

A dual Indian-American citizen and a global technology executive. Based across India and the US. Spent significant time across European, Asian, and African subcontinents with exposure to diverse cultures.

Academic pursuits across Industrial Electronics and Computer Engineering, and three decades in technology, management, and global operations. Expertise across industry verticals spanning Fortune 50 organizations. An adventure enthusiast, globe traveller, mountaineer, and collector. Many philanthropic pursuits, to name a few -

In 2000, led <u>Immigration Policy reform</u> as Vice President & Board member of the Immigrants Support Network towards passage of turnkey legislation with the US Congress and White House. As a wildlife enthusiast and photographer, undertook a 5-month / 26-border crossing odyssey across <u>Africa</u> in 2008 to photograph and experience wildlife firsthand. This provided motivation and commitment to conservation to help save and increase bio-diversity, leading to a fulfilling decade as a Goodwill Ambassador to <u>Project Tiger</u> in India.

Since 2016, interest in trekking and love for the mountains led to a parallel study of mountain ecosystems and then providing formal inputs towards <u>Mountain Protection</u> (conservation) to state governments, finally helping systemically define the ecosystem of <u>The Great Outdoors</u>.

All these multifaced and heartfelt experiences led to a focus on combining professional expertise and non-profit experiences to help address challenges in matters close to heart. While ensuring sustainable development for humanity, there is a wish to see bio-diversity proliferate. Involvement in policy across corporate and government domains brought about a policy conviction - any change at scale first requires science-based policy research, then an institutional setup supported by systemic policy changes towards good governance to ensure societal participation.

Given the professional background and decades of varied non-profit exposures culminated in 2020 as a strategy and policy vision for a landscape restoration initiative via community livelihoods - *The G.A.L.L.O.P. Initiative* (GALLOP), an apt start to the UN's decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030)! Thereafter, association with EcoAgriculture Partners has been a meeting of minds – as a convener of international collaborations and knowledge sharing via the Landscape for People, Food and Nature and as the lead for 1000 Landscapes for One Billion People (1000L) initiatives. These experiences have demonstrated a strong policy need to achieve scale in the practice of Integrated Landscape Management (ILM). Done right it will help learning across actors and scale. Working further on this with EcoAg, Columbia & Cornell Universities led to feedback from many global stakeholders including UNDP, the World Bank, and European government representatives, ultimately resulting in a joint publication of a policy brief at 2021 UNCCD COP and then a policy white paper.

It's an exciting time ahead, to work with national and global leaders to provide thought leadership for structuring best practices in ILM-related areas. We need to collaborate for policy and institutional models towards worldwide consumption. This is ultimately envisioned to catalyze as a Policy Lab - a turn-key milestone that will complement 1000L's work. It will help percolate ILM at scale and be a systems-changing addition in the space, ultimately helping the UN's 2030 agenda and 2050 goal. Please refer to the Concept Note.