



Youth Co:Lab

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Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and the **United Nations Development Programme** (UNDP) India has launched '**Youth Co:Lab**' which aims at **accelerating social entrepreneurship and innovation in young India**.

- It was **co-created in 2017 by UNDP and the Citi Foundation** and is operational in 25 countries across the Asia Pacific region.
- The initiative aims to create **an enabling ecosystem to promote youth leadership, innovation, and social entrepreneurship**.
- '**Youth Co:Lab**' in India:
 - **For Promoting Entrepreneurship:** The initiative will convene a series of youth dialogues across several cities such as New Delhi, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Mumbai to promote entrepreneurship across India.
 - **Focus on Youth and SDGs:** AIM and UNDP are collaborating to spread awareness about different issues pertaining to youth, the future of work and the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)**.
 - **Promoting Innovation:** The initiative will convene **social innovation challenges** at the national and sub-national level, which will invite young people in the age group of 18-29 years and start-ups to showcase their proposed ideas and solutions to tackle some of the region's biggest social challenges.
They will also get the opportunity to pitch their ideas at the UNDP's regional centre in 2020.

Atal Innovation Mission

- AIM including Self-Employment and Talent Utilisation (SETU) is **Government of India's endeavour** to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship.
- Its objective is to serve as a platform for the promotion of world-class innovation hubs, grand challenges, start-up businesses and other self-employment activities, particularly in technology driven areas.

NITI Aayog

- The National Institution for Transforming India, also called NITI Aayog, was formed via a resolution of the Union Cabinet on **1st January 2015**.
- The Government of India constituted the NITI Aayog to **replace the Planning Commission instituted in 1950**.
- It is the premier policy '**Think Tank**' of the Government of India, providing both directional and policy inputs.
- While designing strategic and long term policies and programmes for the Government of India, NITI Aayog also provides relevant technical advice to the Centre and States.
- The Governing Council of NITI, with the **Prime Minister as its Chairman**, comprises Chief Ministers of all States and Lt. Governors of Union Territories (UTs).

United Nations Development Programme India

- UNDP works in almost 170 countries and territories, helping to achieve the eradication of poverty, and the reduction of inequalities and exclusion, while protecting the planet.
- UNDP has worked in India since 1951 in almost all areas of human development, from systems and institutional strengthening to inclusive growth and sustainable livelihoods.
- **UNDP India's country programme for 2018-2022** has three major focus areas:
 - Inclusive growth
 - Environment and energy
 - Strengthening systems and institutions
- UNDP Country Office is **located in New Delhi**.

Source: PIB