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# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **Period Covered:**

April 10, 2024 - March 31, 2025

The inaugural year of the International Centre for Sustainability (ICfS) has been one of institutional birth, strategic clarity and high-impact execution. Though formally launched in April 2024, the ICfS reflects over a decade of vision-building and four years of careful planning.



## **Mission & Identity**

The ICfS is a British-based research and advisory organisation that bridges India, the UK and the US to advance sustainability, democratic resilience, environmental law, civilisational pluralism and ethical governance. It operates through nine research verticals covering geopolitics, environment, democracy, diaspora, faith, AI and healthcare.

### **Key Achievements:**

### **Team & Fellowship**

• A high-calibre team of 7 core staff, supported by 7 research assistants and 14 Fellows globally.

### **Thought Leadership**

 Delivered 24 published articles, 18 events, and 2 briefing papers. ICfS's papers have reached key policy makers in Westminster, Capitol Hill and New Delhi.

### **Research Impact**

- Launch of flagship paper on <u>Sustainable</u> <u>Democracy & Education</u>, now influencing discourse in India and the US.
- Security Desk <u>Briefings on Kashmir</u> cited by decision-makers across the UK, including in parliamentary debates, EU and US.
- New focus areas launched: India's water crisis, <u>UK's Himalayan policy</u> and how investment into Indian companies can be leveraged to enhance gender equality.

### **Institutional Growth:**

- Secured MoUs with FLAME University (India), Prescott University (US).
- Established a reach of 150 Hindu / Indian diaspora organisations on an ethnographic research exercise.
- Established partnerships with think-tanks in the US, EU, and India.

#### Outreach:

- 1,800+ LinkedIn followers; 188,000+ impressions; ranked 2nd in engagement among London think-tanks that were benchmarked.
- 1,500+ newsletter contacts; 51.7% open rate, which means that the ICfS newsletter falls in the "Top Performers" category on LinkedIn for engagement.
- Launch of *K-Lecture* series and <u>YouTube channel</u>.

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **Operations & Development:**

- In transition to charitable status.
- Introduced robust financial reporting cycles, KPIs for the team, stakeholder engagement.
- Launched podcast studio and venue hire services to diversify revenue.

## In-Kind Contribution from the Earth Charitable Foundation

We are grateful to the Earth Charitable Foundation (EcF) for its generous in-kind support. The Foundation provides ICfS with the use of two floors at its London premises, valued at £190,500 per annum, along with an additional £40,000 per annum in management and associated services. This valued contribution plays a vital role in enabling our operations and advancing our mission.

### **Operational Financial Overview**

In addition to its in-kind contribution, the Earth Charitable Foundation also provides significant financial support to ICfS through direct cash contributions.

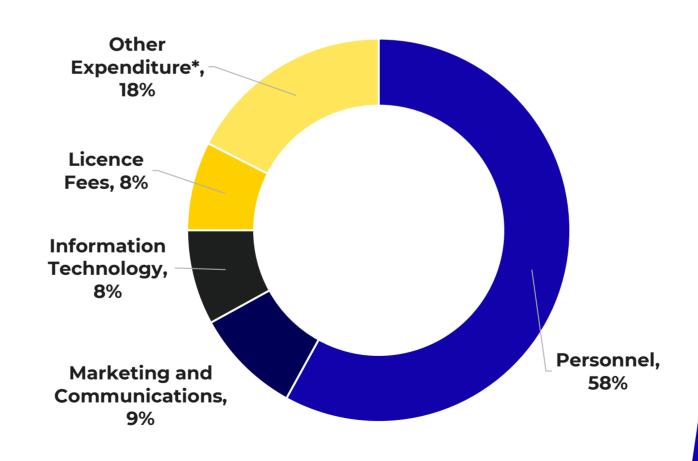
Our Director-General works pro-bono and takes no salary, nor claims expenses. His In-Kind contribution would be valued in-access of £180,000 per annum.

£303,100

# Total Operational Income

(Of which 89% was contributed by the Earth Charitable Foundation) £266,000

Total Operational Expenditure



\*including travel, conference participation, and event-related costs at the ICfS premises

Based on current staffing levels and ongoing activities, our projected annualised run-rate stands at approximately £380,000, reflecting the scale and momentum of our growing operations.

This summary reflects our commitment to transparency and responsible stewardship of resources in pursuit of our mission.



## **Looking Ahead**

With a growing international voice, the ICfS aims to become the world's leading sustainability strategy hub connecting Washington, London, New Delhi and its global stakeholders. Our learning and leadership programmes (launching in 2025) will target business and policy leaders across India, the UK and the US. Continued support from stakeholders will be vital to scaling this momentum.



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# **DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S REPORT**

This April marked the first anniversary of the International Centre for Sustainability. A milestone that, on the surface, celebrates one year – but in reality, represents over a decade of groundwork, intention and vision. The seed was planted six years before we launched, as we quietly gathered the right people, those who shared a conviction that real, systemic change is not only necessary but possible. Over the following four years, the idea of ICfS took shape: one rooted in integrity, ambition and the unwavering belief that we must build institutions equal to the complexity of the 21st century.

In the 12 months since our official launch on 10 April 2024, the Centre has moved from aspiration to institution. And while we remain small in size, our impact has far exceeded expectations. This is thanks to a remarkably talented and diverse team, and a culture that has become our strongest foundation. Culture, at the ICfS, is not an accessory, rather it is the method and the message. It is defined by curiosity, humility, strategic clarity and a deep sense of responsibility to both people and planet. Our brand values are intellectual rigour, moral imagination, and practical impact, and these are not just ideals; they are embedded into the way we work, think, and grow.

Over the past year, we have refined and clarified our mission in collaboration with our stakeholders. That mission is bridging worlds to promote sustainability, environmental stewardship and strategic cooperation, which has only grown more urgent. We now stand as a credible and independent voice in this space, recognised by media, policymakers and institutional leaders. Our focus on India's development is framed within a global, values-driven perspective, which has established ICfS as a credible and thoughtful partner for those seeking to engage with India's future. But the Centre's vision goes beyond India alone; it is rooted in the belief that India's path is inseparable from the wider quest to secure a more just, sustainable, and flourishing planet.



# **DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S REPORT**

### Among our proudest achievements:

- The ICfS Fellowship: Our Fellowship is already drawing in individuals from all over the world of extraordinary calibre, enabling us to convene some of the sharpest minds working across environmental diplomacy, markets, security and civilisational thinking.
- Our Talent: We have recruited a very capable, small team led by our Chief of Staff, Jade Hagen. With a full time, roster of seven people, with one full time researcher based out of Delhi, the team has produced a series of excellent analysis, which has found its way to policy makers in Westminster, Capitol Hill in Washington, and New Delhi.
- We launched our internship initiative to nurture young talent, providing a real-world, meaningful platform for aspiring researchers in the impact space. Several have gone on to continue working with us or enter roles where their sustainability insights are already making a difference.
- Building a Community: ICfS has become a home for dialogue. Through regular roundtables, event
  partnerships and a growing research and publications stream, we are anchoring a new kind of
  intellectual community, one that values systems thinking, interdisciplinary insight and grounded
  optimism.
- Our Growing Voice: We are beginning to shape the conversation on how sustainability should be understood, one that includes environmental stewardship, the legal rights of nature and animals, re-thinking education, promoting preventative healthcare, support for free markets, and a deep defence of individual liberty. We believe these ideas are not in conflict, but they are the very principles that can regenerate societies and ecosystems alike.

Looking ahead, our ambition is clear: to be the world's leading centre for sustainability thinking and strategy as it relates to India and her global partnerships. As a British-based institution, we aim to serve as a bridge, fostering deeper alliances between India and the international community, grounded in ethics, equity and ecological responsibility.

To all those who have supported us this past year – thank you. We carry your trust as both a privilege and a call to action. There is much to do, and we move forward with the confidence that ICfS has only just begun. But we also recognise a simple truth: without your continued support, none of this is possible. Your partnership is not just appreciated; it is essential to sustaining and scaling the work that lies ahead.

AM

Sachin Nandha Director-General



## **WHO WE ARE**

### The ICfS

The International Centre for Sustainability (ICfS) is a London-based independent research and advisory organisation established in 2024. Our mission is to foster a deeper alliance between the United Kingdom, the United States and India, acting as a catalyst for positive global change.

At its core, ICfS is committed to building a more just, resilient, and sustainable world through international cooperation, strategic insight, and values-led action.

The Centre takes a holistic approach to sustainability, integrating policy, culture, technology and governance, which is reflected in our research verticals.



**UK-India Relations:** Strengthening diplomatic, economic and cultural ties to build a deeper alliance.



**Future of Faith:** Exploring the role of religion in fostering inclusive, progressive and liberal societies.



**Security & Mutual Dependence:** Addressing geopolitical risks and championing peacebuilding.



**Environment & Culture:** Championing sustainable models that balance people, planet and profit.



**Diasporic Communities:** Providing deep analysis on the Indian diaspora worldwide to enhance community cohesion and champion pluralism.



**Al, Technology & Regulation:** Balancing rapid innovation with responsible governance and leadership.



**Strengthening Democracy:** Supporting democratic resilience through innovation in an era of AI and technological, as well as cultural disruption.



**Sustainable Economy:** Using markets to drive ethical consumption and building circular economies to minimise externalities.



**Preventative Healthcare:** Providing deep analysis on existing models of delivering healthcare, and leveraging technology and big data to promote affordable, equitable and accessible healthcare.

To deliver meaningful impact, the ICfS leverages a dynamic network of experts, ranging from researchers, analysts and data specialists to experienced strategists, diplomats, entrepreneurs, and influential leaders in business and politics. Through this multidisciplinary collaboration, the ICfS aims to generate actionable insights and innovative solutions to today's most pressing sustainability challenges, shaping policy and driving systemic change.



# THE TEAM

## **Trustees**



**Prof Nawal Kant Prinja**Trustee & Director



**Pragna Shikotra** Trustee & Director



**Hitansh Singala** Trustee & Director

## **Operations**



Sachin Nandha
Trustee & Director-General



**Jade Hagen** Chief of Staff



**Celia Illes**Operations Assistant



**Chloe Schuber**Research & Operations Assistant

## Research



**Shruti Kapil** Security & Mutual Dependence



**Nitish Rai Parwani**Diasporic Communities



**Dr Pravar Petkar** Strengthening Democracy



**Charlotte Littlewood**UK-India Relations
August 2023 - February 2024

# **FELLOWSHIP**

The Fellowship at the ICfS is an honorary position for distinguished individuals committed to advancing our mission. Fellows serve as esteemed ambassadors for the Centre. They provide strategic quidance for the Centre's research direction. Whilst mentoring emerging researchers, Fellows play a critical role in enhancing the impact of the Centre's work thereby helping ensure that key research findings reach the right decision-makers and institutions. Their leadership. insight and networks are essential to shaping meaningful, actionable outcomes.



AI, Technology & Regulation **Dr Ansgar Koene**AI Ethicist, Global Partner at EY



UK-India Relations **David Landsman OBE**Ret. British Ambassador



Al, Technology & Regulation **David Wood**Futurist



Environment & Governance

Erik Solheim

Ex. Minister of Environment,
Norway



Sustainable Economy **Harsh Madhusudhan**Fund Manager



Prof Lavanya Vemsani
Distinguished University
Professor at Shawnee State
University



Education & Culture

Lord Tony Sewell

Conservative Peer in the
House of Lords



Al, Technology & Regulation **Prof Nawal Kant Prinja**Senior Advisor to British
Government on Nuclear Energy



Environment & Education **Dr Pavel Cenkl**Dean at Prescott College, Arizona



Future of Faith **Dr Ramesh Pattni OBE**Professor Emeritus of Psychology



Diasporic Communities

Prof Rina Arya

Professor and Head of School of Arts at the University of Hull



Diasporic Communities **Prof Shalini Shankar**Anthropology at Northwestern
University



Political Economy

Shaurya Doval

Managing Director Torch
Investment Management

# **ASSOCIATESHIP & INTERNSHIPS**

Our Associateship at the ICfS is an honorary position. Our associates are subject matter experts who help shape our research and advocacy. They are ambassadors in their own right and are individuals that are extremely talented and successful at what they do.



Security & Mutual Dependence **Dr <u>Dheeraj Paramesha Chaya</u>**Intelligence and International Security



Environment, Culture & Animal Rights **Dina Nathwani LLB**Lecturer at the University of Birmingham



AI, Technology & Regulation **Kiran Muthal**Senior Consultant at Deloitte



Big Data

Preriit Souda

Data entrepreneur

## Internships



**Katya Kazimir** (Feb - April '24) Public Affairs | Fundraising



**Vanya Doval** (Feb - March '25) Strengthening Democracy Desk | Operations



**Ornicha Daorueng** (Mar - July '25) Learning and Development



**Niharika Girsa** (April - July '25) Security and Mutual Dependence Desk



**Amy Wonnacott** (April - July '25) Strengthening Democracy Desk

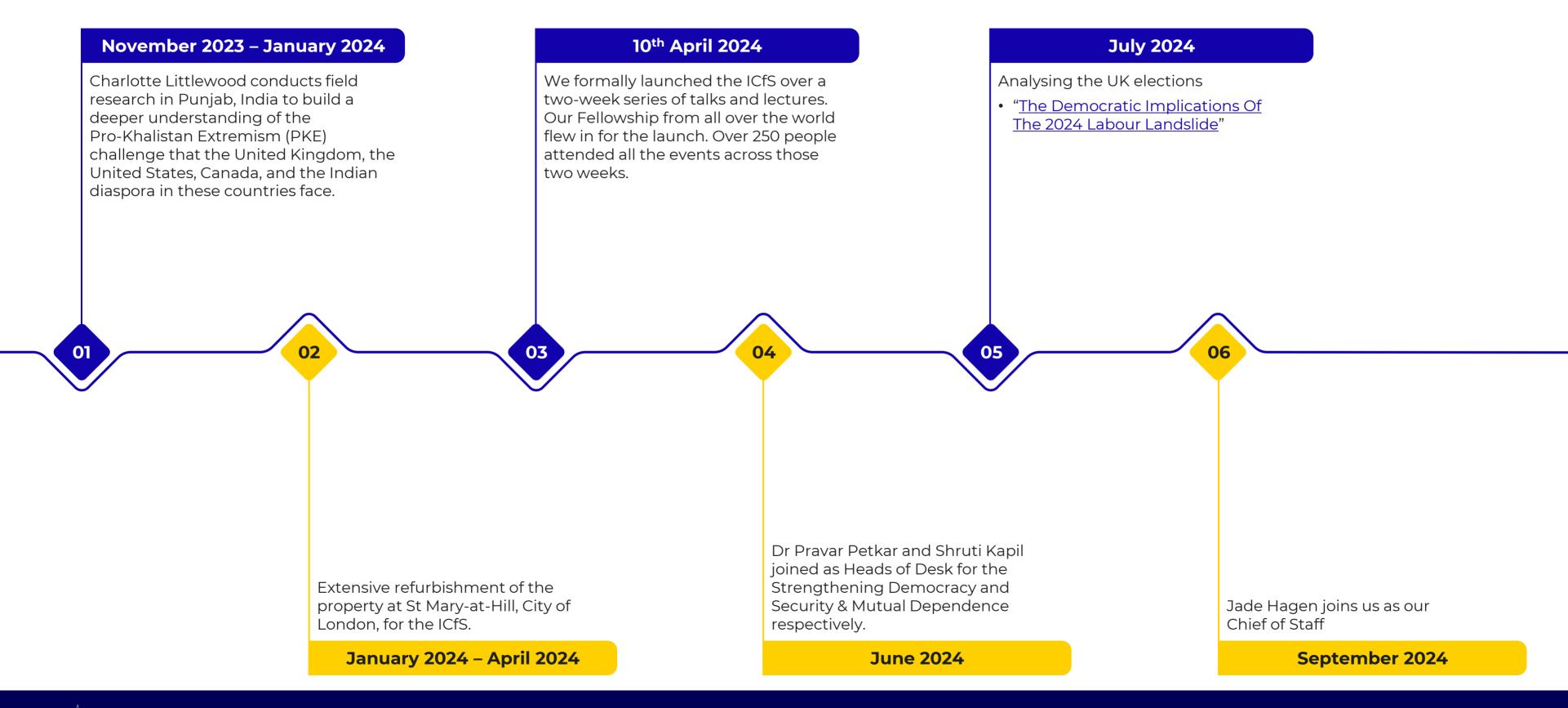


**Zoe Neiman** (April - July '25) Strengthening Democracy Desk | Security and Mutual Dependence Desk

Note: We receive an average of 120 applications for every four places available. This is a highly sought after, and competitive process.



# **OUR JOURNEY**





# **OUR JOURNEY**

## October 2024

First Fellowship roundtable took place where our annual research agenda was finalised.

Rt. Hon. Dame Theresa Villiers, former MP for Chipping Barnet, visits the Centre December 2024

- "Perspective Of Dharmic-Faiths On The British Assisted Dying Bill"
- Rothchild & Co. London invited Sachin Nandha to give a speech on a new framework to understand India: 3-centuries model to its senior leadership teams across London, Dubai, and India

February 2025

K-lecture on "<u>Trump, Xi & Modi:</u> <u>Where Does The UK Sit Between</u> These Great Powers?"

08

10

- 1st roundtable discussion led by Dr. David Wood, keynote from Simon Horton around AI & Democracy
- Sachin Nandha attends COP29 in Azerbaijan to represent the ICfS
- Professor Rina Arya joins our Fellowship
- Visiting India: Jade and Sachin visit, Mumbai, FLAME University in Pune, and Delhi, developing our network, and meeting our stakeholders

**November 2024** 

- We launch our monthly lecture series called the "Krishnamurti (K) Lectures". Our first discussion was on "Ethics At The Intersection Of Al & Society"
- We launched our ICfS quarterly newsletter
- Dr Balasubramaniam, a former Rhodes professor at Cornell University and head of the Capacity Building Commission of India visits the Centre

January 2025

12

- Paper launch: "Interlinking Sustainable Democracy And Sustainable Education"
- First cycle of interns commences
- Strategy to shape our Learning and Development vertical is formed
- K-lecture on "<u>Compassionate Food</u> Systems For Planetary Healing"

March 2025

07

# OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS







4 researchers,

7 research assistants

2

briefing papers

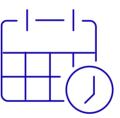


First in person

Paper Launch



**24** research articles



18 events



Forum Mentis/Buddhya Samvaad



**500+** attendees/visitors to the ICfS



1,800+
followers on LinkedIn



188,400+ impressions on LinkedIn

# RESEARCH PAPERS & THEIR IMPACT

There were several major pieces of work that had an immediate impact.

A major highlight for the Centre was the in-person launch of the paper "Interlinking Sustainable Democracy and Sustainable Education: A Roadmap for Reform" in March, co-authored by Dr Pavel Cenkl, ICfS Fellow, and Dr Pravar Petkar, Head of the Strengthening Democracy Desk.

The paper presents a bold vision for how democratic and higher education reforms can empower citizens and transform societies. It has garnered positive feedback from academics in the US, and has initiated collaboration with Flame University, in Pune, India. The paper was praised for its innovative approach and practical solutions to global challenges in governance, environmental sustainability and education.

### Read the paper.

The ICfS briefing papers on Kashmir have played a key role in informing policymakers across the United Kingdom, the European Union and the United States. These papers have provided critical context and analysis to parliamentarians, members of upper houses and journalists, shaping understanding and interpretation of developments in the region.

The Pahalgam Attack: Context, Impacy, And Implications

Securing India's Future: Lessons From The Pahalgam Terror Attack

India-Pakistan Tensions – Key Developments And Future Risk

India-Pakistan Tensions – Key Developments And Future Risk Part 2



# K-LECTURES: MONTHLY THOUGHT LEADERSHIP SERIES

Officially inaugurated in January 2025, the series honours Krishnamurti's legacy of inquiry, intellectual exploration and ethical reflection. The K-Lectures provide a platform for global thinkers, innovators and changemakers to engage in open dialogue on ideas shaping the future, fostering a vibrant community of thought leadership and meaningful exchange.

## **Speakers at the K-Lectures**

### **Ethics At The Intersection Of AI & Society**

A panel discussion examining the ethical complexities of real-world AI deployment, with a focus on justice, equity, and cultural representation.



January 2025



## **Dr Ansgar Koene**

Global AI Ethics and Regulatory Leader at EY and a renowned AI Ethicist, has made significant contributions to the development of policies surrounding the governance and regulation of AI.



### **Dr David Wood**

Co-founder of Symbian and a leading voice in technology foresight as chair of London Futurists, draws on decades of expertise in mobile innovation and long-term trends shaping technology and society.



### **James Wilson**

An AI ethicist and Lead Gen AI Architect at Capgemini, focuses on maximizing AI and data value responsibly, frequently speaking on AI ethics and data privacy while contributing to discussions on privacy protection and responsible AI development

# K-LECTURES: MONTHLY THOUGHT LEADERSHIP SERIES

## **Speakers at the K-Lectures**

# Trump, Xi & Modi: Where Does The UK Sit Between These Great Powers?

The UK faces the challenge of positioning itself amid a multipolar world shaped by disruptive powers as the US, China, and India each assert competing global influence.

### **Compassionate Food Systems For Planetary Healing**

A discussion, highlighting how transitioning to veganism and ending animal agriculture are essential steps toward reversing ecological damage and healing the planet.

## February 2025



### **Dr David Landsman**

Has served as British Ambassador in Albania and Greece, and held senior UK Government positions in security policy, non-proliferation and export control. He is Executive Chair of British Expertise International and Senior Adviser at the British Foreign Policy Group.

## March 2025



### **Dr Sailesh Rao**

Leading environmental advocate and founder of <u>Climate Healers</u>, to our next K-Lecture. His work is featured in Netflix documentaries like *Cowspiracy* and *What the Health*, sparking global conversations on sustainability, veganism, and climate action.



# **COMMUNICATIONS**

### **Our quarterly newsletters**

We release quarterly newsletters to keep our stakeholders from across the world informed about what the ICfS has been focusing on and highlighting our progress and achievements. This newsletter goes out to a mailing list of c.3000 people, of whom 50% are in the United States, and around 40% are in the United Kingdom.

### Our YouTube channel

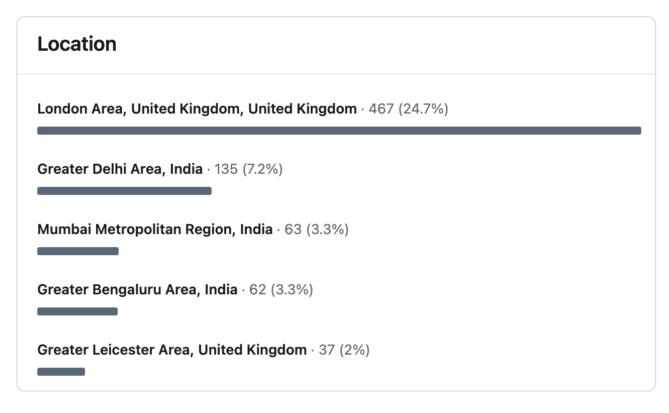
In March 2025, we launched our <u>YouTube channel</u>. This will become the main platform for our stakeholders and well-wishers to watch all of our publicly available content including lectures, round tables and podcasts.

### Our LinkedIn page and engagement

We are on LinkedIn. Here is our community through numbers:

In our first year we have grown the size of our engaged community to **1800+** 

### We have a global following:



We have had 188,000 individual impressions

People react to what we post: 2135 reactions with 100+ reposts

# **COMMUNICATIONS**

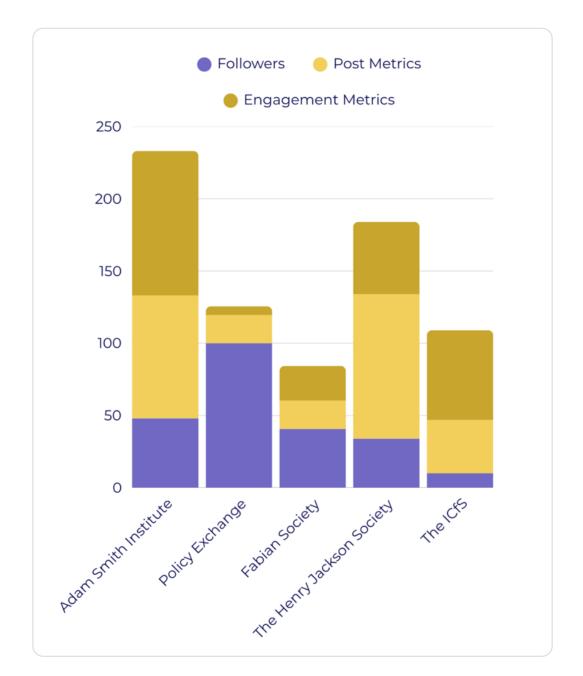
## **Benchmarking vs London Think-Tanks**

Though only a year old, the ICfS is already outperforming many established names in engagement (Rank 2), ahead of think-tanks founded decades ago.

While our follower base is still growing (Rank 5), our content is driving high-quality interactions, showing strong resonance with our audience.

We're also more active than several older peers, with post metrics placing us mid-table (Rank 3), which is a solid foundation for accelerated growth.

The ICfS is quickly proving that new voices can drive impactful conversations, even in a crowded space dominated by legacy players.



Graph displaying LinkedIn data represented as percentages, categorized by rank.



# **RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS**

Our research spans sustainability, education, water conservation, animal rights, foreign policy, regional stability, and democratic governance.

### **Security and Mutual Dependence Desk**

Over the past year, the Security and Mutual Dependence Desk, led by Shruti Kapil, has focused on India's evolving geopolitical and security challenges. Key areas of research included the security landscape and electoral dynamics of Jammu & Kashmir, and the impact of misinformation on Indian elections. The Desk also examined India's strategic positioning as a key partner to the United States and its implications for regional and global stability.

At the 2024 fellowship meeting, we finalised three core research projects for 2025:

- India's Water Security: Exploring national and transboundary implications for geopolitical stability.
- Women's Empowerment through FDI: Assessing how foreign investment can promote workplace safety, gender equality and economic independence.
- The UK's Himalayan Strategy: Proposing a UK policy framework to enhance Indo-UK cooperation and support stability in the Indo-Pacific and Himalayan regions.

Collaborations with Pahle India Foundation, FLAME University (Pune), and the Stockholm Centre for South Asian and Indo-Pacific Affairs are integral to the Desk's research impact.

### **Strengthening Democracy Desk**

The Strengthening Democracy Desk has delivered a diverse body of research over the past year. A key highlight is the paper 'Interlinking Sustainable Democracy and Sustainable Education: A Roadmap for Reform', co-authored by Dr Pavel Cenkl (ICfS Fellow) and Dr Pravar Petkar (Desk Head).

At the 2024 fellowship meeting, we finalised three core research projects for 2025:

**Understanding India as a Civilisational-State:** this project analyses whether and how India's cultural heritage shapes its foreign policy and democratic system.

**Reforming Second Chambers - A UK-India Approach:** this project explores options for second chamber reform across the UK and India to enhance democracy and policy making.

**Electoral Reform in Federal Context:** this project addresses options for electoral reform in the UK and India to ensure more proportionate representation.

**Deliberation in a Sustainable Democracy:** this project assesses the scope for technology-driven democratic deliberation to enhance democracy in the UK and India.



Chloe Schuber's interdisciplinary research expanded the Desk's scope, addressing political, social, and environmental issues. Her major project on youth political engagement across the US, UK and India analysed how digital platforms and grassroots activism are reshaping politics.

In 2024, the Desk provided commentary on major elections in India, the UK and the US, producing over 10 opinion pieces. Topics ranged from voting realities in India to UK electoral disproportionality and US party strategies on India relations. Ongoing commentary included India's simultaneous elections proposal and the UK's Assisted Dying Bill consultation.

The Desk hosted a November 2024 roundtable on using technology to enhance citizen deliberation, part of an ongoing project on improving democratic participation in the UK.



# **RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS**

## **Diasporic Communities Desk**

Led by Nitish Rai Parwani, the Desk has made significant strides in understanding and amplifying the experiences of the Indian and Hindu diaspora in the UK. Key achievements include:



Media Presence: Published op-eds on diaspora identity and India-UK relations in Asian Voice.



Anti-Hindu Hate Platform: Developed a data-driven reporting tool ready for launch.



**Landmark Survey:** Finalised the framework for an ethnographic survey of the UK Hindu community.



**Community Engagement**: Partnered with 150+ diaspora groups and collected materials for a migration exhibition.



**Research & Outreach**: Released academic work in Indian journals, hosted a podcast with faith leaders, and proposed a Dharmic model for the SDGs





# **OUR ECOSYSTEM OF PARTNERSHIPS**

We are proud to report significant progress in forging impactful partnerships with a small but dedicated team. This year, the ICfS formalised MOUs with FLAME University (Pune, India) and Prescott University (Pheonix, Arizona) for joint research, collaborative events, and the development of a cross-border sustainability curriculum.

With Flame University, we are contributing to the formation of a steering group, to develop a globally representative *Sustainability Index* aimed at creating more inclusive, equitable metrics, particularly for developing nations underrepresented in existing models.

Our collaborations also include the Pahle India Foundation (Delhi, India) and a respected Swedish and Washington-based think tank, strengthening our global research network.



## TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

We recognise that lasting progress in sustainability depends on building individual and organisational capacity through comprehensive training and development. Beyond equipping people with essential skills and knowledge, our approach fosters networks, trust and collaboration, all critical elements of strong social capital. Over the past year, the Centre has delivered training programmes, fellowships, and mentorship opportunities to empower the next generation of sustainability leaders.

### Forum Mentis/Buddhya Samvaad

Our monthly internal learning forum draws from Roman and Indian traditions to create a space for open dialogue, critical thinking, and ethical reflection. Team members present topics of personal interest, sparking deep, interdisciplinary discussions. Past sessions ranged from the symbolism in Hokusai's *The Wave* to the evolution of activism. The initiative fosters both personal growth and collective insight, enriching our organisational culture.



The team has carried out extensive market research on current UK training programmes related to sustainability, modern India, technology, and democracy. The ICfS is preparing to launch three key programmes in 2025:



**Democracy & Al** 



**Understanding Modern India** 



**Executive Leadership Programme** for British, American, and Indian business leaders.

These initiatives aim to convene peers from the US, UK, India, and other global stakeholders to learn, exchange insights and foster cross-border collaboration.

## Internships

The ICfS Internship Programmes provide postgraduate students and early-career professionals with practical experience in sustainability research and policy. Interns contribute to high-impact through drafting op-eds, policy briefs and briefing papers.

They also participate in seminars and roundtables with senior researchers, industry leaders, and political figures, including members of the House of Lords, gaining first-hand exposure to real-world policy debates. These programmes strengthen analytical skills, expand professional networks and serve as a launchpad for values-driven careers in sustainability, governance and international affairs.

The recruitment process for our internships has proven that they are highly sought after and very competitive. We receive over 100 applications for 4 places.



# **DEVELOPMENT OF THE CENTRE**

### **Governance and Charitable Status**

The ICfS is currently transitioning to registered charity status. It operates as an independent organisation with a governance framework comprising a director, executive leadership team, and advisory committees. Upon conversion, charity trustees will assume legal responsibility, guiding strategy, financial oversight, and delivery of public benefit. ICfS remains committed to transparency, accountability, and global collaboration in pursuit of its mission.

### **Operations and Organisational Development**

The appointment of Chief of Staff Jade Hagen has driven major operational improvements at ICfS. We've formalised internal procedures, standardised financial reporting, and introduced quarterly finance reviews and donor updates, thus enhancing transparency and oversight.

Team development has advanced through a structured internship cycle and the introduction of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to support performance and research planning.

Stakeholder engagement has grown, with deeper ties to think tanks, governments, academia, and community groups. Our public presence has expanded through the K-Lectures, roundtables, and new digital platforms including podcasts and YouTube.

Together, these developments have strengthened our internal systems and external impact, laying the groundwork for sustained growth.

### **Venue Hire and Revenue Growth**

This year, ICfS expanded its venue hire offerings, launching a fully equipped recording studio with cutting-edge AV technology. Promotional efforts now cover our 50-person meeting room, 10-person breakout room, and the recording suite.

These facilities have attracted successful bookings, including repeat clients, contributing to a growing revenue stream. As part of our strategy toward financial sustainability, we aim to scale this operation further. Venue details and images are available on our website.



## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

### Income

The ICfS has demonstrated strong value for money, delivering significant impact with a relatively small budget and lean team. As a young organisation, its high impact-to-investment ratio reflects both operational efficiency and strategic focus, underscoring its effectiveness in advancing its mission.

### **In-Kind Contribution from the Earth Charitable Foundation**

We are grateful to the Earth Charitable Foundation (EcF) for its generous in-kind support. The Foundation provides ICfS with the use of two floors at its City of London premises, valued at £190,500 per annum, along with an additional £40,000 per annum in management and associated services.

Furthermore, the Foundation funded the renovation of the lower ground floor, which is valued at circa £500,000. This valued contribution plays a vital role in enabling our operations and advancing our mission.

## **Operational Financial Overview**

In addition to its in-kind contribution, the Earth Charitable Foundation also provides significant financial support to ICfS through direct cash contributions.

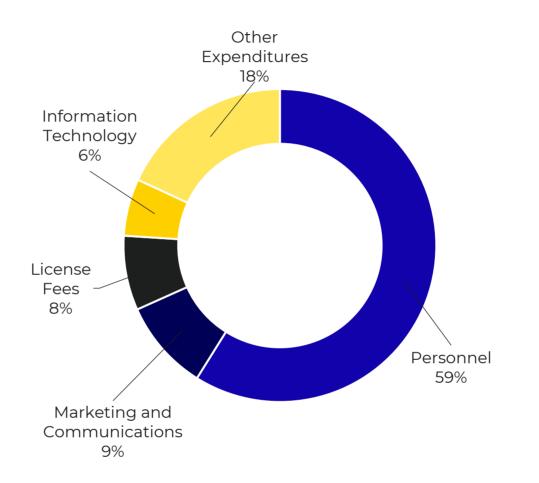
Total Operational Income: £303,100

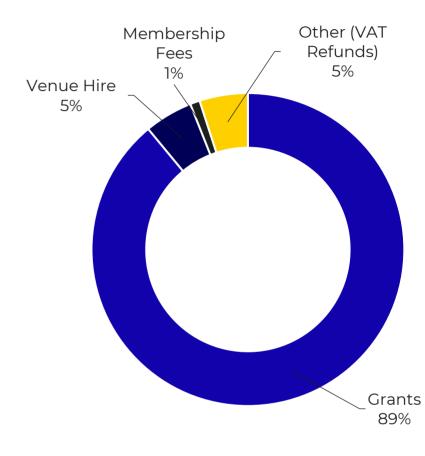
(Of which 89% was contributed by the Earth Charitable Foundation)

**Total Operational Expenditure:** £266,000

### **Expenses**

### Income





Based on current staffing levels and ongoing activities, our projected annualised run-rate stands at approximately £380,000, reflecting the scale and momentum of our growing operations.

# **LOOKING AHEAD**

As of May 2025, the International Centre for Sustainability continues to grow with purpose and momentum across all its core areas.

In partnership with the Earth Charitable Foundation, we have committed an additional £150,000 to refit our ground floor and create the first-ever Modern India Library and Study Centre, set to open in Q3 2025. This marks a major milestone in our mission to foster cross-cultural understanding and knowledge exchange.

Our research capacity will expand with the recruitment of an Economist to lead the Sustainable Economy Desk, a post now fully funded for the next two years. We also plan to launch pilot training programmes on Al and Democracy in Q4 2025, an initiative that speaks directly to the challenges and opportunities of our time.

We are proud to support our Chief of Staff, Jade Hagen, as she takes maternity leave to welcome her third child. We look forward to her return in 2026 and thank her for her continued leadership.

In a world increasingly defined by volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity (VUCA), the ICfS remains committed to fostering resilient democratic values, environmental stewardship, and global cooperation. As the international order shifts toward multipolarity, we will continue to deepen strategic engagement with leaders across the UK, US, and India, as well other stakeholders, ensuring that sustainability, legal rights for nature, and liberty remain at the heart of global progress.



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**Ex Oriente Lux** 

