



protean

Corporate Social Responsibility Policy

Protean eGov Technologies Limited

March 2025

I. Background

Protean eGov Technologies Limited (Protean) is a national level company and is strongly committed towards Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). It has developed partnerships with various non-profit organizations (NGOs and Trusts) and actively supported the organizations in provision of medical facilities to economically weaker section of the society, providing shelter to destitute children, and providing financial assistance to children from weaker sections of society for continuation of education.

The CSR of the company is conducted as per the CSR policy that came into effect on April 1, 2014. The policy presented in this document is a revised version that comes into force from 1st November 2024. It has been revised to align Protean's CSR initiatives to the current applicable CSR rules and requirements under Section 135(1) of the Companies Act, 2013 and make overall implementation of the company's CSR more focused, efficient and impactful. In addition, this policy provides a strategic direction for Protean's CSR in the forthcoming years.

II. Scope of the Policy

The policy sets out to ensure Protean's commitment that its CSR activities extend beyond business and include initiatives and endeavours for the benefit and development of the community and society. The policy lays down the guidelines for undertaking projects geared towards social welfare activities or CSR initiatives by the company. The policy is to be operative within the overall scope of the CSR provisions contained in the Companies Act 2013, the Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Rules, 2014 read with Schedule VII and amendments thereof, applicable from time to time (hereinafter collectively referred to as "CSR Provisions".

III. CSR Vision

Protean's CSR vision is an empowered society that embraces inclusive digital technology solutions for achieving sustainable development and growth.

IV. CSR Goals

1. To create a positive and sustainable impact in the lives of the underserved by supporting impactful development programs in the areas of Health, Education and Environment.
2. To capitalize on Protean's strengths in Digital Public Infrastructure with a potential to create structural changes for social good.
3. To inspire and support social sector stakeholders from the public, private and the non-profit domains to shift toward digital data solutions.

V. CSR Focus Areas

The company's CSR projects will be undertaken in the following three focus areas that are stated in Schedule VII, Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013:

1. "Eradicating hunger, poverty and malnutrition, [promoting health care including preventive health] and sanitation [Including contribution to the Swatch Bharat Kosh set-up by the Central Government for the promotion of sanitation] and making available safe drinking water".
2. "Promoting education, including special education and employment enhancing vocation skills especially among children, women, elderly, and the differently abled and livelihood enhancement projects".
3. "Ensuring environmental sustainability, ecological balance, protection of flora and fauna, animal welfare, agroforestry, conservation of natural resources and maintaining quality of soil, air and water [including contribution to the Clean Ganga Fund set-up by the Central Government for rejuvenation of river Ganga]".
4. Any projects in other thematic areas may be taken up with approval of the CSR Committee provided the activities are stated in Schedule VII, Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013.

VI. CSR Model

Driven by UN SDGs: As a business organization, Protean is committed to contributing to the achievement of relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as part of its ESG commitments. Aligned with this commitment, Protean's CSR has identified Health, Education and Environment as key areas for CSR funding. Through this funding, it will contribute to SDGs as below.

SDG	SDG Targets
Health	
SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	Target 3.8: Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all
Education	
SDG 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	Target 4.1: By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes
	Target 4.2: By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood

SDG	SDG Targets
	<p>development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education</p> <p>Target 4.4: By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship</p> <p>Target 4.a: Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all</p>
Environment	
SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	Target 6.4: By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity
SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss	Target 15.2: By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally

Focus on Underserved Populations: CSR projects will be aimed to provide benefits to underserved populations such as:

- Rural communities and urban communities of lower socio-economic profile
- Specific underserved population groups such as women and children
- Extremely vulnerable groups at risk of exclusion from care and services such as orphaned children, people suffering from terminal illnesses, people in need lifelong healthcare services such as cancer treatment, dialysis care, etc

Key Stakeholders: CSR will involve working with a variety of stakeholders whose concerted efforts are necessary for accomplishing the SDGs:

- Not for Profit Organizations working on issues of Health, Education and Environment
- Private corporations and other entities that are contributing to achieving social good
- Public institutions at different levels ranging from top to bottom, namely central, state local government bodies and community-based people's institutions

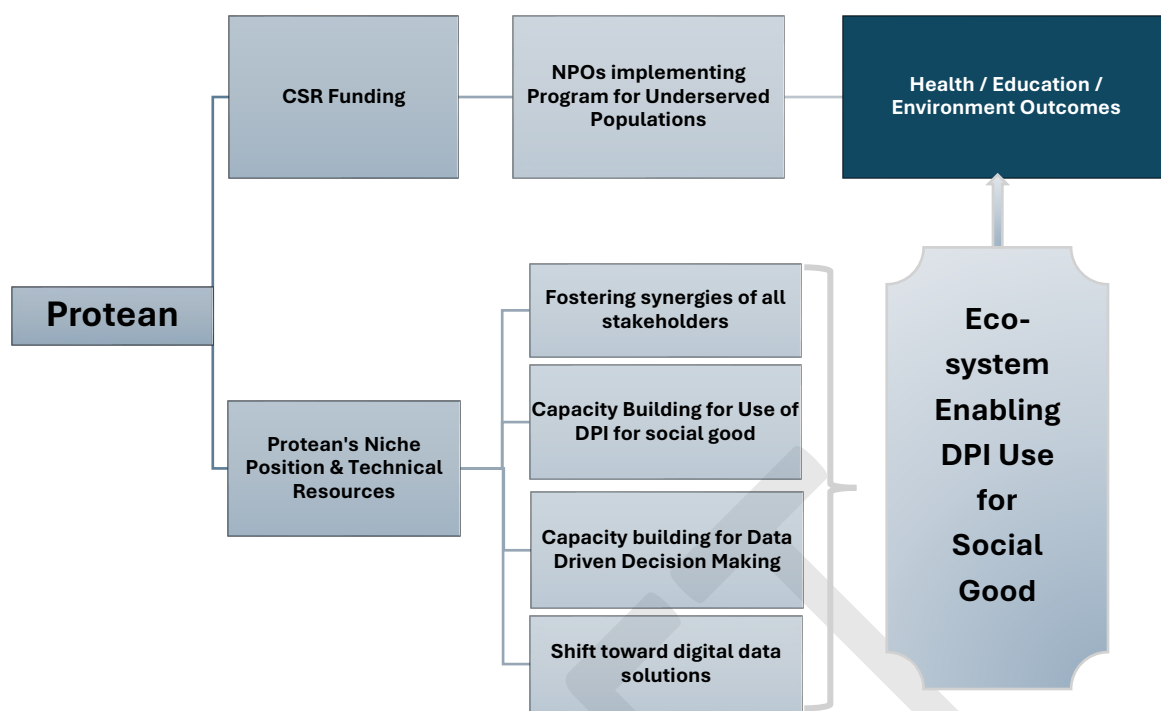
Theory of Change

Protean, will contribute to social development at two levels.

The first and primary level will be to develop partnerships with non-profit organizations (NPOs) working for improving health, education, and environment outcomes in the interest of the society. Protean will partner by providing financial support to social development projects that are aligned with its CSR policy. This will enable NPOs to effectively improve access and quality of essential services to the underserved populations through specific projects conducted in partnership with Protean.

At the second level Protean will adopt a supportive strategy, wherein it will leverage its non-financial capitals - intellectual, human and technology capital – that it has accumulated by virtue of its niche business position. It will use these capitals to bring together multiple stakeholders (private, public and non-profit entities) on common platforms and initiatives for increasing awareness and capacity building on data usage and digital public infrastructure (DPI) for social good. Protean believes that this is essential to address the current deficits in capacities and utilization of DPI among different stakeholders.

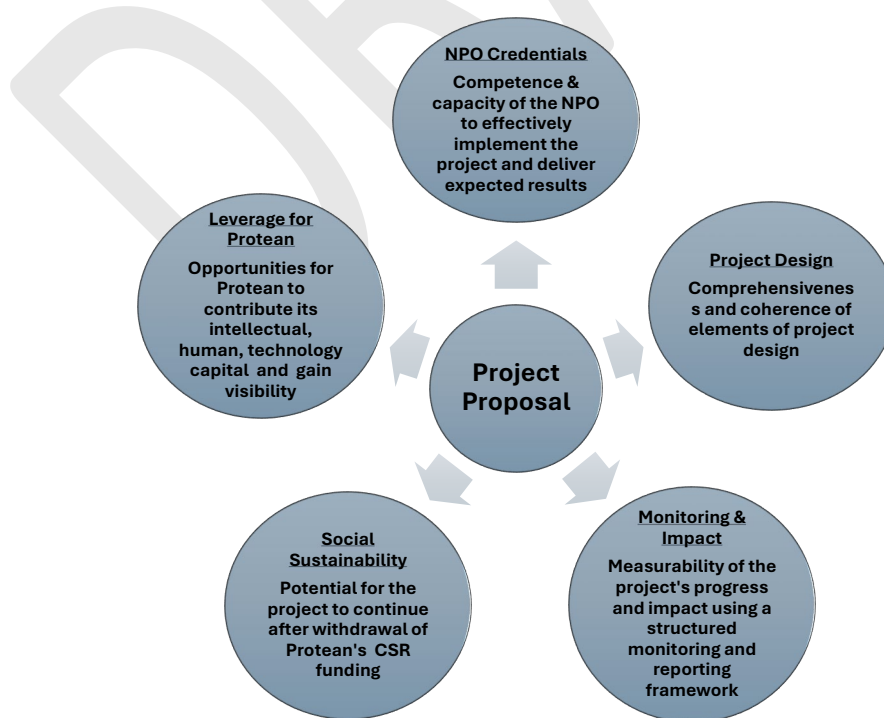
Protean envisages that this dual approach will ensure contributing to the achievement of desired social outcomes, and also simultaneously contribute to evolving a strong and enabling a digital eco-system for social good. As a result, stakeholders can synergise and transfer the benefits of data driven decision-making and DPI to the underserved at scale and with improved efficiency.



Theory of change for Protean's CSR

VII. Project Selection Framework

All non-profit organizations seeking CSR funds from Protean will be required to submit proposals in a standard format prescribed by Protean. The proposals will be evaluated and compared for their merit following a Project Assessment Framework (PAF) that has five key areas shown below:



Project Assessment Format

In addition to the projects selected using the PAF, Protean CSR Committee may approve certain projects on a discretionary basis for mitigating unanticipated exigencies such as natural calamities, disasters, pandemic, etc., provided the projects are in alignment with the provisions of Schedule VII, Section 135 of the Companies Act.

VIII. Monitoring and Reporting

A standard monitoring framework will be used for monitoring CSR projects. The monitoring framework will provide for a list of standard output and outcome indicators for each of the three areas of Health, Education and Environment. The CSR team will assign select indicators from this list as applicable to the project. The NPOs will report to on the assigned indicators and also on additional project-specific indicators (if applicable) on a half-yearly and annual basis. The CSR committee will review the project's performance on the basis of reports submitted by NPOs.

IX. CSR Impact

Protean will engage independent third-parties to conduct impact evaluations of projects in alignment with the CSR rules for Section 135 of the Companies Act. The impact evaluations will be guided by the SDG framework and other applicable Impact Assessment Standards.