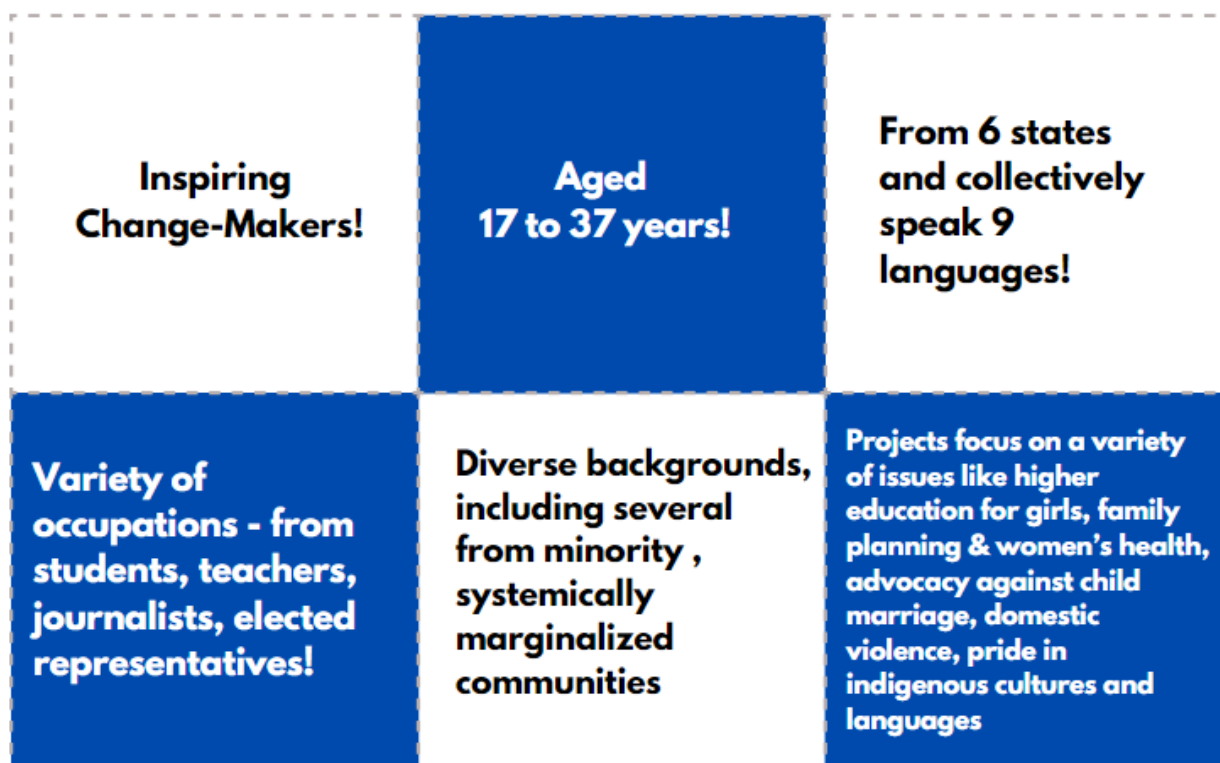


## A Journey Of Empowerment - Me, My Fellows And My Community!

Traditionally, learning spaces in most educational set-ups have been conditioned to get learners to some level in their subjects. Emphasis on learning from each other, the surrounding environment and the presiding community often gets sidelined. The definition of success in these spaces has often been confined to a specific unit- individual, project or organization. While the modern day learning spaces have evolved to include experiential learning methods focusing on a multi-dimensional success lens including case analysis, strategy and leadership frameworks, these still remain accessible only to a specific section of the society.

But what if we extend the definition of success to include collective growth for people surrounding us, our local community, and the entire global community? What if success could be failing at something, unlearning and innovating at one's own pace? This could possibly result in a happier, loving and caring space where all stakeholders live in synergy complementing each other! While this might sound like the most perfect Utopian world in theory, a group of 12 grass-root women leaders from across India have set-out to experience a space like this!

### Who are these 12 grass-roots leaders?



## What is their learning space?

The Starling India Collective is aimed at facilitating a shift in the way grassroots leaders recognise themselves as leaders and influencers who have the ability to leverage existing networks and movement building techniques towards positive change in their communities. The seven month fellowship is also aimed at facilitating space for deep reflection, learning and sharing among grassroots leaders from around the country to reflect the power of multiple hyperlocal community changemakers and actions combining to create systemic change.

## What's so unique about this learning space?

### A journey, not a destination

The fellowship is a learning journey for all these change-makers to reflect, learn, and evolve at their own pace. It doesn't end at the 7- month period. We hope these support networks will sustain organically and bring out meaningful change in the communities.

### A space for collaboration at all levels

The module content and delivery is designed such that the fellows have the opportunity to learn from their peers and the larger community. It intends to amplify the collective power of a group/community while also unleashing their own leadership qualities.

### A pool of skills & approaches contextualized for real-time action

From leadership, story-telling, data, building transformational relationships and resource mobilization, each module is geared towards empowering the fellows to not only build skills but also experience using them within their projects & communities. The content is highly tailored to suit the cultural and socio-economic background of the fellows offering them a comfortable space to learn.

### A new definition of success

The fellowship will give an opportunity to each fellow to craft their own definition of 'success' rather than imposing a common one. A fear of overcoming an inner pattern is an equally important success factor as is starting a youth club in the village for community development. While we aim to celebrate every small change and transformation, we also want them to celebrate mistakes/failures as just another form of 'success'.

## Who is behind creating this learning space?

The Starling India Collective is a collaboration of six partner organizations ([Breakthrough](#), [C3](#), [GivingTuesday](#), [Haiyya](#), [Milaan](#) and Pratham) who have come together to co-design and deliver a leadership and community building fellowship for grassroots community leaders in India. Each of the six partner organizations co-own the fellowship currently in its pilot phase, with GivingTuesday as the anchor partner. Each partner organization has contributed one module to the collaboratively designed curriculum, which will be delivered virtually between August 2023 and February 2024.

Does this sound exciting to you? If it does, wait for our next update on how these fellows are thriving in these learning spaces!

PS: Were you a part of any such/different learning space? Write to us on how your journey was and what made this space so special for you!

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