For Immediate Release:



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LGT Venture Philanthropy partners with ARMMAN to support and strengthen maternal and child healthcare in India

Mumbai, India, July 15, 2020 – LGT Venture Philanthropy Foundation (LGT VP), Liechtenstein, today announced a new engagement to support ARMMAN. With LGT VP's flexible funding and capacity building support, ARMMAN will strengthen its partnership with India's Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to build resilient digital health systems. The goal is to increase access to preventive health information and support healthcare workers to reduce high-risk pregnancies by 50% and ultimately, improve maternal and child health outcomes in low-income communities at scale in India.

In 2019, ARMMAN entered into a collaboration with the national health ministry as its implementation partner for two of its flagship mHealth programs (Kilkari and Mobile Academy) to improve maternal and child health outcomes. Kilkari is the largest maternal and child mHealth program in the world. Since inception, the programs have reached ~18m pregnant women and their families and trained ~160,000 Community Health Workers (CHWs) in India.

Tom Kagerer, Investment Director at LGT VP shared, "Working closely with the national health ministry, ARMMAN harnesses the potential of technology and AI/data driven approaches for effectively improving knowledge and building capacity regarding critical health behaviors among pregnant women, their families and CHWs. The organization has an experienced and reputed leadership team with a strong background in public healthcare and technology. LGT VP is delighted to partner with ARMMAN on its mission to reach 120m pregnant women and their families and 1m CHWs over the next decade."

<u>ARMMAN</u> deploys tech-enabled, cost-effective, evidence-based and highly scalable mHealth solutions to ensure safe pregnancies, healthy babies, and thriving young families. The organization uses a 'tech plus touch' model to leverage high mobile penetration and existing health infrastructure to:

- a) Increase access for pregnant women and their families to preventive health information through free, voice calls
- b) Build the capacity of CHWs by providing refresher trainings, for improved diagnoses, referral and care

Dr. Aparna Hegde, Founder at ARMMAN shared, "ARMMAN has a bold plan of scaling non-linearly to reach mothers and children and train health workers across India. This association with a strong partner like LGT VP has come at the right time to help us accomplish this ambitious plan. We are thrilled to have LGT VP as a partner in this journey as we work towards our vision of empowering mothers and enabling healthy children in India."

ARMMAN will leverage LGT VP's funding to achieve pan-India scale and pilot digital interventions, partnering with leading innovators such as Google's AI for Social Good for leveraging AI/Data analytics. LGT VP joins ARMMAN's network of reputed partners – including Johnson & Johnson, Skoll Foundation, Tata Trusts, USAID, Grand Challenges Canada, Dasra, among others.

ARMMAN is an India-based non-profit established in 2008. The organization leverages technology to enable healthy pregnancy, safe delivery and safe childhood by addressing systemic gaps in health service delivery; promoting healthcare-seeking practices by the community; and creating evidence-based, cost-effective, scalable solutions. For more information, please visit https://armman.org/.

LGT Venture Philanthropy is an independent charitable foundation established in 2007 with teams in Switzerland, Sub-Saharan Africa, and India. The foundation strives to improve the quality of life of disadvantaged people, contribute to healthy ecosystems, and build resilient, inclusive, and prosperous communities. For more information, please visit www.lgtvp.com.

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