



एकम dialogues

संवाद से निर्माण

**Building Regional Resilience for
India's Resource-Rich Heartlands**





About EKAM

EKAM Dialogues is a multi-stakeholder, multi-regional platform rooted in the idea of **oneness** - not as an abstraction, but as lived reality.

Anchored in India's eastern and central heartland - **Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, and Odisha**, EKAM brings together communities, changemakers, policymakers, researchers, youth, and practitioners to **listen deeply, think collectively, and build solutions that are grounded in place.**

This region is not on the margins of India's story. It has shaped the nation, culturally, economically, ecologically, and politically. EKAM recognises this shared legacy, and looks ahead towards futures that are **resilient, inclusive, and rooted in regional strengths.**





The EKAM Landscape

The region covering **Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Bihar and Odisha** is among India's most **resource-rich and ecologically significant geographies**. Its mineral wealth, dense forests, and indigenous heritage have long been the backbone of India's **industrial progress, energy security, and cultural identity**.

Today, the region stands at a pivotal moment, where its strengths can be harnessed to address pressing challenges and **unlock new opportunities**. Key priorities include:



Addressing climate risks (extreme weather, biodiversity loss, land degradation) to secure long-term resilience



Reducing socio-economic disparities and advancing the wellbeing of vulnerable and indigenous communities



Diversifying beyond traditional resource-based economies to foster more sustainable and resilient livelihoods



Enhancing visibility in national narratives and investments to position the region as a leader in green and inclusive growth



Contributing meaningfully to India's **Viksit Bharat 2047** vision by shaping a development pathway that is regionally grounded, climate-aligned, and socially inclusive

This combination of rich assets and urgent priorities underscores the need for a **region-first, future-ready platform**.



EKAM Dialogues : Oneness in Action

EKAM Dialogues is a **collective initiative to surface past wisdom, reckon with the present, and co-create a resilient future.** It is designed not just as a dialogue space but as a **living process of transformation.**

EKAM's framework:



Samvad (Dialogue): Catalyzing meaningful, solution-driven conversations across communities, policymakers, industries, and knowledge institutions.



Nirman (Co-creation): Designing region-specific, future-ready pathways that blend **cultural imagination, policy innovation, and grassroots leadership**

EKAM is a space where:

- Conversations come together across sectors and generations
- Regions speak in their own voices, on their own terms
- Ideas are shaped through listening, dialogue, and trust





Key Themes of the Dialogues

EKAM Dialogues will explore resilience through multiple, interconnected lenses:



People-Led Resilience

Communities as co-creators of governance, development, and adaptation.



Livelihoods & Local Economies

Dignified work, regional industries, and nature-based livelihoods as foundations of growth.



Culture as Living Knowledge

Art, food, folklore, and indigenous practices as engines of sustainability and continuity.



Technology & Youth-Led Futures

Data, innovation, and digital tools grounded in context and community needs.



Systems & Scalable Action

Strengthening institutions, planning processes, and multi-sectoral collaboration at the subnational level.



Capital with Commitment

Empowering communities and ecosystems through long-term financing.





Celebrating Changemakers

At the heart of EKAM are the people shaping resilient futures every day.

EKAM Dialogues will honour **regional changemakers** - individuals and collectives whose work reflects innovation, courage, and deep commitment to communities and ecosystems. Their stories will anchor the dialogues, inspiring learning, reflection, and action - especially among young people.



A Platform Rooted in the Region

EKAM draws strength from the shared eco-cultural fabric of eastern and central India - its tribal life worlds, traditional knowledge systems, industrial-resource geographies, women's leadership, and vast human capital.

It is from this ground that EKAM seeks to build - **collaboratively, respectfully, and with purpose.**





One Platform, Diverse Voices

EKAM Dialogues convenes a powerful cross-section of voices shaping the future of India's resource-rich heartlands. From **policymakers** and **government leaders** to **private sector pioneers**, from **academics** and research institutions to **civil society organisations** and **grassroots networks**, EKAM brings together those who influence systems and those who live their realities.

Community leaders and indigenous knowledge holders anchor the conversations, while **artists, storytellers, and creatives** expand the imagination of what resilience can look like. **Philanthropy and impact funders** join this ecosystem to catalyse scale and sustained action. Rooted in Samvaad (dialogue) and driven towards Nirmaan (co-creation), EKAM is where diverse leadership converges, not just to exchange ideas, but to build pathways for inclusive, region-led transformation.





About the Convenor

Center for Environment and Energy Development (CEED) is a solution-driven organisation working at the intersection of climate action, energy transitions, public health, and development, particularly at the **subnational level**.

CEED's work is rooted in the belief that meaningful climate action emerges where **community realities, policy intent, and systems thinking converge**. Through on-ground engagement, research, and partnerships, CEED supports regions and communities to strengthen resilience, enable sustainable livelihoods, and navigate the next phase of growth responsibly.

By convening platforms like **EKAM Dialogues**, CEED brings together diverse voices, across sectors, geographies, and generations to foster dialogue, collaboration, and shared pathways towards a more inclusive and resilient future.

