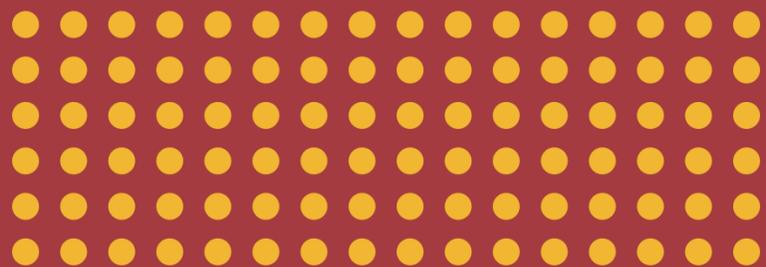




VASTIVA: RESEARCH, DATA  
& DISCOVERY NETWORK

# ANNUAL REPORT

WHERE IDEAS GROW INTO IMPACT.



# 2025



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# Message from the Founder

As we reflect on 2025, Vastiva has transitioned into a global research platform, adapting to technology-driven tools and resources for effective communication processes across different countries. Our passion for reaching both mainstream and marginalized communities has been our utmost priority since day one. We aim to fill in gaps in the impact-driven research sector, where we continue to update our internal processes based on our findings. Here's to another year of creativity, impact-driven solutions, global collaboration, and working on developing innovative strategies within the humanitarian sector.

**-Jasmine Sethi**



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## Vision

We envision a future where our research catalyzes profound societal change, presenting solutions to complex social problems, policy interventions, and empowering communities worldwide. Through collaboration, we aim to uncover insights that show paths to sustainable development, social equity, and environmental stewardship.



## Mission

At Vastiva, our mission is to advance social research and discovery in a digitally inclusive era. We strive to support innovative projects through international grants and funding proposals that have the potential to positively impact local communities.



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# 2025 Highlights in Numbers



**20+**

Countries Represented



**75%**

Annual Goals Achieved



**2**

Global Collaborations



**6**

Core Programs



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# Board of Directors, Leadership

- **JASMINE SETHI: FOUNDER & HEAD OF RESEARCH INITIATIVES**
- **RUTH GIKONYO: MANAGER OF RESEARCH OPERATIONS**
- **SUMAYYA JABEEN: ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR**
- **KATHY DONOGHUE: LEAD, PROOFREADING & EDITORIAL SUPPORT**
- **JESSICA GREGOIRE: LEAD, PROOFREADING & EDITORIAL SUPPORT**
- **PROFESSOR JIM WARD: PEER REVIEW**



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# Organization's Culture

- Creative Environment
- Supportive Teamwork
- Open Communication
- Continuous Learning

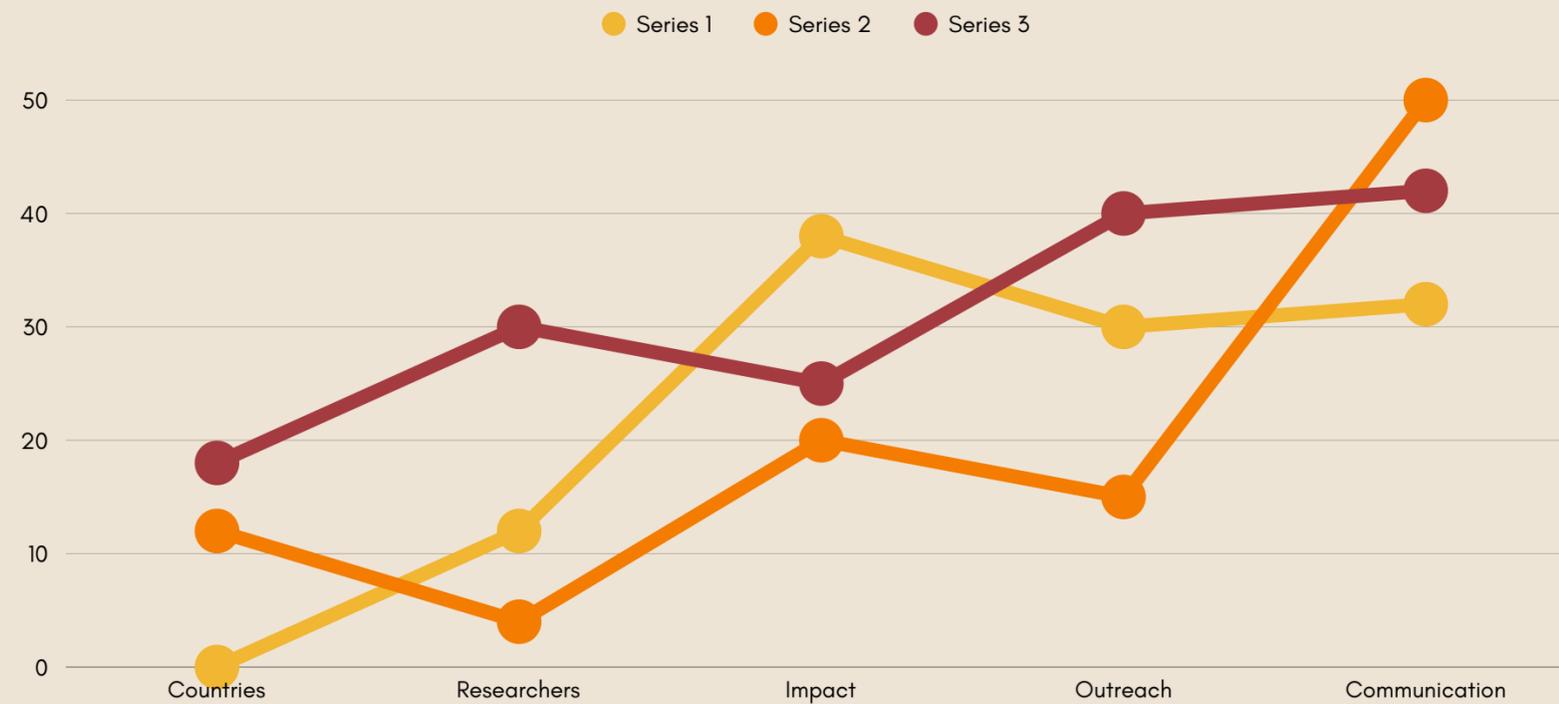
The Board of Directors is a five-member, diverse, women-led leadership team that brings profound expertise and perspectives into their positions at Vastiva. Our mission and long-term vision can only be achieved with strong teamwork, dedication, and collective effort. The Board is supported by dedicated functions across the research operations, management, editorial department, and general administration. Through consistent monthly meetings, the team collectively reviews organizational progress, integrating recommendations, an overview of digital resources, reviewing ways to strengthen governance practices, and engages in strategic planning for the upcoming year. This structured and collaborative approach has enabled the Board of Directors team at Vastiva to adapt effectively to growth, enhance decision-making processes, and provide clear direction for advancing our mission and sustainable long-term impact.





# Nonprofit Impact

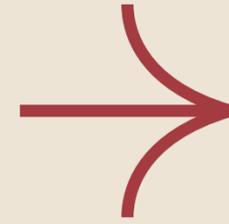
- Growth Overview
- Nonprofit Performance





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# 2025-2026 Focus



- **COMMUNITY-  
DRIVEN  
CHANGE**
- **ACCESSIBILITY**
- **EQUITY**
- **GLOBAL  
IMPACT**



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# Programs at Vastiva

## **Impact Pitch Lab**

Building strong and meaningful impact through international grant writing and funding proposals.

## **Case through the Lens**

Creating impactful independent real-time case studies.

## **Comunity-based Program**

Increasing awareness of community-based, impactful programs through storytelling.

## **Equity in Expressions**

Giving underrepresented communities opportunities to voice their concerns throguh storytelling.

## **Global Insights for Change**

Facilitating global collaboration on social impact.

## **Virtucreate**

Using arts and visual media to communicate a social impact narrative in real-time.

# Stakeholders



## Stakeholders

- Nonprofit and grassroots organizations needing grant & funding support.
- Small-impact driven businesses
- Educational institutions & advocacy groups
- Community-based organizations
- Indigenous & equity-focused partner organizations
- Granting foundations & funding agencies
- Philanthropic partners & social impact networks
- Website & digital platform users
- Digital or long-distance program instructors



## Primary Beneficiaries

- Government: Local, Municipal & Provincial
- Cohort participants & leadership alumni members
- Advisory committee
- Administrative & operations team
- Region: Local & International
- Peer reviewers
- Capacity-building & training experts
- Long-term partnerships

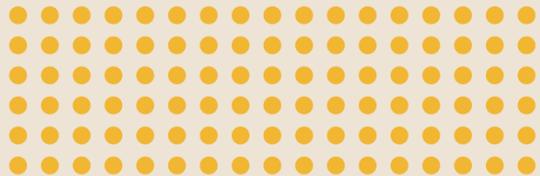




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# Social Innovation Impact Award

Vastiva, Research and Innovation Network,  
was selected as the winner of the Social Innovation Impact Award,  
Reader's Choice in the local Canadian city of Brampton.  
Best Nonprofit or Foundation, under the Gold Category.





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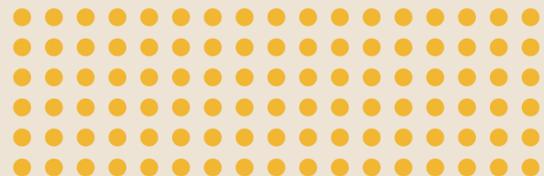
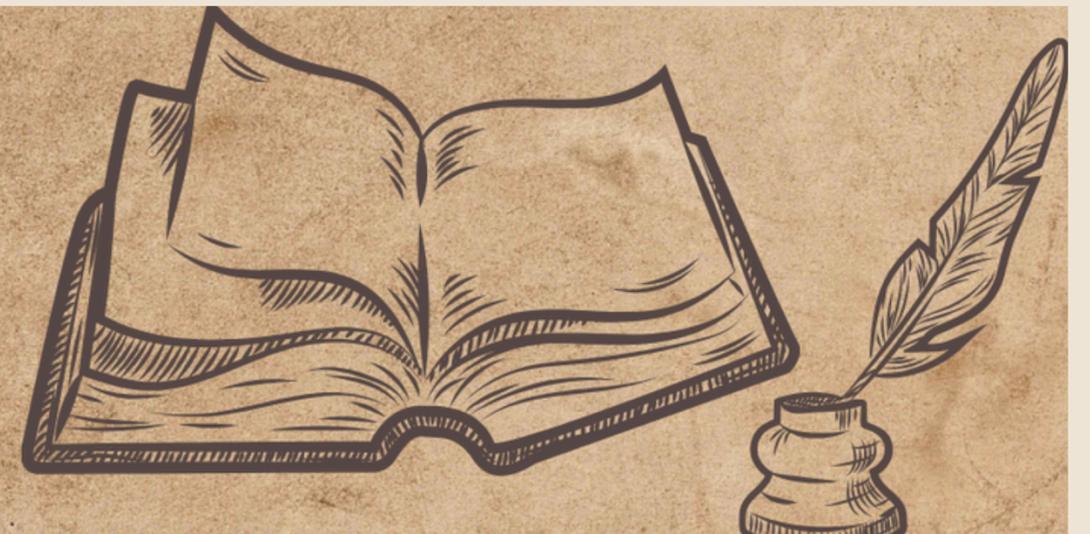
# VASTIVA 2025 GLOBAL RESEARCH AND ACCESSIBILITY SURVEY OVERVIEW

Our team provided strategic leadership for the Vastiva 2025 Global Research and Accessibility Survey, overseeing its development, implementation, and global engagement, where we received over 230+ responses from global participants.

Survey Summary: At Vastiva, our mission is to advance social research and discovery in a digitally inclusive era. We conducted a global survey to better understand trends, challenges, and opportunities in community development, research, and accessibility. The responses helped us inform the final elements of our annual reporting, insights, and recommendations. Overall, it added valuable community context to our evidence-based work and helped ensure it reflects lived experiences alongside data.

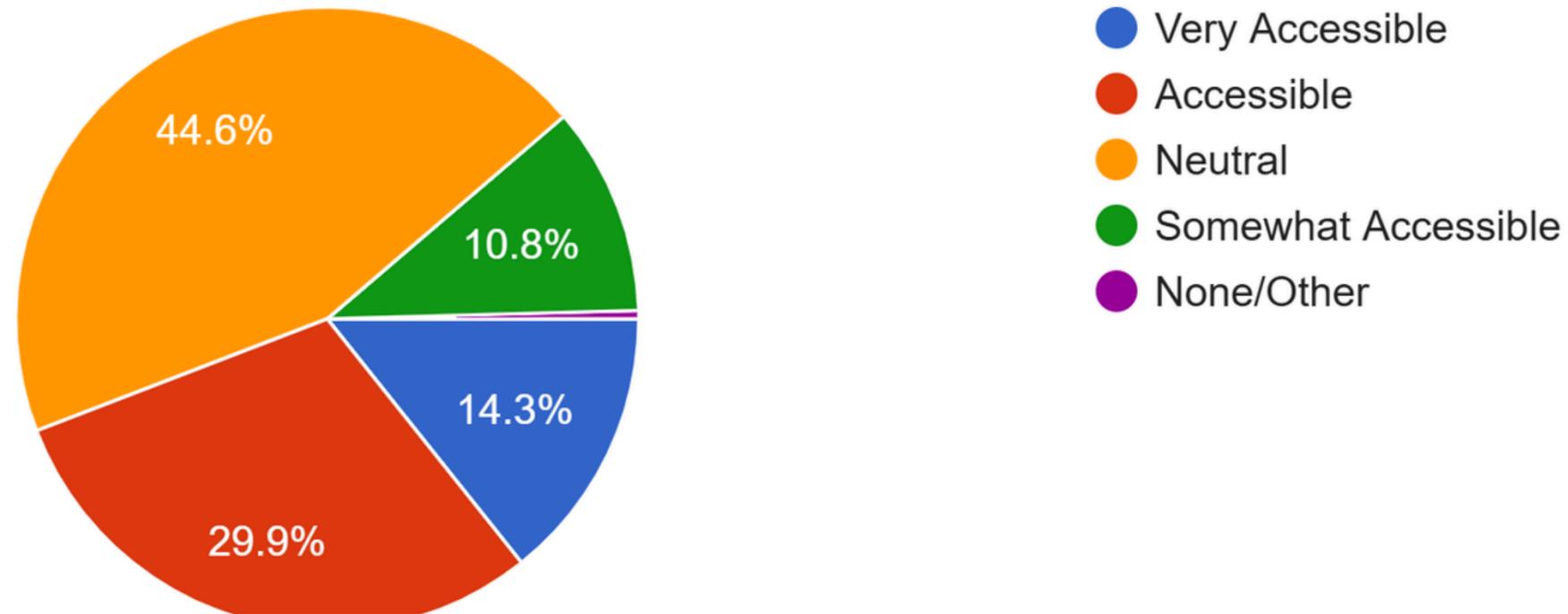
**VASTIVA**

Research, Data  
& Discovery



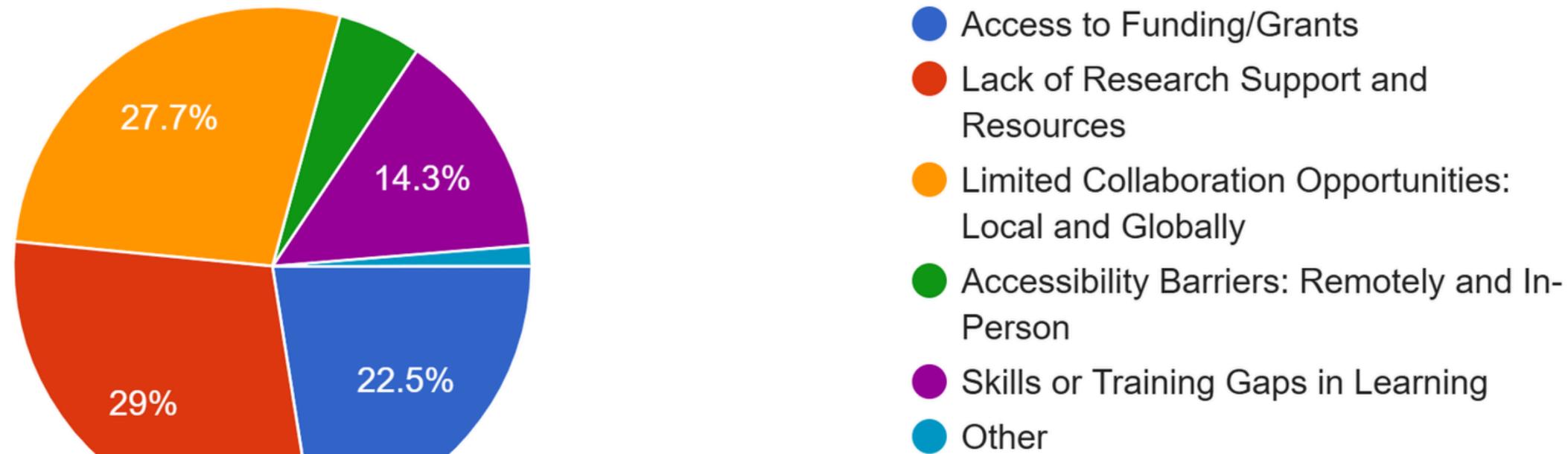
## How accessible are research and knowledge resources in your field?

231 responses



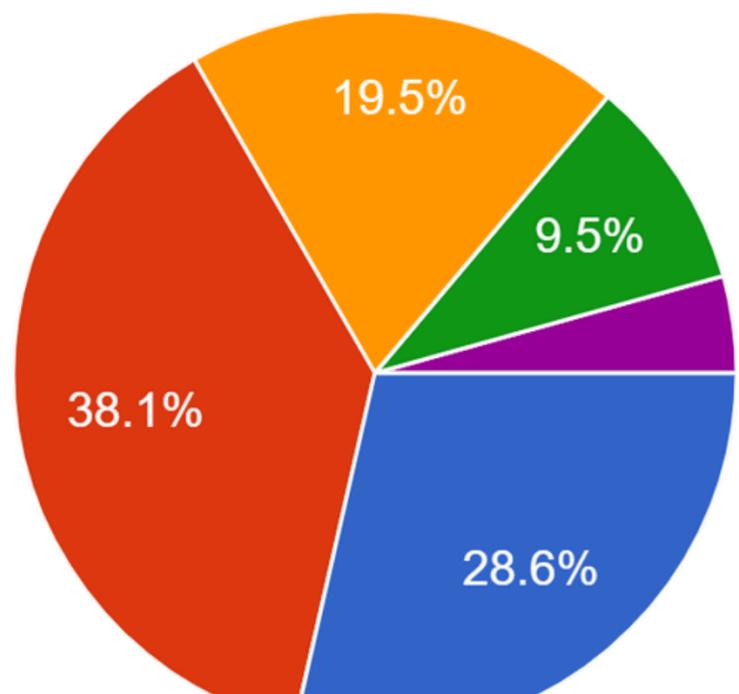
## What obstacles or difficulties do you experience in your work?

231 responses



# What tools or resources do you currently use?

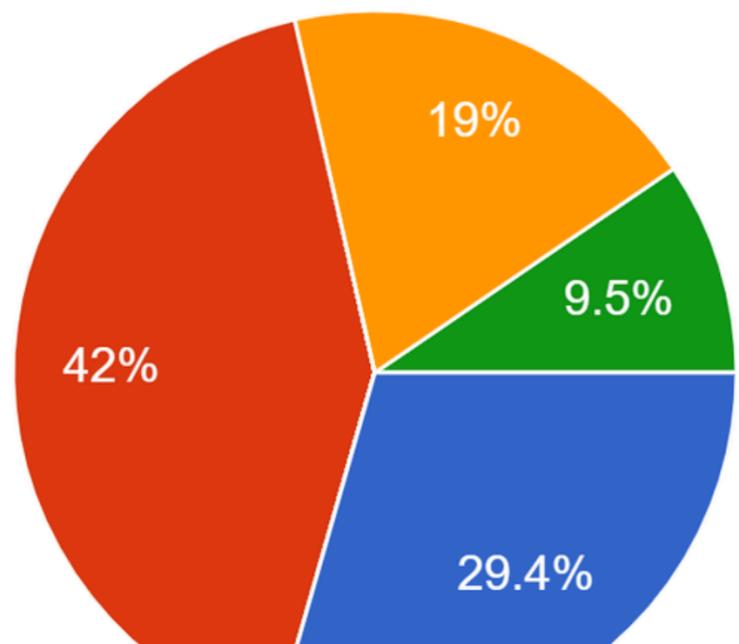
231 responses



- Online Research Platforms
- Collaboration Hubs and Network
- Grant-writing or other Funding Tools
- Storytelling and Content Platforms
- None/Other

# What is your organization type and role?

231 responses



- Individual Researcher/Academic
- Social Enterprise/NGO
- Small Business
- Other



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# VASTIVA 2025 GLOBAL RESEARCH & ACCESSIBILITY SURVEY FINDINGS

Out of more than 230+ survey participants, 29.9% reported that research and knowledge resources in their respective fields were accessible, with just 10% describing them as somewhat accessible. Participants represented a wide range of primary areas of work from 10+ countries, including community development, education and learning, climate and sustainability, social justice and equity, nonprofit sector, health and well-being, and other fields in the social service sector. The diverse set of participants reflects an interdisciplinary scope of Vastiva's mission, as we aim to increase outreach and overall impact within the global research space.



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# VASTIVA 2025 GLOBAL RESEARCH & ACCESSIBILITY SURVEY CHALLENGES

As part of the survey findings, the most significant challenges identified were the lack of research support and available resources, both virtually and in-person, by 29%; limited local and global collaboration opportunities remotely, by 27.7%; and notable skills and training gaps were observed by 14.3% among the diverse set of survey participants. In terms of existing tools and resources, 38.1% of respondents stated that they depend on collaboration hubs and networks, 28.6% use online research platforms, 19.5% access grant writing and related tools, and 9.5% engage with storytelling and content platforms.



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# VASTIVA 2025 GLOBAL RESEARCH & ACCESSIBILITY SURVEY SUMMARY PART I

These findings highlight a clear and growing demand for Vastiva's professional programs and strategic focus on international grant writing and global research access. While 29.9% of participants indicated that research and knowledge resources are accessible, a significantly larger proportion of 44.6% reported that research and knowledge resource data are not accessible. 30.7% of respondents identified global research and publication opportunities as their primary area of interest within Vastiva's offerings, followed by 27.7% who expressed interest in global research initiatives, and 17.3% each who valued our international grant writing support programs and program-based learning opportunities.

Building on these insights, Vastiva is actively addressing the critical gaps identified by the survey participants through a system of accessible and capacity-building initiatives designed to strengthen global research engagement. With a significant proportion of respondents reporting limited access to research resources, collaboration opportunities, and structured training, Vastiva directly responds by providing inclusive research platforms, international publication opportunities, and skills-focused learning experiences that are accessible across geographic and socio-economic boundaries.



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# VASTIVA 2025 GLOBAL RESEARCH & ACCESSIBILITY SURVEY SUMMARY PART II

Our global research programs create opportunities for underrepresented researchers to contribute to and benefit from a knowledge database through our digital library. Our international grant writing support equips individuals and organizations with the tools required to secure sustainable funding at a global scale. In addition, our collaboration-driven initiatives strengthen cross-sector and cross-border partnerships, helping to reduce the isolation many respondents experience in their local contexts.

By integrating storytelling, digital access, and structured leadership initiatives into our program delivery, Vastiva is not only expanding access to research and knowledge but also strengthening the practical capacity of communities to translate research into impact in real-time. The strong interest in our global research publications, grant writing programs, and program-based learning further demonstrates that our work is closely aligned with the evolving needs of the communities and beneficiaries we serve. Through these targeted interventions, Vastiva continues to transform barriers into pathways, making research more accessible, collaborative, and action-oriented on a global scale.

# Challenges & Learnings

Every challenge has strengthened our resilience and adaptability in the global digital world.

**Key Challenge:** Navigating the different time zones and the availability of the diverse team of social researchers from 20+ countries.

Sustainable, accessible participation while scaling globally.

**Lessons Learned:** Community-driven models strengthen both impact and resilience as we increasingly invest in collaborative cohorts, grant writing and development programs, and knowledge, which significantly enhances program outcomes and long-term sustainability.

**Improvement Mindset:** With a growth mindset, we will continue to transition our focus on the informative resources, expanding future pathways through digital integration, and building structured and scalable systems for inclusive growth.





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# Social Responsibility

Innovation



Capacity-building Initiatives

Collaboration

Supporting communities through meaningful and sustainable initiatives since 2020.



# Message from the Manager of Research Operations

In 2025, much of our work focused on strengthening the systems that quietly support everything we do. Behind every successful research project is thoughtful coordination, teamwork, and commitment to doing things well.

Our priority remains clear: to create efficient, scalable research structures that empower our teams to deliver meaningful insights where they are needed the most. Through strong operational foundations, we help transform research into real-world impact.

**- Ruth Gikonyo**



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# Message from the Administrative Coordinator

Global research, to me, is about connection. Connecting ideas across borders, fields, and lived experiences to solve problems that communities cannot tackle alone. Through Vastiva, I've seen how collaborative research can transform insight into real, measurable impact. It reinforces my belief that innovation is strongest when it is inclusive and globally informed. Looking ahead, I envision a future where research is more accessible, community-driven, and guided by ethical responsibility. By continuing to invest in global partnerships and diverse perspectives, we won't just produce research, we'll translate it into real impact for a more inclusive and sustainable world.

**- Sumayya Jabeen**

# Message from Lead, Proofreading & Editorial Support

My work with Vastiva matters deeply to me because it gives space to voices that are too often overlooked. As an editor, I see how inclusive research can open doors and shift understanding across borders. Being part of this community reminds me that careful, compassionate communication can change how we see one another. Global research, at its best, brings us closer together, and I look to the future with hope, knowing that our shared efforts will continue to widen the circle.

**- Kathy Donoghue**

# Message from Lead, Proofreading & Editorial Support

Supporting global research initiatives is a crucial part of building a more informed and inclusive world that supports meaningful, evidence-based change where it is needed most. Research should no longer be conducted through only one lens, but rather through a variety of voices that represent different backgrounds, experiences, and viewpoints. As an editor and proofreader at Vastiva, I am proud to collaborate with researchers to provide feedback and support on independent research articles, ensuring clarity, accuracy, structure, and consistency. In this position, I have the opportunity to read about a wide variety of research topics, which continue to broaden my perspective and draw attention to critical challenges in the world. In the future, I am confident that Vastiva will continue to spark significant change by supporting diverse perspectives and expanding to reach a wider audience.

– **Jessica Gregoire**

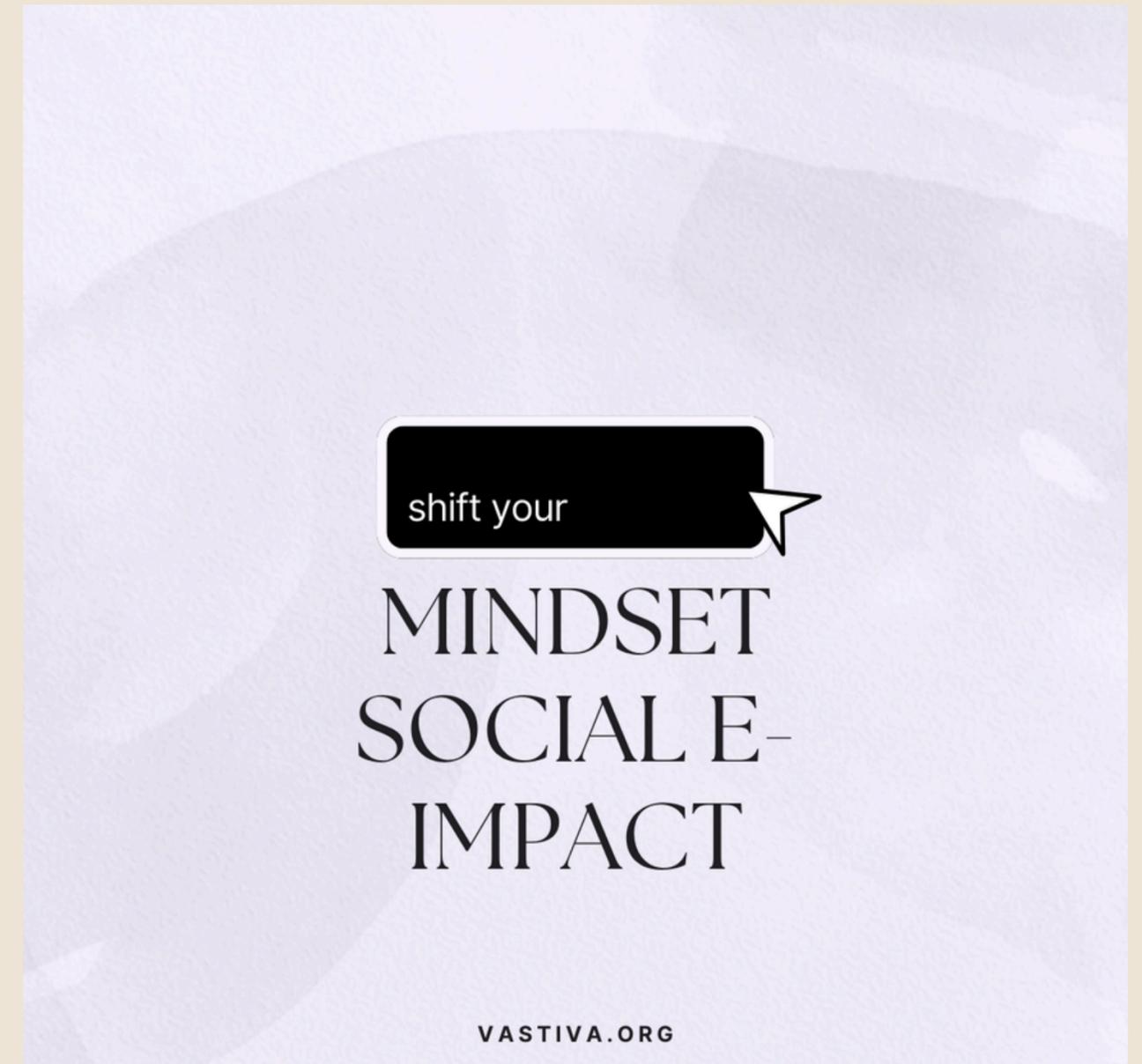


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# Nonprofit Appreciation Week

Every challenge has strengthened our resilience and adaptability in the global digital world.

This Nonprofit Appreciation Week, we celebrate the power of inclusive research for global communities and our capacity-building grant writing programs for sustainable impact. Our impact reaches people in underrepresented communities worldwide, and our diverse programs remain the backbone of our organization. Let's take a moment to thank nonprofits and their dedicated teams, both in our communities and working remotely around the world, for the valuable impact they create every day.





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# FUTURE OUTLOOK

VASTIVA.

As we look forward to 2026, Vastiva will continue to remain accessible and an inclusive platform for both mainstream and marginalized communities with a global digital mindset. Our goal since the beginning has been to connect with the underrepresented communities for research and publication opportunities. It has also been to connect with start-up or grassroots organizations to support with grant writing and development programs. Through Vastiva's programs, our mission is to continue promoting a future outlook rooted in accessible education, collaborative research, capacity-building initiatives, and innovation for global communities.



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# Thank You

We appreciate your trust and support throughout the year.



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