



Gala Recap, Our New Name Unveiled, and An Invitation to India!

Sat, Oct 26, 2024 at 10:18 PM

Dear Friends,

We are deeply grateful to everyone who made our 25th Anniversary Gala in New York such a success! At the event, we were thrilled to share our new name, **Social Capital Initiatives**, which reflects our expanding mission to advance social capital as a force for sustainable development across borders. Watch the announcement and the evening's highlights in our video recap, and explore our photo gallery below.



Catch the highlights from our 25th Anniversary Gala in our video recap!



8th Secretary General of the UN, His Excellency Ban Ki-moon delivers the opening address at our Gala.



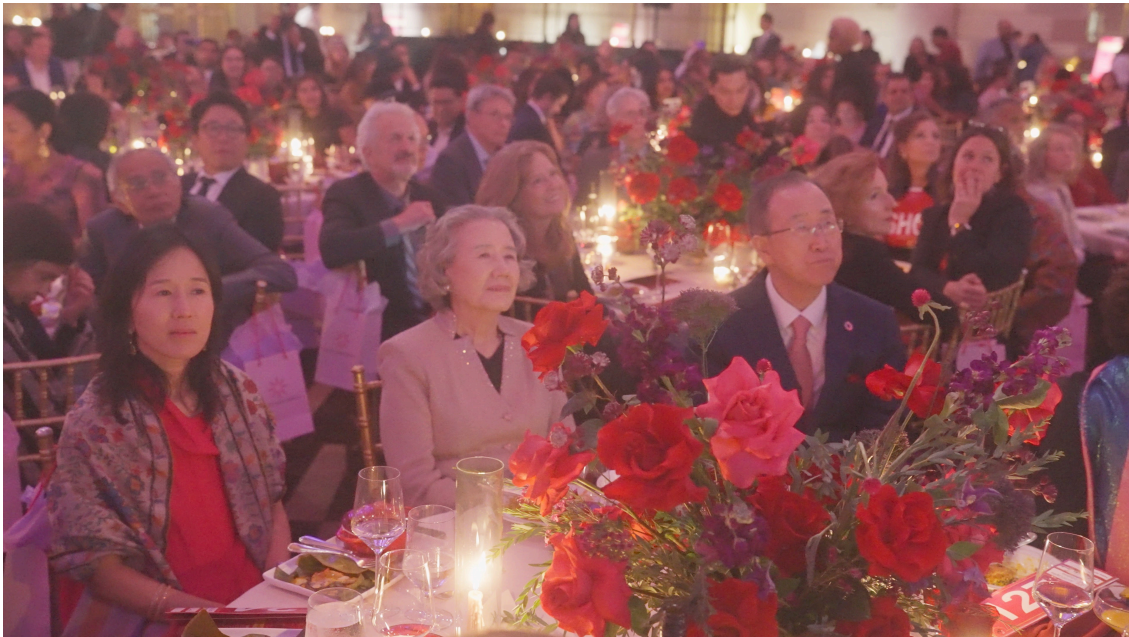
From left, the Ban Ki-moon Award for Grassroots Champions was presented to Vasudha Kapoor and Ashwani Tiwari; the Ban Ki-moon Award for Women's Empowerment honored Chandrika Tandon and Lekha Singh; and the Ban Ki-moon Award for Environmental Champions was presented to Maria Wilhelm and Dr. Joe Romm.



His Excellency Ban Ki-moon and Madam Yoo Soon-taek stand with leaders of Social Capital Initiatives. From left: Gala Co-Chairs Kratma Saini Sood and Shivani Dugar; Board and Counsel Members Mitzi Perdue, Lisa Robins, Cofounders Geeta and Krishen Mehta, Marianne Clyde, Yoshiko Sheard, Helen Yang, and Fumi Kato.



A Fireside Chat about the major issues facing our planet was moderated by NHK news anchor Catherine Kobayashi (far left), and featured (from left) Chandrika Tandon, Lekha Singh, His Excellency Ban Ki-moon, Maria Wilhelm and Dr. Joe Romm.



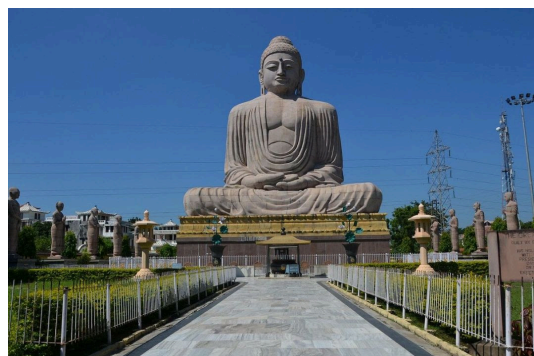
Funds raised from our Gala will support our impactful projects across India, Kenya, Taiwan, and the United States. We extend heartfelt thanks to all our generous sponsors and to everyone who joined us. Please also remember to redeem the FANA gift cards that were included in your bag.



[Click Here to View Our Gala Photo Gallery](#)

Experience Impact and the Marvels of India with Us Jan 7th–14th

We are pleased to invite you to join us on a unique journey in India. Participants will connect directly with our grassroots programs, partners, and the individuals whose lives are transformed by our work.



In **Gaya, Bihar**, you will get to visit some of the libraries we have helped establish in over 214 schools with our local partner Karunodaya. In our

Cascade of Learning program, older students read to younger ones and redeem their **SoCCs** for books. Our innovative SoCCs program also empowers pre-service teachers to mentor primary students who need additional help with reading. Teachers earn SoCCs, which they can exchange for advanced digital skills, including artificial intelligence tools like Google Grow, and access to India's DIKSHA platform.



In **Koderma, Jharkhand**, you will see firsthand how our water conservation efforts, including revitalizing watersheds and building new ponds, have helped secure water for 25 villages. This has enabled increased agricultural yields, boosting household incomes by up to 75%. In tandem, we promote kitchen gardens for indigenous women, improving food security and providing sustainable livelihoods. Women also earn **SoCCs** through afforestation activities and redeem them for seeds and training, enhancing both nutrition and income.

There will also be time to experience India's rich cultural heritage in Delhi and Bodh Gaya, where Buddha achieved enlightenment, and an optional trip to Taj Mahal at the end. For more information, please contact Program Associate Emma Gardephe at emma.g@asiainitiatives.org by November 15th.

More about Social Capital Initiatives' (formerly Asia Initiatives) mission and work is on our [website](#) and on our [Youtube](#) channel. Please also reach out if you have thoughts and ideas about our work that you'd like to share with us.

With warm wishes for a **Happy Diwali**, the upcoming Festival of Lights 🪔
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Geeta and the Social Capital Initiatives Team



Social Capital Initiatives has special consultative status with the
Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC)
of the United Nations



Social Capital Initiatives is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that promotes sustainable development for underserved communities, with a particular focus on women and their families.

You can contact us at info@asiaInitiatives.org

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