

# Ronald Cohen's Impact may get \$2b for India

*GSG, which will largely play the role of an incubator for both funds, is currently meeting stakeholders, entrepreneurs and funds for the same.* [Taslima Khan](#) | CCIPAGESET | February 14, 2018, 08:29 IST

[inShare2](#)



In another key development which nails India's popularity as a growing destination for global impact investment funds, global buyout shop Apax Partners cofounder [Ronald Cohen](#), Chairman of the Global Steering Group on Impact Investing (GSGII) has announced setting up two major impact investment funds in India. The funds, namely India Education Outcomes Fund and India Impact Fund of Funds will be \$1 billion each and are targetted to be raised by 2030.

GSG, which will largely play the role of an incubator for both funds, is currently meeting stakeholders, entrepreneurs and funds for the same. Both the billion-dollar funds are expected to make the first close worth \$100 million by October this year and will kickstart the investments next year.

"Impact is mainstream in India now. These will be two large catalytic vehicles. We are starting a series of consultations in India which will culminate into a launch in October this year," said Ronald Cohen, Chairman, GSG who is also Co-Founder and Director of Social Finance UK, Social Finance USA, Social Finance Israel. He also founded the British [Venture Capital](#) Association and the European Venture Capital Association.

"Outcome-based philanthropy is designed to attract private capital which harnesses entrepreneurs and innovation. That is a massive change in the traditional impact investing model," he said.

The India Impact Fund of Funds will target large institutional investors like development finance institutions like IFC and foundations.

"While there is enough equity going around, there is paucity of affordable debt [funding](#) to enterprises in India. The Fund of Funds is will provide long term affordable debt capital to be invested in impact enterprises through debt asset managers," said Amit Bhatia, CEO, GSG. Bhatia said they will reach out to Indian diaspora numbering over 25 million for the fund pool for the India Impact Fund of Funds which will be making investments across all impact sectors including Agriculture, clean energy, financial inclusion, healthcare, affordable housing, water and sanitation.

GSG's India Education Outcomes Fund which will work towards improving the quality of education in the K12 segment. It will raise the corpus from national and international aid agencies, philanthropists, CSR initiatives and HNIs. A team under Social Finance India will be managing the fund and will be set up as a non-profit.

Members already on board from India include [Nishith Desai, Managing Partner at Nishith Desai Associates](#) and Vivek Pandit, Senior Partner with McKinsey and Co.