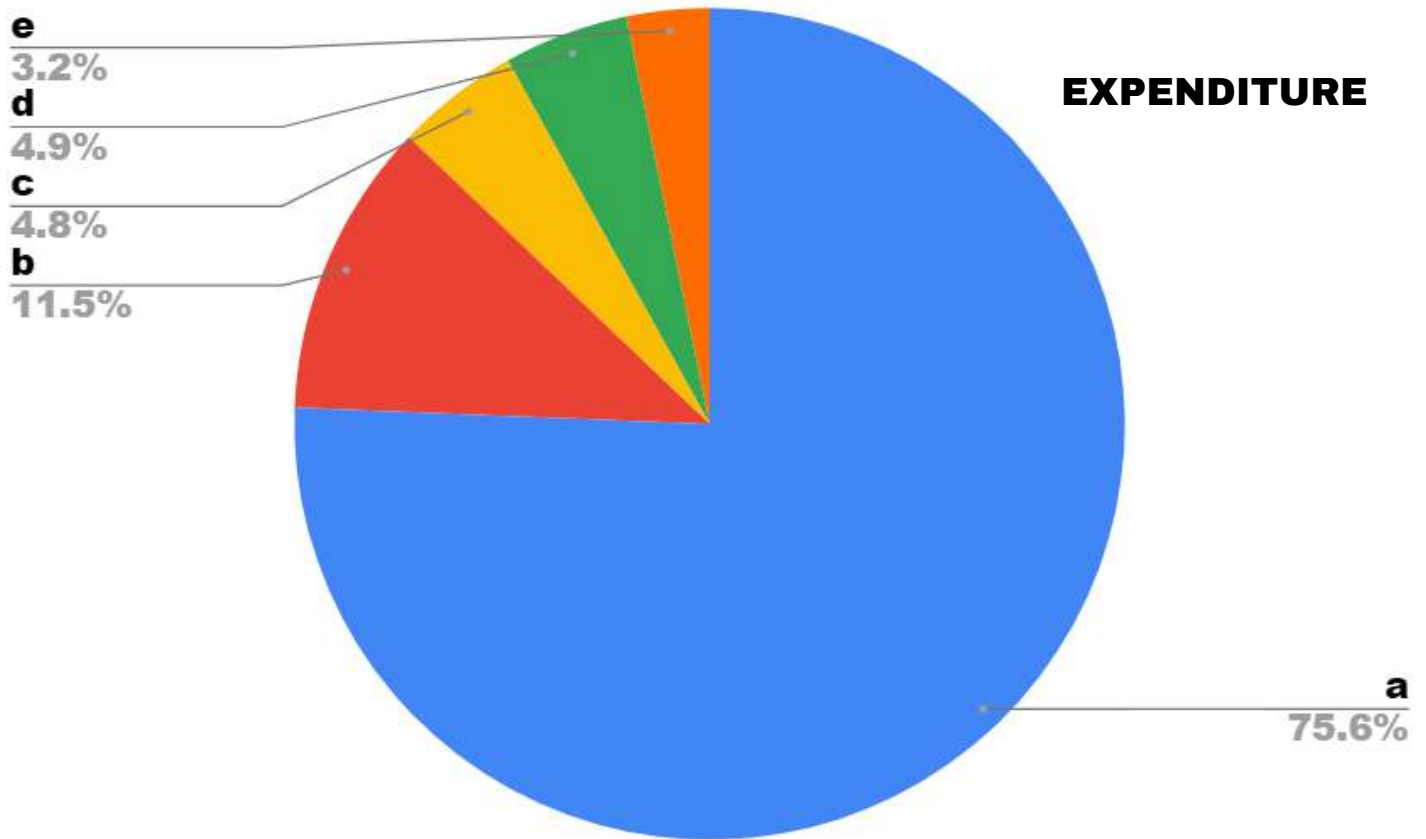


TATA TRUSTS





## FINANCIALS



a- Staff Salaries

b- Accounting & Administration Expenses

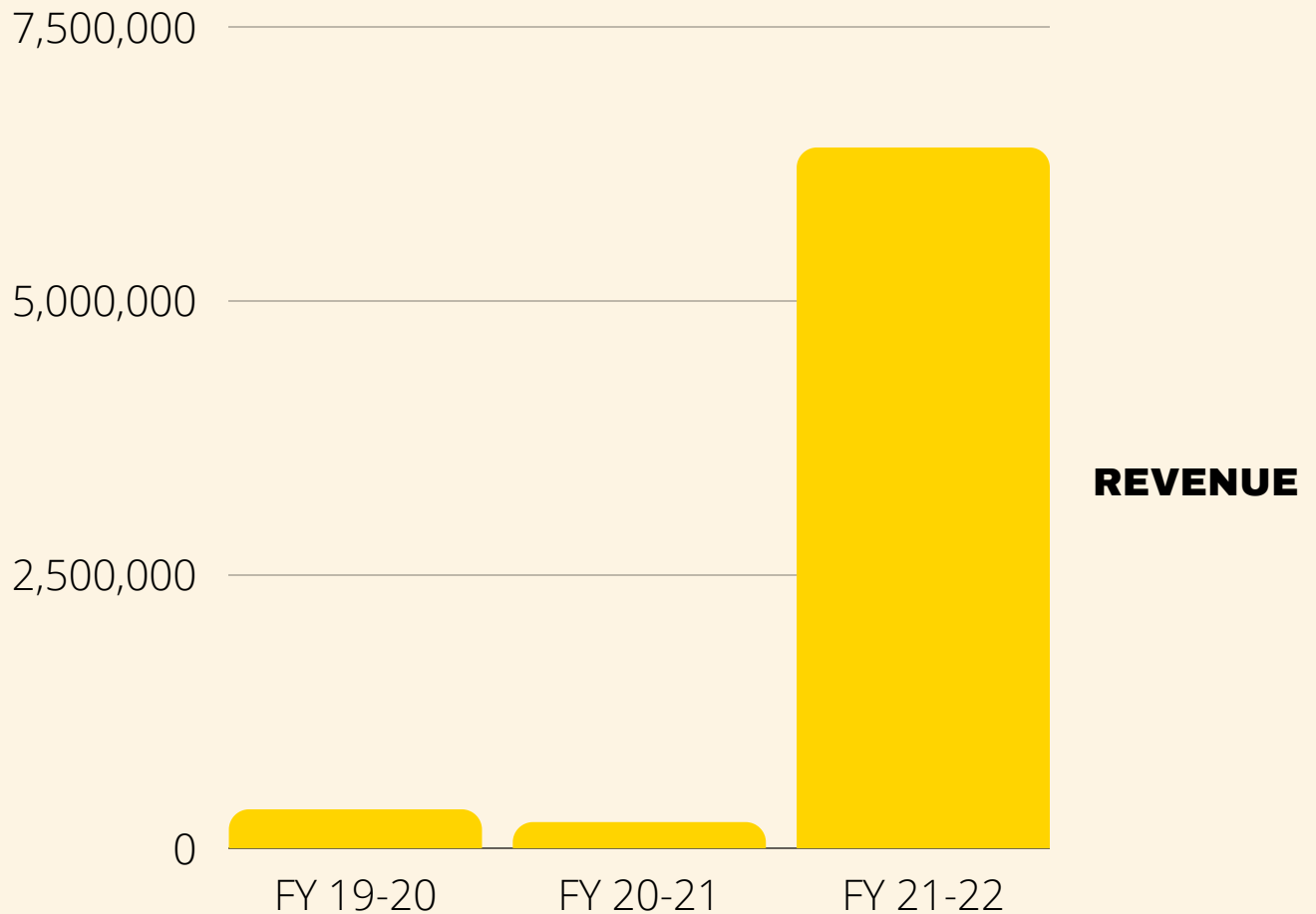
c- Legal and Professional Expenses

d- Website and Technical Expenses

e- Business Survey and Project Related



## **WE ARE GROWING!**



In 2018, we started our journey with just a newsletter. For two years, we self-funded our internal projects. This year, we received crucial external project based funding which has led to our massive growth and helped us expand our team!

**IMN has 12 AA certifications and will obtain an 80G certificate by May 2022**