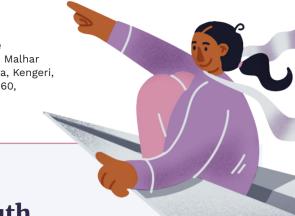


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Our Work

Quest Alliance, works with the government education and the skilling ecosystems to equip young people with future-ready skills they need to succeed in their careers.

We do this in Government schools by embedding future skills and career exploration in school curricula and pedagogy. We also work with Technical and Vocational Skilling Institutes, enabling them to prepare confident, informed, and career-ready young graduates, facilitating their transition into the world of work.

Strategy in Action

At Quest Alliance, we believe the future isn't something to be predicted, it is to be shaped. In 2024, we launched our strategy rooted in a singular vision: A world where all young people take charge of their future and drive equitable social and economic progress.

This vision comes alive through **our mission (a)** to innovate for learning ecosystems to be future-ready by creating and embedding tech enabled learning experiences for young people to thrive in their careers.

To make this real, we grounded our work in three interconnected pathways: innovating where new models were needed, mainstreaming what worked into public systems, and enabling others to scale change within their own contexts.



Shaping a Future-Ready School Ecosystem

Last year, we demonstrated the impact of our teacherled approach across 5 states. Through the MasterCoach program, we built the capacity of over 9,000 educators, to integrate future-ready skills like social-emotional learning, critical thinking, problem-solving, and computational thinking into their classrooms.

2,500 learners from secondary schools in Narmada (Gujarat) and Tumkur and Mysore (Karnataka) showed significant gains in 21st-century skills. Learners in Narmada recorded a 16.5% improvement, while those in Tumkur and Mysore showed a 9.2% increase. The most significant progress was seen in technology usage for learning, critical thinking, and collaboration skills.

The shift in teaching practices translated into meaningful outcomes. Technology usage improved significantly, with states like Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand recording increases of 103% and 331% respectively by the endline. Students' critical thinking, creativity, and innovation saw positive shifts across all states. In Gujarat, Odisha, and Karnataka, student perceptions of 21st century pedagogy improved the most — reflecting how teachers were transforming classroom experiences to better prepare learners for the challenges ahead.



A strong focus on teacher training and continuous support enabled schools across states to adopt future-ready practices, driving measurable improvements in student learning and engagement.

Mainstreaming Future Skills in AI, Computational Thinking, and Career Mindset

Working in partnership with State Governments

A key milestone this year has been mainstreaming future skills within government systems in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, and Odisha.

With AI transforming how we learn and work, Quest Alliance collaborated with the Government of Andhra Pradesh to develop curriculum for grades 7th – 9th, aligned with UNESCO's AI competency framework. Over a seven-month pilot, learners in Andhra Pradesh not only engaged with emerging technologies but showed measurable improvements—6.1% in AI skills, 4.9% in understanding AI ethics, 3.5% in career interest, and 4.7% in self-directed learning. Our experience in localizing the UNESCO AI Competencies frameworks was shared at the MIT AI & Education Summit 2025.

In Odisha, we partnered with the School and Mass Education Department, Raspberry Pi Foundation, and Learning Link Foundation to design a Computational Thinking curriculum for classes 6th – 10th.



Through these collaborations, we are helping create equitable, future-ready learning pathways that empower students to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

Enabling Collaborations

Working in Partnership with Civil Society Organizations

Partnerships played a key role in expanding the reach and impact of our work. In Jharkhand, the Sampoorna Consortium, which focuses on social-emotional learning grew from 4 partners to 16 organizations, embedding SEL (Social and Emotional Learning) approaches in classrooms across all districts of the state.



This year also marked the culmination of the Indian Equitable Learning Ecosystem (IELE), a collaboration of 8 like-minded CSOs across 7 states, supported by key funders. The initiative enabled 16 Fellows to deepen their expertise in computational and design thinking, while Quest Alliance served as a knowledge partner, sharing tools and insights to support learning in underserved communities.

These organizations work with school dropouts, learners from nomadic tribes, urban slums, and some of the most hard-to-reach regions of the country. By adapting learning tools for low-resource environments, they demonstrated that transformation is possible wherever there is commitment, creativity, and a shared sense of purpose.

Together, these collaborations strengthened pathways for young people to learn, grow, and shape their futures.

Hack To The Future – Young People Designing Solutions for Their Communities

Quest Alliance hosted 'Hack to the Future-Innovating for Participatory Futures 2025,' our second national edition of the event that hosted 50 students from Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka and Odisha.



Students learnt advanced technology such as machine learning building local language models and using Internet of Things (IoT) to build solutions for their communities. From building a smart band to designing an early warning system to detect the health of cattle for farmers to a mental well being app to prevent suicides in residential hostels to an image processing monkey detection and chasing system - students connected with their local problems and became change makers.

Attending the event in Bhubaneswar introduced me to a whole new style of learning. From preparing for the ideathon to actively participating in it, I became more confident in my communication and more open to new ideas. This experience truly helped me grow and think beyond the boundaries of the classroom."

Bably Pradhan, Class 10, Govt High School Tundla, Kalahandi, Odisha

To encourage students to build aspirations in STEM pathways students were supported by mentors and role model interactions from 18 funding and technical partners.

Strengthening the Skilling Ecosystem

Driving system change to enable thriving careers

At Quest Alliance, enabling career transitions is about empowering young people to navigate their futures with confidence. We work with Government Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), that equip young people with technical skills, and Vocational Training Institutes (VTIs), centres that provide vocational skills to young learners. Across ITIs and VTIs, our work reached both scale and depth, supporting young people to build pathways towards the careers they aspire for.

Out of 128,046 graduating learners from ITIs, 65% made meaningful transitions into jobs or further education. 107 placement drives were organised across 11 states. In VTIs, 69% of 5,077 graduates transitioned successfully, with nearly 57% being women.

Our work with Women ITIs A strengthened career pathways by equipping learners with the skills, networks, and confidence to navigate their careers. We deepened industry partnerships, positioning employers as collaborators in shaping career journeys. The 'Leading Ladies' initiative connected learners with role models and experts, inspiring them to break barriers and pursue diverse opportunities. Career Clubs created peer-led spaces for exploration and leadership. efforts by the Women and Work Taskforce made ITIs more gender-responsive and inclusive.



Our work was further amplified through the Future Right Skills Network (FRSN), a collaborative anchored by Quest Alliance that brings together government, industry, academia, funders, and civil society to strengthen the ITI ecosystem. This collaborative has driven systems change that has improved employment and career outcomes for young people.

FRSN currently drives change through four thematic priorities—Future Skills, Industry Engagement, Trainer Development, and Women in Work—engaging research, advocacy, and innovation within each domain.

Key initiatives included a **Trainer Development Strategy**, industry partnerships to align skills with market needs, and curricula in **green skilling** and **AI literacy**. A landscape study commissioned by FRSN mapped employer expectations and best practices, creating evidence to shape curricula and system-level reforms.

The Youth Futures Studio

We laid the foundation for a bold new initiative, the Youth Futures Studio (YFS), a space for inquiry, imagination, and practice, where youth voices drive design. We began with research on the digital lives of young people in India, exploring how they engage with platforms, content, and communities online. We designed participatory workshops on AI futures, which surfaced both hopes and fears, but most importantly tangible visions of preferred futures.

These youth-led perspectives are already shaping how we design digital products, curricula, and career tools. We empowered young people with futures thinking so that they can imagine the futures they want to inhabit. Going forward, we will share them more widely so that educators, policymakers, and ecosystem partners can learn from, and integrate youth perspectives into their own work. In doing so, YFS is not only shaping Quest Alliance's approach but also contributing to a broader conversation on how India can build futures with young people at the centre.

Ed-Tech that Puts Learners in Charge

with MyQuest, our personalized learning platform we shifted from catalog-based learning to experience-driven learning that empower learners to explore careers aligned with their interests. As of today, 30,000 users access over 300 bite-sized lessons and 1,100 job cards in 160+ trades across 5 languages. Government partnerships with SIDH (Skill India Digital Hub) and the KSDC (Karnataka Skill Development Corporation) have embedded this learner-centric approach into national platforms, expanding reach and access.



Closing Reflections: The Future we Choose

This year for us was a year of listening, of learning and of choosing design over default. We saw that real change happens when learning is treated as a living ecosystem, where educators are seen as co-creators and young people are given space to lead. Futures by Design is a direction we are committed to and as we carry this momentum forward into the next year, we do so with a sense of hope and gratitude.

Our Partners



