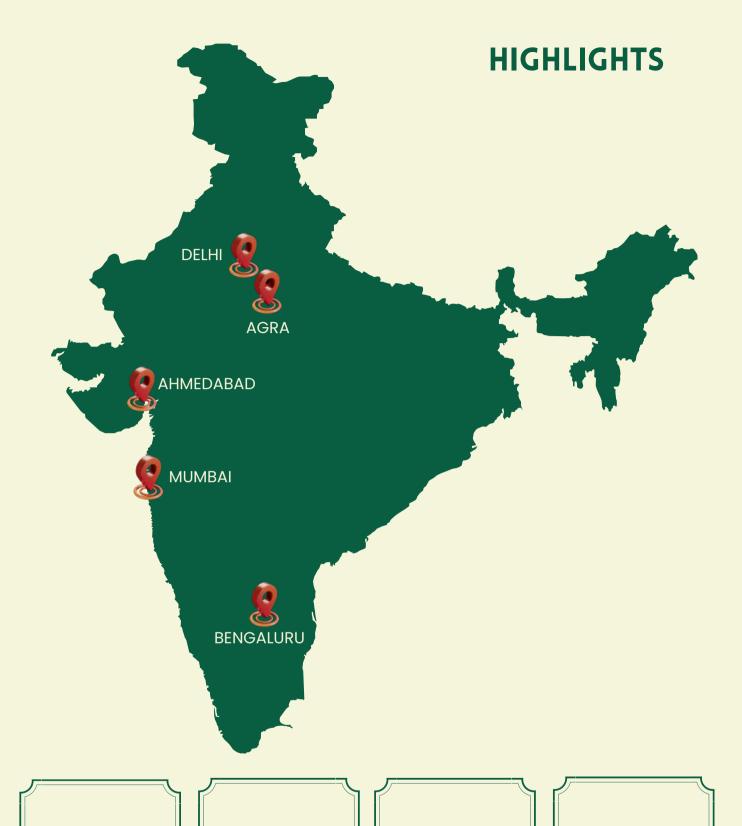
# LEADERSHIP COLLECTIVE





34 participants

7 countries

5 Indian cities

21 days

200+ hours of workshops, seminars & activities Interactions with around 10 grassroot organizations

~2500 kilometers of travel 11 leaders from 3 nationalities

# INTRODUCTION

The 360Plus Leadership Collective is a fully funded leadership development program that brings together high school students (ages 16-19) from across the globe to engage in immersive, cross-cultural learning experiences. This year, the virtual preparation phase began in May 2025, and the journey continued in July 2025 with an on-ground experiential summit across three Indian states- Delhi, Gujarat, and Karnataka - with a brief stop in Mumbai. Anchored in the theme of Climate Citizenship, the program included community visits, cultural exchange, and leadership workshops. The 2025 cohort comprised 34 students from the United States, India, Ghana, Madagascar, South Africa, France, and Bhutan, who came together to explore their roles as active climate citizens and young leaders. The Collective fostered critical thinking, empathy, and action-oriented leadership through local engagement and global dialogue.

What followed was a three-week odyssey, an exploration of cities, ideas, and human connections that left an indelible mark on both the places visited and the young leaders themselves.



# DELHI

The journey began in Delhi, where the students were welcomed with warmth and an orientation that set the tone for the weeks ahead. The capital unfolded its many layers, from the grandeur of the President's House to the serenity of Gurudwara Bangla Sahib and the quiet depths of Agrasen ki Baoli.

Exploring the Red Fort, the spice scented lanes of Chandni Chowk, and Jama Masjid was a plunge into the city's living history, capped with an unforgettable meal at the legendary Karim's.

Between these cultural explorations, students engaged in creative workshops and a tree-plantation drive for the LC grove, grounding their experience in reflection, artistry, and service.





### AHMEDABAD

Ahmedabad became a classroom where sustainability, history, and culture converged. Beginning at the Centre for Environment Education, students examined climate change in the Indian context, before walking through the city's heritage spaces to see how urban planning intersects with environmental realities. The Sabarmati Riverfront provoked discussions on displacement, while the quiet of Polo Forest offered a contrast of natural abundance. At Gandhi Ashram and Kalam Khush, they engaged with Gandhian ideals, and a visit to Thol's rural landscape revealed traditional water structures. farming practices, and sustainable living. Evenings came alive with garba, cultural performances, and dinners that celebrated Gujarat's vibrancy, weaving together the intellectual and the experiential.

# MUMBAI

Mumbai, with its restless energy, brought the Collective into dialogue with innovation and community spirit. At MUSO, students reflected on how corporations and civil society shape responses to sustainability and urban challenges. A donor interactive dinner became a memorable highlight- an evening of gratitude and connection where students shared their personal stories and the impact of the journey with supporters who had made it possible. The city's history revealed itself at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya, while its unpredictability culminated in a dramatic downpour at the Gateway of India, where the group made a final stop before rushing to the airport- drenched, exhilarated, and carrying Mumbai's spirit with them.





### BENGALURU

The final leg in Bengaluru was both an exploration and a culmination. Days were filled with theatre workshops, reflective writing, and immersive sessions on sustainability- from waste management with Hasiru Dala to a citizen science nature walk and a Reap Benefits workshop. Yet, it was the closing exhibition that became the heart of this chapter: students stood before their peers and mentors, showcasing their work and retracing their three-week journey across India. What followed was a tearful, heartfelt goodbye. The bonds forged over shared experiences and discoveries felt too precious to let go of easily, and students promised each other to remain connected, to meet again, and to carry the spirit of the Collective forward into their lives beyond the program.

# AGRA & DEPARTURE

As a final gift, the group journeyed to Agra to stand before the timeless beauty of the Taj Mahal, a fitting symbol of endurance and wonder at the end of an unforgettable trip. The next day, as departures began, the air was heavy with emotion: suitcases rolled, hugs lingered, and promises to return to each other's lives were exchanged. Though the journey had ended, its echoes of friendship, growth, and discovery remained alive in every heart.



The 2025 Leadership Collective journey was more than a trip- it was a tapestry of experiences woven from history, culture, service, and friendship. From Delhi's bustling markets to Ahmedabad's lessons in sustainability, from Mumbai's conversations with changemakers to Bengaluru's reflective closure, every moment deepened the students' understanding of themselves and their responsibilities as climate citizens. Standing before the Taj Mahal on the final day, the cohort reflected not only on the beauty of what they had seen but also on the bonds they had built - bonds that stretched across continents and would continue far beyond this summer.

Though their suitcases are unpacked and their flights have landed, the journey of the Collective continues in each of them- as leaders, as global citizens, and as young people who now carry with them the promise to act, connect, and create change in the world.

These city experiences shaped not only what the students saw and learned but also how they began to reflect on themselves and one another.







While the itinerary highlighted the places visited and activities undertaken, the students' own voices bring their life journey. Their testimonials capture how these moments translated into personal growth, resilience, and deeper connections.

#### Roshani

Roshani beautifully described the program as "not just made up with a bunch of people...but with voices of young leaders, human sentiments, and climatic actions." From dancing garba in Ahmedabad to feeling like a CEO at Infosys, she found a new side of herself in each city and now proudly calls herself a "young climatic citizen."



#### Michelle

Michelle described the trip as "truly life-changing", noting that no one in her family had ever travelled this far before. Though she struggled with homesickness at the start, she overcame it and left feeling more inspired about her future, especially the importance of turning ideas into action.



### Siyasanga

For Siyasanga, the program revealed her hidden leadership skills and gave her the confidence to speak in front of crowds, something she says she'll never be shy about again. She cherishes the friendships she made, saying, "Everyone made my journey to be fun, I love them so much."



#### **Enis**

Enis emphasized how the trip made him more informed about climate change, saying, "If we didn't participate in this program, we would not be informed like this." A highlight for him was visiting the Taj Mahal, which he described as a "magic" moment. Inspired by the experience, he wants to work with associations in his community to fight climate change.

#### **Festus**

Festus expressed deep gratitude to the leaders and friends who made his journey special, especially the surprise birthday celebration that he will "never forget." The program taught him decision-making, problem-solving, and the importance of preserving nature, lessons he hopes to take back to his community.



#### Sagar

For Sagar, the most powerful change was becoming more conscious of his actions—like carrying a plastic bottle until he found a dustbin. He treasures the memory of sharing Indian sweets with international peers, calling it the first real connection with them, and learned that "every small to big creature has its role in maintaining the ecosystem."





#### **Daphne**

Daphne reflected on her personal biases and how the trip taught her that "humanity is transcendent." Engaging with locals, she discovered a deeper perspective on Indian culture and climate action that challenged the media narratives she had believed. For her, the program was less about academics and more about "real life lessons to always reach outside the books for answers."

Alongside their testimonials, students chronicled their journey in short blogs, capturing daily experiences, insights, and memorable encounters. Their writings move from descriptions of historic landmarks and cultural activities to reflections on leadership, climate change, and friendship.

Some entries emphasized the excitement of discovery, such as first plane rides, visits to bustling Indian markets, or the wonder of ancient temples and architecture. Others highlighted personal challenges, adjusting to new foods, overcoming shyness, or embracing creative exercises that initially felt intimidating. Many students also reflected on climate and sustainability, from learning about recycling cigarette butts into useful products in Delhi to connecting with nature during hikes in Ahmedabad.

What shines through in these blogs is the blend of curiosity, vulnerability, and growth. Each student's perspective adds to the mosaic of the collective journey, showing how an international group of young leaders can come together to learn, adapt, and inspire one another across borders.

**Sherly:** Sherly's reflections highlight her growth through cultural immersion in Delhi, learning about climate change and sustainability in Ahmedabad, and creatively exploring solutions in Bengaluru. Despite initial challenges like adapting to new food, she embraced new friendships, interactive learning, and artistic expression, leaving her inspired by how small initiatives can spark meaningful change. (Know more)

**Michelle:** Michelle cherished the cultural immersion in Delhi, especially visiting the temple and sharing a communal meal. She was deeply inspired in Mumbai by conversations with donors and industry leaders who encouraged her passion for climate solutions. (Know more)

**Serenity:** Serenity described Ahmedabad as her favorite, reflecting deeply on how urban spaces can integrate greenery and balance with nature, while in Delhi and Mumbai, she connected art, rain, and everyday experiences to lessons on growth and climate awareness. (Know more)

**Ariel:** Ariel's journey was filled with moments of reflection—from her first solo international flight to hikes in Ahmedabad, creative exchanges in Bengaluru, and a heartfelt donor dinner in Mumbai—leaving her grateful for friendships, self-discovery, and the power of shared experiences. (Know more)

**Ty-Kira:** Ty-Kira reflects with warmth and honesty on her time in India—finding comfort in familiar flavors during a short Mumbai stay, admiring skylines that reminded her of home, and embracing Delhi's cultural contrasts with gratitude, compassion, and curiosity. (Know more)

**Eddie**: Eddie emphasized how quickly friendships blossomed across continents and how Ahmedabad, in particular, taught him that even small daily choices matter when addressing climate change, leaving him inspired to be more mindful of his role in the world. (Know more)

**Raeann**: Raeann treasured the cultural immersion in Delhi, the beauty of Ahmedabad's heritage and forests, and the excitement of museums in Mumbai and Bengaluru—but above all, she cherished the bonds she formed, calling the Collective her "second home." (Know more)

**Giovanni:** Giovanni reflected on Delhi's temples, history, and bustling spice markets, drawing deep personal connections between service, acceptance, and the mentors who shaped his own life back home. (*Know more*)

**Kacen:** Kacen described Mumbai as a whirlwind of experiences—interactive museums, heartfelt sponsor dinners filled with stories and laughter, and a soaking downpour at the Gateway of India—that left him with unforgettable memories.

(Know more)

**Daphne**: Daphne connected each city to her passions, from exploring femininity in Bengaluru's art and theatre to reflecting on plant "intelligence" in Ahmedabad and sharing her environmental science journey at Mumbai's sponsor dinner, deepening her commitment to climate action. (Know more)

**Mary**: Mary found Delhi vibrant and transformative, Ahmedabad tranquil and restorative, and Mumbai both playful and profound—particularly the Museum of Solutions and sponsor dinner—leaving her with a deeper appreciation of nature, culture, and community. (Know more)

**Judah**: Judah reflected warmly on Delhi's vibrant culture, Ahmedabad's stunning architecture and welcoming people, and Mumbai's dazzling energy—experiences that deepened his sense of connection, discovery, and gratitude. (Know more)

**Siyasanga**: Siyasanga embraced each city's contrasts—from the serenity of Ahmedabad's forests and waterfalls to the vibrancy of Mumbai's skyline and the emotions of Bengaluru's closing ceremony—linking climate change learning with personal growth. (Know more)

**Ntokozo**: Ntokozo's journey was filled with meaningful lessons, from meditating in Ahmedabad's forests to honoring Mandela Day in a village school, exploring Delhi's history, and discovering the creativity of Bengaluru's theatre scene. (Know more)

**Isma**: Isma was struck by the contrasts and coexistence she saw across India, from the vertical divide of Mumbai to the spiritual richness of Ahmedabad and the creativity of Bengaluru, leaving her with new perspectives on culture and climate. (Know more)

**Enis**: Enis highlighted his awe at India's diversity—from sustainability innovations at Infosys in Bengaluru to playful learning at Mumbai's Museum of Solutions and hikes through Ahmedabad's ancient landscapes—experiences that broadened his view of climate, culture, and community. (Know more)

**Debyasini**: Debyasini's journey through Delhi, Ahmedabad, Mumbai, and Bengaluru was filled with cultural discovery, hands-on climate learning, and joyful group tasks, with highlights including nature meditation, creative workshops, and emotional closing reflections. (Know more)

**Roshani**: Roshani embraced every experience—from Delhi's monuments to Bengaluru's climate theatre and Infosys visit—seeing them as opportunities to grow her leadership, creativity, and sense of global responsibility. (Know more)

**Sita**: Sita shared her reflections in poetic form, weaving together lessons from museums, forests, and historic sites to highlight resilience, equality, and the deep bond between humanity and nature. (Know more)

**Punam**: Punam's blogs beautifully captured her wonder at Cubbon Park, the Gateway of India, and Ahmedabad's biodiversity, emphasizing her growing connection to nature and history through mindful observation and discovery. (Know more)

**Yash**: Yash's blogs capture a journey of firsts—his first plane ride, first time meeting international peers, and first experiences of Delhi's historic sites, Ahmedabad's cultural heritage, Mumbai's vibrant spirit, and Bengaluru's climate and innovation. From tree meditation and heritage walks to inspiring encounters with innovators and leaders, his reflections highlight personal growth, cultural pride, and lasting friendships built along the way. (Know more)

**Toyiba**: Toyiba described her travels with warmth and humor—from group bonding and climate theatre in Bengaluru to rainsoaked adventures in Mumbai and soulful walks in Ahmedabad—calling the trip a journey of growth, laughter, and friendship. (Know more)

**Swayan**: Swayan's reflections weave together emotion, creativity, and connection—whether designing solutions for local vendors in Bengaluru, dancing Garba in Ahmedabad, or engaging with leaders in Mumbai and Delhi, he emphasizes friendship, cultural pride, and climate responsibility as the heart of his journey. (Know more)

**Sanjay**: Sanjay's blogs carefully document each step of the Collective—from heritage walks and rural immersions in Ahmedabad to creative sustainability workshops in Delhi and celebrations in Mumbai—capturing both the joy of cultural exchange and the seriousness of climate learning. (Know more)

**Rohini**: Rohini's writings stand out for their depth and clarity, framing every city through a climate lens—be it learning from waste pickers in Bengaluru, heritage architecture in Ahmedabad, or cultural connections in Mumbai and Delhi—while also revealing her personal journey of slowing down, observing, and embracing small steps toward change. (Know more)

**Sagar**: Sagar's journey shines with curiosity and detail—from citizen science in Bengaluru and heritage walks in Ahmedabad to Delhi's hidden gems—his reflections show how culture, history, and nature together shaped his understanding of climate and community. (Know more)

**Swamy**: Swamy writes with warmth and inspiration, blending the beauty of cultural welcomes in Ahmedabad, lessons of nature at CEE and Polo Forest, and unforgettable connections with leaders in Mumbai and Delhi into a story of learning, gratitude, and purpose. (Know more)

**Nishita**: Nishita's reflections are poetic and deeply personal—whether linking theatre and climate change in Bengaluru, exploring heritage and community in Ahmedabad, or slowing down to feel the quiet wisdom of a mud house in Delhi, she captures how small moments hold transformative meaning. (Know more)

**Neha**: Neha brings a grounded, heartfelt perspective—balancing the joy of returning to her hometown Bengaluru, the excitement of sponsor interactions in Mumbai, and the wonder of exploring Ahmedabad and Delhi—she highlights how every step opened new doors for learning and career dreams. (Know more)

**Rakshitha**: Rakshitha's writing is structured, insightful, and reflective, capturing the program's flow—from theatre and climate prototyping in Bengaluru, to nature walks and heritage in Ahmedabad, and civic learning in Delhi—she frames each experience as part of a larger journey of leadership and cultural connection. (Know more)

**Damchoe**: Damchoe's journey is filled with warmth and gratitude—from playful theatre in Bengaluru and reflective treks in Ahmedabad to sponsor dinners in Mumbai and an emotional closing in Delhi—he captures how every city offered a mix of learning, culture, and connection. (Know more)

**Desum**: For Desum, the Leadership Collective was a first flight, a first time outside his country, and a doorway to endless discovery—his reflections on Delhi's monuments, Mumbai's museums, and Bengaluru's sustainability lessons reveal a deep curiosity and growing sense of responsibility. (Know more)

**Festus**: Festus writes with honesty and enthusiasm, describing the joy of food, weather, and friendships alongside reflections on sustainability, nature, and culture in Delhi, Ahmedabad, Mumbai, and Bengaluru—his blog highlights both excitement and thoughtful learning. (Know more)

**Alida**: Alida's blogs are poetic, emotive, and full of imagery—from meditating on equality in the Gurudwara, to crying during climate theatre in Bengaluru, to rediscovering childlike wonder in Mumbai, to listening to nature's silence in Ahmedabad—she weaves travel into a soulful reflection on people, art, and the planet. (Know more)

# **TEAM**



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Tabish Bilal



Mohit Raj



Cedric Nukeri



Eleena George



Arbeena Jan



Priyanka Sreshtha



Gaurang Raval



Divy Bhagia



Shubhra **Aswal** 



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