



JOHNS HOPKINS
GUPTA-KLINSKY
INDIA INSTITUTE

Advancing **Climate, Health,** and **Food Security** through Research and Partnerships

July 2025

A Report by the Gupta-Klinsky India Institute at Johns Hopkins University





Motorbike Navigating Flooded Streets in Kolkata. Photo by Dibakar Roy / Pexels

74% Indians can't afford a healthy diet.
([FAO et al., 2023](#))

250k climate-linked deaths projected annually between 2030-50.
([WHO, 2021](#))

India ranks **6th globally** among countries most impacted by extreme weather between 1993 and 2022, enduring **over 400 events**, including floods, cyclones, heatwaves, that resulted in **~80,000 deaths** and **US \$180 billion** in economic losses ([Global Climate Risk Index, 2025](#)). These shocks not only threaten lives and livelihoods but also erode food security, especially among vulnerable communities.

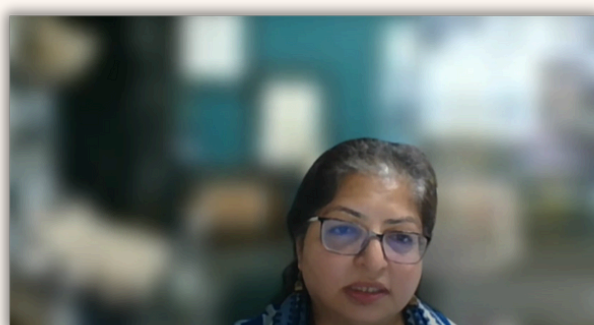
In response to these intersecting challenges, the **Gupta-Klinsky India Institute (GKII)** at **Johns Hopkins University (JHU)** has been building research, partnerships, and policy momentum at the nexus of climate change, health, and food security with equity and innovation at the core of its work.

With generous support from **Girish Rishi**, an alumnus of the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), and CEO of the industrial software company Cognite, GKII brought together global experts to connect the dots between health, nutrition, climate change, and technology through several timely and forward-looking roundtables and conferences that generated insights for real-world impact. This report captures key moments, insights, and outcomes from GKII's work in this domain between 2022 and 2025.

Climate, Health and Society: India's Challenges and Opportunities

September 28, 2022 | Virtual

India stands at the frontline of the global climate crisis. From intensifying heatwaves and shifting monsoons to rising pollution and food insecurity, the cascading effects of climate change are placing unprecedented pressure on public health systems, livelihoods, and ecosystems. With bold climate commitments, emerging clean energy leadership, and a growing knowledge ecosystem, India is uniquely positioned to shape global conversations on sustainable development.



Keynote speakers Dr. Dalia Kirschbaum (NASA Goddard) and Dr. Suruchi Bhadwal (TERI) at the GKII inaugural conference, "Climate, Health and Society: India's Challenges and Opportunities," held on September 28, 2022.

The inaugural GKII Annual Conference in 2022 convened more than 40 expert speakers from fields including climate science, public health, engineering, energy, and policy to explore India's most pressing climate-health challenges.

Participants represented leading institutions including NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), Indian Institute of Public Health Gandhinagar (IIPHG), All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Delhi, Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) Pune, and Johns Hopkins University.

The conference explored four key themes:

- Climate Dynamics & Forecasting
- Air Quality & Source Attribution
- Clean Energy Access
- Climate-Linked Health Risks

These discussions offered critical insights into how India and global partners can co-create pathways toward a more equitable, resilient, and climate-secure future.



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INAUGURAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE **CLIMATE, HEALTH, & SOCIETY:** INDIA'S CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 28
8AM - 12PM EST | 5:30 - 9:30 PM IST

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS CONFERENCE IS FULLY VIRTUAL

REGISTER: tinyurl.com/GKIIannualconference

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES



DR. DALIA KIRSCHBAUM

Director of the Earth Sciences Division
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center



MS. SURUCHI BHADWAL

Director, Earth Science and Climate Change
The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

PANEL DISCUSSIONS



CLIMATE DYNAMICS



PANEL CO-CHAIR

DR. R. KRISHNAN

Director, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology



PANEL CO-CHAIR

DR. ANAND GNAADADESIKAN

Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences, JHU



CLEAN AIR



PANEL CO-CHAIR

DR. PETER DECARLO

Associate Professor of Environmental Health and Engineering



PANEL CO-CHAIR

DR. RAMYA SUNDER RAMAN

Professor, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, IISER Bhopal



CLEAN ENERGY



PANEL CO-CHAIR

DR. BENJAMIN HOBBS

Schad Chair of Environmental Management, Environmental Health & Engineering and ROSEI, JHU



PANEL CO-CHAIR

DR. PUNEET CHITKARA

Executive Director, KPMG



CLIMATE & HEALTH



PANEL CO-CHAIR

DR. NITISH DOGRA

Senior Fellow, The Energy and Resources Institute



PANEL CO-CHAIR

DR. BENJAMIN ZAITCHIK

Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences, JHU

CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS



GKII FACULTY STEERING COMMITTEE

DR. NANCY REYNOLDS

Associate Dean of Global Affairs, JHU School of Nursing



GKII FACULTY STEERING COMMITTEE

DR. ROBERT C. BOLLINGER

Raj and Kamla Gupta Professor of Infectious Diseases, JHU



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Key Takeaways

1

CLIMATE MODELING MUST GO LOCAL

India is advancing high-quality climate modeling (aerosol-cloud interactions, monsoon forecasting, etc.), but localization remains a barrier. To support policymakers, models must scale down to city- and district-levels. There's strong potential to use satellite remote sensing and very high-resolution models to improve disaster preparedness and early warning systems.

2

AIR QUALITY NEEDS TARGETED SOURCE ATTRIBUTION

While India has expanded its regulatory monitoring network, researchers highlighted gaps in coverage, data transparency, and complex instrumentation needed to measure aerosols and PM2.5 effectively. The panelists identified a need for more granular source characterization of air pollution to inform targeted mitigation strategies.

3

URBAN RESILIENCE PLANS MUST SCALE NATIONALLY

Several Indian cities have implemented heat early warning systems and localized adaptation plans, but these efforts are not yet scaled nationally. Participants flagged the need for policy and operational frameworks that link climate hazards to health systems readiness, especially during prolonged heatwaves.

4

CLIMATE-LINKED INFECTIOUS DISEASE RESEARCH IS EMERGING

These experts noted that the connection between climate change and infectious disease transmission in India is underexplored, though rising temperatures and flooding are already influencing outbreaks. The conference highlighted the importance of investing in upstream research and surveillance systems to better understand how environmental shifts affect diseases like dengue, malaria, and tuberculosis.

5

CHILDREN'S HEALTH IS A CRITICAL BLIND SPOT

Children were identified as a particularly vulnerable group, with climate stressors exacerbating malnutrition, air pollution exposure, and disease burden. Panelists emphasized that child health should be a core priority across all climate-health research and policy frameworks.

Strategic Recommendations



BUILD GLOBAL RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

Explore joint initiatives with institutions like NASA Goddard, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) on topics such as climate modeling, monsoons, and air quality.



INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENT IN INDIA

Continue strengthening relationships with National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) and its Centers of Excellence (AIIMS, PGI, etc.) to support climate-health priorities.



EXCHANGE & CAPACITY-BUILDING

Expand academic mobility through faculty and student exchange programs.



POLICY-RELEVANT OUTPUTS

Develop knowledge translation outputs and policy briefs tailored to India's climate-health landscape.

Participants' Feedback



India's doing a lot of really good modeling and observational work in the area of climate change and aerosols. Scaling this down to spatial scale relevant to decision makers still represents a challenge."



This was a great first conference, and we'd love to see it continue to build partnerships for JHU in India."

Key Outcome

Launch of the GKII Breakthrough Research Grant

In 2023, GKII launched the **Climate x Health Breakthrough Research Grant** to accelerate interdisciplinary faculty research focused in India. The inaugural call for proposals **received six high-quality submissions** from faculty across public health, engineering, and data science.



A \$45,000 grant was awarded to **Dr. Gigi Gronvall** for her project titled **"Policy actions for India-U.S. Collaborations on Climate and Health"**. The study aimed to identify opportunities for bilateral collaboration on climate-driven health risks through interviews, policy analysis, and expert convenings. This grant program marks a significant institutional investment in supporting real-world solutions at the intersection of climate, health, and equity, directly shaped by stakeholder insights from the 2022 conference.



Our team will work to identify projects already underway which could use more support, or areas where the U.S. and India are working separately but would benefit from a joint approach. I already direct a "track 1.5" dialogue between experts and government officials in the U.S. and India focused on health security priorities, so this project already has a ready conduit to launch activities that address the technical challenges at hand and also strengthen the India-U.S. relationship."

DR. GIGI GRONVALL

Senior Scholar, Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security and a Professor in the Department of Environmental Health and Engineering, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

The other proposals received were:

- Dr. Martin W. Bloem, Professor, Environmental Health & Engineering: **"Impact of nutritional interventions on mitigating the effects of climate-induced heat stress on pregnant women and neonatal outcomes in low-resource settings: A scoping review protocol"**
- Dr. Joshua de Souza, Research Engineer, Biomedical Engineering: **"Tackling climate-driven health concerns in rural India through collaborative solutions"**
- Dr. Diwakar Mohan, Associate Scientist, International Health: **"Understanding relationships between climate change and mental health in India: A systems thinking approach"**
- Dr. Yusra Shawar, Associate Scientist, International Health: **"Generating political priority for addressing health-related hazards caused by air pollution: A qualitative policy analysis of India"**
- Dr. Brian Wahl, Associate Scientist, International Health: **"Exacerbation of chronic diseases during heatwaves: A comprehensive study of cardiovascular, respiratory, and diabetic complications"**

Policy Actions for India-US Collaborations on Climate & Health

Aishwarya Nagar,^{1,2} Taran K Deol,³ Gigi K Gronvall^{1,2}

¹Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, ²Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (Environmental Health and Engineering),




³Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (International Health)

BACKGROUND

- Climate change is the biggest threat to human health in the 21st century.
- We can expect increased morbidity and mortality from extreme heat, food- and water-borne diseases, vector-borne diseases, and zoonotic diseases.
- In India, increased flooding raises rates of cholera, dysentery, typhoid. Malaria, dengue, polio, measles, and Japanese encephalitis are other growing concerns due to climate impacts.
- In the US, Zika, dengue, yellow fever, tick-borne diseases, waterborne diseases, and antimicrobial resistance risks could pose additional challenges.
- US and India can leverage past and current collaborations and develop coordinated policy actions to address the adverse impacts of climate change on human health, especially greater infectious disease risks.
- Our research aims to** understand (1) shared priorities between India and the US for addressing infectious disease and health risks precipitated by climate change, and (2) policy actions or collaborations both countries could jointly pursue in the future.

METHODS

We are collecting, analyzing, and triangulating findings from the following sources of qualitative data:









-  **Stakeholder mapping** to identify subject matter experts working at the nexus of climate change, health, and/or policy in India and the US
-  **Reviews of peer-reviewed and grey literature** to understand shared priorities and existing India-US collaborations
-  **Interviews with key informants** and experts, including Indian and US researchers, practitioners, policy experts, and government officials

NEXT STEPS

We will conduct more key informant interviews, analyze data, and triangulate findings to identify emergent themes. We will develop a report with key findings and recommendations to drive future collaborations between India and the US on infectious disease risks precipitated by climate change

FINDINGS

WHICH CONCEPTUAL AREAS AND PRIORITIES SHOULD BE THE FOCUS OF BILATERAL COLLABORATIONS?

-  Air pollution and extreme heat
-  Spillover of zoonotic diseases
-  Integrated implementation of One Health
-  Spread of vector-borne diseases like dengue and malaria in novel environments
-  Waterborne diseases like cholera in the aftermath of extreme weather events
-  Preparing for and responding to future pandemics
-  Better indicators to understand social vulnerability to climate change and its health impacts
-  Availability of therapeutics and medical countermeasures

WHAT ARE PAST AND CURRENT COLLABORATIONS LIKE?

Few past or present US-India collaborations focus explicitly on climate change and health. Most focus on climate technologies, clean energy, health, or infectious disease research. Both countries can leverage several multilateral (e.g. The Quad), bilateral (e.g. US-India Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership, Indo-US. Collaboration in Environmental and Occupational Health), interagency (e.g. US CDC & NCDC Global Disease Detection Program, NIH & NIEHS US-India Collaborative Environmental Health Research Program), research, university, public-private, and organizational (e.g. Sustainable Action for Climate Health Alliance) collaborations.

FUTURE COLLABORATIONS should focus explicitly on the nexus of climate change and health, encourage integrated and transdisciplinary practice, fill capacity gaps among personnel, improve data collection and sharing, offer long term funding, and establish shared priorities between India & the US.

WHAT HINDERS PRODUCTIVE COLLABORATION BETWEEN INDIA AND THE US ON THE NEXUS OF CLIMATE CHANGE & HEALTH?

- Siloed health, environment, and policy sectors hinder robust intersectoral collaborations. Promoting cross-sectoral collaboration is essential.
- Climate change is politically contentious; framing it as a non-partisan health issue is crucial.
- Sustainability issues in collaboration projects as they struggle to make lasting impacts beyond their lifecycle.
- Limited awareness on climate change and health policies among environmentalists, the medical community, and biomedical scientists.
- Insufficient financial and workforce resources dedicated to climate change and human health research inhibit effective collaboration.
- Concerns about business interests, intellectual property, and disagreements complicate establishing shared priorities.
- Other vulnerabilities, like nutrition and economic needs, often outrank climate risks.
- Lack of environmental health education is a major gap; climate change and health literacy must be integrated into formal education.

"There are many groups in the US that are accustomed to working across multiple areas in a way that is not represented in India. A bilateral collaboration between the US and India can improve the reality of siloed approaches when addressing the climate change impacts on human health."

KEY INFORMANT

"Operating in a multisectoral way on the ground is hard. Data reporting is challenging. Climate data and infectious diseases data live in different places."

KEY INFORMANT

Want to recommend someone for us to interview for this study? Want to share information about specific India-US collaborations with us? We invite you to email anagar1@jh.edu and provide suggestions.



Panel Discussion

Bridging the Gap: Exploring the Role of AI in the Climate and Health Intersection

November 2023 | Washington DC

In collaboration with Dasra's ClimateRISE Alliance and Indiaspora

SPEAKERS

- **Sanjay Purohit**, Ex-Infosys and Chief Curator, Societal Thinking
- **Smisha Agarwal**, Associate Professor and Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Global Digital Health Innovation
- **Kate Schneider**, DCS Co-Faculty Lead, School of Advanced International Studies
- **Shefali V Mehta**, Founder and Principal, Open Rivers Consulting Associates
- **Abhirup Datta**, Associate Professor, Department of Biostatistics, Bloomberg School of Public Health
- *Moderator:* **Neera Nundy**, Founder, Dasra

As the health impacts of climate change intensify – ranging from heat stress and respiratory illness to vector-borne diseases – developing countries like India are particularly vulnerable. Underserved communities, such as the urban poor, indigenous populations, and women, face disproportionate risks. In this context, AI is emerging as a promising tool to strengthen health system responses, yet its potential at the climate-health nexus remains underexplored.

This roundtable brought together global experts in data science, biostatistics, digital health, philanthropy, and systems thinking to unpack how AI might help predict, mitigate, and adapt to climate-induced health challenges. The theme of the discussion was that AI, with its advanced data analysis and predictive capabilities, offers revolutionary solutions to tackle climate-related health challenges, marking a paradigm shift that's yet to be fully explored.

Key Takeaways

1

AI ISN'T ONE-SIZE-FITS-ALL

Abhirup Datta, Associate Professor, Department of Biostatistics, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, shared two real-world cases that highlight the promise and pitfalls of AI. In Baltimore, AI helped correct bias in low-cost air pollution sensors. In Mozambique, it struggled with cultural variations in mortality data. The cases underscore the importance of context and careful calibration when applying AI in public health.

2

DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE MATTERS

Smisha Agarwal, Associate Professor and Director of Johns Hopkins Center for Global Digital Health Innovation, highlighted that increased smartphone accessibility and affordable data packages has empowered citizens, shifting the dynamics of healthcare by enabling individuals to access healthcare services via their smartphones. She emphasized the importance of digital infrastructure and digital identity in healthcare, allowing the integration of various data sources, with the potential to revolutionize health outcomes by considering social, environmental, and agricultural determinants and targeting interventions more effectively.

3

BIAS AND EQUITY RISKS

Shefali V Mehta, Founder and Principal, Open Rivers Consulting Associates, offered two critical insights. She underscored the economic disparities in tackling climate change, with those in positions of power often shielded from its immediate effects, raising questions about their commitment to comprehensive solutions. She also highlighted that AI's inherent biases are rooted in human design, making it vital to restructure its foundation to mitigate biases, promoting equitable and meaningful change.

4

SCALING AS A DESIGN CHALLENGE

Acknowledging that the intersection of climate and health demands innovative, large-scale solutions that can mitigate the multiplying effects of climate-related health crises, Sanjay Purohit, Chief Curator, Societal Thinking, emphasized the importance of thinking beyond conventional, linear solutions when tackling exponential issues, stressing the need to treat scale as a design challenge rather than an implementation problem.

Roundtable Discussion

Global Food Systems and Policy

May 2025 | Hopkins India Conference, Washington DC

[Watch the Session](#)

This high-level roundtable was organized as part of the Hopkins India Conference 2025. The session convened global experts to explore the future of food systems amid worsening climate stress, widening inequality, and persistent nutrition deficits in low- and middle-income countries. The participants examined how to make sustainable, nutritious diets accessible and affordable, particularly in low- and middle-income countries like India.

SPEAKERS

- **Yan Bai**, Economist, The World Bank
- **James Thurlow**, Director, Foresight and Policy Modelling, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- **Noora-Lisa Aberman**, Research Lead, Gender Unit, The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)
- **Moderator: Neha Kumar**, Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI





Key Takeaways

1

THE “DOUBLE BURDEN” OF MALNUTRITION

Neha Kumar (IFPRI) opened with a preview of the [2024 Global Food Policy Report](#), highlighting the “double burden” of malnutrition as the defining food challenge of our time. She called attention to poor diet quality as the leading contributor to global disease, with India facing rising rates of anemia, obesity, and nutrient deficiencies despite increasing food availability.

2

POLICY TRADE-OFFS ARE COMPLEX

James Thurlow (IFPRI) examined the policy trade-offs between advancing diet quality and promoting economic development. His research showed that no single food value chain delivers universal benefits across poverty, jobs, and nutrition. Instead, he advocated for multi-sectoral investment portfolios tailored to national goals.

3

AFFORDABILITY IS A MAJOR BARRIER

Yan Bai (World Bank) introduced a critical equity lens, drawing from the World Bank’s global dashboard on diet affordability. He shared that over 50% of India’s population cannot afford the least-cost nutritious diet, due to both high prices of healthy foods like dairy and legumes, and income disparities. He emphasized the need for standardized affordability metrics to guide policy and investment decisions.

4

GENDER EQUITY IS NON-NEGOTIABLE

Noora-Lisa Aberman (GAIN) focused on gender inequality in food systems, noting that women – who form a large share of the agricultural workforce – often face restricted access to land, finance, and policy decision-making. She stressed that without gender-responsive policies, reforms risk reinforcing existing power imbalances.

Panel Discussion

Policy Actions for India-US Collaborations on Climate and Health



GIGI GRONVALL

Professor & Senior Scholar,
Johns Hopkins Center for
Health Security



KATHERINE HADDA

Sr Visiting Fellow, Chair on India and
Emerging Asian Economics, Center
for Strategic & International Studies



AISHWARYA NAGAR

Senior Analyst,
Johns Hopkins Center for
Health Security

The South Asian Times
US Print Media Partner

Diya

THE AMERICAN
BAZAAR

India

CSIS South Asian Herald
Online Media Partners

Panel Discussion

Policy Actions for India-U.S. Collaborations on Climate and Health

May 2025 | Hopkins India Conference, Washington DC

The panel explored India's climate strategy, including its commitments under the Paris Agreement and bold initiatives like leading the International Solar Alliance with its goal of reaching 450 GW of renewable energy by 2030. This session addressed how India and the U.S. can collaborate to advance climate resilience and sustainable development.

Indian climate policy leaders on the panel spoke about balancing economic growth with emissions reduction, emphasizing India's push for solar and wind energy, electric mobility, and climate-smart agriculture. U.S. scientists and policy specialists highlighted areas for joint research, such as climate-resilient crop varieties, air pollution mitigation in cities, and improving climate data sharing.

SPEAKERS

- **Katherine Hadda**, Senior Visiting Fellow, CSIS
- **Aishwarya Nagar**, Senior Analyst, Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security
- **Moderator: Gigi Gronvall**, Senior Scholar, Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security and a Professor in the Department of Environmental Health and Engineering

Key Takeaways

1

KNOWLEDGE PARTNERSHIPS ARE CRITICAL

The panel emphasized the importance of knowledge partnerships in this field. The speakers recognized the need for public health and engineering experts to collaborate with Indian institutions to study the health impacts of climate change and develop adaptive solutions. For GKII, this thematic discussion underlined an important lesson: addressing climate change is inherently interdisciplinary and international. Solutions will require scientists, policymakers, and communities from both countries working together.

2

INDIA - U.S. COLLABORATION OFFERS POWERFUL SYNERGIES

A key focus was on climate justice and adaptation: panelists discussed how to protect vulnerable communities in India, from farmers facing erratic rains to urban poor during floods, through measures like early warning systems, insurance, and climate-resilient infrastructure. The conversation recognized that technology transfer and green finance from the U.S. could bolster India's efforts, while India's large-scale deployment of clean energy technologies offers lessons in cost reduction and innovation.

Hopkins India Conference 2025

The sessions on **Global Food Systems and Policy** and **Policy Actions for India-US Collaborations on Climate and Health** were hosted as part of **Hopkins India Conference 2025** at Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg Center in Washington D.C.



Located in close proximity to major international agencies, embassies, and global think tanks, the venue offered more than just a prestigious setting – it provided a strategic platform to engage key decision-makers at the heart of global policy. More than **600 in-person attendees** participated over two days, representing academia, government agencies, NGOs, businesses, and the Indian diaspora.

Opportunities for Partnership

As we navigate a changing political landscape and resource constraints, we will continue to work on our collaborations across academic, government, and civil society institutions in India and at JHU. By fostering interdisciplinary research, advancing equity-driven policy engagement, and supporting the next generation of faculty and student leaders, we aim to drive action that is both locally grounded and globally informed.

Our focus will remain on advancing equitable, interdisciplinary approaches that bridge science and real-world impact. In the years ahead, GKII aims to expand faculty and student exchanges, deepen institutional collaborations, and invest in scalable innovations.

To build on the momentum of recent efforts, GKII has identified **two** priority areas that align with our long-term vision and offer meaningful opportunities for continued partnership.

Hopkins India Conference

Bringing the best of Hopkins and India together

Our flagship annual conference has become a vital convening space for researchers, policy leaders, innovators, and students. Sustained support will help us scale the event and spotlight emerging themes such as climate resilience, AI for public health, One Health, and food security.

- ✔ India's leadership in digital public goods and climate action is expanding. **Your support will enable us to build an influential convening platform on climate, health, and innovation.**
- ✔ By leveraging the unique ecosystem of Washington D.C., and other strategically selected venues, the annual conference will **respond to the growing demand for South-led frameworks on resilience and foster a dynamic multi-stakeholder platform where the global financial agenda is actively shaped.**
- ✔ Timely insights from academia are needed to inform evidence-based policy. The GKII Annual Conference **with its distinctive faculty-led format strengthens real-world policy engagement through academic discourse.**

Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (DSAI) Research & Fellowship

Training the next generation of innovators

AI is transforming healthcare by enhancing diagnostics, predicting outbreaks, and optimizing health systems all of which can radically improve outcomes for underserved communities. Johns Hopkins University, through GKII, proposes the **DSAI Breakthrough Grants** as a catalytic initiative to advance responsible and equitable AI solutions for health and social impact.

With a powerful **tri-party co-funding model**, these grants will **unlock \$1 million** in joint research, bringing together JHU's world-class faculty with leading Indian institutions such as IIT Bombay, IISc Bangalore, and Ashoka University. By embedding early-career researchers and fellows within these collaborations, the program will **seed a robust talent pipeline equipped with cutting-edge AI skills, ethical frameworks, and cross-cultural perspectives**.

✓ India's vast health datasets and emerging digital infrastructure offer a unique opportunity for high-impact AI applications. The DSAI Breakthrough Grants aim to use this opportunity to **support 5–10 high-impact projects over 24 months**, each designed to generate peer-reviewed research, prototypes, policy insights, and tools that can scale and attract follow-on investment.

✓ This initiative is not merely about research funding; it is a **strategic investment in the Hopkins research enterprise** and a signal of its commitment to global collaboration.

✓ By **positioning JHU at the heart of India's AI and health innovation ecosystem**, the DSAI Breakthrough Grants will strengthen institutional ties and demonstrate how AI can be harnessed responsibly to address urgent global health challenges.



The synergy between India's priorities – like healthcare, sustainability, and agriculture – and Johns Hopkins' \$2 billion investment in AI is striking. There's immense potential to align our work in data science and AI with India's national goals."

- Dr. Sridevi Sarma, Professor of Biomedical Engineering and Vice Dean for Graduate Education, Whiting School of Engineering

For inquiries, contact us.

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The **Gupta-Klinsky India Institute (GKII) at Johns Hopkins University** mobilizes global expertise to solve critical challenges in India, fostering collaboration across education, research, policy and practice.

<https://indiainstitute.jhu.edu/>