

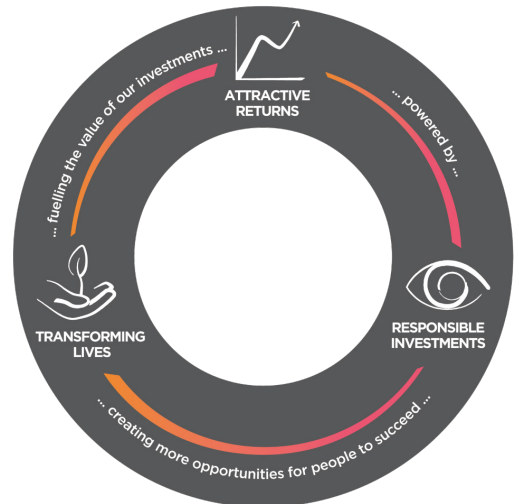
TRANSFORMING LIVES - NEW GRANT TO SHIVIA



OUR VIRTUOUS CIRCLE PHILOSOPHY

Alquity connects investors to their investments and social progress to deliver better financial outcomes for all. Our **3-D investment model** delivers financial performance and catalytic capital for grassroots impact through our Transforming Lives Foundation. Through **the commitment of donating 10% of our net fee revenues** to social enterprises, we aim to address social and economic challenges in developing countries that may be overlooked, creating a **virtuous circle** that is essential to building strong, inclusive economies. To date, we have generated **over \$2,600,000 donations and transformed over 65,000 lives.**

A tangible and evidence example of how our Virtuous Circle works is Shivia.



INTRODUCTION TO SHIVIA

Shivia was founded in 2008 and is a UK registered charity working in both India and Madagascar. They offer families living below the internationally recognised poverty line the **tools and training to start a small agricultural enterprise** from home. As part of their mission to permanently improve the lives of marginalised and disadvantaged people, Shivia is committed to ensuring that their beneficiaries are able to earn a decent and living income. Today Shivia is working in nine locations in three of India's poorest states: West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand, and three locations in Madagascar. In each location they have teamed up with a fully vetted, local NGO in order to gain access to the communities in most need, identify beneficiaries and deliver the toolkits and training.



SHIVIA
LIVELIHOODS WITH DIGNITY

SHIVIA'S POULTRY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES - HOW IT WORKS

Shivia's 'flagship' programme is called Poultry Development Services which they launched in 2011 in the rural villages close to Kolkata. The **programme provides women with a 'toolkit' so that they can earn money from raising chickens and selling the produce** - mature chickens and eggs. For many women, **this is the first opportunity they have to earn their own money**. Each toolkit contains 10 chicks, starter feed and vaccinations and, very importantly, the handholding and training the women need to create a successful and profitable enterprise from home. The toolkits are delivered by a team of locally recruited staff - men and women from the villages who understand the problems faced by the poorest members of their community. The average unit cost of each toolkit, including training programme, is £20.

Since the first toolkit was delivered in 2011, Shivia has worked with over 18,000 beneficiaries and **transformed the lives of at least 100,000 family members**. In 2015, **Alquity Transforming Lives Foundation chose to support Shivia** and the poultry farming programme by providing a grant to help 300 women start their own small chicken farming enterprise. We were struck by how this simple, low-cost programme was a **catalyst for lasting change within some of India's most impoverished communities**. The team at Shivia were able to demonstrate that, by empowering women to earn, families can thrive. Impact studies revealed that children become healthier and better educated as a result of the increase in household income.

Over the years Shivia has modified the poultry farming programme to suit the changing needs of the people they work with. After the initial training period, they organise women into groups so that they can order chicks, feed and vaccinations at wholesale prices, with the **ultimate goal of making them completely independent of Shivia**. Shivia's impact assessment data show that when women graduate from the programme they are armed with new skills and confidence to significantly grow their chicken farming business or start a new business enterprise altogether. There are numerous examples of women who have gone on to start a small grocery shop, roadside tea stall, or tailoring service.

TRANSFORMING LIVES IN CHHATTISGARH - OUR NEW GRANT TO SHIVIA

In 2024, Shivia will expand into a new area in India within the state of Chhattisgarh and work with 400 beneficiaries on the Poultry Development Services Programme. This January, through our Transforming Lives Foundation we have donated £ 20,000 to Shivia to **support the first year of the programme there**, providing toolkits and training to 200 women in order to transform their lives and those of their families.



DELIVERING PROGRESS TOWARDS THE UN SDGs

Hence, our funds, through our Transforming Lives Foundation, are aligned with the United National Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). Through Shiva's poultry development services, with this grant **we, and our investors and clients, are contributing to:**

- Helping to eradicate poverty in rural Chhattisgarh (SDG 1)
- Empowering over 200 women to generate a living income on its own for the very first time (SDG 5)
- Creating employment opportunities for the most disadvantaged and boosting household income (SDG 8)
- Reducing inequality within India (SDG 10)





Alquity
TRANSFORMING
LIVES
FOUNDATION

www.alquityfoundation.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ALQUITY, PLEASE CONTACT

HEAD OF SUSTAINABILITY

Suresh Mistry

+44 7973 309687

suresh.mistry@alquity.com



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