



ATSEC (Action against Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children and Women) India

Five-Year Strategic Plan 2026 to 2031

Building a Safer India through Network Strength, Systemic Change, and Policy Influence

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About ATSEC India

ATSEC India is a national network of civil society organisations, practitioners, and development professionals committed to combating human trafficking, child labour, and child marriage across India. With state-level chapters spanning multiple regions, ATSEC India brings together frontline expertise, survivor-centered perspectives, and institutional relationships to advance child protection and social justice.

The present strategy, covering the period 2026 to 2031, charts an ambitious and practical course for the organisation to grow its reach, deepen its programmatic impact, and consolidate its voice as a credible platform for policy influence in India as well as South-East Asia.

Situation Analysis

India continues to face significant challenges in the areas of child trafficking, child labour, and child marriage. Structural vulnerabilities such as extreme poverty, unsafe migration, low educational attainment, and gender inequality remain the primary drivers. These are compounded by climate-induced displacement, digital exploitation, and inadequate convergence across government systems.

Despite robust legal frameworks including the Trafficking in Persons (Prevention, Care and Rehabilitation) Act and provisions under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, implementation gaps at the district and grassroots levels remain substantial. Civil society networks like ATSEC India play an indispensable role in filling these gaps through prevention, community mobilisation, rehabilitation, and policy advocacy.

Vision and Mission

Vision

A safe, just, and trafficking-free India, where every child is protected, every survivor is supported, and every community is empowered to uphold dignity and rights.

Mission

To strengthen a coordinated national network of civil society actors that addresses root causes of trafficking and child rights violations through evidence-based programming, robust stakeholder engagement, and sustained policy influence.

Strategic Objectives (2026 to 2031)

The Five-Year Strategic Plan is anchored in three core objectives that are interconnected and mutually reinforcing.

Objective 1: Expansion and Strengthening of the ATSEC India Network

ATSEC India will expand its organisational footprint to achieve pan-India coverage while deepening the quality and capacity of existing state chapters. The network will evolve from a loose coalition into a structured, skills-based alliance with clear roles, accountability mechanisms, and shared systems for coordination and knowledge management.

Key Strategies:

- Identify and appoint state convenors in all states and union territories where ATSEC India currently lacks representation, prioritising high-vulnerability geographies.

- Conduct a systematic skills and capacity mapping of all member organisations and individual representatives to build a credible competency register.
- Establish thematic working groups in areas including Child Protection, Anti-Human Trafficking, Livelihoods and Migration, Women Empowerment, Trauma-Informed Care, and Rehabilitation and Reintegration.
- Develop standardised communication, reporting, and documentation systems for state chapters to improve institutional memory and accountability.
- Launch and sustain the ATSEC India digital platform (website and knowledge portal) to support networking, visibility, and resource sharing.
- Hold regular national and regional consultations to align strategy, share learnings, and review progress.

Objective 2: Developing Replicable Implementation Models to Address Root Causes

ATSEC India will move beyond awareness and advocacy to co-design, pilot, and scale evidence-based intervention models that address the structural drivers of child trafficking, child labour, and child marriage. These models will be grounded in the lived realities of vulnerable communities and will integrate livelihoods, education, health, gender, and climate resilience.

Key Strategies:

- Design and pilot integrated community-level programmes that combine child protection with livelihood support, school retention, adolescent development, and gender equality.
- Develop a replicable implementation model that can be adapted across diverse geographic and social contexts, with built-in mechanisms for monitoring, documentation, and learning.
- Address climate-linked vulnerabilities by integrating climate adaptation and migration safety into programme design, especially in ecologically fragile districts.
- Strengthen survivor-centered approaches including trauma-informed care, peer support networks, and economic reintegration pathways.
- Partner with FCRA-registered member organisations to implement programmes under consortium arrangements, enabling resource pooling and risk distribution.
- Leverage government convergence opportunities under different schemes and programs (such as MGNREGS, Ujjawala Scheme, POSHAN Abhiyan, Scholarship and Samagra Shiksha) to amplify programme outcomes without duplicating effort.

Objective 3: Building a Multi-Stakeholder Platform for Policy Influence and Change

ATSEC India will consolidate its role as a trusted policy voice on issues of child rights, anti-trafficking, and safe migration. The network will establish structured engagement mechanisms with government departments, law enforcement, parliamentary committees, and multilateral agencies, operating at district, state, and national levels.

Key Strategies:

- Map and engage key government stakeholders across the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Education, and relevant state departments.
- Develop policy briefs, shadow reports, and evidence-based advocacy materials informed by field realities from ATSEC member organisations.
- Establish district-level multi-stakeholder coalitions involving Panchayati Raj Institutions, local administration, police, and community leaders.
- Strengthen engagement with Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) and Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) at the district level for improved case management and referral.

- Partner with the International Labour Organization, UNICEF, UN Women, and other multilateral agencies to link national advocacy with global frameworks including SDG 8.7 and SDG 16.2.
- Engage corporate entities through structured dialogue platforms to align their CSR investments with ATSEC's programmatic priorities.

Resource Mobilisation Strategy

ATSEC India's financial sustainability over the five-year period will be built on a diversified funding architecture that reduces dependence on any single source and aligns with legal and ethical standards. The strategy prioritises three funding streams in equal measure.

Government Funding

ATSEC India and its member organisations will actively engage government grant mechanisms at central and state levels. Relevant schemes include the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Central Sector Schemes for child protection, and state government grants for civil society engagement. Members will be supported to prepare compliant proposals and navigate government grant processes.

Foreign Contribution Funding (Consortium Mode)

Recognising that not all ATSEC member organisations hold FCRA registration, the network will adopt a structured consortium approach. FCRA-registered member organisations will serve as lead implementing partners and receive funds directly, while non-FCRA members contribute through domestic sub-grant or service provider arrangements. ATSEC India will develop a standard consortium framework, due diligence protocols, and budget management guidelines to ensure transparency and compliance. Priority international donors will include bilateral development agencies, international foundations, and UN pooled funding mechanisms.

Corporate CSR Funding

In alignment with the Companies Act, 2013 and Schedule VII, ATSEC India's programmatic work directly intersects with eligible CSR themes including education, poverty alleviation, gender equality, health, environmental sustainability, and livelihood enhancement. The network will:

- Develop a corporate engagement strategy identifying CSR-aligned programme components that can be ring-fenced as standalone projects for corporate funders.
- Build a CSR pitch book showcasing ATSEC member capabilities, geographical reach, and impact metrics.
- Engage CSR teams and foundations of companies with operations in high-vulnerability states such as Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, and Rajasthan.
- Position ATSEC India as a credible implementing partner or grant-making intermediary for corporate donors seeking curated, field-tested delivery partners.

Implementation and Governance Framework

Governance Structure

ATSEC India will operate through a tiered governance model comprising a National Steering Committee, a Secretariat, thematic working group leads, and state chapter coordinators. The Secretariat will be responsible for coordination, communications, donor management, and monitoring functions.

Phased Implementation

Phase	Period	Focus	Key Milestones	Funding Priority
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Phase I	2026 to 2027	Network consolidation and foundation setting	• State convenors appointed • Skills mapping of partners complete • Website live • 2 pilot programmes initiated	• Government schemes • Early CSR partnerships
Phase II	2027 to 2029	Programme scale and stakeholder platform building	• Models refined and scaled in 6 states • District coalitions formed • Policy briefs published	• FCRA consortium grants • CSR • Government
Phase III	2029 to 2031	Consolidation, influence, and sustainability	• National policy engagement active • Financial sustainability plan in place • Legacy models documented	• Diversified • CSR anchored • FCRA sustained

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning

A robust MEL framework will be developed in Year 1, covering network growth indicators, programme outcome metrics, policy engagement milestones, and financial performance. Annual reviews and a mid-term evaluation at the end of Phase II will inform course corrections. ATSEC India will invest in documentation and dissemination of learnings to build its institutional knowledge base and external credibility.

SDG and Policy Alignment

ATSEC India's Five-Year Strategic Plan is explicitly aligned with the following Sustainable Development Goals and national policy frameworks.

Framework	Alignment
SDG 8.7	End forced labour, modern slavery, and child labour
SDG 16.2	End abuse, exploitation, and trafficking of children
SDG 5	Gender equality and elimination of violence against women and girls
SDG 1 and 10	Poverty reduction and addressing inequality as root causes
SDG 13	Climate action integrated into vulnerability and migration programming
Schedule VII, Companies Act	CSR alignment across education, health, gender, livelihoods, and environment themes

MoWCD, MHA, MoLE	Convergence with Ujjawala, Mission Shakti, AHTUS, and Child Labour schemes
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Conclusion

ATSEC India stands at a pivotal moment. The groundwork laid over years of frontline engagement, network building, and advocacy now provides a strong foundation for scaled and systemic impact. This Five-Year Strategic Plan sets out a clear, practically achievable path for ATSEC India to emerge as a nationally recognised platform that not only delivers on the ground but shapes the policies and systems that govern child protection in India.

The success of this plan will depend on the collective commitment of all network members, the quality of partnerships forged with government and the private sector, and the depth of trust built with the communities and survivors at the heart of ATSEC India's mission.